ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

Dated:- 14th January, 2017

The Chief Secretaries of Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. Dy CEC (BKS)

2. The Chief Electoral Officers of Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

Hearings by the Chief Minster / Ministers during Model Code period – reg. Sub:

Sir.

It has been brought to the notice of the Commission that the Chief Minister and Ministers or Politically appointed office bearers of statutory bodies continue to hear appeals filed by persons under various prevailing Acts and laws in the State even when the Model Code of Conduct comes into force in connection with general elections in the States.

Since the Model Code of Conduct has come into force after announcement of General Elections to Legislative Assembly of your State on 4th January, 2017, any such hearings by Chief Minister or Ministers or Politically appointed office bearers of statutory bodies may have direct or indirect influence on voters and also may disturb the level playing field.

Considering the facts and circumstances, the Commission has directed that all such hearings by Chief Minister and Minister or Politically appointed office bearers of statutory bodies should be deferred till the conclusion of poll in all constituencies in your State. If any such hearing is required to be held in compliance with the mandatory provisions of law/any court order, such hearing in lieu of Chief Minister / Ministers or Politically appointed office bearers of statutory bodies, should be held by a Secretary Level Officer nominated by the Chief Secretary of the State, where the law provides for delegation of the power to such officer.

The Commission has further directed that action taken in this matter may please be ntimated latest by 17th January, 2017.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY

Copy to the

1. Chief Secretaries of all States and UTs for information and necessary action at the State

Chief Electoral Officers of all States and UTs for information and necessary action at the

State election.

(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)

बिहार सरकार <u>निर्वाचन विभाग</u> मु<u>ख्य निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी, बिहार का कार्यां</u>लय ७, सरदार पटेल गार्ग (मैंगल्स रोड), बिहार, पटना–800015

फैक्स/ई-मेल

दूरमाष सं0:- 0612-2217956 फैक्स:- 0612-2215611/2215978 ई-मेल:--ceo_bihar@eci.gov.in

ज्ञापांक : बी1-3- 97/2016- 284 पटना, दिनांक 24 जनवरी, 2017 ई0। प्रतिलिपि :- प्रधान सचिव, मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग/संसदीय कार्य विभाग/सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग, बिहार, पटना को सूचना एवं आवश्यक कार्रवाई हेतु प्रेषित।

> बैजूनाथ कुमार सिंह) उप मुख्य निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी, बिहार।