

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/83/2021

Dated:28<sup>th</sup> September, 2021

## PRESS NOTE

**Subject: Schedule for Bye-elections in Parliamentary/ Assembly Constituencies of various States – reg.**

The Commission has reviewed the situations related to pandemic, flood, festivals, cold conditions in certain regions, feedback from concerned States/UT and taken into consideration all facts and circumstances and it has decided to hold bye-elections to fill vacancies in three (3) Parliamentary Constituencies of UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh and thirty (30) vacancies in Assembly Constituencies of various States as per details given below:

Sl. No.	State/UT	Parliamentary Constituency No. & Name
1.	UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	Dadra & Nagar Haveli
2.	Madhya Pradesh	28-Khandwa
3.	Himachal Pradesh	2-Mandi

Sl. No.	State	Constituency No. & Name
1.	Andhra Pradesh	124-Badvel (SC)
2.	Assam	28-Gossaigaon
3.	Assam	41-Bhabanipur
4.	Assam	58-Tamulpur
5.	Assam	101-Mariani
6.	Assam	107-Thowra
7.	Bihar	78-Kusheshwar Asthan (SC)
8.	Bihar	164-Tarapur
9.	Haryana	46-Ellenabad
10.	Himachal Pradesh	08-Fatehpur
11.	Himachal Pradesh	50-Arki



12.	Himachal Pradesh	65-Jubbal- Kotkhai
13.	Karnataka	33-Sindgi
14.	Karnataka	82-Hangal
15.	Madhya Pradesh	45-Prithvipur
16.	Madhya Pradesh	62-Raigaon (SC)
17.	Madhya Pradesh	192-Jobat (ST)
18.	Maharashtra	90-Deglur (SC)
19.	Meghalaya	13-Mawryngkneng (ST)
20.	Meghalaya	24-Mawphlang (ST)
21.	Meghalaya	47-Rajabala
22.	Mizoram	4-Tuirial (ST)
23.	Nagaland	58-Shamtorr-Chessore (ST)
24.	Rajasthan	155-Vallabhnagar
25.	Rajasthan	157-Dhariawad (ST)
26.	Telangana	31-Huzurabad
27.	West Bengal	7-Dinhata
28.	West Bengal	86-Santipur
29.	West Bengal	109-Khardaha
30.	West Bengal	127-Gosaba(SC)

The Commission has decided to hold these bye-elections to fill vacancies and has fixed the dates of poll events as per provisions under Section 30 and date of withdrawal under Section 30(c) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. The schedule of bye election is as follows:

**Schedule 1:** For Assembly Constituency of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Telangana and Parliamentary Constituency of UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh.

<b>Poll Events</b>	<b>Schedule 1</b>
Date of Issue of Gazette Notification	01.10.2021 (Friday)
Last Date of Nominations	08.10.2021 (Friday)



Date for Scrutiny of Nominations	11.10.2021 (Monday)
Last Date for Withdrawal of candidatures	13.10.2021 (Wednesday)
<b>Date of Poll</b>	<b>30.10.2021 (Saturday)</b>
Date of Counting	02.11.2021 (Tuesday)
Date before which election shall be completed	05.11.2021 (Friday)

<b>Schedule 2: For Assembly Constituency of Assam, Bihar and West Bengal</b>	
<b>Poll Events</b>	<b>Schedule 2</b>
Date of Issue of Gazette Notification	01.10.2021 (Friday)
Last Date of Nominations	08.10.2021 (Friday)
Date for Scrutiny of Nominations	11.10.2021 (Monday)
Last Date for Withdrawal of candidatures	16.10.2021 (Saturday)
<b>Date of Poll</b>	<b>30.10.2021 (Saturday)</b>
Date of Counting	02.11.2021 (Tuesday)
Date before which election shall be completed	05.11.2021 (Friday)

### **1. ELECTORAL ROLL**

The published Electoral Rolls for the aforesaid Assembly Constituencies w.r.t 01.01.2021 will be used for these elections.

### **2. ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES (EVMs) and VVPATs**

The Commission has decided to use EVMs and VVPATs in the bye-election in all the



polling stations. Adequate numbers of EVMs and VVPATs have been made available and all steps have been taken to ensure that the polls are conducted smoothly with the help of these machines.

### **3. IDENTIFICATION OF VOTERS**

Electoral Photo Identity cards (EPIC) shall be the main document of identification of a voter. However, any of the below mentioned identification documents can also be shown at the polling station:

- i. Aadhar Card,
- ii. MNREGA Job Card,
- iii. Passbooks with photograph issued by Bank/Post Office,
- iv. Health Insurance Smart Card issued under the scheme of Ministry of Labour,
- v. Driving License,
- vi. PAN Card,
- vii. Smart Card issued by RGI under NPR,
- viii. Indian Passport,
- ix. Pension document with photograph,
- x. Service Identity Cards with photograph issued to employees by Central/State Govt./PSUs/Public Limited Companies, and
- xi. Official identity cards issued to MPs/MLAs/MLCs.

### **4. MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Model code of conduct shall come into force with immediate effect in the district(s) in which the whole or any part of the Assembly constituency going for election is included, subject to partial modification as issued vide Commission's instruction No. 437/6/1NST/2016-CCS, dated 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 (available on the commission's website).

### **5. INFORMATION REGARDING CRIMINAL ANTECEDENTS**

The Commission has prescribed timeline for publicity of criminal antecedents during the period starting from the day following the last date of withdrawal and upto 48 hours before ending with the hour fixed for conclusion of poll.

The consolidated instructions on this matter is available on the Commission's website under the following hyperlink <https://eci.gov.in/files/file/12265-broad-guidelines-of-election-commission-of-india-on-publicity-of-criminal-antecedents-by-political-parties-candidates/>

This is in furtherance of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 13.02.2020 and 10.08.2021 in Contempt Petition (C) No. 656 of 2020 titled Brajesh Singh Vs. Sunil Arora & Ors., which has been circulated to political parties



vide Commission's letter dated 26.08.2021. In pursuance of the direction given under Para 73.v of the judgment, now, Format C-7 should be published by the political parties **within 48 hours of the selection of the candidate and not prior to two weeks before the first date of filing of nominations.**

The Commission has also prescribed following timeline for publicity of criminal antecedents during the period starting from the day following the last date of withdrawal and upto 48 hours before ending with the hour fixed for conclusion of poll.

The consolidated instructions on this matter is available on the Commission's website under the following hyperlink <https://eci.gov.in/files/file/12265-broad-guidelines-of-election-commission-of-india-on-publicity-of-criminal-antecedents-by-political-parties-candidates/>

**6. BROAD GUIDELINES TO BE FOLLOWED DURING THE CONDUCT OF BYE-ELECTIONS /ADJOURNED POLL DURING the period of COVID-19**

The Commission has issued broad guidelines on 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2020. Also, it has issued further guidelines on 09.10.2020, 09.04.2021,16.04.2021, 21.04.2021, 22.04.2021, 23.04.2021 and 28.04.2021 available on Commission's website [eci.gov.in](http://eci.gov.in) or link <https://eci.gov.in/candidate-political-parties/instructions-on-covid-19/>. Also, vide letter No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2021, instructions for implementation of targeted and prompt actions for COVID management has been extended by MHA up to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2021. After taking inputs from the political parties/Chief Electoral Officers and keeping the extant instructions of MHA/MoHFW in view, the Commission has further strengthened these guidelines. Further, the Commission's all instructions relating to conduct of General Election in West Bengal during the COVID-19 period shall also be *mutatis mutandis* applicable for these bye-elections/adjourned poll.

All stake holders shall abide by these instructions. State Government concerned shall take all appropriate actions/measures in compliance to these instructions as follows.

1	<b>Nomination</b>	During Pre and post nomination procession, public meeting prohibited / Only three vehicles permitted within a periphery of 100 meters of RO's office. No procession for nomination shall be permitted.
2	<b>Campaign period</b>	



	<b>(a) Meeting for</b>	
	<b>(i) Indoor</b>	30% of allowed capacity or 200 persons, whichever is less. A register will be maintained to count the number of people attending the meeting.
	<b>(ii) Outdoor</b>	With 50% of capacity (as per Covid-19 guidelines) or 1000 in the case of Star Campaigners and 50% of the capacity or 500 in all other cases. In either case, the allowed number is whichever is less. The entire area will be cordoned off and will be guarded by the police. The count of people entering the ground will be monitored. Expenditure for the cordoning/barricading will be borne by the candidate/party. Only those grounds which are cordoned/barricaded completely will be used for rallies.
	<b>(b) Star Campaigners</b>	Number of Star Campaigners restricted to 20 for these bye-elections for National /State recognized parties and 10 for un-recognized registered parties in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.
	<b>(c) Road show</b>	No Roadshow shall be allowed and No Motor/Bike/Cycle rallies to be allowed
	<b>(d) Street corner meeting</b>	Maximum 50 persons shall be allowed (Subject to availability of space and compliance to COVID-19 guidelines.)
	<b>(e) Door to door campaign</b>	Door to door campaign with 5 persons including candidates/their representatives.
	<b>(f) Campaign through video van</b>	Not more than 50 audiences shall be allowed in one cluster point subject to availability of space and compliance to covid guidelines.
	<b>(g) Use of vehicles for campaign</b>	Total vehicles allowed for a candidate/political party (excluding Star Campaigner):- 20 Maximum no. of persons allowed per vehicle 50% of the capacity.
3	<b>Silence period</b>	The silence period is 72 hours before the end of poll.
4	<b>Poll day activities</b>	1. Maximum 2 vehicles with 3 persons each shall be allowed. Security as per the applicable extant guidelines.



		2. Poll day activity on polling station as per ECI guidelines.
5	<b>Counting day</b>	DEOs to take appropriate measures to prevent crowding. Social distancing and other COVID safety protocols to be strictly adhered to at all the times during counting.

7. All such activities will be strictly complied as per the Covid-19 guidelines issued by competent authorities. Social distancing and use of mask, sanitizers, thermal scanning, face shield, hand gloves, etc., as per COVID-19 protocol, have to be complied with. SDMA is responsible for all preventive and mitigation measures to ensure adherence to COVID protocol. Chief Secretary and DG and district level authorities will be responsible for monitoring, supervision and compliance of covid-19 guidelines.
8. If a candidate or political party violates any of the above guidelines, no more permission shall be given to the concerned candidate/party for rallies, meetings etc. If any star campaigner violates the COVID protocols, he shall not be allowed to campaign further in that constituency/district.
9. All polling personnel and election officials including the private persons engaged in the election duty shall be **double vaccinated** before taking their services.
10. Candidate/election agent/polling agent counting agent/driver etc. whoever is coming in contact with the public or election officials have to be **double vaccinated**.
11. One health worker to be appointed as COVID nodal officer for each Polling Station.
12. CS/DG and concerned DMs/SPs shall take enough preventive measures and make necessary arrangements to ensure that no poll related violence occurs during pre and post poll.
13. In the light of advisory issued by the Health Ministry of GoI, ECI will keep a close watch on the evolving situation and may further tighten the guidelines for the upcoming elections.



(SANJEEV KUMAR PRASAD)  
SECRETARY