

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.576/3/2019/SDR-Vol.III

Dated : 19th March, 2019

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States and Union Territories.

Sub: Printing of photograph of candidate on ballot paper.

Sir/Madam,

Please refer to the Commission's letter No. 576/3/2015/SDR-Vol.II dated 21st May, 2015, and the direction enclosed therewith regarding printing of photograph of candidates on the ballot paper to be inserted on the balloting unit and on postal ballot papers. As per the instructions in the said letter, candidates are required to submit a recent stamp size photograph for printing on the ballot paper. If a candidate does not submit photograph for the purpose of printing on ballot paper, the current instructions provide that the candidate should be issued a reminder to submit the same while also informing the candidate that if he/she fails to submit photograph even after reminder, his/her photograph will not be printed on the ballot paper.

2. The format of nomination (Form-2A, 2B etc.) have since been amended and there is a box now provided in the nomination form itself for the candidates to affix their recent photograph. Further photograph is also required to be affixed on the affidavit in Form-26. Therefore, photograph on the nomination paper itself can be used for printing of photograph on the ballot paper.

3. The Commission has considered the matter in the light of the subsequent amendments in nomination form. It has been decided that henceforth, the candidates shall be asked to submit an additional photograph along with the photograph affixed on the nomination paper. The two photographs should be identical and should be as per the specifications given in the Commission's direction dated 21st May, 2015, referred to above. Further, it is also directed that if a candidate does not submit additional copy of photograph for printing on the ballot paper, the photograph already affixed on the nomination paper shall be used for printing on the ballot paper.

4. The above instructions should be brought to the notice of all returning officers and also be communicated to all political parties.

Yours faithfully,



(K.F.WILFRED)

Sr. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY