



**ALL INDIA
BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED
OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

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No. AIBSNLOA/CHQ/2014/7

Dated: 27th January 2014

To

Shri Neeraj Verma,
General Manager (SR),
BSNL Corporate Office,
New Delhi.

**Subject: Membership verification of Executives' Associations -
Development of Electronic/IT device for conduct thereof - reg**

Ref: BSNL letter No.BSNL/5-1/SR/2014 dated 20.1.2014

This is with reference to BSNL letter cited above wherein the views/inputs of our Association was called for in respect of development of Electronic/IT device for conduct of the membership verification while maintaining the secrecy of the option exercised by the Executives.

2. The primary condition for use of any electronic device for recording the vote of the Executive should be that, such **voting should be conducted in a controlled environment of specified date, time and place, under supervision by senior level officers or an outside agency, so as to address the concerns about secrecy of the vote, group voting, intimidation, compulsion and diktat from controlling officers.** Voting in uncontrolled environment like voting from office or home through personal computer, voting through mobile or any common device and recording the votes on different dates and times cannot be accepted on any account. In short, the procedure should be such that the electronic device replaces only the paper ballot, keeping intact all the procedures and precautions involved in the paper-ballot voting.

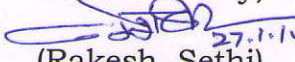
3. We request that the following aspects should be taken care of while designing and constructing any electronic device for recording the votes:

- i. The device should provide an easy-to-use user interface.
- ii. The device should record and count all the votes correctly.
- iii. No voter should be able to vote more than once.

- iv. It should be possible to verify that all votes have been correctly accounted for in the final tally, and there should be reliable and demonstrably authentic election records, in terms of physical, permanent audit trail (which should not reveal the voter's identity in any manner).
- v. The device should give an alarm if voting is not recorded correctly.
- vi. It should be ensured that the votes are not associated with the voter identity.
- vii. It should be ensured that the system cannot be re-configured during the process.
- viii. It should be ensured that vote recorded cannot be tampered with in any manner.
- ix. The voter should not be able to prove to others as to how they voted.
- x. No one should be able to determine how any individual voted.
- xi. The system should take in to account possibilities of device failure, network failure etc.
- xii. The software should be resistant to malicious codes or bugs
- xiii. The core of the system/device should be open source so that it can allow external inspection and auditing.
- xiv. It should be ensured that the system operations are logged for later auditing.
- xv. The design, implementation, and testing procedures must be well documented.
- xvi. Those developing, operating and administering the system should have unquestionable integrity, if the device is to be designed by a BSNL wing.
- xvii. The device should be tested and certified by experts and demonstrated before the associations before approval.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Rakesh Sethi)
o/c General Secretary