

ECI issues directions for strict implementation of Model Code of Conduct for the Bihar elections

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1. The Election Commission of India (ECI) announced the schedule for the General Election to Legislative Assembly of Bihar on October 6, 2025.
2. With this announcement, ECI has issued directions to Chief Secretary and Chief Electoral Officer of Bihar regarding immediate coming into force of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) in the State. The MCC shall also be applicable to the Central Government so far as announcements/policy decisions for Bihar are concerned.
3. The Commission has directed to ensure strict compliance with the instructions related to removal of defacement from Government, public and private property; misuse of official vehicles or Government accommodation by any political party, candidate or any other person connected with election; ban on issuance of advertisement at the cost of public exchequer.
4. The privacy of citizens must be respected, with no demonstrations or picketing outside private residences. Land, buildings, or walls shall not be used for flags, banners, or posters without the owner's consent.
5. A complaint monitoring system has been set up including a **Call Centre number 1950** in which complaint can be lodged by any member of the public or political party, with the DEO/RO concerned. This system is now operational **24X7**.
6. Citizens/political parties can also report MCC violations using the **C-Vigil** App on ECINET. **824 Flying squads** have been deployed across the state to ensure that the complaints are attended to within **100 minutes**.
7. Political Parties are required to inform police authorities in advance of meetings and processions to enable traffic and security arrangements, to comply with prohibitory orders and to obtain necessary permissions for loudspeakers or other facilities.
8. Ministers shall not combine official duties with electioneering or use government machinery, transport, or personnel for campaign purposes.
9. The Commission has further directed that there will be a ban on the transfer of all officers/officials connected with the conduct of elections.
10. Officials at all levels have been directed to act impartially in enforcing MCC, ensuring equal treatment of all parties and preventing misuse of official facilities. They must regulate meetings, processions and polling arrangements fairly, safeguard law and order and maintain the credibility of the electoral process.
11. It has been further directed that public places such as maidans and helipads must be equally available to all parties on the same terms. The **SUVIDHA module** has been activated on ECINET where political parties can apply for usage of such public places which should be allocated on first come first served basis.

PK/GDH/RP

