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PRESS NOTE

Imphal, the 20th January, 2022

No.COE-101/1/2021-ELEC-ED: With the announcement of elections by Election Commission of India on 8th January, 2022, the Model Code of Conduct came into effect and steps have been taken to comply with the Model Code of Conduct in letter and spirit.

- a) Defacement of government, public properties and unauthorized defacement in private property complied within specified timelines.
- b) Number of defacement removed so far (till 19-01-2022).

Type of Property	Wall writing	Posters	Banners	Flags & Others	Total
Govt/Public	3068	18529	4635	23331	49563
Private	487	1707	316	2248	4758
Total	3555	20263	4951	25579	54321

- c) Control Rooms/MCMC/Complaint Monitoring System activated in all districts.
- d) List of works (ongoing and not started) collected.
- e) Photographs of political functionaries removed from government websites.

2. Seizure/ Law & Order/ Preventive Actions:

Number of hamlets identified as vulnerable	588
Number of trouble mongers	1011
Number of persons bound down under sections	1430
Number of nakas operational	260
Arms deposition	15240 out of 25299 (58.65%)
Seizure	Cash (0.50 cr) Liquor (0.1474961 cr) Drugs (26.558 cr) Others (1.41cr)

3. COVID Norms

- a) No road show, Pad-yatra, cycle/bike/vehicle rally and procession shall be allowed till 22nd January, 2022.

- b) Indoor Meeting allowed with a maximum participants of 50 (as fixed by SDMA)
- c) Each political party/candidate shall furnish an undertaking in the application form (under Suvidha) that it shall abide by all the extant instructions/guidelines in this regard.
- d) Between 8 pm and 8 am, no rallies and public meetings (akin to campaign curfew) shall be allowed on any campaign day.
- e) Nukkad Sabhas (meeting) will not be allowed on public roads, round abouts or public streets or corners.
- f) Further, Political parties and candidates are advised to conduct their campaign as much as possible through digital/virtual/ media platforms /mobile based mode instead of physical mode ensuring strict compliance of Covid safety norms.
- g) Door to Door Campaign- A maximum of 5 (five) persons including candidate, excluding security personnel, if any, shall be allowed to do door to door campaigning.
- h) The convoy of vehicles shall be broken after every 5 (five) vehicles and interval between two sets of convoys of vehicles should be half an hour instead of gap of 100 meters.
- i) The maximum number of star campaigners for recognized National/State political parties has been fixed 30 in place of 40, for unrecognized political parties 15 in place of 20. Request for permission for campaign by star campaigners may be given at least 48 hours before the start of campaign to make all necessary safety arrangements.
- j) No victory procession after the counting shall be allowed and not more than two persons shall be allowed to accompany the winning candidate or his/her authorized representative to receive the certificate of election from Returning Officer.
- k) If a candidate or political party violates any of the above guidelines, no further permission shall be given to the concerned candidate/party for rallies, meetings etc.
- l) Election Agents/ Polling Agents/ Counting Agents without double dose vaccination shall not be allowed.

4. Postal Ballots for Essential Services

ECI has extended the facilities of postal ballots as Absentee Voters to the following essential services:

- a) Electricity Department
- b) BSNL
- c) Railways
- d) Post & Telegram
- e) Doordharshan
- f) All India Radio
- g) Health Department in connection with COVID-19
- h) Aviation
- i) Fire Services
- j) Ambulance Services
- k) Media Persons authorised by ECI for poll day coverage

5. Criminal Antecedents