By Speed Post/E-mail

Dated: 16th March, 2024

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

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

To

 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 <u>but</u> 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