



Registered with the Registrar
of Newspapers for India
under No. 10410

புதுச்சேரி மாநில அரசிதழ்

La Gazette de L'État de Poudouchéry

The Gazette of Puducherry

PART - I

சிறப்பு வெளியீடு

EXTRAORDINAIRE

EXTRAORDINARY

அதிகாரம் பெற்ற
வெளியீடு

Publiée par
Autorité

Published by
Authority

எண்	} 53	புதுச்சேரி	திங்கட்கிழமை	2026 ௨௫	மார்ச் 16	௨
No.		Poudouchéry	Lundi	16	Mars	2026 (25 Phalguna 1947)
No.		Puducherry	Monday	16th	March	2026

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY

IN THE COURT OF DISTRICT MAGISTRATE AT PUDUCHERRY

No. 2026/DM/D1/GEPLA/144/1/726.

Present : KULOTHUNGAN. A, I.A.S.,
District Magistrate,
Puducherry.

ORDER

(UNDER SECTION 163 of BNSS)

Whereas, the Election Commission of India has announced, on 15-03-2026, that the General Elections to Puducherry Legislative Assembly - 2026 will be held on 09-04-2026 and soon after this announcement of the Election Schedule, the Model Code of Conduct has come into force with immediate effect;

And whereas, the Election Commission of India, issued instructions that District Magistrate, shall make a detailed and individual review and assessment of all licensed arms holders, so that licensed arms in those cases, where they consider it essential are impounded in order to ensure maintenance of law and order so essential for ensuring free and fair elections;

[287]

And whereas, the Election Commission of India, also instructed that prohibitory orders under section 163 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, shall be issued banning the carrying of licensed arms as soon as an election is announced and should be effective till the declaration of results;

And whereas, it appears to me that it is likely to lead to a breach of peace, threat to peaceful conduct of elections in the District of Puducherry comprising of Puducherry, Mahe and Yanam regions or part thereof;

And whereas, there is sufficient ground for proceeding under section 163 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, to prohibit carrying of fire arms, spears, swords, brickbats, lathis and other lethal weapons by the public during the election period, which may be detrimental to public peace and tranquility, and may pose threat to peaceful conduct of free and fair elections;

And whereas, all the Station House Officers shall make a detailed and individual review and assessment of all licence holders and all the arms licence holders shall deposit their weapons with the nearest Police Station immediately and in case, if, the individual licence holder fails to deposit their arms, the Station House Officer shall impound it. The Station House Officer shall furnish a detailed report on such deposit and seizure;

And whereas, this ban shall not be applicable to those persons, who are entitled to display weapons by long standing law, *i.e.*, to Nationalised/Private Banks, where arms are necessary to safeguard cash chest. Also, the Sports Shooting Associations and sports persons who are registered with the National Rifle Association carrying sports grade arms will be exempted;

Now, therefore, I, Kulothungan. A., I.A.S., District Magistrate, Puducherry, do hereby prohibit possession and carrying of weapons of any kind, spears, swords, brickbats, lathis and other lethal weapons by the general public in the District of Puducherry with effect from 15-03-2026.

Any violation of this order is punishable by legal action under section 223 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 and other relevant provisions of law.

Further, this order will be in force till the completion of the General Elections to Puducherry Legislative Assembly - 2026.

The emergent nature of case and circumstances do not permit serving of notice to the concerned in due time and hence, this order is passed *ex parte* under section 163 (2) of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023.

Puducherry, dated this 15th day of March, 2026.

KULOTHUNGAN. A., I.A.S.,
District Magistrate.