



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग सचिवालय  
SECRETARIAT OF THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA  
निर्वाचन सदन, अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली-110001  
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 437/6/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024 (Election Manifestos)

Dated: 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2024

To,

- (i) The Chief Secretaries  
of all States and Union Territories.
- (ii) The Chief Electoral Officers  
of all States and Union Territories.
- (iii) President/Chairperson/General Secretaries  
of all recognized National and State Political Parties

**Subject: -Model Code of Conduct – Instruction- Election Manifestos – Regarding.**

Reference: Commission's instructions:

- (i) No. 437/6/Manifesto/2015/CC dated 24.04.2015
- (ii) No. 437/6/Manifesto/2015/CC dated 24.04.2015
- (iii) No. 437/6/INST/2016/CCS dated 23.08.2016, and
- (iv) No. 437/6/INST/2016/CCS dated 27.12.2016

Madam/Sir,

As you are aware that on the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Commission, after consultation with the political parties, framed guidelines for election manifestos and incorporated the same in the "Model Code of Conduct for the Guidance of the Political Parties and Candidates". A number of instructions in the matter have been issued by the Commission since then. Following are the consolidated instructions in supersession of all the instructions issued vide letters listed above:

- (i) Chief Electoral Officer should obtain three copies of the Election Manifestos from the Political Parties along with its Hindi/English version (if the original version is in regional language) within three days of its release.

Further, the Commission is of the view that the Political Parties and candidates while releasing their election manifesto for any election to the Parliament or State Legislatures, should adhere to the guidelines, particularly, Para 8(iii) of Model Code of Conduct. In this regard, all the political parties

should submit a declaration along with its manifesto that the program/policies and promises made therein are in consonance with Para-VIII of MCC which inter-alia provides that:-

“(iii) in the interest of transparency, level playing field and credibility of promise, it is expected that manifesto also reflect the rationale for the promises and broadly indicate the ways and means to meet the financial requirement for it. Trust of voters should be sought only on those promise which are possible to be fulfilled.”

(ii) Prohibitory period of Release of Manifesto during elections(s)

a. In case of single-phase election, manifesto shall not be released during the prohibitory period, as prescribed under Section 126 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

b. In case of multi-phase elections, manifesto shall not be released during the prohibitory periods, as prescribed under Section 126 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, of all the phases of those elections.

The above instructions of the Commission shall be brought to notice of all concerned for strict compliance.

Yours faithfully,

  
(NARENDRA N. BUTOLIA)  
SR. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY