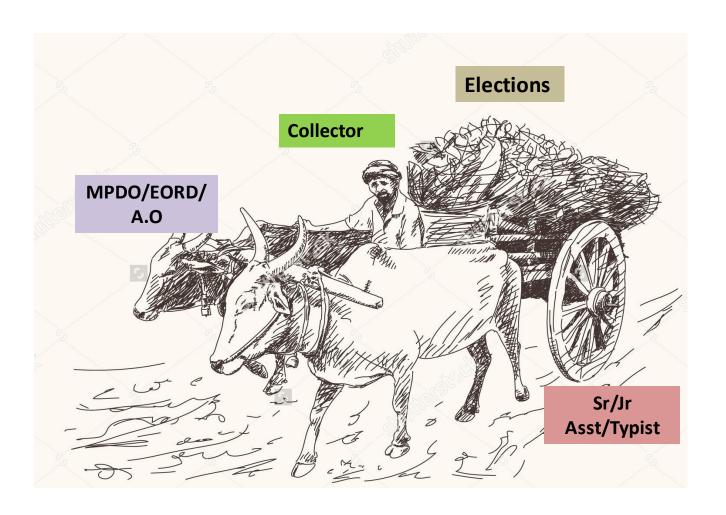
# **Elections to Local Bodies**



- The Andhra Pradesh State Election Commission was constituted in September 1994 under the provisions of Article 243K read with Article 243ZA of the Constitution of India.
- Under Article 243K and 243ZA of the Constitution of India, superintendence, direction and control of preparation of electoral rolls for conduct of all elections to Panchayat Raj bodies and Municipal bodies in the State shall be vested in a State Election Commission consisting of a State Election Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor.
- The powers and functions of the State Election Commission under Article 243K and 243ZA of the Constitution of India are identical to those vested in the Election Commission of India constituted under Article 324 of the Constitution of India in their respective domains. The Election Commission of India is vested with the responsibility of conducting elections to House of People and State Legislative Assemblies whereas the State Election Commission with the conduct of elections to Rural and Urban Local Bodies in the State.



Name of the offices in Local Bodies	Total No. of Seats / Offices in the State	Direct / Indirect Elections	Party basis/ Non-Party basis	Duration / Time limit for conduct of election	
				Ordinary elections	Casual elections (Bye-elections)
Gram Panchayats- 12888					
Sarpanch	13,060	Direct	Non-Party basis	5 years	120 days
Upa-Sarpanch	13,060	Indirect	Non-Party basis	5 years	30 days
Member, Gram Panchayats	130870	Direct	Non-Party basis	5 years	120 days
Mandal Praja Parishads- 659					
Member, MPTC	10148	Direct	Party basis	5 years	120 days
Presidents	659	Indirect	Party basis	5 years	6 months
Vice-Presidents	659	Indirect	Party basis	5 years	6 months
Co-opted Members	659	Indirect		5 years	8 weeks
Zilla Praja Parishads- 13					
Member, ZPTC	659	Direct	Party basis	5 years	120 days
Chairpersons	13	Indirect	Party basis	5 years	6 months
Vice-Chairpersons	13	Indirect	Party basis	5 years	6 months
Co-opted Members	26	Indirect		5 years	8 weeks

- Election Authority: The State Election Commission appoints the Commissioner of Panchayat Raj as Election Authority
- District Election Authority. The State Election Commission appointed the District Collector as the District Election Authority.
- Additional District Election Authorities: The Joint Collector of the District, the Chief Executive Officer of the Zilla Parishad and the District Panchayat Officer shall be the Additional District Election Authorities.
- Deputy District Election Authorities: The Revenue Divisional Officer or Sub-Collectors, as the case may be, in the district shall be Deputy District Election Authorities.
- For every election to fill the seat of Members and Sarpanch of gram panchayats, a **Returning Officer** for one or more gram panachayats
- The District Election Authority may also appoint **Zonal officers** in connection with conduct of elections to Panchayat Raj bodies.

#### 1. RETURNING OFFICER:

- The election process of Gram Panchayats is divided into two stages viz., Stage I and Stage II.
- Stage I- The election process starting from the stage of publication of election notice under Rule 6 of conduct of election rules and ending with the publication of list of contesting candidates for Members and Sarpanch, Gram Panchayats and allotment of symbols to them is called as Stage I.
- Stage II-The election process comprising of all other subsequent election process upto the conduct of the special meeting for election of Upa-Sarpanch.

# **GP Elections**

- 1. Preparation and publication of Electoral Roll:
- 2. Qualifications and disqualifications (as on the date of scrutiny):
  - 1. Registered voter in GP electoral roll
  - 2. Not less than 21 years of age
  - 3. Reserved seat-must belong to that community
  - 4. Reserved for women-must be women
  - 5. Not sentenced by a Criminal Court under moral delinquency(5 years after expiration of term)
  - 6. Not sentenced under PCR Act, 1955.
  - 7. Not have been disqualified under Sec.19A(electoral malpractices),19B(failed to lodge election expenditure) & 20 A(failed to convene GS) of APPR Act,1994

- 8. Not of unsound mind; not a deaf mute
- 9. Should not be an insolvent
- 10. Should not be in arrears of any dues to GP
- 11. Should not be a village servant or an officer of GoI or State Govt., Local Authority, Body receiving aid from the Govt.
  - 12. Should not be disqualified for being elected as MLA.
- 13.Not disqualified under Sec.19(3) of APPR Act 1994 for having more than 2 children
- 3. Reservations: Reservation by rotation
- 4. Preparation and publication of List of Polling Stations:

# **Returning Officer-1**

### **5.Issue of Election Notification:**

- a. Last date for receiving of nominations
- b. Date of scrutiny
- c. Date for filing appeals
- d. Last date for withdrawl
- e. Date, place and time of poll
- f. Date, place and time of counting
- g. Date, place and time of poll and Vice-Sarpanch election

#### 6. Nominations

- 1. Must be a voter in GP voter list
- 2. For WM proposer must be in that ward
- For Sarpanch proposer can be a voter in any ward
- 4. Can file multiple nominations with one deposit
- 5. Sign declarations-willingness

-caste

-on criminal antecedents, assets&liabilities and education qualifications

-Election expenditure

6. Deposit

- 7.Publication of List of Nominations received
- 8.Scrutiny of nominations
- 9.Publication of List of Validly Nominated Candidates
- 10.Appeals on Rejections
- 11.Withdrawl
- 12.Publication of List of Contesting Candidates with Symbols
- 13.Placing striking order for printing of ballot paper
- Sorting and bundling of ballot papers
- Depositing in treasury/Police Station

### **Returning Officer-2**

- 1. Appointment of EA,PA and CA
- Issue of postal ballot papers(Sarpanch-Pink;WM-White)
- 3. Campaigning-MCC, EE monitoring
- 4. Preparation for Election process(polling,counting ,upa sarpanch election)
- 5. Training to Pos and OPOs at distribution centre
- 6. Distribution-Routes and Zones
- 7. Ballot papers & box, paper seals, Distinguishing mark, Indelible inkl, Swastic mark, working/marked copy of electoral rolls, etc

# On Polling Day

- 1. Arrangements at the polling stations
- 2. Polling time: 7 AM to 1 PM
- 3. Compulsory identification of voters-14 items
- Challenging and tendered voting(Inform SEC PS where tendered votes are more than 2% of voters)

#### 11. Death of candidate

Conditions for adjourning poll, holding election void and fresh elections

Closure of poll

- 12.Sealing of BB
- 13.Ballot paper A/C
- 14.Paper seal A/C
- 15.PO Diary

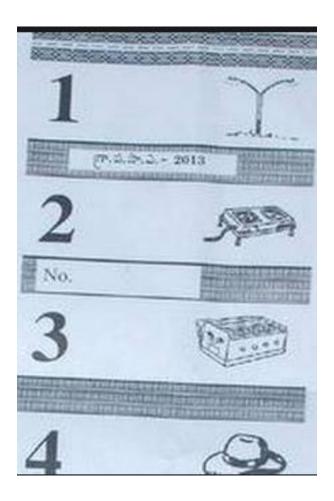
# Counting of votes

- 1. Commences at 2 PM on same day
- 2. Polling staff acts as counting staff
- 3. Persons eligible to present
- 4. Postal Ballots first
- 5. Opening of boxes
- 6. Sarpanch pink and WM white- bundles of 25

- 1. Grounds for rejection
- 2. Recounting of votes
- 3. Equality of votes-lots
- 4. Issue of Certificate of Election

## Election of Upa-Sarpanch

- 1. Convene special meeting on the same day
- 2. Place-GP office
- 3. Affix notice on notice board of GP
- 4. Quorum is not less than ½ of total members
- 5. Presided by RO-2



### **Reception Center**

- 1. Return election material in 3 packets: statutory materials, non-statutory materials and other items
- 2. Forms relating to return of election

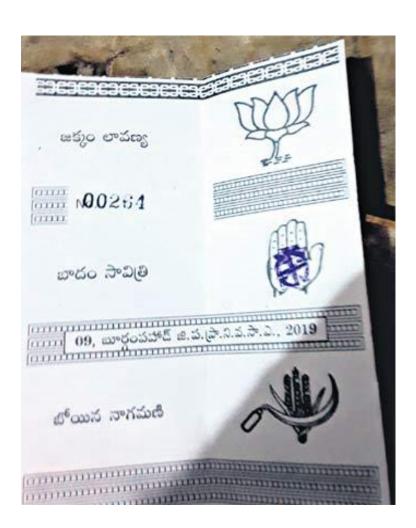
  Submission of Election expenditure particulars
- 1. Submit to MDO with in 45 days from the date of declaration of results.

### **Returning of Election deposits**

- 1. RO-2 to give proceedings
- 2. . With in 30 days

# **MPTC &ZPTC Elections**

- ZPTC -white &MPTC -pink.
- symbols reserved for recognised and registered political parties with reserved symbols and free symbols for MPTCs and ZPTCs elections
- Order first national ,state and then independent candidates



### **Press Passes**

- The District Collectors are authorized to issue passes to the local press.
- Not more than two passes (one pass for each person) shall be given to each newspaper agency or media unit in each Mandal.

- No to protect the two occupants of those
- chairs at the booth from weather conditions, such booth shall not be enclosed by
- tentage, etc.

- Ban on electioneering before the hour fixed the close of poll
- 48 hours -MPTC and ZPTC
- 44 hours-Gram Panchayat elections
- No cellular phones, cordless phones, wireless sets, etc., Prohibition of going armed to or near a polling station in the 100 meter perimeter of the polling stations described as the "Polling Station"
- Neighborhood" and within the polling stations.

# Thank You

S.Padma Rani, Sr.Faculty, E.T.C, SKHT