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## HOME (ELECTIONS) DEPARTMENT

### NOTIFICATION

The 23rd September, 2021

No.5825-VE(A)-28/2021/Elec.-The following notification issued by Election Commission of India, New Delhi is hereby published in the extraordinary issue of the Gazette of Government of Odisha for general information.

By order,

SUSHIL KUMAR LOHANI

Chief Electoral Officer & *Ex-Officio*,  
Principal Secretary to Government

## ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

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No. 576/EXIT/2021/SDR/Vol.II

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2021

### NOTIFICATION

Whereas, the Election Commission has announced the schedule for the **Bye-Election to the Legislative Assembly from 159-Bhabanipur Assembly Constituency of West Bengal & schedule for polls in 56-Samserganj & 58-Jangipur Assembly Constituencies of West Bengal and 110-Pipili Assembly Constituency of Odisha where the adjourned polls were deferred** vide Commission's Press Note No. ECI/PN/77/2021 dated 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.

And whereas, Section 126A of The Representation of the People Act, 1951 (in short R.P.Act, 1951) specifies that "(1) *No person shall conduct any exit poll and publish or publicise by means of the print or electronic media or disseminate in any other manner,*

whatsoever, the result of any exit poll during such period, as may be notified by the Election Commission in this regard.

(2) For the purposes of sub-section (1), the Election Commission shall, by a general order, notify the date and time having due regard to the following, namely:-

(a) in case of a general election, the period may commence from the beginning of the hours fixed for poll on the first day of poll and continue till half an hour after closing of the poll in all the States and Union territories:

Provided that in case of a number of bye-elections held together on different days, the period may commence from the beginning of the hours fixed for poll on the first day of poll and continue till half an hour after closing of the last poll.

(3) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this section shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both. "

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers under sub-Section (1) of Section 126A of the R.P. Act, 1951, the Election Commission, having regard to the provisions of sub-Section (2) of the said Section, hereby notifies the period between 7.00 A.M. and 7.00 P.M. on 30-09-2021 (Thursday) as the period during which conducting any exit poll and publishing or publicizing by means of the print or electronic media or dissemination in any other manner whatsoever, the result of any exit poll in connection with the aforesaid elections, shall be prohibited.

It is further clarified that under Section 126(1)(b) of the R.P. Act, 1951, displaying any election matter including results of any opinion poll or any other poll survey, in any electronic media, would be prohibited during the period of 48 hours ending with the hours fixed for conclusion of poll in the respective polling areas in connection with Bye-elections.

By order,

ASHWANI KUMAR MOHAL  
SECRETARY