

REPORT
ON
BYE-ELECTIONS
TO
PANCHAYATI
RAJ
INSTITUTIONS

(25th February, 2024)


PREFACE

The Commission conducts bye-elections to various vacant seats in Rural and Urban Local Bodies periodically to ensure that electorate are not denied representation in their respective Local Body. In the past, these bye-elections have been generally conducted once in six months. The last bye-election to Local Bodies was conducted on 5th November, 2023, and in normal circumstances, the bye-election for vacancies reported/arising subsequently would have been due in May, 2024. However, in view of the general elections to the Lok Sabha, expected to be conducted in April and May, 2024, the Commission decided to conduct another round of bye-election for all vacancies in the Local Bodies existing as on 29th January, 2024.

Accordingly the programme for the bye-election for 86 vacancies in Rural Areas was notified on 29th January, 2024, with 25th February, 2024 being the date fixed for polls.

This report places on record the entire process of conduct of bye-elections to 86 Rural Constituencies. The Commission would like to place on record its appreciation of the work done by stakeholders for successful conduct of these elections. The Commission would also like to take this opportunity to wish the very best to all the elected representatives in the discharge of their duties.

Dated: 11th March, 2024
Place: Shimla


(Anil Khachi)
State Election Commissioner
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla

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1) Preparation for the Elections:

1.1) Electoral Rolls are the basic document to conduct any election. In view of the decision of the Commission to conduct bye-elections to fill up to date vacancies in the Panchayati Raj Institutions of the State, it was decided to undertake special revision of electoral rolls of these areas with 1st January, 2024 as qualifying date, so that maximum eligible young voters may exercise their right to franchise. The date for the final publication of electoral rolls was fixed on or before 31st January, 2024. (Annexure-I). As a result of the special revision, the final total number of electors where bye-elections were conducted on 25th February, 2024 was as under:-

Table I: District wise Electors (Panchayats)

Sr. No.	District	Male	Female	Total No. of Electors
1.	Bilaspur	102	101	203
2.	Hamirpur	278	272	550
3.	Kangra	4991	4965	9956
4.	Kinnaur	549	528	1077
5.	Kullu	2763	2748	5511
6.	Mandi	2811	2888	5699
7.	Shimla	939	902	1841
8.	Sirmaur	1212	1152	2364
9.	Solan	3434	3170	6604
10.	Una	4737	4734	9471
	Total	21816	21460	43276

2) Preparatory Activities carried out by the Commission: Directions regarding Conduct of Elections

2.1) The Commission directed all District Election Officers (Panchayats) to strictly follow the procedure with regard to preliminary arrangements, arrangement of ballot boxes, nominations, disclosure of specified information, deposit of amount received from the candidates and others during elections, ballot papers, counting arrangements, maintenance of Law and Order, enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct etc as specified by the Commission vide letter dated 22.12.2020 (Annexure-II).

3) Details of Casual Vacancies

3.1) There were a total 86 casual vacancies in the State across different Panchayati Raj Institutions as on the date of notification of election programme on 29th January, 2024. Post wise break up of these vacancies is as under:

Table II: Details of Casual Vacancies

Sr. No.	Office	No. of Vacancies
1.	Panchayat Samiti	3
2.	Pradhan	7
3.	Up-Pradhan	3
4.	Ward Member	73
	Total	86

4) Election Programme

4.1) The Commission issued a detailed election programme on 29th January, 2024 (**Annexure-III**). As per election programme, filing of nominations was scheduled for 8th, 9th and 12th February, 2024. The scrutiny of nominations was directed to be carried out on 13th February, 2024, while withdrawal of nominations was permitted till 15th February, 2024. The list of contesting candidates was to be prepared and affixed on 15th February, 2024 immediately after the time for withdrawal was over. The list of polling stations was to be notified by 08th February, 2024. The polling was to be undertaken on 25th February, 2024. The Counting of votes for the posts of Ward Members, Up-Pradhan and Pradhan of Gram Panchayats would be undertaken on the date of poll, immediately after the close of poll at Gram Panchayat Headquarters. The Counting of votes for Members Panchayat Samiti would be taken up on 26th February, 2024. The results of elections of Ward Members, Up-Pradhan and Pradhan of Gram Panchayat were to be declared on 25th February, 2024 and the result of elections to Panchayat Samiti Member would be declared on 26th February, 2024 at Block Headquarters.

5) Model Code of Conduct

5.1) In order to conduct free, fair and independent elections, the Commission enforced the Model Code of Conduct as notified by this Commission on 3rd November, 2020 for the guidance and observance by all concerned vide Notification dated 29th January, 2024 (**Annexure-IV**) in all panchayats where bye-election were declared. Directions were issued to all Election related officers and officials to ensure strict compliance with the Model code of conduct.

6) Report on the Elections:

6.1) Nominations:

6.1.1) For 3 posts of Panchayat Samiti Ward Member in Districts Kangra and Una, a total of 10 Nominations were filed, which were all found valid after scrutiny. Subsequently, after time of withdrawal was over, only 8 candidates were left in fray.

6.1.2) For the 7 posts of Gram Panchayat Pradhan contested across the State, 39 nominations were filed till the close of nominations. After scrutiny, two nominations for the post of pradhan were rejected in Gram Panchayat Pipliwala, Development Block Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur. After last date of withdrawal, 22 candidates were left in the fray.

6.1.3) 3 posts of Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan were to be contested across the State. 10 nominations were filed till the close of nominations, which were all found valid after scrutiny. After withdrawal, only 7 candidates were left in the fray.

6.1.4) In addition to above, there were 73 vacancies of Gram Panchayat Ward Member. A total of 112 nomination papers were filed till the close of nominations for these vacancies. Only one candidate filed nomination paper in respect of 48 wards, whereas no nomination papers were filed in respect of only one ward in Ward No 2 Boura-1, Gram Panchayat Naura Boura, Development Block Kupvi, District Shimla. Due to unfortunate death of contesting candidate of ward number-4 Gram Panchayat Badhokari Development Block Nalagarh District Solan, the elections to Ward Member were countermanded on 21st February, 2024 (**Annexure-V**) After withdrawal, 56

candidates were declared unopposed. Subsequently, 35 candidates remained in fray for 16 wards.

6.2) Unopposed Election

6.2.1) Out of 3 Vacancies of Panchayat Up-Pradhan one was elected unopposed in Gram Panchayat Banal, Development Block Dharampur, District Mandi. In addition to this, out of 73 Panchayat Ward Members for which nominations were filed, 56 members were elected unopposed. Thus approximately 74% of the total vacancies of Panchayat Ward Members were filled up with consensus and polling was not required.

Table III: Comprehensive detail of bye-election.

Sr. No.	Name of Post	No. of Vacancies	No. of Vacancies where no Nominations were filed.	Electi on Count erman ded	No. of Unopposed elections	No. of Contested vacancies
1.	Panchayat Samiti Wards	3	0	0	0	3
2.	Gram Panchayat Pradhan	7	0	0	0	7
3.	Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan	3	0	0	1	2
4.	Panchayat Wards	73	1	1	56	15
	Total	86	1	1	57	27

6.3) Polling Stations

6.3.1) A total of 61 polling booths were set up for bye-elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions of Himachal Pradesh. The detail of district wise polling stations is mentioned in the table below:-

Table IV: District wise detail of Polling stations

Sr. No.	Name of District	Total No. of Polling Stations
1.	Bilaspur	1
2.	Hamirpur	2
3.	Kangra	15
4.	Mandi	17
5.	Shimla	6
6.	Sirmaur	10
7.	Una	10
	Total	61

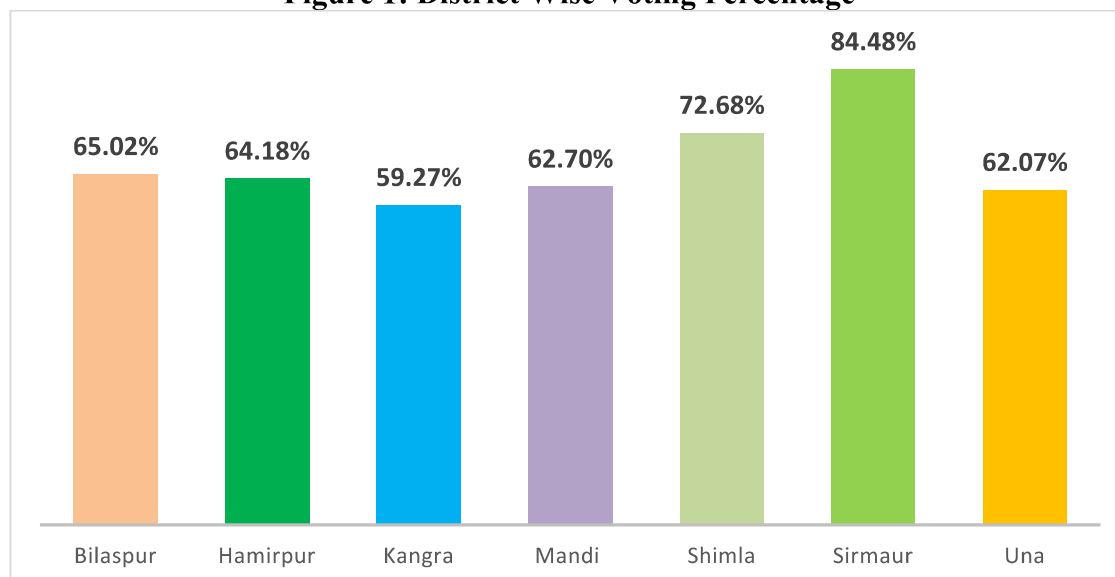
6.4) Voter Turnout

6.4.1) Out of the 30,084 voters registered for these bye-elections, 19,173 came out to cast their vote, which resulted in a 63.73% voter turnout. Out of the total votes polled, 9790 were accounted for by female voters, contributing to 51% of the total votes polled. Highest polling took place in District Sirmaur with 84.48% voting, while the lowest voter turnout was 59.27% in district Kangra. The district wise details of total voters as well as the number of votes cast by male and female voters is given in the next table:

Table V: District wise Voting Percentage

Sr. No.	District	Total No. of Voters	At the end of Poll			
			Votes Polled			Vote%
			Male	Female	Total	
1.	Bilaspur	203	62	70	132	65.02%
2.	Hamirpur	550	163	190	353	64.18%
3.	Kangra	9956	2787	3114	5901	59.27%
4.	Mandi	5699	1654	1919	3573	62.70%
5.	Shimla	1841	705	633	1338	72.68%
6.	Sirmaur	2364	1052	945	1997	84.48%
7.	Una	9471	2960	2919	5879	62.07%
	Total	30084	9383	9790	19173	63.73%

Figure 1: District Wise Voting Percentage



6.5) Educational Background of Elected Candidates:

6.5.1) Out of the three elected Panchayat Samiti Members, one has completed matriculation, one is 12th Pass and the third one has completed Graduation.

6.5.2) Out of 7 elected Gram Panchayat Pradhans, two pradhans have not completed matriculation and two pradhans have completed matriculation. 1 pradhan has completed Senior Secondary schooling, 1 pradhan has completed graduation and remaining 1 pradhan is a Post-Graduate.

6.5.3) Out of the 3 Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhans who were elected, one has not completed his matriculation and two Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhans have completed their senior secondary schooling.

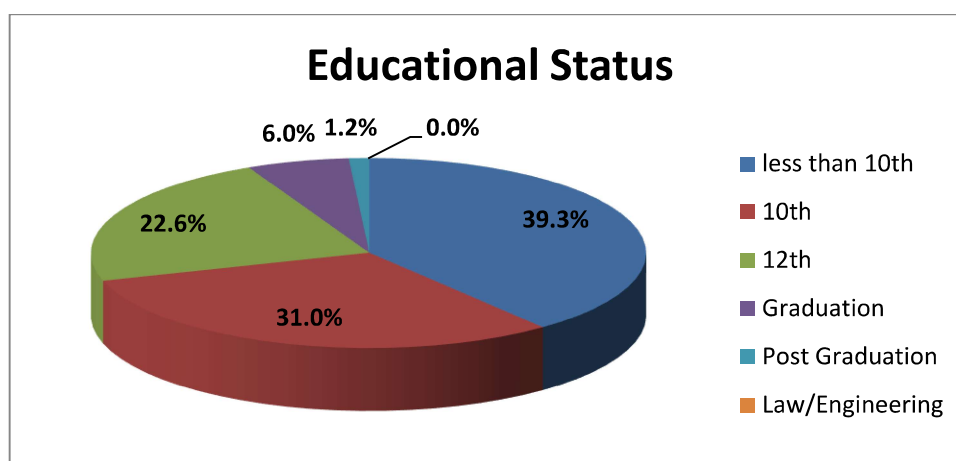
6.5.4) Out of 73 vacancies of Gram Panchayat Ward member, 71 were filled as one ward did not receive any nominations and in one seat, the election was countermanded due to unfortunate death of the contesting candidate. Out of the 71 ward members, 30 members have not completed their matriculation, 23 Gram Panchayat ward members are matriculates while another 15 have completed their senior secondary schooling. Remaining 3 of the elected Ward members are graduates.

6.5.5) Out of the total 84 casual vacancies filled, 31% seats are filled by matriculates while 22.6 % seats are filled by members who have completed their senior secondary schooling. However, 39.3% of the elected members have not completed their matriculation. Only 6% are graduates and 1.2% are Post Graduates.

Table VI: Educational Background of Elected Candidates

Sr. No.	Office	Less than Matriculation	Completed Matriculation	12 th Class Completed	Graduation	Post Graduation	Law/ Engineering
1.	Panchayat Samiti Wards	0	1	1	1	0	0
2.	Gram Panchayat Pradhan	2	2	1	1	1	0
3.	Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan	1	0	2	0	0	0
4.	Panchayat Wards	30	23	15	3	0	0
	Total	33	26	19	5	1	0
	Percentage	39.3%	31.0%	22.6%	6.0%	1.2%	0.0%

Figure 2: Educational Background of Elected Candidates.



6.6) Age Profile of Elected Candidates:

6.6.1) Out of the three elected Panchayat Samiti Ward Members, age of two members was between 41-50 and one member was more than 60 years old.

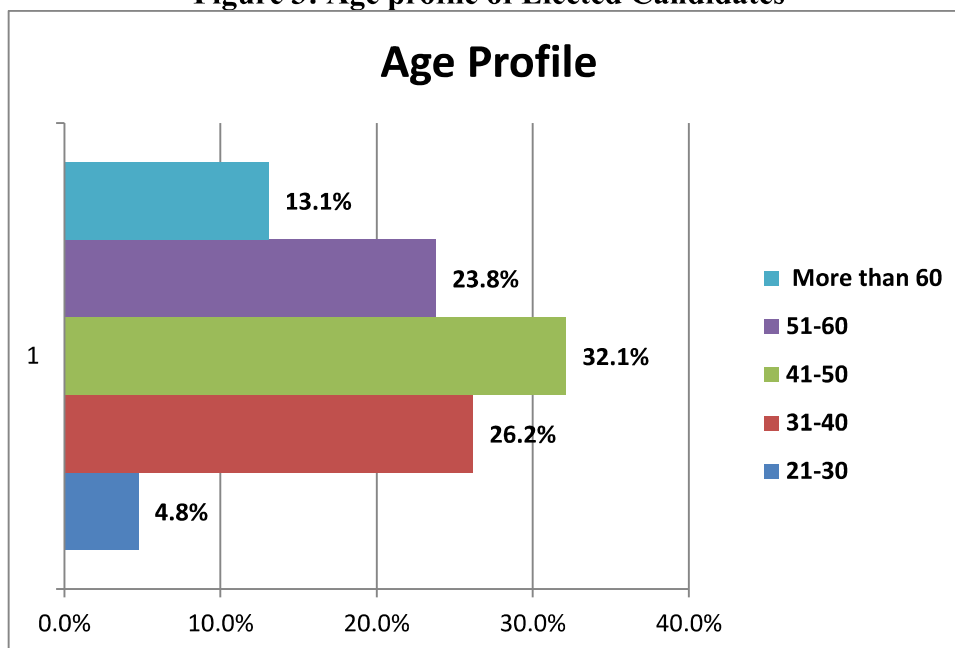
6.6.2) Out of 7 elected Gram Panchayat Pradhans, one pradhan is aged between 31-40 years, two pradhans are aged between 41-50 years and two between 51-60 years. Remaining, two Gram Panchayat pradhans are aged more than 60 years.

6.6.3) Out of the 3 Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhans, one is aged between 21-30 years, one is aged between 41-50 years and one elected Up-Pradhan is above 60 years.

6.6.4) Out of the 71 elected Gram Panchayat ward members, 3 members are between 21-30 years of age, 21 have their age between 31-40 years, 18 of them are aged between 51-60 years, 22 fall in the age bracket of 41-50 years, while 7 ward members are more than 60 years old.

6.6.5) Overall, out of the 84 elected members, 4.8 % are of age between 21-30 years. A maximum of 32.1 % of the representatives belong to the age group between 41-50 years while 26.2% fall in the 31-40 years age group. 23.8 % are aged between 51-60 years. Elected members more than 60 years age group have the least representation, which is 13.1 percent.

Figure 3: Age profile of Elected Candidates



6.7) Results and Victory Margin

6.7.1) Counting of votes with respect to Pradhans, Up-Pradhan and Ward Members was undertaken on 25th February, 2024 on the day of poll itself.

6.7.2) All three of the elected Panchayat Samiti Members won by a margin of more than 100 votes. Among the 7 Gram Panchayat Pradhan vacancies where elections were held, one Pradhan won by a margin of votes between 10-100 and remaining six won by a margin of more than 100 votes. For the 3 vacancies of Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan, 1 was elected unopposed, whereas polling was held for 2 seats. One candidates won by less than 10 votes and one candidates won by margin of votes between 10-100. For 73 vacancies of Gram Panchayat Ward Member, 56 were elected unopposed, for 1 seat no nominations were filed and for one seat the election was countermanded. Thus, voting was conducted for 15 wards only, out of which 2 candidates won by less than 10 votes and 13 candidates won by margin of votes between 10-100. Margin of victory for different posts are given in the table below:-

Table VII: Margin of Victory of Elected Candidates

Sr.No.	Office	Margin of Victory (Votes)		
		<10	10-100	>100
1.	Panchayat Samiti Member	0	0	3
2.	Gram Panchayat Pradhan	0	1	6
3.	Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan	1	1	0
4.	Panchayat Wards	2	13	0
	Total	3	15	9

7) Remarkable Trends in Bye-Election to PRIs:

7.1) During recent elections an interesting trend has been observed in which female contesting candidates have been fighting in seats for open categories and have won. Similar is the case with members of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Class Community (OBCs).

7.2) During these by-elections 8 females won from unreserved seats. In case of Scheduled Castes, 3 Males and 1 Female won from unreserved seats. In election to Panchayat Samiti Ward member, two contesting candidates of OBC Community won in seat of open category. Also one Contesting Candidate of OBC category won in seat of open category for the election of Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan and one won from an unreserved seat for the election to ward member. The details are given below: -

TableVIII: Trends in By-Election

Sr. No.	Office	Total Females in Open	SCs in Open			OBCs in Open			Total
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1.	Panchayat Samiti Wards	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2
2.	Gram Panchayat Pradhan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
4.	Panchayat Wards	8	3	1	4	1	0	1	13
	Total	8	3	1	4	4	0	4	16

ANNEXURES

REPORT ON

BYE-ELECTIONS TO

PANCHAYATI

RAJ

INSTITUTIONS

Annexure-I

Election Matter
Important
Personal Attention



राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग हिमाचल प्रदेश STATE ELECTION COMMISSION HIMACHAL PRADESH

आर्मसडेल शिमला-171002 Armsdale, Shimla-171002 Tel. 0177-2620152, 2620159, 2620154, Fax. 2620152
Email: secysec-hp@nic.in

No. SEC(F)1-28/2021- 32

Dated the

8 January, 2024

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers vested in it under Article 243K of the Constitution of India, Section 160 of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 read with Rule 22 of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj (Elections) Rules, 1994, the State Election Commission Himachal Pradesh hereby directs a special revision of electoral rolls of those Panchayats of the State wherein any casual vacancies have occurred till date. The programme shall not be applicable to those casual vacancies which are sub-judice in any court of law.

The date of determining the eligibility of a person for inclusion of the name in the electoral rolls shall be **01.01.2024** as required under Rule 14 (e) of the Rules ibid. The programme is as under:-

1	Draft publication of electoral rolls	11.01.2024
2	Filing of claims and objections before the Revising Authority	12.01.2024 to 17.01.2024
3	Disposal of claims and objections by the Revising Authority	By 20.01.2024
4	Filing of Appeals before the Appellate Authority	By 24.01.2024
5	Disposal of Appeals by the Appellate Authority	By 29.01.2024
6	Final publication of electoral rolls	31.01.2024

The last updated final electoral rolls alongwith Supplementary List-2022 and 2023, if any, shall be notified as draft electoral rolls under Rule 15 of Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj (Elections) Rules, 1994.

The District Election Officer (Panchayat) will appoint Revising Authorities as required under Rule 17 of Rules ibid and ensure that wide publicity of the said appointment and of the special revision programme is made.

After the disposal of claims, objections and appeals, if any, District Election Officer (P) shall prepare a supplementary list 2024 through ERMS Software and shall issue a notice of final publication of electoral rolls as per schedule fixed by the Commission. The finally published electoral rolls shall be uploaded on the official website of the State Election Commission.

As soon as the notice of final publication is issued by the District Election Officers (P) the intimation of the same be sent to the Commission immediately through E-mail followed by confirmation by post. Thereafter, adequate copies of the Supplementary List, 2024 shall be printed locally after completing all the codal formalities. These Supplementary Lists shall be added to the main electoral rolls. The last finally published electoral rolls alongwith Supplementary List, 2022 and 2023, if any, and Supplementary list-2024 shall be used in the ensuing by-elections to fill the casual vacancies.

The relevant provisions enshrined under Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj (Elections) Rules, 1994 shall be adhered to strictly for the preparation of electoral rolls through special revision. Needless to say that the aforesaid programme should be implemented in letter and spirit. If any violation of this programme is noticed, it will be in contravention of the mandate of the Constitution of India and relevant statutory provisions which may lead to serious consequences.

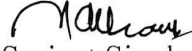
By Order
(Anil Khachi)
State Election Commissioner
Himachal Pradesh

No. SEC(F)1-28/2021- 33-43

Dated the

8 January, 2024

Copy to All the District Election Officers (P)-cum-Deputy Commissioners of HP (except Lahaul-Spiti) with the request to ensure that the aforesaid programme is implemented in letter and spirit.


(Surjeet Singh Rathore)
Secretary
State Election Commission
Himachal Pradesh.


No. SEC(F)1-28/2021- 44-455

Dated the

8 January, 2024

Copy to:-

1. The Secretary to H/E the Governor of Himachal Pradesh.
2. The Chief Secretary, Government of Himachal Pradesh.
3. The Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister Government of HP.
4. The Chief Electoral officer-cum-Pr. Secretary (Election) to the Govt. of H.P.
5. The Secretary (Panchayati Raj) Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
6. The Director Panchayati Raj Department Shimla-9.
7. The Director, Information and Public Relation Department Shimla for wide publicity.
8. The Deputy Director General NIC Shimla.2 for information and necessary action please.
9. The Director AIR/ Doordarshan, Shimla-4 for wide publicity.
10. All the Assistant District Election Officers-cum-District Panchayat Officers of HP (except Lahaul-Spiti).
11. All the Block Development Officers of HP.
12. E-Gazette/Website.
13. File No. SEC(F)1-35/2021.
14. Guard File.


(Surjeet Singh Rathore)
Secretary
State Election Commission
Himachal Pradesh.

Annexure-II

Election Matter
Urgent/Time Bound



राज्य निर्वाचनआयोगहिमाचलप्रदेश

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION HIMACHAL PRADESH

आर्मसडेल, शिमला-171002, Armsdale, Shimla-171002 Tel. 0177-2620152, 2620159, 2620154 Fax. 2620152

No.SEC (F)-1/2019 - ४२१५-८५०९

Dated the

२२th December, 2020

To

All the Distt. Election Officers (Panchayat)-cum-
Deputy Commissioners,
(except Lahaul&Spiti)
Himachal Pradesh.

**SUBJECT: CONDUCT OF ELECTION TO PANCHAYATI RAJ
INSTITUTIONS -- DIRECTIONS THEREOF.**

Sir,

I am directed to convey for your guidance and compliance the following directions for ensuring proper, timely and smooth conduct of general elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions of all Districts except Development Block Keylong of District Lahaul&Spiti to be held as per programme issued by the Commission.

1. **PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS:** The Commission has issued the Election Programme for the conduct of general elections-2020 vide Notification dated 21.12.2020. You have to make all preparatory arrangements within a short time. It is presumed that the list of staff to be deployed for this purpose has been prepared by now. If not, the same would need to be initiated immediately. You are advised to chalk-out a programme for imparting training to the Returning Officers/Assistant Returning Officers who shall be responsible for receipt of nominations, scrutiny of nomination papers, preparing list of contesting candidates, allotment of symbols and finally counting and declaration of results. The polling personnel may be given at least three rehearsals including the day fixed for collection of material for polling.

2. **ARRANGEMENT FOR BALLOT BOXES:-** It is presumed that by now you may have made the arrangements for collection of ballot boxes from State of Uttarakhand and

Rajasthan as intimated to you by the Commission vide its letter no. SEC(F)10-3/2020-5478 and 5493, dated 7th December, 2020.

There are two sizes of ballot boxes therefore, while distributing ballot boxes care should be taken that bigger boxes are provided to the Panchayats where numbers of electors are comparatively higher, smaller boxes can be used for Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad elections as two ballot papers pertaining to these offices will be inserted in one box and three ballot papers pertaining to Gram Panchayats will be inserted in one box therefore, bigger box should be used for the elections of Gram Panchayats.

3. **NOMINATION :** Nominations for the office of Ward Member, Up-Pradhan and Pradhan of Gram Panchayat shall be received at the Panchayat headquarters, for Members of Panchayat Samiti at the Tehsil/Block Headquarter and for Members of Zila Parishad at the Sub-Divisional/District Headquarters as the case may be. The choice of officers to be appointed as Returning Officers/Assistant Returning Officers for the conduct of elections is left to the best judgment of District Election Officers (Panchayat). However, Assistant Returning Officers may be of a reasonable rank such as Principal/Headmaster/Lecturer of Government Senior Secondary School/Govt. High School/Govt. Middle School and Assistant Engineer/Junior Engineer/Extension Officer, etc. Since, this task involves great responsibility and need to be handled with circumspection and knowledge, **an Official appointed on election duty should normally be deployed in a Panchayat other than the one which he belongs to or where he is currently stationed but should be within the same block.** The Returning Officers/Assistant Returning Officers would be responsible for counting of votes also; therefore, they should be required to fully acquaint themselves with the relevant provisions of the Acts and Rules of the subject. The appointment of Returning Officers/Assistant Returning Officers / Presiding Officers/Polling Officers may be confirmed to the Commission as soon as the same are made.

Presiding Officers and Polling Officers may be classified on the basis of scale of pay/grade pay, their post and rank. As far as possible, Gazetted Officers be deployed as Presiding Officers failing which officials who is working in supervisory capacity only may be deployed as Presiding Officers. The Presiding Officers should be of higher scale/grade in comparison to other Polling Officers of a polling party.

4. **DISCLOSURE OF SPECIFIED INFORMATION:** As you are aware that the Commission has framed Regulations namely "**The Himachal Pradesh Panchayats and Municipalities Elections (Disclosure of Specified information by the Candidate) Regulations, 2004**", according to which every candidate seeking election to the office of Member, Up-Pradhan and Pradhan of a Gram Panchayat shall submit the specified information in the **Annexure-I** as per rule 5 of the said regulation in the form of **an affidavit or a declaration**. Every person seeking election to Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad shall submit the same information, as per rule 4 read with sub-rule 2 of the regulation, in the form of **an affidavit** duly attested by Magistrate or Notary Public or Oath Commissioner. Forms in respect of Annexure-I, already stand supplied to you and is required to be issued alongwith the Nomination Form to the contesting candidates. Therefore, please ensure that the said **Annexure-I** is attached to each nomination paper so that every contesting candidate should get complete set of nomination papers.

5. **DEPOSIT OF AMOUNT RECEIVED ON ACCOUNT OF VARIOUS RECEIPTS DURING THE ELECTIONS:** While imparting the training to Returning Officers/Assistant Returning Officers, you are requested to bring it to their notice that while discharging their duty as Returning Officer/Assistant Returning Officer they will receive various amounts such as on account of sale of voter lists, amount of forfeited security and amount on account of challenging of identity of a voter etc. The amount so received shall be deposited in the following Receipt Head of Accounts:

Major Head:- 0070-Other Administrative Services-02-Election 101-Sale proceeds for election Forms and documents-02-Sale proceeds for election Forms and documents by State Election Commission.

As far as security money is concerned, the Assistant Returning Officer shall deposit the forfeited security money with the Returning Officer concerned immediately and it will be responsibility of Returning Officer only to deposit the forfeited security money in the Govt. Treasury immediately after receipt of such amount from Assistant Returning Officer in the following receipt Head:

Major Head: 0070-Other Administrative Services-02-Election 104-Fee fines forfeitures-02-Fee fine forfeiture by State Election Commission.

Any miscellaneous amount received during the election shall be deposited in the following receipt head:-

Major Head: 0070-Other Administrative Services-02-Election 800-other receipt-03
Misc. receipt by State Election Commission.

The Returning Officer will send all the Challans in original alongwith used and unused receipt books issued to him and a summary of amount received (receipt book wise) to the Districts Election Officer (Panchayat) and retain a copy of the same with him for his record. The proforma for sending summary is as under:

S. No.	Sr. No. of receipt book	Total receipts issued from a book	Amount	Total blank receipts in a book	Full blank receipt books in total (Unused books)	Detail, if any

Note: Even if no receipt is issued from a receipt book it has to be mentioned in the summary of receipt book.

6. **BALLOT PAPERS:** The State Election Commission has prescribed the design of the ballot papers under rule 52. Under Rule 42, there shall be no choice of symbol i.e. symbols shall be allotted according to the symbols approved and notified by the Commission to the contesting candidates against their names as they appear in the list of the contesting candidates in alphabetical order. The name of the contesting candidates shall be written in hand on the ballot papers with a ball point pen legibly so that there is no confusion among the electors. The order of the names on ballot papers shall be the same as they appear in the list of contesting candidates. This is a massive exercise and required to be done with utmost care. The Returning Officers / Astt. Returning Officers will select suitable officials to do the job at the block headquarter.

As you are aware that option of "NOTA" "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" will also be made available on the ballot paper. For this purpose the Commission has already supplied you

sufficient number of NOTA stamps and black ink stamp pads. Therefore, you would require one block extra on the ballot paper than the number of contesting candidates to apply "NOTA" stamp in black ink. While applying the stamp on ballot paper, care must be taken that it is applied within the border of last block of the ballot paper. For example, if there are five candidates for a particular office you will keep six blocks on ballot papers. The sixth block will be used for application of NOTA stamp and the remaining portion of ballot papers after the NOTA option shall be detached with the help of metal rule leaving behind the shaded portion at the bottom.

Please keep in mind that there are maximum ten symbols printed on the ballot papers. If there are ten contesting candidates for any office, you would require ballot paper with eleven blocks i.e. ten blocks for candidates and one for NOTA. Therefore, after the time of withdrawal of candidature is over, if there are ten or more than ten candidates for any office the Returning Officer will immediately inform the District Election Officer (Panchayat) name of the post alongwith number of electors so that adequate number of ballot papers could be supplied to you by the Commission. This information must reach the District Election Officer (Panchayat) at once through quickest mode who will inform the Commission at once.

The number of symbols printed on ballot paper for members of Gram Panchayats are six symbols and ten symbols. Therefore while issuing ballot for members of Gram Panchayat care should be taken that where there are five contesting candidates ballot papers with six symbols may be provided as sixth block will be used for "NOTA" "उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं" and where number of contesting candidates is six or more ballot paper printed with 10 symbols may be issued.

The gap between the date of withdrawal and the date of poll is ten days. Therefore, it has to be ensured that the writing of the names of the contesting candidates on the ballot papers is completed within a maximum of six days under the personal supervision of the **concerned Returning Officer/Assistant Returning Officer**. The Commission has now changed the colour scheme of ballot papers to be used in ensuing election. The following colour scheme of ballot paper has been prescribed for the entire State except District Kinnaur, Development Block Kaza of District LahaulSpiti and Pangi and Bharmour of District Chamba:

- | | | |
|----|-----------------|--------|
| 1. | Member G.P. | White |
| 2. | Up-Pradhan G.P. | Yellow |

- | | | |
|----|-------------|-------------|
| 3. | Pradhan | Light Green |
| 4. | Member P.S. | Pink |
| 5. | Member Z.P. | Light Blue |

The colour scheme for District Kinnaur, Development Block Kaza of District LahaulSpiti and Pangi and Bharmour of District Chamba will remain the same as was fixed during the general elections held in the year 2015 as these Districts / Development Block have been issued ballot papers of old stock printed in the year 2015. The colour scheme for these areas will be as under:

- | | | |
|----|--------------|-------------|
| 1. | Member G.P. | Light Blue |
| 2. | Up-Pradhan | White |
| 3. | Pradhan G.P. | Yellow |
| 4. | Member P.S. | Light Green |
| 5. | Member Z.P. | Pink |

Needless to add, any lapse in the preparation of ballot papers will nullify the entire election process. Therefore, you are advised to carry out the work of preparation of ballot papers with utmost care and sense of responsibility and ensure that the persons engaged for the purpose are discharging their duty with a sense of responsibility.

7. COUNTING ARRANGEMENTS: Although, the Panchayat elections are expected to be peaceful, still in order to maintain law and order and peace, adequate security arrangements shall have to be made. The pattern of deployment of Police force and Home Guards at each Polling Station and at the counting centers is left to the discretion of the District Election Officer (Panchayat) who will do the needful in consultation with the Superintendent of Police of the concerned districts. In case of sensitive polling stations, additional force may be deployed. Similarly, security arrangements in the Block Headquarters, where counting of votes for the members of the Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad shall have to be ensured in order to maintain law and order.

8. MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER: The Secretary (Home) and Director General of Police have been requested to make available adequate force according to realistic projection of requirements by the District Election Officers (Panchayat)-cum-Deputy Commissioners in consultation with the Superintendent of Police of the Districts. Assessment

of requirement of police force and Home Guards may be done by you in consultation with Superintendent of Police of your Districts. After identifying, Polling Stations are required to be classified as “sensitive” or “hyper-sensitive”. The number of security personnel to be deployed for maintaining law and order at the sensitive stations will be suitably increased. Utmost care should be taken before classifying a polling station as sensitive. This exercise may be undertaken in consultation with the Superintendent of Police of your District.

The list of polling stations be categorized “sensitive” or “hyper-sensitive” and the quantum of force to be deployed may be intimated to the Commission immediately.

9. **POLLING STATIONS:** Separate Polling station has to be established for each ward of a Gram Panchayat. Care should be taken to see that polling stations established for different wards should, as far as possible, be at equal distance for the electors of the area. Polling Stations for a group of wards should be established at the Panchayat headquarters, which will also facilitate counting of votes. The buildings in which polling stations are being located should be inspected by a gazetted officer (to be recommended by you) before taking a final decision. While fixing the polling stations instructions issued by the Commission vide its letter No. SEC-16-2/2011-4820-4831 dated 12th November, 2020 may be kept in view. The polling station may not be located in a police station, hospital or a place having sectarian or religious significance. As far as possible, the polling station shall be located in a Govt. /Semi-Govt. buildings and where no such building is available, the polling station may be located in a temporary structure of adequate strength. **The number of polling Stations set up in each block may be intimated to the Commission immediately.**

10. **MOVEMENT PROGRAMME:** Movement programme for the polling parties should be prepared separately well in advance so that there is no cause for any confusion in the minds of the officials deputed for the purpose. Arrangement of vehicles such as buses and jeeps, wherever needed, has also to be done in advance. The Govt. of H.P. vide its notification no. PCH-HA (4)15/2000 dated 8th September, 2000 has delegated the powers of requisitioning of vehicles conferred on the State Government under Section 160-A, 160-B, and 160-C of the H.P Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Act, 2000 (Act. No. 18 of 2000), to the Deputy Commissioner within their respective Districts. The District Election Officer (Panchayat) may hire private vehicles only in extreme urgency in case Govt. vehicle are not

available at that point of time. Needless to say that in the use of vehicles utmost economy may be ensured.

11. **RETURN OF NON-CONSUMABLE ITEMS:-** Out of the material to be supplied to the polling parties some items mentioned below are non-consumable. Therefore, these items should be received after completion of poll. The Returning Officer/Assistant Returning Officer will not relieve the polling parties until the following items are received back:

1. Ballot boxes
2. Self Inking pad
3. Presiding Officer Seal
4. Rubber Seal for marking Ballot paper
5. Distinguishing mark seal
6. Material for voting Compartment
7. Metal rule for detaching ballot paper and pusher
8. Needle (Sua)
9. Cup for setting indelible ink.
10. Gunny bags.
11. NOTA Seal

Besides these RO/ARO Hand Books and Returning Officer seals may also be received from the concerned Returning Officer/Assistant Returning Officer.

12. **COUNTING CENTRE :** The counting of votes for the office of Member, Up-Pradhan and Pradhan of a Gram Panchayat will be done at the Panchayat Headquarters on the day of the poll after the close of poll. Once the poll is closed, the ballot boxes from other polling stations shall be brought to the counting centre alongwith the used/sealed ballot boxes of the Panchayat Samiti and ZilaParishad. All efforts should be made to commence counting as soon as possible on the same day. The Police personnel and the Home Guards on duty at that polling station shall accompany the polled ballot boxes to the counting centre in order to ensure absolute security of the used ballot boxes. The polled ballot boxes pertaining to Panchayat Samiti and ZilaParishad shall be transported to Block Headquarter. The District Election Officer (Panchayat) shall ensure that the polled ballot boxes may be safely transported to the Block Headquarter immediately after close of poll. Foolproof security

arrangements for transporting these boxes to the Block Headquarter may be ensured. If there is any security threat to ballot boxes during transportation, the District Election Officers may take decision to avoid night journey. In such eventuality adequate security arrangement for the safety of ballot boxes at Panchayat Headquarter may be made and these may be transported to the Block Headquarter next morning.

Since the elections are to be held during the winter season when the days are short, **adequate lighting arrangements at the counting centers shall have to be made.** In case electricity is not available or electric supply is known to be erratic in any counting centre, petromax lamps/generators / emergency light have to be arranged. **Counting of votes in candle light is not permissible.** As alternative only petromax lamps/generator / emergency light may be made available in the Block Offices and same may be hired. Police personnel/Home Guards on duty at the different polling stations in the Panchayat are required to remain on duty at the Panchayat Headquarter during the period of counting as well as up to the time of declaration of the results for maintaining law and order. In case used ballot boxes for Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad have to be kept at the Panchayat Headquarters, the police and Home Guard personals shall also remain there for night duty.

Counting at the Block Headquarter in respect of Panchayat Samiti Members and Zila Parishad Members shall be undertaken as per programme issued in this behalf. If counting is likely to continue till late night, adequate lighting arrangements and sufficient police force for maintaining law and order shall have to be deployed.

13. MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT AND ITS OBSERVANCE: With a view to maintain a healthy and peaceful atmosphere during the election period, which would be conducive for ensuring a free and fair election, the Commission has formulated a Model Code of Conduct for the guidance of political parties, candidates and others. It should be impressed upon to all concerned that Model Code of Conduct should not be violated at any stage and you are also requested to ensure that in no circumstances Model Code of Conduct is violated. Since the elections are not being held in Keylong, Development Block of District Lahaul & Spiti, therefore, Model Code of Conduct shall not be applicable in the said Block.

14. PROHIBITION OF PUBLIC MEETING: Section 158-B of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act provides that **during the period of forty-eight hours ending with the**

hour fixed for the conclusion of poll no person shall convene, hold, attend, join or address any public meeting or procession in connection with an election or display to the public any election matter by means of cinematography, television or other similar apparatus. It further provides that no person propagate any election matter to the public by holding or arranging any musical concert or any theatrical performance or any other entertainment or amusement with a view to attracting the numbers of the public thereto in any polling area.

15. **CONTROL ROOM:** In order to monitor the movement of the polling parties, to ensure peaceful conduct of the poll and counting of votes, control rooms shall be set up at the District Headquarters/Sub Division/ Block Headquarters three days before the poll and till the completion of counting. The District Election Officer (Panchayat) shall post a responsible person as an office-in-charge in the Control Room. The control room should have a telephone with E-Mail facility so that urgent messages are communicated to and from the District Headquarters and the Commission Headquarter on the day of poll. The control room shall function round the clock until the counting is completed at all level. In the Commission's Office, control room shall be in Room No.103 in the Armsdale building of the HP Secretariat. The telephone numbers viz. 2880740, 2620152, 2620159, 2620154 and fax No. 2620152 shall also remain open in the Commission's Office. You will **intimate the names of the Officers manning the control rooms with telephone numbers to the Commission also.**

It would be desirable to have security arrangement at the Control room to meet any exigency that may arise owing to a law and order problem in the concerned district. The requirement of force at the control room shall be decided by the District Election Officer (Panchayat) in consultation with the Superintendent of Police of the District.

16. **DEPUTATION OF STAFF AND PUNISHMENT ON BREACH OF OFFICIAL DUTY:** Section 160-E of the Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 provides that the officer or staff employed in connection with the preparation, revision and correction of the electoral roll for, and the conduct of all elections shall be deemed to be on deputation with the State Election Commission for the period during which they are so employed and such officers and staff shall, during the period, be subject to control, and Superintendence and discipline of the State Election Commission.

17. **SECTOR OFFICERS:** The District Election Officer (Panchayat) may also examine the need for having sector officers, depending upon the geographical and general law and order conditions prevailing in the District. The Sector Officers can be provided with mobile wireless sets for transmitting urgent messages. Requirement of mobile wireless sets may be intimated to the D.I.G. (Wireless) who will be requested to provide the sets.
18. **OBSERVERS:** During the election process, Observers appointed by the State Election Commission will keep a constant watch on all issues and processes of election. The Observers will use their official vehicles in the concerned areas. The payments on account of fuels consumed will be borne by the State Election Commission. The Observers will submit the bills of fuel to the concerned District Panchayat Officers who will make the payments after following due procedure. The arrangements for stay will be made by the concerned DCs/SDMs/BDOs in the Govt. Circuit/Rest Houses. All support in terms of telephone, fax, computer, internet and Assistant for typing report will be provided by the concerned DCs/SDMs/BDOs as and when required.
19. **TRANSMITTING OF URGENT MESSAGES:** Urgent messages may be sent through wireless in case e-mail, telephone and fax facilities are not available. The D.I.G. (Wireless) will be requested to transmit all message concerning elections on priority basis. He will also be requested to accept messages on credit.
20. **BAN ON THE SALE OF LIQUOR:** Liquor Vends shall remain closed and there shall be no sale of liquor, one day before the day of poll, on the day of poll and on the day of counting in the Panchayat areas. The dates for closing of liquor vends shall be notified by the District Election Officers (Panchayat)-cum- Deputy Commissioner in their respectively district, according to the notification of election programme.
21. **HAND BOOKS:** The detailed guidelines for RO/ARO and Presiding Officers have been given in the Hand Books. These books have already been provided to you alongwith election material.
22. **LOGISTICS:** The Commission has already fixed norms with regard to expenses on account of contingency, rehearsals or working in the odd hours in the offices etc. vide its letter No. SEC-2-23/2005-4377 dated 31st October, 2015. However, you may also authorize

RO / ARO to increase the contingency amount for cooliage etc. in case the polling party has to cover a considerable distance on foot alongwith election material. As for as diet money to polling parties is concerned, it will be paid to the polling parties and security personnel deputed with the polling party. During counting light refreshment will be provided to the staff deputed for counting, if the counting lasts till four hours or less. In case counting continues for more than four hours the staff deployed for counting will be provided lunch / dinner @ Rs. 100/- per head.

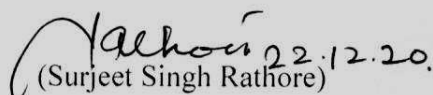
23. LUMP SUM PAYMENT:- The staff deployed on election duty may be informed that the Commission has decided to provide lumpsum payment in lieu of TA/DA on following rates:

Assistant Returning Officers	Presiding Officers	Polling Officers	Assistant Returning Officers (Reserve)	Presiding Officers (Reserve for all three phases)	Polling Officers (Reserve for all three phases)
3500/-	700/- per phase	650/- per phase	2500/-	1200/-	1000/-

You are, requested that the aforesaid directions / guidelines may be adhered to strictly in order to ensure free, fair and smooth conduct of elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions in the State.

The Commission wishes smooth success for your diligent and consistent hard work.


Yours faithfully,


(Surjeet Singh Rathore)
Secretary,
State Election Commission,
Himachal Pradesh.

Endst. No. SEC(F)-1/2019 -825-8401 Shimla-2 Dated, the 22th December, 2020

Copy forwarded for favour of information and necessary action to:

1. The Additional Chief Secretary (Home) to the Govt. of H.P.
2. The Additional Chief Secretary (Excise and Taxation) to the Govt. of H.P.
3. The Director General of Police, H.P. Shimla-2
4. The Secretary (Panchayati Raj) to the Govt. of HP.
5. The Secretary (GAD/SAD) to the Govt. of H.P.
6. The Special Secretary-cum-Director, Panchayati Raj Deptt. Shimla-9.
7. All the Superintendent of Police Himachal Pradesh.
8. All the Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) Himachal Pradesh.
9. The Additional Deputy Commissioner Kaza.
10. The Resident Commissioner Pangi District Chamba.
11. All the Assistant District Election Officer (P)-cum-District Panchayat Officer, Himachal Pradesh (Except Lahaul&Spiti District).
12. All the Block Development Officers, Himachal Pradesh.
13. Guard File.


(Surjeet Singh Rathore) 22.12.20
Secretary,
State Election Commission,
Himachal Pradesh.



राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग हिमाचल प्रदेश
STATE ELECTION COMMISSION HIMACHAL PRADESH

आर्मसडेल, शिमला-171002 Armsdale, Shimla-171002 Tel. 0177-2620152, 2620159, 2620154, Fax. 2620152

Email: secysec-hp@nic.in

No.SEC(F)1-35/2022-I - 582

Dated, the

29th January, 2024

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers vested in it under Article 243K of Constitution of India, Section 131 and 160 of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 and Rule 32 of Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj (Election) Rules, 1994, the State Election Commission Himachal Pradesh hereby notifies the election programme for the conduct of by-elections to fill up the up to date casual vacancies of Panchayati Raj Institutions of the State. This programme shall not be applicable to those casual vacancies which are sub-judice in any court of law. The Election Programme is as under:-

1	Date of Notification	29.01.2024
2	The nomination papers shall be presented	On 8 th , 9 th and 12 th February, 2024 (between 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 P.M.). Nomination papers shall be filed at the place and before the officers appointed by the Returning Officer
3	The nomination papers shall be scrutinised	On 13.02.2024 (from 10:00 a.m. onwards).
4	A candidate may withdraw his candidature	On 15.02.2024 (between 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) .
5	The list of contesting candidates shall be affixed	On 15.02.2024 immediately after the time of withdrawal is over. The list of contesting candidates will show the name of symbols allotted to them .
6	The list of polling stations shall be pasted	The list of polling stations shall be published and pasted on or before 08.02.2024
7	The Poll, if necessary shall be held	On 25.02.2024 (between 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.)
8	The counting, in the event of poll shall be done	Counting of votes for the posts of Members, Up-Pradhan and Pradhan of Gram Panchayat shall be undertaken on the date of poll immediately after the close of poll at Gram Panchayat Headquarters. Counting of votes for Members Panchayat Samiti shall be taken up on 26.02.2024 at respective Development Block Headquarters. Counting shall start at 9:00 a.m. and would continue (for a constituency) until it is completed.

9	The result of election shall be declared	The result of elections of Members, UP-Pradhan and Pradhan of Gram Panchayat shall be declared immediately after the counting is over. The result of elections to Panchayat Samiti Members shall be declared at the Block Headquarters immediately after the counting process is over.
---	--	--

The electoral rolls updated with 01.01.2024 as qualifying date through special revision shall be used for the conduct of these elections in respect of those Panchayats wherein special revision has taken place. But if any casual vacancies have been declared on or after 11.01.2024 in such cases the last finally published electoral rolls shall be used for the conduct of ensuing by-elections. Any eligible person can apply for inclusion of name under Rule 24(3) of the ibid Rules to the District Election Officers (Panchayats) after paying fee of rupees two in cash against receipt, or for correction under Rule 23 of the Rules ibid in the electoral roll not later than nine days before last date fixed for filing of nomination papers.

The process of elections shall be completed by 26.02.2024.

By Order


(Anil Kumar Khachi)
State Election Commissioner
Himachal Pradesh.

No.SEC(F)1-35/2022-I-583-594

Dated, the

29th January, 2024

Copy forwarded to All the District Election Officers (Panchayat)-cum-Deputy Commissioners/ (Except Lahaul-Spiti) Himachal Pradesh for information and necessary action. They shall issue Notice of Elections Programme in accordance with the provisions contained in Rule 33 of the Rules ibid. A copy of notice in Form-17 as required under Rules ibid may be sent to this office without fail for information. Further, the instructions/ guidelines/ handbooks issued by the Commission during the General Elections 2021 shall be adhered to strictly wherever applicable.



(Surjeet Singh Rathore)
Secretary
State Election Commission
Himachal Pradesh.

No.SEC(F)1-35/2022-I -595- 737

Dated, the

29th January, 2024

1. The Secretary to H/E the Governor of Himachal Pradesh.
2. The Principal Private Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister Government of Himachal Pradesh.
3. The Chief Secretary, Government of Himachal Pradesh.
4. The Secretary, Vidhan Sabha Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-4.
5. All the Special/ Sr. Private Secretaries to the Cabinet Ministers to the Govt. of H.P.
6. Chief Electoral Officer-cum-Secretary- (Election) Shimla-2
7. All the Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Principal Secretary (GAD) to the Govt. of H.P. with the request that the day of poll in Panchayat Concerned be declared a paid holiday. It should also be declared a Public Holiday under the Negotiable Instrument Act in order to enable the electors to exercise their right to franchise.
9. The Secretary (Panchayati Raj) to the Government of HP.
10. The Director General of Police, Himachal Pradesh.
11. The Director-cum- Special Secretary, (Panchayati Raj), Government of Himachal Pradesh.
12. All the Superintendent of Police, (Except Lahaul-Spiti) Himachal Pradesh.
13. The Director, Information and Public Relation Department Shimla and Director AIR/ Doordarshan, Shimla-4 with the request that wide publicity may please be ensured of the election programme as issued above.
14. SIO-cum- Deputy Director General NIC HP for information and necessary please.
15. All the Assistant District Election Officers-cum-District Panchayat Officers, (Except Lahaul-Spiti) Himachal Pradesh for information and necessary action. They are further directed that in those Panchayats wherein casual vacancy exists and special revision of electoral rolls has not been undertaken, wide publicity of provisions of Rules 23 and 24(3) of the Rules ibid shall be made in the concerned Panchayats so that maximum eligible persons get an opportunity to get their names registered in the electoral rolls.
16. All the Block Development Officers (Except Lahaul-Spiti) Himachal Pradesh for information and necessary action. They are further directed that in those Panchayats wherein wherein casual vacancy exists and special revision of electoral rolls has not been undertaken, wide publicity of provisions of Rules 23 and 24(3) of the Rules ibid shall be made in the concerned Panchayats so that maximum eligible persons get an opportunity to get their names registered in the electoral rolls.
17. E Gazette.
18. Guard File.
19. Website.


(Surjeet Singh Rathore)
Secretary
State Election Commission
Himachal Pradesh

Annexure-IV

TIME BOUND
ELECTION MATTER
URGENT



राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग हिमाचल प्रदेश
STATE ELECTION COMMISSION HIMACHAL PRADESH

आर्मसडेल, शिमला-171002 Armsdale, Shimla-171002 Tel. 0177-2620152, 2620159, 2620154, Fax. 2620152

secysec-hp@nic.in

No.SEC(F)1-35/2022-I -738

Dated, the

29th January, 2024

NOTIFICATION

Whereas the State Election Commission has issued election programme for the conduct of by-election to fill up casual vacancies in Panchayati Raj institutions in the State, vide Notification No.SEC (F)1-35/2022-I dated 29th January, 2024;

Therefore, the State Election Commission in exercise of the powers vested in it under Article 243K of the Constitution of India and Section 160 of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994, hereby directs that the Model Code of Conduct as notified by this Commission vide Notification No.SEC-16-29/2000-I-3768 dated 03rd November, 2020 shall come into force with immediate effect wherein, by elections are scheduled to be held i.e. w.e.f. 29 February, 2024, till the election process is completed, as under:-

Sr. No.	Name of the Office	Territorial Jurisdiction where the Model Code of Conduct is enforced
1	Ward Member Up-Pradhan & Pradhan of Gram Panchayat	Entire Gram Panchayat shall come under the Model Code of Conduct
2	Member Panchayat Samiti	Concerned Ward of Panchayat Samiti shall come under the Model Code of Conduct

By Order
(Anil Kumar Khachi)
State Election Commissioner
Himachal Pradesh.

No.SEC(F)1-35/2022-I -739-942

Dated, the

29th January, 2024

Copy is forwarded to:-

1. The Secretary to H.E. the Governor of H.P.
2. The Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, H.P.
3. The Secretary, Vidhan Sabha Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-4.
4. All the Special / Sr. Private Secretaries to the Ministers of the Govt. of H.P.
5. The Chief Secretary to the Govt. of H.P.
6. All Principal Secretaries/Secretaries to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
7. The Chief Electoral Officer-cum-Secretary (Election) HP.
8. The Director General of Police, Himachal Pradesh.
9. The Director Panchayati Raj Department HP.
10. All the Deputy Commissioners (Except Lahaul Spiti) Himachal Pradesh.
11. All the Superintendent of Police (Except Lahaul Spiti) Himachal Pradesh.
12. The Director, Information and Public Relation Department Shimla-2, for wide publicity.
13. The Director AIR / Doordarshan, Shimla-4, for wide publicity.
14. The Resident Commissioner Pangi District Chamba
15. All the Sub-Divisional Officers (C) (Except Lahaul Spiti) Himachal Pradesh.
16. All the District Panchayat Officers (Except Lahaul Spiti) HP.
17. All the Block Development Officers (Except Lahaul Spiti) HP.
18. E- Gazette.
19. Guard File.



(Surjeet Singh Rathore)

Secretary
State Election Commission
Himachal Pradesh

**राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग हिमाचल प्रदेश****STATE ELECTION COMMISSION HIMACHAL PRADESH**

आमजडेल शिमला-171002 Armsdale, Shimla-171002 Tel. 0177-2620152, 2620159, 2620154, Fax. 2620152

secysec-hp@nic.in

No.SEC(F)1-35/2022-I-1563

Dated

21st February, 2024**NOTIFICATION**

Whereas the State Election Commission has issued Election Programme to fill up casual vacancies of the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the State vide Notification No.SEC(F)1-35/2022-I-589 dated 29.01.2024;

And whereas the District Election Officer(P)-cum-Deputy Commissioner Solan vide letter No. PCH-SLN-By-Election/2023-317 dated 21.02.2024 has informed this Commission that one Sh. Amar Singh contesting candidate has died on 20.02.2024 and after the death of Sh. Amar Singh there remains only one contesting candidate for the post of Ward No.4 of Gram Panchayat Badhokhari, Development Block Nalagarh, District Solan;

Therefore, the State Election Commission, in exercise of the powers vested in it under Article 243K of the Constitution of India, Section 160 of HP Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 read with Rule 48 of the HP Panchayati Raj (Elections) Rules, 1994 hereby countermands the election for the post of Ward Member of Gram Panchayat Badhokhari, Development Block Nalagarh, District Solan. Fresh Election Programme for the said post will be issued in due course of time.

By Order


(Anil Kumar Khachi)
State Election Commissioner
Himachal Pradesh.

No.SEC(F)1-35/2022-I-1564-69 Dated

21st February, 2024

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Secretary (Panchayat Raj) to the Govt. of H.P.
2. The District Election Officer (P)-cum- Deputy Commissioner Solan HP
3. The Asstt. Distt. Election Officer -cum-Distt. Panchayat Officer Solan H.P.
4. The Block Development Officer Development Block Nalagarh of district Solan.
5. E- Gazette.
6. Guard File.


Secretary
State Election Commission
Himachal Pradesh.

