ELECTIONS (CONDUCT OF REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES DURING ELECTION) REGULATIONS

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ELECTIONS (CONDUCT OF REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES DURING ELECTION) REGULATIONS - SECTION 99

(S.I. 141 of 2020)

Commencement

[5 October 2020]

Citation

1. These regulations may be cited as the Elections (Conduct of Registered Political Parties and Candidates during Election) Regulations.

Application

- 2. These regulations shall apply—
 - (*a*) to every registered political party who have nominated candidates at an election and to every nominated candidate;
 - (b) from the date of publication of the list of candidates under paragraph 32 of Schedule 3 of the Elections Act (Cap. 262) to the date of publication of notice of result of election in *Gazette* under section 38(2) of the Act.

General conduct

- 3. Every registered political party and every candidate to an election shall—
 - (*a*) support and promote the conduct of free and fair election, and in so doing shall maintain the public confidence in the electoral process and ensure that the democratic rights of the citizens of Seychelles are not compromised;
 - (b) conduct themselves in such manner so as to uphold the integrity of the electoral process and public respect therefor;
 - (c) not engage in any conduct that is unfair or unacceptable by reasonable, fairminded and informed persons; and
 - (d) not commit any action or omission which may compromise the secrecy of ballot.

Conduct during electoral campaign

- 4. Every registered political party and every candidate, during the electoral campaign, shall—
 - (*a*) conduct their electoral campaigns in peaceful manner and shall not do any act or omission which creates tension or promotes violence;
 - (b) not use improper or provocative innuendo or statement, whether written or verbal in respect of another registered political party or candidate;
 - (c) not interfere with electoral campaign of other registered political party or candidate;
 - (d) not use, or threaten to use any force, violence or restraint, or inflict or threaten to inflict, any form of injury, harm or loss to another candidate, whether directly or indirectly, in person or through another person;

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(e) report to the Electoral Commission and Police, the commission of any offence under the Elections Act (Cap. 262) which comes to their notice;

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- (f) persuade their supporters against playing of loud music around any polling station or causing any other form of disturbance;
- (g) not set up election camps or checkpoints or offer or give refreshment to voters.

Transporting incapacitated voters

5. Any agent of a registered political party or candidate transporting any incapacitated voter shall not enter the polling station with them or loiter with them.

Use of billboards and posters

6. (1) Any notice, advertisement, announcement, or material affixed and displayed by a registered political party or candidate shall be only on a billboard erected at a place authorized by the Road Transport Commissioner.

(2) Any notice, advertisement, announcement, or material shall not be pasted on any wall, building, road, pavement, telephone or electric poles, fence whether on public or private property.

(3) The maximum size of a billboard shall be 4ft. by 8ft. and a poster shall be of an A2 size glued on plywood or board of the same size to be affixed on a pole.

- (4) Only one poster per candidate shall be affixed on a pole.
- (5) The billboards erected by the Seychelles Land Transport Agency shall not be used.
- (6) The billboards or posters—
 - (*a*) shall not be erected or pasted prior to acceptance of the nomination papers of the candidate; and
 - (b) may be erected or pasted only after 6 pm in a day after the nomination paper of the candidate is accepted,

under section 15 of the Elections Act (Cap. 262).

(7) All billboards and posters shall be removed, as soon as possible after an election, and in any case within fourteen days of the close of the poll in an election or referendum in accordance with regulation 13(2)(b) of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations (*S.I. 131 of 1971*) made under the Town and Country Planning Act (Cap. 237).

Use of cloth banners

7. (1) Easily removable cloth banners shall be used as much as possible instead of pasted posters.

(2) Cloth banners shall be used only where necessary and they shall be displayed upon approval of the Seychelles Land Transport Authority and the Police (Traffic section).

(3) Subregulation (2) does not apply to temporary banners at rally sites.

(4) All cloth banners shall be removed as soon as possible, after an election, and in any case within fourteen days after the close of the poll in an election or referendum.

Certified registers of voters

- 8. (1) Every candidate nominated under section 15 of the Elections Act (Cap. 262) shall—
 - (a) in case of the Presidential Election, be provided with a certified copy of the register of voters of each electoral area; and
 - (b) in case of the National Assembly Election, be provided with a certified copy of the register of voters for the respective electoral area in which they are contesting.

(2) The copy of register of voters shall be provided by the Electoral Commission free of charge.

(3) Only one copy of the register of voters shall be provided to every candidate.