OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, TELANGANA GENERAL ADMINISTATION (ELECTIONS) DEPARTMENT

5th Floor, North Block, Budha Bhavan, Secunderabad, Hyderabad -03.

Memo.No. 2221/Elecs.D/A1/2021-42

Dated: 06.10.2021

Sub: Elections – Bye-Elections to TSLA, 2021 from 31-Huzurabad AC – Carrying of Mobile Phone by Returning Officer/Assistant Returning Officers in side counting Hall — Regarding.

Ref: 1. ECI, New Delhi, Press Note No. ECI/PN/83/2021, dated 28.09.2021 2. ECI, New Delhi, Letter No. 464/Inst/ETPBS/2021-EPS, dated 06.10.2021

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A copy of the reference 2nd cited, wherein Election Commission of India has issued certain directions on Carrying of Mobile Phone by Returning Officer/Assistant Returning Officers in side counting Hall is sent herewith to the Collector & District Election Officer, Karimnagar and Returning Officer, 31-Huzurabad Assembly Constituency for strict compliance.

Dr.SHASHANK GOEL, CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER & E.O. SPL. CHEF SECRETARY TO GOVT.

То

The Collector & District Election Officer. Karimnagar (w.es)

Copy to:

The Returning Officer, 31-Huzurabad Assembly Constituency (Through the DEO, Karimnagar) (w.es.) Sri Sudhakar, SLA (for Placing on CEO, Telangana Web Site).

// FORWARDED: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

भारत निर्वाचन आयोग ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

TEL: 011-23052246 Fax 011-23052001 Website: <u>www.eci.gov.in</u>

No.464/INST/ETPBS/2021-EPS

निर्वाचन सदन, अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली–110001. Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001. Dated: 6th October, 2021

То

The Chief Electoral Officers of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Telangana, West Bengal and UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu.

Subject:- Conduct of Bye –Elections to 03 Parliamentary and 30 Assembly Constituencies in various States – Carrying of Mobile Phone by Returning Officers/Assistant Returning Officers inside the Counting Hall – Regarding.

Reference: 1. The ECI's instruction No.470/INST/2014-EPS, dated 8th May, 2014.

2. The ECI's instruction No.470/INST/2014-EPS, dated 15th May, 2014.

3. The ECI's Press Note No. ECI/PN/83/2021, dated 28th September, 2021.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to invite your attention to the Commission's instructions referred above and to state that in view of inception of Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot Paper System (ETPBS) wherein One-Time Password (OTP) is received on the Returning Officer's mobile phones, the Commission has directed that on the day of counting,

- Only that mobile phone of the RO/ ARO/ Counting Supervisor (s), linked to ETPBS, to be used to receive 'OTP' to log into ETPBS to start counting thereof have to be brought inside the counting hall;
- (ii) The mobile handset will be switched **ON** only to receive 'OTP' and be switched off once the system is logged on to ETPBS;
- (iii) Inside the counting hall, such mobile handset are to be kept in the custody of ARO/ RO/ Observer, whosoever is the senior most officer in the Counting Hall for ETPBS counting, in switch off mode till the counting is over.
- (iv) In case the login is closed for some reasons, Counting Supervisor can get the mobile from the officer to whom the mobile set was submitted to

receive OTP once again for enabling him to re-login. After re-login, he should return the mobile to same officer in switched off mode.

- (v) A declaration be got signed by all users separately about Do's and Don'ts for mobile usage.
- (vi) Specific permission be sought from concerned Chief Electoral Officer for number of users in each case with the requisite mobile phone numbers being used. Mobile phones are to be allowed inside the Counting hall for all such users.
- (vii) It shall be ensured that the above directions are followed scrupulously without any lapse.

Yours faithfully,

(Sanjeev Kumar Prasad) Secretary