

**STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
PUDUCHERRY**

No.1-30(10)/SEC/CE/Dir./2021/ 710

Dated. 20.9.2021

DIRECTION

Sub: Manning of booth office - Regarding.

The Commission is aware that some anti-social and Goonda elements could be used by political parties/candidates to man the booth office (beyond 200 meters, one table and two chairs as prescribed by the Commission vide Direction No. 1-30(2)/SEC/CE/Dir./2021/560, dt..02.09.2021). Such elements present in the vicinity of the polling station vitiate the atmosphere for a free and fair poll. Considering this, the Commission issues the following directions:-

- (i) The persons who are nominated by the political parties/candidates to man such booths shall be a voter in the same polling station area. He shall also have an EPIC or any other photo Id document issued by Govt. and whenever any Sector Officer/Observer asks the person to disclose his identity, he will show the EPIC.
 - (ii) The political parties/candidates shall take care to ensure that they do not put any person with criminal antecedents on the job to man such booths.
2. In case this instruction is not followed by any political party/candidate, immediate action shall be taken by the Returning Officer. Besides, the local police shall keep a close watch over the movement of such persons so that they do not create any disturbance in the polling area or in the vicinity.
3. This may be brought to the notice of all concerned for strict compliance.



(ROY P THOMAS)
STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER

To

1. The District Election Officer, Puducherry / Karaikal.
2. The Regional Election Officer, Mahe / Yanam.
3. All ROs of Municipalities / Commune Panchayats.