

THE PONDICHERRY MUNICIPAL COUNCILS (ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN) RULES, 1996

1. **Short title and commencement:**— (1) These rules may be called the Pondicherry Municipal Councils (Conduct of Election of Chairman) Rules, 1996.

(2) They shall come into force at once.

2. **Notification by the Election Commission to be held on party basis:-** For the purpose of this rule, the Election Commission shall notify from time to time the election which shall be held on party basis and shall print on the ballot paper, the names of the contesting candidates with their respective symbols.

3. **Recognition of political parties:**— Every political party recognized by the Election Commission of India as a National Party or as a State Party in the Union territory of Pondicherry under the Election Symbols(Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968 shall be a recognized political party for the purpose of election to Municipalities.

4. **Publication of a list of recognized parties and symbols:**— For the purpose of these rules, the Election Commission shall publish by notification a list of recognised political parties and their symbols and a list of free symbols.

5. **Application of the Pondicherry Municipal Councils (Conduct of Election of Councillors) Rules, 1974:**— The provisions of the Pondicherry Municipal Councils (Conduct of Election of Councillors) Rules, 1974 (hereinafter referred to as the said rules) shall, as far as may be, apply in relation to the conduct of Chairman as they apply in relation to the conduct of election of councilors:

Provided that no person shall be eligible for election as chairman unless he has attained the age of twenty-five years:

Provided further that a candidate for the office of Chairman shall not be deemed to be duly nominated for election unless at the time of delivery of nomination paper under sub-rule (2) of rule 11 of the said rules, he deposits or cause to be deposited with the Returning Officer in cash a sum of rupees three thousand or where the candidate is a member of a Scheduled Castes , a sum of rupees one thousand five hundred.

6. **Repeal:**— The Pondicherry Municipalities(Election of Chairman and Vice-chairman) Rules, 1974 are hereby repealed:

Provided that such repeal shall not affect anything duly done or suffered thereunder.