GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
Co-operation (B) Department

ORDER


Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 4th October, 2019

18th Kanni, 1195.

S. R. O. No. 717/2019

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 of five years in accordance with the byelaws and entrust the management of the affairs of the societies to such committee;

AND WHEREAS, rule 35A of the Kerala Co-operative Societies Rules, 1969 prescribe the procedure regarding conduct of election to the committee of societies by the State Co-operative Election...
Commission and by virtue of the said rule, it is the duty of the officers of the Co-operation Department to make arrangements for a free and fair election to the Co-operative Society;

AND WHEREAS, the Government are of the opinion that in the context of holding bye-election to the State Legislative Assembly, in the Vattiyoorkavu, Konni, Aroor, Ernakulam, Manjeswaram constituencies in Thiruvananthapuram, Pathanamthitta, Alapuzha, Ernakulam, Kasaragod Districts respectively on 21st October, 2019, it may not be possible for the officers of the Co-operative Department of the district, to function as Electoral Officers and Returning Officers and to conduct election to the committee of Co-operative Societies, as provided in rule 35A of the Kerala Co-operative Societies Rules, 1969, as these officers have to attend the duties in connection with the bye election to the Legislative Assembly;

AND WHEREAS, the Government is convinced that there would be practical difficulty to conduct elections in the Co-operative Societies, when the election process to the said constituencies is in full swing;

AND WHEREAS, the Government is satisfied that for administrative convenience and in public interest, it is necessary to postpone the process of election in Co-operative Societies falling due during the period of one month from the date of publication of this order, in view of the bye-election to the Legislative Assembly constituencies on condition that in respect of those societies where the election process has already started, all further steps shall be postponed forthwith at the stage, in which it now stands, and that wherever there is specific direction of Hon’ble High Court to conduct election, the matter may 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 the Co-operative Societies in the district, where elections to form new committees during the period of one month from the date of publication of this order and where the election process has already been started, but the process has not been completed, before the date of publication of this order, subject to the modification of substituting the words “five years and one month” for the words “five years”.

By order of the Governor,

P. S. RAJESH,
Additional Secretary to Government.
Explanatory Note

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

It is the duty of the Officers of the Co-operation Department under section 28 and rule 35A of the Kerala Co-operative Societies Rules, 1969 to arrange for the free and fair elections to the Co-operative Societies. In the context of election to Legislative Constituencies in Thiruvananthapuram, Pathanamthitta, Alapuzha, Ernakulam, Kasaragod Districts on 21st October, 2019. The Government, therefore, are of the view that it is necessary in public interest, to postpone the elections to the Co-operative Societies and to extend the administrator and administrative committee of the Co-operative Societies in the said districts for a period of one month from the date of publication of this order in respect of those societies, where election to form new committees are due during the period of one month from the date of publication of this order and where the election process has already been started, but the process has not been completed. This is for avoiding administrative vacuum in the said Co-operative Societies.

This order is intended to achieve the above object.