

# Election Commission of India

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashok Road, New Delhi -110001

No. 464/MR-LA/2012(Inst.)

Dated: 13.01.2012

To

Chief Electoral Officer  
Manipur  
Imphal

Sub: - General Elections to Manipur Legislative Assembly, 2012 – Instructions regarding photography of all voters at polling stations in Manipur on the poll day.

Ref: - Your letter No. 4/1/ELEC-Conduct/2012 dated 10-01-2012.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your above cited letter and to state that based on the feedback received from political parties and on the proposal contained in your letter referred to above, the Commission has decided that in order to prevent impersonation, each voter shall be photographed at polling station on the poll day before he/she casts his/her vote after application of indelible ink. The procedure to be followed for photography of voters is given below: -

1. Each polling station will be given a digital camera for the purpose of photography of voters. The No. and Name of the Assembly Constituency and the No. and name of the Polling Station where the camera is to be used will be written on a sticker and pasted on the camera so that the camera used in each polling station can be easily identified.
2. Polling teams will be given proper training in photography of voters. A copy of these instructions will be given to each presiding officer and explained to every polling team.
3. One additional copy of Photo-electoral roll will be given to each polling station and will be kept with Polling Officer No.-3 for the purpose of recording the image number of each voter.

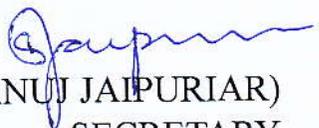
4. Wide publicity will be given to the fact that photography of all voters will be done on the poll day at the polling stations.
5. Following procedure will be followed at the polling station on the poll day –
  - a. After signature or thumb impression of voter has been obtained on the Register in Form 17-A, every voter is sent to Polling Officer No.-3 for marking the finger with indelible ink.
  - b. Polling officer No.-3 will take a photograph of every voter showing full face and the finger marked with indelible ink, after marking the finger of the voter with indelible ink in the manner prescribed by the Commission.
  - c. After taking the photograph polling officer No.-3 shall write the image number of the photograph as seen on the camera against the name of the voter whose photograph has been taken.
  - d. Only after marking the finger with indelible ink and taking the photograph, the voter will be sent to the presiding officer, who will then enable the “Ballot”. Thereafter, the voter will go to the voting compartment and cast his vote.
  - e. At the close of the poll the Presiding officer shall write in the Presiding Officer’s diary, the total number of votes cast according to Form 17-C and the total number of photographs of voters taken in the polling station.
6. Procedure at the receipt Center –The camera for each polling station will be received from the presiding officer along with EVM and all election documents at the receipt center.
7. Procedure after receipt –
  - a. After the cameras are received, the photographs in the memory of the camera will be downloaded on a computer. All the photographs of one polling station shall be kept in a separate folder. The No. and Name of the Polling Station shall be the name of the folder in which the photographs from that polling station are kept. All the folders of polling

stations of one Assembly Constituency shall be kept in a folder named after the No. and Name of that Assembly Constituency.

- b. The photographs of each polling station shall be counted and the count compared with the number of votes polled in that polling station according to Form 17-C.
- c. Scrutiny of Presiding Officer's diaries and Form 17-A shall be undertaken by the RO and Observer only after all the photographs of that Assembly Constituency have been counted polling station wise. In case the count of the photographs of a particular polling station does not match with the number of votes polled in that polling station, the RO and Observer will scrutinize the Presiding Officer's diary and Form 17-A and will ascertain the reason for the mismatch. The report sent by the RO and Observer to the Commission after the scrutiny should specifically mention such cases along with the reasons.
- d. The CEO should get software developed for printing the photographs taken on the poll day alongside the photograph in the Photo-electoral roll for easy comparison. Comparison of these photographs should be done by the RO within one week after the poll day and re-poll if any. If there are any mismatches in this comparison, it should be immediately reported to the Commission. Counting of votes shall not be undertaken before this comparison is completed by the RO.
- e. After this work is completed separate CDs shall be prepared with photographs of each polling station. The CD shall be labelled with the No. and Name of the Polling Station. These CDs will be prepared in two sets. One set will be kept with the CEO and one set will be sent to the Commission. CDs of all the polling stations of one Assembly Constituency will be kept in a separate box, labelled with the No. and Name of the Assembly Constituency.

8. These instructions should be brought to the notice of all DEOs, ROs and Observers. Copies of this letter should be given to every presiding officer. Copies of this letter should also be given to all recognized political parties and all candidates. Wide publicity should be given in the local media about these instructions.
9. Please acknowledge the receipt of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

  
(ANUJ JAIPURIAR)  
SECRETARY