

Press Release

Date :- 22.08.2015

**General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Bihar, 2015 –
Training cum Workshop meeting on poll preparedness.**

Patna, August 22: The office of the Chief Electoral Officer of Bihar held one day Training cum Workshop of the District Magistrates cum District Election Officers on 22.08.2015, on the election preparedness against the backdrop of the upcoming Bihar Assembly Elections. The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Ajay Nayak, Chief Electoral officer, Bihar in the presence of Additional Chief Electoral Officers Shri Arvind Choudhary and R.Laksmanan and other key officials of the commission.

During the training cum workshop meeting, practical problems and issues faced by the Election Officers in their respective districts were discussed in detail and the Commission gave the DEOs specific directions for ensuring free, fair and efficient polls. The commission emphasized that all the efforts should be made by District Election officers to ensure peaceful election in the state by taking preventive actions through disposals of non-bailable warrants, undertaking vulnerability mapping, organize coordination meetings with the administration of the bordering states/country and carry out campaigns against the movement of illegal liquor and arms.

In addition to this, discussions were held on matters related to model code of conduct (MCC), adequate security deployment at each polling stations, activities under the continuous updation of electoral rolls, provision of basic minimum facilities at each polling booths, nominations, scrutiny, allocation of party symbols, EVM, VVPAT, activities under SVEEP for voters awareness, election expenditure monitoring, paid news, redressal of public complaints and online dispatch of different kinds of reports. Moreover, the participants were also trained through the practical demonstration of EVM and VVPAT and their doubts clarified.

The commission emphasized the importance of a perfect Electoral Roll, especially in respect of the poll bound state of Bihar. Chief Election officer addressed the DEO'S and directed that all out efforts should be made by them so as to ensure that the names of eligible electors are included in the electoral roll along with those whose names were wrongly deleted during summary revision exercise by following the commissions procedure. The commission underlined the importance of scrutiny and neutrality in management of electoral roll and sought actions against the individuals who have deleted the names of electors from the roll without following the standard procedure of the commission. Further, the commission instructed the officers to lay special emphasis on “deleting of data generated during the Mock Polls before polling begins” and monitor all the trainings held in their district. The commission asked the DEO's to depute/nominate one ARO's in each assembly constituencies to clarify doubts/concerns of the political parties/candidates during

conduct of election and also ensure 100% distribution of Photo EPIC cards, monitoring of paid news and non-partisan and transparent implementation of Model code of Conduct during the upcoming Assembly election in Bihar.

Further, the District Magistrates cum District Election officers were directed to take appropriate measures using the standard guidelines of Election commission of India regarding the control of illegal expenditures by the candidates/political parties during the election period through the coordination of Income tax department, Police, Dept of Excise and Prohibition, Enforcement Directorate, CISF, Railway and Bank. The commission reiterated that the proper Monitoring mechanism should be in place to check illegal expenditures during the elections at all the Railway stations and the airports in Bihar in particular at bordering states/nation through the support of Income tax Department. Moreover, the commission shall monitor illegal expenditure at each railway stations through railway police alongwith the Excise department which will monitor the illegal expenditure at key check posts and the bottling plants 24*7 through CCTV cameras. In addition to this, the helpline numbers and the numbers of the nodal officer in charge of Election expenditure monitoring should be advertised in all districts and immediate reddresal of complaints should be ensured.
