

IMMEDIATE
By Special Messenger/By Speed Post/Camp Bag

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 479/INST/2012-CC&BE

Dated: 7th July, 2012

To

1. The Returning Officer for the Presidential Election and Secretary General, Rajya Sabha, Room No. 29, Parliament House, New Delhi.
2. The Assistant Returning Officer for Presidential Election (Through Chief Electoral Officers).

Sub: - Presidential Election-2012-Preparation of polling compartment.

Sir,

I am directed to say that the maintenance of secrecy of ballot is one of the most fundamental aspects of the Presidential Election as envisaged in the Constitution [Article 55(3)]. The Commission desires that adequate care shall be taken while preparing the voting compartment to ensure that the ballot secrecy is not compromised in any manner. For the sake of uniformity, the Commission desires that the dimension of the voting compartment made of good quality card board shall be **21"x21"x21"** and the same will remain open only from one side and will be fixed on the table at a considerable distance from the persons seated in the polling station, so that there is no scope for violation of secrecy. The positioning of the compartment shall be such that the actual act of marking the ballot paper by the elector is not seen by any representative or by any other person.

The voting compartment should not be covered from all the sides for that would not allow the Presiding Officer/Observer to watch unwanted activity, if any, resorted to by any elector, while voting.

This may be complied with, without any deviation.

Yours Faithfully,

(K.N. BHAR)
SECRETARY