

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
18, Sarojini Naidu Sarani
(Rawdon Street)
Kolkata – 700 017
Ph No. 2280-5277; FAX- 2280-7373

No. 41-SEC/1M-30/2021

Date: 04.01.2022

ORDER

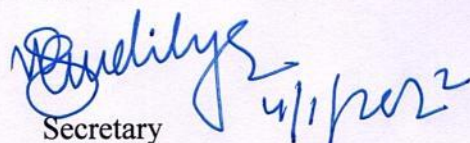
The Commission, in exercise of the power conferred by Article 243 ZA of the Constitution of India, does hereby give the following clarifications on adherence to MCC by the electronic media & print media:

During elections, there are sometimes allegations of violation of MCC by TV channels by telecast of their panel discussion/ debates and other news and current affair programmes and by print media by publishing articles/ advertisements of the types mentioned above. The commission clarifies that displaying any election matter by means, inter alia, of television or similar apparatus or any form of print media, during the period of 72 hours ending with the hour fixed for conclusion of poll in a constituency is prohibited. "Election matter" is defined as any matter intended or calculated to influence or affect the result of an election.

The Commission reiterates that the TV/Radio channels, cable networks, newspapers and magazines should ensure that the contents of the programme telecast/ broadcast/ published by them during the period of 48 hours referred above do not contain any material, including views/appeals by panelists/ participants that may be construed as promoting/ prejudicing the prospect of any particular party or candidate(s) or influencing/ affecting the result of the election. This shall, among other things include display/ publication of any opinion poll and of standard debates, analysis, visuals, sound-bytes and articles/ editorials.

In this connection, it is reiterated that, conduct of Exit poll and dissemination of their results during the period mentioned therein, i.e. the hour fixed for commencement of poll in the first phase and half hour after the time fixed for close of poll for the election to Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation, Siliguri Municipal Corporation, Asansol Municipal Corporation & Chandannagar Municipal Corporation is prohibited.

By Order of the Commissioner
West Bengal State Election Commission


Secretary

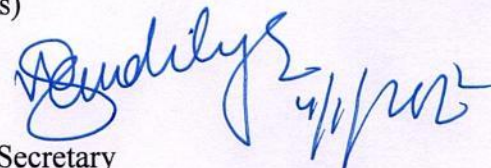
West Bengal State Election Commission

No. 41/1(2)-SEC/1M-30/2021

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Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Director of Information, I&CA Department, Government of West Bengal for circulation.
2. The District Municipal Election Officer & District Magistrate, Hooghly/ North 24 Parganas/ Paschim Bardhaman/ Darjeeling/ Jalpaiguri.
3. The Editor, _____ (Media House/ Press)


Secretary

West Bengal State Election Commission