

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

464/INST/2009-EPS

Dated: 14th May, 2009

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
all States and Union Territories

Subject: Counting Centres Observers – regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Commission's earlier letter No. 464/2007-PLN-1 dated 11.01.2007 on the above subject wherein it is stated in para 29 of the said letter that the Observer/Returning Officer will ensure that the results of table – wise – round-wise counting of votes are immediately displayed prominently on a notice board inside the counting center and announced through public address system. After the counting is completed and the Returning Officer has compiled the final result sheet, the Observer will tally the figures of votes obtained by the candidates with the details of round-wise break-up kept by him in his folder and allow the result to be declared only when the figures tally with each other.

In para 33 of the said letter it is stated that, as per the above arrangements, the progress of every round, Assembly segment-wise, will be announced as soon as each round is complete. Similarly, the consolidated position of the Parliamentary Constituency by combining the position of the rounds of different ACs available from time to time should also be announced over the public address system,, preferably from a centralized location where the public announcement booth is located. The public announcements could

be repeated at suitable intervals for the knowledge of the public that gather in good number outside the Counting Centres.

Now the Commission has decided that the observer present at the headquarters of the Returning officer of the Parliamentary Constituency will play a coordinating role in the process of monitoring collection and collation of round-wise results from the ARO of the Assembly Segments, by the Returning Officer of the Parliamentary Constituency and in the process of ensuring accurate collating of data, tabulation and the declaration of result by the RO of the Parliamentary Constituency. The observer located in the RO's headquarter will also get a copy of the results received from the AROs of the assembly segments. The observer will monitor and ensure that the above process of obtaining, collating and declaration of result by the RO of the PC is carried out strictly in accordance with the instructions of the Election Commission of India.

After the declaration of the result by the RO following all procedures, the headquarters observer will also submit a special report to the Commission about the collating of data and declaration of results.

This may be brought to the notice of all the DEOs, ROs and observers for their immediate information and compliance.

A copy of this instruction shall be handed over to all observers immediately. The DEOs/ROs shall ensure this.

Yours faithfully,

**(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
UNDER SECRETARY**