

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 250

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 12th DECEMBER, 2018

VVPAT

250. ADV. NARENDRA KESHAV SAWAIKAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether rising incidence of failure of Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) have become a major area of concern for Election Commission of India (ECI);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the reasons for such rising failures in VVPAT's and if so, the details of remedial action taken by the Government in this direction; and
- (d) whether the Government would extend all possible assistance to the Election Commission to substantially increase its reserve of the machines?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE
AFFAIRS**

(SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b): No Madam. The Election Commission of India (ECI) has informed that incidents of VVPAT failure during polls have shown a marked decline.

(c): The ECI has informed that there is a constant endeavor on the part of the Commission (and the Technical Experts Committee (TEC), which comprises of independent eminent domain experts), to improve the functioning of various sensors for optimal performance, based on field

experience. Root cause Analysis of non-functioning noticed in EVM/VVPAT during various stages of their preparation/operation, including during actual polls, have been carried out and necessary modifications and improvements have been done to make the machines more efficient and robust across different environmental and weather conditions. Intensive trainings are being given to the election officials to prevent VVPAT failures due to human errors. In addition, adequate replacement reserves are being provided to replace any EVMs and VVPATs that would go out of operation on the polling day.

(d): All requests from the ECI for additional requirements of VVPAT units are acceded to after following the procedure laid down in this regard.
