

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/9/2018

Dated: 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2018

## PRESS NOTE

**Subject :** Schedule for bye-election to fill casual vacancy in the State Legislative Assembly of Odisha – Regarding.

There is clear vacancy in the State Legislative Assembly of Odisha from 2-Bijepur Assembly Constituency which needs to be filled up.

After taking into consideration various factors like local festivals, electoral rolls, weather conditions etc., the Commission has decided to hold bye-election to fill this vacancy as per the programme mentioned as under: -

Poll Events	Schedule
Date of Issue of Gazette Notification	30/01/2018 (Tuesday)
Last Date of Nominations	06/02/2018 (Tuesday)
Date for Scrutiny of Nominations	07/02/2018 (Wednesday)
Last Date for Withdrawal of candidatures	09/02/2018 (Friday)
Date of Poll	<b>24/02/2018 (Saturday)</b>
Date of Counting	28/02/2018 (Tuesday)
Date before which election shall be completed	03/03/2018 (Saturday)

## ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Rolls of 2-Bijepur Assembly Constituency of Odisha with reference to 01.01.2018 will be used for bye-election. The Electoral Roll of 2-Bijepur Odisha has been finally published on 20.01.2018.

## 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.

### **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- elections 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-elections.

### **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 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 district of the State concerned.



**(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)**  
**PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**