

भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद
कृषि भवन नई दिल्ली

मि.स. 21-2/19 - समन्वय (i)

दिनांक 6 जनवरी, 2020.

सेवा में,

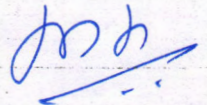
भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद
संस्थानों /राष्ट्रिय अनुसंधान केन्द्रों के
समस्त निदेशक/परियोजना निदेशक

महोदय,

कृपया इस पत्र के साथ सलग्न पत्र आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु देखे

धन्यवाद

भवदीय



(विन्सेंट टी)

अनुभाग अधिकारी (समन्वय)

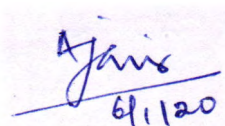
INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
KRISHI BHAWAN: NEW DELHI

F. No. GAC-21-2/2019-CDN

Dated 5th January, 2020

ENDORSEMENT

Cabinet Secretariat, Govt. of India, New Delhi/DOPT, GOI, New Delhi has issued two O.M's No.(i)1/41/5/2019-Cab dated 30.10.2019 regarding Instruction on Enforcement of Model Code of Conduct after announcement of Bye election to fill casual vacancies in the State Legislative Assemblies of Uttarakhand and West Bengal (ii) 1/41/5/2019-Cab dated 7.11.2019 regarding Immediate action to be taken for enforcement of Model Code of Conduct and Application of Model Code of Conduct after announcement of General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Jharkhand, 2019. The above mentioned O.M.'s are being uploaded on the ICAR website www.icar.org.in and e-office for information.


6/1/20

(Ajai Verma)
Under Secretary(GAC)

Distribution :-

1. Directors/Project Directors of all ICAR Institutes/National Research Centres/ Project Coordinators/Coordinated Research Projects/ATARIs/Bureaux for information and compliance.
2. All Officers/Sections at ICAR Krishi Bhawan/KAB – I & II/NASC
3. Secretary(SS), CJSC, CSWCRTI, Dehradun.
4. Secretary(SS), HJSC, ICAR.
5. Sr.PPS to DG, ICAR/ PPS FA (DARE)/PPS to Secretary, ICAR
6. Media Unit for placing on the ICAR website.
7. Guard file/Spare copies

31/10/19 No.1/41/5/2019-Cab
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)
CABINET SECRETARIAT (MANTRIMANDAL SACHIVALAYA)
RASHTRAPATI BHAWAN

New Delhi, the 30th October, 2019

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Instruction on Enforcement of Model Code of Conduct after announcement of Bye-election to fill casual vacancies in the State Legislative Assemblies of Uttarakhand and West Bengal - reg.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of Election Commission of India letter No.437/6/1/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2019/646 dated 25.10.2019 on the above subject for further necessary action.

Encl: A/a


(Bhaskar Dasgupta)
Director
Tel: 23792204

All Secretaries to the Government of India

py - in reg
As(p) - in reg

~~BS (GAC)~~

US (FAL)

6.11.19
Smt. KK
for copy
15/11/19

By Fax/Spl. Messenger/Speed Post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No.437/6/1/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2019/646

Dated: 25th October, 2019

To

1. The Cabinet Secretary,
Government of India,
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi.

2. The Chief Secretary to the Government of :-
(a) Uttarakhand, Dehradun,
(b) West Bengal, Kolkata.

3. The Chief Electoral Officer of :-
(a) Uttarakhand, Dehradun,
(b) West Bengal, Kolkata

Subject:- Bye-election to fill casual vacancies in State Legislative Assemblies of Uttarakhand and West Bengal - instructions on enforcement of Model Code of Conduct- regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Commission has announced, vide Press Note No. ECI/PN/100/2019, dated 25th October, 2019, schedule for bye-election to fill casual vacancies from the following Assembly Constituencies in the state of Uttarakhand and West Bengal :-

Name of the State	Name & No. of Constituency
Uttarakhand	44-Pithoragarh Assembly Constituency
West Bengal	34-Kaliaganj Assembly Constituency(SC) 77-Karimpur Assembly Constituency 224-Kharagpur Sadar Assembly Constituency

2. The provisions of the Model Code of Conduct have come into force with immediate effect in the district(s) in which the whole or any part of the Parliamentary/Assembly Constituency going for bye-election is comprised, subject to partial modification as issued by Commission vide its letters No. 437/6/INST/2016-CCS dated 29th June, 2017, No. 437/6/MISC/ECI/LET/FUNCT/MCC/2017 dated 18th

January, 2018 and No. 437/6/MISC/ECI/LET/FUNCT/MCC/2019 dated 14th
October, 2019 (copies enclosed).

3. This may be brought to the notice of all concerned.

Yours faithfully,



(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
Election Commission of India

प्रधान भवन
नई दिल्ली-110 001
फोन : 2308 0000-110 001
आशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली-110 001

No. 437/6/INST/2016-CCS

Dated: 29th June, 2017

To,

1. The Chief Electoral Officers of all States and Union Territories.
2. The Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories.
3. Recognized political parties of all States/UTs

Subject:- Model Code of Conduct- instructions- bye-election of Parliamentary/Assembly Constituency-regarding.

Sir,

On the above cited subject, I am directed to state that the Commission has reviewed the issue and has issued the following modifications of its earlier instructions:-

1. Enforcement of MCC

The Commission's instructions, contained in letters No. 437/6/INST/2012/CC&BE dated 26.04.2012 and No. 437/6/INST/2012/CC&BE dated 21.10.2013, list various provisions of applicability of MCC to the concerned district or the AC/PC concerned. These instructions are modified to the extent that in case the constituency is comprised in State Capital/Metropolitan Cities/Municipal Corporations, then aforesaid instructions would be applicable in the area of concerned Constituency only. In all other cases the MCC would be enforced in the entire district(s) covering the Constituency going for bye-election(s).

2. Publishing of Advertisements

The Commission on 25th June, 2013, directed that the release /publishing of advertisements during the period of operation of Model Code of Conduct in connection with bye-elections would be regulated as follows:-

- (i) Advertisement of general nature in connection with specific occasions of importance may be published. However, such publishing shall be restricted to the dates coinciding with the special occasion only, and it shall not be published on other days. The advertisement shall not bear photographs of any Minister and other political functionaries.
- (ii) No advertisement having any specific/pointed reference or connotation to the areas covered by the bye-election constituencies shall be released/published on any date during the period.

Further, it is clarified that no new schemes should be advertised in the districts where the bye-election is being conducted. [Subpara (ii) above] stands modified.

3. Tours of Ministers

During bye elections from any constituencies, either Parliamentary or Assemblies, the following restrictions are applicable as per instruction issued by the Commission on 23rd November, 2007 with regard to the tours of Ministers which inter alia provides that:-

- (i) All Ministers, whether Central or State, shall not combine in any manner their official tours with election work after the announcement of the bye elections. All and any visits to the district(s) where bye-election is being held and where Model Code of Conduct is, therefore, in force, have to be completely private in nature.
- (ii) In case where a Minister travelling on official work transits through the district(s) where the bye-election is being held en route to any other district on official visit, he shall not attend to any political work.

Further, it is clarified that the Ministers or persons holding equivalent rank/status cannot combine their official visit with campaign by en routing their journey for official purposes to a place where MCC is not in force and then proceeding from that place to the area where MCC is in force for election campaign. In case it is done, the entire journey expense shall be treated as election expense. [subpara (ii) above stands modified].

4. Regarding Transfer/Posting of Officers

For all officers, who are concerned with the conduct of bye election in the State, the existing CI's instructions on Implementation of transfer policy be applied within the valid filing under the concerned AC/PC. While implementing this policy the DFO/RO should take care that in case of deployment of any officer from outside the constituency for any election related duty, shall also conform to the transfer policy of the Commission.

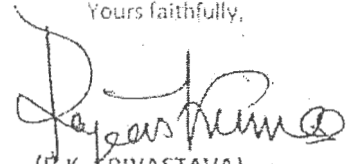
5. Regarding Announcement of D.A.

There is no EC's instruction in the context of bye election prohibiting State Governments to take decisions which have State wide effect and consequently in the Constituency concerned.

The Commission, after taking into consideration all relevant factors in this regards, has decided that announcement of D.A. by the state government may be done as a routine affair but it should not be publicized as the Government's achievement.

kindly inform all concerned and give due publicity and ensure compliance in letter and spirit.

Yours faithfully,


(R.K. SRIVASTAVA)
SR. PG. SECRETARY

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIHVACHAN SADAN, ASHOK ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. 437/6/INST/SEC/LET/FUNCY/MCC/2016

S. S. 10/16-10

Dated: 16 January 2016

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States and Union Territories.

Subject: -Clarification regarding enforcement of MCC during bye-election - regarding.

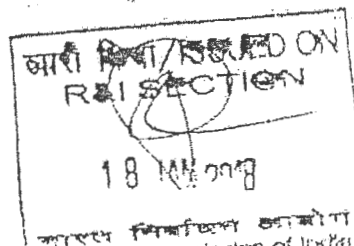
Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Commission's letter No. 437/6/INST/2016-CCS dated 29th June, 2017 regarding application of Model Code of Conduct wherein it has been stated that in case the constituency is comprised in State Capital/Metropolitan Cities/Municipal Corporations, then MCC instructions would be applicable in the area of concerned Constituency only. In all other cases aforesaid instructions would be enforced in the entire district(s) covering the Constituency going for bye-election(s). (Copy enclosed for ready reference)

In this connection, a clarification was sought for by Returning Officer, Ajmer Parliamentary Constituency in Rajasthan, whether the MCC was to be enforced in the entire district of Jaipur or only in the Dudu Assembly segment of Jaipur District during the ensuing bye-election to Ajmer Parliamentary Constituency. Since Jaipur district has in it state capital, municipal corporation, metropolitan city as well as rural area. The Commission considered the matter and clarified that in order to avoid dislocation/disturbance of normal administrative work in Jaipur District, MCC would be enforced only in Dudu Assembly segment of Jaipur district.

Now, the Commission has decided that above direction shall be applied in all future bye-elections in the Country involving State Capital/Metropolitan Cities/Municipal Corporations. Accordingly, any district in which Corporation/ Metro/Municipal Corporation is located, MCC would be enforced in the particular Assembly Constituency Segment only and not in the whole of the district.

Yours faithfully,



(NARENDRA N. BUTOLIA)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

MOST IMMEDIATE

No.1/41/5/2019-Cab
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)
CABINET SECRETARIAT (MANTRIMANDAL SACHIVALAYA)
RASHTRAPATI BHAWAN

New Delhi, the 30th October, 2019

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: General Election to the Legislative Assemblies Haryana and Maharashtra and
Bye-elections to various Parliamentary Constituencies and State Legislative
Assemblies – Lifting of Model Code of Conduct - reg.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of Election Commission
of India letter No.437/6/1/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2019/651 dated 25.10.2019 on the
above subject for further necessary action.

Encl: A/a


(Bhaskar Dasgupta)
Director
Tel: 23792204

All Secretaries to the Government of India

CS-10845/12
28/10/19

By Spl. Messenger/Speed Post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. 437/6/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2019 /651

Dated: 25th October, 2019

To

1. ✓ The Cabinet Secretary,
Government of India,
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi.
2. The Chief Secretaries to the Government of:-
 - a) Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar;
 - b) Assam, Dispur;
 - c) Bihar, Patna;
 - d) Chhattisgarh, Raipur;
 - e) Gujarat, Gandhinagar;
 - f) Haryana, Chandigarh;
 - g) Himachal Pradesh, Shimla;
 - h) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram;
 - i) Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
 - j) Maharashtra, Mumbai;
 - k) Meghalaya, Shillong;
 - l) Odisha, Bhubaneswar;
 - m) Puducherry;
 - n) Punjab, Chandigarh;
 - o) Rajasthan, Jaipur;
 - p) Sikkim, Gangtok;
 - q) Tamil Nadu, Chennai;
 - r) Telangana, Hyderabad; and
 - s) Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow;
3. The Chief Electoral Officers of:-
 - a) Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar;
 - b) Assam, Dispur;
 - c) Bihar, Patna;
 - d) Chhattisgarh, Raipur;
 - e) Gujarat, Gandhinagar;
 - f) Haryana, Chandigarh;
 - g) Himachal Pradesh, Shimla;
 - h) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram;
 - i) Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
 - j) Maharashtra, Mumbai;
 - k) Meghalaya, Shillong;
 - l) Odisha, Bhubaneswar;
 - m) Puducherry;
 - n) Punjab, Chandigarh;
 - o) Rajasthan, Jaipur;
 - p) Sikkim, Gangtok;
 - q) Tamil Nadu, Chennai;
 - r) Telangana, Hyderabad; and
 - s) Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow;

Sub: General Elections to State Legislative Assemblies of Haryana and Maharashtra and Bye-elections to various Parliamentary Constituencies and State Legislative Assemblies-Lifting of Model Code of Conduct reg.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to Commission's letter No. 437/6/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2019, dated 21st September, 2019 and to state that the provisions of Model Code of Conduct are

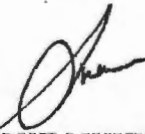
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enforced from the date of announcement of election schedule by the Election Commission and it remains in operation till completion of election process.

Now, that the declaration of result in respect of General Elections to the State Legislative Assemblies of Haryana and Maharashtra and Bye-elections to various Parliamentary Constituencies and State Legislative Assemblies of various States and UTs have been completed, the Model Code of Conduct in effect since 21st September, 2019 has ceased to be in operation in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh, with immediate effect.

Yours faithfully,



(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

12
MOST IMMEDIATE

No.1/41/5/2019-Cab

सचिव (डायर) एवं म.नि. (भा.कृ.अनु.प.) का कार्यालय
Office of Secy. (DARE) & DG (NCAAR)
Office Dy. No. 349605

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)
CABINET SECRETARIAT (MANTRIMANDAL SACHIVALAYA)
RASHTRAPATI BHAWAN

Date 11/11/19

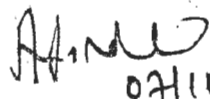
New Delhi, the 7th November, 2019

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Immediate action to be taken for enforcement of Model Code of Conduct and Application of Model code of Conduct after announcement of General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Jharkhand, 2019 - reg.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy each of Election Commission of India letter No.437/6/1/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2019/25 dated 01.11.2019 and letter No. 437/6/1/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2019/22 dated 01.11.2019 on the above subject for further necessary action.

Encl: A/a

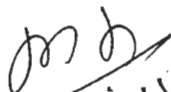

(Ashutosh Jindal)
Joint Secretary
Tel: 23012697


All Secretaries to the Government of India


DG - in dnr

As/D - in medly

DS (GAC)


27.11.19
Smt-KK


22/11/19

US (GAC)

26/11/19
rel dnr

CS - 11067/19
4/11/19

By Spl. Messenger/mail

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. 437/6/1/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2019/25

Dated: 1st November, 2019

To

1. The Cabinet Secretary,
Government of India,
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi.
2. The Chief Secretary
to the Government of
Jharkhand,
Ranchi, and
3. The Chief Electoral Officer,
Jharkhand,
Ranchi

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Subject: Immediate action to be taken for enforcement of Model Code of Conduct after announcement of General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Jharkhand, 2019- regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Election Commission has announced the schedule for holding General Election to Legislative Assembly of Jharkhand, operation of 'MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT' comes into effect with the announcement of elections by the Commission. In view of the general election to the Legislative Assembly Jharkhand, 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-

- (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

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(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, Joint 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 hrs of the announcement of the elections.**

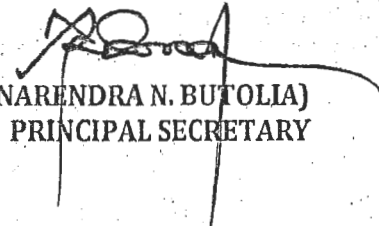
3. **Advertisement at the cost of public exchequer-** ECI instructions contained in letters, No. 437/6/1/2014-CC&BE, dated 5th March, 2014 provides that at the cost of public exchequer in the newspapers and other media and the misuse of official mass media during the election period for partisan coverage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

11066/17
4/11/19

By Spl. Messenger/Speed Post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. 437/6/1/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2019/22

Dated: 1st November, 2019

To

1. The Cabinet Secretary,
Government of India,
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi.
2. The Chief Secretary
to the Government of
Jharkhand,
Ranchi, and
3. The Chief Electoral Officer,
Jharkhand,
Ranchi.

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Sub: Application of Model Code of Conduct – General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Jharkhand, 2019- reg.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Election Commission has announced the schedule for holding General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Jharkhand (Press Note No. ECI/PN/102/2019, dated 1st November, 2019 available at the Commission's web-site - <https://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 which will be in force till the completion of the General Election in the State of Jharkhand. This may be brought to the notice of the Central and State Government, all Ministries/Departments/offices of the Union Government/the State Government. A copy of instructions issued by you to this effect, may be sent to the Commission for its information and record.

3. Your attention is drawn to the particular provisions of Model Code of Conduct relating to the 'party in power' which inter alia says that the party in power whether at the

Centre or in the 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: -

(i) (a) The Ministers shall not combine their official visit with electioneering work and also shall not 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 the 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 "<https://eci.gov.in>" - under the heading 'Important instructions' for your information and necessary action. The Commission's all other instructions are also available in this link for your guidance.

6. The Commission further 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,


(NARENDRA N. BUTOLIA)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY