

# ADMINISTRATIVE SAFEGUARDS

SECURE HANDLING & MANAGEMENT OF  
EVMS/VVPATs

## ADMINISTRATIVE SAFEGUARDS

1. Stakeholder Participation
2. Allocation & Secure Movement
3. First Level Checking
4. Randomization
5. Candidate Setting
6. Mock Poll
7. Poll Day Checks
8. Poll Closure & Transportation
9. Storage & Security
10. Counting Day Protocol

# 1. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

Active Participation of & Witness by Political-Parties/Candidates in All Processes

Opening & Sealing of EVM Warehouses & Strong-rooms

Conduct mock poll and receive mock poll results



Witness by in All

First Level Check (FLC) & Candidate Setting List of EVMs after 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> randomization shared Sign on Paper Seals on EVMs after all processes



*Participation During FLC*

## 2. ALLOCATION & MOVEMENT

### Planned Allocation

EVMs are allocated to poll going State by the Commission.

Received by District Election Officer (DEO) who is personally responsible for secured storage.

EMS used for inventory management of all EVMs nationwide for the sake of transparency.

### Secured Transportation

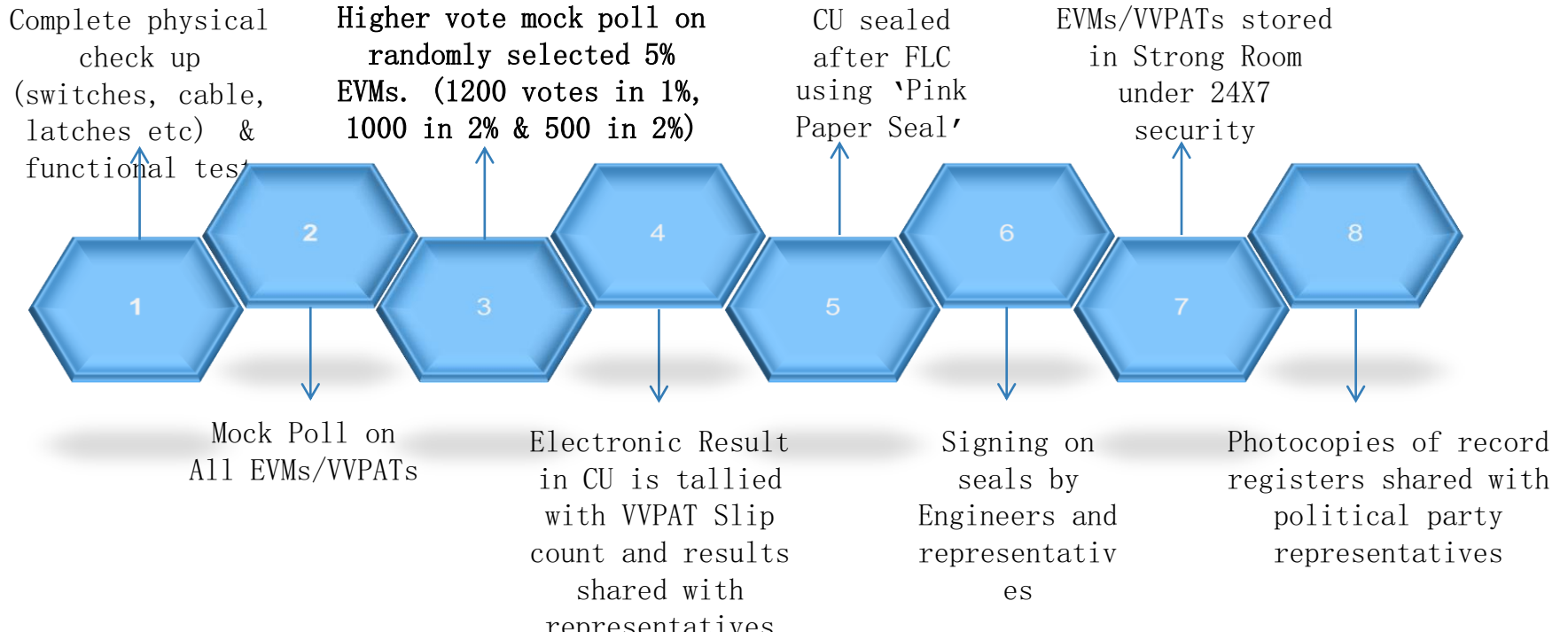
- Movement of EVMs/VVPATs mandatorily managed through EVM Management System (EMS).
- Only Containerized/Sealed Trucks used.
- All Trucks sealed with Lock and Paper Seals.
- Mandatory GPS tracking of EVM vehicles.
- All movement under 24X7 Police Escort.
- Videography done of shifting process.
- Political parties informed in advance about the opening, stocking and sealing of warehouses while moving EVMs/VVPATs.

### 3. FIRST LEVEL CHECKING (FLC)

- FLC is mandatorily done in the presence of representatives of political parties.
- Fully sanitized hall under videography and full security.
- Full functionality and behavioural check is done on every EVM.
- Defective (non-functional) EVMs are kept aside and not used in election.
- FLC status captured in EMS.



# FLC PROCESS



## 4. RANDOMIZATION (1/4)



- EVMs are **Randomized twice** using EMS.
- No human intervention in randomisation.
- Only FLC approved EVMs as per EMS get picked up for first randomisation.

### 1st Randomization



- Done after FLC
- To allocate EVMs from district, randomly, to a particular AC/AS.
- In presence of representatives of political parties.
- List of AC/AS-wise Randomized EVMs shared with political parties.

## 4. RANDOMIZATION (2/4)



- EVMs are **Randomized twice** using EMS.
- No human intervention in randomisation.
- Only FLC approved EVMs recorded in EMS get picked up for first randomisation.

### 1st Randomization

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Randomization



- Done just before 'candidate setting'.
- To allocate EVMs available in an AC/AS to polling stations.
- In presence of candidates/election agents and list shared.



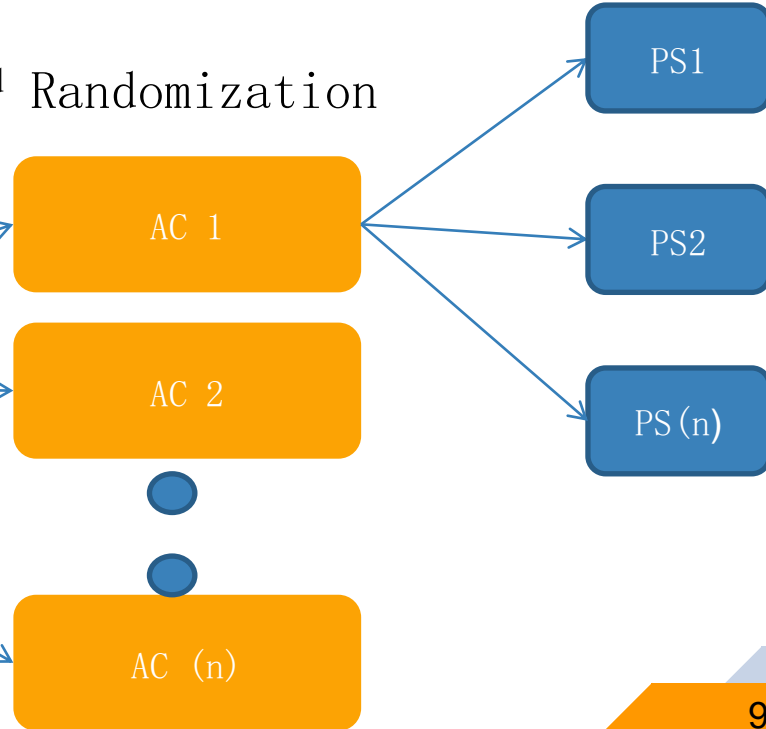
# 4. RANDOMIZATION (3/4)



1<sup>st</sup> Randomization



2<sup>nd</sup> Randomization



## 4. RANDOMIZATION- THE FOUNDATION OF EVM SECURITY (4/4)



- Till first randomization- no one knows which EVM is going to which Constituency.
- Till nomination finalization- no one knows the sequence of names on the ballot paper.
- Hence, till candidate setting no one (not even RO/DEO/CEO/Commission) knows which button on which BU will be assigned to which candidate, making even an attempt to tamper absolutely futile.
- Till 2nd Randomization- no one knows which EVM will go to which PS.
- Added to this is the 3 stage Randomization of polling officials to different polling stations.

## 5. CANDIDATE SETTING

### The Process

Insert ballot paper in the Ballot Unit & Set Number of Candidates

Seal Ballot Unit

Mock Poll on Every EVM with VVPAT + 1000 vote on 5% EVMs with VVPATs



### Security Measures

- 1 Done only **after** finalization of the names of contesting candidates.
- 2 **Fully sanitized hall** under videography and full security.
- 3 Done in the **presence of candidates** or their agents.

## 6. MULTIPLE MOCK POLLS



- Each EVM undergoes mock poll during FLC, and again during Candidate Setting. In addition 10% EVMs are randomly picked up for higher vote (500–1200) mock poll.
- 10% EVMs randomly taken out for Training and Awareness undergo Mock Polls several times. During LSE 2019 approx 9 crore mock votes cast and checked on around 1 lakh EVMs during awareness camps.
- Before start of actual poll, Mock poll on each EVM with at least 50 votes in the presence of polling agents.

## 7. POLL DAY CHECKS

- Polling Agents
- Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) and Micro Observers deployed at polling stations.
- Web Casting/CCTVs
- Frequent visits (Sector Officers /Senior officers/ Observers)
- 2 hourly reporting of votes polled
- Media vigil



## 8. POLL CLOSURE & TRANSPORTATION



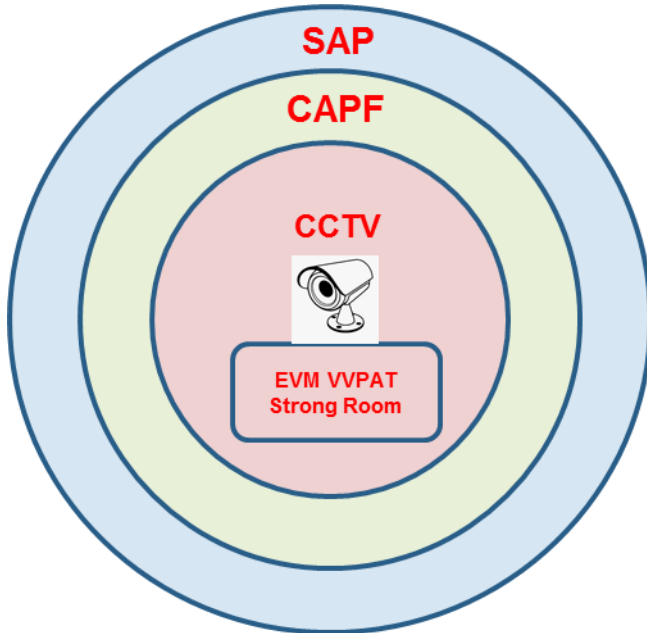
Poll Closed on EVM by pressing CLOSE button – EVM cannot accept any further vote.



EVMs sealed in carrying cases & polling agents sign on

then  
EVMs transported back to the reception centres under armed escort. Candidates' representatives are allowed to follow them.

## 9. SECURE STORAGE IN STRONGROOMS TILL COUNTING



- Polled EVMs kept in strong room, sealed in the presence of the Candidates and Observer.
- Facilitation for Candidates to watch the Polled EVM Strong Room 24/7.
- *Starting from FLC of EVMs to Counting of votes, EVMs are kept in Strong-room with full 24/7 security.*

## 10. STORAGE & SECURITY (1/3)



- EVM Warehouse/Strongroom with **only One Entry Point**.
- Entry secured by a **Double Lock System** with DEO & Dy DEO, each having custody of keys of one lock each.
- **24X7 Armed security**.
- The opening & closing of EVM warehouse **ONLY** in presence of Political party representatives- **advance written intimation mandatory**.
- Every EVM/VVPAT moved is managed by ECI through EMS.

### Post Polling:

- Polled EVMs/VVPATs are stored in strong room having double lock system.
- Candidates allowed to put their **own seals on locks**.



## 10. STORAGE & SECURITY (2/3)



### Various layers of security of polled EVMs/VVPATs

1. Unique ID of BUs, CUs & VVPATs shared with political parties/candidates.
2. Sealing of CU and BU with Pink Paper Seals at FLC and commissioning respectively on which political parties and candidates put their signatures.
3. Sealing of EVMs/VVPATs before starting actual poll on which polling agents also put their signatures.
4. Seals on carrying cases of EVMs/VVPATs after closing of poll on which polling agents also put their signatures.

## 10. STORAGE & SECURITY (3/3)



5. **Double lock system** at the door of strong room on which candidates also put their own seals.
6. **CCTV feed** to Candidates Camping Area to monitor strong room.
7. **Two Cordoned** round-the-clock security (Inner perimeter manned by CAPF and Outer perimeter by State Armed Police).
8. **Log-book and videography** of officers inspecting the two cordons daily.
5. **24/7 security arrangement** for unused EVMs also.

## 11. COUNTING DAY PROTOCOL

- On the day of counting, strong room opened in the presence of Candidates, RO and Observer under videography.
- Round-wise CUs are brought to the counting tables from Strongrooms **under CONTINUOUS CCTV Coverage.**
- Unique ID number of the CU & the signed seals are verified and shown to the polling agents.
- EVMs & VVPATs are stored back in Strong Room in the presence of candidates/their representatives till the completion of the Election Petition period.



# ELECTION PETITION PERIOD

REGISTERING COMPLAINT

# ELECTION PETITION PERIOD



- Election Petitions can be filed within 45 days of result declaration.
- EVMs (BU+CU) & VVPATs remain under sealed conditions till EP position is ascertained.
- EVMs and VVPATs under EP, are kept under safe custody of DEO (Strong Room) till final disposal of EP.
- Print on VVPAT Slips remains for 5 years.
- Remaining EVMs and VVPATs not in EP are now free for re-use.

# EVM Management System (EMS)



- In house EVM Stock Management Software
- Barcode of every EVM is scanned into EMS every time it moves from one Warehouse to another
- All EVM Allocations done on EMS
- FLC status(OK/Rejected) captured in EMS
- EVMs Randomisation twice on EMS
- EVM sent for repair captured in EMS
- EVMs under EP marked in EMS

