

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 464/INST/2012-EPS

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2012

To,

The Chief Electoral Officers of  
All States and Union Territories

**Sub: Scrutiny of Form-17A and other documents-reg.**

**Ref: Commission's letters No.464/INST/2007/PLN-I dated 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2007, 464/INST/2009-EPS dated 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2009 and 464/INST/2012-EPS dated 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2012.**

Sir/Madam,

In supersession of all the letters referred to above, following instructions are hereby issued for scrutiny of Form 17A and other documents after the polls:-

In order to facilitate identification of polling stations for which scrutiny of Form 17A and Presiding Officers diary is required to be done. Returning Officer shall collect the following information for each polling station at the time of receipt of polled EVMs and other documents after completion of polls:-

| S.No | Item   |                                  |
|------|--|----------------------------------|
| 1.   | Total Electors in the P.S.   | Male<br>Female<br>Other<br>Total |
| 2.   | Number of persons who voted in the P.S.                                    | Male<br>Female<br>Other<br>Total |
| 3.   | Number of Tendered votes.  |                                  |
| 4.   | Number of challenged votes.  |                                  |
| 5.   | Number of Proxy votes by CSVS.   |                                  |
| 6.   | Number of electors who exercised their right of vote on the basis of EPIC. |                                  |

7. Number of electors who exercised their right of vote on the basis Photo voter slip provided by the Commission.
8. Number of electors who exercised their right of vote on the basis alternative document.
9. Number of electors who exercised their right under rule 49 'O.'
10. Number of polling agents in the polling station.
11. Number of polling stations where no polling agent or only on polling agent was present.
12. Number of overseas electors who voted in the poll.
13. Number of EVMs used.
14. Whether the EVM was changed or replaced.
15. If so the time when changed and what was the reason for it.
16. Total ASD voters in the list
17. Total persons who cast their votes from the ASD voters list.
18. Any incident of violence or poll interruption due to any reason
19. Complaints received with respect to that polling station

2. Based on the information collected as above, scrutiny of Presiding officers diaries, verification of register of voters in Form 17A and other related documents which include but not restricted to Micro Observers reports, videography recordings, visitor sheets, reports of zonal magistrates or sector officers reports of Presiding Officer, still photography etc., shall be done by Observers and Returning officers in the presence of contesting candidates or their election agents for any of the following categories of the polling stations:-

- (i) In all polling stations where any complaint of poll rigging. Malpractices etc., was received by Observer, DEO or RO during the poll process.
- (ii) In all polling stations, where any significant event (EVM related or otherwise) was reported to the Observer, DEO or RO during poll process.
- (iii) In polling stations, where poll took place in the absence of any polling agent or in the presence of the agent of only one candidate.
- (iv) In polling stations, where the number of electors who cast their votes using documents other than EPIC and photo voter slip issued by the Commission (i.e., alternative documents) exceeded 25% of the total votes cast in that polling station.
- (v) In polling stations, where more than 10% of such electors who had been identified as ASD turned up to and voted.
- (vi) In polling stations, where polling percentage is plus 15% or minus 15% than the average polling percentage of that AC. Say, for eg., in a

particular AC 60% votes have been cast, then in all polling stations with polling percentage 75% or more and 45% or less shall be taken up for scrutiny.

(vii) In polling stations, where there are at least 5 (five) tendered votes/challenged, reported.

3. The RO and Observer shall do the scrutiny with utmost care and shall submit a report to the Commission as soon as scrutiny is over.

4. As far as possible, the aforesaid scrutiny will take place at 11.00 am on the day after poll. A written notice should be served on all the candidates to be present during the scrutiny. The entire process of such scrutiny should be videographed.

5. In order to facilitate the scrutiny, care should be taken to ensure that polling stationwise Documents are stored separately in another strong room instead of EVMs strong room where EVMs and Form 17C are kept under double lock and seal.

6. A copy of this letter shall be provided to all Observers and contesting candidates.

Yours faithfully,

(Sumit Mukherjee)  
Secretary