



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग  
Election Commission of India

Presidential Election/Immediate  
By Special Messenger/Camp Bag/Email  
निर्वाचन सदन  
NIRVACHAN SADAN  
अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली-110001  
ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No.481/ECI/DIR/FUNC/P.E/2022

Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2022

To,

1. The Returning Officer for the Presidential Election and Secretary General, Rajya Sabha, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Parliament House, New Delhi- 110001.
2. The Assistant Returning Officers for Presidential Election (As per list).

**Sub: Marking of Votes-Supply of Instrument at the Place of Poll- reg.**

Sir/Madam ,

I am directed to state that the manner and procedure for recording of votes by electors at the elections to the office of President and Vice-President are provided in Rules 17 and 18 of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Rules, 1974. No particular instrument has been prescribed under the above rules for marking the vote on the ballot paper, by an elector at the place of poll. As has been done in the case of elections to the Rajya Sabha and the State Legislative Councils, in order to maintain secrecy of voting and to avoid the possibility of identification of voter at the time of counting of votes at the ensuing Presidential Election, the Commission, as a measure of uniformity in the marking of votes, has directed that each elector should be handed over personally by the Presiding Officer or an officer duly authorized by him/her a specially designed pen for marking his/her preferences on ballot paper, when he/she is supplied ballot paper under Rule 14 of above Rules. The pen so supplied to the elector shall be taken back from him after he/she has cast his/her vote and inserted his/her marked ballot paper into the ballot box, for supplying it to the next elector.

*Laxay*

2. For the above purpose, the Election Commission will provide to you the required number of said pens with **violet ink** so as to ensure that preferences are marked in violet ink only and with that pen alone. Any ballot paper marked with any other pen, ball point pen, etc., may be liable to rejection under Rule 31(1)(d) of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Rules, 1974.

3. The receipt of the letter may kindly be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,



**(SUMAN KUMAR DAS)**  
**SECRETARY**

**Copy to: -**

The Chief Electoral Officers of all States, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Puducherry.