



RAJASTHAN STATE MINES & MINERALS LTD

(A Government of Rajasthan Enterprise)

CORPORATE OFFICE: 4, Meera Marg, Udaipur - 313 001

FAX : (0294) 2427175 ; PHONE : 2428793, 2428763-67

GST No.08AAACR7857H1Z0

E mail ID ed.rsmml@rajasthan.gov.i

Inter office correspondence

अत्यावश्यक	
और से: कार्यकारी निदेशक(प्रशासन)	क.आरएसएमएम/सीओ/प्रशा./9(10), 2024-1139
वास्ते : समूह महाप्रबन्धक, (एसबीयू-पीसी) लाईमस्टोन/प्रमुख एवं प्रभारी, (एसबीयू-पीसी) रॉक फास्फेट, झामरकोटडा/ लिग्नाईट/जिप्सम/ रजिस्टर्ड आफिस, जयपुर समस्त विभागाध्यक्ष, कार्पोरेट कार्यालय	दिनांक: 18.03.2024

विषय : लोकसभा आम चुनाव, 2024 आदर्श आचार संहिता के प्रावधानों की पालना बाबत ।

उपर्युक्त विषयान्तर्गत मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी, राजस्थान, जयपुर से प्राप्त पत्र क. एफ.3(1)(9)प्रथम/गिर्वा/2024/1281 दिनांक 13.02.2024 की प्रति मय संलग्नक, संलग्न कर लेख है कि आगामी लोकसभा चुनाव, 2024 की आदर्श आचार संहिता प्रभावी रहने के दौरान उक्त पत्र में दिये गये निर्देशों की पालना सुनिश्चित करावें।

संलग्न:- उपरोक्तानुसार।

D. V. Mehta
18.03.24
कार्यकारी निदेशक (प्रशासन)

cc. DGM (MIS) - on website also.

राजस्थान सरकार
निर्वाचन विभाग

एफ 3.(1)(9)प्रथम./निर्वा/2024/ 1281

जयपुर, दिनांक: 13/2/24

प्रेषक : मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी
राजस्थान, जयपुर।

प्रेषिति :

मुख्य सचिव
राजस्थान सरकार
जयपुर।

समस्त अतिरिक्त मुख्य सचिव/प्रमुख शासन सचिव/
शासन सचिव
राजस्थान सरकार

: अध्यक्ष एवं प्रबन्ध निदेशक
जयपुर मेट्रो रेल कॉर्पोरेशन लि०
जयपुर।

अध्यक्ष एवं प्रबन्ध निदेशक
राजस्थान राज्य विद्युत उत्पादन/प्रसारण लि० लि०,
राजस्थान, जयपुर।

: राज्य सूचना विज्ञान अधिकारी
सचिवालय, जयपुर।

समस्त संभागीय आयुक्त,
राजस्थान।

विषय : लोकसभा आम चुनाव, 2024 आदर्श आचार संहिता के प्रावधानों की पालना
बावत।

प्रसंग : भारत निर्वाचन आयोग के पत्र क्रमांक 437/6/1/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2019
दिनांक 10 मार्च, 2019, 437/6/INST/2015-CCS दिनांक 29 दिसम्बर 2015,
437/6/INST/2012-CC&BE दिनांक 18 जनवरी, 2012, 3/7/2008 JS-II दिनांक
7 अक्टूबर, 2008, 437/6/1/2014-CC&BE दिनांक 5 मार्च, 2014,
437/6/INST/2014-CC&BE दिनांक 20 मार्च, 2014 एवं 464/INST/2014/EPS
दिनांक 10 अप्रैल 2014

महोदय,

उपरोक्त विषयान्तर्गत निवेदन है कि लोकसभा आम चुनाव, 2024 निकट भविष्य में सम्पन्न होने
है। आगामी लोकसभा आम चुनाव के कार्यक्रम की घोषणा के साथ ही आदर्श आचार संहिता प्रभावी हो
जायेगी, जो निर्वाचन प्रक्रिया की समाप्ति तक प्रभावी रहेगी। आचार संहिता प्रभाव में रहने के दौरान
भारत निर्वाचन आयोग ने निम्नलिखित निर्देशों प्रदान किये गये हैं:-

1. **सम्पत्ति का विरूपण:** आयोग के प्रासंगिक पत्र दिनांक 07.10.2008, 18.01.2012 एवं 29.12.2015
(प्रतियों संलग्न) में दिये गये दिशानिर्देशों के अनुसार सम्पत्ति के विरूपण के रोकथाम का प्रावधान
है। आयोग ने अपने अनुदेशों का सक्ती से अनुपालन सुनिश्चित करने तथा समयबद्ध कार्यवाही
करने के लिए निम्नलिखित निर्देश दिये हैं:-
 - a. **सरकारी सम्पत्ति का विरूपण:-** सरकारी सम्पत्ति पर सभी प्रकार के दीवार लेखन, पोस्टर/पेपर
या किसी अन्य रूप में विरूपण, कटआउट/होर्डिंग, बैनर, झंडा आदि को निर्वाचन की घोषणा
से **24 घण्टे के भीतर** हटा दिये जायेगे। संलग्न-प्रपत्र-1
 - b. **सार्वजनिक सम्पत्ति का विरूपण तथा सार्वजनिक स्थान का दुरुपयोग:** सार्वजनिक सम्पत्ति तथा
सार्वजनिक स्थान जैसे रेल्वे स्टेशन, बस अड्डा, हवाई अड्डा, पुल, रोडवेज, सरकारी बस,
बिजली/टेलीफोन का खंभा, स्थानीय निकाय का भवन आदि में दीवार लेखन/पोस्टर/पेपर
के रूप में सभी अप्राधिकृत राजनीतिक विज्ञापन या किसी अन्य रूप में विरूपण, कटआउट/
होर्डिंग, बैनर, झंडा आदि को आयोग द्वारा निर्वाचनों की घोषणा से **48 घंटे के भीतर** हटा दिए
जाएंगे। संलग्न-प्रपत्र-2
 - c. **निजी सम्पत्ति का विरूपण:** निजी सम्पत्ति पर प्रदर्शित सभी अप्राधिकृत राजनीतिक विज्ञापनों
तथा स्थानीय विधि एवं न्यायालय के निर्देशों, यदि कोई हो, के अधीन सभी विज्ञापन आयोग
द्वारा निर्वाचनों की घोषणा से **72 घंटे के भीतर** हटा दिए जाएंगे। संलग्न-प्रपत्र-3

2. **राजकीय वाहनों का दुरुपयोग:** आयोग के पत्र 464/INST/2014/EPS दिनांक 10 अप्रैल, 2014 (प्रति संलग्न) के द्वारा राजकीय वाहनों के दुरुपयोग के संबंध में विस्तृत दिशा निर्देश दिये गये हैं। किसी राजनैतिक दल अभ्यर्थी या निर्वाचन से जुड़े किसी अन्य व्यक्ति द्वारा निर्वाचन के दौरान प्रचार करने, निर्वाचन प्रचार सम्बन्धी कार्य या निर्वाचन सम्बन्धित यात्रा करने के लिए सरकारी वाहन के प्रयोग पर पूरी तरह से प्रतिबन्ध होगा। आयोग के सम्बन्धित दिशा-निर्देशों की पालना निर्वाचनों की घोषणा के **24 घण्टे के भीतर** आवश्यक कार्यवाही सुनिश्चित करेंगे। संलग्न-प्रपत्र-1
3. **सरकारी राजकोष की लागत पर विज्ञापन:** भारत निर्वाचन आयोग के प्रासंगिक पत्र दिनांक 5 मार्च, 2014 (प्रति संलग्न) द्वारा यह निर्देश दिये गये हैं कि निर्वाचनों की घोषणा के तुरन्त बाद राजकोष से सरकार की उपलब्धियों बाबत प्रिन्ट, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया एवं सोशल मीडिया में कोई भी विज्ञापन जारी नहीं किये जायें। यदि कोई विज्ञापन पूर्व में प्रकाशन हेतु जारी कर दिया है तो उसे प्रकाशित होने से तत्काल रोका जाये।
4. **विभिन्न विभागों की अधिकारिक वेबसाइट्स पर फोटो एवं सन्देश:** विभिन्न विभागों की वेबसाइट्स से मंत्री/राजनैतिक व्यक्तियों के सदर्भ/फोटो हटाये जाने के संबंध में आयोग के निर्देश क्रमांक 437/6/INST/2014-CC&BE दिनांक 20 मार्च, 2014 (प्रति संलग्न) के अनुदेश में यह प्रावधान है निर्वाचनों की घोषणा के तुरन्त बाद से केन्द्र/राज्य सरकार की अधिकारिक वेब साइट पर उपलब्ध मंत्रियों, राजनीतिज्ञों या राजनैतिक दलों के सभी सदर्भों, फोटो को तत्काल प्रभाव से हटाकर पालना सुनिश्चित करेंगे।
5. **विकास एवं निर्माण कार्यों से संबंधित गतिविधियाँ:** आदर्श आचार संहिता प्रभाव में आ जाने के कारण कोई भी नवीन कार्य प्रारम्भ नहीं हो सकता है, और साथ ही किसी भी योजना में कोई नया लाभार्थी नहीं जोड़ा जा सकता है। आपके विभाग द्वारा पूर्व से चल रहे कार्यों एवं नवीन स्वीकृत कार्य जो अभी प्रारम्भ नहीं हुए हैं, की सूची निर्वाचन कार्यक्रम की घोषणा के **72 घण्टे की अवधि** में इस विभाग को प्रेषित करावें तथा स्थानीय स्तर पर संबंधित जिले के जिला निर्वाचन अधिकारी (कलक्टर) को उपलब्ध करावें। संलग्न-प्रपत्र-4

आयोग के दिशा-निर्देशों के अनुसार निर्धारित समयावधि में कार्यवाही कर पालना रिपोर्ट इस विभाग को तथा जिला स्तर पर जिले के जिला निर्वाचन अधिकारी (कलक्टर) को उपलब्ध करावें। आयोग के उक्त निर्देशों से आप अपने विभाग के माननीय मंत्री/राज्य मंत्री/संसदीय सचिव को पालना हेतु अवगत करावें, साथ ही अपने अधीनस्थ विभागों/स्थानीय निकायों/सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों से भी आयोग के निर्देशों की पालना कराया जाना सुनिश्चित करावें।

संलग्न : उपरोक्तानुसार

भवदीय,
(प्रवीण गुप्ता)
मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी
राजस्थान, जयपुर।

एफ 3.1(9)प्रथम/निर्वा/2024/1281

जयपुर, दिनांक: 13-2-24

प्रतिलिपि निम्न को सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु प्रेषित हैं।

1. समस्त जिला निर्वाचन अधिकारी (कलक्टर), राजस्थान को प्रतिलिपि प्रेषित कर निवेदन है कि चुनाव कार्यक्रम की घोषणा के बाद आयोग के निर्देशों की पालना कराते हुए आयोग द्वारा दी गई निर्धारित अवधि में पालना रिपोर्ट प्राप्त करें और इस विभाग को भी प्रेषित करावें।
2. संयुक्त मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी (आई.टी.), निर्वाचन विभाग को पत्र की प्रति विभाग की वेबसाइट पर अपलोड कराने हेतु प्रेषित हैं।

उप मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी
राजस्थान, जयपुर।

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

Bv Spl. Messenger/mail

No. 437/6/1/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2019

Dated: 10th March, 2019

To

1. The Cabinet Secretary,
Government of India,
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi.
2. The Chief Secretaries of all States and
Chief Secretaries/Administrators of Union Territories
3. The Chief Electoral Officers of
all States and Union Territories.

Subject: Immediate action to be taken for enforcement of Model Code of Conduct after announcement of General Elections to House of the People (Lok Sabha), 2019 and State Legislative Assemblies in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim and certain bye-elections - regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Election Commission has announced the schedule for holding General Election to House of the People (Lok Sabha), 2019 and State Legislative Assemblies in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim and certain bye-elections, operation of 'MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT' comes into effect with the announcement of elections by the Commission. In view of the general elections, the Commission has given following directions for effective enforcement of provisions of MCC:-

1. **Defacement of Property-** ECI instructions contained in letters, No. 437/6/INST/2015-CCS, dated 29th December, 2015, No. 437/6/INST/2012- CC&BE dated 18th January, 2012 and No. 3/7/2008 JS-II dated 7th October, 2008 , provide for prevention of defacement of property. The Commission has directed to ensure strict compliance of its instructions and to take time bound action as prescribed below-

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(a) **Defacement of Government property-** For this purpose a Government premise would include any Government office and the campus wherein the office building is situated. All wall writing, posters/papers or defacement in any other form, cutout/hoardings, banners, flags etc, on Government property shall be removed within 24 hours from the announcement of elections

(b) **Defacement of public property and misuse of public space-** All unauthorized political advertisement, in the form of wall writing/posters/papers of defacement in any other form, cutout/hoardings, banners flags etc. at public property and in public space like railway station, Bus stands, Airports, railway Bridges, Roadways, Govt. Buses, Electric/Telephone poles , municipal/local bodies' buildings etc., shall be removed within 48 hours from the announcement of elections by the Commission.

(c) **Defacement of private property-** All unauthorized political advertisement displayed at private property and subject to local law and court's directions, if any, shall be removed within 72 hours from the announcement of elections by the Commission.

2. **Misuse of official vehicle-** The ECI's Consolidated instructions contained in letter No. 464/INST/2014/EPS, dated 10th April 2014, among other things, provides that **there shall be a total ban on use of official vehicle by any political party, candidate or any other person connected with election (except officials performing any election related official duty) for campaigning, electioneering or election related travel during elections (subject to certain exception mentioned therein).** The expression official vehicle means and shall include , any vehicle used or capable of being used for the purpose of transport, whether propelled by mechanical power or otherwise and will include trucks, lorries, tempos, jeeps, cars, auto rickshaws, e-rickshaws, buses, belonging to Central Government, State Government/UT Administrations, public undertakings of Central/State Government, Join sector undertakings of Central/State Government, local bodies, municipal corporations, marketing boards, cooperative societies or any other body in which public funds , however small a portion of the total, are invested. **The CEOs/DEOs shall take necessary action for compliance of ECI instructions within 24 hours of the announcement of the elections.**

3. **Advertisement at the cost of public exchequer-** ECI instructions contained in letters, No. 437/6/1/2014-CC&BE, dated 5th March, 2014 provides that at the cost of public exchequer in the newspapers and other media and the misuse of official mass media during the election period for partisan coverage of political news and publicity regarding achievements

with a view to furthering the prospects of the party in power shall be scrupulously avoided. No advertisements shall be issued in electronic and print media highlighting the achievements of the Govt. at the cost of public exchequer. If any advertisement has already been released for telecast/broadcast or publication in the print media, it must be ensured that the telecast/broadcast of such ads on electronic media is stopped forthwith and that no such ad is published in any newspapers, magazines, etc., i.e. in print media, from the date of announcement and it should be immediately withdrawn. **The CEOs/DEOs has to take immediate action to remove/stop any advertisement, in the print/electronic media, showing the achievements of the Government soon after the announcement of elections.**

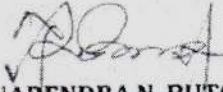
4. **Photograph of political functionary at official website-** ECI instruction contained in letter No. 437/6/INST/2014-CC&BE dated 20th March, 2014 provides that all references of Ministers, Politicians or political parties available on central/state Government's official website, shall be removed. The CEOs have to take immediate action to remove/hide the photographs of any political functionary from official websites of state department.
5. **Development/construction related activities- within 72 hours** of announcement of elections, the CEO/DEO shall obtain the following list of works for reference in case of validating any complaint on violation of MCC:
 - (i) List of work which has already been started on ground.
 - (ii) List of fresh work which has not started on ground.
6. **Activities for Expenditure Monitoring and enforcement of MCC-** Flying squad, FST, video team, intensive checking for liquor/Cash/Contra banned drugs, flying squads of excise department to check illicit trafficking of Drug/Narcotics to be immediately activated after announcement.
7. **Complaint Monitoring System-** The poll going states shall have a complaint redressal mechanism based on website and call center. The toll free number of call center is 1950. Complaints can be registered by making calls to the toll free call center numbers or on the web site. Complainants will also be informed of the action taken by SMS and by the call center. Complainants can also see the details of the action taken on their complaints. This system should be operational within 24 hours of the announcement. All complaint should be dealt with promptly and properly. The 24x7 control Room at the district level must be activated and sufficient deployment of manpower and other logistics be ensured in

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particular, round the clock personnel should be deployed in the control room and their duty roster must be issued to avoid any evasion or confusion.

8. **IT Application-** All IT applications including official website and social media shall be operational with the announcement.
9. **Dissemination of information for Awareness of Voters and political parties.** Publicity of major election activity would be given through CEO/DEO/RO. For this purpose, all necessary information shall be disseminated through radio, tv, cinema. Government channel to display voter education material.
10. **Active cooperation from Educational Institution and Civil Societies-** Cooperation can be sought from educational institution and civil societies for giving wide publicity to the election related information to the general public and other stakeholders.
11. **Media Centre-** Effort should be made for awareness among the voters, political parties and other stakeholder through media center about election system including use of EVM/VVPAT.
12. **MCMC/DEMC-** ECI instruction contained in letter no. 491/MCMC/2014/Communication dated 24th March, 2014 provides that all registered political parties will approach the Media Certification and Monitoring Committees (MCMC) at District and State level, as the case may be, for pre-certification of their political advertisements proposed to be issued on electronic media. The Commission has directed to ensure strict compliance of its instructions contained in above said letter.
13. **Control Room-** The 24x7 control room at district level must be activated immediately and sufficient deployment of manpower and other logistics be ensured by the DEO/CEO. A control room with complaint Monitoring Centre would also be set up at ECI Secretariat during the entire election process.

Yours faithfully


(NARENDRA N. BUTOLIA)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

K. AJAYA KUMAR

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

No. 437/6/INST/2015-CCS

Dated: 29th December, 2015.

To

1. The Cabinet Secretary,
Cabinet Secretariat,
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi.
2. The Chief Secretaries of
All the States and Union Territories.
3. The Chief Electoral Officers of
All the States and Union Territories.

Subject: Banning use of building/civil structures owned by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for political advertisement during period of Model Code of Conduct - regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to invite a reference to the Commission's circular letter No.3/7/2008-PS-II, dated 7th October, 2008, wherein it has, inter alia, directed that there shall be no display of election posters, hoardings, banners, etc., in any Government premises or civil structures. It has come to the notice of the Commission that political parties have been displaying/pasting their posters, banners, etc., at the buildings/civil structures and/or premises owned by the Govt. and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) during election periods as part of their election campaign. It is clarified that buildings and premises of PSUs shall also be treated at par with Govt. premises for the purpose of displaying political ads during election period. The Commission has directed that no political advertisements shall be displayed/pasted at the buildings/civil structures owned by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) or in their premises during the period Model Code of Conduct is in force.

In case there is no specific provision in the by-laws of PSUs or in their agreements with the advertisement agencies to whom they let out space for advertisement for prohibiting display of political advertisement, PSUs may be instructed to add a para in their commercial agreements with commercial agencies/companies while providing space on lease to the

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advertisement agency for placing commercial advertisements that "No political advertisement shall be displayed/pasted at the space provided on lease for commercial advertisement like airports, railway stations, Inter State/Local Bus Stands, Govt. transportation post offices, Government hospitals/dispensaries etc. (except on main highways, main roads etc.) during the period of Model Code of Conduct. If there is any political advertisement in the provided space, the same shall be removed immediately on enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct."

It is requested that appropriate instructions be issued to all concerned to ensure that the above directions are complied with and to ensure that instances of display of political advertisements in any form do not occur in the premises of PSUs in any election in future.

Yours faithfully,



(K. AJAY KUMAR)

By Fax/Speed Post/Camp Bag(5 States)

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.437/6/INST/2012-CC&BE

Dated: 18th January, 2012

To

- 1) The Cabinet Secretary
Cabinet Secretariat
Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
- 2) The Chief Secretaries of
All States and Union Territories
- 3) The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States and Union Territories

Subject: Prevention of defacement of property and other campaign related items -
revised instructions - regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to state that on the announcement of the General Elections to the Legislative Assemblies of the States of Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the provisions of Model Code of Conduct have come into force w.e.f. 24th December, 2011. The Commission has decided to reiterate its instructions issued vide its letter no. 3/7/2008/JS-II dated 7th October, 2008 (copy enclosed) contained in Para 5 under the heading 'DEFAACEMENT OF PRIVATE PLACES', as under :-

Sub-para (d) "Subject to any restrictions under any local law or any court orders in force, the political parties, candidates, their agents, workers and supporters may put up banners, buntings, flags, cut-outs, on their property, provided they do so on their own volition, voluntarily and without any pressure from any party, organization or person, and provided further that these do not cause any inconvenience in any manner to anyone else. If such display of banners, flags etc. aims to solicit vote for any particular candidate, then the provisions of Section 171H of IPC would be attracted and would have to be followed. Section 171H of the IPC stipulates that whoever without the general or special authority in writing of a candidates incurs or authorizes expenses on account of the holding of any public meeting or upon any advertisement, circular or publication, or in any other way

whatsoever for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of such candidates, shall be punished with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees: Provided that if any person having incurred any such expenses not exceeding the amount of ten rupees without authority obtains within ten days from the date on which such expenses were incurred the approval in writing of the candidate, he shall be deemed to have incurred such expenses with the authority of the candidate."

Yours faithfully



(K.N. BHAR)
SECRETARY

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ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 3/7/2008/JS-II

Dated: 7th October, 2008

To

1. The Secretary to the
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
New Delhi-110001.
2. The Chief Secretaries of
All States and Union Territories.
3. The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States and Union Territories.

Sub: Prevention of defacement of property and other campaign related items – revised instructions- regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to invite a reference to the Commission's letter No. 3/7/2007/JS-II, dated 16th October, 2007, regarding prevention of defacement of property in connection with election campaign.

2. In the past, the Commission has suggested the enactment of special laws by state governments for dealing with defacement of properties effectively. Some states have enacted special legislations to govern and regulate defacement of property, while the other states have legislation that either only cover specific areas, like municipalities etc, or have no legislation at all. A tabular statement on respective positions obtaining in the states in this respect based on the information available in the Commission is enclosed in the schedule appended to this circular (marked as Annexure-1). Since a uniform law throughout the country is not available, what is enforceable differs from state to state. Keeping in view the forthcoming general election to the Lok Sabha due in 2009, it has become necessary to lay down, for smooth conduct of campaign during elections and for clear understanding of all authorities who have the responsibility for the implementation at the field level as also of the observers who are deputed to oversee the elections in different states/constituencies, a comprehensive set of guidelines with respect to defacement of property.

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3. After considering all aspects of the matter in depth, the Commission has, in supersession of the earlier instructions, laid down the following directions, to be followed by political parties, candidates, individuals and organizations etc. during the election period:

DEFACEMENT OF PUBLIC PLACES

4. (a) No wall writing, pasting of posters/papers or defacement in any other form, or erecting/displaying of cutouts, hoardings, banners flags etc. shall be permitted on any Government premise (including civil structures therein). For this purpose a Government premise would include any Govt. office and the campus wherein the office building is situated.

(b) If the local law expressly permits or provides for writing of slogans, displaying posters, etc., or erecting cut-outs, hoardings, banners, political advertisement, etc., in any public place, (as against a Govt. premise) on payment or otherwise, this may be allowed strictly in accordance with the relevant provisions of the law and subject to Court orders, if any on this subject. It should be ensured that any such place is not dominated/monopolized by any particular party(ies) or candidate(s). All parties and candidates should be provided equal opportunity in this regard.

(c) If there is a specifically earmarked place provided for displaying advertisements in a public place, e.g. bill boards, hoardings etc. and if such space is already let out to any agency for further allocation to individual clients, the District Election Officer through the municipal authority concerned, if any, should ensure that all political parties and candidates get equitable opportunity to have access to such advertisement space for election related advertisements during the election period.

DEFACEMENT OF PRIVATE PLACES

5. (a) In the States where there is no local law on the subject, and subject to the restrictions under the law where there is a law, temporary and easily removable advertisement materials, such as flags and banners may be put up in private premises with the voluntary permission of the occupant. The permission should be an act of free will and not extracted by any pressure or threat. Such banner or flag should not create any nuisance to others. Photo-copy of the voluntary permission in writing obtained in this connection should be submitted to the

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Returning Officer within 3 days of putting up the flags and banners in such cases in the manner prescribed in sub-para(c) below.

(b) If the local law does not expressly permit wall writing, pasting of posters, and similar other permanent/semi-permanent defacement which is not easily removable, the same shall not be resorted to under any circumstances, even on the pretext of having obtained the consent of the owner of the property. This will also apply in the states where there is no local law on the subject of prevention of defacement of property.

(c) Where the local law expressly permits wall writings and pasting of posters, putting up hoardings, banners, etc. on private premises with the owner's permission, the contesting candidates or the political parties concerned shall obtain prior written permission from the owner of the property and submit photocopies of the same within 3 days to the Returning Officer or an officer designated by him for the purpose, together with a statement in the enclosed proforma (marked as Annexure-2). The statement in such cases and in the cases mentioned in sub-para (a) above should clearly mention therein the name and address of the owner of the property from whom such permission has been obtained together with expenditure incurred or likely to be incurred for the purpose. Nothing inflammatory or likely to incite disaffection amongst communities shall be permissible in such writings/display. The expenditure incurred in this mode on specific campaign of candidate(s) shall be added to the election expenditure made by the candidate. Expenditure incurred on exclusive campaign for a party without indicating any candidate shall not be added to candidates expenditure. The contesting candidate shall furnish such information village/locality/town-wise, to the Returning Officer, or the authorized officer within 3 days of obtaining the requisite permission, for easy checking by the Returning Officer or the Election Observer or any officer connected with the conduct of elections.

(d) Subject to any restrictions under any local law or any court orders in force, the political parties, candidates, their agents, workers and supporters may put up banners, buntings, flags, cut-outs, on their own property, provided they do so on their own volition, voluntarily and without any pressure from any party, organization or person, and provided further that these do not cause any inconvenience in any manner to anyone else. If such display of banners, flags etc. aims to solicit vote for any particular candidate, then the provisions of Section 171H of the IPC would be attracted and would have to be followed. Section 171H of

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the IPC stipulates that whoever without the general or special authority in writing of a candidate incurs or authorises expenses on account of the holding of any public meeting, or upon any advertisement, circular or publication, or in any other way whatsoever for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of such candidate, shall be punished with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees: Provided that if any person having incurred any such expenses not exceeding the amount of ten rupees without authority obtains within ten days from the date on which such expenses were incurred the approval in writing of the candidate, he shall be deemed to have incurred such expenses with the authority of the candidate.

DEFACEMENT OF HALLS/AUDITORIUMS AND OTHER PUBLIC PROPERTIES

6. In the case of Halls/Auditoriums/Meeting venues owned/controlled by the Government/ local authorities/PSUs/Cooperatives, if the law/guidelines governing their use do not preclude political meetings therein, there is no objection to it. It shall be ensured that the allocation is done on equitable basis and that there is no monopolization by any political party or candidates. In such venues, displaying of banners, buntings, flags, cut-outs, may be permitted during the period of meetings subject to any restrictions under the law/guidelines in force. Such banners, flags, etc. shall be got removed by the party/individual who used the premises immediately after conclusion of the meeting, and in any case within a reasonable period after the meeting is over. Permanent/semi-permanent defacement such as wall writing/pasting of posters etc. shall not be permitted in such premises.
7. If any political party/association/candidate/person indulges in defacement of any property in violation of the local law, if any, or the above instructions, the Returning Officer/ District Election Officer shall issue notice to the offender for removing the defacement forthwith. If the political party/association/candidate/person does not respond promptly, the district authorities may take action to remove the defacement, and the expenses incurred in the process shall be recovered from the political party/association/candidate/person responsible for the defacement. Further, the amount also shall be added to the election expenditure of the candidate concerned, and action should also be initiated to prosecute the offender under the provisions of the relevant law (under the law relating to prevention of defacement, if any, or under the provisions of the general law for causing willful damage to the property of others).

DEFACEMENT OF VEHICLES

8. (a) In private vehicles, subject to the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, Rules thereunder and subject to court orders in force, if any, flags and stickers may be put on the vehicles by the owner of the vehicle on his own volition, in such a manner that they do not cause any inconvenience or distraction to other road users. If such display of flags and stickers aims to solicit vote for any particular candidate, then the provisions of Section 171H of the IPC would be attracted and would have to be followed.

(b) On commercial vehicles, display of any flag, sticker etc. shall not be permitted, unless such vehicle is a vehicle validly used for election campaign after obtaining the requisite permit from the District Election Officer/Returning Officer and the display thereof in original on the wind screen.

(c) External modification of vehicles including fitting of Loudspeaker thereon, would be subject to the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act/Rules and any other Local Act/Rules. Vehicles with modifications and special campaign vehicles like Video Rath etc., can be used only after obtaining the requisite permission from the competent authorities under the Motor Vehicles Act.

OTHER CAMPAIGN RELATED ITEMS

9. Subject to accounting for the expenditure, the following may be permitted:-

(a) In processions and rallies etc., flags, banners, cutouts etc. can be carried subject to local laws and prohibitory orders in force;

(b) In such procession, wearing of party/candidate supplied special accessories like cap, mask, scarf etc. may be permitted. However, supply of main apparels like saree, shirt, etc. by party/candidate is not permitted.

(c) Educational institutions including their grounds {whether Govt. aided, private or Govt.} shall not be used for political campaigns and rallies.

10. The Chief Electoral Officers are requested to bring the directions of the Commission to the notice of the District Election Officers, Returning Officers and all other election related

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authorities, and all political parties in the State, including State units of recognized National and State parties, and all registered un-recognized parties based in the State, and also the contesting candidates (at the time of elections) for information and compliance.

11. Please acknowledge receipt of this letter. The Chief Electoral Officers may kindly confirm that action as required above has been taken.

Yours faithfully,

(K. F. WILFRED)
SECRETARY

By Spl. Messenger/Speed Post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. 437/6/1/2014-CC&BE

Dated: 5th March 2014

To

1. The Cabinet Secretary,
Government of India,
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi.
2. The Chief Secretaries to the Governments of
all States and Union Territories
3. The Chief Electoral Officers of:-
all States and Union Territories

Sub: Application of Model Code of Conduct - General Election to Lok Sabha - 2014 and simultaneous elections to State Legislative Assemblies in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim and certain bye-elections- reg.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Commission has announced the schedule for holding General Elections to Lok Sabha and to the Legislative Assemblies of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Sikkim including certain bye-elections to the Legislative Assemblies of some States (Press Note No. ECI/PN/10/2014, dated 5th March 2014 available at Commission's web-site - www.eci.gov.in).

2. With this announcement, the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct for the guidance of the Political Parties and Candidates have come into force with immediate effect and will be in force till the completion of the General Elections. This may be brought to the notice of the Central / State Governments, all Ministries/Departments and all other offices of the Union Government and the State Government of the State.

3. Your particular attention is drawn to the provisions of Model Code of Conduct for the guidance of Political Parties and Candidates and various instructions issued by the Commission, which, inter-alia, state that the party in power whether at the Centre or in the State or States concerned, shall ensure that no cause is given for any complaint that it has used its official position for the purposes of its election campaign and in particular:-

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- (i) (a) The Ministers shall not combine their official visit with electioneering work and shall not also make use of official machinery or personnel during the electioneering work;
 - (b) Government transport including official air-crafts, vehicles, machinery and personnel shall not be used for furtherance of the interest of the party in power;
 - (ii) Public places such as maidans etc., for holding election meetings, and use of helipads for air-flights in connection with elections shall not be monopolised by itself. Other parties and candidates shall be allowed the use of such places and facilities on the same terms and conditions on which they are used by the party in power;
 - (iii) Rest houses, dak bungalows or other Government accommodation where elections have been announced or are taking place can be given to the political functionaries who are provided security by the State in Z scale or above or equivalent by various State Governments or the Central Government under provisions of their laws, on equitable basis. This shall be subject to condition that such accommodation is not already allotted or occupied by election related officials or Observers. Such political functionaries shall not carry out any political activity while staying in the Government Guest Houses/Rest Houses or other Government accommodation etc.;
 - (iv) Issue of advertisement at the cost of public exchequer in the newspapers and other media and the misuse of official mass media during the election period for partisan coverage of political news and publicity regarding achievements with a view to furthering the prospects of the party in power shall be scrupulously avoided;
 - (v) Ministers and other authorities shall not sanction grants/payments out of discretionary funds from the time elections are announced by the Commission; and
 - (vi) From the time elections are announced by Commission, Ministers and other authorities shall not -
 - (a) announce any financial grants in any form or promises thereof; or
 - (b) (except civil servants) lay foundation stones etc. of projects or schemes of any kind; or
 - (c) make any promise of construction of roads, provision of drinking water facilities etc.; or
 - (d) make any ad-hoc appointments in Government, Public Undertakings etc. which may have the effect of influencing the voters in favour of the party in power.
 - 4. As will be observed from Para 3{Clause IV} above, no advertisements shall be issued in electronic and print media highlighting the achievements of the Govt. at the cost of public exchequer. If any advertisement has already been released for telecast/broadcast or publication in the print media, it must be ensured that the telecast/broadcast of such ads on

electronic media is stopped forthwith and that no such ad is published in any newspapers, magazines, etc., i.e. in print media, from today itself and it should be immediately withdrawn.

5. The instruction of the Commission contained in its letter No.437/6/2009-CCBE dated 5th March, 2009 is available on the Commission's web-site "<http://eci.nic.in/> under the heading 'Election Laws and ECI - instructions' for your information and necessary action.

6. The Commission directs that there shall be a total ban on the transfer of all officers/officials connected with the conduct of the election. These include but are not restricted to: -

- i) The Chief Electoral Officer and Additional/Joint/Deputy Chief Electoral Officers;
 - ii) Divisional Commissioners;
 - iii) The District Election Officers, Returning Officers, Assistant Returning Officers and other Revenue Officers connected with the Conduct of Election;
 - iv) Officers of the Police Department connected with the management of election like range IGs and DIGs, Senior Superintendents of Police and Superintendents of Police, Sub-Divisional Police Officers like Deputy Superintendents of Police and other Police officers who are deputed to the Commission under section 28A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951;
 - v) The transfer orders issued in respect of the above categories of officers prior to the date of announcement but not implemented till date should not be given effect to without obtaining specific permission from the Commission in this regard;
 - vi) This ban shall be effective till the completion of the election. The Commission further directs that the State Governments should refrain from making transfers of senior officers who have a role in the management of election in the State;
 - vii) In those cases where transfer of an officer is necessary on account of administrative exigencies, the concerned State Government may with full justification approach the Commission for prior clearance.
7. The receipt of the letter may kindly be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

(K. AJAY KUMAR)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

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INSTRUCTION SL.NO. 18

ECI letter No. 437/6/INST/2014/CC&BE, dated 20.03.2014 addressed to the Cabinet Secretary, Chief Secretaries and Chief Electoral Officers of all States and UTs.

Subject: Instructions relating to deletion of all references on politicians/Ministers on the official website during election period of General/Bye-election to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies -reg.

I am directed to state that the Commission vide its letter No. 437/6/2007 (INST)-PLN-III, dated 21st November, 2007, issued instructions to deletion of all references on politicians/Ministers on the official website during election period of General/Bye-elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.

It has come to the notice of the Commission that the aforesaid instructions of the Commission are not being followed by Central and State Governments during election period. It is clearly mentioned in clause VII (iv) of Model Code of Conduct for guidance of Political parties and candidate:-

"VII. Party in Power

The party in power whether at the Centre or in the State or States concerned, shall ensure that no cause is given for any complaint that it has used its official position for the purpose of its election campaign and in particular

(iv) Issues of advertisement at the cost of public exchequer in the newspapers and other media and the misuse of official mass media during the election period for partisan coverage of political news and publicity regarding achievements with a view to furthering the prospects of the party in power shall be scrupulously avoided."

The Commission has considered the question of various references currently available in the Ministerial office website and in the State Government websites pertaining to several Department and Government Organization highlighting their achievements but eulogizing the same as personal achievements of Politicians/Ministers.

The Commission has decided that during the period when Model Code of Conduct is in force in connection with General Election to the Lok Sabha/State Legislative Assemblies currently going on, all references of Ministers, Politicians or Political Parties available on such Central/State Government's official website, shall be removed.

The above instruction of the Commission may kindly be communicated to all concerned for strict compliance.

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By Fax/Speed post/Camp Bag

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.437/6/INST/2014-CC&BE

Dated: 20th March, 2014

To

- 1) The Cabinet Secretary
Cabinet Secretariat,
Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
- 2) The Chief Secretaries of
All States and Union Territories
- 3) The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States and Union Territories

Subject: General Elections - Enforcement of Model Code of Conduct - Regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to state that the Commission has been receiving references seeking clarification of the applicability of Model Code of Conduct from various Ministries/Departments/PSUs etc. The Commission vides its letter No. 437/6/2009-CC&BE, dated 5th March, 2009 issued guidelines regarding implementation/processing of the various projects, schemes, rural development programmes etc. by the Central/State Governments. In item No. 14 of the said guidelines, it was clearly mentioned that "All Government of India references to the Election Commission of India shall be made preferably through the Cabinet Secretariat. In so far as reference from State Governments is concerned, the same shall be made to the Election Commission of India through the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of the state concerned.

Inspite of the above guidelines, the references from Central Governments are being directly received in the Commission without routing through the Cabinet Secretariat. Further, Departments, Sub-Departments, Public Sector Undertakings, Autonomous Bodies of the Ministry/Department are also forwarding references to the Election Commission directly. As a result innumerable references are pouring in, including those cases which have no urgency and which can wait till elections are over.

Further various Ministries/Departments keep forwarding references without examining the matter in the light of various standard instructions/guidelines/FAQs of the Commission already available in the Commission's website.

Considering the above, the Commission has directed that henceforth:-

- (i) All the references of Government of India which are proposed to be placed before the Cabinet or any Committee of the Cabinet should be routed through the Cabinet Secretariat i.e. no such references should be made directly to the Election Commission by the Ministries.
- (ii) Departments, Sub-Departments, Public Sector Undertakings, Autonomous Bodies of the Ministry/Department will make references to the Election Commission through the concerned Ministry/Department.
- (iii) All the references of the State Governments should be routed through the Chief Electoral Officer concerned i.e. no direct references should be made to the Election Commission by the State Governments.
- (iv) The Chief Electoral Officers should not send those references to the Commission in cases where there are clear-cut instructions of the Commission to deal with such case.
- (v) Only such references shall be made to the Election Commission where there is doubt whether the issues are covered under the existing instructions of the Commission or not.

The above instructions of the Commission may kindly be brought to the notice of the all concerned.

Yours faithfully

(K.AJAYA KUMAR)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Copy to the DECs/DGs/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/Under Secretaries/Zonal Sections of the Election Commission of India.

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001.

No.464/INST/2014/EPS

Dated: 10th April, 2014

To

The Chief Electoral Officers
of all States / Union Territories.

Sub: General Election to the Lok Sabha, 2014 – Consolidated Instructions on use of vehicles during elections - regarding.

Sir/Madam,

With a view to ensuring level playing field for all candidates and other stake holders and further to check the vitiating role of money and misuse of official machinery, the Commission has issued in the past a number of instructions on the above cited subject. For sake of clarity and easy reference, the same have been consolidated and are being re-issued for compliance and guidance during all General/Bye elections to the Lok Sabha/State Legislative Assemblies and all Biennial/Bye elections from Graduates' and Teachers' constituencies of Legislative Councils.

Period of applicability-

2. These instructions shall come into effect from the date of announcement of elections till the completion of elections.

Meaning of 'official vehicle'

3. The expression 'official vehicle' means, and shall include, any vehicles used or capable of being used for the purpose of transport, whether propelled by mechanical power or otherwise and will include trucks, lorries, tempos, jeeps, cars, auto rickshaws, e-rickshaws, buses, belonging to the (i) Central Government, (ii) State Governments/UT Administrations, (iii) Public Undertakings of the Central and State Governments, (iv) Joint Sector Undertakings of Central and State Governments, (v) Local Bodies, (vi) Municipal Corporations, (vii) Municipalities, (viii) Marketing Boards (by whatever name known), (ix) Cooperative Societies, (x) Autonomous District Councils or any other body in which public funds, howsoever small a portion of the total, are invested and also include those belonging to the Ministry of Defence and the Central Public Organisations under the Ministry of Home Affairs and State Governments.

Directions of ECI

4. The Commission directs that, subject to exceptions mentioned herein, there shall be a total and absolute ban on the use of official vehicles for campaigning, electioneering or election related travel during elections. There shall be a total prohibition on the use of any vehicles such as helicopters, aircrafts, (except as regulated by the Commission's order on the subject) cars, jeeps, automobiles, boats, hovercrafts, etc., belonging to the (i) Central Government, (ii) State Government/UT Administration (iii) Public undertakings of the Central and State Governments, (iv) Joint sector undertakings of the Central and State Governments, (v) Local bodies, (vi) Marketing Boards, (vii) Co-operative Societies, (viii)

Autonomous District Councils or any other body in which public funds, howsoever small portion of the total, are invested for any purpose connected with the elections, by any political party, candidate or any other person connected with election (except officials performing any election related official duty).

5. The Commission further directs that the District Administration shall keep a close watch to find out if any official vehicle belonging to any authority specified in the preceding Para is being used for electioneering purposes. In case it is so, the District Magistrate shall, forthwith, requisition or cause to be requisitioned such vehicles, after following due procedure, for election work, under Section 160 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 and such requisitioned vehicles shall not be released until after the completion of the process of elections.

Clarifications

6. It is clarified that the ban on the use of vehicles will equally apply to the vehicles in or from any States not going to the polls but whose vehicles are attempted to be used for campaign either openly or clandestinely in any other State going to poll. The Chief Secretary of each State/Union Territory/the Secretary to the Government of India in the concerned Department, as the case may be, will be personally responsible for any misuse of any vehicle under Ministry/Department or of any of the public sector or joint sector undertakings or Autonomous Bodies or attached offices under that Ministry/Department. The officers under whose charge such vehicles are entrusted will also be equally responsible for any violation.

7. It is further clarified that the use of such vehicles belonging to any of these authorities by anyone, including Ministers of the Central or a State Government, even on payment basis, for campaigning or on tours connected with elections but with the alleged and bogusly certified purpose of official work in their capacity as Ministers is totally prohibited.

Exception

8. The only exception from the prohibition will be the Prime Minister and other political personalities, who might, in view of extremist and terrorist activities and threat to their lives require security of a high order and whose security requirements are governed by any statutory provisions made by the Parliament or the State Legislature in this behalf.

9. The above restrictions shall also not apply in the case of the President and Vice-President of India, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha and Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha and such other dignitaries visiting the State from other States. However, it is further clarified that in the case of Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha and Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha these restrictions will be applicable at the time of General Elections to the Lok Sabha but not during LA election. It is also clarified again that such exceptions shall not be made in respect of any Ministers of the Union or any State Government.

10.(a) The Commission would like to make it clear that if it has any material to doubt that the assessment of security requirements made by the authorities under Special Protection Group Act, 1988 or any other special enactment/instruction of the Government have been

manifestly or unduly excessive with the intention of promoting indirectly the electoral interests of a particular party or candidate, the Commission will bring the matter to the notice of the concerned Government for immediate and appropriate corrective steps.

10.(b) For this purpose, the Commission may call for any information from the Central Government or the State Government concerned with regard to the assessment of the security requirements made in respect of any such personality. Such information shall be furnished to the Commission by the concerned Government forthwith.

Restriction on Convoy of vehicles

11. The Commission further directs that cars/vehicles shall, under no circumstances, be allowed to move in convoys of more than ten vehicles, excluding the security vehicles. All bigger convoys exceeding 10 (ten) vehicles shall be broken up, even if they are carrying any Minister of Central or State Government or any other person. This shall, however, be subject to any security instructions issued in respect of any such individual.

12. If any person moves in a convoy of vehicles exceeding the limits prescribed above, in spite of the convoy having been broken, it shall be the duty of the local administration to ensure that such vehicles are not allowed to be used by flouting the Commission's directions, till the process of election is completed.

During Filing of Nominations:

13. The maximum number of vehicles that will be allowed to come within the periphery of 100 meters of Returning Officers/Assistant Returning Officers office shall be three.

Use of vehicles for electioneering purpose

14. There is no limit on vehicles, which a candidate may use for electioneering purposes.

15. But before the campaigning commences, he/she shall have to furnish the details of such vehicles and the areas in which they would be used for campaign purposes, to the District Election Officer or such other officer(s) as may be specifically authorised by the District Election Officer in this behalf, who after necessary scrutiny would issue a permit. The original copy (not the photo copy) of permit should be displayed on the wind screen of the vehicle. Needless to mention that the permit should be of such dimension, that it can easily be seen from a distance. Permit must contain the number of the vehicle, date of issue of permit, name of candidate and the area (where it shall be used for campaigning).

16. Any further deployment of any additional vehicles can take place only after notice to this effect is given by the candidate or his/her agent and permits obtained for the same, before the actual deployment of the vehicles.

17. The details so obtained should be conveyed by District Election Officer to the Election Expenditure Observers so that they can check that the expenditure in this regard is correctly included in the expenditure account of the candidate.

18. Any vehicle used for campaigning without due authorization/permit by the aforesaid officers, shall be deemed to be unauthorisedly campaigning for the candidate and may attract penal provisions of Chapter IX A of the Indian Penal Code and shall therefore be immediately taken out of the campaigning exercise.
19. The vehicles employed for election campaign as per intimation given by the candidates or their election agents to the District Administration should not be requisitioned by the administration.
20. For availing the benefit of clause (a) of explanation (1) given under Sec. 77 (1) of R. P. Act, 1951 by the leaders of the political parties, i.e., star campaigners, the permission for the mode of road transport will be issued centrally by the Chief Electoral Officer, irrespective of whether the same vehicle is to be used by any leader for election campaigning throughout the State or different vehicles are to be used by such party leaders in different areas. The permit will be issued against the name of the star campaigner concerned and shall need to be displayed prominently on the windscreen of the vehicle being used by him/her in any area. The permits so issued by the CEO will be of distinctly different colour from the permits to be issued by the DEOs/ROs for other campaign vehicles of candidates.
21. On receipt of a request from a recognized political party, the DEO would issue permit for one vehicle to be used by the district level office bearer of a recognized party (other than the star campaigner) for their visit to multiple ACs within the district for electioneering purposes. The permit should be issued indicating the number of the vehicle, the name of political leader and the period for which issued and should be of different colour so that it can easily be identified. An attested copy shall be pasted on wind screen and original be kept with the driver for checking by police or other authorities. The expenditure in this regard shall be booked against the political party and not the candidates.
22. The CEO may issue permits for vehicles that can move throughout the State for use of officer bearers of recognized political parties for electioneering purposes only. For the States having more than 100 Assembly Constituencies, the CEO may issue permits for a maximum of five vehicles and for remaining States/UTs, for a maximum of three vehicles to a recognised political party. The expenditure on these vehicles shall be incurred by the political party and not by the candidate.
23. If any political party makes a request to the Chief Electoral Officer for grant of vehicle permission for distribution of publicity material to their various party offices in the State, the Chief Electoral Officer may grant permission for one vehicle for a recognized political party (National/State). However, the concerned political party (the applicant) will have to specify the names of the Districts, the route map and the dates for which the vehicle will be required for the above purpose. For such vehicles, the CEO may issue permission, but ensure that such vehicles will also be subjected to normal checks and they will not be used for election campaigning. The expenditure on account of such vehicle shall be incurred by the political party and not by the candidate.

24. In case of Video - Vans etc. to be used by a political party for campaign across the States, before any permission to use Video-Vans for campaign is given, it should be ensured by Chief Electoral Officer that such use of vehicle is in accordance with the Motor Vehicle Act. Attention in this context is invited to the judgments dated 23.06.2006 and 14.02.2007 of the Allahabad High Court in Writ Petition No. 3648 (MB) of 2006 (copies enclosed).

Clarification

25. A cycle rickshaw is also a vehicle as defined in Section 160 of Representation of People Act, 1951, which may be used for election campaign. If it is being used, then a candidate has to account for its expenditure in his account of election expenses. To ensure this, the candidate should give details of such rickshaws being used for his election campaign and, if the rickshaw does not have any Municipal registration/permit for its identification, the rickshaw driver may be given a permit in his personal name by the Returning Officer which the rickshaw driver should carry on his person while using that rickshaw for campaign purposes. However, rickshaws being used for normal purposes of carrying passengers in ordinary course etc. may be exempted, if they are displaying only one poster showing the name or party symbol of a candidate, presuming they are doing so on their own free will.

Use of vehicles on poll day

26. Section 123(5) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 provides that the hiring or procuring or use of vehicles by a candidate/his agent or by any other person with the consent of the candidate or his election agent for the free conveyance of the voters to and fro from the polling station shall be a 'corrupt practice' and it is also an electoral offence punishable under section 133, with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.

27. With a view to placing effective curbs on this practice, the Commission issues the following directions:

(A) For an election to the House of the People, each contesting candidate, on the day of poll, will be entitled to:

- (a) One vehicle for his own use in respect of the entire constituency;
- (b) In addition, one vehicle for use of his election agent in the Parliamentary Constituency;
- (c) In addition, one vehicle for use of his election agent or workers or party workers, as the case may be, in each of the assembly segments comprised in the Parliamentary Constituency.

(B) For an election to the State Legislative Assembly, on the date of poll in that Constituency each contesting candidate is entitled to:

- (a) One vehicle for his own use;
- (b) One vehicle for the use of his election agent;
- (c) In addition, one vehicle for use of his workers or party workers.

Clarification

28. It is clarified that, henceforth, the candidate or his agent or party workers or workers will be allowed to use only four/three/two wheeler vehicles i.e. cars (of all types) taxis, auto rickshaws, rickshaws and two wheelers. In these four wheel vehicles not more than 5 persons including driver will be allowed to move on the day of poll. It is further clarified that on the day of poll no other person will be allowed to use the Vehicle allotted for candidate's or his election agent's use. However, the candidate or his election agent may be accompanied in his car by other persons subject to 5 including driver.

29. The permits for the vehicles indicated above will be issued by the District Magistrate/Returning Officer. The candidates must furnish particulars of their vehicle to be used on poll day to DEO/RO concerned and shall display the permits issued on the wind-screen of the vehicles. No other vehicles shall be allowed to be used by the leaders of the political parties including Ministers, workers, agents and sympathizers of any candidate. No exception shall be made, irrespective of the status of the candidate.

Meaning of vehicle

30. The aforementioned restrictions shall apply to all vehicles propelled by mechanical power or otherwise, including but not restricted to taxis, private cars, trucks, tractors with or without trailers, auto-rickshaws, e-rickshaws, scooters, mini buses, station wagons etc., also, and shall be made applicable for a period of 24 hours before the time fixed for closure of poll and till the completion of poll.

31. Penal action, both under the provisions of the R.P. Act, 1951 and Chapter IX A of the Indian Penal Code shall be taken against anyone offending the above directions. In addition to action under the Motor Vehicles Act, All vehicles being used in violation of these directions shall be confiscated.

Exception

32. There is no intention on the part of the Commission to put a complete ban on all vehicular traffic on the polling day and thereby create difficulties or cause harassment to the public. For genuine bonafide use for purposes other than election, the following types of vehicles shall also be allowed to be plied on the day of poll and there will be no exception:

- (a) Private vehicles being used by the owners for their private use, not connected with elections;
- (b) Private vehicles being used by owners either for themselves or for members of their own family for going to the polling booth to exercise their franchise, but not going anywhere within a radius of 200 meters of a polling station;
- (c) Vehicles used for essential services namely hospital vans, ambulance, milk vans, water tankers, electricity emergency duty vans, police on duty, officers on election duty;
- (d) Public transport carriages like buses plying between fixed termini and on fixed routes;

- (e) Taxis, three wheeler scooters, rickshaws etc. for going to airports, railway stations, inter state bus stands, hospitals for journeys which cannot be avoided;
- (f) Private vehicles used by sick or disabled persons for their own use;
- (g) Vehicles being used by the Govt. officers on duty to reach their duty point.

33. During the period of electioneering, with a view to checking misuse of private vehicles by the candidates/ their agents and party leaders and/or party supporters for carting anti-social elements so as to instill a sense of fear in the minds of the electorate and/or to smuggle illicit arms and ammunition etc. with a view to creating disturbances during elections, the Commission further directs that the District Administration shall keep a close watch on the vehicles used by persons accompanying the contesting candidates and their party's leaders for any possible mischief, including criminal activities like carrying of illegal arms and weapons. If any of these vehicles, either of a party or a private owner, is found to be involved in any such act or for carting anti-social elements with a view to intimidating or creating terror in the mind of the electorate, it shall be the duty of the local administration to impound such vehicles and not to release them till the process of elections is completed. In addition, criminal action against the owner, the occupant(s) and the candidate/political party which is involved in such illegal activities shall also be taken as per law.

Please inform all concerned and ensure compliance.

Yours faithfully,


(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
SECRETARY

E-mail :- smukherjee@eci.gov.in