



2025:DHC:9307



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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**% **Date of Decision: 17.10.2025**+ W.P.(C) 16121/2025, CM APPL. 66009/2025 & CM APPL.
66010/2025RATHINA SABAPATHI PRESIDENT PARTY FOR THE RIGHT
OF OTHER BACKWARD CLASSESPetitionerThrough: Mr. Raghaev, Adv. with Ms. Utkarsh
Srivastava, Adv.

versus

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA & ANR.Respondents

Through: Mr. Sidhant Kumar and Ms. Shagun
Chopra, Advs. for R-1**CORAM:****HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE MINI PUSHKARNA****MINI PUSHKARNA, J. (ORAL):**

1. The present writ petition has been filed by the petitioner being a President of a political party, i.e., '*Party for the Rights of Other Backward Classes*', seeking appropriate directions from this Court to respondent no. 1, i.e. Election Commission of India ("ECI"), for expeditious consideration and disposal of the petitioner's application for registration of the said political party under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
2. It is submitted that the petitioner's party was constituted and officially adopted through a General Body Meeting held on 09th April, 2025 in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, wherein, the party name, constitution, objectives, and office bearers were unanimously confirmed. Thereafter, an application



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was duly submitted to the ECI on 29th April, 2025, seeking registration under Section 29A of the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951.

3. The present petition has been filed on account of the fact that the state assembly elections in Tamil Nadu are likely to be announced in January, 2026. Thus, it is submitted that delay in registration might prevent the party from contesting the elections under a common symbol. In view of the said fact, the present writ petition has been filed.

4. Issue notice. Notice is accepted by learned counsel appearing for the respondents.

5. Learned counsel appearing for the respondents has handed over a copy of the letter dated 13th October, 2025, written to the Chief Electoral Officer, Tamil Nadu, which is reproduced as under:

NOTE # 6 (Attachment : Letter.pdf)
Item 38(R) 17/10

By Speed Post/By Email.

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi - 110001.

F. No. 56/081/2025/PPS-I
To
The Chief Electoral Officer,
Tamil Nadu,
Chennai-600 009.

Date: 13th October, 2025.

Subject: - Application for registration of "Party for the Rights of Other Backward Classes" as a political party under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951- Regarding.



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Sir,

I am directed to state that the registration of political parties with the Commission is governed by the provisions of Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. An association or body of Indian citizens that intends to get itself registered with the Commission has to make an application with the Commission submitting/furnishing the documents/particulars as prescribed by the Commission in its Guidelines for Registration of Political Parties.

2. An application for registration has been received from a party under the name "Party for the Rights of Other Backward Classes".

3. You are requested to get a physical verification done through the concerned DEO and furnish information on the following point of the applicant party: -

(i) Whether the 20 (twenty) individual affidavits submitted by the applicant (copy enclosed), have been sworn by the person concerned and the particulars mentioned therein are correct in all respects. While carrying out such verification, furnish the supporting documents in respect of verification i.e. "a written statement with signature from the member stating whether he/she is a member of the party or not" along with the countersignatures and seal of verifying officers.

4. The above mentioned information may please be furnished to the Commission within 30 days from the date of issue of this letter.

Encls:

Copy to: Guard File.

Yours faithfully,

(MANISH KUMAR)
UNDER SECRETARY
Telephone no.- 011-23052008

6. By referring to the aforesaid letter, learned counsel appearing for the respondents submits that the ECI has already written to the Chief Electoral Officer, Tamil Nadu for the purposes of physical verification in terms of the aforesaid letter.

7. He submits that the requisite information has been requested within a period of thirty days, and the ECI is still awaiting the requisite information from the Chief Electoral Officer, Tamil Nadu.



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8. At this stage, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submits that the petitioner shall be satisfied, if directions are issued to the respondents to act in a time-bound manner.
9. Accordingly, it is directed that the respondents shall complete the verification process, expeditiously, preferably, within a period of six weeks, from today.
10. After the verification process, requisite action shall be taken by the respondents for the purposes of registration of the party in question.
11. With the aforesaid directions, the present writ petition, along with the pending applications, stands disposed of.

MINI PUSHKARNA, J

OCTOBER 17, 2025/KR