

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF POLITICAL PARTIES HELD ON 12/03/2019 AT 12.30 P.M. IN THE CONFERENCE HALL OF OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, ALTINHO, WITH REGARD TO ELECTION EXPENDITURE**

The meeting of all the Political Parties was held on 12/03/2019 at 12.30 pm in the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Altinho, with regard to guidelines on Election Expenditure. The meeting was chaired by Sh. Kunal IAS, Chief Electoral Officer.

The following officials /Representatives of Political Parties were present for the meeting.

- 1) Sh. N.R. Sawant, Addl Chief Electoral Officer, Goa
- 2) Sh. Satyawan G. Bhivshet, Excise Department
- 3) Sh. Ashok V. Rane ,Department of Commercial Tax
- 4) Sh. Shahnawazul Rahman ,IRS,Jt. Director of Income Tax(Inv.)
- 5) Sh. Suresh R. Ugavekar, Lead District Manager
- 6) Sh.Devidas Gaonkar,Asst. Chief Electoral Officer
- 7) Smt. Sangeeta Naik, Dy Chief Electoral Officer, Goa
- 8) Sh. Jose Philip D 'souza ,NCP
- 9) Sh. Pundalik Raut Dessai, BJP
- 10)Sh. Narayan P. Sawant ,MGP
- 11)Sh. Altinho Gomes,INC
- 12)Sh. Durgadas Kamat, Goa Forward Party

The CEO welcomed all the members present for the meeting .The following points were discussed during the meeting;

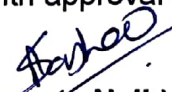
1. CEO informed that the purpose of the meeting is to update all about the recent instructions of ECI especially on expenditure monitoring. That such meetings will be held on regular basis to pass on the new instructions/provisions and initiatives of ECI so that same can be followed in letter and spirit by all political parties.
2. Dy. CEO informed about the latest instruction of ECI regarding amended Form 26 for Affidavit which is to be filed along with the Nomination papers. It was also informed that as per the instructions of ECI Form 7, 8 and 8A

received after declaration of Elections cannot be processed. However Form 6 for inclusion of new voters can be made till 10 days before last date of filing Nominations.

3. All members present were briefed about the Complaint monitoring System during elections. Any violation could be reported by calling 1950 or through NGRS or through Cvigil App introduced newly by ECI. It was also informed that all applications for various types of permissions can be made online through SUVIDHA App .However all permissions need to be applied for 48 hours before the event. Brief training was held on SUVIDHA and Cvigil App.
4. Dy. CEO brought to the notice of Political Parties the recent instruction of ECI regarding issue of declaration of criminal antecedents of the candidate in Newspapers and TV Channels. The candidate as well as the concerned political party shall issue declaration in widely circulated newspaper in locality about antecedents of the candidate and also give wide publicity in electronic media. The same shall be done atleast thrice after filing nomination papers. The representative of BJP raised doubt as to whether the amount spent on such publication will be reimbursed to the candidate and whether it will be included in election expenditure. The CEO clarified that the expenditure shall be included in the election expenditure of candidate, however there is no instruction regarding reimbursement of expenditure incurred on publication of antecedent.
5. Political parties expressed concern over the date of Poll i.e. 23<sup>rd</sup> April fixed by ECI as Good Friday is on 19<sup>th</sup> April and further Easter falls on Sunday. It was mentioned that the Campaigning on Good Friday may hurt the religious sentiments of the Christian community and may lead to law and order issues.NCP representative suggested to call for special meeting in this regard to sort out the issue.CEO assured that no law and order issues would arise as necessary instructions can be issued not to issue any permissions for holding meetings and rallies in the vicinity of Church and sufficient police force will be deployed.CEO appealed to the Political parties to exercise self restraint with regards to campaigning on Good Friday in vicinity of Churches. He also requested the Political Parties to put up the issue in writing to take further necessary action if needed. CEO further informed the participants that no such letter has been received with respect to Polling Date affecting celebration of Good Friday and Easter from Church Authorities.

6. The representative of INC raised issue regarding removal of Board displayed at the Party headquarters office by Flying Squad and requested to issue necessary instructions to Flying squads to adhere to the instructions of ECI. CEO informed that the issue will be clarified.
7. CEO briefed all the members present regarding measures taken to monitor expenditure by Candidates and Political parties. That limit for carrying cash would be Rs. 50,000/- and any person carrying amount above this ceiling limit would have to explain the source of cash. Further that the expenditure limit for cash Payments would be Rs, 10,000/-. That Banks have been asked to keep watch on suspicious transactions in accounts. If any transaction of above 10 lakhs is noticed same will be intimated to Income Tax Department. The existing expenditure limit for Lok Sabha Election will be Rs. 54, 00,000 and Rs. 20,00,000 for Assembly Elections as per earlier notifications and no changes are made for the current elections.
8. CEO informed that teams from excise Department will monitor sale and movement of Liquor .Similarly Commercial Tax Department will monitor sale of Goods like mobiles, TV etc and system of chits/coupons .Police department has been asked to keep watch on small vendors.
9. CEO informed that all MCC Teams are in place and any violations of Code shall be reported to these teams. He also urged all the members to verify their details in electoral roll which can also be done easily online through Voter Helpline app or NVSP. Political parties are requested to sensitize their members on the app so that they can make use of it as still there is time available to apply in case names are missing.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair. This issues with approval of CEO.

  
(Sangeeta Naik)

**Dy. Chief Electoral Officer**

To,  
President/Secretary all Political Parties  
State of Goa