



STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, HARYANA
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Most Immediate/Date Bound
Panchayati Raj Institutions Election

No.SEC/4E-II/2022/3717-3738

Dated: 19th October, 2022

To

All the Deputy Commissioners-cum-
District Election Officers (Panchayat)
in the State.

**Sub: Security Measures for Polled Electronic Voting Machines Stored in
Strong Rooms for Counting of Votes - regarding.**

Sir/Madam,

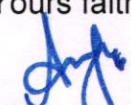
I have been directed to refer to the above subject and state that the following instructions shall be strictly followed for the security and safety of strong rooms where the polled EVMs are kept for counting of votes –


1. The strong rooms should have double lock system. One key should be kept with the Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Election Officer (Panchayat) and the other with the Returning Officer of Panchayat Samiti, concerned.
2. Two cordoned security arrangements should be made round the clock for the security of strong room having polled EVMs kept for counting of votes. The police personnel of IRB should man the innermost perimeter security immediately outside the strong room and the police personnel of HAP should man the outermost perimeter security. If IRB personnel manages outermost perimeter, then HAP personnel shall manage innermost perimeter and vice versa.
3. All contesting candidates should be intimated in writing to depute their representatives to keep a close watch on security arrangement of strong room. They should be allowed to stay outside the inner perimeter at a location, which enables them to view the entry points of the strong room. As far as possible, facilities such as proper shade, drinking water, etc. may be provided to them. If there is no direct view to the strong room, CCTV may be arranged at the location, so that they can see the strong room door on CCTV. In such a case, they may be taken periodically to the inner perimeter in batches to see for themselves and verify the strong room security.

4. A control room adjacent to the strong room should be operative round the clock.
5. A Gazetted Officer along with a police officer should be put on duty round the clock for monitoring the security arrangements of strong room.
6. There should be sufficient arrangement of fire extinguishers near and inside the strong room.
7. There should be an arrangement round the clock for the security of unused EVMs also.
8. No one should be allowed to enter the inner perimeter without following the protocol, as under:-
 - a) The log book shall be maintained by the Police in charge of Security of which entry should be made about date, time, duration and name(s) of any one crossing the second security ring i.e. the middle perimeter. This includes visits by the Election Observers (General or Police) or Deputy Commissioner or Senior Superintendent of Police/Deputy Commissioner of Police or candidates or their agents or any other person.
9. It should be ensured that there is uninterrupted power supply at the strong room locations during the entire period wherein EVMs are stored. Local Electricity Board officials should be asked to ensure the same. Contingency arrangement of standby power generators/inverters should be made to ensure uninterrupted power supply.
10. The phone nos. of Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Election Officer (Panchayat), Returning Officer Panchayat Samiti concerned should be given to the candidates, who may provide the same to their people keeping vigil at the strong room location. They may be advised by the candidate to contact the officials in case of any need.
11. All the entry points (doors etc.) of strong rooms should be under constant videography using the web-cams and laptops available. If there are other doors of the strong room, they should also be covered by the web-cams/videography. Persons coming to take back-up from the laptops should have identity cards given to them and their names should be recorded in advance with the Police contingent stationed there. Their visits should be video graphed by the Police contingent with the video camera provided for the entire duration.
12. Returning Officers should visit the storage campus (up to the inner perimeter only) every day in the morning and evening and check the log book and videography and send a report to the Deputy Commissioner on the status every day. In case of strong rooms located in the district headquarters, the Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Election Officer (Panchayat) should do the same.

13. No vehicle, including that of any official or any other political functionary should be allowed inside the secured campus where the EVMs are stored. Alighting point for the vehicles should be marked clearly ahead of the outer security perimeter itself; beyond it should be a pedestrian zone only.
14. Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Election Officer (Panchayat) or Commissioner of Police/Senior Superintendent of Police/Deputy Commissioner of Police shall be personally responsible for security of strong room within the district and meticulous implementation of the protocol. The copy of this letter should be made available to all candidates, Returning Officers and Superintendent of Police/Deputy Commissioner of Police.

Yours faithfully,


Assistant State Election Commissioner
for State Election Commissioner, Haryana
Panchkula.

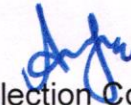

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
Endst No. No.SEC/4E-II/2022/

Dated:

A copy is forwarded to the following with the request to direct the authorities concerned to provide adequate police force to the district concerned as per their requirement :-

1. Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Haryana, Home Department, Chandigarh.
2. Director General of Police, Haryana, Chandigarh.


Assistant State Election Commissioner
for State Election Commissioner, Haryana
Panchkula.


19/10/22