

Election- Urgent- Time Limit

No. EL1-17245/2018 (2)

Collectorate, Thrissur
Dated 19/03/2019

From

District Election Officer &
District Collector, Thrissur

To

- All Assistant Returning Officers
- All Nodal Officers
- All Electoral Registration Officers & Tahsildars
- RO' s Clerk.

Sir,

Sub:-Election 2019 - Instructions for storing Polled EVMs & VVPATs / defective Polled EVMs & VVPATs / defective Unpolled EVMs & VVPATs/ Unused EVMs & VVPATs - reg.

Ref:-D O Letter No. 3786/EE1/2019/Elec dated 08.03.2019 of the Chief Electoral Officer, Kerala

The Election Commission of India has issued general instructions on storage of Polled and Unpolled EVMs & VVPATs after Poll and Counting. Based on this direction, the Chief Electoral Officer, Kerala has issued the following directions:-

After Poll, all available EVMs & VVPATs are divided in four categories as :-

Category A : Polled EVMs & VVPATs those EVMs in which votes polled at polling stations are recorded and which are closed at the end of poll after following due procedure. VVPATs - those were used during actual poll and contains printed paper slips (Ballot Slips) in its drop box (Ballot Compartment).

Category B: Defective Polled EVMs & VVPATs are those which become defective after some votes are recorded in EVM or after printing of some paper slips (Ballot Slips) VVPAT become defective ie., goes in error.

Category C: Defective Unpolled EVMs & VVPATs are those which become defective before commencement of poll and are replaced.

Category D: Unused EVMs & VVPATs are those which are with Sector/Zonal/Area Magistrate as reserve and are not used in actual poll.

Storage of EVMs & VVPATs after Poll and Counting of Votes:

- i. EVMs & VVPATs of Category A & B (that is Polled and Defective Polled) shall be stored in the strong room as per the procedure laid down.

After completion of counting of votes, EVMs & VVPATs of category A & B shall again be stored in a strong room following the due procedure and it shall be ensured that **EVMs & VVPATs of 2 or more than 2 Assembly Constituencies shall not be kept in the same strong room till the completion of Election Petition period.**

- ii. EVMs & VVPATs of Category C (that is Defective Unpolled) shall be kept in separate strong room designated as " Repair Room" .

iii. EVMs & VVPATs of Category D shall be stored securely separately in different strong room, which shall not be in the vicinity of PC/AC strong room.

Category C & D Units shall not be stored in strong room having Category A & B EVMs & VVPATs and in no Case, EVMs & VVPATs of Category C & D shall be mixed and kept in the same room so that EVMs & VVPATs of Category D can be used for subsequent elections or any other purpose immediately after the Polls.

Further, the Chief Electoral Officer has also directed to identify and earmark well in advance separate strong rooms (AC wise) for storing (i) EVMs & VVPATs of categories A & B (ii) EVMs & VVPATs of Category C (iii) EVMs & VVPATs of Category D and **intimate to the candidates** and to furnish **Photographs of the Strong rooms** to the Chief Electoral Office for favour of onward transmission to the Election Commission of India. **Security of minimum ½ section is to be provided to the rooms where the Category C & D EVMs & VVPATs are stored.**

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

Deputy Collector (Election)
For District Election Officer &
District Collector

Enclosures:- As stated above

Copy to:

1. Deputy Collector (Election)
2. Junior Superintendent (Election)
3. Stock File EL1

Approved for Issue

Junior Superintendent (Election)