WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTION COMMISSION 18, Sarojini Naidu Sarani(Rawdon Street) Kolkata – 700 017 Ph No. 2280-5805; FAX: 2280-7373

No. 3965(15)-SEC/1M-20/2013

Date : 26.10.2013

- From : The O.S.D. & E.O. Joint Secretary, West Bengal State Election Commission.
- To : 1) District Municipal Election Officer for Kolkata Municipal Corporation & District Magistrate, South 24-Parganas.
 - District Municipal Election Officer & District Magistrate, Cooch Behar / Jalpaiguri / Darjeeling / North 24-Parganas / South 24-Parganas / Howrah / Hooghly / Purba Medinipur / Paschim Medinipur/ Burdwan/ Purulia / Bankura / Murshidabad / Nadia.

Sub.: Restriction on use of cellular phones.

Sir / Madam,

In connection with the ensuing Municipal General Elections to 5(five) Urban Local Bodies and Bye-Elections to 29(twenty nine) Municipal Constituencies (Wards) to be held on 22.11.2013, I am directed to state that in order to facilitate smooth conduct of poll at the polling stations on the date of poll and to maintain law and order in the Counting centers at the time of counting of votes, the Commission hereby directs that no person shall be allowed to either carry or **use cellular phones**, cordless phones, wireless sets, etc. within the 100 meter of the polling stations described as the "Polling Stations Neighbourhood" and within the polling booth. Similarly no person shall be allowed to carry or use such instrument in the area within and around the Counting Center or within the area cordoned off by the security forces to regulate the entry of persons to such Counting Halls and Centers. If any person is found in possession of such instruments in violation of these directions the instruments shall be seized by the officers in charge of security and shall be returned to the person concerned only after the counting of votes is completed and results are declared.

These instructions however, do not apply to the officers in charge of Law and Order and security personnel put on duty near the polling booths and counting centers who may be using any of such instruments in the course of discharge of their official duties. Similarly these instructions do not apply to the Observers appointed by the Commission and to the officers in charge of polling duty including Presiding Officers at Polling Station and Officers on counting duty who may have to use such instruments in the course of their official duties.

These instructions shall be brought to the notice of the candidates, their election agents and all political parties for their information and strict compliance.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/

O.S.D. & E.O. Joint Secretary West Bengal State Election Commission

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