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EVM & VVPAT
19/3/19

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4 CEO (SP)

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. 51/8/6/2019-EMPS

Dated: 12th March, 2019

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States and Union Territories.

Adde. CEO (SI. SKS)

Subject: General Instructions on Storage of EVMs & VVPATs –regarding.

- Dy CEO (Dy)
2/3/19
19.3.19
1. 51/8/VVPAT/2015-EMS, dated 5th May, 2015.
 2. Commission's letter No. 51/8/VVPAT/2017-EMS, dated 2nd November, 2017.
 2. Commission's letter No. 51/8/7/2018-EMS, dated 3rd November, 2018.
 3. Commission's letter No. 51/8/7/2018-EMS, dated 6th December, 2018.

I am directed to refer to the Commission's instructions referred above in the matter, and to bring more clarity on storage of EVMs and VVPATs, the following instructions shall be followed:

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1. **Storage of EVMs and VVPATs after first randomisation of EVMs and VVPAT till dispersal of polling parties/materials**

- ATTA DBD
19/3/19
- (a) After first randomization of EVMs and VVPATs, EVMs and VVPATs shall be stored in strong rooms Assembly Constituency (AC)/Assembly Segment (AS) wise. In no case EVMs and VVPATs pertaining to more than one AC or AS shall be kept in the same strong room.
 - (b) In case of simultaneous elections, EVMs and VVPATs pertaining to Assembly Constituency and Assembly Segment shall be stored separately in separate strong rooms i.e. in no case EVMs and VVPATs pertaining to AC shall be kept with EVMs and VVPATs pertaining to AS of PC in the same strong room.
 - (c) In exceptional case, if it is not possible to keep EVMs and VVPATs AC/AS-wise in separate strong rooms and need to be kept in one or more than one big strong room, temporary separate strong rooms shall be made for each AC/AS within big strong room. Each temporary strong room should have separate entry and double lock system. However, this arrangement shall only be made in exceptional circumstances only and SHALL require Commission's approval.

2. **Storage of polled EVMs and VVPATs after poll till counting day:**

- (a) The instructions mentioned above shall also be applicable for storage of polled and defective polled EVMs and VVPATs.

- (b) In no case BUs, CUs and VVPATs shall be kept separately.
- (c) Returning Officer may earmark inside the strong room, specified parts of the floor space in the form of squares in advance for stacking the voting machines received from particular polling stations. The arrangement for this should follow the serial number of polling stations. All BUs, CUs and VVPATs received from one polling station must invariably be kept together at one place on the same square.
- (d) If it is not feasible to store polled EVMs and VVPATs (including defective polled) in a single strong room (AC/AS-wise), the following protocol may also be followed:
- (i) If polled EVMs and VVPATs (including defective polled) are need to be kept in two strong rooms, adjacent to each other within a building, outside of all such strong rooms, a notice be pasted indicating the particular of elections, AC/AS name and No. and serial number of polling stations. Ex. Strong Room 1 having EVM/VVPAT of PS 1 to 100 and Strong Room 2 of PS 101 to 200.
 - (ii) For storage of polled EVMs and VVPATs (including defective polled) two or more layers of storage by fabricating storage racks of steel/iron may be considered.
 - Each rack can be of 6 feet in length and 2 feet in width with provision for fixing a ply board of 6 mm thickness. It will have a 6-inch foot to be grouted in the floor using cement mortar to provide strength at all four corners.
 - Each such rack may have a height of 40 inches to ensure that in case of use of multiple BUs, there is adequate space to store all machines of a polling station in one compartment of 2ft. X 2ft.
 - The two racks placed back to back shall be separated with a ply board of 6 mm thickness, as indicated above, to prevent any shifting of EVMS and VVPATs during storage.
 - On the front panel of each rack, the polling station number shall be painted in white colour with black background for easy visibility. This will meet the requirements that the EVMs and VVPATs are stored polling station wise in a serial order and as per the layout of the strong room.
 - In case of use of 2 VVPATs, (either due to replacement of VVPAT failure or due to replacement of CU or BU), the stacking of the

racks be done with the VVPATs at the bottom, followed with BUs placed above it and the CU on top.

The above instructions shall be brought to the notice of all concerned for strict compliance.

Yours faithfully,

(Madhusudan Gupta)
Under Secretary

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पत्रांक : ER-06/2018(EVM-VVPAT) - 1740

पटना, दिनांक 19 मार्च, 2019 ई०।

प्रतिलिपि : सभी जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-जिलाधिकारी, बिहार को आवश्यक कार्रवाई हेतु प्रेषित।

(सुधाकर प्रसाद)

उप मुख्य निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी, बिहार।

पत्रांक : ER-06/2018(EVM-VVPAT) - 1740

पटना, दिनांक 19 मार्च, 2019 ई०।

प्रतिलिपि : सभी उप निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी/सभी प्रभारी उप निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी, बिहार राज्य को आवश्यक कार्रवाई हेतु प्रेषित।

(सुधाकर प्रसाद)

शापंक - 741 उप मुख्य निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी, बिहार।

दिनांक - 20/03/2019

प्रतिलिपि - सभी सहायक निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी / EVM कौषांग / जिला सूचना विभाग पदाधिकारी को सूचना एवं आवश्यक कार्रवाई हेतु प्रेषित।

उप निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी
मुंगेर

20/3/19