

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2721
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2003
ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware that electronic voting machines are likely to be used at every polling station in the next Parliamentary elections;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government are also aware that the Election Commission has decided to procure nearly three lakh voting machines in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS)

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Election Commission of India proposes to use Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) in all polling stations of all the Parliamentary Constituencies in the next General Election to Lok Sabha.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Out of the budget provision of Rs. 303 crores during the current financial year 2003-2004 for the purchase of EVMs, the Election Commission has placed orders for manufacture and supply of 1,43,475 EVMs on each of the Central Government Undertakings, namely, Bharat Electronics Ltd., Bangalore and Electronics Corporation of India Ltd., Hyderabad.