

9th Floor, Tower-E, World Trade Centre,
Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi – 110 029.

Dated: 16th October, 2025.

ORDER

Subject: - Revised norms for payment of remuneration to Returning Officer (RO)/Asstt. Returning Officer (ARO) for conduct of elections of Multi State Cooperative Societies (MSCS).

CEA is paying remuneration to Returning Officer (RO), Asstt. Returning Officer (ARO) and Polling Officer as per the Office Order dated 3rd June, 2024. As per this order RO and ARO are paid not more than 15 days of basic pay as honorarium.

2. As per Rule 19T of the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 as amended in 2023, the dues of the remuneration have to be paid by Society to Cooperative Election Authority (CEA) and CEA in turn pays to RO based on the claims submitted by the Returning Officer.

3. During the process of release of funds, the following aspects have come to the notice of the Authority:

- 1) There is wide variation in the basic pay structure of Returning Officers. Due to this reason, the payment of 15 days' basic pay may range between Rs.98,000/- to Rs.39,000/- depending upon the seniority of the District Magistrates in the respective districts. In few cases, the remuneration paid to ARO is higher than the Returning Officer.
- 2) The rate of remuneration is same even if the elections are not contested. There is no substantial activity after the stage of nomination process. The rates claimed are same for contesting elections as well as uncontested elections.
- 3) Even in case of casual vacancy, say for one Director, the same rate is paid to the Returning Officer. Similarly, casual vacancy of Office Bearers also results into the same amount of payment.
- 4) The society's HQ is concentrated at State Capitals or at those districts which have history of cooperative movements. It results into conduct of multiple election by same RO/ARO.

4. The Authority is in receipt of representation from newly registered societies expressing their inability to pay such large amount due to lack of adequate resources with the newly formed society. Their economic activity may be at nascent stage of development. They have requested that they may be exempted from such remuneration.

5. The matter has been examined in detail and it has been decided to adopt a graded structure for payment of remuneration as proposed in the table below:

S.No.	Nature of Election	Contest for the position	Uncontested election
1.	Regular election of Board of Directors including Office Bearers.		
	A. All societies in Schedule II.	Rs.50,000/-	Rs.25,000/-
	B. Multi State Cooperative Banks.	Rs.50,000/-	Rs.25,000/-
	C. Societies where elections of delegates or election to RGH (constitution of Representative General Body) is involved.	Rs.50,000/-	Rs.25,000/-
2.	Regular election of Board of Directors including Office Bearers of all other societies.	Rs.40,000/-	Rs.20,000/-
3.	Casual Vacancy of Board of Directors.	Rs.10,000/-	Rs.10,000/-
4.	Casual Vacancy of Office Bearers.	Rs.10,000/-	Rs.10,000/-
5.	Election of newly registered societies with less than 250 members.	Rs.10,000/-	Rs.10,000/-

6. There will be no change in the rate of honorarium of Polling personnel which is fixed at present at Rs.1,000/- per election. Additionally, PA to RO or Data Entry Operator would also be treated as Polling Personnel and eligible to Rs.1,000/- per election.

7. This order would be effective from 01.11.2025, where the date of poll is on or after 01.11.2025.

8. This issues with the approval of Cooperative Election Authority.

By Order

Copy. 16/10/2025.
(Section Officer)

Cooperative Election Authority Officer

Ministry of Cooperation
Government of India
Cooperative Election Authority
No. 1, Sector 1, Faridabad, Haryana-121001
Phone: 0171-2222222, Fax: 0171-2222222
E-mail: ceao@cooperative.gov.in

Copy to:

1. All ROs/AROs appointed by CEA.
2. All MD/CEO of MSCS Societies.
3. All RCSs of States.

Copy also to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation.
2. CRCS.
3. Internal circulation to all Officers/Staff.
4. NIC – for posting on the Website.