

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.437/6/INST/2009-CC&BE

Dated: 9th March, 2009

To

1. The Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories.
2. The Chief Electoral Officers of all States and Union Territories.

Subject: General Election to the Lok Sabha-2009- Model Code of Conduct – reg.

Sir,

As you are aware, the General Election to the Lok Sabha, 2009 has been announced by the Commission and Model Code of Conduct has come into force w.e.f. 2nd March, 2009. The Commission has received many references from various States in respect of the introduction of the Budget for the year 2009-10.

2. The Commission would like to point out the prevalent convention that is followed in most of the States is that instead of presenting full budget, only a vote on account is taken for 3-4 months in cases where a General Election is imminent or when the process of General Election has been announced and the Model Code of Conduct is in operation. It contributes to a healthy democratic practice.

3. The Commission, in deference to the State Legislatures, and having regard to such a convention and propriety, would not like to lay down a precept or prescribe a course of action. However, it would advise, in the case of States that are going for Assembly polls, that a vote on account should be taken.

4. The above instructions may be brought to the notice of all concerned and the receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

(K.N. BHAR)
UNDER SECRETARY