

**STATE ELECTION COMMISSION**

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

**C I R C U L A R**

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

**Date: 27.03.2014**

Sub: State Election Commission – 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Elections to Municipal Bodies and MPTCs/ZPTCs – Campaigning by political parties and candidates – Model Code of Conduct relating to elections to local bodies and APLA/HOP is in force in the entire State – Certain clarification regarding public meetings conducted for campaigning – Issued.

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The State Election Commission issued Notifications for conduct of 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary elections to Municipal Bodies on 03.03.2014 and MPTC/ZPTC elections on 10.03.2014. The Model Code of Conduct is in force in the entire State in connection with local body elections from 03.03.2014.

The Election Commission of India announced scheduled for conduct of General Elections to House of People and also A.P. Legislative Assembly on 05.03.2014. The Model Code of Conduct issued by the ECI is also enforced in the entire State from 05.03.2014. The actual election scheduled starts in Telangana region from 02.04.2014 and in Coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema regions from 09.04.2014. However, political parties have started campaigning for elections to HOP and APLA and also announcing the list of candidates set up by their respective parties for those elections.

The lists of contesting candidates in connection with Municipal elections were published on 18.03.2014 and those of the MPTC/ZPTC elections on 24.03.2014. The campaigning process is being undertaken briskly now by all candidates.

Now, several officers are seeking a clarification on booking of expenditure in respect of the public meetings held by important political functionaries and senior leaders in various parts of the State.

In this connection, the following clarifications are issued.

1. The expenses for the meetings held by senior party functionaries seeking support of the public for the party and the candidates in general set up by the party will go to the general expenditure of the party in the following circumstances:-
  - a. No material should be displayed depicting or sponsoring the candidates contesting on behalf of the party in local body elections (Municipal bodies / MPTCs / ZPTCs) at the public meeting venue.

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- b. No appeal should be made orally in speeches soliciting support for any candidate set up by the party in any particular ward or constituency mentioning specific name of the candidate or name of the ward or territorial constituency.
  - c. No candidate set up by the party in elections to local bodies shall be present on the dais of the public meeting or shall be introduced by the party.
2. During the public meeting, if candidature of any particular candidate or a group of candidates participating in the ongoing local body elections is sponsored either verbally or by displaying publicity material or the candidate in person on the dais, the entire expenditure for such meeting shall be booked against the candidate / candidates concerned. Where more than one candidate is involved, such expenditure shall be apportioned among all such candidates contesting local body elections.

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

To

All Collectors & District Election Authorities.

All Commissioners of Municipal Corporations / Municipalities / Nagar Panchayats.

All the Chief Executive Officers of Zilla Praja Parishads.

All Political Parties.

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**Joint Secretary**