13. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A DIGITAL VOTE COUNTER

S.P. GAMMAMPILA, K.R. UDUWAWALA, V. SIVAKUMAR, K. PREMARATNE AND M.A. CAREEM

Department of Physics, Faculty of Science,
University of Peradeniya.

In the present conventional voting procedure, each voter is expected to draw a cross in the cage against the name or the symbol of the candidate of his choice in the ballet paper provided to him. Strict rules on the validity of a poll card such as the fact that the cross should not touch the adjoining cages, leads to a large percentage of invalid votes especially in countries like ours. It is also well known that some voters cast more than one vote using various illegal techniques. In this work we have designed and constructed digital vote counter with the aim that some of these difficulties could be overcome. This counter mainly consists of a receiving unit, logic system, and a result output unit. Here on the ballet card there is a hole for each candidate or his assigned symbol and the hole is covered by a sticker. The voter is expected to remove the sticker corresponding to the candidate of his choice and insert the card into the machine. If more than one sticker is removed or if no sticker is removed the logic system counts it as a rejected vote. Once the data is logically stored they are directed into the out put of the logic system. Then the relays function in accordance with data and relevant data is shown in the seven segment display. The voter is not allowed to vote more than once since the machine rejects the second attempt till he or she leaves the place. As the counting is done electronically the results will be accurate and they can be released within a short time. Therefore, the use of such a machine in voting would be convenient, reliable and economical.