

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI- 110001

No.576/3/2018/SDR/Vol.III

Dated: 11th September, 2018

To,

The Chief Electoral Officer of
All States and Union Territories

Sub: - Provision for "None of the above" (NOTA) option on ballot paper for elections to Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Council-withdrawing the provision-reg.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in their judgment dated 21.08.2018 in WP (C) no. 631 of 2017 (Shailesh Manubhai Parmar Vs. ECI & Ors.) has directed that None of the Above (NOTA) option should not be made applicable for elections to Council of States. It has been held that NOTA should be provided only in direct elections (election to Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies).

In pursuance of the above-referred judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the NOTA option will no longer be applicable in Rajya Sabha election and Legislative Council election.

The above instruction may kindly bring to the notice of the Returning Officers for Elections to the Council of States and State Legislative Councils with instructions that column for NOTA shall **not** be printed in the ballot papers for these elections.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,



(N.T. Bhutia)
SECRETARY