

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4570
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2014
PROVISION OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO VOTERS
Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath

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

- (a) whether Election Commission is planning to introduce an automatic system of providing acknowledgement to voters by introducing_Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to introduce this system in the forthcoming Assembly Elections;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which it is likely to be introduced;
- (e) whether any panel has been formed to study the proposed system; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (f): The Government in consultation with the Election Commission has vide Notification No. S.O. 2470(E) dated 14 August, 2013 notified the Conduct of Elections (Amendment) Rules, 2013 making necessary amendments in the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961 enabling the Election Commission to use Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VPAT) in elections to the House of the People and State Legislative Assemblies. Thereafter, the Election Commission used it in a bye-election in Nagaland, in select constituencies of Assembly elections in Mizoram held on 25 November, 2013, in one constituency of Delhi Assembly elections held on 4 December, 2013 and in certain constituencies of the recently held general elections to Lok Sabha-2014.