

INTRODUCTION

(Election of Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti & Zila Parishad)

As per provisions contained in clause (t) of Section 2 read with Section 210 of the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994, (Punjab Act No. 9 of 1994) as extended to Union Territory, Chandigarh, the Chandigarh Administration appointed Sh. S.D. Lahkar, IAS (Retd.) as Election Commissioner for the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls and for the conduct of all elections to the Panchayats, in U.T., Chandigarh vide its Notification bearing No. 4575-UT FII(10)-94/12678 dated 24.09.1994.

19 villages in U.T., Chandigarh form 17 Gram Panchayats. The Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad have 15 and 10 constituencies, respectively for which reservation of seats as per Constitution of India and the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 as extended to the Union Territory of Chandigarh, were made for each House/Body. Prior to introduction of 74th amendment of the Constitution, Panchayats were already functioning in U.T., Chandigarh and the first election to these Gram Panchayats was conducted on 16th January, 1999 i.e. after the 74th amendment in the Constitution by this Commission. Election to the Panchayat Samiti was held in December, 2001 and for Zila Parishad, on 8th December, 1996 but due to a writ Petition in the Court, the Zila Parishad started functioning in 2001.

Before the expiry of 5 years' term of 17 Gram Panchayats, the next General elections to said Gram Panchayats, were held on 21.12.2003 & result declared on 22.12.2003.

2. The Department of Rural Development and Panchayats, Chandigarh Administration divided the area of Zila Parishad, U.T., Chandigarh into 10 single member territorial constituencies for the purpose of elections, vide its notification bearing No. SRD/2005/196 dated 3rd June, 2005. The said department also reserved Constituencies for Scheduled Caste Candidates, Women Candidates (including Scheduled Caste Women) vide its aforesaid notification. The General election of Zila Parishad were held on 03.07.2005 & result declared on 05.07.2005 under the Superintendence, direction and control of Sh. S.P. Marwah, IAS (Retd.), State Election Commissioner.

3. In the year 2006, the Department of Local Government, Chandigarh Administration revised its delimitation order in respect of Municipal Area of the Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh for the purpose of holding of General Election to wards of the Corporation. The said department vide its Notifications dated 25.09.2006 included the area of Gram Panchayats of Village Hallomajra, Kajheri, Palsora, Maloya & Dadumajra as well as area of revenue estate of Nizampur Barail, Nizampur Kumbhra,

Jhumru, Burail (Adadi Faidan), Bair Majra, Badheri & Chartarf Burail in the Municipal area of Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh and as per letter No. 830 dated 21.09.2006 from the Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Union Territory, Chandigarh addressed to the Sarpanches of Gram Panchayat Maloya, Dadumajra, Hallomajra, Palsora & Kajheri the Gram Sabha Area and the Gram Panchayat of said villages ceased to exist because the total area of the revenue estate of said villages including area under Abadi Deh has been included in the area of Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh. Therefore, only 12 Gram Panchayats of the following 13 villages existed :-

1. Dhanas
2. Sarangpur
3. Lahora
4. Khuda Jassu
5. Daria
6. Raipur Kalan & Makhan Majra
7. Behlana
8. Raipur Khurd
9. Kishangarh
10. Mauli Jagran
11. Khuda Alisher
12. Kaimbwala

Under the Superintendence, direction and control of Sh. S.P. Marwah, IAS (Retd.), State Election Commissioner, State Election Commission, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh, General Election to elect members of Panchayat Samiti from 15 (fifteen) territorial Constituencies were held on 20.12.2006 and result declared on 22.12.2006.

Bye-election to fill one casual vacancy of Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat of Village Kishangarh was also notified to be held on 03.06.2007. However the candidate was elected un-opposed.

Thereafter the General Election to Panchayats to elect Panches and Sarpanches of the aforesaid 12 Gram Panchayats in U.T., Chandigarh were held on 14.12.2008 and result declared on 16.12.2008, under the Superintendence, direction and control of Sh. O.P. Kelkar, IAS (Retd.), State Election Commissioner, State Election Commission, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh.

Bye-election to fill four casual vacancies of Panches, one each in Gram Panchayat of Village Raipur Kalan, Behlana, Sarangpur & Kaimbwala were also held on

08.08.2009 and result declared on 10.08.2009, under the Superintendence, direction and control of Sh. O.P. Kelkar, IAS (Retd), State Election Commissioner.

Bye-election to fill one casual vacancy of Panch in Gram Panchayat of Village Mauli Jagran was also held on 03.03.2010, under the Superintendence, direction and control of Sh. O.P. Kelkar, IAS (Retd), State Election Commissioner, State Election Commission, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh.

The General Election to elect members of Panchayat Samiti from 15 (fifteen) territorial Constituencies & members of Zila Parishad from 10 (ten) territorial constituencies were held on 21.01.2012 and result declared on 23.01.2012, under the Superintendence, direction and control of Sh. Rakesh Mehta, IAS (Retd.), State Election Commissioner, State Election Commission, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh.

Bye-election to fill one casual vacancy of Panch, Gram Panchayat of Village Khuda Jassu was also notified to be held on 30.06.2012. However the candidate was elected un-opposed.

The General Election to Panchayats to elect Panches and Sarpanches of the aforesaid 12 Gram Panchayats in U.T., Chandigarh were held on 15.12.2013 and result declared on 17.12.2013, under the Superintendence, direction and control of Sh. Rakesh Mehta, IAS (Retd.), State Election Commissioner, State Election Commission, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh in fair and peaceful manner. No election petition was filed by any contesting candidate in the said general election. Poll percentage for election to Sarpanches of Gram Panchayats was 77.82 and for Panches 75.44. The Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat of Village Raipur Kalan was elected as unopposed and all 11 Panches in Gram Panchayat Village Kaimbwala was also elected unopposed.