

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/ 28 /2021

Dated: 16th March, 2021

PRESS NOTE

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

The Commission has decided to hold bye-elections to fill vacancies in Two (2) Parliamentary Constituencies of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka and Fourteen (14) vacancies in Assembly Constituencies of various States as per details given below:

Sl. No.	State	Constituency No. & Name
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23-Tirupati (SC)
2.	Karnataka	2-Belgaum

Sl. No.	State	Constituency No. & Name
1.	Gujarat	125- Morva Hadaf (ST)
2.	Jharkhand	13-Madhupur
3.	Karnataka	47-Basavakalyan
4.	Karnataka	59-Maski (ST)
5.	Madhya Pradesh	55-Damoh
6.	Maharashtra	252-Pandharpur
7.	Mizoram	26-Serchhip (ST)
8.	Nagaland	51-Noksen (ST)
9.	Odisha	110-Pipili
10.	Rajasthan	179- Sahara
11.	Rajasthan	24-Sujangarh (SC)
12.	Rajasthan	175-Rajsamand
13.	Telangana	87-Nagarjuna Sagar
14.	Uttarakhand	49-Salt

After taking into consideration various factors like local festivals, electoral

rolls, weather conditions, movement of forces, pandemic etc., the Commission has decided to hold bye-elections to fill these vacancies as per the programme mentioned as under:

Poll Events	Date and Day
Date of Issue of Gazette Notification	23.03.2021 (Tuesday)
Last Date of Nominations	30.03.2021 (Tuesday)
Date for Scrutiny of Nominations	31.03.2021 (Wednesday)
Last Date for Withdrawal of candidatures	03.04.2021 (Saturday)
Date of Poll	17.04.2021 (Saturday)
Date of Counting	02.05.2021 (Sunday)
Date before which election shall be completed	04.05.2021 (Tuesday)

1. ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Rolls for the aforesaid Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies w.r.t 01.01.2021 as the qualifying date has been finally published.

2. ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES (EVMs) and VVPATs

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

In continuance to the existing practice, the voter's identification shall be mandatory in the aforementioned election at the time of poll. Electoral Photo Identity Cards (EPIC) shall be the main document of identification of a voter. However, in order to ensure that no voter is deprived of his/her franchise, if his/her name

figures in the electoral rolls, following alternate identity documents are also prescribed:

- 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

Model code of conduct shall come into force with immediate effect in the district(s) in which the whole or any part of the Parliamentary/Assembly constituency going for election is included, subject to partial modification as issued vide Commission's instruction No. 437/6/1NST/2016-CCS, dated 29th June, 2017 (available on the commission's website <https://eci.gov.in/>) (copy enclosed). The Model code of conduct shall be applicable to all candidates, political parties and the State government concerned. The Model Code of Conduct shall also be applicable to the Union Government also.

5. VOTER INFORMATION SLIPS (VIS)

To facilitate the voter to know the serial number of electoral roll of his/her polling station, date of poll, time etc., the Commission vide letter dated 26.02.2021, has decided to issue 'Voter Information Slip' to the voters in place of Photo Voter Slip. Voter Information Slip will include information like Polling Station, Date, Time etc. but not the photograph of the voter. Voter Information Slip will be distributed at least 5 days before the date of poll to all enrolled electors, by the District Election Officer. However, Voter Information Slip will not be allowed as proof of identity of voters. It may be recalled that the Commission had discontinued Photo Voter Slips as an identity proof with effect from 28th February, 2019.

6. BROAD GUIDELINES TO BE FOLLOWED DURING THE CONDUCT OF BYE-ELECTIONS DURING COVID-19

In view of spread of COVID-19, the Commission on 21st August, 2020, issued broad guidelines, which is to be followed strictly during the conduct of elections, which is available on Commission's website.

All instructions issued during General Election to Legislative Assemblies of Bihar, 2020 and General Elections to Legislative Assemblies of 5 States/UT shall also be *mutatis mutandis* applicable to the aforementioned bye-elections.



**(SANJEEV KUMAR PRASAD)
UNDER SECRETARY**



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
Election Commission of India

निर्वाचन सदन
NIRVACHAN SADAN
अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली - 110 001
ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110 001

No. 437/6/INST/2016-CCS

Dated: 29th June, 2017

To,

1. The Chief Electoral Officers of all States and Union Territories.
2. The Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories.
3. Recognized political parties of all States/UTs

Subject:- Model Code of Conduct- instructions- bye-election of Parliamentary/Assembly Constituency -regarding.

Sir,

On the above cited subject, I am directed to state that the Commission has reviewed the issue and has issued the following modifications of its earlier instructions-

1. **Enforcement of MCC**

The Commission's instructions, contained in letters No. 437/6/INST/2012/CC&BE dated 26.04.2012 and No. 437/6/INST/2012/CC&BE dated 21.10.2013, list various provisions of applicability of MCC to the concerned district or the AC/PC concerned. These instructions are modified to the extent that *in case the constituency is comprised in State Capital/Metropolitan Cities/Municipal Corporations, then aforesaid instructions would be applicable in the area of concerned Constituency only. In all other cases the MCC would be enforced in the entire district(s) covering the Constituency going for bye-election(s).*

2. **Publishing of Advertisements**

The Commission on 25th June, 2013, directed that the release /publishing of advertisements during the period of operation of Model Code of Conduct in connection with bye-elections would be regulated as follows:-

- (i) Advertisement of general nature in connection with specific occasions of importance may be published. However, such publishing shall be restricted to the dates coinciding with the special occasion only, and it shall not be published on other days. The advertisement shall not bear photographs of any Minister and other political functionaries.
- (ii) No advertisement having any specific/pointed reference or connotation to the areas covered by the bye-election constituencies shall be released/published on any date during the period.

Further, it is clarified that no new schemes should be advertised in the districts where the bye-election is being conducted. [Subpara (ii) above] stands modified.

3. **Tours of Ministers**

During bye elections from any constituencies, either Parliamentary or Assemblies, the following restrictions are applicable as per instruction issued by the Commission on 23rd November, 2007 with regard to the tours of Ministers which inter alia provides that:-

- (i) All Ministers, whether Central or State, shall not combine in any manner their official tours with election work after the announcement of the bye elections. All and any visits to the district(s) where bye-election is being held and where Model Code of Conduct is, therefore, in force, have to be completely private in nature.
- (ii) In case where a Minister travelling on official work transits through the district(s) where the bye-election is being held en route to any other district on official visit, he shall not attend to any political work.

Further, it is clarified that the Ministers or persons holding equivalent rank/status cannot combine their official visit with campaign by en routing their journey for official purposes to a place where MCC is not in force and then proceeding from that place to the area where MCC is in force for election campaign. In case it is done, the entire journey expense shall be treated as election expense. [subpara (ii) above stands modified].

4. Regarding Transfer/Posting of Officers

For all officers, who are connected with the conduct of bye-election in the State, the existing ECI's instructions on implementation of transfer policy be applied within the area falling under the concerned AC/PC. While implementing this policy the DEO/RO should take care that in case of deployment of any officer from outside the constituency for any election related duty, shall also conform to the transfer policy of the Commission.

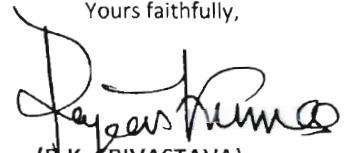
5. Regarding Announcement of D.A.

There is no ECI's instruction in the context of bye-election prohibiting State Governments to take decisions which have State wide effect and consequently in the Constituency concerned.

The Commission, after taking into consideration all relevant factors in this regards, has decided that announcement of D.A. by the state government may be done as a routine affair but it should not be publicized as the Government's achievement.

Kindly inform all concerned and give due publicity and ensure compliance in letter and spirit.

Yours faithfully,


(R.K. PRIVASTAVA)
SR. P.O. SECRETARY