

THROUGH FAX

108

ELECTION URGENT

Time Bound

No. SEC-16-18/96-VI- 1555-66
State Election Commission
Himachal Pradesh.

From:

Secretary,
State Election Commission,
Himachal Pradesh.

To

All the District Election Officers (Panchayats),
(Deputy Commissioner),
Himachal Pradesh.

Shimla-171002 dated the 19th November, 2003.

Subject: Appointment of Polling Parties during the Bye-Elections.

Sir,

A number of references have been received from the District Election Officers regarding appointment of polling parties during the bye elections. In this regard it is clarified that during the general elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions a voter has to cast five votes therefore polling parties are appointed wardwise.

But during bye-elections in most cases a voter has to cast only one vote for either Pradhan or Up-Pradhan or a Ward Member. Only in very few and in rare cases bye-elections to more than one office concerning one ward are held in a given bye election. Therefore considering all aspects the Election Commission after careful evaluation decideds and directs as under:-

1. If from any ward a voter has to cast his votes for more than one office in a bye election then a separate polling party will be appointed for each such ward.
2. If from any ward the electors have to cast only one vote for bye-election to any of the offices even then his polling station will remain the same. However in such cases where more than one polling stations is situated in the same building, then upto three wards only one polling party may be appointed. In such a case the electors from all these wards will cast their vote only one polling station.
3. In any case no polling party will attend to more than three wards of a Panchayat.
4. It has to be ensured that location of the polling stations should not be changed from the vicinity of existing one.

However these guidelines are not totally binding and the concerned District Election Officers can appoint more polling parties considering the number of voters and over all administrative convenience.

Yours faithfully,

Abhay Singh
Secretary

State Election Commission
Himachal Pradesh.

9