

ASPERSIONS VS CONFIDENCE

Between MAR-DEC 2017

BHIND FINDINGS



Commission's enquiry found 4 buttons of BU pressed in the following order and VVPAT printed corresponding slips-

Button no	Symbol	Name of Candidate
03	Handpump	Raju Pal
04	Lotus	SatyaDev Oanchori
03	Handpump	Raju Pal
01	Hand	Ambuj Shukla

It is pertinent to mention here that it is completely false to say that multiple times slips of lotus were printed during the demo on 31st March as alleged.

Between March–May 2017





- Commission organized an EVM Challenge on 3rd June 2017.
- All National and State Political Parties invited to participate in the Challenge.
- Parties allowed to pick EVMs/VVPATs of their choice from the 5 poll-gone States (UP, Punjab, UK, Goa, Manipur), which were securely held in the Strongrooms under 24*7 armed security.
- Parties given opportunity to demonstrate EVM manipulation/tampering in the votes recorded in the EVMs/VVPATs of their choice, as variously alleged earlier.



- NO Political Party participated in the Challenge.
- Only 2 parties i.e. NCP & CPI-M reported to venue, ONLY TO UNDERSTAND THE EVM PROCESS BETTER and were given detailed briefing.
- The credibility and integrity of ECI-EVMs has always remained perfectly intact and unscathed.

Aspersions in the 5 State Assembly Elections Nov-Dec 2018: (1/2)



Allegation/Aspersion		Fact	Action Taken
1	In Khurai (Madhya Pradesh) some reserve EVMs and VVPATs reached the strong room 48 hours after the polling was completed.	Violation of ECI instructions for deposition of all Reserve EVMs/VVPATs on the same day. However no impact on secured storage of polled EVMs.	Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officer of Khurai were suspended.
2	CCTV cameras outside the EVM strong room in Bhopal, MP did not function from 8.19 am to 9.35 am on 30 th November, 2018 – allegations of manipulations.	Due to power failure in the area, the recording could not be done. However no impact on secured storage of polled EVMs, as there are 7 layered security.	An inverter and a generator were installed in order to ensure continuous power supply.
3	A Security personnel allegedly found using Laptop outside EVM strong room in Bemetara district of Chhattisgarh.	Laptop can never connect to an EVM. Manipulation in EVMs stored inside Strongroom by laptop outside the building absolutely ruled out.	Sub-inspector of the 175 th battalion of the BSF was replaced.

Aspersions in the 5 State Assembly Elections Nov-Dec 2018: (2/2)



	Allegation/Aspersion	Fact	Action Taken
4.	A sector officer with Reserve EVM at a private hotel owned by a candidate in MP.	Sector Officer halted at night at a private hotel-Violation of ECI instruction. However all seals were intact, and the Reserve EVM not used.	EVM taken out of election system. Sector Officer suspended.
5.	1 EVM was alleged to be found at a candidate's residence in Pali, Rajasthan.	Sector Officer had gone to his house, which was close to the candidate's house. Violation of ECI Instructions. However all seals were intact, and the Reserve EVM not used.	EVM taken out of election system. The Sector Officer was suspended and the Returning Officer, Pali was transferred.
6.	01 reserve EVM found lying on road in Baran district (Kishanganj AC) in Rajasthan.	Fallen from the jeep while transpoting. Violation of secure EVM transportation protocol.	EVM taken out of election system. Patwari and Inspector were suspended.

Aspersions in the Lok Sabha Elections 2019: (1/5)

Allegation/Aspersion		Fact	Action Taken
1	Transporting of unused EVMs from Tezpur to the office of DC Kamrup (Rural), without inviting political parties at Kamrup.	Tezpur DEO failed to inform Kamrup (Rural) DEO before shifting of "Unused EVMs/VVPATs" to State Central Warehouse at Kamrup.	The Commission conducted an enquiry in the matter. Disciplinary action has been taken against DEO, Tezpur.
2	News 18 alleged that EVMs found in the vehicle of City Magistrate Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh).	The said news pertained to unused EVMs, which were brought for storing in the strong room situated at Bhojla Mandi, Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh).	The said EVMs/VVPATs verified in front of the complainant candidates and they were fully satisfied. Thereafter, the said EVMs/ VVPATs stored in the respective strong rooms (different from Polled EVM Strong Rooms).

Aspersions in the Lok Sabha Elections 2019: (2/5)

	Allegation/Aspersion	Fact	Action Taken
3.	Suspicious movement of EVMs in 60-Dumariganj PC of Uttar Pradesh.	The EVMs under question were unused EVMs. As per ECI instructions unused EVMs/VVPATs were being stocked at central locations for quickly shifting to subsequent phases whenever required.	The matter was explained to the contesting candidates by the District Election Officer and they were satisfied.
4.	Suspicious movement of 50 Ballot Units from Coimbatore to Theni, 20 VVPATs from Coimbatore to Erode and 20 Control Units and 30 VVPATs from Tiruvallur to Theni.	Poll in the State of Tamil Nadu was held on 18.4.2019 and on 6 th & 7 th May, 2019, the unused reserve EVMs and VVPATs were moved under intimation to the political parties for the purpose of use in expected repoll in some polling stations. Some of the representatives of the political parties were also present during the actual shifting.	There was no violation of any instructions of the Commission, as the movement of EVMs was done as per instructions of the Commission.

Aspersions in the Lok Sabha Elections 2019: (3/5)

	Allegation/Aspersion	Fact	Action Taken
5.	In mock poll at polling station No.31 of 34-Cuncolim AS of South Goa PC, 8 additional votes in favour of BJP instead of INC.	During mock poll, there was no complaint from the polling agents that the votes shown on VVPAT slip having any mismatch. However repeat Mock poll done, again with no mismatch between EVM and VVPAT slips count.	However, the set of machines was replaced with reserve set of machines and poll was held after conduct of mock poll to the satisfaction of candidates' representatives.
6.	Pressing any button on EVM, vote goes to BJP. No Written complaint, just a vague statement in an interview to TV 9/TV 18 Lokmat News channels on 18/4/2019 at	DEO clarified that the complaint is wrong and no such thing happened anywhere in Solapur PC.	A clarification was given to Lokmat TV 9 & TV 18 News channels. They immediately stopped broadcasting the wrong news



Aspersions in the Lok Sabha Elections 2019: (4/5)

	Allegation/Aspersion	Fact	Action Taken
7.	<p>Theft of DVRs from the intermediate strong room of Umred AS of Ramtek PC on 12th/13th April, 2019. Allegation of wilful default in providing security to EVMs enabling the miscreants to lay their hands on EVMs and tamper with EVM.</p>	<p>DVRs and TVs installed at police guard room were not uninstalled while polled machines were shifted from intermediate strongroom, Umred to main strong room at Nagpur.</p> <p>Later DVRs found on 4th May, 2019 near temporary strong room, Umred. Forensic test of DVR established that there was no attempt to tamper with EVM.</p>	<p>Departmental action has been taken against the ARO & Tehsildars and explanation of DEO, Nagpur called.</p> <p>1 year increment withheld for Police Inspector.</p>
8.	<p>News item that in PS in Lumani of Zunhebotu district, Nagaland only one button on ballot unit was getting lighted and the VVPAT slips showing the symbol of only one party regardless of the ballot.</p>	<p>Sector Magistrate visited the said PS and investigated. It was found that the EVM was functioning normally and no variation was observed.</p>	<p>The facts of the matter were shared with the media during the press conference after the poll was over.</p>

Aspersions in the Lok Sabha Elections 2019: (5/5)

Allegation/Aspersion		Fact	Action Taken
9.	EVMs kept at Badaun strong room have been tampered after breaking the seal of the strong room.	No such incident occurred.	CEO UP issued Press Note on 3rd May 2019 clarifying that no such incident actually occurred.
10.	Complaint that at PS No. 151 of 139—Kovalam AS of Thiruvananthapuram PC, Kerala, there was discrepancy between the button that was being pressed and the vote that was being actually cast.	No such incident occurred. Polling agents and polling parties inside the polling station were not even aware that such a news was spreading outside.	Sector Officer and ARO visited the PS. There was no issues. It was clarified by the DEO that such an information was false. Observer also arrived and explained to the candidates the false nature of the widespread complaint.