

# **ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA**

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/47/ 2011

Dated: - 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2011

## **PRESS NOTE**

**Subject :** Schedule for bye-election to fill the casual vacancies in the Legislative Assembly of West Bengal .

There are casual vacancies of 125 – Basirhat Uttar and 159-Bhabanipur Assembly Constituencies in the State of West Bengal, which need to be filled up. After taking into consideration various factors like festivals, electoral rolls, etc., the Commission has decided to hold bye-elections to fill up the casual vacancies of the said Constituencies in the State of West Bengal.

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

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
1. Issue of Notification	29.08.2011(Monday)
2. Last date of making Nominations	05.09.2011(Monday)
3. Scrutiny of Nominations	06.09.2011(Tuesday)
4. Last date for withdrawal of Candidatures	08.09.2011(Thursday)
5. Date of Poll	25.09.2011(Sunday)
6. Counting of Votes	28.09.2011(Wednesday) (To start at 8.00 AM)
7. Date before which election shall be completed	30.09.2011 (Friday)
8. Hours of Poll	08.00 AM to 5.00 PM

## **ELECTORAL ROLL**

The electoral rolls for 125 – Basirhat Uttar and 159-Bhabanipur Assembly Constituencies in West Bengal have been revised with reference to 01.01.2011 as the qualifying date and published on 05.01.2011.

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

The Commission has decided to use EVMs in the bye-elections in all the polling stations. Adequate number of EVMs has 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. Elector Photo Identity Card (EPIC) shall be the main document of identity 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. 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 concerned.

**(YASHVIR SINGH)  
DIRECTOR**