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**STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
TRIPURA : AGARTALA.**

No.F. 1(20) -SEC/MUNC/GEN-ELEC/2021

Date:- 22/10/2021

PRESS NOTE

Subject: - General Election to Urban Local Bodies, 2021: reg.

The term of office of the Urban local Bodies (Municipalities) has expired in normal course on 18th December, 2020 but due to COVID-19 Pandemic, the General Election for constitution of new Municipalities couldn't be held in due time. Consequently, due to improvement in COVID-19 situation in the State, the State Election Commission has decided to conduct the election.

2. Municipal Constituencies: There are 20 (twenty) Municipalities in the State, Consisting of 334 Constituencies, out of which 08 constituencies are reserved for Scheduled Tribes, 85 Constituencies are reserved for Scheduled Castes and out of the total constituencies, 157 Constituencies are reserved for Women.

Name of Municipalities and number of Seats

Sl No.	Name of the Municipality	Total No. of Seats	Seats Reserved for Sch. Tribes	Seats Reserved for Sch. Castes	Seats Reserved for Women
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Agartala Municipal Corporation	51	02	13	25
2	Dharmanagar Municipal Council	25	0	04	12
3	Panisagar Nagar Panchayat	13	0	04	06
4	Kailashahar Municipal Council	17	0	05	08
5	Kumarghat Municipal Council	15	01	06	07
6	Amabassa Municipal Council	15	02	04	07
7	Kamalpur Nagar Panchayat	11	0	03	05
8	Khowai Municipal Council	15	0	02	07
9	Teliamura Municipal Council	15	0	04	07
10	Jirania Nagar Panchayat	11	01	03	05
11	Ranirbazar Municipal Council	13	0	03	06
12	Mohanpur Municipal Council	15	0	05	07
13	Bishalgarah Municipal Council	15	0	03	07
14	Melagarh Municipal Council	13	0	05	06
15	Sonamura Nagar Panchayat	13	0	03	06
16	Udaipur Municipal Council	23	0	04	11
17	Amarpur Nagar Panchayat	13	0	04	06
18	Santirbazar Municipal Council	15	01	05	07
19	Sabroom Nagar Panchayat	09	01	02	04
20	Belonia Municipal Council	17	0	03	08
Total		334	08	85	157

3. **District Municipal Election Officer:** The District Magistrates of all 8(eight) District have been appointed as District Municipal Election Officer to co-ordinate and supervise all works in connection with conduct of election to the Municipalities as per Rules.

4. **Returning Officer (RO):** The Sub-Divisional Magistrate of 17(Seventeen) Sub-Divisions namely Dharmanagar, Panisagar, Kailashahar, Kumarghat, Ambassa, Kamalpur, Khowai, Teliamura, Mohanpur, Jirania, Bishalgarh, Sonamura, Udaipur, Amarpur, Belonia, Santirbazar & Sabroom have been appointed as Returning Officer for conduct of election in the respective subdivision. In Case of Agartala Municipal Corporation, for Constituency /Ward No 1 to 17, the Additional SDM, Sadar Sub- Division, for Constituency /Ward No 18 to 34, the SDM, Sadar Sub- Division and for Constituency /Ward No 35 to 51, the ADM & Collector-II, West Tripura District are appointed as Returning Officer.

5. **Election Observers, Sector Magistrates & Police Sector Officers:-** The Commission has appointed 22 Senior and experienced Officers of the State Government as Observer to oversee the process of Municipal Election. In addition 151 Officers have been appointed as Sector Magistrates. Police Sector Officers will be appointed by the Police Department.

6. **Electoral Rolls:** The Electoral Rolls of the Municipal constituencies, with reference to 01.01.2021 as the qualifying date, have been finally published on 20th February, 2021.

Municipality wise No. of Electors

Sl No.	Name of the Municipality	Total No. of Electors	Male	Female	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Agartala Municipal Corporation	345239	170467	174758	14
2	Dharmanagar Municipal Council	30715	15154	15561	
3	Panisagar Nagar Panchayat	5790	2849	2941	
4	Kailashahar Municipal Council	17081	8195	8886	
5	Kumarghat Municipal Council	10208	4945	5263	
6	Amabassa Municipal Council	11007	5539	5468	
7	Kamalpur Nagar Panchayat	8371	4061	4310	
8	Khowai Municipal Council	13941	6878	7063	
9	Teliamura Municipal Council	15925	7823	8102	
10	Jirania Nagar Panchayat	8681	4309	4372	
11	Ranirbazar Municipal Council	11368	5709	5659	
12	Mohanpur Municipal Council	13010	6526	6484	
13	Bishalgarah Municipal Council	16352	8219	8131	02
14	Melagarh Municipal Council	13706	7059	6647	
15	Sonamura Nagar Panchayat	8354	4098	4256	
16	Udaipur Municipal Council	25826	12728	13098	
17	Amarpur Nagar Panchayat	8172	4037	4135	
18	Santirbazar Municipal Council	9432	4801	4631	
19	Sabroom Nagar Panchayat	5459	2697	2762	
20	Belonia Municipal Council	16135	7885	8250	
Total		594772	293979	300777	16

7. **Polling Stations:** Total 770 (Seven hundred seventy) numbers of Polling Stations are setup for polling. Municipality wise number of Polling Stations are indicated below:

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Sl No.	Name of the Municipality	Total No. of Polling Station(s)
1	2	3
1	Agartala Municipal Corporation	439
2	Dharmanagar Municipal Council	45
3	Panisagar Nagar Panchayat	13
4	Kailashahar Municipal Council	20
5	Kumarghat Municipal Council	15
6	Amabassa Municipal Council	15
7	Kamalpur Nagar Panchayat	11
8	Khowai Municipal Council	15
9	Teliamura Municipal Council	24
10	Jirania Nagar Panchayat	11
11	Ranirbazar Municipal Council	13
12	Mohanpur Municipal Council	15
13	Bishalgarah Municipal Council	18
14	Melagarh Municipal Council	14
15	Sonamura Nagar Panchayat	13
16	Udaipur Municipal Council	35
17	Amarpur Nagar Panchayat	13
18	Santirbazar Municipal Council	15
19	Sabroom Nagar Panchayat	09
20	Belonia Municipal Council	17
Total		770

8. **Counting Halls:** Counting Halls will be set up at Sub-Divisional Head Quarters at the authorized Counting Centers.

9. **EVM:** Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) will be used for polling in Municipal Election, 2021.

10. **COVID- 19 Guidelines:** The State Election Commission has already issued and circulated a State COVID- 19 Guidelines for conduct of local bodies Election during Pandemic for guidance and compliance of all concerned.

12. **Law and Order:** Proper security arrangements are important to ensure a conducive environment and instill confidence among the electors as well as candidates for free, fair and peaceful poll. The Commission had meetings with the concerned authorities and reviewed maintenance of Law and Order as well as security arrangements to be done during the poll. Adequate security arrangements will be made for smooth and peaceful conduct of the election.

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13. Meeting with political parties: The Commission has interacted with the recognized National and State political parties for their inputs and suggestions as well as support and cooperation to ensure free, fair and peaceful election.

14. Video-Graph: Video-graph will be done for various important events of the election process, especially at the time of FLC and commissioning of EVMs, submission of Nomination by the candidate(s), scrutiny and withdrawal of nomination and at the time of counting of votes.

15. Identification of Voters: Compulsory identification of voters will be done in the polling stations. The electors who have been provided with Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) shall be identified through Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) only. However, to ensure that no voter is deprived of his/her franchise, if his/her name figures in the electoral Rolls, he/she will be allowed to produce alternative documents to establish identity, apart from Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC). Necessary order will be issued in due time.

16. Nominations Process:

i) Nomination form will also be available online in the website of State Election Commission, Tripura. Intending candidate may download the Nomination Form from the website and filled in Nomination Form has to be submitted in person, before the concerned Returning Officer.

ii) Number of persons to accompany candidate for submission of Nomination paper is restricted to three(3)

iii) Number of vehicles for the purpose of nomination is restricted to two (2) light vehicles.

iv) Spacious rooms for submission of nomination, scrutiny and symbol allotment will be arranged by the Returning Officers so that social distancing could be maintained.

v) Large space for waiting for candidate(s) will also be arranged by the R.Os.

vi) The period of filing nomination papers to the Returning Officer of the respective constituency will be from 27.10.2021 to 03.11.2021. Nomination papers will be received by the Returning Officers between hours 11A.M. in the forenoon and 3P.M. in the afternoon excluding public holidays.

17. **The Schedule of General Election to Municipalities**

Taking into consideration of all relevant factors like COVID situation, major festivals, prevailing law and order situation etc., the Commission has decided the following Schedule for conduct of the General Election to the Municipalities -2021.

SCHEDULE OF ELECTION


Sl. No.	Events	Date
1.	Issue of notification by the State Election Commissioner as per provision under Rule 11 of the Tripura Municipalities (Conduct of Election) Rules, 1995.	27/10/2021
(a)	Issue of Public Notice by the Returning Officer(s)	27/10/2021
(b)	Last date for making nominations	03/11/2021
(c)	Date for the scrutiny of nominations	05/11/2021
(d)	Last date of withdrawal of candidatures	08/11/2021 (up to 3.00 P.M.)
(e)	Date on which Poll shall, if necessary, be taken	25/11/2021
2.	Hours for commencement and close of Poll	7.00 A.M. to 4.00 P.M.
3.	Date of fresh Poll if necessary	27/11/2021
4.	Date of counting of votes	28/11/2021
5.	Commencement of counting of votes	From 8.00 A.M. onwards
6.	Date before which the process of Election shall be completed	04/12/2021

18. **Model Code of Conduct:** Consequent on the announcement of the schedule for the General Election to Municipalities through this Press Note, the Model Code of Conduct comes into operation with immediate effect in all the Municipal Areas of the State. This will be applicable to all political parties, candidates and State Government. The State Election Commissioner calls upon all the political parties, candidates and the State Government to strictly adhere to the Model Code of Conduct. This is necessary to ensure free and fair poll.

19. The Commission seeks active cooperation and participation of all the stakeholders in the electoral process and strives to employ collective synergies towards delivering a peaceful, free and fair, safe and participative Municipal Election.

20. The Commission recognizes and acknowledges the important role played by all print, electronic, digital, social and other formats of media for successful conduct of poll and looks forward for their total cooperation, support and feedbacks to the Commission.

By order of the State Election Commissioner.


(P. Bhattacharjee)
Secretary,
State Election Commission