

TELANGANA STATE ELECTION COMMISSION

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Lr.No.475/TSEC-PR/2015

Dated:21.07.2015

To
The Chairman & Managing Director,
Electronics Corporation of India Limited,
Hyderabad.

Sir,

Sub:- TSEC – Elections – Casual elections to Pranchayat Raj Bodies with EVMs with DMM facility – EVMs did not work on the day of commissioning of EVMs – Reg.

Ref:- 1) G.O.Ms.No.12 PR & RD (Mandal) Dept., dt.27.09.2014.
2) TSEC Notification No.330/TSEC-PR/2015, dt.16.06.2015.
3) TSEC Notification No.331/TSEC-PR/2015, dt.16.06.2015.

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I wish to state that, in the reference 1st cited, the Government of Telangana constituted State Election Commission for the State that Telangana for conduct of elections to local bodies.

The Telengana State Election Commission (TSEC) after its constitution, first time conducted elections to the casual vacancies in Panchayat Raj Bodies with EVMs in all the districts except Hyderabad vide references 2nd and 3rd cited. The new version EVMs with DMM facility supplied by the ECIL in 2013 part of which were used in the recently held elections to Urban Local Bodies in March, 2014 were used in these casual elections.

In this connection, I wish to bring the following issues regarding non-functioning of EVMs in Ranga Reddy district on the day of commissioning of EVMs to your notice.

- 1) In the references 2nd and 3rd the TSEC issued notification for conduct of elections to the casual vacancies in Panchayat Raj Bodies in all districts.
- 2) As per the election schedule, the date of poll was on 04.07.2015.
- 3) The Commission decided to use the new version EVMs with DMM facility supplied by the ECIL in 2013 (part of which were used in the Urban Local Body elections held in March, 2013) to these elections.
- 4) First level checkup (FLC) of EVMs was under taken by the ECIL Engineers well in advance and only those EVMs for which FLC conducted were set for commissioning.

- 5) The TSEC issued instructions for commissioning of EVMs on 01.07.2015 i.e., three days before the day of poll for which ECIL Engineers attended in all the districts.
- 6) In the Ranga Reddy district, on the day of commissioning of EVMs i.e., 01.07.2015, the EVMs set for elections for which FLC was also conducted did not work.
- 7) As the ECIL Engineers present there could not rectify the problem, immediately, the Commission informed to the Deputy General Manager (Marketing) ECIL, and he immediately sent expert Technical Engineers to Ranga Reddy District. As these expert Engineers also could not rectify the problem, they tried other EVMs of the TSEC supplied by the ECIL. But none of these new version EVMs with DMM facility did work.
- 8) The Engineers took two EVMs to check in the ECIL lab ensuring that, they would rectify problem by next day and if they could not rectify the problem, they would arrange EVMs from ECIL.
- 9) As the ECIL neither rectify the problem nor replaced those EVMs, at the eleventh hour the Commission was forced to arrange EVMs to Ranga Reddy District from Nalgonda District for conduct of elections.
- 10) So far the ECIL Authorities have not given proper response / reply though the Commission is frequently asking for the reasons for failure of the EVMs which the Commission took serious note of it.

As the Commission is contemplating to use these EVMs in the ensuing elections to GHMC, the Commission got doubt on durability, quality and functioning of these new version EVMs.

In the circumstances stated above, the ECIL has to take the following steps

- 1) The ECIL shall take back all the new version EVMs with DMM facility supplied to the Ranga Reddy District in 2013 and replace them with new good quality EVMs on their own cost.
- 2) The ECIL shall send Engineers to all the districts to check all the EVMs supplied by the ECIL in 2013 on their own cost and the faulty EVMs if any shall be replaced by new good quality EVMs by the ECIL on free of cost.

The State Election Commissioner directed the Secretary and Joint Director of the State Election Commission, Telangana to meet the C & MD of ECIL, personally and discuss the above issues.

I, therefore, request you, confirm a date and time to discuss the above issues.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-M. Ashok Kumar
Secretary

// ATTESTED //

N. Jayaram Reddy
JOINT DIRECTOR
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21/07/15