

PRESS- NOTE

ECI APPROVES ALTERNATIVE DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH IDENTITY AT POLLING STATIONS

Panaji, April, 07, 2009

The Election Commission of India (ECI) after taking into account all relevant factors and the legal and factual position, has directed that all electors in the States and Union Territories who have been issued with their Elector's Photo Identity Cards (EPICs) shall produce these cards for establishing their identity before casting their votes at the current General Election to the Lok Sabha-2009. If any elector fails to produce his/her EPIC, such electors will have to produce alternative photo documents for establishing their identity. The alternative documents approved by the ECI are i) Passports, ii) Driving Licences, iii) Income Tax Identity (PAN) Cards, iv) Service Identity Cards issued to its employees by State/Central Government, Public Sector Undertakings, Local Bodies or public Limited Companies with Photographs, v) Passbooks issued by Public Sector Banks/Post Office and Kisan Passbooks with photograph (accounts opened upto 28-02-2009), vi) Property Documents such as Pattas, registered Deeds, etc. with photograph, vii) SC/ST/OBC Certificates issued by competent authority with photograph (issued upto 28-02-2009), viii) Pension Documents such as ex-servicemen's Pension Book/Pension Payment Order, ex-servicemen's Widow/Dependent certificates, Old Age Pension Order, Widow Pension Order with photograph (issued upto 28-02-2009), ix) Freedom Fighter identity card, with photograph, x) Arms licences (issued upto 28-2-2009), xi) Certificate of Physical handicap with photograph issued by the competent authority (issued upto 28-2-2009), xii) Job Cards issued under NREGA with photograph (issued upto 28-2-2009) and xiii) Health Insurance Scheme Smart cards with photograph (Ministry of Labour's Scheme, issued upto 28-2-2009).

Any of the above mentioned documents that are available only to the head of the family may be used for identifying the other members of the family provided all members come together and are identified by the head of the family.