

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 437/TEL-HP/SOU3/2024

Dated 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2024

## NOTICE

Whereas, the General Election to the Lok Sabha, 2024 has been announced by the Commission on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2024, vide ECI Press Note number ECI/PN/23/2024 dated 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 and the provisions of Model Code of Conduct has come into the force with immediate effect in Telangana, as per para-40 of the said Press Note; and

2. Whereas, the Commission has received a complaint dated 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 from Sh. G. Niranjan, Sr. Vice-President, Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) wherein it has been alleged that Shri K. Chandrasekhar Rao, President, BRS in his press meet in Sircilla on 05.04.2024 made vulgar, derogatory and objectionable allegations against the Congress Party; and

3. Whereas, the Commission has directed to the Chief Electoral Officer, Telangana for a factual report in the matter vide its letter dated 437/TEL-HP/SOU3/2024 dated 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 and the CEO, Telangana has sent a factual report vide letter no. 3215/Elecs.A/A1/2024 dated 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 forwarding therewith a report no. J/168/2024 dated 10.04.2024 of the District Election Officer, Rajanna Sircilla District on the said complaint of BRS ; and

4. Whereas, the District Election Officer, Rajanna Sircilla in his report has stated that Sh. K. Chandrasekhar Rao, President, BRS has made certain remarks during press meet in Sircilla on 05.04.2024 : -

- i. *A congressman told to sell Nirqds and papads for survival. Are they sons of dogs to say for the selling of Nirodhṣa 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 perctnage 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*

5. Whereas, Part-2 of Part I 'General Conduct' of "Model Code of Conduct for the guidance of Political Parties and candidates provides that : -

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*Prakash Kumar*

***“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;***

6. Whereas, the Commission had issued order dated 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2019 in connection with violation of the Model Code of Conduct during public address in Karimnagar on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2019, to Sh. K. Chandrasekhar Rao, President, BRS (the then TRS) cautioning him to be more careful and to strictly adhere to the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct while addressing any public rally/meeting or making any public statement; and

7. Whereas, the Commission had issued an advisory dated 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 to Sh. K. Chandrasekhar Rao, President, BRS in connection with speech given by him on 30.10.2023 at 30-Banswada AC during General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Telangana, 2023 and the Commission had advised Sh. K. Chandrasekhar Rao, President, BRS to follow the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct in letter and spirit; and

8. 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)] issued to all National /State recognized Political Parties, has requested 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.”***

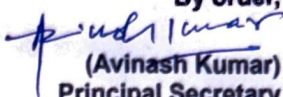
9. Whereas, Sh. K. Chandrasekhar Rao is not only President of Telangana Rashtra Samithi, a State recognized party in Telangana but also former Chief Minister of Telangana and it is expected of him to follow the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct and guidelines/advisory of the Commission. Any unverified or unsubstantiated claim without any proof or derogatory remarks made by you has propensity to malign the image of the political party or candidates in opposition. In the present case, unverified allegations and derogatory remarks made by you pose a risk of maligning the image of opposition party/leader and to disturb level playing field amid ongoing election process in Telangana; and

10. Whereas, the Commission is, prima facie, of the opinion that that by making aforesaid remarks on 05.04.2024 in Sircilla, you have violated the above provisions of the Model Code of Conduct and aforesaid advisory/instructions of the Commission; and

11. Now, therefore, the Commission gives you an opportunity to explain your stand in respect of the above remarks by **11:00 AM on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2024.**



12. In the event of no response from your side within the stipulated time, it will be presumed that you have nothing to say in the matter and the Election Commission will take appropriate action or decision in the matter without making any further reference to you.

By order,  
  
(Avinash Kumar)  
Principal Secretary

To

Shri K. Chandrasekhar Rao,  
President,  
Bharat Rashtra Samithi,  
Hyderabad,  
Telangana.

(Through CEO, Telangana)