

Activities of Expenditure Cell

The Expenditure Monitoring Cell was constituted and the cell functioned according to the guidelines and rules provided under the Compendium of Election Expenditure Monitoring-2014. The Expenditure Cell was headed by i/c of the cell ADC Goalpara and one assisting officer EAC, Goalpara and the different committee/teams was constituted in the following manner:

1. District Election Monitoring Committee (DEMC) constituted with
 - a. the Expenditure Observer- Incharge of the constituency,
 - b. DEO, Goalpara,
 - c. ADC I/c EMC.
2. Three nos. of Flying Squads(FS) for each LAC, i.e. Total Twelve (12) nos.
3. Three nos. of Static Surveillance Team (SST) for each LAC, i.e. Total Twelve (12) nos.
4. One Video Surveillance Team (VST) for each LAC, i.e. four nos.
5. One Video Viewing Team (VVT) for each LAC, i.e. four nos.
6. One Assistant Expenditure Observer (AEO) for each LAC, i.e. four nos.
7. Accounting Team (AT) to assist the Assistant Expenditure Observer.
8. Total 19 nos. of Village level Awareness Group (VAG) with 87 members
9. Total 3 nos. of Ward level Awareness Group (WAG) with 15 members
10. MCMC
11. The Call Centre and Public Grievances Cell and the Control Room.

The EMC had worked methodically and systematically keeping proper vigil. Training Programmes were conducted to train the Flying Squads, SST, VST and VVT and the AEO. Seizure of cash and liquor was done by the teams.

Four training programmes were conducted to train the FS, SST, VST and the VVT on the instructions provided in the Compendium of Instruction and the guidelines received on how to conduct search and seizure. It was emphasized that the FS and the SST keep a check on illegal distribution of cash and liquor and keep proper vigil on the vehicles. The VST were particularly trained not only to videograph the election related meetings but also to keep an eye on the model code aspect (especially on Star Campaigners), and were asked to videograph all the vehicles in and around such meetings with registration numbers so that the expenses of the party and candidates can be properly maintained.

Training programmes were also held for the AEO and the AT on how to maintain the Accounts of the Candidates, the Shadow Observation Register (SOR) and the Folder of Evidence. Separately the Political Parties, their representatives were also trained on maintenance of the accounts on expenses incurred by the parties, the guidelines to be followed and the grounds which will amount to violation of such rules and legal provisions thereof. Training programmes were conducted particularly for VAG and WAG members, their roles, duties and responsibilities.

The FS and the SST were provided with vehicle so that their work could be carried out smoothly. 12 numbers of check posts were set up especially in remote areas by the SST along with the nearby

Police Stations of the area to keep vigil over the movements of vehicles and illegal transportation of cash and liquor. Vehicles were methodically checked and whenever it was found that there is cash over 50,000/ without satisfactory explanation, the cash was seized. A total of Rs. 22,63,500/- (Cash) was seized of which in a single case Rs. 16,53,500/- was seized by FS team, and the case now is with the Income Tax Department, Guwahati.

The VST videographed all the meetings held in the district and all the reports were given by the VVT after proper verification and all the reports were regularly submitted to Dhubri RO office and Guwahati RO office.

The AEO and the Accounting Team had maintained all the records as per the guidelines & suggestions of the Expenditure Observer.

The reports were daily updated in the Dash board of Election Monitoring Website. The Control room and the Call Centre worked 24x7 during the elections.

The regular checking by the FS and SSTs, had worked as a deterrent in the district and had a good impact which was apparent from the verity that there were no untoward incidents reported. Since large number of VAG and WAG were formed, it also helped to keep a check and also prevented illegal distribution of liquor in the remote village and char areas in the district.