



सत्यमेव जयते

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, ODISHA

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Letter No. 3697/SEC.,

Date 25.02.2022

ORDER.

Whereas the Commission vide its order No.2155/SEC dated 8.2.2022 has issued instructions that if there is discrepancy in the Ballot Paper Account prepared by the Presiding Officer and actual ballot papers found in the Ballot Box(es) the actual Ballot Papers found in the Ballot Box(es) shall be taken into account and accordingly counting and result shall be done;

Whereas, complaints have been received from different quarters that the above order may create confusion resulting in counting of votes.


Now, therefore, the Commission directs as follows:

1. In case the number of Ballot papers found in the Ballot Box(es) are more than the total number of voters in a particular Ward, the counting of Votes in respect of that Ward shall be held up and the matter shall be referred to the Commission for a decision. The result in respect of that GP/PS/ZP Constituency shall be held up till a clarification is issued by the Commission.
2. In case there is a difference between the Ballot Paper Account and the actual ballot papers found in the Ballot Box(es), reference shall be made to the Marked copy of the Electoral Roll as well as Presiding Officer's Diary to ascertain the correctness.
3. In case the Ballot Paper Account and the actual votes found in the Ballot Box(es) do not tally to such an extent that the margin of difference between the candidate having polled the highest vote and the 2nd highest is such that the result could be ascertained without counting the Ballot paper of the concerned Ward, then the discrepancy will be ignored and the result will be declared taking into account the votes polled in other Wards for the office of Sarpanch/P.S. Member/Z.P. Members as the case may be.
4. In the case of Ward Member, if the discrepancy is less than the margin of difference between the candidates having polled the highest vote and second highest, the result shall be declared.

5. In all other cases the matter may be referred to the Commission for a decision.


The Commission's Order dated 2155/SEC dated 08.02.2022 is modified to the above extent.

By the order of the
State Election Commissioner


Secretary.

Memo No. 3698/SEC., Date: 25.02.2022

Copy forwarded to all Sub-Collectors/All Block Development Officers for information and necessary action.


Secretary. 2.2022