

P.R. NO - 154

Press Release

Taking note of the fact that the Pongal festival which is celebrated for 5 days was falling on the eve of the poll and following representations from a number of political parties, the Election Commission of India had to postpone the poll for 83. Pennagaram (pre-delimited) AC. The Summary Revision of electoral roll for that AC with 1st of January 2010 as the qualifying date was taken up with the publication of the draft e.roll on 5th Jan. 2010. 32,770 Form -6 applications were received for inclusion in the e.roll. 25 members of staff were additionally deployed for field verification and enquiry in view of the large number of claims. After verification and check / super check by special staff deployed for the purpose, nearly 19,500 claims have been found to be eligible for inclusion.

Separately, in the process of 100% field verification taken up adopting a pro-active approach throughout the State so as to identify the missing names / surplus names and also to correct errors in the electors entries including mismatch of images, 3,394 missing names were identified for Pennagaram Assembly Constituency (not covered by Summary Revision) and action has been taken now to include them in the e.roll. Thus, the total number of inclusions will be nearly 23,000. It may be mentioned incidentally that if the poll had been held as scheduled earlier (i.e., prior to Annual Summary Revision with first of January 2010 as the qualifying date and the completion of 100% Field Verification exercise), it would have resulted in nearly 23,000 electors not being able to exercise their right of franchise.

The question of enrolment of absent persons who are working in other places like Bangalore, Hosur, Tiruppur and Coimbatore had come to the fore during the process of Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls as well as in the 100% Field Verification. The stand taken is that in the case of such persons only those who have family linkage alone could be included in the e.roll.

Another issue on which doubts have been raised is the reduction in the number of electors from the e.roll of 2006. It may be mentioned in this regard that during the exercise of preparation of Photo Electoral Rolls in 2006-2007, a number of persons who were absent had been deleted based on the Field Verification done by the local staff.

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Nach app.

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