

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 835**

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 29th NOVEMBER 2024

Prevention of EVM Hacking

835. Adv. Chandra Shekhar:

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

the details of safeguards to prevent tampering or hacking of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) particularly in light of allegations that EVMs can be manipulated?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW
AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS**

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has informed that EVM is a Standalone machine with no Radio frequency communication capability, hence cannot communicate through wireless, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi etc. The machine is electronically protected to prevent any tampering/manipulation. It *inter alia* incorporates several technical security features such as one time programmable chip, unauthorised access detect module, advance encryption techniques, strong mutual authentication capability, etc. Also, ECI has put in place stringent and secure administrative procedures such as strict security protocols during storage and movement (24x7 CCTV, armed security, logbook and GPS based vehicles etc.), opening and closing of EVM warehouse/strongroom during non-election

period till counting is done in presence of the recognised political parties/candidates under videography. Further, first level checking, two stage randomisation of EVMs, commissioning, dispersal, mock poll, actual poll and counting etc. is done in the presence of representatives of recognised political parties/candidates accompanied with videography at every stage of the electoral process.

The ECI has also informed that approximately 42 petitions on EVM have been filed before various Hon'ble High Courts and Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. After going through various aspects of the technological soundness and the administrative measures involved in the use of EVMs, the courts have repeatedly held that EVMs are credible, reliable and tamperproof.
