ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 3/FR/2009/SIDR/

Dated: 19th June, 2009

To

The Chief Electoral Officer of
All States/Union Territories.

Sub: Affidavits filed by the candidates at the time of filing of nomination papers—Rajya Sabha/Legislative Council elections—dissemination—regarding.

Sir/Madam,

Every candidate at elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils is required to file two affidavits (3 affidavits in the case of election to J&K Legislative Assembly) giving information about criminal antecedent, if any, assets, liabilities and educational qualifications. Copies of the affidavits, as and when they are filed, are required to be displayed on the notice board of the Returning Officer and copies are also required to be made available to any interested person.

At elections to the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies, the affidavits filed by the contesting candidates are uploaded on the CEO’s website. However, in the case of elections to the Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils, there is a general complaint that action for dissemination of the affidavits is not as effective and proactive as in the case of Lok Sabha/Assembly elections. There is no practice of uploading the affidavits in such elections on the website either.

The Commission has directed that, in future, at all elections to the Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils also, the affidavits filed by the contesting candidates will be hosted on the website of the Chief Electoral Office, immediately after the list of
contesting candidates is finalized. In the case of the Rajya Sabha elections and elections to the Legislative Council by the MLAs, the CEO should obtain the copies of the affidavits, either in electronic form or hard copy, from the Secretary, Legislative Assembly, who would be the R.O. for these elections, and arrange to upload the affidavits on the website. In the case of other elections, the CEOs may adopt the system of getting the uploading done at districts through the DEOs, or centrally at the level of the CEO, as may be considered convenient. It may be noted that hosting the affidavits on the website will also be applicable in the case of all bye-elections also.

Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,

(K.F.WILFRED)
SECREATARY