

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. 437/6/1/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2018 / 769

Dated: 6th October, 2018

To

1. ✓ The Cabinet Secretary,
Government of India,
Rashtrapati Bhawan,
New Delhi.
2. The Chief Secretaries to the
Government of:-
(i) Chhattisgarh, Raipur;
(ii) Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
(iii) Mizoram, Aizawl;
(iv) Rajasthan, Jaipur;
(v) Telangana, Hyderabad.
3. The Chief Electoral Officers of :-
(i) Chhattisgarh, Raipur;
(ii) Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
(iii) Mizoram, Aizawl;
(iv) Rajasthan, Jaipur;
(v) Telangana, Hyderabad.

Sub: Application of Model Code of Conduct - General Elections to the State Legislative Assemblies of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Telangana, 2018- reg.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Election Commission has announced the schedule for holding General Elections to the State Legislative Assemblies of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Telangana (Press Note No. ECI/PN/66/2018, dated 6th October, 2018 available at the Commission's web-site -<https://eci.nic.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 Elections in the above States. 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

