

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

SUMIT MUKHERJEE
UNDER SECRETARY

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No. 464/INST/2009/EPS

Dated: 8th February, 2009

To,

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States/UTs.

**Sub: - General Elections to the Lok Sabha, 2009- visit of political
functionaries with security covers - regarding**

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Commission has considered the issue whether political functionaries of a state who are also provided with security covers should be permitted to visit another state with their security guards, pilot escorts etc for election campaigning. Your attention is invited to specific guidelines as prescribed in Yellow Book as to the number and type of security guards in entitlement of X, Y, Z or Z⁺ category. Further, the type of security cover to be given to a person is decided by both Central and State Govt. after following due procedure.

The Commission has directed that the following instructions shall be observed in all cases --(other than Z⁺,SPG protectees for whom special guidelines exist).

- I. Escort shall be provided as per pre-existing security categorization. For this purpose security grading as on the date of announcement of elections will be reckoned.
- II. The visiting leaders will be permitted to come with their PSOs, as per their X, Y, and Z category entitlement.
- III. No private security vehicle or security guards shall be permitted to come with visiting political functionaries.
- IV. The visiting political functionaries shall give prior intimation at least three days before to CEO, of the state and DEO/SP of the districts where visits for campaigning purposes are planned.
- V. If the visiting political functionaries are 'star campaigners' sponsored by political parties in pursuance of Explanation of the section 77 of the R.P.Act, 1951, the expenditure in this regard will be accounted for in that party's account. If not, the entire expenditure shall be accounted

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for in that candidate's election expenditure account for whom the campaigning is made. If, the numbers of candidates are more than one, their expenditure shall be apportioned equally among them.

VI. All such visits shall mandatorily be video-tracked.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully



(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)