

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 3/ER/2011/SDR

Dated : 8th February, 2011

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of all
States and Union Territories.

Sub: Affidavits filed by the candidates with their nomination paper.

Sir/Madam,

Please refer to the Commission's order No. 3/ER/2003/JS-II, dated 27th March, 2003, and the subsequent instructions issued from time to time regarding filing of affidavits by candidates about their criminal background, assets, liabilities and educational qualifications, and the dissemination of the affidavits for information of the electors.

2. As per the existing instructions, copies of the affidavits are to be displayed on the notice board of the Returning Officer immediately after the affidavit is filed and copies of the affidavit are to be supplied free of cost to any person who asks for the same. The affidavits are also required to be scanned and uploaded on the CEO's website, so that the affidavits of all contesting candidates are available immediately after the list of contesting candidates is finalized. In accordance with extant instructions and practice, the information about government dues as given in the affidavit (under the heading 'liabilities') is also published in two newspapers with local circulation.

3. For wider dissemination of information contained in the affidavits to the electors, the Commission has given the following further directions:

- (i) In cases where the offices of the AROs are outside the headquarters where the RO's office is situated, but within the boundary of the constituency, copies of the affidavits should also be displayed in the offices of such AROs.
 - (ii) In those cases where the offices of the ROs and AROs are both situated outside the boundary of the constituency, one set of copies of affidavits should be displayed on the notice board of the RO and another set should be displayed in some public premises accessible to the general public within the constituency.
 - (iii) When the information on government dues is published in the newspaper, there should be a note added therein mentioning the places where the other details viz. criminal background, assets, liabilities and educational qualifications of all the contesting candidates can be found. The note should also mention that the affidavits can be viewed on the website of the CEO and the path to the website should also be mentioned.
 - (iv) It should be ensured that the complete set of affidavits in respect of all contesting candidates is available on the website within 24 hours after finalization of the list of contesting candidates. Special care should be taken to ensure that no part of any affidavit is left out while scanning is carried out.
4. Please communicate these instructions to all officers concerned in the State, and also acknowledge receipt of this letter and confirm action being taken.

Yours faithfully,

(K.F.WILFRED)
SECRETARY