

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, TELANGANA**  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, North Block, Buddha Bhavan, M.G.Road, Ranigunj,  
Hyderabad – 500003.

Memo.No. 1317/Elecs.B/2020-1

Dated:24/09/2020.

Sub: Elections – Illegal Creation, Printing and Issue of look alike  
of EPIC Cards by unscrupulous and unauthorized agencies –  
Regarding.

Ref: From ECI, New Delhi, No.23/Misc/2020-ERS, dt.16/09/2020.

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A copy of the reference cited received from ECI, New Delhi is sent  
herewith to all the Collectors & DEOs in Telangana State and Commissioner,  
GHMC & DEO, Hyderabad & DGP, Telangana State. They are requested to  
enquire into the matter and take necessary action and furnish the action taken  
report to CEO Office, Hyderabad.

Dr.SHASHANK GOEL  
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER &  
E.O.PRL. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To,

All the Collectors & DEOs in Telangana State(w.e).  
The Commissioner, GHMC & DEO, Hyderabad(w.e).

Copy to:

1. The DGP, Telangana State.
2. Sri Ajoy Kumar, Secretary,  
ECI, Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road,  
New Delhi-11000.

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

*K. Suresh Kumar*  
SECTION OFFICER

By E-mail/Speed Post

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI -110001

No.23/Misc./2020-ERS

Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2020

To,

The Chief Electoral Officers of  
All States and UTs.



**Subject: - Illegal Creation, Printing and Issue of look alike of EPIC Cards by unscrupulous and unauthorized agencies - regarding.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to state that Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC) is issued to the electors registered in electoral roll by the Electoral Registration Officer concerned under Section 28 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 with the purpose of identification of an elector at the polling station at the time of an election. Besides, EPIC is also accepted as a proof of identity by the various government, semi-government and other agencies under their various schemes. EPICs are printed in States/UTs by the agencies approved and authorized by the respective Chief Electoral Officer.

It has been brought to the notice of the Commission by Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka that forged/look alike EPICs are being fraudulently procured by some persons from unscrupulous and unauthorized agencies (a copy of communication received in this regard from CEO, Karnataka is enclosed).

Such offensive act on the part of unauthorized agencies is not only a serious threat for security and safety of the scheme of EPIC but also detrimental to faith and confidence of general public in the sanctity of EPIC issued by ECI.

The Commission, taking all aspects into consideration, has directed that all the Chief Electoral Officers shall make the DEOs alert about such incidences and ask them to take an

intensive measure to find out if any such unauthorized activities of preparation and printing of EPICs in offline/online mode are being undertaken in their districts. In case any such activity is noticed, FIR should be lodged immediately and followed up regularly to bring the culprits to the book. A copy of FIR, so lodged along with a brief of incidence shall also be sent to the Commission for its information through the CEO.

Yours faithfully,



**(AJAY KUMAR)**  
**SECRETARY**

Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka  
& Additional Chief Secretary  
to Government, D.P.A.R. (Elections)

Nirvachana Nilaya  
Sheshadri Road  
Bengaluru-560 00

DO No. DPAR 138 CHUMAPA 2020

Dated: 29.08.2020

Dear *Sri. Umesh Sinha ji,*

Sub: Illegal Creation, Printing and issue of look alike of EPIC cards by  
certain unscrupulous private agencies registered at Haryana – reg.  
Ref: Deputy Commissioner & DEO, Ballari District Letter No.REV/ELEN/  
20/2020-21 dated:28.08.2020

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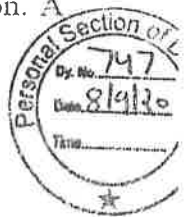
With reference to the above mentioned subject, please find attached a copy of the self-explanatory letter referred above, submitted by the Deputy Commissioner & DEO, Ballari District. Vide this letter it has been intimated that in a particular case of one Mr. B. Mohammed Rafiq who had approached Aadhar Section of the Deputy Commissioner, and submitted an EPIC card for scrutiny of his documents. This PVC EPIC card on verification by the ERO & Assistant Commissioner, Ballari, was found to be fake and as printed at a private Xerox Agency, M/s N.R. Xerox centre, Ballari through SK print portal (website: <http://skprints.xyz>). Hence, taking cognizance of this illegal activity, the ERO, Ballari has lodged a police complaint bearing FIR No.128/2020 at Brucepet Police Station in Ballari. All the details including the FIR copy and the video clipping referred in the above said DEO, Ballari letter will be submitted shortly.

There is a possibility of existence of many such unscrupulous websites across the country which are providing such services of illegal modifications of EPIC cards. Prima facie, this kind of EPIC card modifications seems to be rampant for non-election purposes.

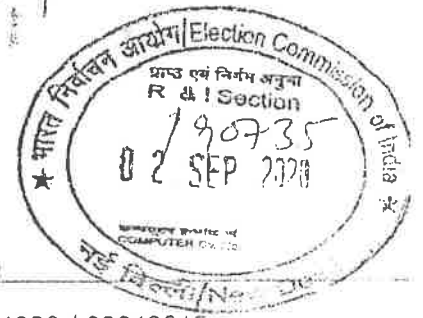
Hence, this is for the kind of information and guidance of the Commission. A nationwide inquiry at the highest level is required.

Yours Sincerely,

(Dr. Sanjiv Kumar)



Sri. Umesh Sinha ji, I.A.S.,  
Hon'ble Secretary General,  
Election Commission of India,  
New Delhi





ಬೆಲ್ಲಾರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಚುನಾವಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಬೆಲ್ಲಾರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ - 583101  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER & DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER

BALLARI DISTRICT, BALLARI- 583101

Telephone : 08392-277100. Fax : 08392-272538

Email: dcbellary@gmail.com

No.REV/ELEN/20/2020-21

Date: 28-08-2020

To,  
The Chief Electoral Officer &  
Ex-Officio Additional Chief Secretary  
to Government of Karnataka,  
DPAR (Elections)  
Bengaluru-560001.

Sir,

Sub:- Illegal issue of EPIC cards by certain unscrupulous agencies-  
Reg - Report submitted.

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At the time of considering the application for issue of an Aadhar Card modus of issue of duplicate voter EPIC Cards (with illegal web option to modify data) was noticed and hence I am bringing the following issue to your kind notice for serious consideration.

Seeking issue of fresh Aadhar Card, on 25-08-2020 one Mr. B.Mohammed Rafiq approached the Aadhar Section of the Deputy Commissioner's office at Ballari. The official at Aadhar Card issuing Centre after verifying the documents produced by him noticed that an uncertified Xerox copy of the EPIC card was submitted along with the application and hence asked said B.Mohammed Rafiq to produce the original EPIC Card. At that juncture B.Mohammed Rafiq told that the Original EPIC card has been lost. This entire process happened at about 11:00 a.m.

Later between 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. on the same day, the said B.Mohammed Rafiq again appeared and produced the PVC EPIC Card. Alarmed at the speed in production of new duplicate PVC card within 5 hours, the official suspecting the genuineness of the said PVC EPIC Card directed the applicant B.Mohammed Rafiq to come on next day i.e. on 26-08-2020. The suspicion on genuineness arose

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because as per the procedure laid down by the Election Commission of India, a person to seek duplicate EPIC Card has to place the request to the ERO of the respective Legislative Assembly Constituency and later ERO will refer the request to AERO who in turn will verify the PDF form of the EPIC card and after getting confirmation of the genuineness of the request, it will be posted in the EROLL Printing software. Then after generating in the said software the PDF copy will be sent through online to the authorized vendor who in turn will prepare the PVC EPIC Card and submit to the District Election Officer. Then the printed PVC EPIC Card will be sent to the Assistant Electoral Registration Officer i.e., Tahasildar. Later through BLO the card will be distributed to the applicant.

Therefore, the genuineness of the PVC EPIC card was under doubt and therefore the staff from election section were consulted and the ERO was instructed to check the modus of obtaining new PVC EPIC card by Mr. B. Mohammed Rafi.

The Assistant Commissioner pursuant to the said direction along with AERO, Revenue Inspector, Ballari and election officials attached to D.C. Office on 26-08-2020 visited N.R.Xerox Centre located at BUDA Complex, Ballari. Sri. Ganesh, District Adhar Consultant approached the said centre as customer and sought for duplicate PVC EPIC Card. Instantly within half an hour the person by name Raghu who was in the said Xerox Centre generated a duplicate PVC EPIC Card and handed over the same to Sri. Ganesh.

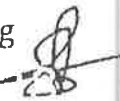
After verifying the cards issued to Ganesh and B.Mohammed Rafiq the following discrepancies and the existence of the unscrupulous Agencies in issuing the duplicate PVC EPIC Cards have come to the knowledge of the undersigned;

1. The PVC EPIC Card issued by the said Centre does not resemble the contents in the EPIC Card issued by the Election Commission of India.
2. The modus operandus adopted by the said agency in issuing the said card is as follows;

- a) On the request made by the customer (the local agent) he will visit the SK print portal website (website link : <http://skprints.xyz/> )
- b) Immediately the said SK Print portal will provide him the User ID and Password on payment which is as under (in this pertinent case)  
User ID: 9632361669  
Password: Raghu@2000
- c) Then by using the above password he will make the login and select the options which contain several services such as issue of Voter EPIC Card, Adhar Card, PAN Card, creation of Bank Accounts, etc.
- d) Then after selecting the Voter ID option the EPIC number will be fed and by collecting the recent photo and update the old voter ID
- e) While printing PVC EPIC Card a common signature of the ERO is being used. This is a bogus signature as the signature of ERO of each sub-divisional differs. In the instant case the signature does not tally with the digital signature of Sri. Ramesh Kona Reddy the ERO of 93-Ballari Assembly Constituency.
- f) Further as narrated above when Sri. Ganesh of this Office who approached as a customer is a Voter at Polling Station No.228 (Kanchikeri Village in Harapanahalli taluk) which comes under 104 Harapanahalli Assembly Constituency. But the said Xerox Centre person issued the EPIC Card bearing the signature other than the ERO of the said Harapanahalli Assembly Constituency. Later on cross verification of the cards issued through SK portal website, it reveals EPIC Cards have been issued with the common signature of the same person.

From the enquiry and verification of documents it revealed that neither the SK print portal in Haryana (address as shown in website) nor N.R. Xerox Centre at Ballari are authorized vending Agencies of the Election Commission of India or Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka.

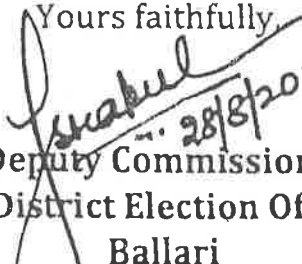
From all the above findings prima-facie it appears a racket of printing and issuing fake PVC EPIC Cards by using the EPIC numbers and photos is existing



with wider ramnification which if it is not viewed seriously may pose threat to the conducting of free and fair and transparent election and also to the security of the country as there is every chance of unscrupulous person obtaining the EPIC Cards unauthorizedly through the above nefarious agencies by using the websites like SK Print portal. Hence by taking cognizance of the issue, the ERO Ballari has filed a complaint in the Brucepet police station Ballari and registered an FIR bearing FIR No.128/2020 copy of which is enclosed for your kind perusal. Further, it is seen that on mere google search of the string "print portal" will give large number of websites which appear to provide similar services across the country. Further a simple string search "Print EPIC Card" in youtube is also throwing up multiple video links as below;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVC3sPcLBG4>,  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVewcm26i0s>,  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VttHI-cILk> ; showing illegal websites allowing modifications of EPIC cards. To narrate the entire process adopted by N.R. Xerox Centre at Ballari the events have been videographed and a CD containing the visuals is enclosed herewith.

Therefore, I am submitting this detailed report for taking further needful action in the matter. The matter is quite serious and appears prima facie quite rampant. This will seriously create doubts in genuine voters on the processes and machinery of election. Hence, I request that the FIR filed may be investigated by a senior cyber crime team and also any suitable further action as deemed may kindly be taken.

Yours faithfully,  
  
28/8/2020  
Deputy Commissioner &  
District Election Officer  
Ballari