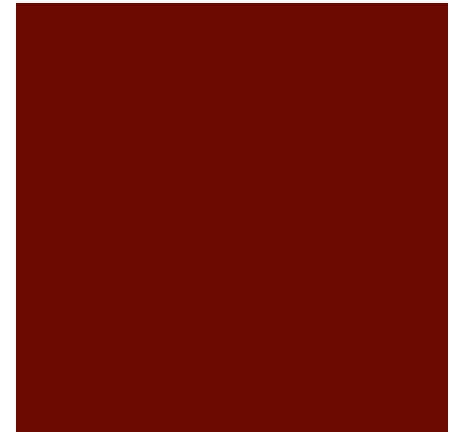




ELECTORAL INTEGRITY & THE EVM

Presented by Nangula Shejavali, 22.10.2014

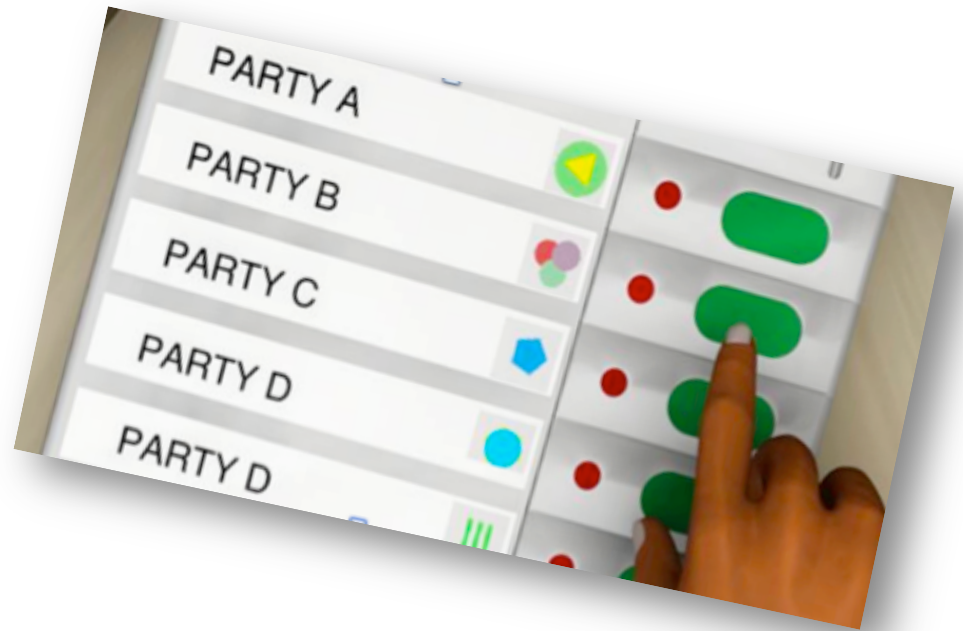


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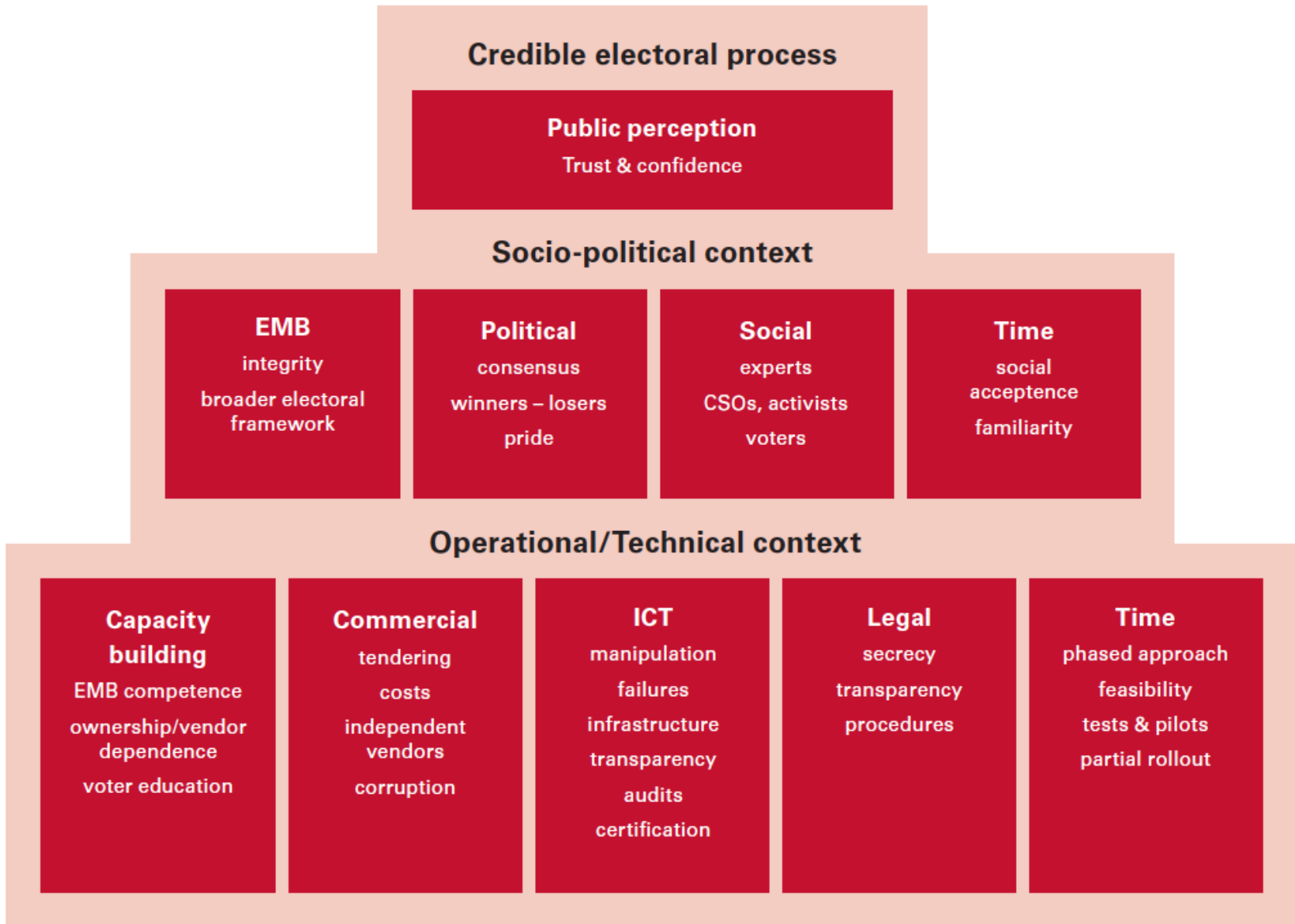


Presentation Overview

- What our Electoral Law says about the EVM
- Why the EVM?
- The Paper Trail – What's the Fuss?
- Lessons from India
- Recommendations



+ It all comes down to TRUST



+ What the Law Says...

Section 97

- Deals with the use of EVMs during elections
- 97(3) calls for the use of a voter verifiable paper trail
- 97(4) states that the count of the paper trail would supercede that of the EVM should they not accord

Section 209

- Makes transitional provision for certain aspects of the new law to come into force on a date different to commencement date

Commencement Notice (gazetted on 17th October 2014)

- Gave notice that the Electoral Act came into operation on 17th, except for 97(3) and 97(4) (i.e. clauses to do with VVPAT)

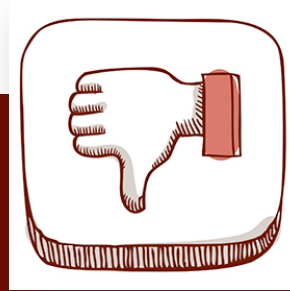




Why the EVM?



- Faster voting
- Speedier counting
- Greater accuracy
- Long-term cost (and paper) savings
- May reduce fraud at polling stations and during tabulation/transmission of results
- India EVM praised as being “simple”, “reliable”, “accurate”, “tamper-proof” and “voter-friendly”



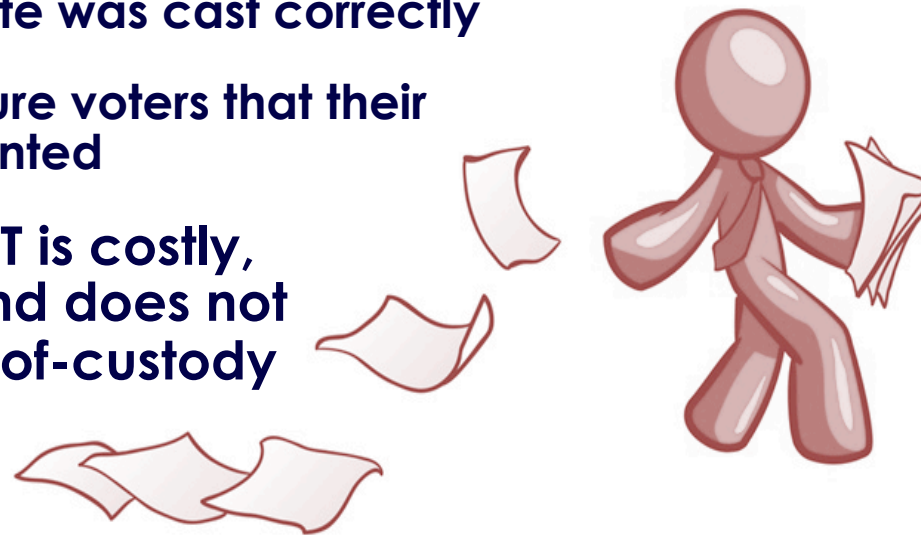
- Lack of transparency
- Limited openness and understanding
- No agreed e-voting standards
- Risk of manipulation
- Costs of security, purchasing and maintenance
- Limited recount possibilities





The paper trail...What's the fuss?

- VVPAT vs EVM printout
- The VVPAT is a method of providing feedback to voters using a ballot-less voting system
 - independent verification system for voting machines
 - Allows voters to verify that their vote was cast correctly
 - Provides an auditable way to ensure voters that their ballots will be available to be counted
- **BUT...** some argue that the VVPAT is costly, could itself be tampered with, and does not detect fraud. Instead, the chain-of-custody is what matters



+ Lessons from India

India Supreme Court:

“The paper trail is an indispensable requirement for free and fair elections. The confidence of the voters can be achieved only with the introduction of the paper trail.”

- **Highlights the importance of voter confidence despite the robustness of the technology used**
- **ECN purchased EVMs before India rulings**



+ Recommendations

Trust, Electoral Credibility and Integrity is Key

- Implement VVPAT asap
- Voter education beyond basic EVM use
- Knowledgeable election observers and party agents
- Secure chain-of-custody of EVMs
- Need for consensus in lieu of the VVPAT



THANK YOU

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