GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 171

ANSWERED ON 02/02/2024

ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINE

171. SHRI KANUMURU RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU: SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Election Commission (EC) has provided any substantive response to the "genuine concerns" raised by various registered parties/organisations/general public/voters regarding the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), if so, the details thereof/reasons therefor; and
- (b) whether there have been demands for 100% matching of the Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slips and EVMs inputs, if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken since the introduction of EVM to remove these doubts?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

- (a) The Election Commission of India (ECI) has informed that to address various concerns and promote awareness regarding the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), the ECI has published the following resources/publications in the ECI website, as under-
 - (i) Manual on Electronic Voting Machine;
 - (ii) Presentation on EVM;
 - (iii) Status Paper on EVM;
 - (iv) Legal History of EVMs and VVPATs;
 - (v) Celebrating 40 Years of EVM;
 - (vi) FAQs on EVMs.

The resources are regularly updated from time to time

(b) The Election Commission of India (ECI) has informed that the present system of mandatory counting of slips of randomly selected 5 Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trails (VVPATs) per Parliamentary Constituency/Assembly Constituency is as per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgment in case of *N. Chandrababu Naidu Vs Union of India* (2019). Further, various aspects related to VVPAT is *sub-judice* in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
