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MINISTRY OF TOURISM  
Republic of Maldives

C I R C U L A R

Circular no: 88-IIHR/CIR/2019/4

To: All Tourist Resorts

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Subject: Ballot box placement for Parliamentary Elections 2019

Dear Sir / Madam,

The Elections Commission has informed that the Parliamentary Election will take place in March 2019. In order to place the ballot box, the minimum requirement set by the Elections Commission is that, the registered locals in a resort for voting should be 50 or more employees.

Hence, those resorts who want to place the ballot box and fulfill the aforementioned criteria, please complete the attached form and forward to Industry Human Resource Unit to [iihr@tourism.gov.mv](mailto:iihr@tourism.gov.mv) before 1400hrs on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2019 (Sunday). Also, please find the attached "Ballot Box Placement Policy for Resorts and Industrial Zones for the Parliamentary Election 2019" for your perusal.

In order to facilitate the Elections Commission to carry out election smoothly we anticipate your full cooperation and assistance. If you require further clarification please contact the below mentioned focal point details:

1. Ministry of Tourism: Ms. Aminath Shazra, Assistant Director, contact no: 3022252, email: [aminath.shazra@tourism.gov.mv](mailto:aminath.shazra@tourism.gov.mv)
2. Elections Commission: Ms. Maahaa Afeef, Senior Logistics officer, contact no: 9771969, email: [maha.affef@elections.gov.mv](mailto:maha.affef@elections.gov.mv)

Thank You.

Yours sincerely,

Aishath Ali  
Director General



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PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION 2019

Kindly, please provide the below information and *email this form to [iihr@tourism.gov.mv](mailto:iihr@tourism.gov.mv) before 20<sup>th</sup> January 2019.*

1. Details of Resort:

Name of the Establishment:
Total Number of Local Employees:

2. Focal Point details:

*Primary Focal Point*

Name:	
Designation:	
Mobile Number:	
Email:	

*Secondary Focal Point*

Name:	
Designation:	
Mobile Number:	
Email:	

3. Ballot Box Placement Approved by the Management

<i>We agree to follow the "Ballot Box Placement Policy for Resorts and Industrial Zones for the Parliamentary 2019" forwarded with this circular.</i>	
Ballot Box Placement:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Name:	Signature & Stamp
Designation:	
Email:	
Contact No:	
Date:	

*Note:*

- i) Ballot Box will be placed in tourist establishment with minimum 50 locals registered*
- ii) If the number of employees is above 50 please inform us*

## **Ballot box placement policy for Resorts and Industrial Zones for the Parliamentary election 2019**

### **1- Minimum number of people required be registered to place ballot boxes**

For Parliamentary Election 2019, a ballot box can be located in a resort and industrial zones solitary if the total number of registered people exceeds 50. Even if the Commission has declared previously for the ballot boxes to be located in these residences, if the number of people registered subsequent to re-registration process is not exceeding the mentioned numbers respectively; then the ballot boxes would not be located in these residences. However, people who had registered to vote in these ballot boxes would be given the prospect to re-register in an alternative ballot box.

### **2- Process to be completed by Resorts and Industrial Zones to place ballot boxes**

**If ballot boxes are preferred to be located in resorts and industrial zones, the following procedure should be organized and followed.**

#### **Polling Station:**

**2.1** Polling station should be confirmed and conversant to Election Commission. Along with this information, a copy of the chart of the resort or industrial zone indicating this Polling station with clear measurements should be sent to Elections Commission.

**2.2** Polling station information sent as in 2.1 should be confirmed a safe place to cast the vote, count the ballots, announce the results, and other relevant tasks. Information of vigilant security procedures to ensure the safety of the station should be sent to Elections Commission.

#### **Ballot Papers and relevant attributes:**

**2.3** Arrangements to safeguard the ballot papers and other electoral materials should be rendered and acquainted to Elections Commission. (The security process of transferring ballot papers from and to the stated residence would be accomplished by Maldives Police Service)

**2.4** Measures to secure the ballot papers as in 2.3:

**2.4.1** Once the package containing the ballot papers is received, it should be kept in a closed place, as well as a place that is isolated from being utilized until the time period when officials from Elections Commission obtains the package for polling and till the package is packed and withdrawn.

## **Elections Commission Officials partaking in the polling process**

**2.5** The nourishment and accommodation provisions of officials sent from Elections Commission for the electoral responsibilities should be provided until the electoral process is completed and the officials are conveyed back. These officials would travel to the Polling station in Resort and industrial zone; afternoon one day prior to voting day, with ballot box and additional voting constituents.

**2.6** Four officials excluding the 2 officials sent from Elections Commission to implement electoral responsibilities should be arranged for, amongst the personnel employed in the Resort or Industrial zone. Also, if there is any concern in establishing employees from the Resort or Industrial Zone to execute as officials, this should be conversed with Elections Commission and rectified beforehand.

**2.7** Officials allotted from Resort or Industrial Zone should also assist in preparing the polling station and the Resort or Industrial Zone should also provide assistance for the same.

**2.8** Every official sent with a ballot box should be given security along with protection for the period of stay in the respective place.

**2.9** The Resort or Industrial Zone should provide assistance in allotting the officials allowance to the officials chosen from Resort or Industrial Zone according to the instructions given by Elections Commission.

## **Security**

**2.10** Security measures in the polling expanse should be arranged for during the polling process.

**2.11** The following should be taken into consideration for the security arrangement measures mentioned in 2.10, in the polling expanse;

**2.11.1** The Senior Polling Official would ensure the smooth operation of the polling station from the beginning of polling, throughout the announcement of the temporary results, and till the paper work related to the ballot box is completed and packed. In the rise of any commotion, in general, this official would report it to Elections Commission. However, in the case of any commotion, and the need for the resort or Resort or Industrial Zone to report it to Elections Commission arises, it should be reported directly to Elections Commission.

## **Arrangements for emergency medical treatment:**

**2.12** Emergency medical service response (general first aid) for voters and officials should be organized, and informed to Elections Commission.

## **Observers, Monitors and Candidate Representatives:**

**2.13** Individuals that Elections Commission allots authorization as observers, monitors, candidate representatives in order to perceive and report the electoral process; who has been registered to visit the Resort or Industrial zone for this rationale, should be provided with logistical provisions to travel from and to the Polling station; according to the following:

**2.13.1** Information of designated observers, monitors and candidate representatives who wish to attend to Polling stations in Resorts and Industrial Zones would be informed to the stated residences prior to the Polling day.

**2.13.2** No expenses of observers, monitors, candidate representatives should be disbursed by the Resort or Industrial Zone for the nourishment, accommodation and travel expenses. These expenses will be disbursed by the observers, monitors, candidate representatives, themselves. However, if they request for these services from the resort or industrial zone, they could be assisted.

**2.9** Above mentioned clauses should be completed according to the instructions, and deadline provided by Elections Commission.

## **3- Arrangements that would be arranged by Elections Commission**

**The following arrangements would be arranged by Elections Commission to place ballot boxes in Resorts and Industrial Zones.**

**3.1** To implement electoral responsibilities, two senior officials (polling official and polling official's assistant) would be designated by Elections Commission and sent to Resorts and Industrial Zones. The travel expenses to and from resort/ industrial zone would be disbursed by Elections Commission.

**3.2** Training Polling Station Officials.

**3.3** Tasks associated to arranging the polling station according to the layout preferred by Commission.

**3.4** Providing the allowance according to the amounts secured for the Polling station Officials.

## **4- Other**

**4.1** Ballot boxes would be placed in Resorts/ Industrial Zones along with the preparations for polling, only if the Resorts and Industrial Zones consent to the clauses mentioned in this document.

**4.2** If any issue that is not mentioned in this document arises, the designated focal point from the Resort or the Industrial Zone should communicate with a policy level employee from Elections Commission and solve the issue.