

NO.2302/DM/RO/D1/2024
GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
IN THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE AT PUDUCHERRY

Present: KULOTHUNGAN.A., I.A.S.,
District Magistrate, Puducherry

ORDER UNDER SECTION 144 of Cr.P.C.

WHEREAS, the Election Commission of India has announced, on 16.03.2024, that the Lok Sabha Elections-2024 for the Puducherry Parliamentary Constituency will be held on 19.04.2024 and soon after this announcement of the Election Schedule, the Model Code of Conduct has come into force with immediate effect;

AND WHEREAS, the Election Commission of India, issued instructions that District Magistrate, shall make a detailed and individual review and assessment of all licensed arms holders, so that licensed arms in those cases, where they consider it essential are impounded in order to ensure maintenance of law and order so essential for ensuring free and fair elections;

AND WHEREAS, the Election Commission of India, also instructed that prohibitory orders under section 144 of Cr.P.C., 1973, shall be issued banning the carrying of licensed arms as soon as an election is announced and should be effective till the declaration of results;

AND WHEREAS, it appears to me that it is likely to lead to a breach of peace, threat to peaceful conduct of elections in the District of Puducherry comprising of Puducherry, Mahe and Yanam regions or part thereof;

AND WHEREAS, there is sufficient ground for proceeding under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, to prohibit carrying of fire arms, spears, swords, brickbats, lathis and other lethal weapons by the public during the election period, which may be detrimental to public peace and tranquillity and may pose threat to peaceful conduct of free and fair elections;

AND WHEREAS, all the Station House Officers shall make a detailed and individual review and assessment of all licence holders and all the arms licence holders shall deposit their weapons with the nearest Police Station immediately and in case, if the individual licence holder fails to deposit their arms, the Station House Officer shall impound it. The Station House Officer shall furnish a detailed report on such deposit and seizure;

AND WHEREAS, this ban shall not be applicable to those persons, who are entitled to display weapons by long standing law i.e., to Nationalised/Private Banks, where arms are necessary to safeguard cash chest. Also the Sports Shooting Associations and sports persons who are registered with the National Rifle Association carrying sports grade arms will be exempted;

NOW THEREFORE, I, KULOTHUNGAN.A., I.A.S., District Magistrate, Puducherry, do hereby prohibit possession and carrying of weapons of any kind, spears, swords, brickbats, lathis and other lethal weapons by the general public in the District of Puducherry with effect from 16.03.2024.

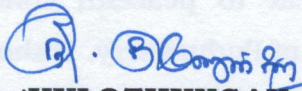
Any violation of this order is punishable by legal action under section 188 of IPC and other relevant provisions by law.

Further, this order will be in force till the completion of the Lok Sabha Elections-2024 for the Puducherry Parliamentary Constituency.

The emergent nature of case and circumstances do not permit serving of notice to the concerned in due time and hence this order is passed ex parte under section 144 (2) of Criminal Procedure Code, 1973.

Puducherry, dated 16th day of March 2024.




(KULOTHUNGAN.A., I.A.S.)
DISTRICT MAGISTRATE

To

The Director of Stationery & Printing, Puducherry -

for publishing the order in an extraordinary issue of State Gazette immediately.

Copy Submitted to:

1. The Chief Secretary to Government, Puducherry
2. The Chief Election Officer, Puducherry

Copy to:

1. The Director General of Police, Puducherry.
2. The Senior Superintendent of Police (Law & Order), Puducherry
3. The Sub Divisional Magistrate (North/South), Puducherry
4. The Sub Divisional Magistrate, Mahe, Yanam
5. The Supdt. of Police (Elections/North/South/East/West/Mahe/Yanam), Puducherry
6. The Director of Information & Publicity, Puducherry.....to make wide publicity.
7. All Station House Officers.....to make necessary arrangements.