(C) **GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU** 2022

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Part VI—Section 2

Notifications or Orders of interest to a section of the public issued by Heads of Departments, etc.

NOTIFICATIONS BY HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, ETC.

TAMIL NADU STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, CHENNAI-600 106.

No.VI(2)/18(c)/2022.

[ELECTIONS - URBAN LOCAL BODY ORDINARY ELECTIONS, 2022 - THOOTHUKUDI DISTRICT, KADAMBUR TOWN PANCHAYAT - REPORT RECEIVED FROM THE DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER AND THE ELECTION OBSERVER - ACTION OF THE RETURNING OFFICER AND THE ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TAMIL NADU TOWN PANCHAYATS, MUNICIPALITIES AND CORPORATIONS (ELECTIONS) RULES, 2006 - CANCELLATION OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE RETURNING OFFICER AND THE ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS - ORDERS ISSUED.1

(S.O.No.19/2022/TNSEC/ME1, Dated the 7th February 2022)

READ:

- S.O.No.5/2022/TNSEC/ME1, Dated 26.1.2022 as published in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette Exordinary No.69, Dated 28.1.2022.
- 2. Report received from the District Election Officer/District Collector, Thoothukudi, No. t 10/27535/2021, Dated 7.2.2022.
- Tamil Nadu State Election Commission letter No.1343/2022/gfp Dated 7.2.2022 addressed to the 3. Election Observer, Thoothukudi District.
- Report from the Election Observer, Thoothukudi District, Dated 7.2.2022.

ORDER:

WHEREAS, the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission, inter-alia, notified Ordinary Elections to Kadambur Town Panchayat, Thoothukudi District to elect their Ward Members scheduled to be held on 19.2.2022 in the Notification first

WHEREAS, the District Election Officer/District Collector, Thoothukudi has reported that the Returning Officer and the Assistant Returning Officers have not acted as per the procedures by explaining the situation and serious lapses during the process of elections vide reference 2nd read above;

WHEREAS, based on the report of the District Election Officer, the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission called for the report of the Election Observer vide reference 3rd read above;

WHEREAS, the Observer while agreeing the report of the District Election Officer and recommended that the electoral process in respect of Kadambur Town Panchayat should be cancelled and that the Returning Officer and the Assistant Returning Officers should be replaced to infuse confidence for conducting free and fair local body election in the Kadambur Town Panchayats vide reference 4th read above;

WHEREAS, it is observed from the reports of the District Election Officer and the Election Observer that the Retuning Officer has left the office on the day of scrutiny around 1.00 p.m. without discharging his statutory obligations and the Assistant Returning Officers also closed office of the Returning Officer on the day of scrutiny i.e. on 5.2.2022 and left the office around 3.45 p.m. without discharging their statutory obligations and without sending the Statutory Reports;

WHEREAS, it is observed by the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission that there are serious lapses on the procedures being followed in the process of election in respect of Wards of Kadambur Town Panchayat, Thoothukudi District by the concerned Returning Officer and the Assistant Returning Officers; and

WHEREAS, based on the report of the District Election Officer, Thoothukudi District and the recommendation of the Election Observer, Thoothukudi District, the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission has decided to cancel all the proceedings of the Returning Officer and the Assistant Returning Officers of the Kadambur Town Panchayat, Thoothukudi District:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission, in pursuance of rule 139 of the Tamil Nadu Town Panchayats, Municipalities and Corporations (Elections) Rules, 2006, hereby orders that all the election proceedings of the Returning Officer and the Assistant Returning Officers in respect of all the Wards of the Kadambur Town Panchayat, Thoothukudi District alone stands cancelled.

(By Order of the Tamil Nadu State Election Commission)

Chennai-600 106, 7th February 2022. E. SUNDARAVALLI,

Secretary,

Tamil Nadu State Election Commission.