

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi 110 001.

No.464/INST/2012/EPS

Dated: 25th January, 2012

To,

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States and Union Territories

Sub: Identification of Absentee, Shifted and Duplicate voters at the time of Poll – Reg.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to say that, in spite of Commission's instructions to delete the names of Absentee, Shifted and Duplicate, electors [who may be registered in the roll at more than one place] from the electoral rolls, it has been noticed that the names of some dead, shifted and absentee electors continue to appear in the electoral rolls. It is possible that in some such cases, the Photo Roll may not have the photo of such persons. This offers a scope for impersonation.

Therefore, in order to prevent impersonation of such electors at the time of poll, the Commission has directed that the following procedure may be adopted:

- (a) A list of ASD voters should be prepared polling station wise and It should be ensured that the each presiding officer should be provided with separate lists of Absentee, Shifted and Duplicate electors (ASD List).
- (b) On the day of poll, in order to cast one's vote, the elector, who is in such list, shall have to produce EPIC for his identification or any one of the alternative photo documents, if permitted by the Commission. The Presiding Officer shall verify the identification document personally and the details properly registered by the polling officer concerned in the register of voters in Form- 17A.

- (c) Thumb impression of such electors shall also be obtained **in addition to signature** against the column of “ Signature/thumb impression” of Register of Voters (Form-17A). The Thumb impression shall be in addition to the signature even in the case of an elector who is literate and can sign.
- (d) Presiding Officer shall maintain a record and give a certificate at the end of the poll (to be kept with Form-17A for scrutiny) that so many electors from the list of absentee and shifted electors were allowed to vote after proper scrutiny.
- (e) Wherever possible, such electors may be photographed and record kept.
- (f) Micro Observers, who are present, should ensure that these instructions with regard to Absentee, Shifted and Duplicate electors are meticulously followed.
- (g) The Presiding Officer shall be briefed specially about these procedures to be followed in polling stations for electors who are in the list of Absentee/Shifted/Duplicate electors

This shall be brought to the notice of all concerned immediately. A copy of the letter shall also be handed over to all observers through the District Election Officers.

The receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged with the confirmation that the relevant instructions have been issued to all the concerned officers. A copy of the instructions so issued in this behalf may also be endorsed to the Commission for its information and record.

Yours faithfully

(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
SECRETARY