

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001.

No.ECI/PN/26/2009

Dated 29th April, 2009.

PRESS NOTE

SUBJECT: APPEAL FROM THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Dear Voters,

As you know, voting is scheduled to take place tomorrow, the 30th April, 2009 (Thursday) for the third phase in 107 Parliamentary Constituencies spread over 9 States of Bihar, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, and 2 Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. Nearly 14.40 crore voters will be entitled to vote at these elections in 1,65,112 polling stations in the above States and Union Territories.

All arrangements have been made for ensuring free, fair and transparent elections in all the abovementioned constituencies and polling stations. Police forces, including central police forces, wherever necessary, have been deployed in adequate numbers to ensure your safety and security and also for maintaining proper law and order so that you are able to come to your polling stations without any intimidation or obstruction en route and go back safely to your homes after voting. Please rest assured that your vote is, and will remain, secret and no one will be able to know for whom you have voted. You all know that voting has become very simple now by the use of Electronic Voting Machines and you vote by the mere press of a button against the name and symbol of the candidate of your choice. Necessary arrangements have also been made at the polling stations for provision of shelter and drinking water in order that you do not suffer because of heat, rain or other vagaries of weather. For physically challenged voters, ramps have been provided at the polling stations and for visually impaired electors voting machines have been made user friendly for Braille literate voters.

The Commission, therefore, urges upon and appeals to every voter – young and old, in rural and urban areas – to exercise his or her most valuable democratic right to vote at elections tomorrow. While coming to the polling station, please bring your Electoral Photo Identity Card, if issued to you, or otherwise one of the alternative documents specified by the Commission for your identification so that you can exercise your vote without any problem.

(R.K. SRIVASTAVA)
SECRETARY