

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001.

SUMIT MUKHERJEE
UNDER SECRETARY

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No. 464/INST/2009/EPS

Dated: 21st January, 2009

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States/UTs.

**Subject : Instructions to be followed by Presiding Officers at the polling
station at the end of poll**

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Commission has received complaints in the past that some of the Presiding Officers do not close the EVM by pressing the 'CLOSE BUTTON' after the end of poll for subsequent manipulation.

The Commission has been issuing various instructions in the interest of free and fair poll from time to time.

The Commission desires that following instructions may be brought to the notice of all District Election Officers, Returning Officers, Presiding Officers, Observers and political parties immediately: -

- (i) All Presiding Officers shall close the EVM by pressing 'CLOSE BUTTON' at the end of poll in presence of polling agents, as may be present.
- (i) All Presiding Officers shall draw a line at the end of poll after the last entry in Form 17A and shall record the signed statement thereafter "The serial number of last entry in Form 17A is _____" and obtain the signatures of all polling agents, as may be present, below this statement.
- (iii) All Presiding Officers shall give one attested copy of Form 17C (Account of Votes Recorded) at the end of poll to all polling agents, as may be present, irrespective of their asking.

Yours faithfully

(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)