

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No.464/OBS/2014-EM & OPS

Dated: 15th May, 2014

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States & Union Territories

Subject: General Election to the House of the People, 2014 and simultaneous elections to the legislative assemblies of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim, 2014 – Observation of process of counting of votes- Regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to state that in many States more than one Observer have been appointed to watch the process of counting of votes for one Parliamentary Constituency. The Commission has decided to issue following guidelines with regard to the functions to be performed by those Observers :-

1. The **General Observer** who has been principally deployed by the Commission for the observation of entire poll process in the Parliamentary Constituency and has stayed in the constituency during the election process onwards till poll day will be known as **Principal Observer**. This Principal Observer will sit with the Returning Officer during counting of votes and will execute all the statutory and other functions of Observer that are mandatorily to be done by the Observer, as per Commission's directions including the endorsement required before declaration of Result, after counting is over.
2. Such other **Counting Observers** who have been appointed specially only for the purpose of counting of votes in the constituencies, will sit at the counting centre where counting is being taken up at a different location or place. This Observer will report to the Principal Observer and in case of any doubt he will seek clarification from Principal Observer only.
3. **Special Counting Observer**, wherever deployed shall observe the overall counting process of the constituency and shall interact with Principal and other Counting Observers. He may report to the Commission, if there are any reportable events. The Commission shall also interact with Special Counting Observers, whenever required.

Yours faithfully,

(DILIP K. VARMA)
UNDER SECRETARY