EC ready for simultaneous polls by Sept.

The Election Commission on Wednesday launched a web-based application, Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) network, aimed at efficient conduct of elections and said it would be "logistically equipped" by September 2018 to hold simultaneous polls for Lok Sabha and Assemblies.

The announcement by the poll panel came days after it issued a formal direction that VVPAT or paper trail machines will be used at polling stations in all future elections where polls are held using EVMs.

"The Election Commission was asked by the Centre as what it would require for becoming capable of holding the Parliamentary and Assembly polls together.

"In response, the EC had asked for funds to purchase new EVMs and VVPAT machines. The commission would be logistically equipped by September 2018, to hold Parliamentary and Assembly polls together," Election Commissioner O.P. Rawat told a press conference. The EC also unveiled the Electoral Registration Officer network.

END