# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/114/2026 Dated: 07th September, 2026

## PRESS NOTE

**Subject: Schedule for bye-elections to 05 (Five) Assembly Constituencies of Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and West Bengal and 01(One) Parliamentary Constituency of Assam– reg.**

The Commission has decided to hold bye-elections to fill vacancies in the following Assembly Constituencies:

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Number and Name of AC/PC | Reason of vacancy |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Tamil Nadu | 35-Madurantakam (SC) AC | Resignation of Tmt. Maragatham Kumaravel |
| 2. | | 101-Dharapuram (SC) AC | Resignation of Tmt. P Sathyabama |
| 3. | Puducherry | 09-Thattanchavady AC | Resignation of Thiru N. Rangasamy |
| 4. | West Bengal | 70-Rejinagar AC | Resignation of Sh. Humayun Kabir |
| 5. | | 210-Nandigram AC | Resignation of Sh. Suvendu Adhikari |
| 6. | Assam | 09-Nagaon PC | Resignation of Sh. Pradyut Bordoloi |

The Schedule for the bye-election is enclosed at ***Annexure-I***.

## 1. ELECTORAL ROLLS

Commission firmly believes that pure and updated electoral rolls are the foundation of free, fair and credible elections. Hence, intensive and sustained focus is placed upon improving its quality, health and fidelity. After the amendment in Section 14 of the Representation of the People Act-1950 by the Election Laws (Amendment) Act-2021, there is a provision of four qualifying dates to enroll as a voter in a year. Accordingly, the Commission conducted the Special Summary Revision/ Special Intensive Revision of Electoral Roll in the States.

| Name of States/UT | Number and Name of AC/PC | Date of Final Publication of E-Roll of the AC/PC |
|---|---|---|
| Tamil Nadu | 35-Madurantakam (SC) AC | 23.02.2026 |
| | 101-Dharapuram (SC) AC | 23.02.2026 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Puducherry** | 09-Thattanchavady AC | 14.02.2026 |
| **West Bengal** | 70-Rejinagar AC | 28.02.2026 |
| | 210-Nandigram AC | 28.02.2026 |
| **Assam** | 9-Nagaon PC | 10.02.2026 |

However, the process of continuous updation of electoral rolls will continue till the last date of filing nominations, with respect to proximate qualifying date, in respect to applications received till 10 days before last date of filing nomination.

## 2. ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES (EVMs) & VVPATs

The Commission has decided to use EVMs and VVPATs in the bye-election 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 poll is conducted smoothly with the help of these machines.

## 3. IDENTIFICATION OF VOTERS

Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC) shall be the main document of identification of a voter. However, any of the below mentioned identification documents can also be shown at the polling station:

**i.** Aadhar Card;
**ii.** MGNREGA Job Card;
**iii.** Passbooks with photograph issued by Bank/Post Office;
**iv.** Health Insurance Smart Card issued under the scheme of Ministry of Labour/Ayushman Bharat Health Card;
**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;
**xi.** Official identity cards issued to MPs/MLAs/MLCs; and
**xii.** Unique Disability ID (UDID) Card, M/o Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India.

## 4. 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 election is included, subject to provision of the instruction vide Commission's

letter No. 437/6/1NST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/ 2024/ (BYE ELECTIONS) dated 2nd January, 2024 (available on the Commission's website).

## 5. INFORMATION REGARDING CRIMINAL ANTECEDENTS

Candidates with criminal antecedents are required to publish information in this regard in newspapers and through Television channels on three occasions during the campaign period. A political party that sets up candidates with criminal antecedents is also required to publish information about criminal background of its candidates, both on its website and also in newspapers and Television channels **on three occasions**.

Commission vide its letter No. 3/4/2019/SDR/Vol. IV dated 16th September, 2020 has directed that the period specified will be decided with three blocks in the following manner, so that electors have sufficient time to know about the background of such candidates:

**a.** Within first 4 days of withdrawal.

**b.** Between next 5$^{th}$ - 8$^{th}$ days.

**c.** From 9$^{th}$ day till the last day of campaign (the second day prior to date of poll)

*(Illustration: If the last date for withdrawal is 10$^{th}$ of the month and poll is on 24$^{th}$ of the Month, the first publication of declaration shall be done between 11$^{th}$ and 14$^{th}$ of the Month and second and third publication shall be between 15$^{th}$ and 18$^{th}$ and 19$^{th}$ and 22$^{nd}$ of that Month, respectively.)*

This requirement is in pursuance of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (C) No. 784 of 2015 and Writ Petition (Civil) No. 536 of 2011.

The political parties shall also publish in newspapers and its official social media platforms and upload in its website, the details and the reasons for selecting candidates having criminal background within 48 hours of selection of such candidate. The details are contained in letter no. 3/4/2021/SDR/Vol.III dated 11.01.2022 available on the

Commission's website.

This information will also be available on ECINET titled, '**Know Your Candidates**'.

**6. NO DUES CERTIFICATE**

The Commission has issued directions to facilitate, if approached by any intending candidate, who has been in occupation of accommodation provided by the Government any time during the last 10 years before the date of notification of the election, to obtain "No dues certificate" from agencies/authorities/departments dealing with (a) rent, (b) electricity charges, (c) water charges and (d) telephone charges. The instructions are contained in Commission's letter no. 3/ER/2023/SDR/Vol.IV dated 03.05.2024 and is available in the Commission's website.

07/09/2026

**(SANJEEV KUMAR PRASAD)**
**SECRETARY**

***Annexure-I***

# SCHEDULE FOR BYE-ELECTION

| Poll Events | Schedule |
|---|---|
| Date of Issue of Gazette Notification | 09.09.2026 (Wednesday) |
| Last date for making nominations | 16.09.2026 (Wednesday) |
| Date for the scrutiny of nominations | 17.09.2026 (Thursday) |
| The last date for the Withdrawal of candidatures | 19.09.2026 (Saturday) |
| **Date of Poll** | 06.10.2026 (Tuesday) |
| **Date of Counting of Votes** | 09.10.2026 (Friday) |
| Date before which election shall be completed | 11.10.2026 (Sunday) |