



RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
RAJYA SABHA

Member of Standing Committee on Defence
Member of Consultative Committee on Finance
Member of Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps
Co-Chairman, District Development Coordination & Monitoring Committee, Bengaluru Urban District

Dear Parthasarthy

09 November 2016

Sub: Extending e-postal ballot system to Armed Forces personnel

At the onset, please accept my congratulations on the Government's decision to extend the provision of e-postal ballot to service voters. With this, voting for Armed Forces has indeed become a reality.

Along with this significant development, I draw your attention to the need to have very clear, precise and strict guidelines on how political parties/candidates can canvas with Armed Forces personnel.

These guidelines must include clear restrictions and prohibitions if any, on direct contact with personnel and also on the nature and type of canvassing content permitted by political parties/candidates to Armed Forces personnel. Such guidelines are required to make this major election reform successful.

As an MP who has taken up this issue of Voting Rights for Armed Forces and Paramilitary personnel within and outside Parliament since 2013, including in the Supreme Court, I congratulate you once again for fulfilling this long pending demand and enabling the Armed Forces personnel to become part of the democratic process.

Sincerely,

Rajeev Chandrasekhar

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Shri Manohar Parrikar
Hon'ble Minister of Defence
Government of India
New Delhi