

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashok Road, New Delhi-110 001

No. 3/4/ID/2015/SDR/Vol.I

Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2016

To,

The Chief Electoral Officer of  
Gujarat,  
Gandhinagar.

Subject:- Bye-Election to the **168-Choryasi Assembly Constituency of Gujarat**, 2015 –  
Commission's order regarding identification of electors.

Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith Commission's Order dated 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2016, regarding identification of electors at the current bye-election to the State Legislative Assembly of Gujarat, notified on **28-12-2015(Monday)** from **168-Choryasi Assembly Constituency in Gujarat**.

2. The Commission has directed that all electors who have been issued EPIC have to produce the EPIC for their identification at the polling station before casting their votes. Those electors who are not able to produce the EPIC shall produce one of the alternative photo identity documents mentioned in paragraph 8 of the Order for establishing their identity.

3. As already directed in the Commission's letter No. 464/INST-VS/2014-EPS dated 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2014, Authenticated Photo Voter Slips shall be distributed to all electors before the poll day. On the day of poll one officer (BLO) will be on duty outside each polling station, during polling hours, with undistributed Photo Voter Slips, so that any elector who has not been issued Authenticated Photo Voter Slip, can collect their Authenticated Photo Voter Slip in original outside the polling stations. It shall be ensured that the officer with the undistributed photo voter slips sits at a facilitation desk set up at a conspicuous place outside the polling station. Banners/ Posters to convey this information in the local language should also be put at places which are easily visible. This order of the Commission should also be given wide publicity before the polls by all media channels.

4. In the case of EPIC, minor discrepancies in the entries therein should be ignored provided the identity of the elector can be established by the EPIC. If an elector produces an Elector Photo Identity Card, which has been issued by the Electoral Registration Officer of another Assembly Constituency, such card shall also be accepted for identification provided the name of that elector finds place in the electoral roll pertaining to the polling station where

the elector has turned up for voting. If it is not possible to establish the identity of the elector on account of mismatch of photograph, etc. the elector shall have to produce one of the alternative photo documents mentioned in para 8 of the Order.

5. The overseas electors shall have to produce their original passport for identification.

6. The Order may be brought to the notice of the Returning Officers and all Presiding Officers concerned. A copy of the Order translated in the vernacular language should be supplied to each of the Presiding Officers.

7. The Commission's Order dated 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2015, may be got published in the State Gazette immediately. This Order may be given wide publicity through print/electronic media for information of the general public and electors. All contesting candidates at the bye-election may also be informed, in writing, of this direction of the Commission.

8. Please note that in column (3) of Form 17A (Register of Voters) the last four digits of the Identification document should be mentioned. In the case of electors voting on the basis of the EPIC and Authenticated Photo voter Slip, it is sufficient that the letters 'EP' (denoting EPIC) and 'VS' (denoting photo voter slip), respectively, is mentioned in the relevant column, and it is not necessary to write down the number of the EPIC or the Photo Voter Slip. However, in the case of those who vote on the basis of any alternative documents, the instructions to note down the last four digits of the document shall continue to apply. The type of the document produced should also be mentioned therein.

9. The Returning Officers shall be instructed to note the implications of this Order and explain the contents thereof to all Presiding Officers through special briefings. They should also ensure that a copy of this letter is available with the Presiding Officers at all polling stations/ booths in the constituency.

10. Kindly acknowledge receipt and confirm action taken.

Yours faithfully,



(N.T. Bhutia)

Under Secretary

