

Office of the Chief Electoral Officer

Jammu and Kashmir

Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy

Sub: Scheme for voting by 'Absentee Voters' by means of Postal Ballot in the Municipal By-Elections 2020.

ORDER NO: CEO/ME/2020/465

Dated: 05.11.2020

Consequent upon the notification of various classes of persons as 'Absentee Voters' entitled to cast their vote by postal ballot, vide Notification No:CEO/ME/2020/01 issued under endorsement No.2174/CEO/ME/2020/968-87 dated 05.11.2020, the detailed scheme for those of the 'Absentee Voters' who wish to vote by postal ballot is enclosed herewith.

Sd/-

(Hirdesh Kumar)IAS
Chief Electoral Officer, J&K

Encl: Postal ballot scheme (14 leaves)

No.2174/CEO/ ME/2020/988-1007

Dated: 05-11-2020

Copy to:

1. All Financial Commissioners.
2. Director General of Police, J&K.
3. All Principal Secretaries to the Government.
4. Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor.
5. Principal Resident Commissioner, J&K Government, New Delhi.
6. Joint Secretary (J&K), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
7. All Commissioner/Secretaries to the Government.
8. Divisional Commissioner Jammu/Kashmir.
9. Chairperson, J&K Special Tribunal.
10. Director General, J&K Institute of Management & Administration & Rural Development.
11. Director, Information, J&K for publishing in leading newspapers of the UT.
12. All Deputy Commissioners.
13. All Heads of the Departments/Managing Directors/Secretary, Advisory Boards.
14. Secretary, PSC/SSB/J&K Academy of Art, Culture & languages.
15. Director, Estates.
16. Director, Archives, Archaeology & Museums, J&K.
17. Secretary, J&K Legislative Assembly.
18. General Manager, Government Press, Jammu.
19. Private Secretary to the Chief Secretary.
20. Private Secretary to the Advisor (F)/(B) & (BK) to the Lieutenant Governor.


(Anil Salgotra)
05/11/2020

Jt. Chief Electoral Officer
UT of Jammu & Kashmir


5/11

Office of the Chief Electoral Officer

Jammu and Kashmir

Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy

Notification No: CEO/ME/2020/01

Dated:05-11-2020

WHEREAS, a number of electors who are eligible for voting in the Municipal By-Election 2020 may have been hospitalised or quarantined (Institutional /Home) being either Covid positive or suspected to be so;

WHEREAS, in terms of the guidelines issued by the competent authorities, it would not be feasible for these persons to reach their respective polling stations physically and exercise their right to franchise;

WHEREAS, electors who are senior citizens and have attained the age of 80years and above also find it difficult to reach their respective polling stations physically to exercise their right to franchise;

WHEREAS, electors who are Persons with Disabilities (PwD) also have problems in reaching their respective polling stations physically on the day of poll to cast their vote;

WHEREAS, there are electors who shall be either engaged in election duty or Covid related duties on the day of poll and therefore not in a position to cast their votes physically at the polling stations;

WHEREAS, a need has been felt to facilitate the above referred classes of persons in a manner that they can exercise their right to franchise without physically visiting their respective polling stations;

WHEREAS, proviso to Rule 45 of Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Corporation (Election) Rules, 2003 and proviso to Rule 46 of Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Election Rules, 2003, authorizes the Chief Electoral Officer to specify any class of persons for casting of votes in a manner other than in person;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to Rule 45 of Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Corporation (Election) Rules, 2003 and proviso to Rule 46 of Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Election Rules, 2003, for the purpose of casting votes at the ensuing Municipal By-Elections in the Union Territory, hereby notifies the following classes of persons as the 'Absentee Voters', entitled to cast their votes by postal ballot, subject to the fulfilment of requirements otherwise specified in the statutes governing the said elections:-

- a. Electors above the age of 80 years

- b. Electors with physical disability as already marked/flagged in the data base of the electoral rolls of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
- c. Covid-19 suspect or affected persons, who are hospitalised or quarantined (Institutional or Home), certified by a competent authority.
- d. Electors who are deployed for election duty on the day of poll.
- e. Electors who are deployed for Covid mitigation duties on the day of poll.

Sd/-

(Hirdesh Kumar)IAS
Chief Electoral Officer, J&K

Dated: 05-11-2020

No.2174/CEO/ME/2020/968-87

Copy to:

1. All Financial Commissioners.
2. Director General of Police, J&K.
3. All Principal Secretaries to the Government.
4. Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor.
5. Principal Resident Commissioner, J&K Government, New Delhi.
6. Joint Secretary (J&K), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
7. All Commissioner/Secretaries to the Government.
8. Divisional Commissioner Jammu/Kashmir.
9. Chairperson, J&K Special Tribunal.
10. Director General, J&K Institute of Management & Administration & Rural Development.
11. Director, Information, J&K for publishing in leading newspapers of the UT.
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13. All Heads of the Departments/Managing Directors/Secretary, Advisory Boards.
14. Secretary, PSC/SSB/J&K Academy of Art, Culture & languages.
15. Director, Estates.
16. Director, Archives, Archaeology & Museums, J&K.
17. Secretary, J&K Legislative Assembly.
18. General Manager, Government Press, Jammu.
19. Private Secretary to the Chief Secretary.
20. Private Secretary to the Advisor (S)/(F)/(B) & (BK) to the Lieutenant Governor.

(Anil Salgotra)

Jt. Chief Electoral Officer
UT of Jammu & Kashmir




Annexure to Order No: CEO/ME/2020/465 dated 05-11-2020
Scheme for Voting by means of Postal Ballot in the Municipal
Elections 2020 for the absentee electors

1. Class of Persons constituting 'Absentee Voters':

Electors falling within the ambit of Notification No: ME/2020/01 issued under endorsement No.2174/CEO/ME /2020/968-87 date 05.11.2020, viz:-

- a. Electors who are Covid-19 suspect or affected persons, and are hospitalised or under institutional quarantine, certified by a competent authority.
- b. Electors who are Covid-19 suspect or affected persons, and are under home quarantine, certified by a competent authority.
- c. Electors above the age of 80 years.
- d. Electors with physical disability as already marked/flagged in the data base of the electoral rolls of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
- e. Electors on Election duty or Covid related duty.

2. Sub-classes of 'Absentee Voters':

For the purpose of this scheme the Absentee Voters as referred above shall be divided into following sub-classes:

- a. **Absentee Voters - INST:**
Comprising of the persons falling under class 1(a) above, i.e. Electors who are COVID- 19 positive/suspect and are in Institutional Admission/Quarantine.
- b. **Absentee Voters - Gen:**
Comprising of the persons falling under class 1(b), 1(c), and 1(d) above, i.e. Electors who are COVID- 19 positive/suspect and are in Home Quarantine OR the electors who are marked as Persons with Disabilities (PwD) OR the electors above the age of 80 years.
- c. **Absentee Voter- Ser:**
Comprising of the persons falling under class 1(e) i.e Electors deployed for election duties and Covid related duties.

3. Appointment of Nodal Officer for 'Absentee Voters - INST' and 'Absentee Voter – Gen & Ser':

Every district shall have two separate Nodal Officers for handling all issues related to Absentee Voters-INST and Absentee Voters-Gen & Ser. The Nodal Officer for Absentee Voters-INST should preferably be from Medical fraternity. These nodal officers shall handle all issues related to their respective classes of the Absentee Voters, including ensuring wide publicity to this scheme for facilitating such voters.

4. Database of 'Absentee Voters' entitled to vote by Postal Ballot:

- a. Deputy Commissioners shall make available to all ROs the lists of electors falling under different categories of 'Absentee Voters' belonging to the Municipal areas under their respective jurisdictions.

- b. The list of Covid related Absentee Voters shall be obtained from the concerned Competent Authorities.
- c. The list of marked Persons with disabilities shall be taken from the ERONET data of the district and only those electors who are enrolled in the latest Municipal Electoral Rolls out of this shall be considered as 'Absentee Voters' under this scheme.

5. Intimation by 'Absentee Voter' to vote by Postal Ballot:

Any 'Absentee Voter', who wishes to vote by Postal Ballot (PB), shall make an application to the concerned RO, give his/her preference by filing Form-'MAPB-1', as enclosed. Copies of Form-MAPB-1 shall also be available at the office of Deputy Commissioners of respective Districts, Offices of the Municipal Bodies concerned and Returning Officers of the respective Municipal Bodies and can also be downloaded from the website of the CEO J&K (ceojk.nic.in).

The procedure for various sub-classes of Absentee Voters shall be as under:

Absentee Voters –INST:

- a. In case of Absentee Voters-INST, the Nodal Officer shall ensure distribution of Form-MAPB-1 to the absentee voters who are under institutional admission/quarantine through the administrative incharge of these institutions like Hospitals, quarantine centres, etc.
- b. To enable the Absentee voters to give the requisite details in Form MAPB-1, the Nodal Officers shall utilize the services of the concerned BLOs. Deputy Commissioners shall ensure that contact details of all BLOs are provided to the Nodal Officers. Copies of the electoral rolls of all the wards shall be available at all the District Headquarters and Offices of the respective Municipal Bodies. Electoral Rolls are also available on the CEO, J&K web portal (ceojk.nic.in).
- c. Nodal Officer shall ensure that the duly filled Form MAPB-1 are deposited to the concerned Returning Officers **by the date appointed as 'the last date for making nomination'** for the concerned Ward of the Municipal Body.
- d. The certificate in Part II of Form MAPB-1 which has to be signed by any gazetted officer, in case of electors under institutional admission/quarantine, can be signed by the incharge of such institution.

Absentee Voters –Gen:

- a. Respective BLOs shall visit the houses of the concerned electors, as provided by the RO, in the Polling Station area and deliver Form MAPB-1 to the concerned electors. If an elector is not available, he/she will share his/her contact details and revisit to collect it on a specified day.
- b. The elector may or may not opt for POSTAL BALLOT. However in both the cases an acknowledgment as appended to this scheme shall be obtained from the elector by the BLO.
- c. If he/she opts for POSTAL BALLOT, then the BLO will collect the filled-in Form MAPB-1 from the house of the elector and deposit it to the

- concerned RO immediately, not waiting for the last date fixed for filing of Nomination Papers in the concerned constituency, being the cut-off date.
- d. BLO shall deposit all the acknowledgement forms with the RO along with all Form MAPB-1.
 - e. BLO shall assist the 'Absentee Voters' in filling their particulars in the Form –MAPB-1.
 - f. While visiting the 'Absentee Voter' under home quarantine, the DC shall provide appropriate protection equipment including PPE kit in consultation with the District Nodal Health Officer to the BLO.
 - g. Duly filled Form MAPB-1 should reach the concerned Returning Officers **by the date appointed as 'the last date for making nomination'** for the concerned Ward of the Municipal Body.

Absentee Voter -Ser

- a. Absentee Voter-Ser shall fill the Form MAPB-1 giving their complete particulars especially the Part II of the form.
 - b. To enable the Absentee voters to fill the requisite details of electoral status in Form MAPB-1, copies of the electoral rolls of all the Wards of the Municipal Body shall be available at all the District Headquarters and Offices of the respective Municipal Body. Electoral Rolls are also available on the CEO, J&K web portal (ceojk.nic.in). List of BLOs with their contact details shall also be made available by the Deputy Commissioners on their respective websites for facilitation of Absentee Voters. All BLOs shall be instructed by the Deputy Commissioners to facilitate the Absentee Voters in filling of Form MAPB-1, in person or virtual mode.
 - c. The certificate in Part II of Form MAPB-1 shall be duly signed by the authorised officer of the organisation to which he/she belongs.
 - d. Duly filled Form MAPB-1 should reach the concerned Returning Officers **by the date appointed as 'the last date for making nomination'** for the concerned Ward of the Municipal Body.
- 6. Registration of Absentee Voters & preparation of marked copy of electoral rolls:**
- a. All the application received by the **due date (i.e. the date specified as the last date for making nomination for that Ward of the Municipal Body)** in the Form 'MAPB-1' shall be compiled by the Returning Officer in Form 'MAPB-7'.
 - b. The Returning Officer, shall issue the Postal Ballots to all the Absentee voters who have opted for this scheme by filling Form – 'MAPB-1', and prepare the marked copies of Electoral rolls by marking 'MAPB' in front of the name of each elector who has opted for MAPB.
 - c. The marked copies of the electoral rolls shall be used at the respective polling stations.

7. Form of Postal Ballot paper:

- a) Every postal ballot paper shall have a counterfoil attached thereto and the said ballot paper and the counterfoil shall be in Urdu and English language.

- b) The names of the candidates shall be arranged on the postal ballot paper in the order in which they appear in the list of contesting candidates.
- c) If two or more candidates bear the same name they shall be distinguished by the addition of their occupation or residence or in some other manner.

8. Issue of Postal ballot paper:

- a) Based on the list of Absentee voters who have opted for the MAPB scheme, RO shall, within 48 hours of the last date of withdrawal, enclose the following in Cover C (as per Form 'MAPB-6') and prepare for dispatch to the Absentee voter:-
 - i. Postal Ballot with seal and signatures of the RO concerned on the backside of each ballot;
 - ii. a declaration in Form 'MAPB-2';
 - iii. a cover in Form 'MAPB-3';
 - iv. a large cover addressed to the RO concerned in Form 'MAPB-4'; and
 - v. instructions for the guidance of the Absentee voter in Form 'MAPB-5';
- b) The Returning Officer shall, at the same time—
 - i. record on the counterfoil of the each ballot paper the electoral roll number of the Absentee voter as entered in the marked copy of the electoral roll;
 - ii. mark the name of the Absentee voter in the marked copy of the electoral roll to indicate that ballot paper(s) has been issued to him, without, however, recording therein the serial numbers of the ballot papers issued to that Absentee voter; and
 - iii. ensure that the Absentee voter is not allowed to vote at a polling station.

9. Delivery of Postal Ballot:

In case of Absentee Voter – INST & GEN:

- a. The Deputy Commissioner shall constitute sufficient number of '**AV-Polling Teams**' of polling officials, based on the number of requests received from such of the electors who are under institutional admission/quarantine and have opted under this scheme. A polling team shall consist of at least two officials, out of whom one at least should not be below the rank/level of the officials appointed as Polling Officer at a normal polling station. The Senior most member of the team shall be the in-charge of the team who shall be responsible for certifying the signatures of the elector in Form MAPB-2.
- b. The lists of 'Absentee Voter' (all categories) shall be divided for distribution among the different 'AV-Polling Teams' in such manner that each team gets a list of persons in geographically compact area.

- c. ROs shall handover to these teams the sets of Postal ballot papers, as per clause 8 of this order, elector-wise under proper receipt/documentation vis-à-vis the list of 'Absentee Voters' assigned to them.
- d. The '**AV-Polling Teams**' shall visit the electors at the address mentioned in their application in Form MAPB-1 for facilitating their voting by postal ballot paper.
- e. The electors will be intimated, in advance, about the date and approximate time of visit of poll officials. Such intimation may be given through SMS on the mobile phone number wherever the same has been mentioned in the application in Form-MAPB-1. In other cases, the intimation may be given through the BLO.
- f. If the elector is not present at the given address at the first visit, the team shall pay a second visit after leaving intimation about the time of second visit. If the elector is not present even at the second visit, no further visit or action is required in his/her case.
- g. The candidates shall be informed about the schedule of visit for the delivery and collection of postal ballots for this category. They may, if desired, depute their authorized representatives (including BLAs), with prior intimation to the Returning Officer, to watch the process.
- h. The visiting polling official shall ascertain the identity of the elector before handing over the postal ballot paper (Cover-C).
- i. Each team of AV-Polling Team should be provided with the list of 'Absentee Electors', pen, ink-pad (for thumb impression wherever required), glue stick for closing the envelopes, a sufficiently big canvas bag for keeping the envelopes of polled ballots safely and other essential stationeries that may be considered necessary.
- j. Police Security cover wherever necessary, shall be provided to the AV-Polling Teams for their visits.
- k. For the AV-Polling Teams deputed to Covid related 'Absentee Voters', appropriate protection equipment including PPE kit shall be provided in consultation with the Nodal Health Officer for the District.

In case of Absentee Voter – Ser:

- a. For all the Absentee Voters - Ser, the postal ballot shall be dispatched by post under a certificate of post by the RO concerned.

10. After postal ballot papers have been issued to all the Absentee voters, the RO shall:

- a) seal up in a packet the marked copy of the electoral roll and record on the packet a brief description of its contents and the date on which it is sealed.
- b) also seal up in separate packet the counterfoils of the ballot papers issued to the Absentee voters and record on the packet a brief description of its contents and the date on which it was sealed.

11. Recording of Vote:

Absentee Voter- INST & Gen:

- a) Absentee voter who has received the postal ballot paper and desires to vote shall record his/her vote on the ballot paper in accordance with the directions contained in Form MAPB-5.
- b) After recording his vote, he shall enclose the postal ballot in **Cover A (Form MAPB-3)** and seal this envelope.
- c) The Absentee voter shall sign the declaration in Form **MAPB-2** in the presence of, and have the signature attested by **AV-Polling Team Incharge**.
- d) The envelope containing postal ballot i.e., **Cover A (Form 'MAPB-3)** and the declaration in **Form 'MAPB-2'** shall be put in the bigger envelope **Cover B (Form 'MAPB-4)**. **This should be sealed properly by the AV-Polling team.**
- e) **The CV-Polling team has to ensure that all instructions in the Form MAPB-5 are strictly adhered to and the secrecy of voting is maintained.**
- f) **The CV-Polling team shall have the mandate to assist the Absentee Voter-INST within the ambit of the instructions laid down in Form MAPB-5.**

Absentee Voter- Ser:

- a) Absentee Voter-Ser, who has received the postal ballot paper by post and desires to vote, shall record his/her vote on the ballot paper in accordance with the directions contained in Form MAPB-5.
- b) After recording his vote, he shall enclose the postal ballot in **Cover A (Form MAPB-3)** and seal this envelope.
- c) The Absentee voter shall sign the declaration in Form **MAPB-2** in the presence of, and have the signature attested by **1st Class Magistrate or a Gazetted Officer**.
- d) The envelope containing postal ballot i.e., **Cover A (Form 'MAPB-3)** and the declaration in **Form 'MAPB-2'** shall be put in the bigger envelope **Cover B (Form 'MAPB-4)**. **This should be sealed properly.**

12. Returning the ballot paper:

- a) **In case of Absentee Voter- INST & Gen, the sealed large Cover-B (Form 'MAPB-4'), containing the postal ballot in Form 'MAPB-3' and declaration in Form 'MAPB-2', shall be returned by the 'Absentee Voters' to the AV-Polling Teams, who shall ensure its delivery to the RO concerned under safe custody at least **one day before the date appointed for counting in the respective constituency.****
- b) **In case of Absentee Voter-Ser, the sealed large Cover-B (Form 'MAPB-4'), containing the postal ballot in Form 'MAPB-3' and declaration in Form 'MAPB-2', shall be returned by the Absentee voter to the RO concerned by post so as to **reach him one day before the date appointed for counting in the respective constituency.****
- c) All the PBs, duly sealed in large Cover B (Form 'MAPB-4'), shall be received by the RO, who shall ensure proper receipt of all the covers and keep them in safe custody. Also, if any such Cover is received after the expiry of the time stated above, the RO shall make note thereon of the date and time of its receipt but not open it.

13. Counting of Absentee Postal Ballots:

- a) RO shall arrange and ensure that all the PBs received within the prescribed time period, are delivered in a sealed envelope to the ARO who is incharge of the counting for that Constituency, by or before the date of poll. The ARO shall take necessary steps for counting of the PBs at the time of counting.
- b) The ARO shall comply with all the extant instructions regarding the counting of postal ballots. In particular, he shall ensure that:
 - I. The Postal Ballots have the Signatures of the RO on the back side (Specimen signatures of the RO shall be provided to all the AROs responsible for counting of Postal Ballots).
 - II. The PBs are duly marked by the Absentee voter and there is no mark other than this on the MAPB.
 - III. The declaration in Form 'MAPB-2' is duly signed by the Absentee voter as well as the attesting authority.
 - IV. The postal ballots are taken up for counting first.
 - V. In case of Covid related 'Absentee Voters' a certificate from the competent authority is attached.

FORM 'MAPB-1'
Letter of Intimation to vote through Postal Ballot
(To be filled by each 'Absentee voter' individually)

To

The Returning Officer,

Sir,

I, _____ son/daughter/wife of _____ resident
village/mohalla _____ of town/city/tehsil _____
District _____ of Kashmir (J&K), belong to the class of notified voters,
and wish to cast my vote by post at the election to _____ ward of _____
Municipal Corporation/ Council/ Committee. My **complete present postal address** is as under:-

House/dwelling unit/tent number _____

Name of camp/mohalla/village _____

Name of ward/town/tehsil _____

District _____ Pin Code _____

State _____

My name is entered at S.No. _____ in part/polling station number _____ of
the Electoral roll of Ward No: _____ of the Municipal Corporation/ Council / Committee
_____ and my EPIC No. is _____

* I amyears of age/am a person with disability, and am not in a position to go to the polling
station to cast vote.

* I am hospitalised/quarantined (Home/Institution) due to Covid and thus restricted from going to
Polling station to cast vote. Certificate from the competent authority in this regard is attached.

* I am working as.....(designation of the office held) in.....
..... (Name and full address of organization). I will be on duty in
.....(Details of deployment) on the day of poll for the above
mentioned election. On account of my official duties on the date of poll, I will not be in a position to
be present in the polling station assigned to me on the day of poll.

It is requested that postal ballot paper may be issued to me as absentee voter for the above election.

Yours faithfully,

(Signature of the elector)

* *Strike off whichever is not applicable and tick the relevant statement.*

PART II

(Only for absentee voter other than senior citizen or persons with disability)

[Certificate by the Authorised Officer appointed by the Organisation concerned]

It is hereby certified that the particulars given by the applicant in Part I are correct, and it is further
certified that the applicant will be on official duty on the day of poll, and he/she will not be in a
position to be present in the polling station on the day of poll.

(full signature of the attesting Officer)

.....(Name)

.....(address)

.....(rubber stamp)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

(Only for those absentee voters who receive Form MAPB-1 by hand from BLO)

I _____, have received a copy of Form -MAPB-1 on _____
(date) from the AV-Polling Team.

Dated :

Signature

Name _____

Address _____

FORM 'MAPB-2'
DECLARATION BY ABSENTEE VOTER
Municipal Elections 2020

(This part is to be used only when the Absentee voter signs the declaration himself/herself)

I hereby declare that I am the Absentee voter to whom the postal ballot papers bearing serial number _____ has been issued at the above election:

Date _____ Address _____ Signature of Absentee voter

Attestation of Signature

The above has been signed in my presence by _____ (Absentee voter) who is personally known to me/has been identified to my satisfaction by _____ (identifier) who is personally known to me.

Signature of identifier, if any _____
Address _____

Signature of Attesting Officer
Designation.....
Address.....

Date.....

(This part is to be used when the Absentee voter cannot sign himself)

I hereby declare that I am the Absentee voter to whom the postal ballot paper bearing above mentioned serial numbers have been issued at the above election.

Date _____

Signature of Attesting Officer
on behalf of Absentee voter

Address of Absentee voter.....

Certificate

I hereby certify that—

The above named Absentee voter is personally known to me/has been identified to my satisfaction by(identifier) who is personally known to me;

(2) I am satisfied that the Absentee voter is illiterate/suffers from(infirmity) and is unable to record vote or sign declaration;

(3) I was requested by him/her to mark the ballot paper and to sign the above declaration on his/her behalf; and

(4) The ballot paper was marked and the declaration signed by me in his/her presence and in accordance with the wishes.

(Signature of identifier, if any)
Address.....

Signature of Attesting Officer
Designation.....
Address:.....
Date:.....

FORM 'MAPB-3'

'COVER - A'

NOT TO BE OPENED BEFORE COUNTING (by anybody including RO)

- * Election to the
- *Name of the District:.....
- *Name of Municipal body:.....
- *Ward No & Name:.....
- *Polling Station No. & Name:.....

POSTAL BALLOT PAPER

**Serial number of ballot paper

* Appropriate particulars of the election to be inserted here by RO

** Serial numbers of the postal ballot papers to be filled by the RO

FORM-'MAPB-4'

'COVER - B'

(Service unpaid)

Every officer under whose care or through whom the set of postal ballot papers is sent shall ensure its delivery to the addressee without delay

**ELECTION-IMMEDIATE
POSTAL BALLOT PAPER**

For Election to: *District:.....
 *Name of Municipal body.....
 *Ward No & Name:.....
 *Polling Station No & Name:.....

(NOT TO BE OPENED BEFORE COUNTING by anybody including RO)

To
The Returning Officer,
Ward No & Name.....
Municipal body
.....
.....

Signature of sender.....

** Returning Officer to fill in all the details on this form. Returning Officer to insert here the name of the District, Municipal body and ward.*

FORM 'MAPB-5'
INSTRUCTIONS FOR GUIDANCE OF 'ABSENTEE VOTERS'
Municipal By-Elections 2020

- 1) The persons whose names are printed on the ballot paper sent herewith are candidates at the above election. Record your vote by placing clearly a mark opposite the name of the candidate to whom you wish to give your vote. The marks should be so placed as to indicate clearly and beyond doubt to which candidate you are giving your vote. If the mark is so placed as to make it doubtful to which candidate you have given your vote, your vote will be invalid. The number of members to be elected is one. Please remember that you have only one vote. Accordingly you should not vote for more than one candidate. If you do so, your ballot paper will be rejected. Do not put your signature or write any word or any mark, sign or writing whatsoever on the ballot paper other than the mark required to record your vote.
- 2) After you have recorded your vote on the ballot papers, place the ballot papers in smaller cover A, marked Form 'MAPB-3' sent herewith. Close the cover and secure it by seal or otherwise.
- 3) You will then sign the declaration in Form 'MAPB-2', also sent herewith in the presence of an officer described in clause (5) below and get your signature attested by such officer.
- 4) Attestation may be obtained from officer incharge of the area or office where you are registered. If you are employed under the UT Govt. of J&K or Central Government, the attestation may be obtained from the officer incharge of your office. If you are a pensioner, attestation may be obtained from the officer incharge of the Treasury/Bank through which you are drawing your pension. If you are not registered anywhere but your name figures in the electoral roll, the attestation may be obtained from a 1st Class Magistrate or a Gazetted Officer or incharge of the AV-Polling Team.
- 5) You may take the declaration to the authorised officer get it attested by signing it in his presence after he has satisfied himself about your identity. You must not show your ballot paper to the attesting officer nor tell him how you have voted.
- 6) If you are unable to mark the ballot papers and sign the declaration yourself in the manner indicated above for reasons of illiteracy, blindness or other infirmity, you are entitled to have your vote marked and declaration signed on your behalf by any of the authorised officer mentioned above. Such an officer will, at your request mark the ballot papers in your presence and in accordance with your wishes. He will also complete the necessary certificate in this behalf.
- 7) After your declaration has been signed and your signature has been attested, place the declaration (Form 'MAPB-2') as well as the set of ballot papers sealed in smaller Cover "A" (Form 'MAPB-3') in the larger Cover "B" (Form 'MAPB-4'). You have to give your full signature in the space provided on the cover marked "B".
- 8) In case you have received Postal Ballot set through AV-Polling Team, then after closing the larger cover, return it to the AV-Polling Team who shall deliver it to the RO concerned.
- 9) In case you have received the Postal Ballot set by post, then after closing the larger cover, send it to the RO concerned by post. No postage stamps need to be affixed.
- 10) You must ensure that the cover reaches the concerned RO before the hour fixed for counting in the Municipal ward for which you are voting, thus you must ensure that the MAPB is delivered to the AV-Polling team well before this cut-of date.
- 11) Please note that:
 - (i) If you fail to get your declaration certified in the manner indicated above, your ballot papers will be rejected; and
 - (ii) If the cover reaches the RO concerned after the day prescribed in clause (10) above, your vote will not be counted.

FORM 'MAPB-6'

'COVER - C'

Election to the *.....
To
*Sh/Smt.....
*S/o, D/o, W/o.....
*Complete Postal Address
.....
.....
From:
**RO.....
.....

* Complete details to be filled in by RO as per information furnished by the 'Absentee voter'.

** RO should fill his complete postal address.

Form 'MAPB-7'
List of Absentee Voters who have applied for availing Postal Ballot facility

Name of the district:

S. No.	Municipal Body	Ward No.	Ward Name	Polling Station No.	Polling Station Name	Name of the Notified voter	S. No. in the Roll	EPIC No.	Complete postal Address of the Notified Voter

Certified that all the Form 'MAPB-1' received up to the due date (i.e. the date notified as the last date for making nomination for that municipal body) have been accounted for in the above information.

(Name & Signature) of the

RO

Phone No (Mobile):.....