

DELIMITATION COMMISSION

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi - 110 001.

No. DL/PN-1/2003

Dated : 13th February, 2003.

Press Note

By Delimitation Act, 2002, Delimitation Commission has been set up which is entrusted with the task of redrawing the boundaries of all Assembly Constituencies and Parliamentary Constituencies in the country (except the Assembly Constituencies of Jammu & Kashmir) based on the 1991 census figures. While doing this, the Delimitation Commission may not change the existing number of Assembly Constituencies or Parliamentary Constituencies that any State has within it - only the boundaries are to be worked out on an equitable basis keeping in view the 1991 census figures.

The Delimitation Commission, set up under this Act, has retired Justice of Supreme Court, Sh. Kuldeep Singh, as its Chairman. Shri B.B. Tandon, Election Commissioner of India, is a Member of the Commission. The third Member of the Commission is the State Election Commissioner of the concerned State that is being delimited.

The Delimitation Commission, after studying the census figures of 1991 and keeping into account several other factors, makes its draft proposals regarding the delimitation of Assembly Constituencies and Parliamentary Constituencies in all States (and Union Territories having Legislatures). These draft proposals are discussed with Associate Members, who are sitting MLAs and MPs and are nominated by the Speaker of the concerned House. The proposals, together with the recommendations of the Associate Members, are published and thereafter public hearings take place before the delimitation proposals are finalised.

Today, 13th February, 2003, the Delimitation Commission held its meeting with the Associate Members for the Union Territory of Delhi in which the working

paper of the Commission regarding the proposed delimitation of the Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies of Delhi was discussed. In the case of Delhi, the said proposals did not envisage too many changes in the Assembly Constituencies as they had already been delimited on the basis of 1991 census for Delhi. However, considerable change has been brought about in the Commission's draft proposals in respect of Parliamentary Constituencies which had been delimited earlier on the 1971 census figures.

The Associate Members, present in today's meeting, expressed their views on the draft proposals and at the end of discussions, it was decided that the Associate Members shall also send their views on the Commission's proposals in writing which would consist of concrete suggestions for changes in the Commission's proposals as contained in the working paper by 5:00 p.m. on 14th February, 2003. These will be examined in the Delimitation Commission and another meeting with Associate Members will be held on 25.02.2003 to discuss only these proposals.

(C.R. Brahmam)
Secretary