

# **ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA**

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110 001

No. 3/4/ID/2015/SDR(Council) (AP)

Dated:- 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2015

To,

1. The Chief Electoral Officer  
Andhra Pradesh & Telengana  
Hyderabad.

Subject:- Biennial Elections to the Andhra Pradesh and Telangana Legislative Councils from Graduates' and Teachers' Constituencies, poll for which is scheduled to be taken on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015- Commission's order regarding Identification of electors.

Sir,

I am directed to say that the Commission has directed that all electors at the elections from East-West Godavari Teachers' and Krishna-Guntur Teachers' Constituencies of Andhra Pradesh and Mahaboobnagar -Ranga- Reddy -Hyderabad Graduates' and Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda Graduates' Constituencies of Telengana, who have been issued with EPICs as electors in their respective assembly Constituencies, shall have to produce these cards to exercise their franchise when they come to the polling stations for voting at the biennial elections to the Legislative Council of Uttar Pradesh, notified on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 .

2. A copy of the Order dated 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 issued in this behalf is enclosed. The Commission has approved 9 alternative documents of identification in respect of those electors who do not produce EPICs. Attention of all Presiding Officers may be specifically drawn to the directions in paragraph 4 of the order.

3. The Presiding Officers shall be clearly instructed that minor discrepancies in the entries relating to elector's name, father's/mother's/husband's name, sex, age or address in the Electoral Identity Card shall be ignored and the elector shall be allowed to cast his vote so long as the identity of the elector can be established by means of that card.

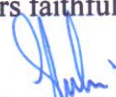
4. The Commission's Order dated 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 may be got published in the State Gazette immediately. The Returning Officers, Presiding Officers appointed for the biennial elections and all other election authorities concerned may be informed of the

Commission's directions urgently. This order may be given wide publicity through print/electronic media and also through Press Release for information of the general public and electors. It should be made clear that those who have been issued with EPIC, should bring the EPIC and made clear that those who do not have EPIC, should bring any of the alternative documents specified by the Commission, at the time of voting. All political parties in your State and contesting candidates may also be informed, in writing, of this direction of the Commission.

5 The Returning Officer(s) shall be instructed to note the implications of this Order and explain the contents thereof to all Presiding Officers through special briefings. They should also ensure that a copy of this letter is available with the Presiding Officers at all polling stations/booths in the constituency.

6. Kindly acknowledge receipt and confirm action taken.

Yours faithfully,

  
(N.T. Bhutia)  
Under Secretary

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No. 3/4/ID/2015/SDR (Council)(AP)

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## **ORDER**

Whereas, the Election Commission has been following the policy of compulsory identification of electors by means of specified identification documents at elections to the House of the People and Legislative Assemblies from the year 2000 onwards, so as to prevent impersonation at elections thereby making the right of genuine electors to vote under section 62 of the Representation of the people Act, 1951 more effective; and

2. Whereas, keeping in view the provisions of Rules, 35(3) and 37(2)(b) of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, the Commission has been issuing directions that the electors at election to House of the People and Legislative Assemblies shall produce their Electoral Photo Identity Cards or other specified documents at the polling station and failure or refusal on their part to produce those Electoral Photo Identity Cards or documents may result in the denial of supply of a ballot paper to them and permission to vote; and

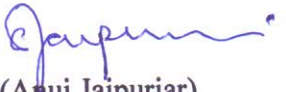
3. Whereas, the said provisions regarding identification of electors and safeguards against impersonation are equally applicable at elections from Graduates' and Teachers' Constituencies, and as the electors in these constituencies are also electors in Assembly Constituencies, they would have been supplied with Electoral Photo Identity Cards as electors in their respective Assembly Constituencies;

4. Now, therefore, after taking into account all relevant factors and legal and factual position, the Election Commission hereby directs that all electors at the biennial elections in East-West Godavari Teachers' and Krishna-Guntur Teachers' Constituencies of Andhra Pradesh and Mahaboobnagar -Ranga- Reddy -Hyderabad Graduates' and Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda Graduates' Constituencies in the State of Telengana, shall have to produce these cards to exercise their franchise, when they come to the polling stations for voting at the biennial elections to the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council from the said Constituencies, notified on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2015. However,

those electors who are not able to produce EPICs, will have to establish their identity, by producing any of the following alternative documents: -

- i. Passport,
- ii. Aadhaar Card
- iii. Driving License,
- iv. Income Tax Identity (PAN) Card,
- v. Service Identity Card issued by the educational Institutions in which the electors of the concerned Graduates' Constituency may be employed,
- vi. Certificate of degree/Diploma issued by University, in original,
- vii. Certificate of physical handicap issued by competent Authority , in original,
- viii. Service identity card issued to its employees by state/Central government, Public Sector Undertakings, Local bodies or other Private Industrial Houses.
- ix. Official identity cards issued to MPs/MLAs/MLCs.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Anuj Jaipuria)  
Secretary