

Answers to Questionnaire of Committee on Poll Expenses

1. Not desirable
2. Prefer (a). Reject (b) and (c)
3. Unable to agree to subsidies
4. In view of our answer to 3 above, the question of sureties does not arise.
5. It might be a good idea for the State to print specified quantities of posters, leaflets and manifestoes and voters slips and supply them to candidates making sure that they are utilised for the purpose intended.
6. In view of our answer to 3 above does not arise. But if it becomes legally permissible then to the candidate direct with adequate accountability.
7. Does not arise
8. Political parties must by law be compelled to maintain accounts for public scrutiny, also hold regular elections with the party and strengthen democracy as a matter of course and not because some subsidy is involved.
9. There should be no ceilings at all as ceilings only mean dishonest returns.
10. Does not arise. He who wants to cheat will always be one step ahead of the law. Therefore why have laws that are observed only in their violation?
11. Acceptable only if there is no ceiling on expenses
12. In view of our answer to 9 above, does not arise though we cannot resist the comment that whatever alternative is chosen will not produce honest accounts as long as there is a ceiling on expenses.
13. While we are opposed to compulsion, even if this has been thought of as a means to discourage candidates from providing free transport by making it compulsory for the voter to vote, a candidate seeking the voter's favour, might provide transport as an inducement to vote for him.
14. Does not arise.