ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA NIRVACHAN SADAN ASHOKA ROAD NEW DELHI-110001

No. 434/AP/SOU3/2024

Dated: 10th May, 2024

To

The Chief Secretary Govt of Andhra Pradesh Amaravati.

Subject: Simultaneous Elections to the Legislative Assembly of the Andhra Pradesh and House of the People, 2024 – Disbursements of money under various schemes by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh – Clarification-Regarding. Sir,

I am directed to refer the Commission's letter of even no dated 3rd May, 2024 and 9th May, 2024 and to state that the Commission has directed to disburse to the money under DBT in various schemes of the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh after 13.05.2024. As per the Hon'ble HC Order dated 09.05.2024, the Commission's letters under reference are kept in abeyance, therefore as on date the State Govt. neither have NOC under MCC for the disbursal of the amount nor the Hon High Court has given clear direction for disbursement. In the context, Chief Secretary Andhra Pradesh has provided, vide letter number 12/CS/GE-2024 dated 10th May 2024, certain information sought through Commission letter dated 9th May 2024 and also sought further directions of the Commission in the context of the advance order issued by the Hon High Court.

In order to accord MCC approval expeditiously and to ensure no hardship is caused to the beneficiaries, it is requested to furnish following clarification to enable the Commission to consider granting of NOC for disbursement under the Scheme by the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh expeditiously:

1. As stated in the letter received on 10th May 2024, the State undertakes actual transfer of funds to these schemes based on fiscal

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position. In view of this, please share fiscal position from Jan 2024 to March 2024, so as to know that the State was not in a position to release the funds and how it has changed now so as to understand that it is not an attempt to bunch release of funds close to the date of poll.

- 2. The dates and period of the DBT Money Transfer establishing gaps between announcement of benefits (by pressing of button in public function) and actual transfer of funds to beneficiaries, during the last five years/since inception of the schemes, so as to show that it is more or less the case and there is no attempt to bunch or cluster release of funds closer to the date of poll.
- 3. Whether the petitioners in WP No. 11449.11182.11410,11411 and 11202 of 2024 before the Hon`ble HC of Andhra Pradesh are covered in the beneficiaries' lists?
- 4. What will be impact on beneficiaries in case disbursement is not done today? Many weeks have passed since announcement of fund transfer without actually affecting the transfer while fully knowing that MCC will be in force in month of April-May etc. What is the urgency now just before the poll day?
- 5. Is the date of disbursement of assistance is fixed by the Govt in advance? Please share the relevant document?

A clarification be furnished to the Commission before 3:00 pm of 10^{th} May, 2024.

Yours faithfully,

(Avinash Kumar)
Principal Secretary

<u>Copy to The Chief Electoral Officer</u>, Andhra Pradesh for information and to ensure compliance of the above order of the Commission.