

**ELECTION DEPARTMENT: MANIPUR
ANNUAL ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: 2011-2012**

1. INTRODUCTION:

1.1. The State Election Department is a single cadre non-plan department with total staff strength of 167 posts of 20 various categories with Chief Electoral Officer, Manipur as Head of the Department. Joint Chief Electoral Officer, Manipur is the Drawing & Disbursing Officer (DDO) of CEO's Office, Manipur. **Shri P.C.Lawmkunga, IAS (MT-79)** is currently holding the charge of Chief Electoral Officer, Manipur. **Shri N. Praveen Singh, MCS** is the Joint Chief Electoral Officer, Manipur. **Shri K. Bono Singh, MCS** is the Assistant Chief Electoral Officer, Manipur.

1.2. There are 24 branch offices where the election staff and Officers are attached/posted. The offices are the offices of Deputy Commissioners of 9(nine) Districts and the offices of ADCs of Jiribam and Kangpokpi and SDOs/EROs of Lamphel, Patsoi, Lamsang, Wangoi, Porompat, Sawombung, Keirao Bitra, Nambol, Bishnupur, Moirang, Thoubal, Lilong and Kakching.

1.3. The Chief Electoral Officer, Manipur is the Head of the Election Department. He is appointed by the Election Commission of India from a panel of Officers furnished by the State Government. The Chief Electoral Officer, who is directly responsible to the Election Commission of India, has the statutory responsibility of supervising the preparation of electoral rolls and conduct of Assembly, Parliamentary and Presidential elections in the State and assisting the Delimitation Commission in the delimitation of Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies subject to the overall control, direction and supervision of the Election Commission of India.

1.4. DCs are the EROs in the 5(five) Hill Districts, Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Kangpokpi and the Sub-Divisional Officers (SDOs) in the 4(four) Valley Districts and the Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Jiribam are the EROs in the Valley Districts. There are altogether 20(twenty) EROs in Manipur State. It is to point out that the Sub-Divisional Officers (SDOs) in the Hill Districts and most of the Sub-Deputy Collectors (SDCs) in Valley Districts are the Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs). There are a total of 54 (fifty four) AEROs in the State. The EROs are directly responsible for preparation, maintenance and revision of Photo Electoral Rolls of all A.Cs within their respective jurisdiction.

1.5. In Hill Districts, the Deputy Commissioners function as the District Election Officers/Electoral Registration Officers/Returning Officers for the purpose of Assembly Elections. The ADC/Jiribam and ADC/Kangpokpi are also functioning as the Electoral Registration Officers and Returning Officers for the Assembly Elections. In Valley Districts, the Deputy Commissioners function as the District Election Officers and the Sub-Divisional Officers function as Electoral Registration Officers/Returning Officers for the Assembly Elections. However, for the Parliamentary Election to the Lok Sabha, by a Notification dated 20/01/2009, DC/Imphal West is the Returning Officer for No1-Inner Manipur Parliamentary Constituency and DC/Thoubal is the Returning Officer for No.2-Outer Manipur (ST) Parliamentary Constituency. All other DCs and ADCs Jiribam and Kangpokpi are the Assistant Returning Officers besides the Sub-Divisional Officers of all valley districts.



MAIN FUNCTIONS:

The main functions of the State Election Department are:

- (a) Preparation of Photo Electoral Rolls for all 60 Assembly Segments of the two Parliamentary Constituencies of the State
- (b) Preparation and issue of Electors Photo Identity Cards (EPICs),
- (c) Conduct of Election to the House of People and State Legislative Assemblies as well as the Presidential and Vice Presidential Elections and
- (d) To assist the Delimitation Commission in the delimitation of Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies.
- (e) Appointment of statutory Officers like ROs, AROs, EROs, AEROs etc.
- (f) And any other election related works assigned by the Commission from time to time.

In all such works, the programmes and execution of the works are undertaken under the superintendence, direction and control of the Election Commission of India.

3. STAFF STRENGTH:

The Chief Electoral Officer has supporting staff strength of 167 numbers including Joint CEO and Asst.CEO and another 13 Election Officers. As on **31st January, 2012**, Election Department's staff strength is as below:

Name of Post	Sanctioned Strength	Actual Strength
Jt. CEO (MCS Gr.I)	1	1
Asstt. CEO (MCS)	1	1
Election Officer(Jr.MCS)	13	3
Private Secretary	1	1
Computer Programmer	1	0
Assistant Computer Programmer	1	1
Statistical Assistant	1	1
Election Supervisor	11	11
Computer Operator	1	1
Senior Accountant	1	1
Head Clerk	1	1
Draughtsman	1	1
UDC	13	12
LDC	5	4
ERC	78	70
Driver	3	3
Daftry	1	0
Grade IV	33	30
Total	167	142

Normally, one Election Officer each is posted at the office of DCs/DEOs in all districts. However, due to shortage of officers, no Election Officers are posted as on date in CEO's Office, Imphal East, Ukhrul, Senapati, Tamenglong and Churachandpur districts.

4. ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPORTANT EVENTS:

The most important achievement during the financial year 2011-2012 is the successful conduct of General Election to 10th Manipur Legislative Assembly. Some of the

achievements and important events of the department during the year are highlighted below:

(A).CONDUCT OF SPECIAL SUMMARY REVISION OF ELECTORAL ROLLS -2012:

The Special Summary Revision of Photo Rolls with reference to 01-01-2012 as the qualifying date was conducted in respect of Manipur State with the following schedule:

Sl.No	Stages of Revision	Period for each stage
1.	Draft Publication of Rolls	29-09-2011 (Thursday)
2.	Period of filing claims and objections	29-09-2011 (Thursday) to 29-10-2011 (Saturday)
3.	Reading of relevant part/section of photo electoral rolls in Gram Sabha/ Local Bodies and RWA meetings etc & verification of names	07-10-2011(Friday) and 10-10-2011(Monday)
4.	Special Campaign dates with Booth Level Agents of political parties for receiving Claims and Objections	09-10-2011(Sunday) 16-10-2011(Sunday)and 23-10-2011(Sunday)
5.	Disposal of Claims and Objections	By 28-11-2011 (Monday)
6.	Updating the database, merging of photographs, updating the Control Tables and preparation and printing of supplementary list	28-11-2011 (Monday) to 28-12-2011(Wednesday)
7.	Final Publication of Electoral Rolls	02-01-2012(Monday)

The Election Department, Manipur conducted the above Special Summary Revision of Photo Rolls smoothly. The total voters in Manipur as per the Final Rolls-2012 were **1741518** constituting **63%** of the projected population of the State. The current PER and EPIC coverage is **97.033%**. The Department is striving hard to achieve the Election Commission of India's target to achieve **100%** PER and EPIC coverage before draft publication of Electoral Rolls for the next revision.

(B). NATIONAL VOTERS DAY:

The National Voters' Day, the foundation day of Election Commission of India was observed on **25th January 2012** in Manipur State in a befitting manner. The State level function was observed at Bhaighyachandra Open Air Theatre (BOAT), Imphal with the State Election Commissioner as the Chief Guest. Dr. Alok Shukla, Deputy Election Commissioner, Election Commission of India attended the function as Special Guest. The Day was also observed at all 9(nine) District Headquarters, Kangpokpi & Jiribam.

120 new electors were felicitated with a badge with ECI's logo with the slogan '**Proud to be a voter – Ready to vote**' alongwith with their EPIC. Quiz Competitions were conducted at District and State levels.

(C). BASELINE SURVEY:

A Baseline Survey of knowledge, Attitude, Behaviour and Practices (KABP) of Electors in Manipur was conducted as per the direction of the Election Commission of India by engaging Department of Political Science, Manipur University, Canchipur. Many useful behavioural patterns of electors were found out during the survey.

(D). Electoral Roll Management System (ERMS):

ERMS, which was launched in 2011 to enable public to submit claims for inclusions, deletions, corrections, transposition and tract the status of the claims was consciously popularized through SVEEP Campaigns during Pre-Revision and Revision periods. All accepted and rejected forms after disposal by the concerned EROs during the Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls-2012 uploaded on the website.

(E). Public Grievances Redressal System (PGR):

Call Centre with dedicated telephone line having a toll free number -1950 was opened in CEO office and 11 Public Grievances Cells opened in the Districts to receive complains lodged by the public regarding Roll Revision and Conduct of Elections.

Year	EP Ratio	Gender Ratio	Percentage of electors in 18-19 yrs. In E/Roll	PER	EPIC	Bogus/ Duplicate electors detected
2010	59	1054	0.61	79.54	79.54	72761
2011	60	1052	0.46	91.27	91.27	2002
2012	62.77	1045	1.14	97.033	97.033	16550

(F). RATIONALIZATION OF POLLING STATION:

Rationalization of Polling Stations was taken up in consultation with the stake holders in order to avoid voters from travelling long distances in difficult terrains to cast vote, overcrowding at the polling stations, and to stop interested people for preventing voters from certain vulnerable communities from exercising their right to vote.

Sl. No.	District	No. of Polling Stations before rationalization	No. of Polling Stations after rationalization
1.	Imphal East	355	357
2.	Imphal West	369	391
3.	Bishnupur	193	196
4.	Thoubal	297	361
5.	Chandel	122	131
6.	Ukhul	164	179
7.	Senapati	318	323
8.	Tamenglong	130	146
9.	Churachandpur	247	273
	Total	2195	2357*

* Excludes 8 (eight) Auxiliary Polling Stations 6 (six) in Churachandpur and 2 (two) in Imphal West.

(G). GPS MAPPING OF POLLING STATIONS:

GPS mapping of all polling stations in the State with technical inputs from Manipur Remote Sensing and Applications Centre (MARSAC), Imphal was completed well before the announcement of the Election. This is one of the first of its kind in the country. This system was of immense convenience as it can pinpoint the location of polling stations, polling areas, distances, elevations, routes to be taken, etc. It also provided the location of police stations, hospitals, post offices around the polling stations. It was found very useful especially for the poll parties and security to advance towards their assigned polling stations.

(F). COMMISSION'S VISITS:

The full Commission visited Manipur three times on August 5th 2011, from December 15th to 16th 2011 and on January 5th 2012 to oversee the poll preparedness. During the Commission's visits, meetings were held with representatives of Political Parties, Election Officials, Police DEOs and SsP. These visits sent strong and positive message to all the stakeholders about the seriousness of the Commission to conduct free, fair and peaceful

election. During its third visit, a meeting was held to discuss matters which required coordination and cooperation among the neighboring States in order to ensure a free and fair election. CSs/DGPs/CEOs of Assam, Nagaland and Mizoram, along with CS and DGP of Manipur were present in the meeting.

(G). SYSTEMATIC VOTERS EDUCATION AND ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION (SVEEP) CAMPAIGN:

To motivate voters to participate in the election in large number, as also to woo newly eligible young people to enroll as voters, a Systematic campaign for voters' education (SVEEP) was launched on a large scale. Local TV channel, NCC, NSS, NYKs and Song & Drama division of the State Government were associated to launch campaign with the fund provided by CEO's office. Brand Ambassadors and Partner Agencies tremendously helped in motivating the electors and promoting ethical voting. Popular personalities from film and sports world were also roped in to organize road-shows and to visit nine districts spreading the message of participation in voting and honest exercise of franchise.

(H). PHOTOGRAPHY OF VOTERS INSIDE THE POLLING STATIONS:

Meanwhile, one of the areas of concern was the alleged incidence of bogus voting in the previous elections. In order to curb this malpractice the Commission directed use of still cameras to take photographs of a voters inside the Polling Stations. For this purpose, the Election Deptt of Manipur procured 2623 Lemon Mobile cameras. This new mechanism was found largely effective in that discouraged bogus voting and impersonation. It is therefore little wonder that the State voter turnout percentage (2012) stood at **79.96%** only as compared to **86.37%** in 2007 Assembly Election.

(I). WEBCASTING • POLLING STATIONS AND COUNTING CENTRES:

To provide transparency and also to prevent multiple and bogus voting, a system of webcasting was taken up in **60(sixty) highly critical polling stations** on the day of poll. Likewise, counting activities in **14 counting centres** also were webcast on the day of counting.

(J). EXPENDITURE MONITORING: Elaborate arrangements for training the stake holders on Election Expenditure Monitoring Mechanism were made at State, District and Sub-District levels. Expenditure monitoring mechanism was in place with a good number of IRS officers, Income Tax Officials. Flying Squads, Video Surveillance Teams, Video Viewing Team, Static Surveillance Teams, and Accounting Teams etc, covering all nine districts and Imphal airport. Control Rooms and Call Centres were set up at the District HQs, This tight arrangement to check flow of unaccounted money and illegal transaction of cash paid off inasmuch as Rs 1,08,0000/- had been seized.

With strict implementation of Model Code of Conduct and expenditure, the level of political campaign was in a low key which created the peaceful atmosphere for the public.

(K). Postal Ballot Facility for Cadres of Groups under Suspension of Operation (SoD) Agreement with the Government of Manipur:

For the first time, facility of voting through Postal Ballot was provided at **16 designated camps** for UGs under Suspension of Operation (SoO) Agreement with the Government of Manipur.