

INSTRUCTIONS TO ELECTORS

FOR RECORDING OF VOTES AT ELECTION TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA

A. SYSTEM OF ELECTION

1. The system of Election to the office of the President of India **Proportional Representation by Means of Single Transferable Vote.**
2. In this system, each voter will have only one vote but a voter can indicate his preference(s) for as many contesting candidates as he likes in order of his/her preference or choice.

B. METHOD OF VOTING

3. At the polling station, you should vote by placing the figure "1" in the column 'order of preference' provided opposite the name of the candidate whom you choose as your first preference.
4. This figure "1" should be placed opposite the name of only one candidate.
5. You have as many preferences as there are contesting candidates.
6. Indicate your further preference(s) for remaining candidates by placing in the column 'order of preference' provided opposite the name of such candidates the subsequent figures 2,3,4 etc., in the order of your preference.
7. Make sure that you put only one figure opposite the name of any candidate and also make sure that the same figure is not put opposite the names of more than one candidate.
8. Preference shall be indicated in figures only, i.e.1,2,3, etc., and shall not be indicated in words, one, two, three, etc.
9. Figures may be marked in the international form of Indian numerals like 1,2,3, etc. or in Roman form I,II,III etc. or in the form used in any Indian Language.
10. Make sure that you mark the figures 1,2,3 etc. on the ballot paper only with the special pen which will be officially supplied to you for the purpose. DO NOT use any other pen or your own pen etc. for marking the said figures 1,2,3, etc. as it may invalidate your ballot paper.
11. DO NOT write your name or any words and do not put your signature or initial on the ballot paper. Also, do not put your thumb impression. This will make your ballot paper invalid.
12. DO NOT deface your ballot paper in any way. Please note if the ballot paper issued to you gets torn or mutilated, you may not be issued any new ballot paper.
13. DO NOT PUT 'tick' mark or 'cross' mark like "✓" or "x" to indicate your first preferences, Such ballot paper will be rejected. Indicate your preferences only in figures 1,2,3, etc. as explained above.

14. To make your ballot paper valid, it is necessary that you should indicate your first preference by placing figure “1” against one of the candidates. Other preferences are optional, i.e. you may or may not indicate the second and subsequent preferences. **Thus, indicating figure “1” against any one of the candidates is mandatory and the remaining figures like 2;3; etc. for other candidates are only optional.**

C. INVALID BALLOT PAPERS

A ballot paper shall be invalid on which-

- i. the figure 1 is **not** marked;
- ii. the figure 1 is marked opposite the name of **more than one** candidate;
- iii. the figure 1 is so placed as to render it **doubtful** to which candidate it is intended to apply;
- iv. the figure 1 and some other figures like 2,3 etc., Are also marked for the same candidate;
- v. the preferences are indicated **in words instead of in figures**;
- vi. there is any mark or writing by which the **elector may be identified**.

D. SECRECY OF VOTE

Make sure that you mark your vote on the ballot paper inside the voting compartment and maintain the secrecy. Any violation of secrecy of vote by you may render your ballot paper invalid.

INSTRUCTION REGARDING USE OF CELLULAR PHONES

On the day of poll, no cellular phones, cordless phones, wireless sets etc. In any case, be allowed to be carried inside the polling stations. Arrangement will be made near polling premise to deposit the cellular phones, etc.