

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.ECI/PN/24/2024

Dated: 16th March, 2024

PRESS NOTE

Subject: Schedule for bye-election to 26 Assemblies Constituencies of Bihar, Haryana, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal- reg.

The Commission has decided to hold bye-elections to fill vacancies in the following Assembly Constituencies along with General Election to Lok Sabha, 2024:

S. No.	Name of State	Assembly Constituency No. & Name	Reason of vacancy
1.	Bihar	195-Agiaon(SC)	Disqualification of Shri Manoj Manjil
2.	Gujarat	26 - Vijapur	Resignation of Dr. C. J. Chavda
3.		108 - Khambhat	Resignation of Shri Chiragkumar Arvindbhai Patel
4.		136 - Vaghodia	Resignation of Shri Dharmendrasinh Ranubha Vaghela
5.		85 - Manavadar	Resignation of Shri Arvindbhai Jinabhai Ladani
6.		83 - Porbandar	Resignation of Shri Arjunbhai Devabhai Modhwadia
7.	Haryana	21-Karnal	Resignation of Shri Manohar Lal
8.	Jharkhand	31- Gandey	Resignation of Dr. Sarfaraj Ahamad
9.	Maharashtra	30 – Akola West	Death of Shri Govardhan Mangilal Sharma alias Lalaji
10.	Tripura	7- Ramnagar	Death of Shri Surajit Datta

11.	Uttar Pradesh	136 - Dadraul	Death of Shri Manavendra Singh
12.		173 - Lucknow East	Death of Sri Ashutosh Tandan 'Gopal Ji'
13.		292 - Gainsari	Death of Dr. Shiv Pratap Yadav
14.		403 - Duddhi (SC)	Disqualification of Shri Ram Dular
15.	West Bengal	62-Bhagawangola	Death of Shri Idris Ali
16.		113- Baranagar	Resignation of Shri Tapas Roy
17.	Telangana	71-Secunderabad Cantt.(SC)	Death of Ms. Lasya Nanditha Sayanna
18.	Himachal Pradesh	18 - Dharamshala	Disqualification of Shri Sudhir Sharma
19.		21 - Lahaul & Spiti (ST)	Disqualification of Shri Ravi Thakur
20.		37 - Sujampur	Disqualification of Shri Rajinder Rana
21.		39 - Barsar	Disqualification of Shri Inder Dutt Lakhnupal
22.		42 - Gagret	Disqualification of Shri Chaitanya Sharma
23.		45 - Kutlehar	Disqualification of Shri Devinder Kumar (Bhutto)
24.		Rajasthan	165 - Bagidora (ST)
25.	Karnataka	36 - Shorapur (ST)	Death of Shri Raja Venkatappa Naik
26.	Tamil Nadu	233 - Vilavancode	Resignation of S Vijayadharani

The Schedule for the bye elections is enclosed at Annexure-I.

1. ELECTORAL ROLLS

Commission firmly believes that pure and updated electoral rolls are the foundation of free, fair and credible elections. Hence, intensive and sustained focus is placed upon improving its quality, health and fidelity. After the amendment in Section 14 of the Representation of the People Act-1950 by the Election Laws (Amendment) Act-2021, there is a provision of four qualifying dates to enroll as a voter in a year. Accordingly, the Commission conducted

the Special Summary Revision of Electoral Roll with reference to 1st January, 2024, as the qualifying date, wherein applications were invited from eligible citizens seeking registration in electoral roll with respect to 1st January, 2024 as the qualifying date. After time-bound completion of Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls with reference to 1st January, 2024 as the qualifying date, the final publication of the electoral roll has been done on –

- i) 5th January, 2024 for Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh and Tripura;
- ii) 22nd January, 2024 for Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;
- iii) 23rd January, 2024 for Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra; and
- iv) 8th February, 2024 for Telangana and Rajasthan.

However, the process of continuous updation of electoral rolls will continue till the last date of filing nominations, **with respect to proximate qualifying date.**

2. ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES (EVMs) & 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 poll is conducted smoothly with the help of these machines.

3. IDENTIFICATION OF VOTERS

Electoral Photo Identity Card (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. MGNREGA 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.
- xii. Unique Disability ID (UDID) Card, M/o Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India

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 provision of the instruction vide Commission's letter No. 437/6/1NST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2024/(BYE ELECTIONS) dated 02nd January, 2024 (available on the Commission's website).

5. INFORMATION REGARDING CRIMINAL ANTECEDENTS

Candidates with criminal antecedents are required to publish information in this regard in newspapers and through Television channels on three occasions during the campaign period. A political party that sets up candidates with criminal antecedents is also required to publish information about criminal background of its candidates, both on its website and also in newspapers and Television channels **on three occasions**.

Commission vide its letter No. 3/4/2019/SDR/Vol. IV dated 16th September, 2020 has directed that the period specified will be decided with three blocks in the following manner, so that electors have sufficient time to know about the background of such candidates:

- a. Within first 4 days of withdrawal.
- b. Between next 5th - 8th days.
- c. From 9th day till the last day of campaign (the second day prior to date of poll)

(Illustration: If the last date for withdrawal is 10th of the month and poll is on 24th of the Month, the first block for publishing of declaration shall be done between 11th and 14th of the Month, second and third blocks shall be between 15th and 18th and 19th and 22nd of that Month, respectively.)

This requirement is in pursuance of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (C) No. 784 of 2015 (Lok Prahari Vs. Union of India & Others) and Writ Petition (Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.).

This information will also be available on an App titled, '**know your candidates**'.

6. COVID RELATED ARRANGEMENT DURING BYE-ELECTION

The Commission has issued COVID Guidelines to be followed during the conduct of the General Election and Bye Elections which are available at Commission's website.

**Sd/-
(SANJEEV KUMAR PRASAD)
SECRETARY**

