

POLICE COMMUNIQUÉ

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS 2019

Members of the public are being informed of relevant provisions under different laws concerning the holding of the National-Assembly Elections 2019 and which are described below:

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT 1958

Sect 65 - Undue influence

(2) Any person who on polling day —

- (a) annoys, molests or otherwise interferes with an elector;
- (b) attempts to obtain any information as to the candidate for whom an elector is about to vote or has voted, or as to the number on the ballot paper given to an elector;
- (c) remains outside any voting room except for the purposes of gaining entry to the voting room in order to vote; or
- (d) within two hundred metres of the precincts of a polling station -
 - (i) loiters in any street, or open place;
 - (ii) by word, message, writing or in any other manner, endeavours to persuade any person to vote for any candidate or party or dissuades any person from voting or from voting for any candidate or party, shall commit the offence of undue influence.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 2,000 rupees and imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year.

Sect 67 - Personation

Every person who —

- (a) at an election applies for a ballot paper in the name of another person, whether that name is the name of a person living or dead, or of a fictitious person; or
- (b) having voted once at any election, applies at the same election for a ballot paper in his own name, shall be guilty of personation.

Penalty: A person who is guilty of personation, shall, on conviction, be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years.

THE PUBLIC GATHERING ACT 1991

Sect 8 - Restriction on public gathering

(2) Where a poll is to be taken on any day in an electoral area under the Representation of the People Act 1958, no public meeting and no public procession shall, after 6 p.m. on the eve of that day, be held anywhere in that electoral area.

(3) No public meeting and no public procession shall be held in an electoral area on the day of, and on the 3 days following, the declaration of the result of the poll at any election in that electoral area conducted under the Representation of the People Act 1958.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 25,000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 4 years.

EXCISE REGULATIONS 1994

Reg 101. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), no liquor, rum, local rum or compounded spirits shall be sold in any constituency, town or village-

(a) on any day on which a poll is taken in respect of any election conducted in accordance with the Representation of the People Act 1958;

(b) on any day preceding such day; and

(c) on any day on which the counting of the votes takes place in respect of such election.

(2) The Minister may exempt such establishments as he thinks fit from compliance with the provisions of paragraph (1).

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 50,000 rupees and imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PROHIBITION ON ADVERTISEMENT, SPONSORSHIP AND RESTRICTION ON SALE AND CONSUMPTION IN PUBLIC PLACES, OF ALCOHOLIC DRINKS) REGULATIONS 2008

Reg 5. (a) No person shall consume an alcoholic drink in a public place.

NB: Public place excludes public beach.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 10,000 rupees and imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months.

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