

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, HARYANA

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Most Immediate/Date Bound Panchayati Raj Institutions Election

No.SEC/4E-II/2023/1143

Dated: 23rd May, 2023

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Haryana, Prohibition, Excise and Taxation Department, Chandigarh.

Subject:

General Elections of Gram Panchayat Sambhalkha, Block Ladwa, District Kurukshetra --- Prohibition of sale of liquor during elections-regarding.

Sir,

I have been directed to refer to the above subject and to say that the State Election Commission, Haryana has issued notification for conduct of general elections for Gram Panchayat Sambhalkha, Block Ladwa, District Kurukshetra vide Notification No. SEC/4E-II/2023/1131, dated 23.05.2023(copy enclosed). As per election schedule, nomination papers shall be presented from 31.05.2023 to 05.06.2023 and poll shall be held on 15.06.2023. Counting of votes shall be held immediately after the close of poll at the polling stations of the Gram Panchayat concerned.

- 2. In discharge of its sacred constitutional responsibility of conducting and ensuring free and fair elections of the Panchayati Raj Institutions in a transparent and peaceful manner, the State Election Commission proposes to take strict measures to ensure an atmosphere conducive for holding free, fair and peaceful elections reflective of true choice of the electorate.
- 3. For meeting this objective, the State Election Commissioner, Haryana in exercise of powers conferred upon him under Article 243K (1) of Constitution of India, section 135C of the Representation of People Act, 1951 applicable under section 173A of Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 and all other powers enabling him in this behalf, hereby directs that the State Government shall declare and notify 'dry days' under relevant laws for such period during general elections of Panchayati Raj Institutions as are appropriate at or around the areas of Gram Panchayat Sambhalkha, Block Ladwa, District Kurukshetra, where elections are to be held. Such period of 'dry days' so declared and notified must include the period of one day before the day of poll, actual

date of polling day. Extract of section 173A of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 and section 135C of the Representation of People Act, 1951, is reproduced as under:-

Section 173A of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994

"173A. Application for certain sections of Central Act 43 of 1951 to Haryana Act 11 of 1994:- The provisions of sections 20B, 33A, 134A, 134B, 135B and 135C of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (Central Act 43 of 1951), shall mutatis mutandis apply to the provisions of this Act: Provided that provisions of section 135B shall be applicable to the residents of the area."

Section 135C in the Representation of People Act, 1951

"135C. Liquor not to be sold given or distributed on polling day.

- (1) 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 the poll for any election in that polling area.
- (2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of sub-section (1), shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine, which may extend to two thousand rupees, or with both.
- (3) Where a person is convicted of an offence under this section, the spirituous, fermented or intoxicating liquors or other substances of a like nature found in this possession shall be liable to confiscation and the same shall be disposed of in such manner as may be prescribed."

4. The State Election Commission further directs that:-

- (I) No liquor shops, hotels, restaurants, clubs and other establishments' selling/serving liquor shall be permitted to sell/serve liquor to any person whosoever may be, on the aforesaid dates.
- (II) No 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 be permitted to serve liquor on these days.
- (III) The storage of liquor by individuals shall be curtailed during the above period and the restrictions provided in the Excise laws on the storage in unlicensed premises shall be vigorously enforced.
- (IV) Steps shall also be taken to prohibit sale of liquor in adjoining areas of the Panchayati Raj Institutions where the elections are to be held, so that there are no chances of clandestine movement of liquor from those areas, wherein the restriction has not been in operation.

- 5. In pursuance of the above directions the State Election Commission hereby directs that the above ban must be imposed within the jurisdiction of the areas of Gram Panchayat Sambhalkha, Block Ladwa, District Kurukshetra, where general elections are to be held and the areas adjoining to the jurisdiction thereof on 14.06.2023 & 15.06.2023, where poll is scheduled to be held on 15.06.2023.
- 6. It is requested that a copy of order issued in furtherance of the above mentioned directions may be sent to the State Election Commission without delay.

Yours faithfully,

Encl:-As above

Assistant State Election Commissioner for State Election Commissioner, Haryana

Dated: 23rd May, 2023

Panchkula.

Endst. No.SEC/4E-II/2023/1144-1148

A copy is forwarded to the following for information and immediate compliance of above orders:-

- Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Haryana, Development and Panchayat Department, Haryana, Chandigarh.
- 2. Director General of Police, Haryana, Panchkula.
- 3. Director, Development and Panchayat Department, Haryana, Chandigarh.
- The Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Election Officer (Panchayat), Kurukshetra.
- 5. The Superintendent of Police of the district Kurukshetra.

Assistant State Election Commissioner for State Election Commissioner, Haryana Panchkula,

23/5/23