Kerala Agricultural University

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Notice

Sub: Election to the General Council – Method of Counting of votes – reg.

As per Kerala Agricultural University Act Section 10 (Act- 33 of 1971 as amended vide Act- 16 of 2001) under Elected members item (3) – (6), members are elected from a constituency to the General Council according to the principle of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.

The method of counting of votes in General Council Election according to the principle of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote is given below for the information of all.

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(1) Fractions and preferences. – In carrying out the provisions regarding the procedure for election hereinafter prescribed, –

(a) all fractions shall be disregarded; and
(b) all preferences recovered for candidates already elected or excluded from the poll shall be ignored.

(2) Division into parcels according to first preference. – After the invalid ballot papers, if any, have been rejected, the remaining papers shall be divided into parcels according to the first preferences recorded for each candidate and the number of papers in each parcel noted and credited to the concerned candidates' account.

(3) Quota. – The number of papers in all the parcels shall then be added together and the total divided by a number exceeding by one the number of vacancies to be filled by election and the quotient increased by one shall be the number sufficient to secure the return of candidates hereinafter call the "quota".

(4) When persons who obtained quota are declared elected. –

(1) If at the end of any count a number of candidates equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by election has obtained the quota, such candidates shall be treated as elected and no further steps shall be taken.

(2) A candidate, in whose parcel the number of votes on the first preference being counted is equal to or greater than the quota, shall be duly declared elected.

(3) If the number of papers in any such parcel is equal to the quota, the papers shall be set as finally disposed of.

(5) Transfer of surplus. —

(a) If the number of the papers in any such parcel is greater than the quota, the surplus shall be transferred to the continuing candidates so indicated in the ballot papers as next in the order of the voter's preference in the manner hereinafter prescribed.

(b) If more than one candidate has a surplus, the largest surplus shall be dealt with first and the others in the order of magnitude, provided that every surplus arising on the first count of votes shall be dealt with before those arising on the second count, and so on.

(c) Where two or more surpluses are equal, regard shall be had to the original votes of each candidate, and the candidate who is credited with the largest number of the original votes shall have his surplus first distributed and if their original votes are equal, the Returning Officer shall decide by lot which candidate shall have his surplus fist distributed.

(d) (i) if the surplus of any candidate to be transferred arises from original votes only, the Returning Officers shall examine all the papers in the parcel belonging to the candidate, divide the unexhausted papers into sub-parcels according to the next preference recorded thereon and make a separate sub-parcel of the exhausted papers.

(ii) The number of the papers in each sub-parcel and the total of all the unexhausted papers shall then be ascertained.

(iii) If the total number of the unexhausted papers is equal to or less than the surplus to be transferred, all the sub-parcels shall be transferred to the continuing candidates, the value of each paper so transferred being one.

(iv) If the total number unexhausted papers are greater than the surplus, the sub-parcels shall be transferred to the continuing candidates, and the value at which each paper shall be transferred shall be ascertained by dividing the surplus by the total number of unexhausted papers.

(e) If, in ascertaining the number of papers to be transferred from a sub-parcel, fractional parts are found to exist and if, owing to the existence of such fractional parts, the number of papers to be transferred is less than the surplus, as many of these fractional parts taken in the order of their magnitude, beginning with the largest, as are necessary to make the total number of papers to be transferred is less than the surplus, as many of those fractional parts taken in the order of their magnitude, beginning with the largest, as are necessary to make the total number of papers to be transferred equal to the surplus shall be reckoned as of the value of unity, and the remaining fractional parts shall be ignored. If two or more fractional parts are of equal magnitude, that fractional parts shall be deemed to be the larger which arise from the largest sub-parcel, and if the sub-parcels in question are equal in size, preference shall be given to the candidate who obtained the larger number of original votes.

(f) If the surplus of any candidate to be transferred arises from transferred as well as original votes, all the papers in the sub-parcel last transferred to the candidate shall be

examined and the exhausted papers divided into sub-parcels, according to the next preference recorded thereon. The sub-parcels shall be dealt with in the same manner as is provided in the case of the sub-parcels referred to in clause (4).

(g) The papers transferred to each candidate shall be added in the form of a sub-parcel to the papers already belonging to such candidate, and the value of such transferred votes credited to his account.

(h) All the papers in the parcel or sub-parcel of an elected candidate not transferred to any continuing candidate shall be set apart as finally disposed of.

(6) Exclusion of candidate lowest in the poll. —
(a) If, after all the surpluses have been transferred as hereinafter provided, the number of candidates elected is less than the required number, the Returning Officer shall exclude from the poll the candidate lowest on the poll and shall distribute his unexhausted papers among the continuing candidates according to the next preferences marked thereon and any exhausted paper shall be set apart as finally disposed of.

(b) The papers containing original votes of excluded candidates shall first be transferred, the transfer value of such paper being one.

(c) The papers containing the transferred votes of an excluded candidate shall then be transferred in the order of the transfers in which, and at the value at which he obtained them.

(d) Each of such transfer shall be deemed to be a separate transfer, but not a separate count.

(e) If the total of the votes of two or more candidates lowest on the poll together with any surplus votes transferred, is less than the votes credited to the next highest candidate, those candidates may in one operation be excluded from the poll and their votes transferred in accordance with the provisions in clauses (1) to (4).
(f) The above process shall be repeated on the successive exclusions one after another of the candidates lowest on the poll until the last vacancy is filled, either by the election of a candidate with the quota or as hereinafter provided.

(7) Completion for transfer when quota obtained. — If, as a result of a transfer of papers as detailed above, the number of votes obtained by a candidate is equal or greater than the quota, then the transfer proceeding shall be completed and no further papers shall be transferred to him.

(8) Procedure in the case of candidates obtaining votes equal to or greater than the quota. —

(1) After the completion of any transfer as detailed above, the number of votes of any candidate is equal to or greater than the quota, he shall be declared elected.

(2) If the number of the votes of any candidates is equal to the quota, the whole of the papers on which such votes are recorded shall be set aside as finally disposed of.

(3) If the number of the votes of any such candidate is greater than the quota, his surplus shall thereupon be distributed in the manner hereinbefore provided, before the exclusion of any other candidate.

(9) When continuing candidates are declared elected. — When at the end of any count, the number of continuing candidates is reduced to the number of vacancies remaining unfilled the continuing candidates shall be declared elected.

(10) When the number of votes of one candidate exceeds the total votes of the other candidates. — When at the end of any count only one vacancy remains unfilled and the number of votes of anyone candidate exceeds the total of all the votes of the other continuing candidates together with any surplus not transferred, the candidates shall be declared elected.

(11) When continuing candidates have equal number of votes. — When at the end of any count only one vacancy remains unfilled and there are only two continuing candidates and each of them has the same value of votes and no surplus remains capable of transfer, the Returning Officer shall decide by lots which of them shall be excluded, and after the exclusion of one of the candidates by drawing lots the other candidate shall be declared elected.

(12) Exclusion of candidate when two or more candidates have equal number of votes. — If at any time it becomes necessary to exclude a candidate and two or more candidates have the same number of votes and are lowest on the poll, regard shall be had to the original votes of each candidates, and the candidate for whom the lowest original votes are recorded shall be first excluded; and if their original votes are equal, the Returning Officer shall decide by lot which candidates shall be excluded.

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Returning Officer & Registrar

To

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