

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 464/INST/2009/EPS

Dated: 19th April, 2009

To

The Chief Electoral Officers
of all States/UTs.

Subject: Scrutiny of Form 17A (Register of Voters) and other documents-regarding

Sir/Madam,

A question has been raised as to whether the candidates can authorise their representatives to watch the proceedings of scrutiny of form 17A (Register of Votes) and other documents and materials in all the places fixed by the Returning Officer for this purpose.

It is clarified that candidates can authorise as many representatives as places fixed for scrutiny by the Returning Officer and Observer to watch the proceedings of scrutiny of Form 17 A and other documents. For this purpose, the Returning Officer should give advance notice in writing (under proper acknowledgement), to all the candidates about the scrutiny of Form 17A and other documents indicating the place, date and time of commencement of such scrutiny. In such notice, it shall be mentioned that either the candidate himself or his election agent or one representative duly authorized by the candidate in writing may be present to watch repeat only to watch the proceedings of scrutiny of Form 17A and other documents.

The candidates shall also be asked to intimate the name of their authorized representatives who will be attending the scrutiny of Form 17A and other documents well in advance.

In this context, details of instructions regarding scrutiny of Form 17A and other documents may kindly be seen in the Commission's earlier letter Nos. 464/INST/2007/PLN-I dated 12th Oct, 2007 contained compendium of instructions Volume IV, Serial No. 3 and 464/INST/2009/EPS dated 02.03.2009, 15.04.2009 and 16.04.2009.

Yours Faithfully,

**SUMIT MUKHERJEE
(UNDER SECRETARY)**