

Speed post/E-mail

**No. CEA-12011/125/2024
Government of India
Ministry of Cooperation
The Co-operative Election Authority**

**09th Floor, Tower E, World Trade Centre
Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi -110029
Dated: 3rd April, 2025**

Election No.1/2025-26

ORDER

Sub: Conduct of election of the Deshbhakta Ratnapanna Kumbhar Panchaganga Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd.

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 45 K (1) of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (MSCS) Act 2002, (as amended by the MSCS amendment Act 2023) read with Rule 19F (a) of the MSCS Rules 2002, the Co-operative Election Authority (CEA), appointed District Magistrate/Collector, Kolhapur as Returning Officer on 05.12.2024 and also issued the Election program from 27.12.2024 to 27.01.2025 to elect 17 Board of Directors & other office bearers.

2. The Returning Officer submitted Format 19 M under the Rule 19M (1) of MSCS Rules vide his letter dated 21.01.2025 for seeking approval of the Cooperative Election Authority for Board of Directors.

3. The Authority under Rule 19 (M) (14) examined the recommendations and observed that there are large number of rejections of nominations and number of valid nominations are equal to the number of directors to be elected. Therefore, Authority sought the details of nominations accepted & rejected from RO.

4. From the response of RO, the following details emerged:

a)	Total nominations received	= 104
b)	Number of double nominations	= 15
c)	Number of Rejected nominations	= 48
d)	Number of withdrawals	= 24
e)	Number of remaining nominations	= 17



5. To seek further clarifications, the CEA interacted with the RO on 28.02.2025 through VC on alleged high number of rejection of nominations. During the VC meeting RO clarified that nominations have been scrutinized by ARO. Authority requested RO to reverify the process and documents of scrutiny and submit a report. RO submitted his report dated 04.03.2025 after reverification of the documents. RO stated that he has considered the following Bye-Laws which are as follows:-

“Bye-Laws No.22(g): A Member Ceases to be member for following reasons.

On failure to supply cane to the Karkhana continuously for three years.

Bye-Laws No.31(A)(4): The Qualifications for contesting election under bye-laws No.29(A) shall be as follows.

(2) He must have supplied crushing his entire cane or cane requisitioned by the Karkhana under bye-laws No.18(A) for at least four years in preceding period (i.e.5 years) to the year of election.”

6. The Authority also considered the Bye-Laws No.31A (4) (10) for qualification for contesting Election and proposer and seconder, which is as under:

“Applicant, Proposer and Secunder must have registered and supplied for crushing their entire cane or cane requisitioned by Karkhana under Bye-Law No. 18(A) for at least four out of five years preceding to the year of election or have not dealt with such cane by supplying it to other Karkhana or otherwise in violation of any rules and bye-laws of Karkhana, for any of the crushing seasons since last election.”

7. As reported by the RO in his letter dated 04.03.2025 that he had relaxed condition of “four years out of five years proceeding to the year of election” to “two seasons out of remaining three seasons proceeding to the year of election” in case of proposer and seconder.

8. The Authority in its meeting held on 28th March, 2025 considered relaxation given by RO and the comments of the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies. Authority invoked power granted under Section 45L of the MSCS Act 2002 and directed that imposing additional requirement of product and services for proposer and seconder, even if forming part of Bye-Laws, was inconsistent with MSCS Act/Rule and decided that the role of the proposer and the seconder, is for the purpose of identification of the candidate and the condition for supply of product and services equivalent to that of candidate cannot be fastened. By providing additional qualifications to proposer or seconder, it creates certain type of restriction and does not facilitate free and fair polls. It was further decided that elections may be reconvened from the stage of inviting nominations afresh in which there shall not be any additional condition for proposer and seconder for supply of product and services equivalent to the contesting candidates. Proposer and seconder have to be a member only and not disqualified for a member as per Section 29 of MSCS Act 2002 (as amended in 2023).



9. Accordingly, a revised Election Programme has been issued beginning from 29th April, 2025. The Election Programme shall commence from issuance and filing of nomination form.

10. Returning Officer shall ensure that the Society prominently displays the **Election Programme and Final List of the Contesting Candidates**, and other related important documents on the website of the Society prominently on the right-hand top corner of website in a box under the heading of "ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICE BEARERS" for enabling free, fair and transparent elections.

11. Wide publicity be given for holding of Elections in terms of provision of the MSCS Act and the rules framed thereunder.

12. All other stipulated conditions relating to election are given in order dated 05.12.2024 remain unchanged.

13. The revised election programme is enclosed.

This issues with the approval of Cooperative Election Authority.

By Order

(Authorized Signatory)

On behalf of Cooperative Election Authority

To,

District Collector / District Magistrate,
Office of District Collector, Kolhapur
New Shahupuri, Kolhapur, Maharashtra 416003
Office Phone No. – 0231-2654811
Email – collector.kolhapur@maharashtra.gov.in



Copy to:

1. The Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director of Deshbhakta Ratnapanna Kumbhar Panchaganga Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd, Kolhapur, Ganganagar-Ichalkaranji, Dist.-Kolhapur, Maharashtra-416116. Email-pmp6161@yahoo.com
This may be ensured by C.E.O / M.D that the following documents must be uploaded on Official Website of the Society.

- i. Order of CEA for appointment of Returning Officer and election programme.
- ii. Notification issued by Returning Officer giving details of election schedule and details of constituency etc.
- iii. Provisional list of Members/Delegates who are eligible to vote.
- iv. Publication of final list of Members/Delegates who are eligible to vote.
- v. List of nomination received by the Returning Officers constituency-wise.
- vi. List of nomination which has been rejected along with reasons for rejection.

- vii. Publication of final list of contesting candidates.
- viii. Declaration of result of Board of Directors.
- ix. New Board of Directors and its Office Bearers.

Copy also to:

1. The Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Govt. of Maharashtra & Karnataka
2. The Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies. – for info please
3. NIC-for uploading on CRCS website



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Issue Date: 3rd April, 2025

Election No.1/2025-26

Election Program

Attachment of the Order no.CEA-12011/125/2024 dtd. 3rd April, 2025 for conduct of election.

Order No. CLP/12011/123/2024 dt. 3rd April, 2025 for conduct of election.

(A) General Information			
Name of MSCS	Deshbhakta Ratnapanna Kumbhar Panchaganga Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd		
Registration Number	G-272/1955		
Returning Officer	District Magistrate / Collector, Kolhapur		
Post for which election being held	Board Member- 17 (General-14, SC/ST-1 & Women-2) and Office Bearers-2 (Chairman-1 & Vice-Chairman-1)		
Operation Area	Maharashtra & Karnataka		
Regular Member	25616 (Producer-24284, non-producer-1210, Society-122)		
Polling Booth	RO to ensure adequate booths in each state, if polling held		
Constituency	Bye-Law no.	Name of Constituency	Directors to be elected
	29(a)	Producer Member	12 General, Women-2 & 1 SC/ST
	29(b)	Ordinary Member	2 General (one of whom shall be representative of Cooperative Society & the other shall be the representative of individual member)
	Total		17
(B) Election program for Board of Directors			
SL. No.	Particulars	Date	Time
1	Issue and Filing of Nomination Form	29 th April, 2025 to 03 rd May, 2025 (Tuesday to Saturday)	11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
2	Publication of List of Nominations Received	03 rd May, 2025 (Saturday)	5:00 PM
3	Scrutiny of Received Nomination Forms	05 th May, 2025 (Monday)	11:00 AM onwards
4	Publication of List of Valid Nominations after scrutiny	05 th May, 2025 (Monday)	
5	Withdrawal of Nominations	06 th May, 2025 (Tuesday)	11:00 AM to 3:00 PM



6	Publication of Final List of Contesting Candidates	06 th May, 2025 (Tuesday)	5:00 PM
7	Date of Polling, if Necessary	11 th May, 2025 (Sunday)	8:00 AM to 04:00 PM and all those who have entered polling station at 04 PM or before should be allowed to cast vote. Adequate number of polling booths to be set up.
8	Counting of votes	12 th May, 2025 (Monday)	08:00 AM Onwards
9	Declaration of Result of Board of Directors	14 th May, 2025 (Wednesday)	After approval of Cooperative Election Authority, New Delhi on Format 19M
(C) Election Program of Office Bearer			
1	Announcement of Election Schedule I. Time window for filing nomination II. Scrutiny of nomination papers III. Time and date for withdrawal IV. Display of list of the contesting candidate and schedule of election	19 th May, 2025 (Monday)	After Declaration of Result of Board Members' Election
2	Meeting of Newly Constituted Board & Publication of List for valid Nominations, Polling (if required)	21 st May, 2025 (Wednesday)	11:00 AM Onwards
3	Declaration of Result of Election of Office Bearers	After approval of Cooperative Election Authority, New Delhi on Format 19N	

This issues with the approval of Cooperative Election Authority



Harinder

(Authorized Signatory)