ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoks Road, New Delhi

No. 485/ COMP/ 4/ 2009

Date 26 April, 2009.

To,

Chief Electoral officers (All).

Sub: Preparations for Counting – Computerrization

Sir/ Madam.

The Commission desires the following arrangements to be made in relation to counting in all states/ UTs:

On every counting centre, there should be atleast 1 desktop computer with internet connection [preferably also atleast a second internet-connected computer as a backup]. The minimum configurations of these desktops should be

- Hardware: Pentium P4, 1 GB RAM, foolproof power back-up/ UPS etc.
- Software: Minimum Windows XP, service pack 2 [Windows Vista if possible]. There should be Dot net framework, and Crystal report runtime installed on it [free download of both are available from ECI website].

Ideally such Desktops should be placed in such a manner that they are readily available to the concerned AROs also.

On the day of counting, counting will be done as in regular fashion. Once the status of counted votes at the end of each round is announced in the counting hall by the ARO/RO after signing by the RO and the Observer, the data will be entered in the computer, [Candidate wise cumulative figures upto any particular round will be entered at the end of that round].

Data entry will be done at the counting centre by ARO/RO or their designated representative. As soon as the data is entered, it will be visible immediately on the website. Therefore, any data should be entered only after obtaining signatures of ARO/RO and the Observer.

Every AC will have a separate User ID and Password, which RO/ARO must change on the first login.

There will be a User ID and Login for RO of the PC also and he will have access to all ACs in the PC.

EDIT facility will be available only on the level of ARO (only for his AC) and RO (only for Postal Ballots of his PC).

RO (NOT AROs) will also be able to enter results of Counting of Postal Ballots.

When the counting for an AC gets completed for all rounds and all EVMs, there will be a button called 'FINALIZE' which will be pressed by the RO/ARO of the AC, after which he will not be able to edit the data. So, before pressing the FINALIZE button, he must ensure that the data is correct.

For the RO of the PC there will be another form in which he will be able to see the data entered by the AROs in his PC (even if these ACs are in another district). He can also see if they have Finalized the data or not.

For the RO of the PC, a separate form is being given in which he can see AC wise Finalized or non-Finalized data. Once all ACs of any PC have been Finalized and Postal Ballot data has also been entered, then there will a button called 'DECLARE RESULT' on this form, which the RO can press AFTER THE RESULT HAS BEEN SIGNED AND DECLARED BY THE RO.

In case any AC has not been Finalized, clicking this button will give an 'Error' message. Whatever data is filled, will be seen as LEADING and TRAILING figures till the last button viz. 'DECLARE RESULT' is pressed. Only after pressing the 'DECLARE RESULT' button, status can be seen as WINNING.

This may kindly be brought to the immediate notice of all concerned for timely compliance.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-Ashish Chakraborty Under Secretary