DATE: 10 NOVEMBER 2026

1 Model of Conduct (Source: The Hindu)

Model Code of Conduct (MCC)



A set of norms issued by the Election Commission of India to ensure **free, fair and level-playing field** during elections.

Nature

- It is a non-statutory code (not a law).
- Evolved through consultation with political parties.
- Regulates the conduct of all stakeholders – government, political parties and candidates.

Coverage

- Applies to all elections – Lok Sabha, State Assemblies, by-elections and other elections conducted by ECI.
- Comes into force from the date of election announcement and remains till the declaration of results.

Key Provisions

Government conduct
No use of official machinery, offices, vehicles, or public resources for electioneering.

Political campaigns
No appeal to caste, religion, community or language; no use of hate speech; no bribery or intimidation.

Advertisements
Prior certification of political ads by Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC).

Inducements
Prohibits distribution of cash, gifts or any other material inducement to influence voters.

Transfers and postings
No major transfers/postings of officials in the poll-bound area without ECI's approval.

Use of schemes
No announcement of new schemes or financial grants that can influence voters.

Legal Status & Enforcement

- Not legally enforceable, but backed by ECI's constitutional powers under Article 324.
- ECI can issue directions, advisories, warnings and even order the transfer or suspension of officials for violations.

Significance

- Ensures free and fair elections.
- Maintains a level playing field.
- Prevents misuse of state resources.
- Promotes ethical and issue-based campaigning.
- Strengthens public trust in the electoral process.

Applicability

- Political parties and their leaders.
- Contesting candidates.
- The Union and State Governments (including Ministers).
- Government officials and public servants.
- All agencies involved in election-related work.

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2 Reasons for Air Pollution in Delhi Region (Source: The Hindu)

