

Article -324

(1) The superintendence , direction and control of the preparation of the electoral rolls for , and the conduct of , all elections to Parliament and to the Legislature of every State and of elections to the offices of President and Vice President held under this Constitution shall be vested in a **Commission** (referred to in this **Constitution as the Election Commission)**





What is election ?

"Election " means an election to fill a seat or seats in either House of Parliament or in the House or either House of the Legislature of a State other than the State of Jammu and Kashmir

Three Basic Ingredients of Election

1. Identification and preparation of list of persons who shall elect their representative –ELECTORAL ROLL

2.Identification and training of persons who shall ensure voting -----POLLING PERSONNEL

3. Tool of Voting ---- BALLOT PAPER / BALLOT BOX / EVM

Please feel those problem

- 1. People don't know what is democracy
- 2. People don't know what is election
- 3. How the Constituencies will be demarcated
- 4. How the voting will take place ?
- 5. Who will cast votes ?
- 6. How the voter lists will be prepared ?
- 7. How will they cast ?
- 8. Where are the political parties ?
- 9. How a voter during vote will select one political party ?

Some interesting issues --

- 1. Women were reluctant to disclose their name
- 2. Challenge was on poor literacy rate
- 3. Political parties were requested to develop their symbol
- 4. How to take votes ?
- 5. What to do if name is not enrolled in Electoral Roll
- 6. How the training will be made ---Mock Poll

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Serious defects came to light in respect of some parts of the electoral rolls prepared in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Bombay, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. In Madhya Pradesh, the voters of two entire villages had not been enrolled at all. In Bihar, no roll had been prepared for five villages in the Sadar Sub-division of the Palamau district and in Bombay, the names of approximately 3,000 persons had not been included in the rolls of the Pimpari Camp. Similarly, in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh several villages had been left out completely. Although the Commission was anxious to rectify these defects even before the final publication of the rolls, this was not possible, as the powers vested in the Commission by virtue of section 25(a) could not be invoked before the final publication of the rolls. No action could, therefore, be taken until after the rolls had been finally published. The delay in delimiting the constituencies led necessarily to delay in the final publication of the rolls and eventually, when the rolls were finally published, there was no sufficient time left for completing the revision of the rolls of these areas in time for the general elections. Under the procedure prescribed by the Rules, a revision of rolls requires a minimum of about two months. In order that the all-India programme for the general elections might not be upset, the Commission had to decide that the revision of these defective electoral rolls should not be undertaken.

The special facilities extended by the Commission for prompt enrolment of names under rule 20(2) proved very helpful to candidates whose names had not been included in the finally published rolls. The first application for inclusion of a name was received on the 8th September, 1951, and the last on the 21st February, 1952. During this period, the Commission received as many as 778 applica-After enquiry, the names of 732 applicants were tions. ordered to be included in the rolls, while 46 applications were rejected. It is interesting to note that out of the persons thus enrolled as voters, as many as 87 came out successful at the elections, 70 of them having been elected members of the State Legislatures and 17 of Parliament.

ECI report on first General Election of India

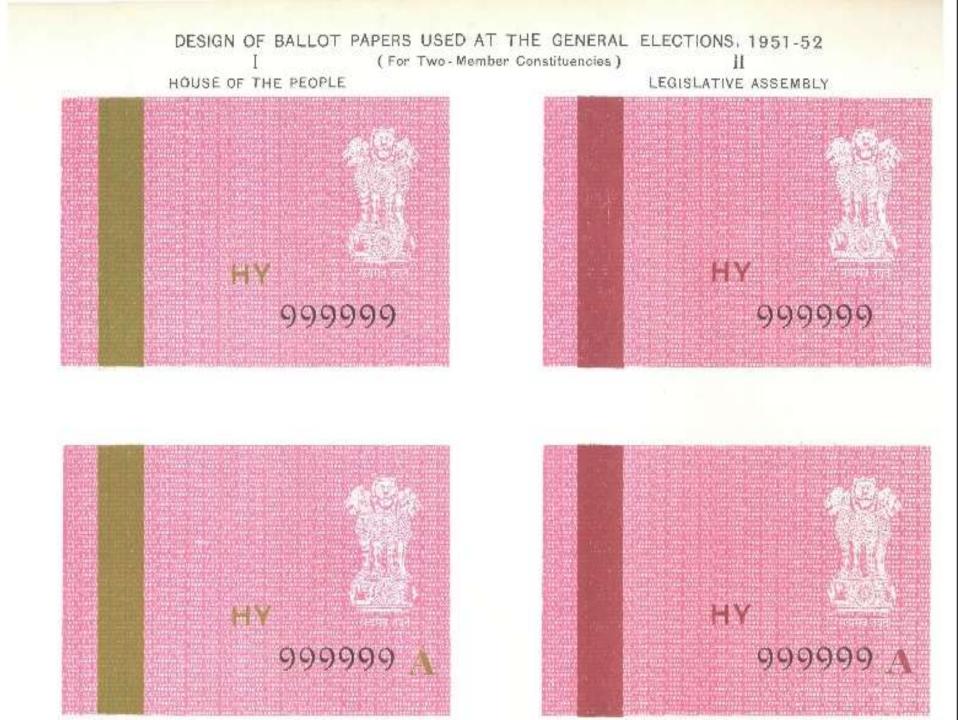
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A scheme had been prepared and circulated to the parties in advance. During the discussions, there was general agreement amongst the parties on the following principles:—

- (1) The same symbol would be used throughout India for all the candidates of a party, both for Assembly and Parliamentary elections.
- (2) No separate symbol was necessary for a party's candidates contesting reserved seats. The party's symbol would be allotted to its candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes as well, but an additional mark, e.g. a thick circle, would be printed round the party's symbol in order to distinguish the ballot boxes of such candidates from the ballot boxes of its other candidates. In three-member constituencies, a second and larger concentric circle would be printed round the symbol for distinguishing the third candidate of the party.
- (3) The name of each candidate would, in addition, be written in bold hand on the label bearing his symbol on the ballot box allotted to him in a polling station.

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Decipher the Photo ---



Purpose of this innovation ?

MY COUNTRY MY LIFE LKADVANI

The 'science' of rigging was also born in the first general elections itself, and it quickly exploited the chinks in the balloting system. Agents of some candidates would stand outside the polling booth and tell the voters: 'Don't put the ballot inside the box. Put it in your pocket and bring it with you. We'll give you a one-rupee note if you give us your ballot paper.' One rupee was a lot of money in those times. After collecting twenty-five to thirty such ballots, one of the agent's men would go in and drop them off in his candidate's box.

The elections were as Indian as India could be, and the incidents narrated below are taken from the sole study done on the 1952 polls, Indian General Elections, 1951-52, by a group of academicians (edited by S. V. Kogekar and Richard L. Park, Popular Book Depot, 1956). There is no better way to begin than to mention what some Orissa Congressmen did to win votes. They spread the word among the villagers that Gandhiji's soul had taken residence in the ballot boxes, and the Mahatma would be watching to see whether the voter cast his ballot for the Congress or not. Some voters took this so seriously that they fell prostrate before the ballot box in homage to the Mahatma before voting for his party.











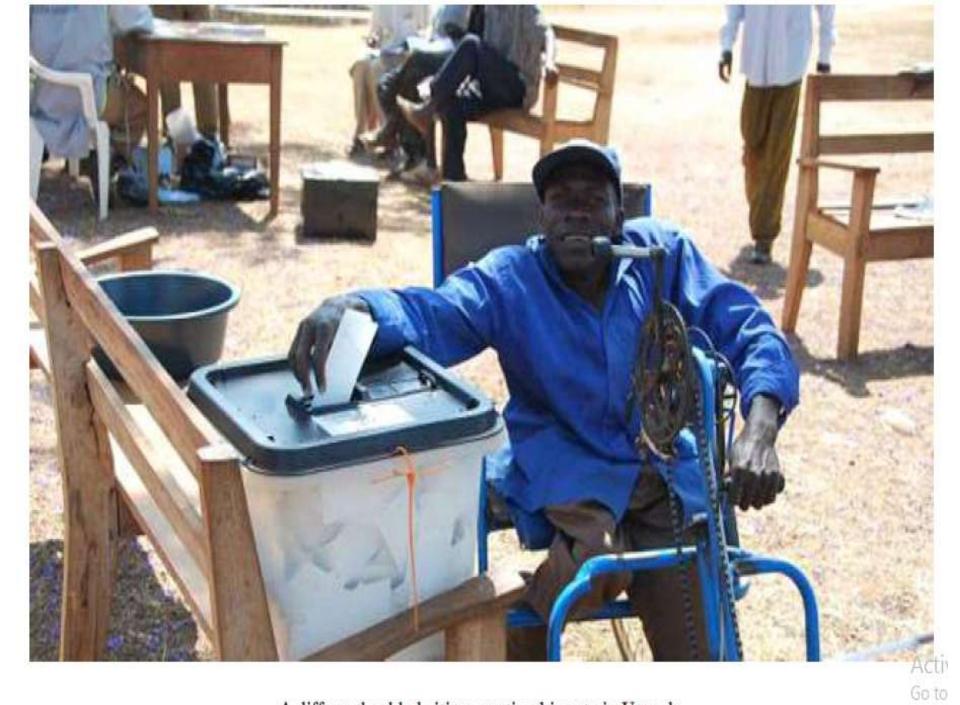
भारत निर्वाचन आयोग ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA



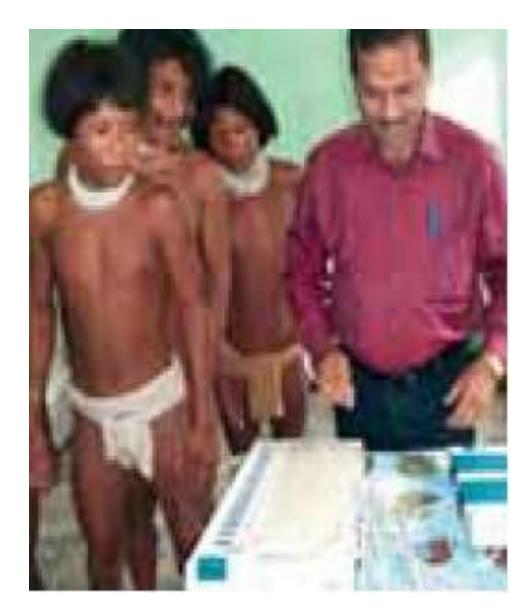


A lady casting her vote in the ballot boxin Malawi

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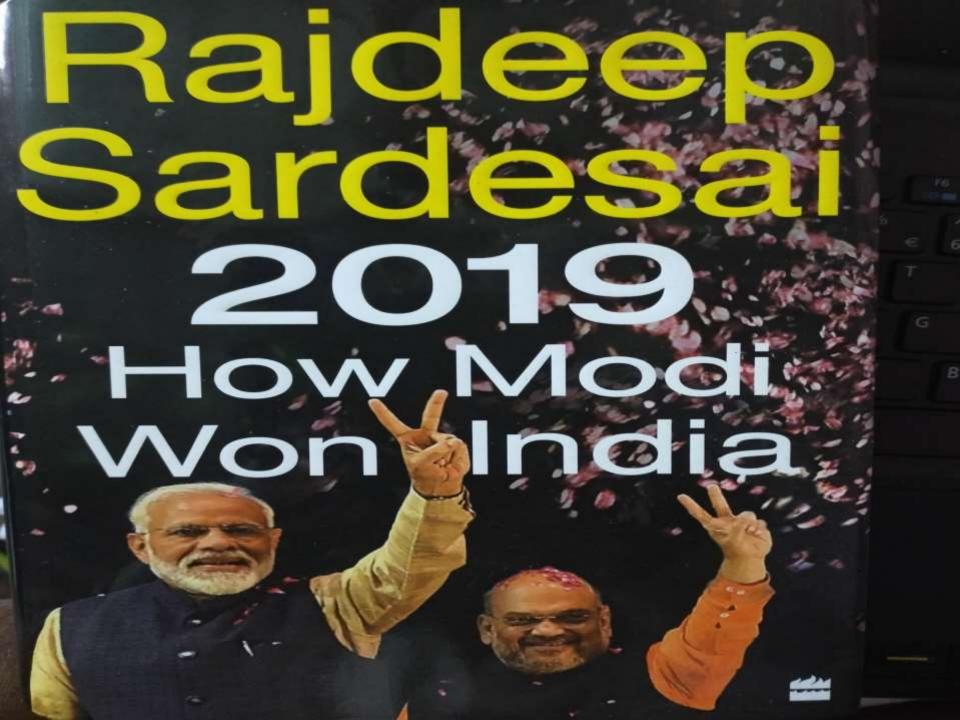
A differently-abled citizen casting his vote in Uganda



India's Giant Leap

- India chose Democracy in 1950
- Granted universal adult suffrage in the very first election despite:
- -----a 16% literacy rate.
- ----and a caste-based hierarchical social system.
- oppressed masses of India had voted in many elections before Switzerland allowed its women and Australia its aborigines to vote.





INTRODUCTION

How Modi Won India: 13 Ms, 2 Ws and a GK of success

N Indian election is like a great mela, a festival of colour and chaos, of magic and madness, which throws up any number of wondrous stories. Here is one that perhaps best exemplifies the dramatic nature of the 2019 verdict. An octogenarian woman voting in a village near Rae Bareli stands in front of the electronic voting machine (EVM) and refuses to vote. The returning officer goes up to her and asks if he can help. 'I don't need your help, you people are all cheats, I am going to report you." the lady screeches back. The worried officer inquires what the issue is. Yeh machine dekho. Kahan hain Modiji ka photo. Main bas Modiji ko vote dene aayi hoon!' (Look at this EVM. Show me where Narendra Modi's picture is on the machine. I have come here only to vote for Modi!) she barks angrily. The officer smiles and dutifully explains to the woman who can't read or write properly that Modi is not contesting from Rae Bareli but that if she wishes to vote for the BJP, she can press the lotus symbol on the EVM. 'Woh sab hum nahin jaante. Hum toh direct Modiji ko hi vote denge!' (Don't know all that, I will directly vote only for Modi!) the lady insists. It takes almost half an hour before order is restored and the woman finally casts her vote.

Electoral Literacy!

2014

- Adult Population -92 crore
- Electors –82 crore (91%)
- Casted Vote --54 crore (66%)
- Out of Electoral Roll- 11 %

2019

- Adult Population -94.9 crore
- Electors –90 crore (95%)
- Casted Vote --60 crore (67%)
- Out of Electoral Roll- 5.1%

Election Commission of India (ECI)



The Election Commission of India (ECI) is an autonomous constitutional authority responsible for administering election processes in India . The body administers elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, state legislatures, and the offices of the President and Vice **President** in the country. The ECI operates under the authority of Constitution per Article 324 and subsequently enacted Representation of The Peoples Act.

Election Commission of India (ECI)



The Commission has the powers under the Constitution, to act in an appropriate manner when the enacted laws make insufficient provisions to deal with a given situation in the conduct of an election.

State Election Commission

The power of superintendence, direction, and control of all elections to the local government bodies vest with the State Election Commissions as envisaged in Article 243K of the Constitution of India.

Elections conducted by SEC – Tripura

- 1. Three tier Panchayat Election (Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samity and Zilla Parishad)
- 2. TTAADC
- 3. Village Committee
- 4. Urban Local body Municipality Corporation , Municipal Council , Nagar Panchayat

Broad classification of Election Mechanism

1. Preperation of Electoral Roll 2. Conduct of Election

Salient Laws and Rules related to Election

- 1. Representation of Peoples Act , 1950 Deals with Electoral Roll
- 2. Registration of Electors Rule , 1960—Deals with Electoral Roll
- 3. Representation of Peoples Act , 1951 Deals with conduct of election
- 4. Conduct of Election Rules , 1961 --- Deals with conduct of election

Important updated documents needed to study for Election work

- 1. Handbook of the ERO
- 2. Handbook of the RO
- 3. Handbook of the Presiding Officer
- 4. Manual of EVM-VVPAT
- 5. Other important manual and correspondences

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Division of election work

Preparation of Electoral Roll – ERO / AERO
 Conduct of Election – RO / ARO

Three Basic Ingredient of Election

1. Identification and preparation of list of persons who shall elect their representative –ELECTORAL ROLL

2.Identification and training of persons who shall ensure voting -----POLLING PERSONNEL

3. Tool of Voting ---- BALLOT BOX / EVM

Issues related with electoral Roll

- **1.Preperation of electoral roll Survey ?**
- 2.Updation of electoral roll Revision
- 3.Issues of updation -- ???
- 4.Engagement of official for updation of electoral roll BLOs and DO s
- **5.Supervision of field works BLO supervisor**
- 6.Data capture and publication Draft roll publication
- 7.Updation work proper Claims and objections
- 8.Hearing of claims and objections AEROs
- 9.Final publication of electoral roll
- **10.Issuance of EPIC**

Concept of Electoral roll

- 1. Electors reside in houses Household
- 2. A number of households form Section / Para
- 3. Number of Sections form Part ; Parts are numerically numbered
- 4. Number of parts form the constituency
- 5. The electoral rolls are prepared part wise
- 6. Each constituency is having unique number and name ; say in Tripura there are 60 Assembly constituencies (ACs) and one of them is 25-Khowai General Assembly constituency ; 25-Khowai consists of 52 numbers of parts so we can identify the parts as 25/01 , 25/02, 25/0325/52 .

Concept of Electoral roll

- 7. Usually a part should have maximum 1200 numbers of electors
- 8. One polling station is assigned for each Part
- 9. Polling station is a place where electors go to cast their votes on the day of poll
- 10.The establishment where polling station is located is called polling station location
- 11. One polling station location may have more than one polling stations (Say One polling station location is Khowai Govt English Medium School and two polling stations are located here ; as such in ideal case the polling station locations shall always be either equal to number of polling stations or less than the number of polling stations)
- 12. If more than 1200 electors are there in a part , auxiliary polling stations are created (say one part is having 1805 numbers of electors and this polling station is numbered as 15 ; so one polling station will be numbered as 15 and another as 15-A1 ; now as per reality the number of electors can be divided among these two polling stations)

Delimitation ---

Delimitation is a process of segregation of the geographical area broadly into Assembly **Constituency and also division of one AC into** corresponding parts – thereby one state can be divided into a number of Assembly constituencies and a number of Assembly **Constituencies form Parliamentary constituency** and each Assembly Constituency of a particular Parliamentary Constituency is called

IMPORTANCE of The ELECTORAL ROLL

- An electoral roll or voter list is an official list of persons enrolled as voters on the basis
 of their eligibility for such enrolment in the list of a particular area. It determines who
 is eligible to vote and where.
- For a free and fair election, an accurate and error free electoral roll is of utmost importance.
- A good e-roll is required for checking electoral malpractices like bogus voting and impersonation.

According to Article 325 of the Constitution of India, there shall be one general electoral roll for every territorial constituency for election to either House of Parliament or to the House or either House of Legislature of a State and no person shall be ineligible for inclusion in any such roll or claim to be included in any special electoral roll for any such constituency on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex or any of them.





Who is nearest to the voter?

Election Commission of India (ECI)

Chief Electoral Officer (CEO)

District Election Officer (DEO)

Electoral Registration Officer (ERO)

Assistant Electoral Registration Officer (AERO)

BLOs Supervisor

Booth Level Officer (BLO)

BOOTH LEVEL OFFICER (BLO)

• Who is BLO?

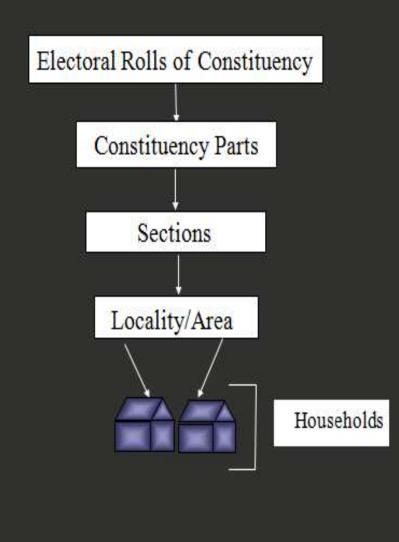
- An important official in election hierarchy so much so that EROs/AEROs must maintain updated list of BLOs with contact details & host it on portal of CEO.
- Responsible for maintaining the updated electoral roll of the assigned part area under the control & supervision of all the officers up in the previous hierarchy chart. Concept introduced in 2006.
- Appointment?
- Under section 13B(2) of R.P. Act,1950 appointed by ERO with prior approval of DEO concerned,
- Preferably state Govt./local authority employee,
- In certain cases, retired Govt. employees too for urban areas. Central Govt. employees, if willing & only in exceptional cases.





CONSTITUENCY PARTS & SECTIONS

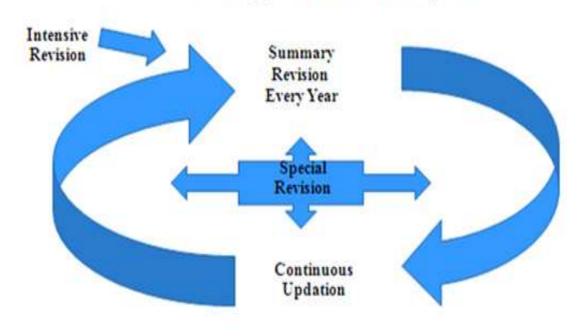
- Electoral Rolls are organized as geographically defined and compact parts,
- Each Constituency Part has a number of sections,
- Sections denote locality/ area details & contain household wise individual elector details,
- Each Constituency part has an identified polling station location where electors cast their votes on the poll day.





TYPES OF REVISION

Voter Registration Cycle







Revision of Roll – Claims and objections

- **1. Publication of draft Electoral Roll**
- 2. Handing over of draft roll to the political parties
- 3. Engagement of designated officers
- 4. Engagement of BLO-Supervisors
- 5. Schedule of claims and objections
- 6. BLA
- 7. Claims and objections for addition , deletion , transposition , correction
- 8. Hearing of claims and objections –disposal
- 9. ERMS
- **10. Final publication of electoral roll**
- **11.** Handing over of finally published electoral roll to the PPs
- **12.** Distribution of EPIC to the new electors

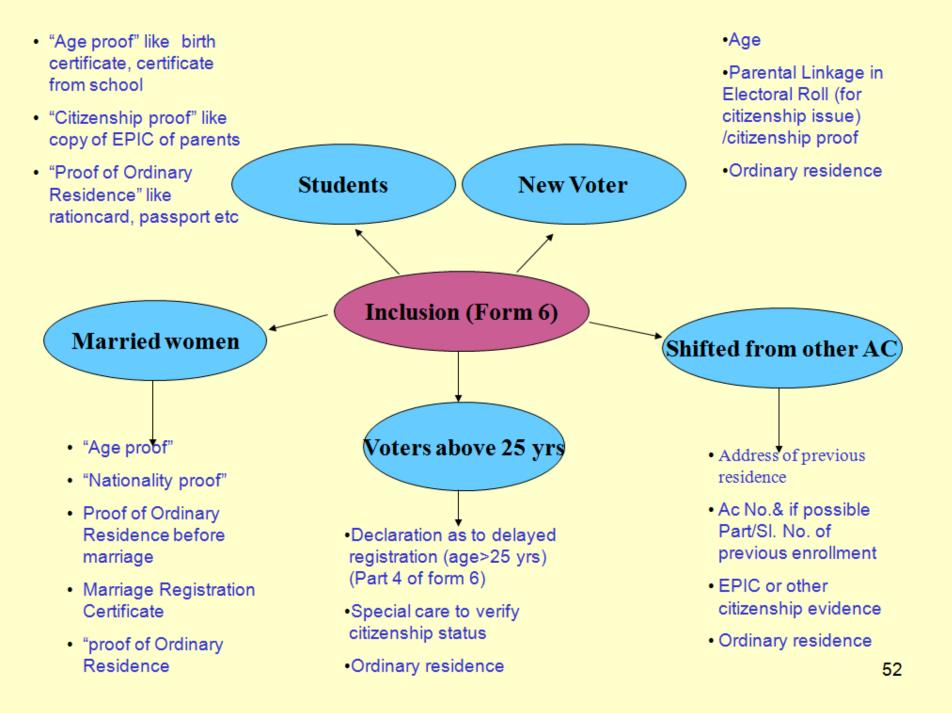
ADDITION OF NAME IN ER

- 1. Form -6
- 2. Three criteria Indian nationality , age as on qualifying date , ordinary residence status
- 3. Enquiry by the BLO

Meaning of 'ordinarily resident'

Section 20 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950:

A person is said to be ordinarily resident in a place if he uses that place for sleeping. He need not be eating in that place and may be eating from a place outside. Temporary periods of absence from this ordinary place of stay can be ignored. It is not necessary that the period of stay should be continuous for any particular length of time and should be without any break. Temporary absence on account of duty or employment or even for pleasure should not be considered to interrupt the concept of ordinary residence



Deletion of name

- 1. Form -7
- 2. Reason Death , shifting , duplication
- 3. Bangladeshi ????
- 4. Objector Objectee
- 5. BLO as objector
- 6. Hearing ---- PRESENCE OF OBJECTEE

Transposition

- 1. Form -8A
- 2. Shifting of residence within the same AC
- 3. Name should be enrolled in any part
- 4. Ordinary residence status

Correction of name in ER

- 1. Form -8
- 2. Correction of any entry in respect of ER
- 3. Hearing

One person , Mr 'A' has received EPIC from the office of the ERO and his name is wrongfully written there ; How this problem can be solved

In one family their daughter-in-law, Sarita being a family member was a part of the electoral roll for that household. But she has been driven out of the house by the in-laws. Now to establish proof that Sarita does not stay in the household any more, her in-laws submit Form-7 for her. Sarita has not been legally divorced with her husband, nor the family produce any such document. Even the family is reluctant to give any information of her present residence. What can the BLO do in such a situation?

A BLO visits an orphanage located in his Part, where orphans are brought up and looked after from infancy. He finds that 'Ramesh' is eligible for enrolment as an elector. But 'Ramesh' is not in a position to give the names of either his father or mother. 'Chinmaya' too is eligible for enrolment as an elector and he reveals the true name of his biological mother. What shall BLO enter in the column meant for father's/ mother's/husband's name for 'Ramesh' and 'Chinmaya'? And what shall BLO enter in the relationship column in such cases.

 In one 'Ashram' or 'Akhada' a 'Sadhu' or 'Saint' is eligible to be an elector. He does not reveal his worldly name but insists to be enrolled in his rechristened name with suffix of his Guru's name instead of his father. What does BLO enter in the columns related to name of father/mother/husband and in column related to relationship?

 An elector is enrolled in Part no. 35 of a particular AC. His name is in section-4, i.e. Satyam society. Now he has shifted to Riddhi-Siddhi colony which falls in section-2 of the same Part. What is required to be done by the BLO to update his entry in the electoral roll?

 A boy has submitted form – 6 for inclusion of his name but being illiterate he is having no age proof document in any shape; as such he has appeared before the hearing officer along with his father and name of his father is already enrolled in the same polling station; his father expresses his desire to give declaration about legal age of his son. So it appears that said boy without producing any document proper, is intending to enrol his name; can it be accepted ?

 One lady Mrs Goswami has filed Form – 6 and along with her form she has furnished the following documents like EPIC of her husband, her self school certificate to prove her legal age and BLO in his enquiry report pointed out that OR status of that lady is established; What will be the decision of the Hearing Officer ?

 Mr. Hemal applies under RTI to the BLO to provide him all the photo copies of Forms 6, 7, and 8.
 What should the BLO do?

 The BLO reaches the house of Mr. Kantibhai. unknown to the BLO the son of Mr Kantibhai, that is, Mr. Ketanbhai is wanted in a criminal case. Mr. Kantibhai fills Form-7 for the deletion of name of Mr Ketanbhai on the pretext that his son has shifted to another State. Next when the BLO visits the neighbour of Mr Kantibhai, the neighbour informs the BLO that Mr Kantibhai still stays there and that he is hiding from the Police. Should the BLO delete the name of Mr. Kantibhai on the basis of Form-7 filled by his father?

Mr 'A' has shifted his residence from Mohanpur to Khowai and as such he has been staying within the electoral jurisdiction of part No 33 of AC no 25-Khowai ; now in order to enrol his name in this part which form has to be submitted by him (previously he was staying in part No 12 of AC No 3-Bamutia) ?

Mr 'A' is an elector of part No 21 of the AC No -25-Khowai ; for last one year he has been staying in part No 48 of the same AC ; subsequently the BLO of the part No 21 has filed Form No -7 and it is already accepted ; in the mean time Mr 'A' has filed Form 8A for shifting of his name . How to solve this issue ?

Preparation of reports by BLO

- 1. List of un enrolled eligible electors
- 2. List of dead electors
- 3. List of Shifted electors
- 4. List of duplicate electors
- 5. List of mis match electors
- 6. List of electors with EPIC problem

Health of Electoral Roll

- 1. Study of population gender ratio
- 2. Study of elector gender ratio
- 3. Study of elector –population ratio
- 4. Study of Age cohort of Population
- 5. Study of age cohort of electors
- 6. Gap identification
- 7. EPIC coverage
- 8. Justification of change of number of electors

Other important issues of Election

- 1. Health analysis of Electoral Roll
- 2. Procedure of hearing and disposal of claims and objections
- 3. Legal issues in relation to registration of electors
- 4. National Voters Day
- 5. Conduct of Election
- 6. Receive of nomination paper
- 7. Scrutiny of nomination paper and symbol allotment
- 8. Preparation of statutory forms in relation to nomination paper
- 9. Election expenditure monitoring
- 10. Model code of conduct
- 11. Security arrangement of poll
- 12. District plan of Election
- 13. HR management and training of polling personnel
- 14. Concept of Model polling station
- **15.** Postal ballot paper
- 16. EVM
- **17.** Sector officers
- 18. Micro observers
- 19. Videography and web casting
- 20. Complain management
- 21. Counting