

**Public (Elections-III) Department**

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Bye-election to Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly from 219.Sankarankovil (SC) Assembly Constituency will be held on 18.3.2012 (Sunday) from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Following regulations would be in operation from 5.00 P.M. on 16.3.2012 till the closure of poll:-

- (1) No one shall convene, hold or attend any public meeting or procession in connection with an election.
- (2) No one shall display to the public any election matter by means of cinematograph, television or other similar apparatus. This includes all election form of communication.
- (3) No one shall propagate any election matter to the public by holding or by arranging the holding of, any musical concert or any theatrical performance or any other entertainment or amusement with a view to attracting the member of the public thereto. Any violation of this and above two provisions is punishable with imprisonment for 2 years or fine or both.
- (4) All political functionaries, party workers, etc. who have been brought from outside the Constituency and who are not voters of the Constituency should leave the constituency immediately after 5.00 P.M. on 16.3.2012.
- (5) Kalyanamandapam, community hall, lodges, guest house would be checked to find out whether the outsiders have been accommodated in these premises and to ensure that the outsiders are not staying in the Constituency.
- (6) Check post would be set up in the Constituency borders to track the vehicular movement from outside the constituency.
- (7) The vehicle permits given to candidates would cease to be valid with effect from 5.00 P.M. on 16.3.2012.

- (8) On the date of poll, each candidate is entitled to get a separate permit for -
- (i) one vehicle for his use
  - (ii) one vehicle for the use of election agent and
  - (iii) another vehicle for his workers or party workers.

All vehicle permits issued during campaign period become null and void on poll day and only above three vehicles with valid permits would be allowed on poll day for political purpose. But there is no ban on people using private vehicles for personal purposes.

- (9) No candidate shall be allowed to hire or procure or use vehicle by candidate or his agent for transporting the voters, to and fro from the polling station which is a corrupt practice punishable under Section 133 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
- (10) Temporary campaign office of the candidates/ political parties can be set up only 200 Metres outside the polling station with only 2 persons manning the office and they should not allow unnecessary crowd.
- (11) No eatable shall be served at the above camps.
- (12) Persons manning such booths must be voters of the same polling station area and must possess EPIC for verification. Persons with criminal antecedents should not be allowed to man political party booth on poll day.

CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER  
TAMIL NADU

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The Election Commission of India has pointed out that complaints had come in the past that some of the Presiding Officers do not close the EVM by pressing the 'CLOSE BUTTON' after the end of poll which can lead to suspicion about manipulation. The Commission has been issuing various instructions in this regard in the interest of free and fair poll from time to time.

To avoid such contingencies during the Bye-election to Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly from 219.Sankarankovil (SC) Assembly Constituency, the Commission's instructions are reiterated as follows—

- (1) All Presiding Officers should close the EVM by pressing CLOSE BUTTON at the end of poll in the presence of all such polling agents as may be present.
- (2) All Presiding Officers should draw a line at the end of poll after the last entry in Form 17-A and should record the signed statement thereafter "The serial number of last entry in Form 17-A is \_\_\_\_\_" and obtain the signatures of all polling agents, as may be present, below this statement.
- (3) All Presiding Officers should give an attested copy of the Account of Votes Recorded (in Form 17C) at the end of poll to all such polling agents as may be present, irrespective of their asking for it or not.

**CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER  
TAMIL NADU**

