

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi- 110 001.

NO. 464/INST/2009/EPS

Dated: 09th May, 2009

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States/ UTs

Subject: - Persons having security cover to be prohibited from being appointed as Election Agent, Polling Agent or Counting Agent – regarding

Sir/Madam,

In continuation of the Commission's earlier letter Nos. 464/INST/2008/EPS dated 14.10.2008 and 464/INST/2009/EPS dated 25.04.2009 and 28.04.2009 on the above subject, I am directed to state that as per the provisions of Section 50 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a contesting candidate (whether he is a sitting MP/MLA/MLC) has a right to be present in the Counting Hall in addition to Counting Agents. They shall be permitted with a stipulation that security persons with arms should not get into counting hall. Such candidates should be asked to give an undertaking that they are surrendering their security on their own voluntarily to sit in the counting hall. The only exception shall be in the case of SPG protectees or other similarly placed persons who can be permitted to be accompanied only with one SPG personnel in plain clothes.

This may be brought to the notice of all concerned.

Yours faithfully,

**SUMIT MUKHERJEE
(UNDER SECRETARY)**