

10.10.2018

To,

Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, IAS

Chief Electoral Officer – Karnataka

Nirvachana Nilaya

Sheshadri Road

Bengaluru – 560001

Subject: Suggestion to encourage Voter Registration and Voter Turnout in Bengaluru city

Dear Sir,

Greetings from B.PAC !

As you may be aware, 'One million New Votes' (OMNV) campaign by B.PAC is an initiative to make elections a truly democratic process by giving each Bengalurean a voice to participate in elections. Since 2013, we have collaborated with

The Campaign message is loud and clear – DEMOCRACY is built on YOUR VOTE. The first step to strengthen democracy is enrolling as a VOTER.

Through this campaign across the city we have created awareness and facilitating new voter enrollments as part of Election Habba at educational institutions, Tech campuses and clusters of residences to realize the ECI mission – *“No voter to be left behind.”*

During the previous elections we have faced challenges in registration and in knowing whether the application is approved and processed or not. Several applications were rejected though the citizen entered previous registered details in the Form 6 Page 2, IV Declaration.

To overcome these challenges, we draw your attention to the following:

- For all new registrations, we request you to generate an SMS to the citizen as soon as the Form 6 is approved, and new EPIC is generated. This information will help the voter to find his details and the polling station in the electoral rolls.
- In many cases, EROs demand an affidavit from citizens stating that they are not registered as voters or to get proof of deletion of their names from another constituency. This has led to poor register of willing citizens to register and participate in the voting. Even though they have mentioned in Declaration section (iv) or ANNEXURE-III of Form 6 they have rejected the application.

- When an application is rejected, please organize to send a notice to the citizen and allow him to appeal within 15 days. Though required by ECI rules, this is not practiced.
- Simplify Online registration by eliminating the need to submit a hard copy of documents as is done in case of registration at NVSP. Send registration details to BLO so that BLO can verify as part of physical verification
- Setup Voter facilitation camps at campuses and residence clusters in association with community organizations
- BLO data published at your website are not accurate. We request you to update the pages with correct BLO data.
- During last elections, citizens encountered slow function of the website while looking for their voter details. We urge you to upgrade the search facility in CEO-KA website.

B.PAC urge you to consider above suggestions and issue necessary directions to improve and simplify the voter enrollment process. We would like to extend all support to office of CEO-KA in the efforts to increase new voter registration and encouraging to franchise their right.

We look forward for a positive response.

Thanking You

Sd/-

Revathy Ashok

Managing Trustee & CEO

CC:

Deputy CEO, Karnataka

Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban District