

# Office of the Chief Electoral Officer Jammu & Kashmir

**“Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy”**

## **Order under Para 11(c) of the Municipal Elections Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 2003**

Whereas several registered political parties have approached this office for allotment of ‘common symbol’ for contesting the ensuing Municipal By-Elections in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir;

Whereas, the reservation and allotment of Symbols for any election held under the Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation Act 2000 or Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Act 2000, is made under the provisions of the Municipal Elections Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order 2003;

Whereas, the Municipal Elections Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order 2003 does not have any express provision for allotment of a ‘Common Symbol’ in favour of a registered political party;

Whereas, a need has been felt to make provisions for grant of ‘Common Symbol’ to a registered political party, if it so desires, in order to ensure greater participation in the electoral processes;

Whereas, para 11(c) of the Municipal Elections Symbol (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 2003 **provides that, ‘the Chief Electoral Officer shall have the power to issue instructions and directions for- c) matter with respect to the reservation and allotment of symbol and recognition of political parties, for which this order makes no provision or has insufficient provision, but the provision is necessary in the opinion of the Chief Electoral Officer for the conduct of smooth and fair elections.’**

Now therefore, in exercise of powers vested under para 11(c) of the Municipal Elections Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order 2003, the Chief Electoral Officer Jammu and Kashmir directs as under:

***“If a Registered Unrecognised Political Party wishes to get the concession of a ‘Common Symbol’ for any election being held under the Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation Act 2000 or Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Act 2000, then following procedure shall have to be followed:***

*A candidate set up by a registered unrecognized political party, at any election to the Municipal Corporations/Councils/Committees in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, may be allotted a common symbol, subject to fulfilment of following conditions:-*

- (i) The party sets up candidates at least in 5% (five percent) of the total Constituencies going to election.*
- (ii) An application shall be made to the Chief Electoral Officer, within two days of the issuance of Election Notification (or the notifications in the case of phased election);*
- (iii) The party shall give the names of ten symbols, in order of preference to the Chief Electoral Officer, from out of the list of free symbols notified by the Chief Electoral Officer under paragraph 12 of the Municipal Elections Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order 2003.*
- (iv) The party shall also give an undertaking to the Chief Electoral Officer that if the*

*party does not set up candidates in the minimum number of the constituencies as prescribed in condition (i) above, its candidates shall not be entitled to allotment of a common symbol on the date of allotment of symbols to them; and, in addition, the party shall be liable for such punitive action as the Chief Electoral Officer may consider appropriate;*

Sd/-

Hirdesh Kumar, IAS  
Chief Electoral Officer  
Jammu and Kashmir

Dated: 10-11-2020

No. 2013/CEO/ ME/2020/1221-1240

Copy to:

1. All Financial Commissioners.
2. Director General of Police, J&K.
3. All Principal Secretaries to the Government.
4. Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor.
5. Principal Resident Commissioner, J&K Government, New Delhi.
6. Joint Secretary (J&K), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
7. All Commissioner/Secretaries to the Government.
8. Divisional Commissioner Jammu/Kashmir.
9. Chairperson, J&K Special Tribunal.
10. Director General, J&K Institute of Management & Administration & Rural Development.
11. Director, Information, J&K for publishing in leading newspapers of the UT.
12. All Deputy Commissioners.
13. All Heads of the Departments/Managing Directors/Secretary, Advisory Boards.
14. Secretary, PSC/SSB/J&K Academy of Art, Culture & languages.
15. Director, Estates.
16. Director, Archives, Archaeology & Museums, J&K.
17. Secretary, J&K Legislative Assembly.
18. General Manager, Government Press, Jammu.
19. Private Secretary to the Chief Secretary.
20. Private Secretary to the Advisor (F)/(B) & (BK) to the Lieutenant Governor.

  
(Anil Salgotra) 10/11/2020

Jt. Chief Electoral Officer  
UT of Jammu & Kashmir