

भारत निर्वाचन आयोग

By Speed Post/Camp Bag

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

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

Dated: 31st October, 2017

No.576/14/EPS/2017/201-202

To

The Chief Secretary to the Govt. of

1. Himachal Pradesh- Shimla.

The Chief Electoral Officer,

1. Himachal Pradesh- Shimla.

Subject : General Elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Himachal Pradesh, 2017 – Prohibition on sale of Liquor etc. – Regarding.

Sir/Madam,

The Commission has announced schedule for the General Elections to the Legislative Assembly of Himachal Pradesh, 2017 vide its Press Note dated 12th October, 2017. In this regard, I am directed to invite your attention to Section 135 C of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 which provides that no spirituous, fermented or intoxicating liquors or other substances of a like nature shall be sold, given or distributed at a hotel, eating house, tavern, shop or any other place, public or private, within a polling area during the period of forty-eight hours ending with the hour fixed for the conclusion of poll for any election in the polling area.

2. In view of the statutory provision as above, 'Dry day' shall be declared and notified under the relevant State laws as is appropriate during 48 hours, ending with the hours fixed for conclusion of poll as indicated in the Commission's notification with respect to polling day for an election in that polling area where elections to Legislative Assembly are due to be held. This will include the dates of re-poll, if any.

3. The Commission further directs that the date on which counting of votes is to be taken up for Himachal Pradesh shall also be declared 'Dry Day' under the relevant laws in the State.

4. No liquor shops, hotels, restaurants, clubs and other establishments selling/serving liquor, shall be permitted to sell/serve liquor to anyone whatsoever, on the aforesaid days.
5. Non-proprietary clubs, star hotels, restaurants etc. and hotels run by anyone even if they are issued different categories of licenses for possession and supply of liquor, should also not be permitted to serve liquor on these days.
6. The storage of liquor by individuals shall be curtailed during the above period and the restrictions provided in the excise law on the storage of liquor in unlicensed premises shall be vigorously enforced.
7. The Commission directs that the State Governments shall strictly implement the above measures. They are required to issue detailed and comprehensive instructions to all authorities concerned to take appropriate and legally effective measures to implement the above prohibitions and assist the election authorities in peaceful and smooth conduct of free and fair poll.
8. The receipt of this letter may kindly be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

(Sumit Mukherjee)
Principal Secretary

Copy to concerned Zonal Section

गारी किया/ISSUED ON
 R&I SECTION
 31 OCT 2017
 भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
 Election Commission of India
 नई दिल्ली / New Delhi