GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Co-operation (B) Department

ORDER

G. O. (P) No. 44/2016/Co-op.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 25th April, 2016.

S. R. O. No. 336/2016.—WHEREAS, under sub-section (1) of Section 28 of the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act, 1969 (21 of 1969), the general body of a society shall constitute a committee, for a period not exceeding 5 years, in accordance with the bye-laws and entrust the management of the affairs of the society to such committee;

AND WHEREAS, the Registrar of Co-operative Societies has reported that in view of the General Election to the Legislative Assembly to be...
held on 16th May, 2016, it may not be possible for the Officers of the Co-operative Department to function as Electoral Officers and Returning Officers to the co-operative societies as provided in rule 35 and 35 A of the Kerala Co-operative Societies Rule, 1969, as they have to attend the duties in connection with the General Election and has requested to extend the term of the committees of the co-operative societies where elections are due for the period from 20th April, 2016 to 19th May, 2016 or where election process has already started but not been completed;

AND WHEREAS, the Government have considered the matter in detail and are satisfied that for administrative convenience and in public interest, it is necessary to extend the term of the committees of the co-operative societies, where elections are due for the period from 20th April, 2016 to 19th May, 2016 or where the election process has already started for a period of forty days, in view of the General Election to the Legislative Assembly in the State, on condition that wherever there is specific direction of the Hon’ble High Court to conduct election the matter shall be brought to the notice of the Hon’ble High Court;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 101 of the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act, 1969 (21 of 1969), the Government of Kerala hereby direct that the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 28 of the said Act, shall apply to all Co-operative Societies, where elections are due for a period from 20th April, 2016 to 19th May, 2016 or where the process of election has already started but not been completed with the modification of substituting the words “five years and forty days” for the words “five years” and permit the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to extend the term of the committees of such societies for a period of forty days with effect from the date of this order subject to the condition that wherever there is a specific direction of the Hon’ble High Court to conduct election, the matter shall be brought to the notice of the Hon’ble High Court.

By order of the Governor,

V. BHOOSHAN,
Additional Secretary to Government.
Explanatory Note

(This does not form part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

Under rule 35 and 35 A of the Kerala Co-operative Societies Rule, 1969, it is the duty of the Officers of the Co-operative Department to arrange for the free and fair elections to the Co-operative Societies. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies has reported that since the Officers of the Co-operative Department will be engaged as Electoral/Returning Officers for conducting election to the Legislative Assembly scheduled on 16th May, 2016, and counting on 19th May 2016, their services may not be available for the conduct of election to the co-operative societies. The Government have considered the matter in detail and are satisfied that it is necessary in public interest, to permit the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to extend the term of the committees of the co-operative societies in the State for a period of forty days from the date of publication of this order in respect of those societies where elections to committees are due for the period from 20th April, 2016 to 19th May, 2016 or where the election process has already started, but not been completed on condition that wherever there is specific direction of the Hon’ble High Court to conduct elections, the matter shall be brought to the notice of the Hon’ble High Court. This is for avoiding the administrative vacuum in the said co-operative societies.

The Order is intended to achieve the above object.