

By Mail / Camp Bag

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi -110001

No.491/SVEEP/87/2013(NOTA)

Dated: 31st October, 2013

To,

The Chief Electoral Officers of Madhya Pradesh,
Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Mizoram and NCT of Delhi.

Sub.: Dissemination of information regarding 'None of the Above' (NOTA) option on the EVM-regarding

Sir/Madam,

The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in its judgment dated 27th September, 2013, in Writ Petition(C) No. 161 of 2004 has directed that the Commission should make necessary provisions in the ballot papers/EVMs for 'None of the Above' (NOTA) option so that electors who do not wish to vote for any of the candidates can exercise their right not to vote for any candidate without violation of the secrecy of their decision. The Supreme Court also directed the Election Commission to undertake awareness programmes to educate the masses about NOTA.

2. Accordingly, I am directed to say that the following steps may be taken to create awareness about the NOTA option among the people:

- a. All communication material/creatives displaying EVM or EVM message should mandatorily have information about NOTA.
- b. Similarly, EVM familiarisation Camps should display NOTA button.
- c. Other printed Publicity material relating to turnout may carry at the bottom, information about NOTA in a font which is atleast two points smaller than the font size of the remaining message font size.
- d. The above should be appropriate and hence further display of NOTA option in audio visual or any other format may not be necessary.

3. The information about NOTA should be as follows:

- I. The last button of the EVM is NOTA, which a voter can press, if he does not wish to vote for any of the contesting candidates
- II. Electors who do not wish to vote for any candidate can still exercise their right to vote by choosing NOTA.

Yours faithfully



(Suman Kumar Das)
UNDER SECRETARY