

Office of the Chief Electoral Officer Jammu and Kashmir

"Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy"

Deputy Commissioners

All Districts

Sub: Clarification regarding filing of Form MEL-A and MEL-B by political parties.

Madam/Sir

I am directed to convey following instructions of the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, with regard to the submission of Form MEL-A and MEL-B for the ensuing Municipal By-Elections:-

1. The Form MEL-A, signed in original, may be submitted to the concerned Deputy Commissioner for all the constituencies going to election in the said district and a copy of the same however shall be submitted mandatorily to the concerned Returning Officer, within the stipulated time period as specified by the Municipal Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 2003.
2. Form MEL-B, signed in original, shall have to be submitted mandatorily to the concerned Returning Officer within the stipulated time period as specified by the Municipal Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 2003.
3. Further, in case a political party has submitted Form MEL-B for more than one candidate in one single Ward, then at the time of Scrutiny following instructions shall be followed:-
 - a. *If a political party submits Form MEL-B in favour of a candidate and then issues another Form MEL-B in favour of another candidate in the same Ward clearly rescinding/withdrawing the earlier issued Form MEL-B, the second candidate shall be accepted as the candidate setup by the political party. The first candidate, in whose case the Form MEL-B stands withdrawn by the political party, shall be considered as independent, in case his nomination is otherwise valid.*
 - b. *If a political party submits notice in Form MEL-B in respect of more than one candidate for the same Ward and the party does not state in such notices that the earlier notice(s) has/have been rescinded/withdrawn, then the notice in respect of the candidate whose nomination paper was first submitted to the RO shall be accepted as setup by that political party. The remaining candidate(s) shall not be treated as candidate(s) set up by that party and shall be considered as independent, in case nomination is otherwise valid.*

Further, it is impressed upon all Deputy Commissioners to have sufficient number of Form MEL-A and MEL-B, available at their headquarters as well as with the Returning officers to circulate this to all the ROs/AROs immediately.

Yours faithfully,


(Anil Salgotra)

Joint Chief Electoral Officer

UT of Jammu and Kashmir

Dated: 11.11.2020

No: 2013/CEO/ME/2020/ 1275-97

Copy to:

All Returning Officers/Assistant Returning Officers through respective Deputy Commissioners.