

Press Release

During the Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls with 1st January, 2008 as the qualifying date, totally 14.78 lakhs claims have been received, the maximum being in Kancheepuram (1,04,312), Villupuram (1,00,976), Thiruvallur (90,764), Vellore (83,205) and Cuddalore (80,134).

A team of officers of the CEO's office had visited the districts of Kancheepuram, Vellore and Thiruvallur and made some checks of the claims received. It was found that in large number of cases the previous address in EPIC number has not been furnished. Except in the case of new entrants, i.e. those in the age group 18 to 20, the presumption is that the person would be registered already and, therefore, when they apply for registration in the new address, they must furnish the old address and EPIC number so as to enable deletion to be carried out in the previous address. Seeking to register in more than one place by suppressing previous address and EPIC number is an offence and it would invite penal action with reference to Section 31 of the ROP Act, 1950.

The Election Commission has expressed its concern at the fact that the registration is being made without obtaining the previous address and that this should not be allowed. The 'SAD' [S - shifted, A - absentees & D - Dead] cases require special attention.

It has been decided that after processing of claims and data entry, a list of possible multiple entries will be generated with images using a software so as to eliminate the possibility of the same person being registered more than once. In the review meetings held by the CEO with the EROs during this month, it had been pointed out to them that while no genuine claim should be rejected, no false claim should be accepted. Similarly, attempts to get registered more than once by suppressing information of previous address and EPIC Number have to be foiled. The DEOs have to involve themselves fully in this exercise. It has been

pointed out that the fidelity of the electoral rolls is a pre-requisite to conduct of a fair poll.

The number of claims in Form 6 received on-line for 'e-registration' has aggregated to 13,072, the maximum number being from Chennai (4097), Kancheepuram (3520) and Thiruvallur (2395).

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