

भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

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Website: www.eci.nic.in

निर्वाचन सदन,
अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली-110001.
Nirvachan Sadan,
Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001.

No.464/INST/2017-EPS

Dated 21st February, 2017

To

1. The Chief Secretaries of all the States & Union Territories
2. The Chief Electoral Officers of all the States & Union Territories
3. All Recognised National and State Political Parties

Subject: Engagement of Child Labour in the Election Related Activities –
Regarding.

Reference:

1. Commission's letter No.464/INST/2009/EPS, dated 01/05/2009;
2. Commission's letter No.464/INST/2013-EPS, dated 02/05/2013;
3. Commission's letter No.464/INST/2013-EPS, dated 16/09/2014.

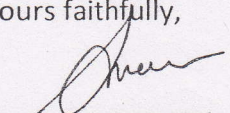
Madam / Sir,

Your attention is invited to the Commission's letters referred above on the subject cited. The Commission has directed from time to time that the political parties and election officials should refrain from involving child labour in the election process.

2. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCH), Government of India vide its letter No.A-11033/77/2017-Admn, dated 20/01/2017 has requested the Commission to ensure that children are not involved in any form with the election related activities by either the elections officials or the political parties.

3. In view of the above, the Commission reiterates its earlier directions that it should be ensured by all political parties and election officials that children are not involved in any election-related process or activity.

Yours faithfully,


(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
SECRETARY

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 464/INST/2009/EPS

Dated: 1st May, 2009.

To

1. The Chief Secretaries of all states/UTs
2. The Chief Electoral Officers of all States/UTs

Subject :- Engagement of child labour in the election process- Regarding.

Sir/Madam

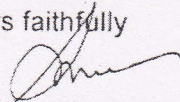
I am directed to state that it has come to the notice of the Commission that children were employed for carrying electronic voting machines at Bhagalpur, Bihar during the ongoing general election, 2009. (A copy of photograph published in a newspaper is enclosed)

As you are aware that Child Labour Act, bans the employment of children below 14 years of age in specified occupations such as transport of goods etc. which are considered unsafe and harmful to child workers and regulates the conditions of work of children in employment. It also lays down penalties for employment of children in violation of the provisions of this Act, other Acts which forbid the employment of children. The Act extends to the whole of India. The child labour Act of 1986 applies to all establishments and workshops wherein any industrial process is carried on (excluding one covered under Section 67 of the Factories Act, 1948).

The Commission has taken strong exception to use of children in work connected with elections. It is highly objectionable. In order to ensure that no such insensitivity is shown by the election related officials anywhere in the country, the

Commission has directed that such violation of child rights for any work connected with the election process is in no way acceptable to the Commission. The District Election Officers/Retuning Officers shall be informed that they will be personally held responsible for any such violation and will face severe disciplinary action apart from facing the consequences of law, if any such instance comes to the notice of the Commission.

Yours faithfully

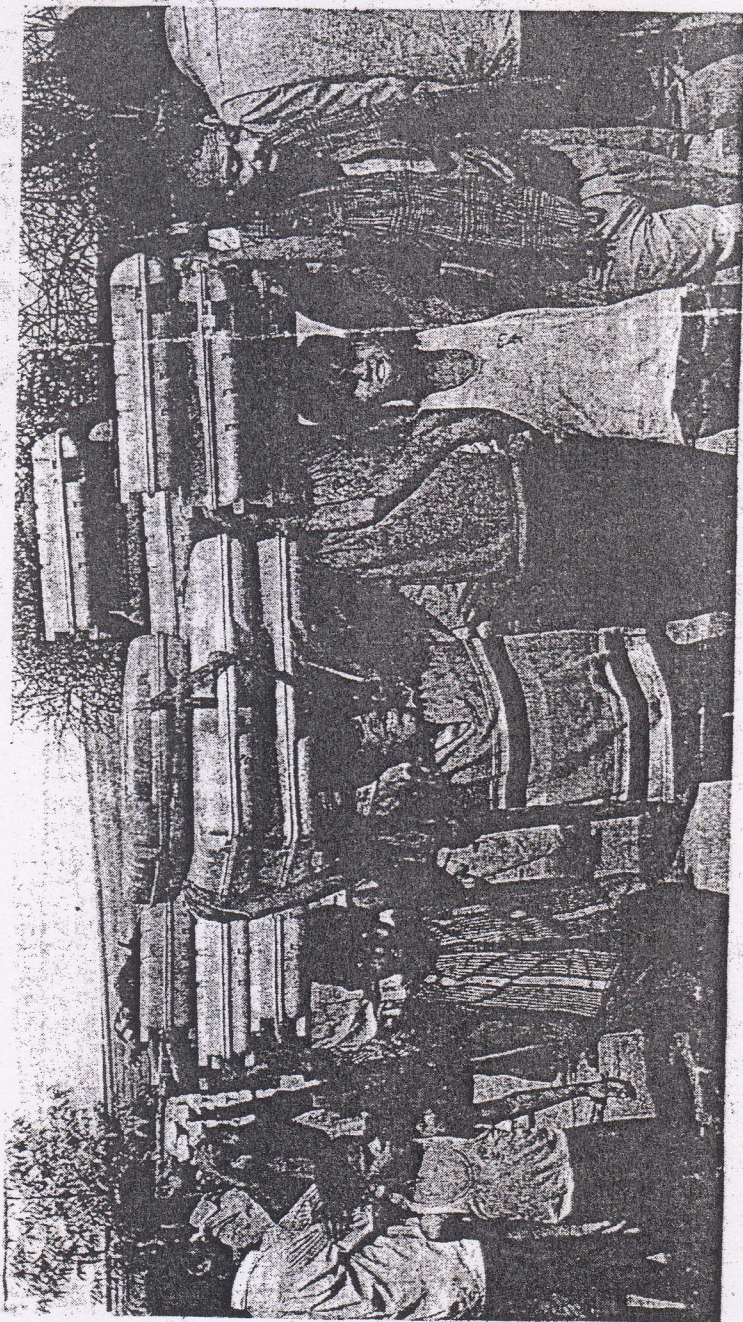

(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
UNDER SECRETARY

DELHI

THE HINDU • THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2009

9.11

Heavy duty on tender heads



NO KIDDING: Children carrying electronic voting machines on the eve of the third phase of Lok Sabha elections in Bhagalpur constituency of Bihar on Wednesday. — PHOTO: RANJEET KUMAR

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 464/INST/2013-EPS

Dated: 2nd May, 2013

To

All Recognized Political Parties.

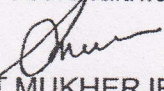
Subject: Engagement of Child Labour in the election related activities – regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to invite your attention to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 which, inter-alia, bans the employment of children below 14 years of age in specified occupations such as transport of goods, etc., which are considered unsafe and harmful to child workers and regulates the conditions of work of children in employment. It also lays down penalties for employment of children in violation of the provisions of this Act, other Acts which forbid the employment of children. The Act extends to the whole of India. The above-mentioned Act applies to all establishments and workshops wherein any industrial process is carried on (excluding one covered under Section 67 of the Factories Act, 1948).

2. The Commission has taken strong exception to use of children in various election related activities. It is highly objectionable. In order to ensure that no such insensitivity is shown by any political parties anywhere in the country, the Commission has directed that such violation of children's right for any work connected with the election process, like, campaigning, carrying of campaigning material, etc., will, in no way, be accepted by the Commission. It is the responsibility of the leaders of the political parties to ensure that there is no violation of these instructions. Necessary action, apart from facing the consequences of law, if any, will be taken by the Commission against erring political parties.

Yours faithfully,


(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
SECRETARY

Copy to: The CEOs and the Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs.

भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

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निर्वाचन सदन,
अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली-110001
Nirvachan Sadan,
Ashoka Road New Delhi-110001

No.464/INST/2013-EPS

Dated 16th September, 2014

To

1. The Chief Secretaries of all the States & Union Territories
2. The Chief Electoral Officers of all the States & Union Territories
3. All Recognised National and State Political Parties

Subject: Engagement of Child Labour in the Election Related Activities –
Regarding.

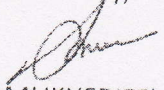
Madam / Sir,

Your attention is invited to the Commission's letter No.464/INST/2009/EPS, dated 1st May, 2009 (copy enclosed) on the subject cited, addressed to the Chief Secretaries and Chief Electoral Officers of all the States and Union Territories wherein the Commission had taken strong exception to use of children in various activities connected with elections. The Commission had directed that the District Election Officer / Returning Officer will be personally held responsible for violation of child rights for any work connected with the election process and will face severe disciplinary action apart from facing consequences of law.

2. Further, the Commission vide its letter No.464/INST/2013-EPS, dated 2nd May, 2013 (copy enclosed) addressed to all recognised political parties had directed that violation of children's right for any work connected with election process, like, campaigning, carrying of campaigning material etc. will not be accepted by the Commission and necessary action, apart from facing the consequences of law, will be taken against erring political parties. The leaders of the political parties were advised to ensure that there is no violation of children's right.

3. The Hon'ble Bombay High Court in its order dated 4th August, 2014 in the matter of PIL No.127 of 2012 (Chetan Ramlal Bhutada Vs. State of Maharashtra and others) has stressed the need to ensure that political parties do not allow participation of minor children in any election related activities. Accordingly, the Commission reiterates that it should be ensured by political parties and election officials also that no child is involved in the election process.

Yours faithfully,


(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
SECRETARY