

**ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA**  
**NIRVACHAN SADAN ASHOKA ROAD NEW DELHI -110001**

**No: 437/TEL-HP/SOU3/2024**

**Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2024**

**ORDER**

Whereas, the Election Commission vide ECI Press Note number ECI/PN/23/2024 dated 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 announced schedule of General Election to Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim and the provisions of Model Code of Conduct came into the force with immediate effect all over the country as per para-40 of the said Press Note; and

2. Whereas, the Commission received a complaint dated 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 from Sh. G. Niranjan, Sr. Vice-President, Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) wherein it was alleged that Shri K. Chandrashekar Rao, President, BRS in his press meet in Sircilla on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 made derogatory and objectionable statements against the Congress Party; and

3. Whereas, the Commission directed to the Chief Electoral Officer, Telangana to send a factual report in the matter vide its letter dated 437/TEL-HP/SOU3/2024 dated 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2024; and

4. Whereas, the CEO, Telangana furnished a factual report vide letter no. 3215/Elecs.A/A1/2024 dated 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 enclosing therewith a report no. J/168/2024 dated 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 of the District Election Officer, Rajanna Sircilla District on the said complaint of Sh. G. Niranjan; and

5. Whereas, after having gone through the CEO's report referred to above, the Commission issued a show cause notice number 437/TEL-HP/SOU3/2024 dated 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 to Sh. K. Chandrashekar Rao, President, Bharat Rashtra Samithi, for violation of certain provisions of Model Code of Conduct, for making the following derogatory and objectionable statements against Congress Party during his press meet in Sircilla on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2024:-

- i. *A congressman told to sell Nirods and papads for survival. Are they sons of dogs to say for the selling or Nirodhs and papads; and*



- ii. *This situation has occurred because the 'Lathkhors' who have not aware the capacity of water, are ruling the kingdom, while the incompetent 'Chavat Daddhams' are in the kingdom; and*
- iii. *Your Government is the government of 'Lathkhors'. You won by 1.8 percentage votes by speaking lies' and*
- iv. *It means that you are Pakka Chavatas, Daddammas, Chetakani Chavatas. (You are useless fellow); and*
- v. *Second.... If you fail to give five hundred bonus we will bit your throats and kill;' and*

6. Whereas, the Commission received a reply from Sh. K. Chandrashekar Rao, President, Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2024 to the aforesaid ECI's notice dated 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2024; and

7. Whereas, in the aforesaid reply, Sh. K. Chandrashekar Rao made following submissions: -

*"the officers in charge of election in Telangana and Sircilla are not Telugu people and they hardly understand local dialect of Telugu. The complaint is made by the Congress party by picking some sentences from his press conference out of context. The English translation of the sentences is not correct and twisted.;"*  
*and*

8. Whereas, Sh. K. Chandrashekar Rao further submitted that he had confined his criticism to the policies and programmes of the Congress Party in the State and their failure to fulfil the promises made during the Assembly Elections and he made no criticism of personal aspects of any Congress leaders; and

9. Whereas, Part (2) of the Part I 'General Conduct' of 'Model Code of Conduct for the guidance of Political Parties and Candidates' provides: -

***"Criticism of other political parties, when made, shall be confined to their policies and programme, past record and work. Parties and candidates shall refrain from criticism of all aspects of private life, not connected with the public activities of the leaders or workers of other parties. Criticism of other parties or their workers based on unverified allegations or distortion shall be avoided;"*** and

10. Whereas, the Commission vide its instruction dated 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2024 addressed to the Chief Electoral Officers of all States/UTs and its advisory dated



1<sup>st</sup> March, 2024 [para-9 (ii)] addressed to all National /State recognized Political Parties, has advised that: -

***"The political parties and leaders shall not make false statements, utterances without factual basis aimed at misleading the voters. Criticism of other parties or their workers on the basis of unverified allegations or on distortions shall be avoided."***

11. Whereas, the Commission has carefully gone through the contents of Sh. G. Niranjan's complaint against Sh. K. Chandrashekar Rao dated 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 and Sh. K. Chandrashekar Rao's aforesaid reply dated 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2024 to the said complaint and the available records and is convinced that Sh. K Chandrashekar Rao's alleged statements made in the Press Meet on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 in Sircilla are violation of the MCC provisions and the Commission's instruction and advisory dated 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2024 and 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2024 respectively quoted above; and;

12. Whereas, the Commission has further noted that Sh. K Chandrashekar Rao, then President, TRS had been issued an Order dated 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2019 in connection with violation of the Model Code of Conduct during a public address in Karimnagar on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2019, cautioning him to be more careful in future. Another advisory dated 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 was issued to Sh. K Chandrashekar Rao in connection with his speech given on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 at 30-Banswada AC during General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Telangana, 2023 advising him to follow the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct in letter and spirit; and

13. Whereas, the Commission has found that Sh. K. Chandrashekar Rao, President, BRS has not only violated the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct and the Commission's instructions/advisory referred to above while making the objectionable and derogatory utterances on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 at Sircilla but he has also been violating the MCC provisions during past elections; and

14. Whereas, Sh. K. Chandrashekar Rao, President of Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), a recognised political party in the State of Telangana and the Star Campaigner of the party u/s 77 (1) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 expected to follow the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct and the Commission's instructions in letter and spirit setting an example for the political leaders; and



15. Now, therefore, in view of the above, the Commission, without prejudice to any Order/Notice issued or to be issued in the matter in future relating to MCC violations to Sh. K. Chandrashekar Rao, President, BRS hereby, strongly condemns the impugned statement made by him during his press meet in Sircilla on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 and reprimands Sh. K. Chandrasekar Rao for the above said misconduct. Accordingly, the Commission, under Article 324 of the Constitution of India and all other powers enabling in this behalf, bars Sh. K. Chandrashekar Rao, President, BRS from holding any public meetings, public processions, public rallies, shows and interviews, public utterances in media (electronic, print, social media) etc. in connection with ongoing elections for **48 hours from 8:00 PM on 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2024.**

**By Order,**



**(Malay Mallick)  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**

**To,**

**Sh. K. Chandrashekar Rao,  
President, Bharat Rashtra Samithi  
Hyderabad, Telangana  
(Through CEO, Telangana)**