

By Fax/Speed Post

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001.

SUMIT MUKHERJEE

Tel No. 23717590

UNDER SECRETARY

Fax No. 23717590

No. 464/INST/2009/EPS

Dated: 11th October, 2009

To,

1. The Chief Electoral Officer of
Arunachal Pradesh
2. The Chief Electoral Officer of
Haryana
3. The Chief Electoral Officer of
Maharashtra

**Sub: Restrictions on presence of political functionaries in a
Constituency after the campaign period is over.**

**Ref:- Commission's Instruction vide letter No.464/INST/2007-PLN-I
Dated 12.10.2007 and letter No.464/INST/2008-PLN-I dated
27.02.2008.**

Sir/Madam,

Under Section 126 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, in the period of 48 hours ending with the hour fixed for the close of poll, the campaign will come to an end.

2. During the course of campaign in General Election to Legislative Assemblies, the political parties mobilize their supporters, including from outside the constituency of poll, in order to bolster that campaign. In view of the fact that after the closure of campaign period no campaign can take place within the constituency, presence of political functionaries / party workers / procession functionaries / campaign functionaries etc., who have been brought from outside the constituency and who are not voters of the constituency, should not continue

to remain present in the constituency as their continued presence after campaign ends may undermine the atmosphere for free and fair poll.

3. Hence the Commission has directed that after the campaign period is over, the district election administration / police administration shall ensure that all such functionaries leave the constituency immediately after the campaign period is over. However, the said restriction may not be insisted upon during the General Elections to State Legislative Assemblies in respect of the office bearer of Political party who is in-charge of the State. Such office bearer of the political party shall declare his place of stay in the State Headquarters and his movement during the period in question shall remaining confined normally between his party office and place of his stay.

4. The Commission further directs that in order to ensure that the above instruction is carried out, the election administration / police administration may take all necessary measures which may include:

1. Checking of kalyan mandapams / community halls etc., where such people are kept housed and find out whether the outsiders have been accommodated in these premises.
2. Verification of lodges and guesthouses to keep a track of the list of occupants.
3. Set up check-posts in the constituency borders and track the vehicular movement from outside the constituency.
4. Verify the identity of the people / group of people in order to find out whether they are voters or not and establish their identity.
5. This shall be brought to the notice of all political parties, candidates and their agents, District Election Officers/Returning Officers/ Assistant Returning Officers in order to enable them to comply

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully

(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)