

# **Election Commission of India**

Nirvachansadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/52/2018

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2018

## **Press Note**

**All VVPATs shall be delivered well within the time required for making pre-poll preparations**

**Commission monitoring the manufacture & supply of machines on a daily basis to ensure timely delivery & pre poll preparedness**

The Election Commission of India is mandated under Article 324 to 329 of the Constitution of India to provide superintendence, direction and control for conduct of elections in accordance with the law in force and not for catering to any speculation or debate.

While all required EVMs will be delivered by 30th Sep 2018, VVPAT deliveries are delayed as the Technical Experts Committee on EVMs appointed by the Commission analyses the technology stabilization issues in the initial batches and incorporates essential design improvements. Even then due to continuous monitoring at the highest level, including personal visits by the Commission of all the production units, all VVPATs shall also be delivered well before end of Nov 2018, well within the time required for making pre-poll preparations.

In order to meet the requirement of VVPATs for 100% saturation of all polling stations for the Lok Sabha Elections in 2019, the Commission placed an order of 16.15 lakh VVPATs to be produced by the PSU manufacturers namely Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Bangalore and Electronics Corporation of India Ltd (ECIL), Hyderabad in May 2017. Till date, 5.88 lakh units have been produced by the PSUs (4.36 lakh by BEL and 1.52 lakh by ECIL), which is 36% of the total quantity to be supplied. The RTI reply dated 19 June 2018 mentioned in the press report does not take into account the current status as explained above. Both the PSUs have assured the Commission that the remaining VVPAT units (10.27 lakh) will be

