

- (a) require the challenger to adduce evidence in proof of the challenge and the person challenged to adduce evidence in proof of his identity;
- (b) put to the person challenged any question for the purpose of establishing his identity and require him to answer them on oath; and
- (c) administer an oath to the person challenged and any other person offering to give evidence.
- (4) If, after the inquiry, the presiding officer considers that the challenge has not been established, he shall allow the person challenged to vote and if he considers that the challenge has been established, he shall debar the person challenged from voting.
- (5) If the presiding officer is of the opinion that the challenge is frivolous or has not been made in good faith, he shall direct that the deposit made under sub-rule (1) be forfeited to the Tribal Council Fund, and in any other case, he shall return it to the challenger at the conclusion of the inquiry.

76. Safeguards against personation: (1) Every elector about whose identity the presiding officer or the polling officer, as the case may be, is satisfied, shall allow his left forefinger to be inspected by the presiding officer or polling officer and an indelible ink mark to be put on it.

(2) If any elector —

refuses to allow his left forefinger to be inspected or marked in accordance with sub-rule (2) or has already such a mark on his left forefinger or does any act with a view to removing the ink mark, or he fails or refuses to produce his identity card as required by sub-rule (3) of rule 72; he shall not be supplied with any ballot paper or allowed to vote.

(3) Where a poll is taken simultaneously in a Village Council Constituency or in a Island Council Constituency, an elector whose left forefinger has been marked with indelible ink or who has produced his identity card at one such election shall, not with standing anything contained in sub-rule (1) and (2), be supplied with a ballot paper for the other election.

(4) Any reference in this rule to the left forefinger of an elector shall in the case where the elector has his left forefinger missing, be construed as a reference to any other finger of his left hand, and shall in the case, where all the fingers of his left hand are missing be construed as a reference to the forefinger or any other fingers of his right hand, and shall in the case where all his fingers of both the hands are missing be construed as a reference to such extremity of his left or right arm as he possesses.

77. Issue of ballot papers to electors: (1) Every ballot paper before it is issued to an elector and the counterfoil attached thereto shall be stamped on the back with such distinguishing mark as the Commission may direct, and every ballot paper, before it is issued, shall be signed in full, on its back by the presiding officer.

(2) At the time of issuing a ballot paper to an elector, the polling officer shall —

- (a) record on its counterfoil the electoral roll number of the elector as entered in the marked copy of the electoral roll;
- (b) obtain the signature or thumb impression of that elector on the said counterfoil; and
- (c) mark the name of the elector in the marked copy of the electoral roll to indicate that a ballot paper has been issued to him, without however recording therein the serial number of the ballot paper issued to that elector: