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**PUBLIC (ELECTIONS.III) DEPARTMENT,
SECRETARIAT, CHENNAI-600 009.**

e-mail / Letter No.16300/2026-3, Dated: 09.06.2026.

From
Tmt. Archana Patnaik, I.A.S.,
Chief Electoral Officer &
Principal Secretary to Government

To
The Collector of Chengalpattu District
The Collector of Tiruchirappalli District
The Collector of Erode District
The Collector of Tiruppur District
The Collector of Tirunelveli District
(with enclosure to all)

Sir,

Sub: ELECTIONS – Preparatory measures for the Bye-elections to Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly from 35.Madurantakam (SC) / 101.Dharapuram (SC) / 103.Perundurai / 141.Tiruchirappalli (East) / 225.Ambasamudram Assembly Constituencies – **Model Code of Conduct** - Certain details – Called for.

Ref: From the Election Commission of India, New Delhi, letter No.437/6/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024 (BYE ELECTIONS)/ 237, dated 02.01.2024.

I am to state that the following five casual vacancies have arisen in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, due to the resignation of the Members:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Member	No. & Name of AC	Name of District	Vacancy occurred on
1.	Thiru. C. Joseph Vijay	141.Tiruchirappalli (East)	Tiruchirappalli	10.05.2026
2.	Thiru. S. Jayakumar	103.Perundurai	Erode	25.05.2026
3.	Tmt. K. Maragatham Kumaravel	35.Madurantakam (SC)	Chengalpattu	25.05.2026
4.	Tmt. P. Sathyabama	101.Dharapuram (SC)	Tiruppur	25.05.2026
5.	Dr. Esakki Subaya	225.Ambasamudram	Tirunelveli	26.05.2026

2. The Election Commission of India may make announcement for conduct of the poll for the bye-elections to the above Assembly Constituencies within a period of six months from the date of the occurrence of the vacancy, as per the provisions of Section 151-A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. In view of this, it is necessary to get ready to commence electoral process immediately after the announcement of the poll schedule by the Election Commission of India.

3. The Election Commission of India, in its letter dated 02.01.2024, has communicated the detailed instructions regarding Model Code of Conduct during the Bye-elections, i.e. Enforcement of Model Code of Conduct, Publishing of Advertisements, Tours of Ministers, Transfer/Posting of Officers, etc.

4. The Election Commission, in its letter dated 02.01.2024, has issued following instructions regarding Model Code of Conduct:-

I. Enforcement of Model Code of Conduct:-

- (i) In case, the constituency is comprised in State Capital / Metropolitan Cities / Municipal Corporations, then aforesaid instructions would be applicable in the area of concerned constituency only.
- (ii) In case of a district in which Corporation / Metro / Municipal Corporation is located, Model Code of Conduct would be enforced in the particular Assembly Constituency only and not in the whole of the district.
- (iii) in all other cases, the Model Code of Conduct would be enforced in the entire district(s) covering the constituency going for bye-elections(s).

5. The Election Commission, in its letter dated 02.01.2024, has directed that the Commission has decided that no officer connected directly with the conduct of Bye-election, should be allowed to continue in the present posting within the Assembly Constituency limits:-

- (i) If she / he is posted in her / his home Assembly Constituency limit:
- (ii) If she / he has completed three years during last four years or would be completing 3 years on or before the last day of the sixth month from the date of occurrence of the casual vacancy.

- (iii) Such officers shall be shifted out of the Assembly Constituency limit.
- (iv) These instructions cover Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officers of the Assembly Constituency going for bye-election. These instructions will also cover other Officers, viz. Deputy/Assistant Collectors, Sub-Divisional Magistrates, Tahsildars and Block Development Officer located in Assembly Constituency Limits.
- (v) As far as Officer in the Police Department are concerned, these instructions shall be applicable to the Sub-Divisional Head of Police, DSPs / Circle Officers, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors or equivalent ranks posted in the field within the Assembly Constituency Limit.

6. The following posts were notified as Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officers:-

No. & Name of the Assembly Constituency	Returning Officer	Assistant Returning Officer
35.Madurantakam (SC)	Sub-Collector / Assistant Collector / Revenue Divisional Officer, Madurantakam.	1. Personal Assistant to Sub-Collector / Assistant Collector / Revenue Divisional Officer, Madurantakam. 2. Tahsildar, Madurantakam. 3. Special Tahsildar (Social Security Scheme), Madurantakam.
101.Dharapuram (SC)	Sub-Collector / Assistant Collector / Revenue Divisional Officer, Dharapuram.	1. Tahsildar, Dharapuram. 2. Special Tahsildar (Social Security Scheme), Dharapuram.
103.Perundurai	District Supply and Consumer Protection Officer, Erode.	1. Tahsildar, Perundurai. 2. Panchayat Union Commissioner, Perundurai.
141.Tiruchirappalli (East)	Assistant Commissioner, Ariyamangalam Zone City Corporation, Tiruchirappalli.	1. Tahsildar, Tiruchirappalli (East). 2. Administrative Officer, Ariyamangalam Zone City Corporation, Tiruchirappalli.

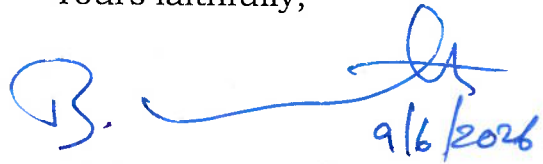
225.Ambasamudram	Sub-Collector / Assistant Collector / Revenue Divisional Officer, Cheranmahadevi	1. Personal Assistant to Sub-Collector / Assistant Collector / Revenue Divisional Officer, Cheranmahadevi. 2. Tahsildar, Ambasamudram. 3. Tahsildar, Cheranmahadevi.
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7. I am to request you to furnish the following details to this office immediately:-

- (i) Whether the Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officers of the above Assembly Constituencies are in position.
- (ii) Whether any Part of the above Assembly Constituency falls in other district(s).
- (iii) Whether the above Assembly Constituency comprised in the Municipal Corporation or not?

8. For the preparatory measures for the above Bye-elections, I am to request you to furnish certain details in the **Formats-I & II** [enclosed herewith] to this office **on or before 22.06.2026**.

Yours faithfully,

 9/6/2026

for Chief Electoral Officer &
Principal Secretary to Government

Copy to:-

The System Manager,
Public (Elections) Department, Chennai-9. (w.e.)

Format-I

Details regarding RO, ARO, Officials / Staff, etc.

Sl.No.	Name of the Post	Person holding the post	Date since when holding the post	*Whether the Election Commission's Transfer Policy (home +3 years criteria is applicable (YES/NO)	If Yes, indicate the steps taken	Whether the post is vacant as on date	If vacant steps taken for filling it up
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
I.							
1.	R.O.						
2.	AROs						
3 a)	Z.O.-I						
b)	Z.O.-II and as on						
II.							
1.	COP/DCP/ACP/DSP						
2 a)	Inspr. of Police, Circle						
b)	Inspr. of Police, Circle						
3 a)	S.I. of Police, Station						
b)	S.I. of Police, Station and as on						

* Please refer EC's letter No.437/6/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024(BYE ELECTIONS)/237, dated 02.01.2024.

ARCHANA PATNAIK
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER &
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

// TRUE COPY //


9/6/2024
SECTION OFFICER

FORMAT -II

1.	Name of District	
2.	Details of RO a. Name b. Post c. Posted since in the post d. Posted since in the District	
3.	Details of COP / DCP / ACP /DSP a. Name b. Posted since in the post c. Posted since in the District	
3a.	Names of DSP / Inspector in the category and date from which posted.	
4.	Electors for the constituency. a. Total Electors b. EP Ratio c. Gender Ratio of Roll d. Gender Ratio of Population in District e. EPIC Percentage f. PER Percentage	

5.	<p>Polling Stations</p> <p>a. Number of Polling Locations</p> <p>i. Number of Polling Stations</p> <p>ii. Main</p> <p>iii. Auxiliary</p> <p>iv. Total</p> <p>a. No. of BLOs</p> <p>b. No. of local BLOs</p> <p>c. No. of Sensitive Polling Stations</p>	
6.	<p>Preparation of Poll</p> <p>a. Number of Trainings scheduled</p> <p>b. Number of Vulnerable Hamlets Identified.</p> <p>c. Number of Vulnerable Voters Identified in the above vulnerable hamlets.</p> <p>d. Number of ASD Voters Identified in 98.Erode (East) Assembly Segment during the GELS, 2024.</p> <p>e. Polling Personnel</p> <p>(i) Number of Polling Personnel Needed(including 20% reserve)</p> <p>(ii) Number of Polling Personnel identified.</p> <p>(iii) Number of Micro-Observers identified.</p>	
7.	<p>Law and Order (to be reviewed from the date of announcement of bye-poll)</p> <p>a) Number of Persons bound over under section 107 Cr.PC</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Number of Persons against whom action is taken under other preventive laws c) Number of preventive arrests d) Number of NBWs executed since announcement of poll e) Number of NBWs pending against accused persons for more than 6 months. f) Number of Licensed Arms in the District g) Number of Arms deposited. h) Any important law and order incidents in the district since announcement of polls. 	
8.	<p>Search and Seizure since announcement of Polls.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cash b. Liquor c. Drugs d. Illegal Weapons e. Illegal Ammunition f. Other illegal things 	
9.	<p>Poll preparedness in terms of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Training (Plan, dates, groups to be used) b. Communication Plan c. Transportation Plan d. Whether number of contesting candidates is more than 16 	

	<p>c. Availability of adequate EVMs & VVPATs</p> <p>i. CUs Available in district</p> <p>ii. BUs Available in district</p> <p>iii. VVPATs Available in district</p> <p>f. Are RO and ARO in place</p> <p>g. Are all sector officers identified</p>	
10.	Three major concerns of the District.	
11.	<p>i. No. of Zones.</p> <p>ii. No. of Zones with more than 12 polling stations.</p> <p>iii. No. of Zones with more than 10 locations.</p> <p>iv. Nodal Officer for various works appointed.</p> <p>v. Counting centre identified. Details thereof.</p>	

ARCHANA PATNAIK
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER &
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//TRUE COPY//


9/6/2026
SECTION OFFICER



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग सचिवालय
SECRETARIAT OF THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

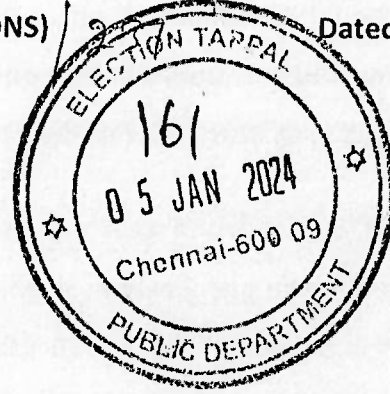
निर्वाचन सदन, अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली-110001
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 437/6/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024 (BYE ELECTIONS)

Dated: 2nd January, 2024

To,

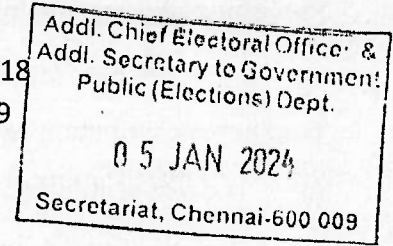
- (i) The Chief Secretaries
of all States and Union Territories.
- (ii) The Chief Electoral Officers
of all States and Union Territories.



**Subject:- Model Code of Conduct – Instruction- Bye-election of Parliamentary/Assembly Constituency
– Regarding.**

Reference: Commission's instructions:

- (i) No. 437/6/INST/2016-CCS dated 29.06.2017
- (ii) No. 437/6/1/ECI/INST/FUNCT/MCC/2017, dated 18.01.2018
- (iii) No. 437/6/MISC/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2019, dated 14.10.2019
- (iv) No. 437/6/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2021, dated 21.10.2021
- (v) No. 437/6/INST-2013/CC&BE, dated 25.06.2013
- (vi) No. 437/6/1/2014 dated 16.08.2014, and
- (vii) No. 437/6/1/2016-CCS, dated 21.04.2016



Madam/Sir,

The Commission has issued various instructions from time to time on observance of code of conduct during bye-elections. Following are the consolidated instructions in supersession of all the instructions issued vide letters listed above:

I. Enforcement of MCC

- (i) In case the constituency is comprised in State Capital/Metropolitan Cities/Municipal Corporations, then aforesaid instructions would be applicable in the area of concerned Constituency only.
- (ii) In case of a district in which Corporation/ Metro/Municipal Corporation is located, MCC would be enforced in the particular Assembly Constituency Segment only and not in the whole of the district.

(iii) In all other cases the MCC would be enforced in the entire district(s) covering the Constituency going for bye-election(s).

(iv) The above instructions shall cover the district in which all or maximum number of polling stations of constituency going to bye-election are located. For the district(s) with number of polling stations less than 10% of the total polling stations of the constituency concerned, the instructions would be applicable only in the area under jurisdiction of those polling stations. However, it must be ensured that the other instructions regarding deployment of staff, etc., are strictly observed in all districts irrespective of number of polling stations situated therein.

(v) Further, it is advised that the political parties not to organize any political activities directly related to the bye-elections even in the areas adjoining the district/constituency where the bye-election are being held. The District Election Officers concerned will ensure that the MCC instructions and COVID guidelines relating to the norms of social distancing are followed in the districts adjoining to the poll going district/constituency.

II. Publishing of Advertisements

The release /publishing of advertisements during the period of operation of Model Code of Conduct in connection with bye-elections would be regulated as follows: -

- (i) Advertisement of general nature in connection with specific occasions of importance may be published. However, such publishing shall be restricted to the dates coinciding with the special occasion only, and it shall not be published on other days. The advertisement shall not bear photographs of any Minister and other political functionaries.
- (ii) No advertisement having any specific/pointed reference or connotation to the areas covered by the bye-election constituencies shall be released/published on any date during the period.

Further, it is clarified that no new schemes should be advertised in the districts where the bye-election is being conducted.

III. Tours of Ministers

During bye elections from any constituencies, either Parliamentary or Assemblies, the following restrictions are applicable with regard to the tours of Ministers:-

- (i) All Ministers, whether Central or State, shall not combine in any manner their official tours with election work after the announcement of the bye elections. All and any visits to the

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district(s) where bye-election is being held and where Model Code of Conduct is, therefore, in force, have to be completely private in nature.

(ii) In case where a Minister travelling on official work transits through the district(s) where the bye-election is being held en route to any other district on official visit, he shall not attend to any political work.

(iii) No official of any rank of the district(s) where the bye-election is being held, shall be called to attend any meeting by any Minister in any district, that is to say, even in other districts where election is not being held.

Further, it is clarified that the Ministers or persons holding equivalent rank/status cannot combine their official visit with campaign by en routing their journey for official purposes to a place where MCC is not in force and then proceeding from that place to the area where MCC is in force for election campaign. In case it is done, the entire journey expense shall be treated as election expense.

IV. Transfer/Posting of Officers

1. Bye-election to the Assembly Constituency (ies):

(1.1) The Commission, in supersession of existing instructions, has decided that no officer connected directly with the conduct of Bye-elections, should be allowed to continue in the present posting within the Assembly Constituency limits:-

(i) If she/he is posted in her/his home Assembly Constituency limit;

(ii) If she/he has completed three years during last four years or would be completing 3 years on or before the last day of the sixth month from the date of occurrence of the casual vacancy.

Such officers shall be shifted out of the Assembly Constituency limit.

(1.2) (i) These instructions cover Returning Officers and Assistant Returning Officers of the Assembly Constituencies going for bye-elections. These instructions will also cover other officers viz. Deputy/Assistant Collectors, Sub-Divisional Magistrates, Tehsildars and Block Development Officer located in Assembly Constituency Limits.

It is however clarified that officers appointed as Sector Officers, though directly involved in election duties will not be covered under these instructions as their duties are such that they are deployed in field duties where their knowledge of the area/terrain is crucial to their effective performance. The CEO, DEO and RO should, however, keep a close watch on them during the election period to ensure that their performance is strictly impartial.

(ii) As far as officer in the Police Department are concerned, these instructions shall be applicable to the Sub-Divisional Head of Police, Dy.SPs/Circle Officers, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors or equivalent ranks posted in the field within the Assembly Constituency Limit.

(1.3) The Commission further desires that a detailed review may, therefore, be undertaken and all such officers be posted out of their home constituency limits where they have completed or will complete, on the aforesaid date, tenure of three years in Assembly constituency limit out of the last four years, immediately. Further, for uniformity, the three year period shall be reckoned backwards from the last day of the sixth month as mentioned at para 2.1(ii).

2. Bye-election to the Parliamentary Constituency (ies):

(2.1) The Commission, in supersession of existing instructions, has decided that no officer connected directly with the conduct of Bye-elections to the Parliamentary Constituency going for bye-election, shall be allowed to continue in the present posting within the Parliamentary Constituency limits:-

(i) If she/he is posted in her/his home district within the concerned Constituency limit;

(ii) If she/he has completed three years during last four years or would be completing 3 years on or before the last day of the sixth month from the date of occurrence of the casual vacancy.

Such officers shall be shifted out of the Parliamentary Constituency limit.

(2.2) (i) These instructions cover Returning Officers and Assistant Returning Officers of the Parliamentary Constituencies going for bye-elections. These instructions will cover only that District Election Officer who is designated as Returning Officer. Other District Election Officers, even if some part of their district falls in the Parliamentary Constituency going for bye-elections shall not be covered under these instructions. The instructions will however cover other officers viz. Additional Collector, Additional District Magistrate, Deputy Collectors, Assistant Collectors, Sub-Divisional Magistrates, Tehsildars and Block Development Officer located in Parliamentary Constituency Limit.

It is however clarified that officers appointed as Sector Officers, though directly involved in election duties will not be covered under these instructions as their duties are such that they are deployed in field duties where their knowledge of the area/terrain is crucial to their effective performance. The CEO, DEO and RO

should, however, keep a close watch on them during the election period to ensure that their performance is strictly impartial.

(ii) As far as officer in the Police Department are concerned, these instructions shall be applicable to the Superintendent of Police located in the District whose District Election Officer is also the Returning Officer. Other Superintendent of Police, even if some part of their district falls in the Parliamentary Constituency going for bye-elections shall not be covered under these instructions. These instruction will however cover Additional SP, Sub-Divisional Head of Police, Dy.SPs/Circle Officers, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors or equivalent ranks posted in the field within the Parliamentary Constituency Limit.

(2.3) The Commission further desires that a detailed review may, therefore, be undertaken and all such officers be posted out of their home constituency limits where they have completed or will complete, on the aforesaid date, tenure of three years in Assembly constituency limit out of the last four years, immediately. Further, for uniformity, the three year period shall be reckoned backwards from the last day of the sixth month as mentioned at para 2.1(ii).

3. The Commission also desires that the officers/officials against whom Commission has recommended disciplinary action or who have been charged for any lapse in any election or elections related work in the past, shall not be assigned any election related duty.

4. The Commission further desires that no officer/official against whom a criminal case is pending in any Court of Law be associated with the election work or election related duty.

5. The Commission has in the past received complaints that while the State Government transfers officials in the above categories in pursuance of the direction issued by the Commission, the individuals try to circumvent the objective by proceeding on leave and physically not moving out of the district from which they stand transferred. The Commission has viewed this seriously and desires that all such officials who stand transferred in pursuance of the instructions referred to above shall be asked to move physically out of the district from which they stand transferred immediately on receipt of the transfer orders.

6. Normally, bye-election is held to fill up a casual vacancy within a period of six months from the date of occurrence of vacancy (excepting a situation beyond control of the Commission). Hence, it would be advisable if the State Government initiates steps for implementation of these guideline immediately after occurrence of a casual vacancy in a constituency so that last moment dislocation of officers can be avoided.

7. Any officer who is due to retire within coming six months will be exempted from the purview of the above-mentioned directions of the Commission. Further officers falling in category (home/3+ criteria) shall not be engaged for performing election duties during the elections, if they are due to retire within 6 months.

While implementing this policy the DEO/RO should take care that in case of deployment of any officer from outside the constituency for any election related duty, shall also conform to the transfer policy of the Commission.

V. **Announcement of D.A.**

The Commission has decided that announcement of D.A. by the state government may be done as a routine affair but it should not be publicized as the Government's achievement.

VI. **Promises made by the Ministers/sitting MPs/MLAs on religious/communal grounds in those areas where MCC is not in force**

It has come to the notice of the Commission that during the Bye-elections, the party in power as well as the sitting MPs/MLAs tend to make promises/appeals on religious/communal grounds in those parts of the districts/areas in their State/UT where Model Code of Conduct (MCC) is not in operation so as to avoid the violation of MCC. This has, however, indeed far-reaching implications as it would certainly influence the minds of electors of the Assembly Constituency/Parliamentary Constituency where the bye election(s) is going on and, thus, vitiate the free and fair elections in that Constituency(ies).

In view of the above, it is directed that as soon as Bye- election(s) to any Assembly Constituency/Parliamentary Constituency is announced in a State/UT, the CEO concerned shall issue an advisory to all the recognized political parties in the State/UT to request their Ministers and sitting MPs/MLAs not to make promises or statements on religious or communal ground even