

By Camp Bag/Fax

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

No.76/Instrucion/2012/EEPS

Dated: 5th February 2012

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
1. Uttar Pradesh
2. Goa

Subject: Details of expenditure on the use of aircrafts in election campaigning –
Reporting procedure – matter reg.

Reference: Election Commission's letter No. 576/3/2005/J.S.II, dated
29.12.2005, S.O.P. of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, Ministry of
Civil Aviation's OM No. CAS-7(15)/2011/Div-I (Misc) dated 8.4.2011

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the instructions issued by the Commission about submitting information regarding the use of aircrafts by political parties and candidates during election process for the purpose of monitoring expenditure of election campaign. Some political parties have represented to the Commission that there are practical difficulties in giving this information 3 days before use of aircrafts. The Commission has considered this matter and has modified para 4 of the Commission's instruction No. 576/3/2005/J.S.II dated 29.12.2005 as follows: -

1. No prior permission for landing or take off of aircrafts (including fixed wing aircrafts) and helicopters at commercial airports shall be required from District Election Officer (DEO) or Returning Officer (RO). The Air Traffic Control (ATC) in commercial airports shall inform the CEO of the State, about the travel plan of

private aircrafts or helicopters as early as possible, preferably half an hour in advance.

2. However, during election process the ATC shall keep record of all such private aircrafts or helicopters, landing and taking off from commercial airports including type of aircraft, the company which owns/leases the aircraft, time of landing, time of take off and passenger manifest, route plan etc. The ATC shall make a copy of this information available to the Chief Electoral Officer of the State concerned within 3 days, after the date of landing/take off and the CEO shall make such information available to the Expenditure Observer for making necessary verification during inspection. The ATC shall also make the record available for inspection by Expenditure Observer whenever required.

3. At airstrips and helipads, which are not used for commercial purpose, application will have to be made either by the candidate or by the political party to the DEO concerned, at least 24 hours before landing, mentioning the details of travel plan, place of landing in the district and names of passengers in the aircrafts/helicopters so that DEO can make adequate arrangements for security and law and order issues. On receipt of such application, the DEO shall issue permission on the same day on priority basis.

4. Every candidate shall also inform the Returning Officer concerned in writing within 3 days after the landing of the aircraft/helicopter, about the hiring charges paid/payable to the company owning/leasing the aircraft/helicopter, and name of the political party, if the party has borne the expense for the hiring.

5. Political parties shall submit to the Election Commission/ CEO of the State concerned within 75 days of completion of Assembly election or 90 days of completion of Lok Sabha election, as the case may be, a consolidated statement including number of aircrafts used and sorties made during election in the State for election campaign, name of company which hired/provided the aircraft, flight period, and the money paid/payable to the company leasing/providing the aircraft, including copy of the vouchers.

Yours faithfully,

(S.K. Rudola)
Secretary