

Handwritten notes: 28.01.09, S. Post No. 241, 707 964, Dt.

R. No. 779 D.M. 1
Dated: 27.1.09

Office of the District Magistrate & Collector
RECEIVED REGISTERED LETTER
27 JAN 2009
Paschim-Medinipur.

R-163
29-01-09

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

Home(C & E) Department
Election Wing
21 Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata-700001

No: 202(19)-Home (Elec.)
R3E-39/2008(Pt.II)

Koikata, 19 January 2009



ADM(G)
o/c (elect.)

FROM: Joint Chief Electoral Officer,
West Bengal

TO: The District Election Officer,
Midnapore West

All SDOs
ADM's

Subject: Tracking the presence of Polling agents at the polling stations on the poll day and mandatory conduct of Mock Poll and certification therein.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of letter No.464/INST/2008/EPS, dated 18.12.2008 received from the Election Commission of India on the above subject and to request you to bring this Commission's instruction to the notice of all concerned for strict compliance.

Yours faithfully,

Joint Chief Electoral Officer
West Bengal

Government of West Bengal
Office of the District Magistrate, Paschim Medinipur
Election Section

202-HE/My document/e1

Memo. No. 83(12) / Elec.

Dated : 28.01.09

Copy along with the copy of enclosure forwarded for favour of information and taking necessary action to:-

1. The Addl. District Magistrate (Gen.)/(Panch.)/(Dev.)/(LR)
2. The Sub-Divisional Officer(All)
- 3.to 4. The Office-In-Charge, Election Department / Poling Personnel Cell
5. CA to DM, Paschim Medinipur
6. Guard File

28.01.09
For District Magistrate
Paschim Medinipur
28/1/09

o/c

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

SUMIT MUKHERJEE

20269

Tel No. 23717590

UNDER SECRETARY

Fax No. 23717590

No. 464/INST/2008/EPS

Dated: 18th December, 2008

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States/UTs.JF CEO-1
22/12/08

Sub: Tracking the presence of polling agents at the polling stations on the poll day and mandatory conduct of Mock Poll and certification therein.

Sir,

The Commission attaches highest importance to the integrity of process and transparency in the election process. Instructions in the past have been issued about the conduct of mock poll. The Commission also considers that the presence of the agents appointed by the contesting candidates during their poll-augurs well for transparency. On the other hand, presence of the agents of only one of the candidates in the absence of other agents may lead to complaints.

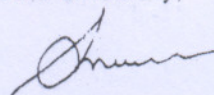
In this regard, the Commission has issued the following instructions:-

1. The recent instruction of the Commission that the polling agents appointed by the candidates shall be a voter in the same polling station shall be implemented strictly. Candidates may be advised by the R.O to ensure that the agents reach the polling stations well in advance before the commencement of poll so that the pre-poll formalities such as issue of entry pass to the agents, conduct of mock poll etc., are done in time.
2. The Presiding Officers shall conduct mock poll, following the existing instructions, in the presence of the polling agents and prepare and sign the mock poll certificate in the prescribed format as in Annexure 1.
3. The Presiding officer shall mention the names of the agents and the candidates they represent and obtain their signatures for the purpose of record.
4. Mock poll shall be conducted normally at least 30 minutes before the commencement of actual poll. In case where even two agents of different candidates are not present, the P.O may choose to wait 10 more minutes and if the agents are not turning up even after that the Presiding Officer may conduct the mock poll for verifying the working condition of the EVM and mention about that in his certificate suitably.

5. The R.O through the sector officers and using the communication link with the polling station/ mobile teams shall track the conduct or otherwise of mock poll and ascertain the mock poll status within 30 minutes. Non-confirmation of mock poll could be indicative of some problem on the part of presiding officer or the EVM and hence the R.O shall make immediate intervention to sort out the problem.
6. The polling stations not having the presence of rival candidates of recognized parties and where the mock poll had to be conducted in the absence of agents shall merit focused attention of the election machinery. Interventions such as deployment of reserve micro-observers, deployment of video cameras, frequent visits by sector officers and other senior officers could be made.
7. After the completion of poll on the basis of mock poll certifications received from the presiding officers the R.O shall prepare a list of such polling stations where the mock poll had to be conducted in the absence of agents or where at the time of mock poll the agents of more than one rival candidates of recognized parties were not present and special attention shall be paid to the documents received from such polling stations for proper scrutiny. The observers shall also pay their attention to this aspect.

This may be brought to the notice of all concerned.

Yours sincerely,



(SUMIT MUKERJEE)

Mock Poll Certificate

This is certified that I Presiding Officer at the Polling Station No of --- Assembly Constituency (or the ---Assembly segment under --- Parliamentary Constituency) conducted the mock poll at ---- AM today, the poll day is ----- following the instructions issued by the Election Commission of India.

A total of ----- votes were polled in the mock poll and after the mock poll I have carefully cleared the memory and the total votes polled showed '0' after clearing the memory.

- A. At the time of mock poll the following of polling agents representing the candidates whose names mentioned against the names of such agents were present and I have obtained their signatures.
- B. At the time of mock poll the agent of only one contesting candidate was present. After waiting for ten more minutes I conducted the mock poll along with other polling staff at ----- I have mentioned the name of the agent present at the time of mock poll including the name of the candidate whom he represented.

(In case, no agent was present it shall be mentioned " No Polling agent was present at the time of mock poll)

Name of the agent	Name of the Candidate	Signature of the agent
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Date:
Time:

Name & Signature
of the P.O