



**भारत निर्वाचन आयोग**  
**Election Commission of India**

निर्वाचन सदन  
NIRVACHAN SADAN  
अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली - 110 001  
ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110 001

No.437/6/CG/ECI/LET/FUNCT/MCC/2016(COMP)

Dated : 23rd January, 2017

To

The Cabinet Secretary to the  
Government of India,  
Rashtrapati Bhawan,  
New Delhi.

Subject:- Model Code of Conduct – Presentation <sup>of</sup> National Budget for Financial Year 2017-18.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letters bearing No.1/41/1/2017-Cab dated 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 and 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, and letter No. F.4(5)/2016-Leg.1 dated 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2017, of Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, on the subject cited, and to state that the Commission has considered the matter carefully in the perspective of current General Elections to the Legislative Assemblies of five States-UP, Goa, Punjab, Manipur and Uttarakhand.

2. The Commission hereby directs that in the interest of free and fair elections and in order to maintain level playing field during elections, no State specific schemes shall be announced in the National Budget which may have the effect of influencing the electors of the five poll going States in favour of the ruling party(ies). It may be ensured that in the Budget Speech, the Government's achievements in respect of said five States will also not be highlighted in any manner.

3. In this context, a copy of the advisory issued by the Election Commission in its letter No.437/6/INST/2009-CC&BE, dated 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2009, addressed to the Chief Secretaries and Chief Electoral Officers of all States and Union Territories at the time of the General Election to the Lok Sabha, 2009, is also enclosed. The Commission expects that the advice given by the Commission in that letter will also be duly kept in view by the Government at the time of the presentation of the Budget for the next financial year 2017-18.

4. Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,

(R.K. SRIVASTAVA)  
SENIOR PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

# 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**