

**THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE A.V.SESHA SAI**

**WRIT PETITION No. 25524 OF 2020**

**ORDER:**

When the matter is taken up, it is submitted, on instructions, by Sri Avinash Desai, learned Standing Counsel for the Election Commission, that under Section 23 of the Representation of People Act, 1950 and the Rules made thereunder, additions and deletions are permissible till the last date of filing nominations and it is open for the members of the petitioner association to file Form-19 application for inclusion. It is also submitted that the applicants who are not able to submit their applications till 31.12.2020 can submit their applications till the last date of filing nominations and the final publication will take place on 18.01.2021.

With regard to EPF/GPF, it is submitted by Sri Avinash Desai that for cross verification/additional verification, their service certificates have to be signed by the Heads of Institutions and counter-signed by the competent authority which is notified for the purpose, and that GPF/EPF membership is not mandatory and not compulsory, and is only optional.

Accordingly, by placing on record the above submissions of the learned Standing Counsel for the Election Commission, the Writ Petition stands disposed of. No order as to costs of the Writ Petition.

Miscellaneous petitions, if any, pending in this Writ Petitions, shall stand closed.

31.12.2020  
DRK/TM

**A.V.SESHA SAI, J**

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DRK