

OFFICE OF THE ELECTION COMMISSION
FOR CONDUCTING ELECTION OF OFFICE – BEARERS AND
MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
INCOME TAX GAZETTED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION,
WEST BENGAL UNIT

Camp Office, Room No.102, 110, Shantypally, AayakarBhawan (Poorva),
Kolkata 700 107.

Notice dated 31.03.2017

Re: Campaigning

It is hereby notified that the ongoing campaign by and for the respective panels will, as per convention will cease at 4.00 pm on Sunday, the 2nd April, 2017.

It is further clarified that campaign in whatever form including campaign by and for the panelists through mass sms, mass whatsapp message, vicarious campaign through other organizations and posts, through social media like facebook and tweeter, websites etc will also be under ban after the deadline mentioned above.

The directive should be observed in letter and spirit.



Nilay Baran Som

For Election Commission

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Clarification

Several complaints have been received from one of the contesting panels and several SMS messages have also come to the notice of the Commission. It has been felt that clarification needs to be issued in these respects. The view of the Commission is given as under:

Complain	View of Commission
1. SMS service of official ITGOA site has been used to air election related news and some other news.	The official site of ITGOA is being used by the Commission for upload and dissemination of information and decisions of the Commission. While sending SMS from the official SMS service on any urgent matter, any election related news/decision may not be clubbed together.
2. Voters are being pressurized / intimidated to take casual leave and cast postal ballot in presence of the members of a particular panel.	This complains is without any basis as the Commission is not allowing anybody's presence during the casting of postal ballot.
3 Postal ballot is being cast after taking casual leave while the Commission permitted exercise of postal ballot only in respect of sanctioned leave.	Vide notice dated 23.03.2017, (vide para 6thereof), it was clarified that 'members who are present in Kolkata but on casual leave were 'expected to cast their vote on the stipulated date of poll'. If anybody is on casual leave but out of station on that day can cast his vote through postal ballot. Exception has also been made in case of polling agents. The Commission insisted that the postal ballot be exercised in person and maintain strict confidentiality.

2. It has come to the notice of the Commission that a SMS message has been circulated claiming the following assurances from the Commission:

All ballots to be signed by the EC , not the presiding officer.	As in the earlier year, back of the ballot will be signed by the EC.
After counting, all the ballots will be sealed in a bag and shall be in the custody of the Commissioner. After BGM , the ballots shall be destroyed.	The polled ballots will be kept in the custody of the Commission in sealed condition. However, no decision was taken regarding the period of retention and immediate destruction after the BGM. The Commission however, will take care about the confidentiality of the same.


N.B.Som

Chairman, Election Commission