

(4)

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (ELECS.F) DEPARTMENT

FAX MESSAGE

FROM: THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, A.P., HYDERABAD.  
TO : THE RETURNING OFFICER, WARANGAL LOCAL AUTHORITIES  
CONSTITUENCY & JOINT COLLECTOR, WARANGAL  
REPEAT:: ALL COLLECTORS & DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICERS.


---

FAX MESSAGE NO.532/ELECS.F/2007-134

DT. 16-3-2007

ELECTIONS TO THE A.P.LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - REFER YOUR  
LETTER RC.NO.H4-1401/2007, DATED 14-3-2007 REGARDING WHETHER CELL  
PHONES CAN BE PERMITTED INSIDE THE POLLING STATION (.) KIND  
ATTENTION IS INVITED TO THE COMMISSION'S DIRECTION IN LETTER  
NO.464/INST/98/PLN-1, DT.14-2-1998 (COPYENCLOSED) THAT NO PERSON  
SHALL BE ALLOWED TO EITHER CARRY OR USE CELLULAR PHONES,  
CORDLESS PHONES, WIRELESS SETS ETC. IN THE 100 METER PERIMETER OF  
THE POLLING STATIONS AS WELL AS COUNTING CENTERS (.)

---

  
for CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER &  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

3

### ITEM NO. 344

Election Commission's letter No. 464/INST/98/PLN-I, dated 14.02.1998 addressed to Chief Secretaries and CEOs of all States and Union Territories.

**Subject: Maintenance of Law and Order and prevention of electioneering within the prohibited area around polling stations - Instructions regarding use of Cellular Phones**

In continuation of the instructions contained in letter of even number dated 12-02-1998, in order to prevent electioneering at the Polling Stations on the date of poll and to maintain law and order in the counting centers at the time of counting of votes, the Commission hereby directs that no person shall be allowed to either carry or use cellular phones, cordless phones, wireless sets, etc., in the 100 meter perimeter of the Polling Stations described as the "Polling Station Neighborhood" and within the polling booth. Similarly no person shall be allowed to carry or use such instruments in the area within and around the Counting Centre or within the area cordoned off by the security forces to regulate the entry of persons to such Counting Halls and Centres. If any person is found in possession of such instrument in violation of these directions, the instrument shall be seized by the officers in charge of security and shall be returned to the person concerned only after the counting of votes is completed and results are declared.

These restrictions, however, do not apply to the officers in charge of law and order and security personnel put on duty near the polling booths and counting centres who may be using any of such instruments in the course of the discharge of their official duties. Similarly, these restrictions do not apply to the Observers appointed by the Commission and to the officers in charge of polling duty and counting duty who may have to use such instructions in the course of their official duties.

These instructions shall be brought to the notice of the candidates, their election agents and all political parties for their information and strict compliance. A press note in this regard may also be issued for the information of the general public.