

**PRESS RELEASE**

The counting of votes for General Elections to 134.Aravakurichi and 174.Thanjavur Assembly Constituencies and Bye-election to 195.Thiruparankundram Assembly Constituency will be held on 22.11.2016 (Tuesday) from 8.00 A.M. in the following counting centres:-

No. & Name of the AC	Counting Centre	No. of counting Halls	No. of counting Tables	No. of Rounds
134.Aravakurichi	M.Kumarasamy College of Engineering, Karur.	1	14	18
174.Thanjavur	Kundavai Nachiaar Govt. Arts College for Women, Thanjavur	1	14	20
195.Thiruparankundram	Madurai Medical College, Madurai.	1	14	21

2. Based on the instructions of the Election Commission of India, the following arrangements are made in the counting centres:-

- ❖ Postal votes counting would be taken up first, if any Service voters cast their votes. Otherwise, EVM counting would start immediately.
- ❖ Totally 225 counting personnel have been deployed in the counting process. Each counting table shall have one Micro Observer apart from counting staff. The Micro Observer will invariably be a Central Government / PSU of Central Government employee.
- ❖ To ensure transparency in the counting process, copy of result of each table would be given to each counting agent by the Counting Supervisor.
- ❖ After completion of each round of counting, candidate-wise votes secured in Assembly Constituency would be tallied and displayed before commencement of next round of counting. A copy would also be given to candidate or his agent, apart from announcement on loudspeaker.

3. Only following persons are permitted in the premises:

- (i) Counting Supervisors, Assistants, Micro Observer and other Counting staff.
- (ii) Persons authorized by the ECI.
- (iii) Public servants on duty in conduct of elections.
- (iv) Candidates, Elections Agents and their Counting Agents.

4. Entire counting process would be videographed. CD of the recording should be kept in safe custody of DEO.

5. For media, following facilities have been provided:

- (i) A media room will be created at each centre.
- (ii) Only those personnel having ECI passes can enter the counting centre.
- (iii) They should leave their mobile phone and other electronic devices in the media centre, since mobile phones are not allowed inside.
- (iv) Copy of result of each round would be sent to media centre also.

❖ Before RO declares result of an election, he should obtain an authorization for declaration of result from the Observer.

6. Only a maximum of four persons may accompany the candidate to the office of the Returning Officer, while receiving the Certificate of Election.

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