

"Elections / Most Urgent"

" By Fax/ e-mail/Post"

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (ELECTIONS.F) DEPARTMENT

Memo No.217/Elecs.F/2014-35

Dated:11.5.2014.

Sub:- Counting of votes for General / Bye-elections to the House of the People / State Legislative Assemblies - Clarifications -Communicated - Reg.

Ref:- E.C.I. Lr.No.470/INST/2014-EPS, dt.10.5.2014.

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A copy of the reference cited is communicated to all the Collectors and District Election Officers and the Commissioner, G.H.M.C. & D.E.O., Hyderabad and they are requested to follow the "**Clarifications regarding Counting of Votes**" issued by the ECI in the reference cited.

This clarification shall also be communicated to all the Returning Officers / Assistant Returning Officers / Observers and all concerned for compliance.

V.VENKATESWARA RAO,
ADDITIONAL CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER,
Andhra Pradesh.

To

All the District Collectors & D.E.Os (w.e.)

The Commissioner, G.H.M.C., & D.E.O., Hyderabad (w.e)

Copy to:

All the Returning Officers of Parliamentary & Assembly Constituencies (w.e) through the D.E.Os., concerned.

All the Observers **through** the D.E.Os., concerned.

// FORWARDED: BY ORDER //


SECTION OFFICER

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 470/INST/2014-EPS

Dated: 10th May, 2014

To

The Chief Electoral Officers
of all States and UTs.

Sub: Counting of votes for General/Bye-elections to the House of People/State Legislative Assembly – Clarifications regarding.

Sir/Madam,

The Commission has received certain doubts/questions from CEOs/ROs during the Video Conference on counting process held on 09.05.2014. The doubts expressed and clarification on each of the issues is given below for facility of reference by all concerned:

S.No.	Doubts/Questions	Clarifications
1.	The round-wise tabulation is to be signed by the Observer as well as the RO. In addition, the observer has to randomly cross check the correctness of counting by randomly selecting two EVMs and counting votes in them. Who will cross check the correctness of counting and sign round-wise tabulation of those counting halls where the observer is not present, in the case counting is being taken place in more than one hall?	<p>The intention behind randomly selection of two EVMs and counting votes in these EVMs in every round, is to crosscheck the correctness of counting and to ascertain once again counting of votes polled by each candidate, before countersigning the round-wise tabulation. For this purpose, the mirco-observers/ additional staff prepare the format and bring the same for signing of Observer.</p> <p>The Commission has considered the matter and has decided that in case the observer is allotted to look after counting in more than one hall/AC, the mirco-observers attached to the observer in each hall and who are preparing the round-wise tabulation format of randomly selected two EVMs, may be authorized to crosscheck the randomly selected EVMs and</p>

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		sign the round-wise tabulation format on behalf of the observers in their absence. The Observer will countersign the same thereafter immediately.
2.	Some CEOs and ROs have requested to allow counting of postal ballot papers in separate halls / enclosures / areas considering the large numbers of PBs being received and over-crowding of halls due to presence of candidates, their agents, counting staff, RO/ARO, observers, etc. during the counting of PBs.	<p>As per ECI norms, ideally not more than 500 PBs are to be counted on RO's table. In case of large number of PBs, the ROs can put more than 4 tables for counting of PB subject to availability of space in the counting halls.</p> <p>The Commission has considered the matter and has decided that, in such peculiar scenarios, if there is shortage of space for keeping more than 3 or 4 tables and the number of PBs received is very high, the RO can make arrangement for a separate hall adjacent to counting hall for counting of postal ballot papers.</p>

2. This may be brought to the notice of all concerned accordingly

Yours faithfully,


(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
SECRETARY