

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/16/2018

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2018

## PRESS NOTE

**Subject : Schedule for bye-election to fill casual vacancies in the Lok Sabha from Parliamentary Constituencies of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and in the State Legislative Assembly of Bihar – Regarding.**

There are clear vacancies in the Lok Sabha from Parliamentary Constituencies of various States, which need to be filled up:

Sl. No.	State	Number & Name of the Parliamentary Constituency
1	Bihar	9 – Araria
2	Uttar Pradesh	51 – Phulpur
		64 – Gorakhpur

There are clear vacancies in the State Legislative Assembly of Bihar Assembly Constituencies which need to be filled up.

Sl. No.	State	Number & Name of the Assembly Constituency
1	Bihar	205 – Bhabua
		216 – Jehanabad

After taking into consideration various factors like local festivals, publication of electoral rolls, weather conditions etc., the Commission has decided to hold bye-elections to fill these vacancies as per the programme mentioned as under: -

Poll Events	Schedule
Date of Issue of Gazette Notification	13.02.2018 (TUE)
Last Date of Nominations	20.02.2018 (TUE)
Date for Scrutiny of Nominations	21.02.2018 (WED)
Last Date for Withdrawal of candidatures	23.02.2018 (FRI)
Date of Poll	<b>11.03.2018 (SUN)</b>
Date of Counting	14.03.2018 (WED)
Date before which election shall be completed	16.03.2018 (FRI)

## **ELECTORAL ROLL**

The Electoral Rolls of Bihar has already been published with reference to 01.01.2018 and will be used for bye-election. The Electoral Roll w.r.t. 01.01.2018 of 51-Phulpur PC and 64-Gorakhpur PC of Uttar Pradesh State has been finally published on 09.02.2018.

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

The Commission has decided to use EVMs and VVPATs in the bye-elections 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.

## **Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System (ETPBS) for Service Voter**

Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System will be used to dispatch postal ballots to eligible service voters in the aforesaid constituencies.

## **IDENTIFICATION OF VOTERS**

In consonance with the past practice, the Commission has decided that the voter's identification shall be mandatory in the aforementioned bye- 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, separate instructions will be issued to allow additional documents for identification of voters at the time of poll in the said bye-election.

## **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 Parliamentary/Assembly Constituency going for bye-election is included, subject to partial modification as issued vide Commission's instruction No. 437/6/INST2016-CCS, dated 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 (available on the Commission's website). 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 for the State(s) concerned.



**(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)**  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY