

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1549  
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023**

**USE OF DEVICES WITH EVM-VVPAT**

**1549. SHRI GAURAV GOGOI:**

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

- (a) whether the EVM-VVPAT is connected with some devices after evaluation and approval for the nominations of candidates for the election;
- (b) if so, the details of those devices and their working mechanism; and
- (c) the stage at which the information regarding candidate names and symbols is uploaded to VVPAT?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

- (a) to (c): The Election Commission of India has informed that EVM-VVPAT is not connected to any network at any stage of the election process. Symbol Loading Unit (SLU), designed specifically to load candidates' details onto VVPATs, is used during time of Commissioning (Preparation) in the presence of candidates/their representatives to load the details. EVMs/VVPATs are randomised two times prior to the stage of Commissioning. SLU, a secure device belonging to the EVM/VVPAT system, loads contesting Candidates' data like Names, Serial numbers and Symbols into the VVPATs at the time of Commissioning. The symbol/candidate details getting loaded onto VVPATs are also displayed in a real time basis on a bigger screen or monitor for the candidates/representatives to simultaneously verify. The Commissioning is carried out after the last date of withdrawal of the candidates, in the presence of candidates/their representatives. Only the authorised engineers of BEL/ECIL, the two PSU manufacturers of EVMs/VVPAT's, are associated in the Commissioning process.

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