

**STATE ELECTION COMMISSION**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Buddha Bhavan, M.G. Road, Secunderabad-500003, A.P.

**CIRCULAR**

**No. 1561/SEC-F2/2014**

**Date: 10.07.2014**

Sub:- 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary elections to Municipalities / Nagar Panchayats - Jammalamadugu Nagar Panchayat - Indirect election to Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson scheduled to be held on 13.7.2014 / 14.7.2014 - Special measures ordered - Seating arrangement and barricading - Further instructions issued - Reg.

Ref: 1. SEC Circular No.1395/SEC-F2/2014, dtd.23.5.2014.  
2. SEC Order No. 1501/SEC-F2/2014, dtd.05.7.2014.  
3. SEC Circular No.1561/SEC-F2/2014, dtd.07.7.2014.

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In the reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited, the State Election Commission issued the following instructions, among others, on the seating arrangements to be made in connection with conduct of indirect elections to Municipalities / Nagar Panchayats.

**X. SEATING ARRANGEMENTS OF MEMBERS:**

*The State Election Commission issues the following instructions with regard to seating arrangements of elected members and Ex-officio members in order to ensure that the meeting is conducted in an orderly and systematic manner.*

1. *Only the Presiding Officer and the Observer (wherever appointed by the State Election Commission to oversee the indirect election) shall be allowed to sit on the dais.*
2. *The Ex-officio members (MPs, MLAs and MLCs) shall be provided seats in the front row.*
3. *The directly elected ward members shall be seated in groups on party lines in the following manner.*
  - a) *The elected members of each recognized national and state political parties shall be provided seating in separate compartments.*
  - b) *Members of registered political parties may be seated in a separate compartment.*
  - c) *Independently elected members shall be provided separate compartment.*
  - d) *The seating arrangement within each compartment made for elected members belonging to the recognized political parties, registered political parties and independent members shall be with reference to the names of the candidates in alphabetical order within their respective groups.*

- e) *A display board shall be kept in front of each group/compartments for easy identification. This will be helpful to the presiding officer and observer as well as the print and electronic media to cover the event.*
- f) *A separate enclosure with a raised platform shall be made on either corner of the meeting hall for the members of press and electronic media who are allowed to cover the event.*

In Jammalamadugu Nagar Panchayat, the election to the offices of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson could not be conducted on 03.7.2014 and 04.7.2014 due to altercations, disturbances and law and order problem inside the venue of the special meeting.

The Commission issued orders in the reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited for conduct of indirect elections to the said offices in Jammalamadugu Nagar Panchayat on 13.7.2014 / 14.7.2014 by the Joint Collector, YSR District, who was appointed as Presiding Officer.

The Commission issued instructions in the references 3<sup>rd</sup> cited to take special measures including barricading inside the venue of the special meeting so that the Presiding Officer cannot be obstructed from discharging his responsibilities and the elected members belonging to different political parties and the ex-officio members can be seated separately within their allocated space.

The Commission hereby issues further instructions with regard to seating arrangement and barricading inside the venue of the special meeting in Jammalamadugu Nagar Panchayat to ensure free, fair, orderly and peaceful elections.

- 1) Barricading should be done between different compartments accommodating ex-officio members and members belonging to different recognised political parties so that members belonging to one recognised political party cannot reach the members of other political party. It should also be ensured that ex-officio members cannot have access to elected members. If necessary, ex-officio members (MPs, MLAs and MLCs) belonging to different political parties may also be separately seated so that they cannot indulge in altercation among themselves leading to disturbances.
- 2) Barricading should be done in such a way that the Presiding Officer cannot be obstructed by any of the elected members or ex-officio members in discharging his functions related to conduct of election process smoothly.
- 3) Videography shall be undertaken from half-an-hour before the scheduled time fixed for commencement of special meeting till the completion of the entire process and the members disburse from the venue.

- 4) Any elected member intending to indulge in cross-voting as per his wishes shall do so by sitting in the compartment to which he is assigned based on the party on behalf of which he was elected as ward member.
- 5) No member shall be allowed to move from one compartment to the other under any circumstances. Any member or ex-officio member objecting to this arrangement shall be restrained and allowed to leave the venue if he so desires.
- 6) The Presiding Officer shall not postpone the election if the quorum is fulfilled under any circumstances and members / ex-officio members disrupting the process of election shall be restrained and asked to leave the venue if they flout the instructions issued on seating arrangement and orderly conduct of election.

**(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER)**

  
**SECRETARY**

To  
The Collector & District Election Authority, YSR District.  
The Superintendent of Police, YSR District.  
The Presiding Officer and Joint Collector, YSR District.

