

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

ANUJ JAIPURIAR  
UNDER SECRETARY

No. 464/GJ-LA/2007

Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2007

To

The Chief Electoral Officer,  
Gujarat,  
Gandhinagar.

Sub.- General Election to the Gujarat Legislative Assembly 2007 –  
**Prevention of use of Cellular Phones inside polling stations** –  
Regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to state that it was brought to the notice of the Commission during the previous elections that there were instances when the polling agent(s) in the polling stations had been allowed to leave Polling Stations before end of the poll with his marked copy of electoral roll after being substituted by relief agent and some time without the substituting-relief-agent. It has also been brought to its notice in the past that such marked copies of electoral rolls have been used to mobilise bogus persons to impersonate such electors who had not cast their votes till that time.

2. Further, it has also been brought to the notice that **Cellular Phones** have been used by polling agents to furnish the particulars of those electors who had not cast their votes to the concerned person of his party/or representative of contesting candidate out side the polling station and thereafter used to mobilize persons to impersonate such electors.

3. The Commission has reviewed the position explained above and has issued the following instructions/directions in the matter:-

- (i) Polling Agent shall not be allowed to leave the polling station or allowed substituting themselves by their relieving agents after 3.00 P.M.
- (ii) Polling Agents/Candidates or the Election Agent of candidate shall not be allowed to carry Cellular Phone inside the polling stations.

- (iii) Likewise, electors should also not be allowed to carry any cellular phones inside the polling station.
- (iv) Only Presiding Officers and the Commission's Observer/Sector Officers/Micro Static Observers or other officers specially authorized by Returning Officer in this regard can carry a Cellular Phone inside the polling station for emergency official use only.

4. The Commission's aforesaid directions/instructions **may be brought to the notice of recognized political parties and contesting candidates for their information and necessary action.**

5. **Wide publicity in print and electronic media should be ensured so that general public is not put to any hardship or inconvenience.**

6. The above instructions/directions shall be brought to the notice of all District Election Officers/Returning Officers/Asstt. Returning Officers/Presiding Officers/Polling Officers, Observers and all other election related officers and immediately for their information and strict compliance.

Yours faithfully,

(ANUJ JAIPURIAR)



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A self explanatory draft addressed to the Chief Electoral Officer,  
Gujarat is put up for approval.