

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/73/ 2009

Dated: 22nd December, 2009

PRESS NOTE

Subject : Schedule for bye-elections to fill the casual vacancies in the Legislative Assemblies of Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu

There are casual vacancies in the State Legislative Assemblies of Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu which need to be filled up early. After taking into consideration various factors like requirement of police forces, festivities, position of electoral rolls, etc., the Commission has decided to hold bye-elections to fill up the casual vacancies in the above State Legislative Assemblies as indicated below: -

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number and Name of Assembly Constituency
1.	Gujarat	10-Chotila
2.	Haryana	46-Ellenabad
3.	Maharashtra	137-Bhiwandi East
4.	Tamil Nadu	83-Pennagaram

The Programme to hold the said bye-elections shall be as under:

Event	Date
1. Issue of Notification	26.12.09 (Sat)
2. Last date of making Nominations	02.01.10 (Sat)
3. Scrutiny of Nominations	04.01.10 (Mon)
4. Last date for withdrawal of Candidatures	06.01.10 (Wed)
5. Date of Poll	20.01.10 (Wed)
6. Counting of Votes	23.01.10 (Sat)
7. Date before which election shall be completed	24.01.10 (Sun)

ELECTORAL ROLL

The electoral rolls with reference to 1.1.2009 as the qualifying date as per pre-delimitation order in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat have been revised and published. The general elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Haryana and Maharashtra were held on post delimitation basis with electoral rolls revised with reference to 1.1.2009 as the qualifying date. Hence, there is no need to revise electoral rolls further and the bye-elections shall be held on post delimitation basis in the States of Haryana and Maharashtra.

ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES (EVMs)

The Commission has decided to use EVMs in these bye-elections in all the polling stations. Adequate numbers of EVMs have been made available and all steps have been taken to ensure that the poll is 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. 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 these 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 (are) included. The Model Code of Conduct shall be applicable to all candidates, political parties and the State Government. The Model Code of Conduct shall also be applicable to the Union Government as far as these States are concerned.

(R.K. SRIVASTAVA)
SECRETARY