

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, ODISHA

Toshali Bhawan, B-2, 1st Floor, Satyanagar, Bhubaneswar – 751007 (Odisha) Ph. 0674-2573495 (O) Fax : 0674 - 2573494

E-mail: sec.odisha@gov.in / stateelectioncommission.odisha@gmail.com No.2155/SEC.,

08.02.2022

Date

Letter No.

ORDER

Whereas, Rule 36(e) of the Odisha Gram Panchayat Election Rules,1965; Rule 19(1)(v) of the Odisha Panchayat Samiti Election Rules, 1991 and Rule 22(V) of the Odisha Zilla Parishad Election Rules, 1994 provide for Ballot Paper Account by the Presiding Officer in prescribed Forms;

Whereas, counting of votes will be held at the Block Headquarters for which the Commission has issued detailed Guidelines on Counting of votes vide Letter No.2876 dated 16.10.2021;

Whereas, queries have been received from some Districts regarding procedure to be followed in case of discrepancies in Ballot paper Account prepared by the Presiding Officer and ballot papers found inside Ballot box(es);

Whereas, the Election Commission of India, in similar situations has issued instructions that "if there is any discrepancy between EVM count and paper slip count, the paper slip count should prevail. Hence, if there is discrepancy between the counts of votes displayed on the Control Unit and the count of printed-paper slips in respect of that Polling Station, amend the result sheet as per the printed-paper slips count."

Now, the State Election Commission, Odisha in exercise of the powers conferred under Article 243-K of the Constitution of India, directs that if there is discrepancy between Ballot Paper Account prepared by the Presiding Officer and actual Ballot papers found in Ballot Box(es), then the actual Ballot Papers found in Ballot Box(es) shall be taken into account and accordingly counting and result shall be done.

By order and in the name of the State Election Commission, Odisha

Secretary 2 No W_

Memo No.2156/SEC Date:08.02.2022

Copy forwarded to all Collectors/all BDOs-cum-Election Officers for information and necessary action.

Secretary Ama