

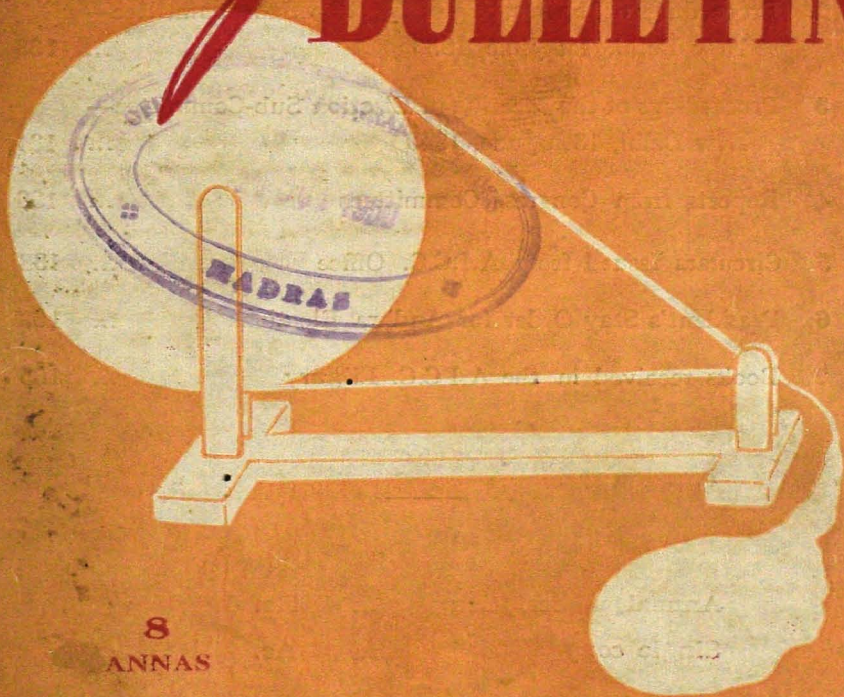
No. 4

JUNE

1950

(82)

Congress BULLETIN



8
ANNAS

ISSUED BY THE OFFICE OF THE

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CONGRESS BULLETIN

No. 4]

1950

[JUNE

Proceedings of the Meeting of ELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

New Delhi—25th May, 1950

The Election Sub-Committee met at New Delhi on 25th May, 1950. The following members were present:

Shri Jagjivan Ram
and Smt. Sucheta Kripalani.

The Andhra delegation headed by Shri Obulla Reddy, General Secretary, Andhra P.C.C. met the members of the Sub-Committee and placed before them, orally as well as in writing, the difficulties which they felt in conducting the Congress elections in Andhra. The decisions arrived at are given below.

1. Taking into consideration the disturbed election-atmosphere in Andhra, it is resolved that a representative of the A.I.C.C. be appointed and sent there. The A.I.C.C. Representative shall exercise complete authority on behalf of the Election Sub-Committee and decisions given by him on all disputed election-matters under reference in Andhra shall be final.

2. Orders and instructions given by the A.I.C.C. Office, pertaining to election-matters in Andhra, are confirmed.

3. Cancellation by the A.I.C.C. Office of the appointment of Liaison Officers as envisaged by the Andhra P.C.C., is confirmed.

4. P.C.C. suggestion for appointment of Assistant Polling Officers is approved. In constituencies where the Primary list exceeds one thousand voters, the Returning Officer may appoint such officers and call for separate booths, if necessity arises. No separate counting of the votes will be done and all voting sheets shall immediately be handed over to the Polling Officer on the expiry of the scheduled time for voting.

5. Scrutiny of membership lists and decisions given about the acceptance or rejection of the nomination papers, by the Returning Officer is final. But, whenever absolutely necessary and if he so desires, the A.I.C.C. Representative shall look into cases of gross injustice or negligence in this behalf and give suitable decisions to rectify the mistakes.

6. *Returning Officers*

- (a) For the existing vacancies, the A.I.C.C. Representative shall appoint fresh Returning Officers in consultation with the parties concerned. His decision shall be final.
- (b) Appointments to the vacancies must be made in conformity with the principle already enunciated, the principle being that the person so appointed shall belong to the group whose original nominee was approved by the A.I.C.C.

In the case of Guntur D.C.C. vacancies shall be filled from the 'reserves'—other Returning Officers should be appointed according to the previous procedure adopted by the Election Sub-Committee.

- (c) Other casual vacancies created due to death, sickness or some such inability expressed in writing by the Returning Officers shall be filled by the P.C.C. Intimation of substitute names must be made to the A.I.C.C. The appointments made by the P.C.C. in this respect shall normally be final, but the Election Sub-Committee reserves the right to alter or appoint any person as a Returning Officer.
- (d) On no other account changes or alterations can be made in the approved lists of the Returning Officers.

7. In West Godavari D.C.C. and East Krishna D.C.C. Panchayat Elections are postponed to a date to be fixed by the A.I.C.C. Representative who shall do so after looking into and giving decisions over all disputed matters there.

8. In Guntur D.C.C. since it is reported by the P.C.C. that a large number of Returning Officers have expressed their inability to function, elections are postponed till fresh appointments are made by the A.I.C.C. Representative in accordance with concerned para of clause 6(b).

9. In Nandikotpur Taluk and Kavali Taluk elections have already been postponed by the A.I.C.C. The A.I.C.C. Representative shall give decisions on all disputes there and fix a date for commencement of elections.

10. In view of a large number of complaints received from West Krishna D.C.C. regarding voters' lists and Returning Officers, elections are postponed. The A.I.C.C. Representative shall look into the disputes and, after giving his decisions, fix a date for commencement of elections.



JUL 1950
ADRAS

Proceedings of the Meeting of ELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

New Delhi—1st June, 1950

(82)

The Election Sub-Committee met at New Delhi on 1st June, 1950, and arrived at the decisions below:

1. As numerous complaints have been received from Hazaribagh District, Bihar, regarding rejection of nomination papers *in toto*, Shri Kala Venkata Rao should proceed to Bihar to make an enquiry on the spot. If he finds any gross breach as alleged, Shri Kala Venkata Rao is authorised to set aside and order fresh elections. He may examine other cases also in Bihar.

2. Shri L. N. Kaushik shall accompany Shri Gokulbhai Bhatt to Andhra.

3. Shri Gokulbhai Bhatt, Shri Ram Sahai and Shri Kala Venkata Rao, who are deputed to supervise election work in certain provinces, are requested to note that the rules framed by the Election Sub-Committee should be adhered to in all circumstances. The decisions given by the A.I.C.C. Office prior to their deputation should not be altered in any case. They are also requested to note that the Returning Officers who were appointed by the Election Sub-Committee and by the A.I.C.C. Office prior to their deputation should not be changed except when such officers by themselves have resigned in writing. Certain P.C.C's are reported to have altered the names of the Returning Officers approved by the A.I.C.C. without such officers' having tendered resignations in writing, on the basis of certain allegations made against them. This should not be done and the original Returning Officers should be restored immediately, and if at all they were changed, they should be allowed to continue to function.

4. It may also be noted that Primary Members not included in the totals originally communicated to the A.I.C.C. should not be added in any place. If any receipts were produced that the forms have been deposited with a Congress Committee in time and if those totals were added in their original report to the A.I.C.C., such members may be added to the list.

Proceedings of the Meeting of ELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

New Delhi—13th June, 1950

The Election Sub-Committee met at New Delhi on 13th June, 1950. The decisions arrived at by the Committee are given below:

Vidarbha

It was decided that the delegate-elections in Amraoti District, Darwha, Mehkara and Wasim Taluks in the districts of Yeotmal, Buldana and Akola respectively be stayed till such time as Shri Gokulbhai Bhatt would be able to go there and that elections could be held in other constituencies as in the normal course.

It was reported that certain bye-elections were being ordered in cases where elections had already been held. Such bye-elections should not be held unless ordered to be held by the Tribunals. If there were any disputes pending about these things, they should be stayed till Shri Gokulbhai Bhatt could go over to Berar.

The Committee considered the list of delegate-constituencies sent from Berar. The total of delegate seats was fixed at 36. 3 seats would go to Amraoti city and Tehsil as proposed by the P.C.C. The redistribution of the seats based upon Panchayats as found on the list was not a correct basis and, therefore, the Committee requested the P.C.C. to arrange the constituencies on the basis of revenue units (circles) and to send the revised list immediately so that elections could proceed.

The Committee decided to request the P.C.C. to forward for the perusal of the Election Sub-Committee the detailed proceedings of the Credentials Committee regarding Shri Bijwe and Shri Parihar for admission as members of the Congress.

It was reported that in the case of Ward No. 4 of Amraoti city certain members were denied admission in spite of the fact that they possessed receipts. Moreover, the Credentials Committee which first admitted them, afterwards rejected them. The Election Sub-Committee requested the P.C.C. to forward all papers including the proceedings of the Credentials Committee to the A.I.C.C.

Delhi

The Committee considered certain applications from individuals received by the A.I.C.C. requesting that permission might be given for enrolling themselves now as effective members. The Committee regretted that it could not at this stage allow any fresh enrolment.

Andhra

To the query whether the ex-officio delegates have the same rights as elected delegates, the Committee gave an affirmative answer.

The Committee considered the letter from the Andhra P.C.C. requesting that additional rules for the conduct of election of delegates on the basis of certain rules suggested by Shri Gokulbhai Bhatt for Primary Panchayat Elections be agreed to, and decided that the rules for the election of delegates framed by the Election Sub-Committee could not be altered in any case. The Committee also decided that as it did not recognise any groups in the Congress, reference to groups, etc., in the rules sent could not be accepted. Original rules framed by the Election Sub-Committee should be strictly adhered to.

PEPS Union

The Committee heard the deputation from PEPSU. The deputationists were asked to submit detailed information under the following heads:

- (1) Cases where the agreed lists of returning Officers were not accepted;
- (2) The details, Thana-war, where the returning officers acted *malafide* and under what circumstances;
- (3) Places where elections were not held;
- (4) Places where the lists of Panchayatdars had been tampered with and whether by addition or subtraction.

Mahakoshal

It was reported that certain returning officers got themselves elected as Panchayatdars. It was also reported that the Tribunal in Hoshangabad district was not functioning. The Committee decided to request the P.C.C. to send a detailed report about those two matters. Till then, the delegate-elections in Hoshangabad district be stayed.

It had also been circularised that the delegate-constituencies as they stood in 1946, be continued now. In certain cases, it was reported that in the formation of the Primary Panchayats, the area went into two delegate-constituencies. The question had been raised as to where the Panchayatdars elected in that area should vote in the delegate-elections. It was decided that the Panchayatdars who belonged to particular villages included in a delegate-constituency would vote in that area.

Reports from Congress Committees

Bihar

For some months now weekly camps are organised in different parts of Bihar to educate Congress workers and infuse new life into them. The Women's Section of Seva Dal opened recently at Patna will prove very helpful in educating women on these lines.

Delhi

The Delhi Provincial Congress Committee, besides carrying on its usual organisational and constructive work, took during recent months an active part in maintaining communal peace in the city and in solving the problems of agricultural labour. Shanti Dal, a Congress sponsored body which is working for the maintenance of peace for the last three years, had accelerated its effort in view of the East Bengal situation. It was mainly due to its active propaganda and peace drive that general public was kept alive of the disruptionist propaganda of the communalists and reactionaries. More than hundred anti-communal meetings in wards, mohallas and different localities were held and Shanti Dal workers' squads toured the city day and night. The result of all these efforts has been that Delhi on the whole remained calm and quiet on almost all occasions and Congress workers were the first to inform the authorities of any incident. Shrimati Subadhra Joshi, a member of Delhi P.C.C. Executive is in charge of this Dal. On the rural side, besides the Delhi Peasants Cooperative Multi-Purpose Society a few societies have been organised to bring under plough 300 acres of fallow land. The Delhi Cooperative Multi-purpose Society is fast becoming a symbol of cooperative movement in the State, specially in the rural area. Almost all the rural population look to it for advice, help and guidance. About 2,000 acres of fallow land will be brought under plough during the next two months.

Bombay

On 7th May, 1950, Dr. N. S. Hardiker's Diamond Jubilee was celebrated throughout the country, Bombay being the main venue. The celebrations started with a flag salutation at Chaupatty, when Shri S. K. Patil, President, B.P.C.C. paid glowing tributes to the founder of the Congress Seva Dal and felicitated him on behalf of the Celebrations Committee. Later at a public meeting at Cawasji Jehangir Hall, Dr. Hardiker was presented with a Souvenir to commemorate the occasion. This Souvenir was brought out under the active guidance of office-bearers of the B.P.C.C.

Among the routine works of the Bombay P.C.C. was the weekly spinning carried out by the Constructive Programme Committee on Sundays. Shri G. N. Desai, the General Secretary, associated himself with the conduct of these programmes.

Circulars Issued from A. I. C. C. Office

Ref. P.P. 27/4265

2nd May 1950

To

Certain Individuals

Dear Friend,

The Election Sub-Committee of the Congress Working Committee has decided that in the case of Guntur District, Returning Officers who have to conduct the Congress Primary Panchayat Elections, shall be gentlemen who come from other districts in Andhra. The Committee thought that you are a fit person for undertaking this work. We know that it may be inconvenient for you to accept this selection but in the interest of Congress work, we shall feel much obliged if you will not reject this request and agree to undertake the work assigned. I may also inform you that the Election Sub-Committee has decided to exempt in your case the operation of the rule, which bans the Returning Officer from contesting an election of delegate to the Indian National Congress. Kindly send in your reply to the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, Bezwada with a copy to us. The time is very short and we once again request you to enter upon the duties immediately in consultation with the Andhra P.C.C. and the Guntur District Congress Committee.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,
KALA VENKATA RAO,
General Secretary.

*Circular No. 42**Ref. P.P. 25/4373**6th May 1950*

To

All Provincial Congress Committees

General Instructions

(1) The Returning Officer shall in consultation with the D.C.C. and Town, Taluk or Thana Congress Committee concerned appoint Polling Officers for each Primary Panchayat area by 15th May 1950. The names of Polling Officers so appointed shall not be changed except under extraordinary circumstances by the Returning Officer himself.

(2) The Polling Officer shall be given an authority in writing regarding his appointment and shall be provided with necessary expenses, voting-sheets, writing-materials, authorised list of Primary members and the valid list of candidates for the Panchayat or Panchayats for which he is appointed. The P.C.C.'s should arrange for all these things through the D.C.C. No fees other than Rs. 2 payable by the candidates shall be levied on any candidate.

Nomination Papers

The nomination papers shall be presented to the Returning Officers, by the candidates in the manner prescribed by the A.I.C.C. The Returning Officers shall scrutinize these papers and finalize the names of candidates, Panchayat-wise and get the lists hung at the Taluk, Town or Thana Congress Committee office concerned and at the place of the election.

Instructions for Polling Officers

(1) The Polling Officers should arrange to give due publicity regarding the date, hours, and the place at which votes will be recorded in each Panchayat area. In fixing the place of polling he should give due weight to a central place easily accessible to all members.

(2) Voters should not be rejected due to clerical mistakes which might have occurred in preparing the lists. Proper verification of a name can be made by getting the person identified by any two voters.

(3) The Polling Officers should follow the method of voting prescribed by the A.I.C.C.

(4) The × marks shall be put by the Polling Officers on the voting-sheets in ink only, in the presence of the voter and the agents of the candidates.

(5) Votes shall be recorded between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on the appointed day.

(6) The Polling Officers shall get the signatures of candidates, or their representatives on the voting-sheets, before counting the marks.

(7) All voting-sheets and list of declared candidates should be sent to the Returning Officers immediately.

KALA VENKATA RAO,
General Secretary.

Rules for the Conduct of Primary Congress Panchayat Elections*

(a) There shall be a returning officer for each taluk, thana or town. The returning officer shall be appointed with the previous approval of the A.I.C.C. He shall not be a candidate for election as delegate to the Indian National Congress nor a resident of the area for which he is appointed as the returning officer.

(b) The returning officer shall, in consultation with the District Congress Committee and the Taluk, Thana or Town Congress Committee concerned, appoint polling officers for conducting elections to the Primary Congress Panchayats. In case of difference of opinion between the D.C.C. and the Taluk, Town or Thana Congress Committee concerned, the returning officer shall have the final voice. One polling officer can be in charge of more than one panchayat.

(c) The All-India Congress Committee shall fix a period within which elections to the Primary Congress Panchayats should take place and within that period the returning officer shall allot particular election dates to the various Primary Congress Panchayats in his area. A full list of polling officers selected by the returning officers shall be kept in the District, Taluk, Thana and Town Congress Committee offices concerned and in the primary panchayat area to which such polling officers have been allotted. Each polling officer shall also carry with him the returning officer's authority in writing for his appointment as the polling officer. The polling officer shall publish the date, place and the time during which the votes shall be recorded in the offices of the Taluk, Thana or Town Congress Committees concerned. In addition the polling officer may use tom-tom wherever necessary.

(d) Any candidate for election to any Primary Congress Panchayat shall within the prescribed date file his nomination before the returning officer in person or through proposer or seconder, who should be primary members. Each candidate shall pay a sum of Rs. 2 as fee to the returning officer at the time of nomination.

(e) Nominations received after the date and hour fixed shall be rejected. The returning officer shall receive nominations at the offices of the Taluk, Thana or Town Congress Committees concerned. In the absence of such offices he should select a suitable place and previously notify it. Scrutiny of these nomination papers should be held on day succeeding the last day fixed for nomination, and should not be postponed under any circumstances.

*These rules with the three forms were circulated to all P.C.C.'s with Circular No. 42.

(f) Candidates for election to Primary Congress Panchayats should be allowed to withdraw their nominations within three days from the date fixed for nomination.

(g) The returning officer should communicate a list of valid candidates left after withdrawal and scrutiny, to the polling officers concerned on the day after the last day for withdrawal. Any qualified member can stand as a candidate for election to the Primary Congress Panchayat provided he files his nomination in the form attached herewith before the returning officer within the prescribed time and pays the prescribed fee.

(h) On the day of the election the polling officer should mark on a list in the form appended hereto the votes declared in favour of each candidate by each voter who presents himself. The agents of the candidates present shall have the right to watch the marking of the votes by the polling officer. Any voter can declare the names of the candidates for whom he is willing to vote, or to present to the polling officer a written slip containing the names of candidates to whom he would like to vote.

(i) Immediately after the time at which the polling concludes the polling officer shall count the number of marks entered by him on the prescribed form or forms and declare those candidates elected who secure the largest number of votes. He should forward a list of the candidates so declared elected along with the papers on which the votes were marked properly sealed to the returning officer without loss of any time. The returning officer shall, on receipt of such lists, consolidate them for his area panchayat-war and send them within three days to the respective D.C.C.'s and the P.C.C.

(j) If any person who wants to vote at a Primary Congress Election is challenged by agent of any candidate that he is not the right person entered in the voters' list, it shall be competent for the polling officers to decide the matter on the spot. The polling officer can demand from such a person his certificate or thumb-impression so as to identify him later, if necessary.

(k) If two persons present themselves one after the other, as the rightful voters for any name entered in the list, the first person's vote may be recorded and the second person's vote shall be noted separately with all details and sealed along with similar claims. Such a vote shall be called tendered vote.

KALA VENKATA RAO,
General Secretary.

FORM OF NOMINATION FOR PRIMARY CONGRESS PANCHAYAT.

1. Name:
2. Father's name:
3. Age: Address:
4. Name of Panchayat for
which he wants to stand
as a candidate:
5. Name of the village
where he enrolled him-
self as a Primary Mem-
ber:
6. Signature of Proposer
. Village where he enrolled himself
as Primary Member.

. Signaure of Seconder.
. Village where he enrolled himself
as Primary Member.

I have enrolled myself as a qualified member in village
town
and herewith deposit Rs. 2 (Rupees Two only) as nomination
fee.

Date.
Signature of candidate.

Received by me on. at.
a.m.
p.m.

Date.
Returning Officer.

*Ref. ED/EP/182**18th May 1950.*

To

The Presidents of all P.C.C's

Dear Friend,

In the last Conference of Chief Ministers and Presidents of Provincial Congress Committees, it was felt that in the background of our limited resources, economic planning should pre-suppose a period of austerity on the part of the people and an effort should be made and steps taken to stimulate a sense of equality of sacrifice among all people. Persons in high positions should give a lead to this programme. A campaign for the purpose must be conducted on an organised basis in all parts of the country. A clear idea should be given of the several concrete ways in which people of different categories can participate according to their ability in the programme of foregoing the use of goods and services. Such a nation-wide effort will certainly relieve the pressure on our economy which is predominantly an economy of scarcity and shortage.

The successful implementation of such a programme, however, will solely depend on the stimulation of moral consciousness of the people. The National Planning Conference, therefore, did not pass any resolution. Little can be achieved in this direction by merely passing a statute of the State. We have to work through the method of practice, persuasion and propaganda.

As the number one priority problem of to-day is self-sufficiency in food, I feel that austerity may be practised by resolving to depend for our requirements of cereals on the supply through ration shops, to draw only six days' supply in a week and to live for a day on non-rationed articles. Even here the sense of equality must be maintained. That is, non-rationed articles consumed on this day must be within the means of the Common Man. Needless to say that none should buy in the blackmarket, for either greater quantity or better quality of supply. Austerity implies self-denial and cutting down conspicuous consumption. The programme which I suggest

is a simple one but it will evoke the support of the masses, if some of us to whom the people look forward, take a vow to live up to this programme.

Yours sincerely,
SHANKARRAO DEO,
General Secretary.

Ref. ED/EP/186

19th May 1950.

To

Chief Ministers of all States

Dear Friend,

I issued three circulars:

(1) ED/EP/133 on April 28, 1950, requesting you to send your Government's reactions to and suggestions on the recommendations of the Congress Agrarian Reforms Committee's Report.

(2) ED/EP/141 on May 1, 1950, requesting your Government to take steps with regard to: the early implementation of the resolutions of the Planning Conference of the Chief Ministers and P.C.C. Presidents; arrangements for sending regular reports to the A.I.C.C. Office about the progress of the Plan; and intimating to the A.I.C.C. Office your requirements of the publications relating to National Planning Conference.

(3) ED/EP/147 of May 1, 1950, forwarding the resolutions of the Working Committee on May 1 approving the resolutions of the Planning Conference and the memorandum of the Planning Sub-Committee and directing the Governments, States and Central, to take immediate steps for the implementation of the Plan.

I regret to note that except the Governments of Bombay, Uttar Pradesh and Saurashtra, no government has so far even acknowledged the receipt of these circulars. Every issue referred to in these circulars is as important as it is urgent. We can ill-afford to delay decision on any of these items. I

feel that the expectations and enthusiasm created by the National Planning Conference should be utilised for the implementation of the Immediate Programme.

I am going out to-day on a rather long tour in the districts of West and East Bengal and am coming back only on the 10th June. In the meanwhile I have instructed the Economic and Political Research Department, A.I.C.C. to collect information from the Governments on the measures suggested in the Immediate Programme. Shri K. Mitra, Secretary to the Department has been asked to get in touch with your Government for this purpose. May I suggest that you, when acknowledging this circular, please let us know the Department of your Government which should be approached by Shri Mitra for this work.

Such an arrangement, I think, will facilitate the work without your being disturbed off and on.

Yours sincerely,
SHANKARRAO DEO,
General Secretary.

Circular No. 43

20th May 1950

Ref. P-24/4799

URGENT

To

All Provincial Congress Committees •

Dear Friend,

It has been brought to the notice of the All-India Congress Committee that certain Provincial Congress Committees have issued circulars that persons who hold permits and to whom notices of disciplinary action have been issued, should not be accepted as candidates to the Primary Panchayat Elections. The Working Committee is considering the question of permits and has not yet come to any decision. The simple issue of a notice of disciplinary action cannot disqualify a person from standing as a candidate unless actual disciplinary action has been taken by the concerned P.C.C. Even in the latter case,

if any disciplinary action were stayed by the All-India Congress Committee, it cannot have any effect. Both these are not disqualifications under the Congress Constitution.

Therefore, all Provincial Congress Committees are informed that candidates should not be disqualified simply on these two grounds and if it were done so anywhere, such candidates should be restored to the list before the election takes place.

Yours sincerely,
KALA VENKATA RAO,
General Secretary.

Circular No. 44
Ref. P-24/4840

21st May 1950

To

All Provincial Congress Committees

Dear Friend,

In our Circular No. 40 dated 4th April, 1950 we requested you to furnish us immediately with the list of delegate constituencies in your province. You have not yet done so. Kindly send it so as to reach this office in any case earlier than 30th May, 1950.

I may inform you that the nominations for the election of delegates will be on the 20th of June and the elections will be before the end of June. Please do not publish these dates. You will receive another circular shortly.

Yours sincerely,
KALA VENKATA RAO,
General Secretary.

Circular No. 45.

27th May 1950

Ref. P-24/5002

To

All Provincial Congress Committees

Dear Friend,

Please find enclosed Rules for the conduct of Elections of Delegates to the Indian National Congress.

You are requested to send the information as required therein.

Yours sincerely,
M. P. BHARGAVA,
Permanent Secretary.

Rules for the Conduct of Elections of Delegates to the Indian National Congress

1. Every P.C.C. with the aid of the D.C.C. concerned should prepare a list of voters for each delegate constituency and publish it before 10th June, 1950. Members of the Primary Congress Panchayats shall form the electoral college for the delegate-elections.

2. There shall be a returning officer for each district. The returning officer shall be appointed with the previous approval of the A.I.C.C. List of such names as proposed by D.C.C.'s and by P.C.C.'s should reach the A.I.C.C. before 8th June, 1950. Such returning officer shall not be a candidate for election as a delegate to the Indian National Congress, nor shall he be a resident of the district for which he is appointed as the returning officer.

3. The returning officer shall, in consultation with the concerned District Congress Committee, appoint polling officers for each delegate-constituency, and in case of difference of opinion about the person, his decision shall be final. If the returning officer deems it necessary, he can appoint more than one polling officer for each constituency, but in no case more

than one for each 50 voters. The A.I.C.C. shall fix a date for the nomination of the candidates and a date for the election of delegates.

4. Each polling officer shall be given an authority in writing and shall also be supplied with a ballot-box, printed voting papers serially numbered, a list of voters (i.e. Panchayat-dars elected in that constituency) and other material necessary. The P.C.C. should see that the concerned D.C.C. supplies these materials to the returning officer, who will hand them over to the polling officer.

5. (a) The nomination in the form prescribed (Appendix I) shall be filed before the returning officer between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on the date fixed by the A.I.C.C. The returning officer shall be present and take these nominations at the office of the District Congress Committee. The nomination forms can be printed, typed or hand-written according to Appendix I. Every nomination paper shall be signed by a proposer and a seconder who shall be Panchayatdars from the area of the concerned constituency. The nomination paper shall be filed by the candidate or by his proposer or seconder and a nomination-fee of Rs. 5 only in respect of every candidate shall be deposited with the returning officer which shall be non-refundable. Any number of nomination papers can be filed by a candidate. No person other than an effective member shall be qualified to stand as a candidate. Immediately after the hour fixed for the closing of nominations, the returning officer should hang a list of nominations constituency-wise in the office of the D.C.C. and this list must be made available to the candidates or their agents. The returning officer shall conduct the scrutiny of the nomination papers so filed on a date fixed by the A.I.C.C. If any nomination paper is rejected, the returning officer should record the reasons for doing so on the paper itself. A copy of such an order should be given to the candidate concerned if he asks for it.

(b) Nominations received after the date and hour fixed shall be rejected.

6. Only such constituencies which have not less than five duly constituted Panchayats can return a delegate to the Congress (Article IX—clause (e)).

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7. After the completion of the scrutiny the returning officer shall hang up a list of valid candidates for each constituency in the D.C.C. office and send copies of them to T.C.C's for publication in their offices. After the scrutiny, if there is only one candidate or the nomination paper or papers of one candidate only are held valid, such a candidate shall be declared elected.

8. It shall be competent for any candidate to withdraw his candidature within 48 hours after the declaration of the results of scrutiny. After the expiry of time of withdrawal, the returning officer shall declare all such candidates elected from those constituencies where all candidates but one have withdrawn.

9. For constituencies where there will be contests, the returning officer shall get the ballot-papers printed with the aid of the D.C.C. concerned, and supply them to the various polling officers along with the other material referred to in (4) above.

10. Every candidate may submit the name or names of persons whom he desires to appoint as election-agents or polling-agents, to the returning officer. These agents will be given written authority by the returning officer to have access to the polling booths and to supervise the voting on behalf of the candidates.

11. Election shall be by ballot and a specimen form of the ballot-paper is added as Appendix II. The polling officers shall explain to the voters the method of recording votes. Each voter who attends the polling station shall be supplied with a ballot-paper by the polling officer. The polling officer shall note the name of the voter on the counterfoil. He should initial on the back of the ballot-paper. He should not make any mark thereon nor write the name of the voter. Each voter shall in a secret place provided near the ballot-box mark his preference (in the form of an X) against the candidate for whom he would like to vote, fold the paper and place it in the ballot-box. Any illiterate voter or any voter claiming to suffer from any physical disability may request the polling officer to mark on his behalf in the presence of the agents of

the candidates. The polling officer should do so and place the voting paper in the ballot-box.

12. At the close of the polling which should be at the hour prescribed, the ballot-box should be sealed in the presence of the candidates or their agents who may, if they so desire, affix their seal or signature on it, and should be handed over to the returning officer or to his agent in safe custody.

13. The returning officer shall on a date fixed by the A.I.C.C. count the ballot-papers in all the ballot-boxes of the constituency and declare that person who has got the majority of votes as elected. A list of candidates who have been duly declared elected as delegates shall be immediately forwarded to the D.C.C. and the P.C.C. concerned.

14. The place fixed for opening of the ballot-boxes should be the office of the D.C.C., and at the time of the opening of the ballot-boxes, candidates or their agents who have been authorised in writing should be allowed to be present.

15. The polling office shall be in a public place preferably the office of a local Congress Committee and shall be accessible to all voters. There should be a place enclosed separately for marking votes, which shall not be made accessible to any person other than the voter himself once the election proceedings have started. More than one voter at a time will not be permitted to enter the said enclosure.

16. The Provincial Congress Committee shall send a list of the delegates declared elected to the A.I.C.C. Office so as to reach by 8th July 1950.

APPENDIX—I

Form of Nomination for Delegate-Election to the Indian National Congress

1. Name:.....
2. Father's name:.....
3. Age:..... Address:.....
4. Name of delegate-constituency where he wants to stand as a candidate:.....
5. Name of the area where he enrolled himself as an effective-member:.....
6.

Signature of proposer.

..... Panchayat from where he has been
elected as Panchayatdar.

Signature of seconder.

..... Panchayat from where he has been
elected as Panchayatdar.

I have enrolled myself as an effective member in.....
village
town and herewith deposit Rs. 5 (Rupees Five only) as nomination fee which shall not be refundable.

Date:

Signature of Candidate.

Received by me on.....at.....
a.m.
p.m.

Date:.....

Returning Officer.

N.B.—Not more than Rs. 5 shall be charged in respect of each candidate as his nomination fee, irrespective of the number of forms submitted by him or his proposer or seconder to the returning officer.

APPENDIX—II

Form of Ballot-Paper for Delegate-Election

Serial No.....

Name of delegate-constituency:.....

District:.....

Name & Signature of
Returning Officer:.....

Date of Election:.....

Name of Candidate	X Mark to be placed against the name of candidate to whom the voter desires to give his vote
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	

Circular No. 46

1st June 1950

Ref. P-24/5138

To

All Provincial Congress Committees

Dear Friend,

I wish to invite your attention to the concerned articles of the Congress Constitution and would request you to take steps to see that the concerned election tribunals will function immediately and give relief to the election petitions filed before them regarding the Panchayat elections. The District Tribunals, if any, and the Provincial Tribunals may be informed of this. They may be requested to work speedily and dispose of the matters as early as possible.

Yours sincerely,
KALA VENKATA RAO,
General Secretary.

Circular No. 47

1st June 1950

Ref. P-24/5139

To

All Provincial Congress Committees

Dear Friend,

The following is the programme for the Election of Delegates to the Indian National Congress. Please send a list of returning officers so as to reach us by the 8th June, 1950.

Yours sincerely,
KALA VENKATA RAO,
General Secretary.

Programme for Delegate-Elections

Date for nomination	20-6-1950
Date for scrutiny	21-6-1950
Last date for withdrawals	23-6-1950
Last date for poll	30-6-1950
Last date for counting	2-7-1950
Last date by which list of delegates should reach the A.I.C.C.	8-7-1950

*Circular No. 48**3rd June 1950**Ref. P-24/5190*

To

All Provincial Congress Committees

Dear Friend,

It was decided that the constituencies for the election of delegates from your Province as they existed in 1946, should be approved. We have received your lists and we presume that they are prepared on that basis only. On this understanding we are approving your list and you can proceed on that basis.

Yours sincerely,

KALA VENKATA RAO,
General Secretary.

*Ref. P.G. 2/5264**3rd June 1950*

To

The Secretaries of all Congress Legislative Parties

Dear Friend,

We had on earlier occasions requested you to supply us information regarding the legislative measures introduced or passed by the Provincial Assembly and the assessment of public

reaction to the same. You will certainly appreciate that it is difficult for the Central Organisation to collect reliable statistics and proper estimate of the local situation from such a long distance. You stand at a greater advantage and undoubtedly, you are most competent to help us in the matter in view of the fact that in your official capacity as the Secretary of the Congress Legislative Party you can have access to adequate materials from the Government Departments concerned, whenever required and we feel sure that the Leader of the Party will readily provide you with proper facilities. It is only with your cooperation and with regular supply of reports from your Secretariat that our Parliamentary Department can marshal the facts and try to coordinate the parliamentary activities in terms of the general policies adumbrated by the Central Parliamentary Board. Indeed these will help the Parliamentary Board in formulating the policy itself.

In the recent conference of the Premiers and the Presidents of Provincial Congress Committees convened by the Congress President at Delhi, we intended to take up the matter of Parliamentary Organisation but the Conference found itself rather intensely preoccupied with the report of the Planning Sub-Committee and there was hardly any time left for deliberating on a separate issue. So we had to postpone its discussion for more opportune moment.

In the meantime, we would request you to send us (a) a list of the members of the Congress Assembly Party, (b) the annual report of the Party and (c) the programme of work that might have been accepted by the Party for the current year, and any informative material.

We shall be interested to receive your suggestions in the matter:

Yours sincerely,

P. CHAKRAVERTI,

Secretary,

Parliamentary Department.

Ref. P.G. 2/5265 3rd June 1950

To

All State Premiers

Dear Friend,

We intend to reorganise the Parliamentary Department in our Central Office and to establish direct and more intimate relation with the Congress Assembly Parties in different states of India. We prepared some memoranda in this connection and wanted to discuss the same in the recent Conference when the Premiers of all the State Governments and the Presidents of the State Congress Committees met at Delhi but the report of the Planning Sub-Committee kept the Conference preoccupied for the two day session and it was hardly possible to extend the conference by one day more for taking up the question of parliamentary reorganisation. Moreover, on private enquiry, some premiers suggested that they were scheduled to leave immediately and so we prepared to postpone the discussion for better and more convenient opportunity.

On earlier occasions, we made reference to the Leader and the Secretary of the Congress Assembly Party in each State Legislature for the supply of Bills, Acts and other relevant materials. We feel the Secretary of the Legislative Party can effectively work as the Liaison Officer between the Central Parliamentary Department and the respective State Government, headed by the leader of the Party himself, and we feel sure that proper guidance and adequate facilities will be forthcoming from the latter, in regular course.

Some State Governments have advised the Departments concerned to forward materials to our office directly but it has been found inconvenient and the supply also has not been regular. As such we think you would approve of our suggestion that the Secretariat of the Congress Assembly Party should be the channel through which the State Government should communicate its decisions and forward all informative documents to this office. This would ensure the regular supply of the required materials and also help us in making direct reference to the Party Secretariat instead of writing to the various departments of the State Government.

We shall be interested to receive your suggestions in the matter.

Yours sincerely,
P. CHAKRAVERTI,
Secretary,
Parliamentary Department.

Ref. P.G. 2/5430

10th June 1950

To

Premiers and Ministers of all States

Dear Friend,

We had occasion to bring out three brochures on the achievements of the Congress Ministries in the Provinces under the titles "Congress Ministries at Work", "One Year of Freedom" and "Second Year of Freedom" for the years 1946-47, 1947-48 and 1948-49 respectively. We want to bring out our next publication "Third Year of Freedom" before August 1950. You will certainly appreciate that we have to draw the materials from authentic reports prepared by the State Governments, and it is only with your cooperation that we can bring out successfully a useful compendium containing a record of the nation-building activities that have been undertaken by the Governments in their respective spheres—supplemented by reliable statistics and comparative charts.

We want to give an estimate of the different State administrative areas from the certified maps produced under Government supervision. Last year, we could not publish the maps because they were of different sizes and varied colours. Hence it will be convenient if you send us maps drawn in Indian ink on white drawing paper, the size not exceeding $4\frac{1}{2}$ " \times 8".

The photographs of the Ministers also should be sent to us.

We want to bring out this publication before the Congress Session, scheduled to meet at Nasik by the middle of August, which will also coincide with the third anniversary of Independence Day.

We would therefore request you to send us the necessary materials by the first week of July at the latest, so that we can incorporate the same in our publication.

Yours sincerely,
P. CHAKRAVERTI,
Secretary.

Ref. P.G. 2/5474

12th June 1950

To

Premiers of all States

Dear Friend,

The annual session of the Indian National Congress will be held in August at Nasik. In order to mark the occasion we propose to publish a special number in which we want to give an overall account of the achievements of our ministries both at the Centre and in the States. A small resume of the achievements of your ministry in various fields of administration and legislation from August 1947 onwards to date written by you will have to adorn our publication. The article may be of ten double-space typed foolscap pages. I would further request you to send it to us so as to reach by 1st July, 1950 as we will have to send it to the press immediately. I know that I am drawing upon your valuable time but as this publication of ours will mark an important occasion, I take the liberty of making this request.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,
KALA VENKATA RAO,
General Secretary.

Circular No. 49

Ref. P-24/5485

12th June 1950

To

All Provincial Congress Committees

Dear Friend,

Some references have been received in this office as to when the elections to the district and other subordinate Congress committees in each province have to be held. We wish to inform you that these elections should be held after the new P.C.C's will be formed.

Yours sincerely,

KALA VENKATA RAO,
General Secretary.

Circular No. 50

Ref. P-24/5486

12th June 1950

To

All Provincial Congress Committees

Dear Friend,

In spite of our instructions issued earlier, your province has not yet sent us the list of returning officers who are to conduct elections in the delegate-constituencies. As the nominations will come off on 20th June, I request you to send us the names of the returning officers by return post. Else without our approval of the returning officers, you are not free to conduct delegate-elections in your province. Any delay on your part will delay the election of delegates which would mean that you will be unable to partake in the nominations for the Congress Presidentship which may come off towards the end of the first week of July.

Yours sincerely,

KALA VENKATA RAO,
General Secretary.

*Camp: 118 Gandhinagar,
Adyar, Madras,
9th June 1950*

President's Stay Order for Andhra Elections

*In its proceedings dated 25th May 1950 the Elections Sub-Committee resolved that a representative of the A.I.C.C. be appointed and sent to Andhra and that he should exercise complete authority on behalf of the Election Sub-Committee and decisions given by him on all disputed election matters under reference in Andhra shall be final. In para 2 of the proceedings, it was recorded that the orders and instructions given by the A.I.C.C. office pertaining to Andhra are confirmed. Again, in the proceedings of the Election Sub-Committee held on 1st June 1950 Shri Gokulbhai Bhatt, Shri Ram Sahay and Shri Kala Venkata Rao who were deputed to supervise election work in certain provinces were requested to note that the rules framed by the Election Sub-Committee should be adhered to in all circumstances and to see that the decisions given by the A.I.C.C. office prior to their deputation should not be altered in any case and further to note that the returning officers who were appointed by the Election Sub-Committee and by the A.I.C.C. prior to their deputation should not be changed except when such officers themselves resigned in writing. In addition, it was stated that such returning officers, if already changed by the P.C.C's, should be restored immediately. Shri Gokulbhai Bhatt, Member of the Congress Working Committee who was deputed to Andhra visited Andhradesh twice and after enquiries passed certain orders.

A number of complaints, however, have since been received by me and the A.I.C.C. Office to the effect that in certain cases Shri Gokulbhai Bhatt did not adhere to the decisions given by the Election Sub-Committee. Therefore, it has become incumbent on the Election Sub-Committee to go into these matters in detail and decide these things finally.

An emergency having thus arisen, it is obvious that the Election Sub-Committee should review the matter. Till then I hereby direct that further election proceedings in the shape

of holding elections, receiving nominations, re-scrutiny of nominations, change of returning officers and the adding of new members, qualified or otherwise, to the already published lists should be and are hereby stayed forthwith. The next meeting of the Election Sub-Committee will be held immediately.

1. Komaragiripatnam Town	}	E. Godavary District.
2. Peddapuram Taluk		
3. West Godavary District		
4. Guntur District		
5. Ananthapur District		
6. Kavali Taluk	}	Nellore District
7. Gudur Taluk		
8. Rampur Taluk	}	Kurnool District
9. Nandikotkur Taluk		
10. Nandyala Taluk	}	Cuddapah District
11. Rayachoti Town		
12. Cuddapah Town	}	Chittoor District
13. Kamalapuram Town		
14. Siddhavatam Taluk		
15. Cuddapah Taluk		
16. Kalahasti Taluk		

B. PATTABHI SITARAMAYYA,
President,
Indian National Congress.

Books Received

The following have donated the books printed against each of them to the All-India Congress Library:

1. **The Manager, Navajivan Karyalaya, Post Box No. 105, Ahmedabad**—(i) *A pilgrimage for Peace by Pyare Lal*; (ii) *Stray Glimpses of Bapu by Kaka Kalelkar*; (iii) *Ashram Bhajnavali (Hindi)*; (iv) *Bapujincho Ojherton Darshan (Gujrati) by Kalelkar*; (v) *Gandhian Ethics by Benoy Gopal Ray*; (vi) *Paror Shikshan (Gujrati)*; (vii) *Bapu Ke Patar—Part I, Ashram Ki Behno Se by Kaka Kalelkar*.
2. **Dr. N. V. Rajkumar, Secretary, Foreign Department, A.I.C.C. Office, New Delhi**—(i) *Scrap, The Terrior Dog by J. I. Lloyd*; (ii) *Summer Moonshine by P. G. Wodehouse*; (iii) *Is it a Crane by H. D. Rajah*; (iv) *Swarnalata by O. G. Ganguly*; (v) *Piccadilly Jim by P. G. Wodehouse*; (vi) *Russian Imperialism: How to stop it by R. Swarup*; (vii) *Brave New World by Aldous Huxley*; (viii) *My Man Jeeves by P. G. Wodehouse*; (ix) *Sam the Sudden by P. G. Wodehouse*; (x) *A Damsel in Distress by P. G. Wodehouse*; (xi) *The Small Bachelor by P. G. Wodehouse*.
3. **Shri Paramhansa Yogananda, "Yogoda Math", P.O. Ariadaha, 24-Parganas, West Bengal**—(i) *Autobiography of a Yogi by Shri Paramhansa Yogananda*.
4. **The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahais of India, Pakistan and Burma, Post Box No. 19, New Delhi**, (i) *Baha Ullah and the New Era by J. E. Esslemont*; (ii) *This Earth, One Country by Emeric Sala*.
5. **The Principal Information Officer, Government of India, New Delhi**—(i) *Communist Menace in India (2 copies)*.
6. **The Chairman, Dr. Hardikar Diamond Jubilee Celebrations Committee, Congress House, Bombay 4**—(i) *Diamond Jubilee Souvenir of Dr. N. S. Hardikar (2 copies)*.

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