**ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA** 

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.576/3/2017-SDR

Dated: 25th

July, 2017

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of All States and Union Territories.

Sub: Affidavit in Form 26- Filling up of all columns-regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to invite reference to the Commission's letter No. 576/2013-SDR dated 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2013, issued in pursuance of the order dated 13-09-13 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Resurgence India Vs. Election Commission of India and others*. It has been directed therein that the candidates are required to fill in all columns in the affidavit and that if there is no specific information to furnish against any column, appropriate remark such as 'Nil', 'Not Applicable' or 'Not Known', as may be appropriate, should be entered against such column.

- 2. It has been brought to the notice of the Commission that in *Note-3* given at the end of the format of Form-26, reference has been made only to the options 'Nil' and 'Not Applicable' for cases of the above nature, and that this is likely to create confusion when a candidate makes the entry 'Not Known' against any column in the affidavit.
- 3. It is hereby clarified that in view of the directions in the above-referred Order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, it would be open to a candidate to make the entry 'Not Known' also in appropriate cases.
- 4. This clarification may be brought to the notice of all Returning Officers including those for elections to the Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Council. This may also be brought to the notice of political parties.

Yours faithfully,

(K.F.WILFRED)

SR. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Copy to: All recognise National and State Parties.