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तार : निर्वाचण  
नई दिल्ली  
GRAM: ELECCOM  
NEW DELHI

भारत निर्वाचन आयोग सचिवालय  
SECRETARIAT OF THE  
ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

फैक्स : 23716617  
FAX: 23716617  
Phone- 2377338  
23717391/280

संख्या  
NO: 464/UP-LA/2012  
तारीख  
Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2012

निर्वाचन सदन  
NIRVACHAN SADAN  
अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली-110001  
ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

To

The Chief Electoral Officer,  
Uttar Pradesh,  
Lucknow.

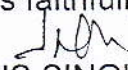
Sub: General Election to UP Legislative Assembly, 2012 – counting of postal ballot in ACs  
comprised in district Pratapgarh - regarding

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter number 678/CEO-3 dated 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2012, received today, on the subject cited, read with email dated 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2012 of DM-cum DEO, Pratapgarh to DEC(VZ) and to state that the Commission has noted with surprise that the DEO Pratapgarh has mentioned that there is no instruction in the matter either in HB of ROs or in ECI's instruction dated 5th May, 2011. He should be directed to read carefully Para 27 and 28 of our aforesaid instruction and also Para 14.3 of Chapter XIV of ROs Hand Book. The Commission cannot allow District Election Officers to devise their own systems and mechanism. It is clear that District Election Machinery of Pratapgarh has not followed the instructions of Election Commission and the prescribed law in the matter of issuing postal ballot to poll personnel in the District and which is a serious matter.

The Commission would like to reiterate its earlier instructions that **only and only such postal ballot papers** which have been issued and received back as per statutory requirements, shall be counted tomorrow.

You may please reiterate these instructions to all the districts of the state and ensure that prescribed legal provisions and ECI instructions are strictly followed by all DEOs during the counting tomorrow. DEOs may be directed to bring this to the notice of all counting observers.

Yours faithfully,  
  
(HARBANS SINGH)  
SECRETARY

Copy to:

The DM-cum-DEO, Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh.