

**PRESS RELEASE**

As per the provisions made under sub-section (1) of Section 77 of the Representation of the People Act 1951, every candidate at an election shall, either by himself or by his election agent, keep a separate and correct account of all expenditure in connection with the election, incurred or authorized by him or by his election agent between the date on which he has been nominated and the date of declaration of the result thereof, both dates inclusive.

As per Explanation 1(a) under the Section 77 of the said Act, the expenditure incurred by leaders of political parties on account of travel by air or any other means of transport for propagating programme of the political party is not deemed to be the expenditure in connection with the election incurred or authorised by a candidate of that party or his election agent, for the purpose of this sub- Section. Explanation 2 to Section 77(1) of the R.P Act, 1951 provides that the list of leaders of a political party (maximum of 40 in the case of recognized political parties and 20 in the case of registered un-recognized political parties) is to be communicated to the Election Commission of India and to the Chief Electoral Officer, Tamil Nadu **within a period of 7 days from the date of issue of notification** for the election. Such political leaders as communicated to the Chief Electoral Officer and the Election Commission of India are known as **“Star Campaigners”**.

As per the Poll schedule announced by the Commission, the issuance of notification for the General Elections to Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly-2016 will be on **22.04.2016**. Accordingly, the list of political leaders for whom the parties desire to get exemption should be communicated to the Election Commission of India/Chief Electoral Officer, Tamil Nadu, **within 7 days from 22.04.2016** and on or before 29.04.2016. The above provision available under the Law has already been communicated to all the Recognized National and State Political Parties and Registered Unrecognized Political Parties in Tamil Nadu for information.

In order to confirm the authenticity of the Party's request for receiving **Star Campaigner's Pass**, all the political parties (Recognized National and State Political Parties and Registered unrecognized Political Parties in Tamil Nadu) are requested to communicate the eligible Number of Star Campaigners (maximum of 40 for recognized parties and 20 for registered un-recognized Political Parties) to the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Tamil Nadu, in the letterhead of the respective Political Party duly signed by the authorized signatory of the Party Head Office.

In this connection, all the Political Parties are required to communicate only the Number of Star Campaigners eligible to the respective Political Party and the names of such Star Campaigners of the party. The details of Vehicles and other particulars are not required to be communicated for this purpose.

**CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER  
TAMIL NADU**

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