

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001.

No. 464/INST/2012-EPS

Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

To

The Chief Electoral Officers  
of all States/UTs.

**Subject: - Scrutiny of Form 17 A and other documents – regarding.**

Sir/Madam,

Following instructions are issued on the above cited subject in partial modification of Commission letter Nos. 464/INST/2007/PLN-I dated 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2007 and 464/INST/2009-EPS dated: 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2009, addressed to the Chief Secretaries and Chief Electoral Officers of all states/UTs. In order to facilitate selection of the polling station for which scrutiny shall be ordered after the polls, the ROs are required to note and record the following at the time of receipt of the polled EVMs and the documents after the completion of poll for each polling station.

- i. Total percentage of votes polled;
- ii. Percentage of Male and Female votes polled;
- iii. Percentage of voters who voted on basis of EPIC;
- iv. Percentage of voters who voted on the basis of Photo Voter Slip issued by the Commission;
- v. Percentage of voters who voted on the basis of alternative documents;
- vi. Percentage of voters who voted without any document on the basis of only the matching of the photo appearing in the Photo Electoral Roll;
- vii. Percentage of voters who voted from among the "shifted voter" category;
- viii. Polling Station No. and name of polling station where last column of Form-17 A giving details of document shown by voter have not been filled up at all.

[Instances have come to the notice of the Commission that in many cases, inspite of training, polling officers No. 2 have not filled up the particulars of Elector's Identity Cards in Remarks Column of Form-17 A. It would be considered gross

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negligence on the part of the polling officer as well as the Presiding officer inviting strict disciplinary action against the officials concerned.]

ix. No. and name of polling station where vote is reported as polled but actually not polled?

2. The Commission has decided that based on the information collected as above, the scrutiny of Presiding Officers diaries, the verification of Register of Voters Form-17 A and other related documents which include but is not restricted to i) micro observers reports; ii) Video observers reports; iii) Visitor sheets; iv) reports of Zonal Magistrates and v) Reports of Presiding Officers, shall be done by the Observers and Returning Officers in the presence of contesting candidates or their election agents in following cases-

(i) In all polling stations where any complaint of poll rigging/malpractices etc was received by Observer, DEO or RO during the poll process.

(ii) In all polling stations, where any significant event (EVM related or otherwise) was reported to the Observers DEO or RO during poll process.

(iii) In polling stations, where mock poll took place in the absence of any polling agent or in the presence of agent of only one candidate.

(iv) In polling stations, where the number of electors who cast their votes using documents other than EPIC and Photo Voter Slip issued by the Commission (i.e. alternative documents) exceeded 25% of total votes cast in that polling station.

(v) In polling stations, where more than 10% of such electors who had been identified as "shifted electors" turned up and voted.

(vi) In polling stations, where more than 5% of electors cast their votes on the basis of matching of the photograph in the photo electoral roll with the face of the elector (but without any supporting document).

(vii) In Polling Stations, where polling percentage is **+15% or -15%** than the average polling percentage of that AC. Say, for example, if in a particular AC 60% votes have been cast then in all polling stations with polling percentage 75% or more and 45% or less shall be taken up for scrutiny.

(viii) In polling station, where remark column does not indicate the No. of EPIC/ alternative Identification document.

(ix) In polling stations, where there is any tendered vote/challenged vote, reported

3. The Observer shall do this most carefully and shall, without fail, submit a special report in this regard
4. The aforesaid scrutiny will take place at 11.00 AM on the day after poll. A proper notice should be issued to all candidates to be present during the scrutiny.
5. In order to facilitate the scrutiny, care should be taken to ensure that Polling station wise Documents are stored separately in another Strong room (other than EVM Strong room where EVM and Form-17 C shall be kept under Lock and Seal) in Constituency wise Boxes, so that they can be taken out in an unencumbered manner at the scrutiny time without having to open the EVM Strong room.
6. A copy of this letter shall be provided to each observer and contesting candidates.

Yours faithfully



**(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)**  
**SECRETARY**