ORDER

WHEREAS, the General Elections to the South Goa Zilla Panchayat is scheduled on 22/03/2020;

AND WHEREAS, it is essential to conduct the General Election in free and fair manner and to maintain public peace, order and tranquility as per provisions of Law and Model Code of Conduct as applicable from 21/02/2020;

AND WHEREAS, it has come to the notice of the undersigned that political disputes, confrontations and violence start on the eve of the Poll day mostly due to misuse of Hotels, Restaurants, Tea Shops, Pan Shops and other food shops (Dhabas, Gaddas) etc while carrying out door to door campaigning or intimidations of voters or influencing voters and due to gathering of any crowd at such places within the vicinity of 200 mts of the Polling Station and create nuisance and Law and Order problem;

AND WHEREAS, under Section 126 of the Representation of People Act 1951, no Candidates shall try to influence voters in any way and thus no public meetings, processions, musical concert or rally or any kind of efforts for campaigning or electioneering is to be allowed in the last 48 hours from the hours of close of Poll i.e. 17.00 hours on 20/03/2020;

AND WHEREAS, Sections 171B and 171-C of IPC clearly disallow and penalize any attempt of Bribery and undue influence and Section 171 H of IPC penalizes any attempt for illegal payments for promoting election of any Candidate;
AND THEREFORE, I, Ajit Roy, IAS, District Magistrate and Zilla Panchayat Election Officer, South Goa District, Margao, in exercise of the powers vested in me under Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, do hereby order that

1) From 17.00 hours of 20/03/2020 to 21.00 hours of 22/03/2020 in all 25 Zilla Panchayat Constituencies under the jurisdiction of South Goa Zilla Panchayat Election Office, South Goa District, Margao:

   a) Any Assembly of five or more persons (including contesting candidates & workers) will be deemed as Unauthorized Assembly u/s. 141 of the Indian Penal Code and will be prohibited to avoid any procession or rally under the garb of House to House visits or Corner meetings and to prevent any nuisance and law and order problems.

   b) All vehicles permitted to all Contesting Candidates by the Returning Officer for campaigning shall not ply on roads to avoid any distribution of money or gifts or liquor and to prevent any nuisance and law and order problems except vehicles authorized by the Returning Officer on the day of Poll.

   c) All private vehicles shall be checked in dignified manner to avoid their misuse for distribution of money or gifts of liquor and for causing any nuisance also to avoid any harassment to private persons.

However, the above order shall not apply to Officers authorized on Election Duty by the Goa State Election Commission or the State Government including the Polling Officials, Magistrates, Police Officials and Government Staff.

Given under my hand and seal of this Office on 19th day of March, 2020.

( A j i t Roy I A S )
District Magistrate &
Zilla Panchayat Election Officer
South Goa District,
Margao-Goa.

To,

1) All the Contesting Candidates in all 25 Zilla Panchayat Constituencies under the jurisdiction of Zilla Panchayat Election Office, South Goa District, Margao.
2) All the owners of Hotels, Restaurants, Bars, Tea Shops, Pan Shops and other Food Shops (Dhabas, Gaddas) etc, within the vicinity of 200 mts of all the Polling Stations of 25 Zilla Panchayat Constituencies under the jurisdiction of Zilla Panchayat Election Office, South Goa District, Margao.

3) All Citizens of South Goa District.

Through Publication in the press

Copy to:

1) The Superintendent of Police, South Goa District/North Goa District, Panaji.

2) The Under Secretary (Home), Home Department (General), Secretariat, Porvorim.

3) The Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Margao/Quepem/Ponda/Mormugao/Canacona/Dharbandora/Sanguem

4) The Sub Divisional Police Officer, Margao/Quepem/Ponda/Vasco.

Copy submitted to:

1) The Commissioner, Goa State Election Commission, Altinho, Panaji.

2) The Director General of Police, Panaji-Goa.


4) The Director, Information & Publicity, Panaji, Goa to give publicity as a news item.

5) The Director, Government Printing Press, Panaji, with a request to publish the above Order in the extra ordinary Gazette.