

# SIKKIM



**GOVERNMENT**

**GAZETTE**

**EXTRAORDINARY  
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**Gangtok**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**No. 480**

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER  
BALUWAKHANI, GANGTOK –SIKKIM**

**No. 52/2024/Elec.**

**Dated: 23.10.2024**

**NOTIFICATION**

In pursuance to letter no. 491/MCMC/2/2024/Communication dated 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 issued by the Election Commission of India, the following District level and State level committees are hereby constituted to check the issue of Paid News and Pre-Certification of Political advertisements for the Bye Elections, 2024 to 07- Soreng-Chakung and 11 Namchi-Singhithang Assembly Constituencies.

**1. DISTRICT LEVEL MEDIA CERTIFICATION AND MONITORING COMMITTEE (DMCMC):**

**GANGTOK DISTRICT**

- |      |   |                              |
|------|---|------------------------------|
| I)   | DC cum DEO, Gangtok   | : <i>Chairman</i>            |
| II)  | ADC, Gangtok  | : <i>Member</i>              |
| III) | Shri. Bishnu Neopaney, Senior Journalist,<br>Press Club of Sikkim | : <i>Member</i>              |
| IV)  | Ms. Kritika Sharma, SIA, IPR, Gangtok                             | : <i>Social Media Expert</i> |
| V)   | DIO, IPR Department, Gangtok                                      | : <i>Member Secretary</i>    |

**GYALSHING DISTRICT:**

- |      |                                 |                              |
|------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| I)   | DC cum DEO, Gyalshing           | : <i>Chairman</i>            |
| II)  | SDM (HQ), Gyalshing             | : <i>Member</i>              |
| III) | Shri. Pritam Gurung, Journalist | : <i>Member</i>              |
| IV)  | Shri. Bishal Shanker, SIA, IPR  | : <i>Social Media Expert</i> |
| V)   | DIO, IPR Department, Gyalshing  | : <i>Member Secretary</i>    |

**MANGAN DISTRICT:**

- |      |  |                   |
|------|--|-------------------|
| I)   | DC cum DEO, Mangan                                     | : <i>Chairman</i> |
| II)  | ADC, Mangan  | : <i>Member</i>   |
| III) | Shri. Samir Hang Limboo,<br>Journalist, Sikkim Express | : <i>Member</i>   |

- IV) Shri. Wangchuk Bhutia, Journalist, Summit Times : Member
- V) DIO, IPR Department, Mangan : *Member Secretary*

**NAMCHI DISTRICT:**

- I) DC cum DEO, Namchi : *Chairman*
- II) SDM (HQ), Namchi : Member
- III) Ms. Namo Dixit, Sr. Journalist : Member
- IV) Mr. Sagar Rai, SIA, IPR : Social Media Expert
- IV) DIO, IPR Department, Namchi : *Member Secretary*

**PAKYONG DISTRICT:**

- I) DC cum DEO, Pakyong : *Chairman*
- II) ADC, Pakyong : Member
- III) Shri. Ajay Thami, Journalist, Pakyong/ Sikkim Updates : Member
- IV) Ms. Amika Bagdas, SIA, IPR : Social Media Expert
- V) DIO, IPR Department, Pakyong : *Member Secretary*

**SORENG DISTRICT:**

- I) DC cum DEO : *Chairman*
- II) SDM, Soreng : Member
- III) Shri. Saroj Gurung, Journalist : Member
- IV) Ms. Semi Subba, SIA, IPR. : Social Media Expert
- V) DIO, IPR Department, Soreng : *Member Secretary*

The District Level Committee shall have three distinct sets of functions:

- i) This committee shall consider applications for certification of an advertisement proposed to be issued on electronic media by an individual or candidate contesting election from the Constituency falling within the jurisdiction of the Committee.
- ii) Examining complaints/issues of Paid News by all members of the District MCMC through a monitoring arrangement.
- iii) The MCMC shall besides discharging the functions of Certification of advertisements and checking of Paid News would also assist in enforcement of Media related regulations under the RP Act. Thus MCMC shall scan all Media for:
  - a) Monitoring of political advertisements in electronic media.
  - b) Suspected cases of paid news.
  - c) Monitoring political advertisements in other media, in relation to candidates, either overt or covert, from Expenditure monitoring angle.
  - d) Advertisement in print media.

**1. ADDITIONAL CEO'S COMMITTEE ON CERTIFICATION:**

I) Ms. Pema Lhaden Lama, SCS, Additional CEO : *Chairperson*

II) Members:

a. DC-cum-DEO, Gangtok (RO for PC)

b. Ms. Navita Pradhan, Joint Secretary :(Social Media Expert)

This Committee shall consider applications for pre-certification from all registered Political Parties having their headquarters in the State/Union Territory, all organizations or groups of persons or associations having their registered offices in that State/Union Territory.

**3. STATE LEVEL MEDIA CERTIFICATION AND MONITORING COMMITTEE (SMCMC)**

I) Shri Prabhakar, IAS, Chief Electoral Officer, Sikkim :*Chairman*

II) Members :

a. An Observer appointed by the Election Commission of India

b. Mrs. Sonam Ongmu Bhutia, Additional Director,  
Culture Department

c. Mrs. Chunni Thakarpa, Additional Director,  
Culture Department

d. Shri Bishnu Neopaney, Senior Journalist,  
Gangtok.

e. Dr. A. Ibomcha Sharma, IIS, Assistant Director, PIB Gangtok.

f. Dr. Khaidem Athouba Meitei, Member, Press Council of India, Manipur

III) Ms. Pema Lhaden Lama, SCS, Additional CEO :*Member Secretary*

The State Level Media Certification and Monitoring Committee shall perform two sets of functions.

- i. Decisions on the appeal of any Political Party or Candidate or any other person in regard to grant or refusal of certification of advertisement. Such appeal lie only with and will be disposed of by the State Level Committee headed by CEO and no reference in this regard needs to be made to the Commission.
- ii. Examining all cases of Paid News on appeal against the decision of District Media Certification and Monitoring Committee and cases that they may take up suo-moto in which case it shall direct the concerned ROs to issue notices to the candidates.

**(Prabhakar, IAS)**  
**Chief Electoral Officer, Sikkim.**

