

NO VOTER TO BE LEFT BEHIND

Welcome to the Learning Module for District Election Officer

Session 16

Manage Activities on Poll Day

Learning Objectives of the Module

Sr. No	Learning Objectives	Sr. No.	Sub Learning Objectives
16	To manage activities for & on day of poll	16.1	To recall major legal provisions related to conduct of poll
		16.2	To be able to manage dispatch process
		16.3	To ensure that Polling Party makes all Arrangements for Poll Day at PS

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Sub Learning Objective 15.1

To Recall Major Legal Provisions related to
Conduct of Poll

Legal Provisions

Where voting machines are to be used-

- Sec 56 to 62, particularly sec 61 A, RPA, 1951
- CER 1961 & CoE (Amendment) Rules 1992
 - Rule 49A to 49 X
 - Rule 66A-provisions for countingx of votes recorded by means of voting machines
 - Form 17 A, 17 B, 17 C

RP Act, 1951 – PART V

Conduct of Elections – Chapter IV: The Poll

Section No.	Subject	Details
56	Fixing Time for Poll	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EC to fix the hours during which poll will be taken (total period allotted on any one day for polling shall not be less than 8 hours)
57	Adjournment of Poll in Emergencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When poll is interrupted by riot, natural calamity or any other cause, PO/RO shall adjourn the poll
58	Fresh Poll in case of Destruction etc. of ballot boxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tampering of any ballot box used at the polling station resulting in non ascertainment of result of the poll• EC will declare that poll to be void

RP Act, 1951 – PART V

Conduct of Elections – Chapter IV: The Poll

Section No.	Subject	Details
58A	Adjournment of Poll or countermanding of election on ground of booth capturing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">On booth capturing RO will report the matter to the EC wherein the poll is declared void/ election in the constituency is countermanded
59	Manner of Voting at Election	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Votes shall be given by a ballot in such a manner as prescribed
60	Special procedure for voting by certain classes of persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Any of the persons referred to in clause (a)/ clause(b) of sub section (8) of Sec 20 of the Representation of the People Act ,1950 to give his vote either in person or by postal ballot or by proxy, and not in any other manner at an Election

RP Act, 1951 – PART V

Conduct of Elections – Chapter IV: The Poll

Section No.	Subject	Details
61	Special Procedure for preventing personation of electors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provisions may be made by rules under this Act for the marking with indelible ink, for the production of identity card by the elector
61A	Voting Machines at elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Procedure of giving of votes by voting machines will be prescribed by the Election Commission, having regard to the circumstances of each case

RP Act, 1951 – PART V

Conduct of Elections – Chapter IV: The Poll

Section No.	Subject	Details
62	Right to Vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Every person who is for the time being entered in the electoral roll of the constituency shall be entitled to vote in that constituency• The person shall not vote if subject to any disqualifications referred in Sec 11, Representation of People Act, 1950

Conduct of Election Rules, 1961: PART IV: Voting in Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies - Chapter I: Voting by Ballot

Rule No.	Subject
49	Voting by ballot at notified polling positions
49A	Design of electronic voting machines
49B	Preparation of voting machine by the returning officer
49C	Arrangements at the polling stations
49D	Admission to polling stations
49E	Preparation of voting machine for poll
49F	Marked copy of electoral roll

Contd...

Rule No.	Subject
49G	Facilities for women electors
49H	Identification of electors
49I	Facilities for public servants on election duty
49J	Challenging of identity
49K	Safeguards against personation
49L	Procedure for voting by voting machines
49M	Maintenance of secrecy of voting by electors within the polling station and voting procedures
49N	Recording of votes of blind or infirm voters
49O	Elector deciding not to vote

contd...

Rule No.	Subject
49P	Tendered votes
49Q	Presiding Officer's entry in the voting compartment during Poll
49R	Closing of Poll
49S	Account of votes recorded
49T	Sealing of voting machine after poll
49U	Sealing of other packets
49V	Transmission of voting machines etc., to the returning officer
49W	Procedure on adjournment of poll
49X	Closing of voting machine in case of booth capturing

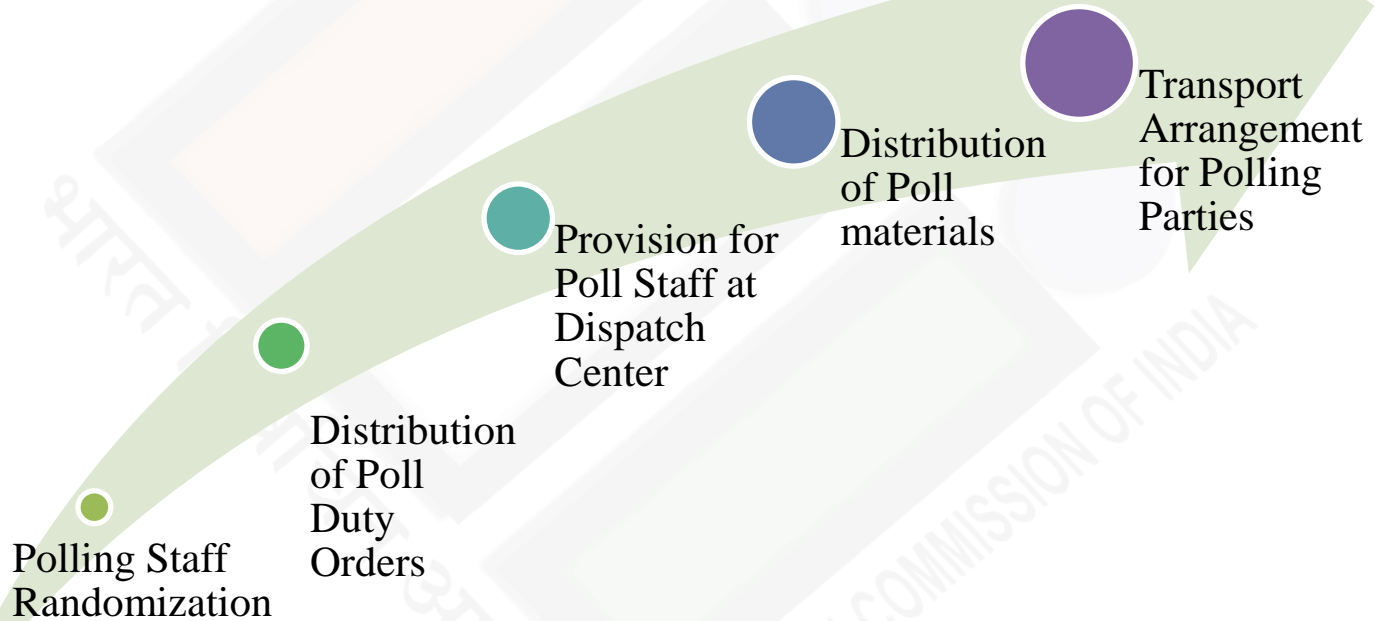
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Sub learning Objective 2

To be able to manage dispatch process

Dispatch Activities

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Sub Learning Objective 3

To ensure that Polling Party makes all arrangements for Poll Day at PS

To look after Control Room Arrangements

Adequate Staff /
equipment's for duty

Control Room Contact
Number to be publicized
in advance

Complaint handling
arrangements with
prescribed register

Arrangement for EVM
replacement-Cluster

Arrangement for
deploying reserve staff

Arrangements for
receiving reports from PS
during Poll process

Troubleshooting Management

Handling of poll day complaints

Helping polling officer in case they have any problems

Replacement of EVM in case of failure

Law & Order situation management outside of polling stations

Coordination with police patrolling team

Booth Capturing

If PrO feels booth capturing is taking place, as per Rule 49X, he shall immediately close the CU to ensure no further votes are recorded and detach BU from CU.

Report matter with full facts to RO.

In case of booth capturing at a PS, RO should report to ECI who will, if necessary:

- Decide to have adjourned poll if poll till that stage was not vitiated
- Declare poll at the PS void and direct fresh poll at the location
- Countermand election if satisfied that result of entire election affected in case of multiple PS captured

Adjournment of Poll by PrO at PS

PrO can adjourn poll at PS [u/s 57(1)] when:

Natural calamity like flood, heavy snowfall, severe storm etc.

Non-receipt/loss/damage to essential materials like EVMs, ballot papers, electoral roll etc.

Disturbance of peace at PS making it impossible to conduct poll

Non arrival of polling party at PS due to obstruction on the way or serious difficulty

Any other sufficient cause

He reports such fact to RO and RO shall report to ECI for further directions

Adjournment of Poll

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RO to Report circumstances to ECI, CEO & Authorities

Seek approval of ECI of date, time and place for holding adjourned poll

Formally fix date, time and place of the same as approved

Announce by beat of drum/otherwise in polling area concerned about date, time and PS fixed.

Affix a notice on ROs notice board regarding the details of poll

Inform contesting candidates in writing after receiving ECI approval

At Receiving Center

Arrangements for various counters to receive various materials from Polling Parties

PO diary is properly filled up & visit sheet attached thereto

Polled EVM to be kept properly in the strong room

Arrangements at reception center for lighting, drinking water and other welfare provisions

Strong Rooms

To be cordoned security for strong rooms

Fire fighting requirements to be kept

Candidates/agents be permitted to affix their seals & keep a watch from considerable distance

Strong room EVMs to be kept AC wise wherein EVMs + 1 copy of 17C +PrO declaration should be kept

Strong room for Election papers, sealing thereof – to be put up in steel trunks, AC wise

Separate room for scrutiny of form 17A

Thank You

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