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**REPORT OF THE R.O FOR THE PERIOD STARTING WITH ISSUE OF NOTIFICATION
AND DISPATCH OF POSTAL BALLOT PAPER.**

Notification calling the general election and intimating the members, about the dates of election process, were issued on the 1.11.2018 and of the 3214 letters issued, about 326 in all were received undelivered and out of that approximately 170 were from voters residing outside Delhi. During subsequent meetings of the contesting candidates and the RO, it was informed by the members responsible for updating the membership register, from which the electoral roll is carved out, that from time to time drive to update was carried out but many members failed to update the address, telephone number etc. This issue was agitated by some of the candidates on a number of occasions but the fact is that there could not be any change in the electoral roll after the election process has started. Also the telephone number, email or any similar information does not constitute the integral part of the roll.

The R.O then launched another effort to facilitate the voters to get their addresses updated and the voters were given time upto 20.11.2018 and 58 such requests were received and accepted. The list is enclosed with the report. The issue of pilferage of ballot papers from the post offices created a lot of ruckus but finally all the pilfered ballot papers numbering about 10 and other undelivered ballot papers were mostly received back and resent. Also the undelivered envelopes received from post were verified by the contesting candidates on 19.12.2018 when the sealed ballot box containing marked and undelivered ballot papers were taken out for sealing into separate boxes. The candidates decided that undelivered ballot papers should be sent immediately after giving 2 days time for local voters or those who can personally visit the office to collect their ballot paper and cast vote in person. In all 253 ballot papers were received undelivered by the postal authorities till 22.12.2018 for various reasons like incomplete address, addressee left or door remained closed etc. Of these 229 have been sent by Blue Dart courier, 22 voters voted in person and 2 ballot papers have not been sent as they belong to voter residing in foreign voter country or is no more alive by now.

Two of the contesting candidates namely Mr. Choudhary Ziaul Islam and Mr. Kaleemul Hafeez raised the question about the completeness of electoral roll for the reason that many of the entries in the roll do not have email or updated phone number. It may be stated that the said information is not mandatory to get enrolled in the roll and such information is included by the officials (before 1.11.2018) provided it is made available. From para (2) above it may be seen that inspite of 58 updations in addresses etc., there were large number of incorrect address leading to return of ballot papers.

In the meeting with the RO two of the contesting candidates wanted that the entire process of postal ballot paper be redone but this was not accepted by other members as there was no issue of vitiation of election process by and large.

There was a demand from many contesting candidates to deploy election staff from outside but at this point of time it is simply not possible to implement. It may also be seen that there is only one staff who operates computer but the said staff is also not being used now on a regular basis and only his services are being used as and when required. In addition now only two staff from the centre are at service of the election office.

It has also come to the notice that many marked ballot papers are being sent by ordinary post although return post has been provided with necessary stamp and instruction to voter insists to get receipt of post office.