

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Asoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.464/2009-EPS

Dated: 30th April, 2009

To,

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States/UTs.

Subject: Facilitation for Senior Citizen and Physically Challenged Voters-regarding.

Sir/Madam,

With reference to the on going General Election 2009 and on the basis of feed back received and with a view to ensuring that Senior Citizens and Physically Challenged persons are able to vote without much difficulty, the Commission has directed that there should be a separate queue primarily for the physically challenged persons and Senior Citizens. However, there may be difficulty in enforcing this norm strictly but the guiding principle for every one should be the physical condition of the voter and the infirmity if anything the voter suffers from. Regarding identification of senior citizen, the Commission has decided that he/she has attained the age of 60 years or more he/she shall be allowed to use separate queue meant for senior citizens and physically challenged persons. As this being a voter friendly initiative, the CEO should give adequate publicity about it and issue an appeal to voters to co-operate in this initiative with a request that those who are able bodied and healthy should not try to avail this opportunity to jump the queue. Rather this should be need based. The voters in the queue should have open mind to help the fellow voters who are suffering from disability and other age related and health related problems. The Presiding Officers and other field officers may be instructed accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

**SUMIT MUKHERJEE
(UNDER SECRETARY)**