

No. EDN-B-Chh(10)25/2010  
Government of Himachal Pradesh  
Department of Higher Education

From

The Principal Secretary (Education) to the  
Government of Himachal Pradesh

To

The Director, Higher Education,  
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171001  
Dated: Shimla-171002

25-11-2014

**Subject:**

**Provision of option "None of the Above" (NOTA) "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" on the ballot paper.**

Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith a photo copy of letter No. SEC-16-1/2011-2715-2830 dated 18-11-2014 received from Secretary State Election Commission Himachal Pradesh (alongwith enclosures) on the subject cited above and to request you to take necessary action in the matter and send information to the quarter concerned as well as to this department.

Yours faithfully,

DPHE *deash*

26 NOV 2014

*949115*  
*deash*  
Additional Secretary (Hr. Edu) to the  
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

*Gen. Br*

*EsH I Br*

Directorate of Hr. Education  
Himachal Pradesh



Endst. No. EDN-H(1)B(15)1/2009- Imp. Instt. Dated Shimla - 171001 the 29/12/2014  
Copy for information and further necessary action is forwarded to :-

1. The Principal Secretary(Education) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-1 w.r.t. to the letter No.EDN-B-chh(10)25/2010 dated 25.11.2014 for information please.
2. The State Election Commission H.P. Shimla-2 w.r.t. to the letter No.SEC-16-1/2011-2715-2830 dated 18.11.2014 for information please.
3. The Additional Director of Hr. Education ( Admn.), H.P.
4. The Addl. Director Director of Hr. Education (S), H.P.
5. The Joint Director of Hr. Education, C-I/ C-II, H.P.
6. The Joint Controller (F&A), Dte. of Hr. Education, H.P.
7. The OSD(C) / OSD(Skt.) Directorate of Hr. Education, H.P.
8. All the Principals of Govt. Degree Colleges/ GCTE Dharamshala & Skt. in the H.P.
9. All Deputy Directors, Dte. of Hr. Education, H.P.
10. All the Deputy Directors of Hr. Education in the Pradesh with the directions to circulate the said instruction to concerned Institutions /offices working under your control.
11. The Chief Librarian, Center State Library Solan.
12. The State Library, The Mall Shimla-1.
13. All the District libraries in the H.P.
14. All the NCC units in the Pradesh.
15. The PS to the Director of Higher Education, H.P.
16. All the Branch Officers / Superintendents in the Directorate of Hr. Education, H.P.
17. The Incharge Computer Cell, Dte. of Hr. Education, H.P with the remarks to upload the said orders on the deptt. Website.
18. Guard File.

Director of Hr. Education  
Himachal Pradesh

ELECTION MATTER/IMPORTANT  
PERSONAL ATTENTION



**राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग हिमाचल प्रदेश**  
**STATE ELECTION COMMISSION HIMACHAL PRADESH**  
मजिथा हाऊस, शिमला-171002, Majitha House, Shimla-171002 Tel. 0177-2620152, 2620159, 2620154. Fax. 2620152  
Email -secysec-hp@nic.in, secysec-hp@gmail.com

No. SEC-16-1/2011-2715-2830  
To

dated the 18 November, 2014

1. All the District Election Officer (Panchayat)-cum-Deputy Commissioner,
2. The Additional Deputy Commissioner Kaza Distirct Lahaul-Spiti.
3. The Resident Commissioner Pangi District Chamba

Subject: Provision of option "None of the Above" (NOTA) "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" on the ballot paper.

Madam / Sir,

As you are aware that in pursuance to the orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 161 of 2004 titled as People's Union for Civil Liberties & Another, the State Election Commission has issued notification to make provision for option "None of the Above" (NOTA) "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" on the ballot papers to be used for conduct of elections to Panchayats vide its Notification No. SEC-16-1/2011-2513-2623 dated 18 November, 2014.

To implement this decision, certain procedural changes are required. Therefore, I am directed to inform you the following changes in the "Hand Book for Returning Officers / Assistant Returning Officer for the conduct of election to Panchayats"

1. In Point No. 7, Part-I - Preparation of Ballot Papers :- in the last three lines (starting from the words "in case there are lesser names..... at the bottom") of existing paragraphs following may be substituted to read as below:

21/11/14  
 Anshu  
 24/11/14  
 24/11/14  
 SPS



In case there are lesser names in the list of contesting candidates than the symbols printed on the ballot paper, the extra columns on the ballot paper shall be detached with the help of metal rule keeping one addition column in the ballot paper for exercising the option "None of the above" (NOTA) "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" by the electors. For example, If there are three candidates in an election the ballot paper will be detached keeping four columns in the ballot paper.

2. In Part-II, Arrangements for Poll:- following paragraph (v-a) may be inserted :

(v-a) Provision of None of The above (NOTA) "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं":- The Commission shall supply the sticker in the same colour as of the ballot paper to be affixed on the ballot paper in the last column. The sticker shall be affixed in between the shaded portion of the last column so that the symbol already printed is totally covered. After writing the name of the last candidate the option of NOTA "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" in Hindi in Devnagri script shall be written. For ready reference a specimen of ballot paper is annexed as Annexure-A. While issuing the ballot papers to polling party the RO / ARC will ensure, repeat RO/ARO will ensure that the sticker of same colour as that of the ballot paper is affixed properly on each ballot paper and words "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" is written in the last column below the names of the last candidate with same handwriting and same ball point pen ink on each ballot paper in its correct position and no ballot paper is left without sticker. It will be personal responsibility of RO / ARO.

3. In Part-III- Counting of Votes and Declaration of Results the following procedure may be adopted :

- i. The votes rendered against "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" shall be shown in Form No. 32 to 39 along with the names of contesting candidates and number of votes polled in favour of each candidate, the number of votes polled for NOTA "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" shall be shown at the last, a specimen is shown as Annexure-B on Form-32. Similarly the Returning Officer will write (in his hand) the option "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" to show the votes polled for "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" on Form No. 32 to 39.
- ii. The effect of "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" (NOTA) is same as not voting in favour of any candidate and these are invalid votes. They will not change the outcome of election result. Therefore, even if NOTA "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" gets maximum number of votes, the contesting candidates securing highest number of votes next to NOTA "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" shall be declared elected.
- iii. The Returning Officers/Assistant Returning Officers, the Presiding Officers / Polling Officers may be apprised of these changes in the procedure during the rehearsals.

However, it may be clarified that the procedure of Rule 62 (1) of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj (Elections) Rules, 1994 with regard to spoiled ballot paper will continue as such.

- iv. A wide publicity of this change in the election process shall be made in order to make the voters in the State aware about the option "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं".

Please acknowledge the receipt of this letter and treat it as most important and pay personal attention.

Yours faithfully

Secretary  
State Election Commission  
Himachal Pradesh.

Endst. No. SEC-16-1/2011-

dated the 18 November, 2014

Copy to:

1. The Principal Secretary to Her Excellency the Governor of H.P for the information of Her Excellency.
2. The Chief Secretary to the Govt. of H.P.
3. The Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, H.P.
4. All the Additional Chief Secretaries to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
5. All Principal Secretaries to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
6. The Secretary, Vidhan Sabha Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-4.
7. The Principal Secretary (RD & Panchayat) to the Govt. of H.P.
8. The Director-cum-Special Secretary Panchayati Raj Department for information and necessary action.
9. The Director, Information & Public Relation Deptt. HP, Shimla-2 for wide Publicity so that voters of Panchayats are made aware of such provision.
10. The Director, AIR/ Doordarshan Shimla-4 for wide Publicity so that voters of Panchayats are made aware of such provision.
11. All the Assistant District Election Officers (Panchayat)-cum-District Panchayat Officers Himachal Pradesh in order to ensure strict compliance of these directions.  
All the Block Development Officers Himachal Pradesh for information and strict compliance.
13. Guard File

  
(Anupam Kashyap)

Secretary  
State Election Commission  
Himachal Pradesh.

21/11

संस्कृत-विद्यालय  
विश्वविद्यालय प्रवेश

संस्कृत-विद्यालय प्रवेश

संस्कृत-विद्यालय प्रवेश

संस्कृत-विद्यालय

संस्कृत-विद्यालय

संस्कृत-विद्यालय

संस्कृत-विद्यालय



Annexure-B

FORM-32

(See rule 75)

RESULT SHEET OF COUNTING FOR ELECTION OF MEMBER

Gram Panchayat.....from Constituency No..... Polling Station No.....Place.....

Sl. No.	Name of candidates	No. of valid votes cast in favour of the candidate
1	2	3

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

None of the Above

\*

- (a) Total No. of valid votes .....
- (b) Total No. of rejected votes .....
- (c) Total No. of votes for NOTA .....
- (d) Total No. of votes polled (a+b) .....
- (d) Total No. of tendered votes .....
- (e) Remarks .....

Place of counting.....

Date.....

Returning Officer (Gram Panchayat)/Officer authorised by Returning Officer (Panchayat).

\*In case of dearth of space, back page may be used.