

By e-mail/Speed Post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 437/DL-HP/2024-NSII

Dated: 07 May, 2024

To,

Chief Electoral Officer,
NCT of Delhi,
Delhi.

Sub: General Election to Lok Sabha, 2024- Anonymous Hoardings, Bill boards, pamphlets and other apparatus etc. for political Advertisements- strict action to be taken -Regarding

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Commission has been receiving representations from various stake holders including political parties regarding election hoardings at authorized/unauthorized sites in the NCT of Delhi, which do not bear on its face the names and addresses of the printer and the publisher thereof, violating the electoral laws and provisions of Model Code of Conduct.

2. In this connection, your attention is drawn to the Section 127 A of Representation of the People Act, 1951, State laws on prevention of defacement of property, as applicable in NCT of Delhi and the Commission's extant instructions in the matter vide (i) No.3/7/2023/SDR, dated 12th October 2023 and 437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024, dated 16th March 2024 on prevention of defacement of property and other campaign related items, (ii) 437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024, dated 16th March 2024, on applicability of Model Code of Conduct from 16th March 2024, (iii) 491/MCMC/5/2023/Communication, dated 24th August 2023 on Media certification and Monitoring Committees (MCMC), Pre-certification of advertisements and Paid News (iv) 491/MCMC/4/2024/Communication, dated 01.04.2024 on pre-certification of political advertisements in print media on the day of poll and one day prior to poll and (v) 437/6/INST/ECI/LET/FUNCT/MCC/2024, dated 10th April 2024. All these instructions are to be followed scrupulously in letter and spirit while dealing with the complaints referred to above.

3. As NCT of Delhi has entered into campaign period in connection with ongoing General Election to Lok Sabha, 2024, there may be deliberate attempts in the field to

put/circulate anonymous handbills/pamphlets/hoardings at authorized/unauthorized sites, which may have potential to vitiate the electoral atmosphere and negatively impact the campaign discourse.

4. Keeping in view the position stated above, all the concerned officers/officials/authorities, dealing with the subject, should once again be sensitized to be more vigilant in the field to ensure that no campaign material, as mentioned above, without having the names and addresses of the printer and publisher is circulated/fixed in the area/at the authorized/unauthorized sites, in violation of the norms prescribed by law and the Commission's instructions referred to above. It is the responsibility of the respective Assistant Returning Officer/Returning Officer of the Constituency to ensure that there is no occurrence of the incidence mentioned above and strict and swift action is taken to take down/confiscate such election material in accordance with the law and the Commission's instructions. The relevant municipal and police authorities may also be sensitized about the same.

Yours faithfully,


(K.P. SINGH)
SECRETARY