

**GOA STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
ALTINHO, PANAJI-GOA.**

No. 1/199/ Standing orders /2020-SEC//1238

Dated: 30/10/2020

CIRCULAR

Sub: Use of Videographer during Election.

Videography is a very useful and reliable tool available with the election machinery to capture events on real time basis and to take action as may be required at the appropriate stage during the election process. The videographers will be deputed by the Returning Officers to record specifically the videography of all major events in the election process including the nomination, scrutiny of nominations, period of campaign, the day of poll, counting and declaration of results; and any other related activity wherever it is considered necessary by the RO or the Collector.

In order to enable the Commission to have a fair, reliable and concurrent record of the incidents relating to violation of either the election law or the model code of conduct and also to assess the impact of the corrective measures taken, if any, the concerned District Collector is hereby authorized by the Commission for engaging services of the videographers by following proper codal formalities; and while doing so they are directed to keep the following points in view:

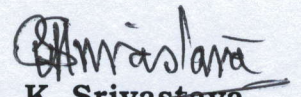
1. Private professional videographers may be hired; preferably taluka-wise for all the talukas under their control.
2. The Returning Officer while programming the itinerary of the video team will take into account the number of sensitive polling stations, previous history of events, other malpractices and the general law and order situation etc. On the basis of these assessments, the Returning Officer should decide the deployment of team wherever considered necessary.
3. The videographer and his firm should not be owned by or belong to any political person/party / a sympathizer or supporter or close relative of any of the contesting candidates / leaders of the political parties; and

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should not have been hired by any political party or contesting candidate at least within last three months.

4. Video team should be directed to work under the supervision and guidance of the election related officers / ROs / AROs.
5. The videographer should be briefed properly emphasizing that the principle behind the scheme is to record and videograph the critical events and not to just videograph every event in a routine manner in order to simply enhance his charges.
6. The requirement of the number of videographers needs to be assessed and carefully decided by the RO concerned.
7. Following activities/events should be considered for special coverage by videography for which ROs are required to brief them appropriately before hand:
 - i. Meeting addressed/attended by Ministers; top National/State level leaders of recognized parties.
 - ii. Incidents of riots or riotous situation or commotions, brick batting, free-for-all etc.
 - iii. Violent incidents, damaging of property, looting, arson, brandishing of arms etc.
 - iv. Attempt of booth capturing, if any.
 - v. Incidents of intimidation of voters.
 - vi. Canvassing within 100/ 200 metres of polling stations, as the case may be.
 - vii. Vulgar unaccounted display of money / materials like huge cut-outs etc.
 - viii. Movement and activities of candidates with doubtful/criminal records in sensitive areas.
 - ix. Hypersensitive & sensitive polling stations.

- x. Important events such as nominations, scrutiny and withdrawal of candidates.
- xi. Closure of strong room after deposit of Ballot boxes therein.
- xii. Opening of strong rooms before taking out the Ballot boxes for counting.
- xiii. Counting process from beginning till declaration of results.
- xiv. Any other aspect as may be decided by the RO concerned.


R. K. Srivastava

State Election Commissioner

To

- 1. The district Collectors.
- 2. The ROs/AROs for local body elections.