

**General Elections, 2014**  
**Most Immediate**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER  
South 'H' Block, A.P Secretariat, Hyderabad - 500022

Memo.No.3242/Elecs.B/A2/2014-23,

Dated:15.04.2014.

Sub: General Election to the Lok Sabha, 2014 – Consolidated instructions on use of vehicles during elections – ECI instructions – Communicated – Regarding.

Ref: From the ECI., New Delhi, Letter No.464/INST/2014/EPS, dated 10.04.2014.

\* \* \*

A copy of the reference cited wherein in the Commission has issued comprehensive guidelines on use of vehicles by the political parties / contesting candidates is herewith enclosed. All the Collectors & District Election Officers and Commissioner, GHMC., & District Election Officer, Hyderabad are requested to follow the consolidated instructions of Election Commission of India on use of vehicles during elections. They are also requested to communicate these instructions to all the Observers/R.Os/ A.R.Os/ EEM Teams/contesting candidates and all other concerned for information and strict compliance.

BHANWAR LAL  
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER &  
E.O.PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To  
All Collectors & District Election Officers  
(except Collector, Hyderabad) {w.e}  
The Commissioner, GHMC &  
District Election Officer, Hyderabad.{w.e}  
All Observers/R.Os/AROs/EEM Teams/Contenting Candidates  
**through** DEOs concerned

**Copy to:** All officers and all Sections in O/o. CEO  
C.E.O's Website.  
S.F/S.C

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

  
SECTION OFFICER

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001.

No.464/INST/2014/EPS

Dated: 10<sup>th</sup> 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.**

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.

## GI Period of applicability-

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)

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/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.

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.

- 13-
- (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](mailto:smukherjee@eci.gov.in)