

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

ANUJ JAIPURIAR
UNDER SECRETARY

No. 464/GJ-LA/2007

Dated: 19th November, 2007

To

The Chief Electoral Officer,
Gujarat,
Gandhinagar.

Sub.- General Election to the Gujarat Legislative Assembly 2007 –
**Amenities for CPMF and Role of CPMF and State Police in conduct
of polls - Regarding..**

Sir,

I am directed to state that during elections the Commission deploys significant number of Central Paramilitary Forces into the election going State(s) on the basis of its assessment of the ground realities. The Local State Police (including all its variants) and Central Paramilitary Forces at the time of elections stand deputed to the Election Commission of India and they come under its superintendence and control for all purposes. The Commission conducts election with the help of all these organs.

2. Wherever the CPMF arrives in advance for area domination, it shall take out flag marches, point patrolling and other confidence building activities. On the poll-eve (day prior to the poll) the CPMF shall take positions in the assigned polling stations and take control of such polling stations. On the day of the poll, the CPMFs shall be primarily responsible for protecting the polling stations and regulating the entry inside the polling stations. One jawan of the CPMF party shall be deployed at the door of the polling station (either in static or oscillating mode) in order to observe the proceedings that are going on inside the polling station, as per the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court. Besides, the Coy. Commanders of CPMFs will also move in their respective polling station areas as an area domination force and confidence building measure in the catchment area of polling stations. In case CPMF has not reached the assigned polling station due to any reason, the poll shall not commence.

3. Sometimes a clarification is sought that in the buildings which have multiple polling stations and where CPMF deployed is not sufficient to cover every polling station (door), how the entrance of the polling stations would be guarded. It is clarified that in such a situation, the CPMF Jawan selected for duty at the entrance of the polling station may be asked to oscillate from one polling station to other and look at what is going on inside these polling stations and report to the officer in charge of CPMF or the observer, if anything unusual is observed by him.

4. The Local State Police shall remain responsible for maintenance of the general law and order in the catchment area of the polling stations, as well as the inside and outside of the polling premises (as different from polling stations). Whenever, the Local State Police gets deployed inside the polling premises, they shall station themselves at a reasonable distance from the polling station and the queue of electors. It is advised that one or two unarmed Local State Police persons/Home Guards be posted at each polling premises so that in case required, reinforcement could be called for. In any case, Local State Police shall not replace the CPMF at the polling stations and no senior officer of the local state police, with or without contingent shall position himself at the polling station and exercise any supervision and control over the CPMF at the polling station. The Local State Police, however, in exceptional circumstances can get deployed at polling stations, only if enough CPMF is not available, and that too under specific instructions of the Commission through its observer. In such cases, the local police shall not stand at the door of the polling station and instead would be so positioned at such distance from the door so that there is no scope of any apprehension about his interference in the poll process going on inside the polling station.

5. Responsibility of maintenance of law and order shall rest solely with the local State Police. The Commission has instructed that hamlets/habitations within a polling station area that are vulnerable to threat, intimidation and undue influence shall be identified and all necessary confidence building and preventive measures shall be taken in advance. The Local State Police shall attach utmost importance to this task and shall also ensure that there is no hindrance to voters of such pockets in exercising their franchise on the day of poll.

6. After the poll is completed, the polled EVMs and the Presiding Officers shall be escorted by a contingent of CPMF to the Reception Center. Details in this regard shall be worked out by the DEO and SP in consultation with Observer in advance.

7. The CPMF shall also be responsible for guarding the Strong Room where the polled EVMs are stored and kept till the day of counting.

8. The Commission further desires that arrangements for fooding for the CPMF personnel may also be made at par with the State Police /polling personnel on the day of poll. Other amenities, as required are enclosed for consideration by the State Govt.

9. The Commission's instructions/directions as above shall be complied without any deviation. I am, therefore, to request that the aforesaid instructions/directions may be brought to the notice of all concerned including the observers immediately.

Yours faithfully,

(ANUJ JAIPURIAR)

Encls.: 2

BASIC AMENITIES FOR CPMF DURING ELECTIONS

(I.) ACCOMMODATION

Following minimum accommodation with all the basic amenities are required per copy of CPMFs during elections:-

- Three Barracks of 16/32 size
- One Room for Officer
- One Room for Kitchen
- One Room for Store
- Six Bathrooms
- Six Toilets

(II.) OTHER LOGISTICS

(a) Vehicles

(i.) Number of vehicles –

Following minimum vehicles are required per Coy. of CPF during elections

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Buses | :02 Nos. |
| Truck | :01 No. |
| Medium Vehicle | :01 No. |
| Light Vehicle | :01 No. |

(In case of less than one section deployed, 3 Light Vehicles @ one per platoon would be additionally required for effective supervision)

(ii.) **Technical fitness of vehicles**

States may be advised to ensure that vehicles are technically road worthy and in good condition.

(iii.) **Security verification of drivers**

States may be advised to undertake/ensure security vetting of the drivers in civil vehicles.

(iv.) **POL for dedicated Force vehicles**

States may be advised to provided POL to the Force Vehicles, if carried by any force for duties in the State.

(III.) SIM CARDS

One Sim Card each may be provided to all the Company Commanders as well as supervisory officers of the Bus (Mobile telephone sets would be carried by officers).

(IV.) ACCIDENT INSURANCE/COMPENSATION

State should insure CPF personnel also against any accident during the period of election duty or any other compensation as applicable to State employees be extended to CPF personnel.

(V.) PACKED LUNCH OR REFRESHMENT CHARGES ON POLLING DAY/COUNTING DAY.

The practice of provisioning of meal packets as applicable to State Police personnel on election duty, should be extended to personnel of CPF being deployed on the polling day.