

**STATE ELECTION COMMISSION**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Buddha Bhavan, M.G. Road, Hyderabad-500003, A.P.

**CIRCULAR**

**No. 526/SEC-F1/2014**

**Date: 28.03.2014**

Sub:- Elections – 4<sup>th</sup> ordinary elections to Municipal Bodies – Ban on electioneering during the prohibitory period of 48 hours ending with hour fixed for conclusion of poll under section 343C of A.P. Municipalities Act, 1965 and Section 600 of GHMC Act, 1955 – Reg.

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The State Election Commission issued Notifications on 03.03.2014 for conduct of ordinary elections to (10) Municipal Corporations and (146) Municipalities and Nagar Panchayats in the State. The Poll is scheduled on 30.03.2014 from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. There is a ban on campaigning which includes electioneering in the electronic media from 5:00 PM on 28.03.2014 till 5:00 PM on 30.03.2014 under Section 343C of A.P. Municipalities Act, 1965 and Section 600 of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation Act, 1955, which read as under:

*Prohibition of public meetings during period of forty-eight hours ending with hour fixed for conclusion of poll:-*

(1) *No person shall –*

*(a) convene, hold, attend, join or address any public meeting or procession in connection with an election; or*

*(b) display to the public any election matter by means of cinematography, television or other similar apparatus; or*

*(c) propagate any election matter to the public by holding, or by arranging the holding of, any musical concert or any theatrical performance or any other entertainment or amusement with a view to attracting the members of the public thereto, in any polling area during the period of forty-eight hours ending with the hour fixed for the conclusion of the poll for any election in that polling area.*

(2) *any person who contravenes the provision of sub-section (1) shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine or with both.*

(3) *In this section, the expression "election matter" means any matter intended or calculated to influence or affect the result of election.*

(PTO)

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Therefore, any television channel violating the said provision is liable to be prosecuted and the persons indulging in such offence are punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or both.

All Political Parties, contesting candidates and managements of electronic media are requested to take note this legal provision and see that it is implemented strictly to ensure free and fair elections.

All the Collectors & DEAs, Superintendents of Police/Commissioners of Police and officials of Information & Public Relations Department shall take all necessary steps for strict implementation of this legal provision.

**Sd/- Navin Mittal**  
**SECRETARY**

To

All the Collectors & District Election Authorities.

All the Superintendents of Police / Commissioners of Police.

All the Commissioners of Municipal Corporations / Municipalities / Nagar Panchayats.

Copy to:

The Commissioner, Information & Public Relations Department.

All Political Parties.

The Managements of Electronic Media.

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**Joint Secretary**