

PRESS RELEASE

The Election Commission of India has stated that in pursuance of the Judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the Commission, after due consideration, has given the directions to be followed by candidates at elections to the Houses of Parliament and Houses of State Legislatures who have criminal cases against them, either pending cases or cases of conviction in the past, and to the political parties that set up such candidates. The candidates shall publish a declaration for wide publicity in the newspapers and in TV Channels. Declaration is to be published at least on three different dates from the day following the last date for withdrawal of candidatures and upto 48 hours before ending with hour fixed for conclusion of poll. The Election Commission of India has prescribed the following formats:-

- i) **Format C-1** for candidate to publish in Newspapers & TV
- ii) **Format C-2** for political party to publish in website, newspapers & TV
- iii) **Format C-3** for Office of Returning Officer
- iv) **Format C-4** for Report by Candidate about publishing of declaration regarding criminal cases to the District Election Officer
- v) **Format C-5** for Report by Political Party about publishing of declaration regarding Criminal cases to the Chief Electoral Officer
- vi) **Format C-6** for Office of Chief Electoral Officer
- vii) **Format C-7** for political parties to publish in the newspapers, social media platforms & website of the party within 48 hours of the selection of the candidate or not less than two weeks before the first date for filing of nominations, whichever is earlier.
- viii) **Format C-8** for Report furnished by Political Party at least two weeks before the date on which nomination is proposed to be filed or within 72 hours of selection of the candidate, whichever is earlier.
- ix) **Format CA** for Office of Returning Officer.

The political parties (Recognised Parties and Registered un-recognised Parties) which set up candidates with criminal cases are required to publish declaration giving details in this regard for wide publicity on their website as well as in TV channels and newspapers.

The detailed instructions of the Election Commission of India and the list of various Tamil and English Newspapers with their Edition-wise circulation figures and various TV Channels on the above subject are available in the website, i.e. www.elections.tn.gov.in.

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