

No. 2-27/2022-EXN-H-Estt- 7668-86
Department of State Taxes and Excise
Himachal Pradesh.

From

The Commissioner of State Taxes and Excise,
Himachal Pradesh.

To

1. The Addl. Commissioner of State Taxes and Excise (SZ) , 3rd floor, MC Parking Building Near ISBT Crossing, Tutikandi, Shimla-5, H.P.
2. The Joint Commissioner of State Taxes and Excise , (NZ)(CZ) Palampur and Mandi.
3. The Joint Commissioner of State Taxes and Excise, (FS)(SZ)(NZ)(CZ) Parwanoo/ Palampur and Una.
4. The Dy. Commissioner of State Taxes and Excise, Shimla/Solan/BBN Baddi/Sirmour at Nahan/ Bilaspur/ Hamirpur/ Nurpur/ Kangra/ Chamba/Kullu/Mandi and Una.
5. The Asstt. Commissioner State Taxes and Excise, Kinnuar at Peo.

Dated: Shimla-171009 dated the 21 March, 2024

Subject:- General Election to House of the People (Lok Sabha),2024 and State Legislative Assemblies in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh,Odisha and Sikkim and certain bye-elections-regarding.

Sir,

Please find enclosed herewith the copy of letter No. 3-8/2023-ELN dated 16th March, 2024 received from Chief Electoral Officer-cum-Principal Secretary, Election Himachal Pradesh along with copies of Election Commission of India letter No. 437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024, letter No.437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024 and No. 437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024 dated 16th March, 2024(copies enclosed) vide which Election Commission has desired/requested to ensure strict compliance of the provisions of Model Code of Conduct and also other standing directions, orders etc. circulated by the Commission from time to time.

You are, therefore, directed to ensure strict compliance of the instructions and to take time bound action as prescribed in the letter's ibid.

Encls:- As Above

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Yunus) IAS

Commissioner of State Taxes and Excise,
Himachal Pradesh Shimla -09
Phone No.2621835.

21/3/2024

Endst:No. 2-27/2022-EXN-H-Estt- 7687-91

Copy forwarded to:-

1. The Chief Electoral Officer - cum -Principal Secretary,Election Himachal Pradesh, w.r.t. their letter No. 3-8/2023-ELN dated 16th March, 2024 for information please.
2. All Heads of the branches at Headquarter of this department are also strictly directed to comply the instructions made by the The Chief Electoral Officer - cum -Principal Secretary,Election Himachal Pradesh regarding implementation of provisions of MCC.

✓ IT Cell for uploading on official website of department.

Commissioner of State Taxes and Excise,
Himachal Pradesh Shimla -09.

Lok Sabha/Bye- Elections-2024
Urgent/E-mail/Through Messenger

Election Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh
38-SDA Complex, Kasumpti, Shimla-9

No: 3-8/2023-ELN

Dated: 16th March, 2024.

From:

Chief Electoral Officer-cum-
Principal Secretary, Election
Himachal Pradesh.

To

1. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171002.
2. The Addl. Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries, to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171002.
3. The Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh Shimla-171002.
4. All Administrative Secretaries to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171002.
5. All Heads of Departments, Stationed at Shimla.
6. The Divisional Commissioner Shimla/Kangra/Mandi.
7. All the Deputy Commissioners, in Himachal Pradesh.
8. All the Returning/ Asstt. Returning Officers in Himachal Pradesh.

State Taxes and Excise
Dist.No 3778
18 MAR 2024
Himachal Pradesh
Shimla-9

✓
Asst. Secy. (C), (Admin/HQ./TRU/GST)
Asst. Secy. (G-II) (Admn./HQ./IT/D/TAU/A. Tax)
Asst. Secy. (HQ./IT/EIU/LTPU/Legal)
Asst. Controller (F&A)
Asst. Secy. (Tax/A. Tax/Excise/EIU/LTPU/TAU)
Asst. Secy. (HQ./Tax/EIU/TAU/Helpdesk & CIRU)
Asst. Secy. (P&R)
Asst. Secy. (State Tax & Excise)
18/03/24

Subject:- General Election to House of the People (Lok Sabha),2024 and State Legislative Assemblies in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim and certain bye-elections-regarding.

Sir/ Madam,

The Election Commission of India has announced the election schedule for Lok Sabha General Elections-2024 and Bye-elections to the HP Legislative Assembly from 18-Dharamshala, 21-Lahaul & Spiti (ST), 37-Sujanpur, 39-Barsar, 42-Gagret and 45-Kutlehar Assembly Constituencies today on 16th March, 2024. In this connection, I am directed to send herewith copies of Commission's letter No. 437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024 and No. 437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024, both dated 16th March, 2024 issued by the Election Commission of India for information and necessary action. With this announcement, the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct have come into force in the entire State with immediate

effect. The provisions of Model Code of Conduct will remain in force till the completion of election process.

You are, therefore, requested to ensure strict compliance of the provisions of Model Code of Conduct and also other standing directions, orders etc. of Election Commission of India, circulated to all by this office from time to time. Any violation of the Model Code of Conduct will be dealt with in accordance with the directions of Election Commission of India.

Please acknowledge receipt along with enclosures.

Encls.: As Above.

Yours faithfully

Cui 16.3.202
Additional Chief Electoral Officer-cum-
Special Secretary, Election
Himachal Pradesh.

By Speed Post/E-mail

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No.437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024

Dated: 16th March, 2024

To

1. **The Cabinet Secretary,
Government of India,
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi.**
2. **The Secretary to the Government of India,
Department of Programme Implementation,
Sardar Patel Bhawan,
New Delhi.**
3. **The Chief Secretaries to the Governments of all States and
Chief Secretaries/Administrators of Union Territories.**
4. **The Chief Electoral Officers of
all States and Union Territories.**

**Subject: General Elections to House of the People (Lok Sabha), 2024 and State
Legislative Assemblies of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha
and Sikkim and certain bye-elections - Release of funds under
MPs'/MLAs' Local Area Development Scheme - regarding.**

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to the Commission's Press Notes No. ECI/PN/23/2024, and No. ECI/PN/24/2024, both dated 16th March, 2024 (Press Notes available at Commission's web-site - www.eci.gov.in) as per which the Commission has announced the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct for the guidance of the Political Parties and Candidates, consequent on the announcement of General Election to Lok Sabha and to the Legislative Assemblies of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim and certain bye-elections.

2. The Commission has instructed that the release of funds under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Schemes will be subject to the following restrictions:-

- a) No fresh release of funds under the Member of Parliament (including Rajya Sabha members) Local Area Development fund shall be made in any part of the country where election is in progress. Similarly no fresh release of funds under the MLAs/ MLCs' Local Area Development Fund shall be made, if any such scheme is in operation, till the completion of election process.
- b) No work shall start in respect of which work orders have been issued before the issue of this letter but the work has actually not started in the field. These works can start only after the completion of election process. However, if a work has actually started, that can continue.
- c) There shall be no bar to the release of payments for completed work(s) subject to the full satisfaction of the concerned officials.
- d) Where schemes have been cleared and funds are provided or released and materials procured and reached the site such scheme may be executed as per programme.

Yours faithfully,


(NARENDRA N. BUTOLIA)
SR. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. 437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024

Dated: 16th March, 2024

To

The Chief Secretaries of all States and
Chief Secretaries/Administrators of Union Territories.

Subject: General Elections to House of the People (Lok Sabha), 2024 and State Legislative Assemblies in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim and certain bye-elections- Screening Committee- regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to state that the Commission has issued detailed guidelines and instructions on regulation and enforcement of various aspects of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) during election time. A number of proposals relating to MCC are being received in the Commission from Chief Electoral Officers and sometimes from the concerned departments directly. The Commission has decided that a Screening Committee headed by Chief Secretary of the State shall be constituted with following composition –

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| (i) | Chief Secretary | Chairman |
| (ii) | Secretary/Pr. Secretary of the department(s)
to which the proposal relates. | Member |
| (iii) | Secretary/Pr. Secretary of the General Administration/Coordination
department of the State. | Member |

2. The Committee shall examine each proposal, before sending it to the Commission, through the Chief Electoral Officer concerned, in the light of the Commission's existing instructions/clarifications available in the form of Manual on Model Code of Conduct/Compendium of instructions on Model Code of Conduct/instructions available on the Commission's website. The proposals cleared by the Screening Committee shall be submitted to the Chief Electoral Officer along with full details and a note on urgency, i.e. why the proposal can't wait till completion of poll/election. The Chief Electoral Officer shall forward only such proposal(s) that are cleared by the aforesaid Screening Committee, to the Commission along with his/her comments immediately. Hence, all departments of the State may be advised not to forward any reference directly to the Commission. Further, no department of the State Govt./Union Territory Administrator shall send original file to the CEO's office but only a self-contained reference be sent through the Screening Committee.

3. Accordingly, the Commission has directed that the aforesaid Screening Committee shall be constituted and operationalized immediately in all the States and Union Territories. A copy of the order constituting the Screening Committee shall be sent to the Commission latest by 3 pm of 22nd March, 2024. The CEO shall provide a copy of Manual on Model Code of Conduct, Compendium of Instructions on Model Code of Conduct and relevant Model Code of Conduct instructions to the Screening Committee.

4. Further, it may be noted that the Commission takes reasonable time to dispose of a reference, therefore last minute references should be avoided.

Yours faithfully,


(NARENDRA N. BUTOLIA)
SR. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Lok Sabha/Bye- Elections-2024
Urgent/E-mail/Through Messenger

Election Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh
38-SDA Complex, Kasumpti, Shimla-9

No: 3-8/2023-ELN

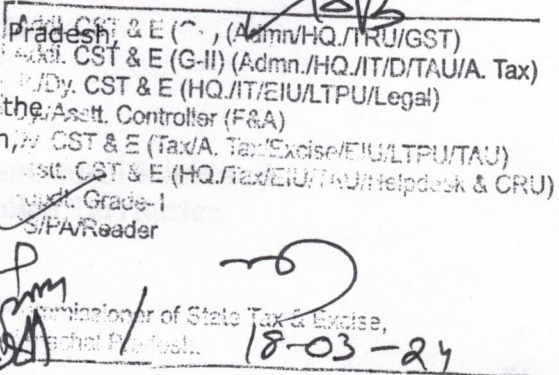
Dated: 16th March, 2024.

From:

Chief Electoral Officer-cum-
Principal Secretary, Election
Himachal Pradesh.

To

1. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171002.
2. The Addl. Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries, to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171002.
3. The Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171002.
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8. All the Returning/ Asstt. Returning Officers in Himachal Pradesh.



Subject:- General Election to House of the People (Lok Sabha),2024 and State Legislative Assemblies in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim and certain bye-elections-regarding.

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effect. The provisions of Model Code of Conduct will remain in force till the completion of election process.

You are, therefore, requested to ensure strict compliance of the provisions of Model Code of Conduct and also other standing directions, orders etc. of Election Commission of India, circulated to all by this office from time to time. Any violation of the Model Code of Conduct will be dealt with in accordance with the directions of Election Commission of India.

Please acknowledge receipt along with enclosures.

Encls.: As Above.

Yours faithfully

Cui 16.3.2022
Additional Chief Electoral Officer-cum-
Special Secretary, Election
Himachal Pradesh.

By Speed Post/E-mail

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No.437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024

Dated: 16th March, 2024

To

1. **The Cabinet Secretary,
Government of India,
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi.**
2. **The Secretary to the Government of India,
Department of Programme Implementation,
Sardar Patel Bhawan,
New Delhi.**
3. **The Chief Secretaries to the Governments of all States and
Chief Secretaries/Administrators of Union Territories.**
4. **The Chief Electoral Officers of
all States and Union Territories.**

**Subject: General Elections to House of the People (Lok Sabha), 2024 and State
Legislative Assemblies of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha
and Sikkim and certain bye-elections - Release of funds under
MPs'/MLAs' Local Area Development Scheme - regarding.**


Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to the Commission's Press Notes No. ECI/PN/23/2024, and No. ECI/PN/24/2024, both dated 16th March, 2024 (Press Notes available at Commission's web-site - www.eci.gov.in) as per which the Commission has announced the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct for the guidance of the Political Parties and Candidates, consequent on the announcement of General Election to Lok Sabha and to the Legislative Assemblies of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim and certain bye-elections.

2. The Commission has instructed that the release of funds under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Schemes will be subject to the following restrictions:-

- a) No fresh release of funds under the Member of Parliament (including Rajya Sabha members) Local Area Development fund shall be made in any part of the country where election is in progress. Similarly no fresh release of funds under the MLAs/ MLCs' Local Area Development Fund shall be made, if any such scheme is in operation, till the completion of election process.
- b) No work shall start in respect of which work orders have been issued before the issue of this letter but the work has actually not started in the field. These works can start only after the completion of election process. However, if a work has actually started, that can continue.
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Yours faithfully,


(NARENDRA N. BUTOLIA)
SR. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

By Spl. Messenger/Speed Post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. 437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024

Dated: 16th March, 2024

To

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

Sub: Application of Model Code of Conduct - General Elections to House of the People (Lok Sabha), 2024 and State Legislative Assemblies in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim, and certain bye-elections - reg.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Election Commission has announced the schedule for holding General Elections to Lok Sabha and to the Legislative Assemblies of the States of **Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Orissa and Sikkim and certain bye-elections** (Press Notes No. ECI/PN/23/2024, and No. ECI/PN/24/2024 both dated 16th March, 2024, available at the Commission's website - 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 and bye-elections, mentioned above.** This may be brought to the notice of the Central and all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, all Ministries/Departments/Offices of the Union Government and the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. A copy of instructions issued by you to this effect, may be sent to the Commission for its information and record.

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 purpose of its election campaign and in particular:-

- (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;
- (i) (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 the party in power. 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 accommodations in the States/Union Territories 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 the Commission's 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 advertisement 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/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024(MCC ENFORCEMENT) dated 2nd January, 2024 is available on the Commission's website at path -"<https://www.eci.gov.in/issue-details-page/instructions>" for your information and necessary action. The Commission's all other relevant instructions, 'Manual on Model Code of Conduct' and 'Compendium of Instructions on Model Code of Conduct' are also available on the Commission's website 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: -

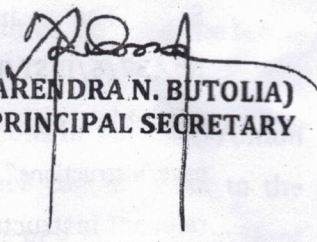
- i) The Chief Electoral Officer and Additional/Joint/Deputy Chief Electoral Officers;
- ii) Divisional Commissioners;
- iii) The District Election Officers, Returning Officers, Assistant Returning Officers and other Revenue Officers connected with the conduct of election;
- iv) Officers of the Police 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)
SR. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY