

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi- 110 001.

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NO. 464/INST/2009/EPS

Dated: 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2009

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of  
All States/ UTs

Subject: Interpretation of Rules regarding assignment of Counting Agents  
for the Lok Sabha counting of 16<sup>th</sup> May 2009-regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to invite attention to Para 9.1 of Chapter XIV of the Returning Officer Handbook wherein, it has been inter-alia stated that each candidate should be allowed to appoint as many counting agents as there are counting tables and one more to watch the counting at the Returning Officer's table.

A clarification has been sought as to whether one additional Counting Agent of the candidate be allowed to sit with the Assistant Returning Officer of the Assembly segment. In this context, it may be clarified that each candidate be allowed to appoint one more counting agent to watch the counting at the RO/ARO table in addition to the counting agents appointed to watch the counting in each of the table in a Hall for the counting purpose.

Yours faithfully,

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

(Copy to Dr. Kirit Somiaya, Chartered Accountant, Ph.D., BJP, with reference to your letter No. Nil dated 09.05.2009 )