

Use of Electronic Voting Machines

2356. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Electronic Voting Machines were used on 10th May, 2001 in State Assembly Elections;

(b) if so, whether the use of these machines was successful; and

(c) if so, whether EVM will be used in all Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections in future?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The Electronic Voting Machines were used in the polling stations in all the Assembly Constituencies in the States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Union territory of Pondicherry in the polls held on 10th May, 2001 in the general elections to the Legislative Assemblies of these States/ Union territory. The Electronic Voting Machines were used in four Assembly Constituencies viz. 51-Jalukbari, 52-Dispur, 53-Gauhati (East) and 54-Gauhati (West) in the State of Assam.

(b) According to the Election Commission of India, the use of Electronic Voting Machines in the elections held in May, 2001, was successful.

(c) According to the Election Commission of India, the question of use of Electronic Voting Machines in future Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections will be considered by it at the appropriate time taking into account all aspects of the matter.

Non-circulation of Annual Audited Reports to shareholders by listed companies

2357. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the listed companies do not send the annual audited reports to the shareholders thereby violating the provisions of the Company Law;

(b) if so, whether Government have any regulatory authority to ensure that annual general meetings are held regularly and the statements of the annual performance reports, *inter-alia*, containing the audited financial position are circulated to the shareholders;