

## THE INDIAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY

## **Division of Agronomy ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute** New Delhi 110 012



No. ISA/Election/2020/02

Dr A K Choubey Returning Officer & **ICAR Emeritus Professor**  Dated: 01-04-2020

## MOST IMPORTANT

Subject: Partial modification in the Notification No. ISA/Election/2020/01 dated 01.02.2020 due to unprecedented and critical situation prevailing in the Country on account of COVID -19 Pandemic

The ISA Election for the Biennium 2020 & 2021 for various positions is in final progress stage as per Notification No. ISA/Election/2020/01 Dated 01.02.2020. As per the Notification, the last date of receipt of postal Ballots/e-Ballots is 03.04.2020 (5.00 PM). Presently, the Country as well as the whole World is passing through unprecedented threat to the mankind in the form of CORONA VIRUS (COVID - 19). This has forced the Central and the State Governments to enforce "Janta Curfew" on 22.03.2020 followed by Complete Lockdown effective from 25.03.2020 to 14.04.2020 for all Govt. and non-Government organizations. The transport services i.e. Trains, Buses and Flights, etc. have been stopped by the Government to contain the spread of the COVID - 19. Except essential services, nothing is allowed by the Government to continue during the Lockdown period till 14.04.2020. Besides, it is also not possible to predict the date of complete withdrawal of the Lockdown in the prevailing conditions.

Under such circumstances, it has been brought to our knowledge by ISA members that at majority of the places postal ballots have not been delivered and even not a single postal ballot or undelivered postal ballot has been received by the undersigned after 21.03.2020 as transport services have been suspended throughout the Country and only skeletal Postal services are in operation. Due to Lockdown, many online Voters are not able to access the internet/computer services. Therefore, a number of Voters and Contestants have requested to extend the last date of receipt of postal Ballots/e-Ballots for a reasonable period so as to give appropriate opportunities to the Voters to cast their votes.

In view of the unprecedented and critical situation prevailing in the Country, it has become imperative to extend the Last Date for receiving Postal Ballots, E-Voting and Declaration of Results of ISA Election for the biennium 2020 and 2021 so as to provide reasonable opportunities to the ISA Voters to cast their votes in free and fair manner. Based on the suggestions/inputs received from the majority of the Contestants, following modifications have been made in the Notification No. ISA/Election/2020/01 Dated 01.02.2020.

i.	Last date of receipt of Ballot Paper		15 days after withdrawal of the Lockdown in the Country
	through post by the Returning Officer	Taran en 131	(which is 14.04.2020 as of now*)
ii.	End of E-Voting time	:	07 days after withdrawal of the Lockdown in the Country
	(Last date of receipt of e-Ballots)		(which is 14.04.2020 as of now*)
iii.	Vote counting	:	16 days after withdrawal of the Lockdown in the Country (which is 14.04.2020 as of now*)
iv.	Declaration of results	:	16 days after withdrawal of the Lockdown in the Country (which is 14.04.2020 as of now*)

<sup>\*</sup>date will stand extended automatically, if the Lockdown is extended by the Government

( A K Choubey)

Returning Officer for ISA Election (2020 and 2021)

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Copt to: All ISA Members and Contestants ISA website www.isa-india.in.