

By Special Messenger

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi 110 001

No.51/8/16/2010-EMS (Exp.PT)

Dated: 7th October, 2010

1. Prof. P.V. Indiresan,
B-57, Hillview Apartment,
Vasant Vihar, New Delhi.
2. Prof. D.T. Shahani
Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, New Delhi.
3. Prof. A.K. Agarwala,
Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, New Delhi.

Sir,

The Commission held a meeting on 4th October 2010, with recognized National and State Political Parties to discuss issues related to Electronic Voting Machines, alongwith with some other issues. Political Parties, welcomed the additional administrative measures stipulated by the Commission to enhance the security of EVMs at all times, i.e. before, during and after elections and appreciated the administrative safeguards already in place. They agreed that EVMs have been used effectively in Elections in India, for more than two decades. There was a consensus among Political Parties that the Electronic Voting Machines should continue to be used in our elections to Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. Several Political Parties, however, suggested that the possibility of incorporating a "Voter verifiable paper trail" in EVMs should be explored. The Commission agreed that the possibility of a paper trail in EVMs and all its aspects would be examined by the Expert Committee with wide consultation with political parties and such other persons who, in the Committee's opinion, would be of any assistance to the Committee.

You are, therefore, requested to initiate the process mentioned above.

The Commission has decided to request the political parties to interact with the Expert Committee with the party's suggestions in this matter, if any.

The meetings of the Expert Committee with the party representatives at the venues and on the dates decided by the Committee will be facilitated by the Commission, if the Committee so desires.

Yours faithfully,

(K.N.BHAR)

SECRETARY