

**By Camp Bag/e-mail**

**ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA**

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

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**K.N. BHAR**  
**UNDER SECRETARY**

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No. 464/OBS/2009-O.P.S.

Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2009

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of  
All States and Union Territories

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to state that the Commission has decided that in a particular Parliamentary Constituency, if an Observer slotted for the Headquarter of the Returning Officer does not reach by any chance at the time of scrutiny, then the concerned Returning Officer (RO) shall get in touch with the Nodal Officer of the CEO appointed for Observer management, who shall, in consultation with the Zonal Secretary of the ECI for the state, ensure that at least one of the other Observers available in the Parliamentary Constituency necessarily attend the scrutiny of nomination papers. This may be taken as a standing instruction of the Commission and be informed to all concerned including the Observers on their arrival.

A daily reporting system for the Nodal Officer for Observer management in the CEO office shall be brought into effect immediately and the Nodal Officer shall update the Zonal Secretary necessarily on daily basis in this regard.

In case of simultaneous bye-election, the Observer posted to the concerned Parliamentary or Assembly Constituency shall take care of the same.

Since more than one Observer is deployed in every Parliamentary Constituency in the country for the General Election to the Parliament 2009, the Commission hereby clarifies that the seniormost Observer of the Indian Administrative Service available in the Parliamentary Constituency shall act as the Coordinator Observer for the Parliamentary Constituency in this context. The Commission also clarifies that an Observer appointed against a Parliamentary Constituency slot will look after the corresponding Assembly Constituency slots as well as in case of simultaneous elections to the Parliamentary Constituency and Assembly Constituency.

Yours faithfully,

**(K.N. BHAR)**