

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (ELECTIONS-B) DEPARTMENT

U.O.Note No.1879/Elections B/2014-6

Dated:10-3-2014.

Sub: General Elections 2014 – Implementation of Model Code –
Deletion of all references on politicians/Ministers on the
Official website/Displaying of photographs – Regarding.

Ref: ECI Press note No. eci/pn/10/2014, dated 5-3-2014.

The attention of all the Secretariat Departments is invited to the reference cited and informed that the model code of conduct has come into force from the date of the press release of the schedule of the General Elections 2014 on 5-3-2014 vide reference cited. Their attention is also invited to the references issued by the Commission from time to time vide ECI Lr.No.437/6/2007/(INST)-PLN-III, dated 21-11-2007 (copy enclosed), wherein the Commission has ordered that during the period that the model code of conduct is in force, in connection with the conduct of General elections to the Lok Sabha/State Legislative Assembly, all references to Ministers, Politicians or Political Parties available on such State Government/Central Government's official websites, shall be taken off/purged.

2. The Commission has further clarified vide Lr.No.437/6/2007/2008-CC&BE, dated 01-04-2009 (copy enclosed) that the photographs and images of the political functionaries, who have deep influence on the minds of electors and many of who are still active in public life and may even be contesting the current general elections, should not be displayed in the Government buildings and premises as that would have the effect of disturbing the level playing field vis-à-vis the political functionaries of other parties. Further the Commission has clarified that while the photographs of Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, Ministers and other political functionaries should not be displayed, these instructions, however, are not applicable with regard to the images of the national leaders, poets etc., as mentioned in the letter cited.

3. All the Departments of Secretariat are, therefore, requested to take immediate necessary action on the following:

- i. all references to Ministers, Politicians or Political Parties available on such State Government/Central Government's official websites, shall be taken off/purged of and also instruct all the Heads of Departments under their control to take immediate necessary action in this regard, if any said references are found to continue on the Official Website;

(P.T.O)

- ii. the photographs of Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, Ministers and other political functionaries should not be displayed in the Government buildings, as well as Government vehicles including APSRTC/website etc;
- iii. all such hoardings, advertisements etc., on display shall be removed forthwith by the concerned authorities. Further, no advertisements should be issued in newspapers and other media including electronic media at the cost of public exchequer.

BHANWAR LAL,
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER &
E.O. PRL. SECRETARY TO GOVT.

To

All Departments of Secretariat (w.e)

All Spl.Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries / Secretaries to Govt., (w.e)

Copy to

The Director General of Police, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad (w.e)

All the Heads of Departments **through:** the concerned administrative department of Secretariat. (w.e)

The Commissioner, Information & Public Relations, Masab Tank, Hyderabad (w.e)

The Managing Director, A.P. State Road Transport Corporation, Hyderabad (w.e)

All Collectors & District Election Officers (except Collector, Hyderabad).(w.e)

The Special Commissioner, GHMC & District Election Officer, Hyderabad (w.e)

All Returning Officers (both PCs & ACs) **through:** the DEO concerned.

SF/SCs

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //


SECTION OFFICER

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001.

No.437/6/INST/2008-CC&BE

Dated : 1st April, 2009.

To

1. The Cabinet Secretary,
Cabinet Secretariat,
Rashtrabhati Bhawan,
New Delhi.
2. The Chief Secretary to the Governments of
all States / Union Territories.
3. The Chief Electoral Officers of
all States / Union Territories.

Subject:- Display the photographs/calendars, etc. of national leaders and prominent personalities in the government offices/ premises – clarification regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to invite a reference to the Commission letter of even number dated 28th March, 2009, on the above subject, and to state that the underlying intention of the Commission's instruction was that the photographs and images of the political functionaries, who have deep influence on the minds of electors and many of whom are still active in public life and may even be contesting the current general elections, should not be displayed in the government buildings and premises as that would have the effect of disturbing the level playing field vis-à-vis the political functionaries of other parties and candidates.

In view of the inputs received, the Commission had issued the above instructions. In the meanwhile, certain doubts have been raised and clarification has been sought about the removal of the images of some national leaders, poets and prominent

historical personalities of the past. In this regard, the Commission would like to state that the abovementioned underlying purpose of the instruction needs to be fully appreciated while being acted upon. It is clarified that while the photographs of Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, Ministers and other political functionaries should not be displayed, this instruction, however, is not applicable with regard to the images of national leaders, poets, and prominent historical personalities of the past, and the President of India and the Governors. It is further clarified that in case of any doubt in this regard regarding removal of any photograph or images, the issue may be referred to the Chief Electoral Officer of the State/Union Territory concerned before taking action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

(K. AJAY KUMAR)
SECRETARY

By Special messenger/Speed post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.437/6/2007(INST)-PLN-III

Dated : 21st November, 2007

To

1. The Cabinet Secretary, Government of India, 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: Instructions relating 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 - regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Commission has considered the question of various references currently available in the State Government websites/Ministerial official websites pertaining to several Department and Govt. 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, all references to Ministers, Politicians or Political Parties available on such State Government /Central Government 's official websites, shall be taken off/ purged of. During bye-elections, these instructions may be confined to only those Politicians/Ministers, etc. who themselves become candidates at such bye- elections.

This may kindly be brought to the notice of all concerned for strict compliance.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,

(K. N. BHAR)
UNDER SECRETARY

Copy to:

The Principal Secretary /Secretaries/Under Secretaries for follow up action.

Q. 25. Whether hoardings/advertisements etc. depicting the achievements of the party(s) in power at Centre/State Governments at the cost of public exchequer can be continued?

Ans. No

All such hoardings, advertisements etc. on display shall be removed forthwith by the concerned authorities. Further, no advertisements should be issued in the newspapers and other media including electronic media at the cost of public exchequer.

Q. 26. Whether a Minister or any other authority can sanction grants/ payments out of discretionary funds?

Ans. No

Ministers and other authorities shall not sanction grants/payments out of discretionary funds from the time elections are announced.

Q. 27. Whether money can be withdrawn from treasury against the sanctioned amount from the discretionary funds of Ministers to prepare draft in the names of beneficiaries which may be disbursed after process of election is completed?

Ans. The funds may either be kept in "Personal Ledger Account" of the concerned Department or the release may be deferred till the completion of elections.

Q. 28. Suppose work order has been issued in respect of a scheme or a programme. Can it be started after announcement of election programme?

Ans. Work shall not be started in respect of which work order has been issued before announcement of election but the work has actually not started in the field. If a work has actually started in the field that can be continued.

Q. 29. Whether fresh release of funds under MPs/MLAs/MLCs Local Area Development Fund of any scheme can be made?

Ans. No

Fresh release of funds under MPs/MLAs/MLCs Local Area Development Fund of any scheme shall not be made in any area where election is in progress, till the completion of the election process.