

**STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
TRIPURA : AGRATALA**

No.F.1(36)-SEC/MUNC/GEN-ELEC/2021/ 639

Date:- 22/10/2021

ORDER

Subject: Use of Loudspeakers for election campaign.

After announcement of General- Election to Municipalities, 2021, the Political parties, candidates and their workers, supporters and sympathizers may be using loudspeakers for their electioneering campaigns. These loudspeakers are not only used from fixed rostrums but are also used mounted/fitted on vehicles like trucks, tempos, cars, taxis, vans, three wheeler scooters, cycle rickshaws, etc. This type of use of loudspeakers results in serious 'Noise Pollution' and causes great inconvenience and disturbance to the peace and tranquillity of the general public.

2. The student community, in particular, gets seriously disturbed due to unfettered use of loudspeakers. The aged, the infirm and the sick whether in institutions, hospitals, etc. or at home are also put to severe discomfort.

3. The Commission feels that indiscriminate and unfettered use of loudspeaker at odd hours and at odd places at very high volumes causes great annoyance and disturbance to general public and infringes their right to peaceful living. Such disturbance to public in general and sick, old and students in particular, cannot be allowed beyond permissible limits.

4. The Commission is also of the view that harmonious balance needs to be struck between the requirement of political parties regarding use of amplifiers/loudspeakers for campaigning and the right to peaceful living of the general public. Accordingly, the State Election Commission directs that the use of loudspeakers shall be strictly regulated during the period of election campaign as follows:

(i) The use of loudspeakers, whether fitted on vehicles of any kind whatsoever, or in static position used for public meetings for electioneering purposes, during the entire election period starting from the date of announcement of Election and ending with the date of declaration of Results **shall be permitted only during period between 6.00 AM to 10.00 PM.**

(ii) Under no circumstances the loudspeakers shall be used during night time between **10.00 PM to 6.00 AM** in the morning.

(iii) All loudspeaker being used in violation of instruction as above shall be confiscated along with all apparatus connected with the use of these loudspeakers.

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(iv) All political parties, Candidates and even other persons using loudspeakers on moving vehicles including but not restricted to trucks, tempos, cars, taxis, vans, three wheeler, scooters, cycle, rickshaws etc shall intimate the registration identification number of those vehicles to the Police authorities granting permission to use the loudspeakers and such registration identification numbers of the vehicles shall be indicating on the permits granted by the authorities concerned.

(v) Any vehicle on which a loudspeaker is used without the said written permit shall be confiscated forthwith along with the loudspeakers and all the apparatus used along with it.

(vi) All political parties, candidates and even other persons using any loudspeakers either on a moving vehicles or at a fixed place shall intimate the Police authorities, in writing, the full details of the permits obtained by them before using any of those loudspeakers.

(5) The restriction imposed by Hon'ble High Court of Agartala in its order and judgment in **WP(C)(PIL) 03 of 2013** regarding use of microphone/loudspeakers shall be the overall guiding principle and prevail, over the above directives and under no circumstances those (of the Hon'ble Court) instructions shall be violated under guise of permission given for campaigning.

6. The above directions of the Commission, which will check noise pollution and disturbance of public peace and tranquillity must be scrupulously implemented and strictly enforced by the Police authorities concerned and will invite against the defaulting person.

By Order of the State Election Commissioner.

(P.Bhattacharjee)

Secretary

State Election Commission
Tripura

Copy to:-

1. The Director General of Police, Tripura for information with a request to circulate this instruction to the field functionaries.
2. The Secretary, Home Department, Government of Tripura for information.
3. All DMEOs (District Magistrates & Collectors) North / Unakoti / Dhalai / Khowai / West / Sepahijala / Gomati & South Tripura District for information.
4. All Returning Officers for information & necessary action.

Copy forwarded to:-

The President/Secretary of.....Political party.

Secretary

State Election Commission
Tripura