

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi 110 001

K.N. Bhar
Secretary

No.51/8/16/2010-EMS /35

Telephone- 23052014

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Dated: 27th October, 2010

To

Dr. Kirit Somaiya,
9C, Neeiam Nagar, Phase-II,
Mukund East, Mumbai-400061,
Maharashtra.

Subject: Electronic Voting Machines - Exploring the possibility of incorporating "Voter Verifiable Paper Trail".

Sir,

The Commission held a meeting on 4th October, 2010 with recognized National and State Political Parties to discuss issues related to Electronic Voting Machines, alongwith some other issues. Political parties were explained the technical and administrative safeguards put in place by the Election Commission with respect to Electronic Voting Machines. Political Parties appreciated the measures and recognized the fact that the EVMs have been used effectively in Elections in India for more than a decade. There was a consensus among Political Parties for the continued use of Electronic Voting Machines. In view of the fact that periodic improvements of EVMs have been undertaken by the Commission in the past as well, several political parties suggested that the feasibility of incorporating "Voter Verifiable Paper Trail" in the EVMs may be explored to further enhance voters' satisfaction. Based on suggestions received at the meeting, the Commission decided to refer to the Technical Committee for detailed examination of "Voter Verifiable Paper Trail" in EVM in all its aspects through a process of wide consultations.

The Commission has requested the Technical Experts Committee to initiate the process mentioned above. You may send your suggestions in this matter, if any, for the consideration of the Expert Committee. Your suggestions may please be sent to the undersigned, (nodal officer for this work).

Yours faithfully,



(K.N. BHAR)

Election Commission to verify
feasibility of EVM with Paper back up.
Kirit Somaiya