



REPORT  
ON  
BYE-ELECTIONS  
TO  
PANCHAYATI  
RAJ  
INSTITUTIONS  
AND  
URBAN LOCAL BODIES

(29<sup>th</sup> September, 2024)



## PREFACE

The State Election Commission has a constitutional mandate to conduct elections to various Local Bodies in Rural & Urban areas across the State. The last general elections to Urban and Local Bodies were conducted in early 2021, barring a few exceptions such as Municipal Corporations Shimla which was held in May, 2023. The Commission is also called upon to conduct bye-elections periodically against vacancies, which may arise due to resignation, disqualification or death of elected representative(s). The last bye-elections for 86 vacancies in Rural areas were notified on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 with 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 being the date fixed for polling. In the ordinary course, the Commission would have scheduled the next round of bye-elections for the vacancies notified subsequently, in June/July, 2024, but this period coincided with the general elections to the Parliament as well as bye-election to the State Assembly.

Hence, the bye-elections to Local Bodies were conducted in September, 2024 with 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 being the date fixed for voting. This report is an overview of entire elections process. The Commission wishes to place on record its appreciation to all the stakeholders for smooth and successful conduct of these elections.

Date: 09.10.2024  
Place: Shimla, HP

(Anil Khachi)  
State Election Commissioner, HP

## Contents

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page Number</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Pre-Election Preparations: Details of Vacancies.</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Preparation For Bye-Elections; Revision of Electoral Rolls</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Direction Regarding Conduct of Election</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Election Programme.</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Model Code of Conduct.</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Report on the Elections.</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6.1</b>	<b>Nominations.</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6.2</b>	<b>Unopposed Election.</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>6.3</b>	<b>Polling Stations.</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6.4</b>	<b>Voter Turnout.</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6.5</b>	<b>Educational Background of Elected Candidates.</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>6.6</b>	<b>Age Profile of Elected Candidates.</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>6.7</b>	<b>Results and Victory Margin.</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Remarkable Trends in Bye-Election to PRIs.</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Concluding Remarks.</b>	<b>14</b>

## List of Tables

<b>Table No.</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Page Number</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Details of Casual Vacancies.</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>II</b>	<b>Details of Final Vacancies for which Bye-Elections were Held</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>III</b>	<b>Number of Electors in Rural Local Bodies Where Bye-Election was proposed</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>IV</b>	<b>Number of Electors in Urban Local Bodies Where Bye-Election was proposed</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>V</b>	<b>Comprehensive detail of bye-election.</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>VI</b>	<b>District wise detail of Polling stations.</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>VII</b>	<b>District wise Voting Percentage.</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>VIII</b>	<b>ULB wise Voting Percentage of ULB's</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>IX</b>	<b>Educational Background of Elected Candidates.</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>X</b>	<b>Margin of Victory of Elected Candidates.</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>XI</b>	<b>Trends in By-Election</b>	<b>13</b>



## **1. PRE-ELECTION PREPARATIONS: DETAILS OF VACANCIES**

1.1 The Commission is called upon to conduct bye-elections to various posts periodically on account of resignation, disqualification or death of the incumbents. The vacancies are intimated by the district officials and the Departments of Panchayati Raj & Urban Development, so entire election process can be planned & run smoothly. The last such bye-elections to Local Bodies were conducted on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2024. No bye-election could be scheduled subsequently till the conclusion of the general elections to the Parliament and bye-elections to the State Assembly.

1.2 However as part of the pre-election preparatory exercise, the Commission sought details of vacancies in Rural & Urban Local Bodies vide its letter dated 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 (**Annexure-I**). The information received from the districts and the departments revealed that a total of 145 vacancies existed across the State. The information has been collated post wise, district wise in the table below.

**Table 1: Details of Vacancies**

	Panchay at Ward member	Panchay at Up- Pradhan	Panchay at Pradhan	Panchay at Samiti Member	Zila Parisha d Membe r	MC/M Corpn* Ward member	Total Vacan cies
<b>Bilaspur</b>	7	-	3	-	-	-	10
<b>Chamba</b>	5	3	-	-	-	-	8
<b>Hamirp ur</b>	11	2	1	-	1	1	16
<b>Kangra</b>	38	5	-	1	-	-	44
<b>Kinnaur</b>	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Kullu</b>	3	1	-	-	-	-	4
<b>Lahaul- Spiti</b>	5	1	-	-	1	-	7
<b>Mandi</b>	15	3	3	-	-	1	22
<b>Shimla</b>	13	1	-	-	-	-	14
<b>Sirmaur</b>	3	-	1	-	-	-	4
<b>Solan</b>	4	-	-	-	-	1	5
<b>Una</b>	8	1	1	-	-	-	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	112	18	9	1	2	3	145

MC/M.Corpn\*: Municipal Council/ Municipal Corporation

1.3 However the above number of casual vacancies intimated by the field agencies and the departments in the State across all Rural Local Bodies subsequently underwent a change as information was received about appeals filed against certain orders of disqualification by affected office bearers. These matters were yet to be finally disposed off by the concerned adjudicating authorities. Accordingly, the Commission directed that bye-elections would not be held for any office where the vacancy in the local body was not clear of any legal challenge. Hence the final details of casual vacancies after dropping all such cases were as under:-

**Table 2: Details of Final Vacancies for which Bye-Elections were Held**

Sl. No.	Office	Final number of vacancies
1	Panchayat Ward member	111
2	Panchayat Up-Pradhan	16
3	Panchayat Pradhan	8
4	Panchayat Samiti member	1
5	Zila Parishad Member	2
6	Municipal Council/ Municipal Corporation Ward member	3
	Total	141

1.4 The Commission also endeavoured to analyze the reasons for the vacancies. Based on the information provided by the field agencies, it was found that a majority of the vacancies i.e. 70 were due to resignation on account of the incumbent finding government employment while personal reasons in some cases also led to vacancies. Death of the sitting elected representative accounted for 56 vacancies while disqualification for different reason accounted for 13 vacancies. Two vacancies for the post of Member Zila Parishad were occurred due to sitting office bearers of Zila Parishad Hamirpur Ward No.1 - Baghera and Zila Parishad Lahaul-Spiti Ward No.6 - Sissu elected as Members of the State Legislative Assembly.

## **2 PREPARATION FOR BYE-ELECTIONS; REVISION OF ELECTORAL ROLLS**

2.1 Based on the information made available to it, the Commission ordered special revision of electoral rolls in these Panchayats/Urban Local Bodies, with 1st July, 2024 as the qualifying date, so that all persons who were eligible to be registered as voters and exercise their right to franchise, could apply for inclusion of their names in the electoral rolls. The final publication of electoral roll was fixed on or before 02<sup>nd</sup> August, 2024 (**Annexure-II**)

2.2 As a result of special revision of electoral rolls, the number of electors for the conduct of bye-election on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 was as under:-

**Table 3: Number of Electors in Rural Local Bodies Where Bye-Election was proposed**

Sr. No.	District	New Electors Added	Electors Deleted	Total Male Electors	Total Female Electors	Total No. of Electors
1.	Bilaspur	0	0	3515	3518	7033
2.	Chamba	311	79	2588	2577	5165
3.	Hamirpur	110	282	11594	12057	23651
4.	Kangra	0	14	8596	8831	17427
5.	Kinnaur	0	0	350	361	711
6.	Lahaul-Spiti	56	21	1711	1681	3392
7.	Kullu	11	13	1162	1187	2349
8.	Mandi	62	32	5281	5304	10585
9.	Shimla	0	0	1988	2018	4006
10.	Sirmaur	0	0	818	717	1535
11.	Solan	29	0	476	443	919
12.	Una	17	12	2514	2462	4976
	<b>Total</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>40593</b>	<b>41156</b>	<b>81749</b>

**Table 4: Number of Electors in Urban Local Bodies Where Bye-Election was proposed**

Sr. No.	District	Name of Municipality	New Electors Added	Electors Deleted	Total Male Electors	Total Female Electors	Total No. of Electors
1.	Hamirpur	M. Council Sujampur	2	0	314	323	637
2.	Mandi	M. Council Nerchowk	0	0	542	584	1126
3.	Solan	M. Corpn Solan	144	224	597	546	1143
	<b>Total</b>		<b>146</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>1453</b>	<b>1453</b>	<b>2906</b>

2.4 During the course of special revision of electoral rolls in Municipal Corporation, Solan, the Commission was apprised that many electors did not get the chance to enrol due to some confusion about the area where special revision was to be conducted. Hence, the Commission vide Notification dated 03<sup>rd</sup> August, 2024 (**Annexure-III**) ordered special revision once again in entire Municipal Corporation Solan area so that all eligible electors could enrol to exercise their right to franchise. As a result of this special revision 144 voters were added in the electoral rolls of MC Solan.

### **3. DIRECTION REGARDING CONDUCTION OF ELECTION**

3.1 The Commission directed all District Election Officers to strictly adhere to all the procedures with regard to preliminary arrangements, arrangement of ballot boxes and EVMs, nominations, disclosure of specified information, deposit of amount received from the candidates and others during the election process, printing and preparation of ballot papers, counting arrangements, maintenance of Law & Order, enforcement of Model Code of Conduct etc as directed in the Commission's letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2020 (**Annexure IV**).

### **4. ELECTION PROGRAMME**

4.1 The Commission issued a detailed programme of bye elections for Rural Local Bodies (**Annexure-V**) & for urban areas (**Annexure-VI**). As per the election programme nominations were scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2024; scrutiny of nominations was ordered to be carried out on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2024. The programme issued by the Commission mandated that the final list of contesting candidates be

affixed on the office notice board for general information of the public on 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 immediately after the time for withdrawal was over. List of polling stations shall be pasted by 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 and the polling, if required, would be conducted from 8 A.M. to 4.P.M. on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.

4.2 The programme also directed that counting of votes for the posts of Ward Members, Up-Pradhan and Pradhan Gram Panchayats would be undertaken on the date of the poll, immediately after the close of poll, at Gram Panchayats Headquarters on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2024. The counting of votes for member Panchayat Samiti & Zila Parishad was taken up on 30.09.2024 and the results of the elections declared on same day immediately after conclusion of the counting. The counting of votes for the urban local bodies was to be taken up on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024 immediately after the close of poll.

## **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 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2020 for the guidance and observance by all concerned vide Notification dated 31.08.2024 and 03.09.2024 (**Annexure-VII**) in all the concerned Gram Panchayats and Urban Local bodies respectively 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 2 posts of Zila Parishad Ward Member in Districts Hamirpur and Lahaul & Spiti, a total of 10 Nominations were filed, which were all found valid after scrutiny. Subsequently, after time of withdrawal was over, 10 candidates were left in fray.

6.1.2) For 1 posts of Panchayat Samiti Ward Member in Districts Kangra, a total of 3 Nominations were filed, which were all found valid after scrutiny. Subsequently, after time of withdrawal was over, only 2 candidates were left in fray.

**6.1.3)** For the 8 posts of Gram Panchayat Pradhan contested across the State, a total of 26 nominations were filed , which were all found valid after scrutiny. Subsequently, after time of withdrawal was over, all 26 candidates were left in fray.

**6.1.4)** 16 posts of Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan were to be contested across the State. 49 nominations were filed till the close of nominations, which were all found valid after scrutiny. After withdrawal, only 24 candidates were left in the fray.

**6.1.5)** For the 111 vacancies of Gram Panchayat Ward Member, a total of 150 nomination papers were filed till the close of nominations for these vacancies. Single nomination paper was filed in 83 wards, whereas no nomination papers were filed in respect of only one ward in Ward No 7 Sadehda-3, Gram Panchayat Sidhyani, Development Block Balh, District Mandi. Only one nomination paper was received in Ward No. 4 Dhiyal-II (Dal), Gram Panchayat Bhatalla, Development Block Dharamshala, District Kangra which was rejected in scrutiny. After withdrawal, 87 candidates were declared unopposed. Subsequently, 47 candidates remained in fray for 22 wards.

**6.1.6)** In addition to above, for the 1 post of Municipal Councillor in District Solan, a total of 2 Nominations were filed, which were all found valid after scrutiny and election was contested by these.

**6.1.7)** For 2 posts of Ward Members of Municipal Council Nerchowk and Sujanpur in Districts Mandi and Hamirpur respectively, a total of 7 Nominations were filed, which were all found valid after scrutiny. Subsequently, after time of withdrawal was over, only 5 candidates were left in fray.

## **6.2) Unopposed Election**

**6.2.1)** Out of 16 Vacancies of Panchayat Up-Pradhan, 9 were elected unopposed. In addition to this, out of 111 Panchayat Ward Members for which nominations were filed, 87 members were elected unopposed. Thus, approximately 78% of the total vacancies of Panchayat Ward Members were filled up with consensus and polling was not required. In three Districts viz Chamba, Shimla and Solan, all casual vacancies were filed unopposed.

**Table V: Comprehensive detail of bye-election.**

Sr. No.	Name of Post	No. of Vacancies	No. of Vacancies where no Nominations were filed or rejected	No. of Unopposed elections	No. of Contested vacancies
1.	Zila Parishad	2	0	0	2
2.	Panchayat Samiti Wards	1	0	0	1
3.	Gram Panchayat Pradhan	8	0	0	8
4.	Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan	16	0	9	7
5.	Panchayat Wards	111	2	87	22
6.	Municipal Councillor	1	0	0	1
7.	Ward Member Municipal Council	2	0	0	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>43</b>

**6.3) Polling Stations**

**6.3.1)** A total of 162 polling booths were set up for bye-elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions of Himachal Pradesh. The detail of district wise polling stations are mentioned in the table below:-

**Table VI: District wise detail of Polling stations**

Sr. No.	Name of District	Total No. of Polling Stations
1.	Bilaspur	22
2.	Hamirpur	61
3.	Kangra	14
4.	Kinnaur	2
5.	Lahaul-Spiti	20
6.	Kullu	7
7.	Mandi	31
8.	Sirmaur	1
9.	Una	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>162</b>

**6.4) Voter Turnout**

**6.4.1)** Out of the 49,463 voters registered for these bye-elections, 25265 came out to cast their vote, which resulted in a 51.08% voter turnout. Out of the total votes polled, 13080 were accounted for by female voters, contributing to 52.33% of the total votes polled. Highest polling took place in District Sirmaur with 80.07% voting, while the

lowest voter turnout was 44.63% in district Hamirpur. 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:

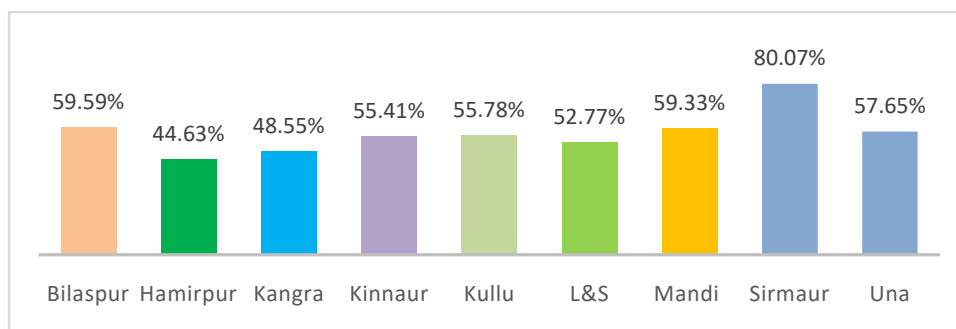
**Table VII: District wise Voting Percentage of PRI's**

Sr. No.	District	Total No. of Voters	At the end of Poll				
			Votes Polled			Vote%	Female Vote %
			Male	Female	Total		
1.	Bilaspur	6073	1721	1898	3619	59.59%	62.41
2.	Hamirpur	21630	4440	5214	9654	44.63%	47.22
3.	Kangra	6294	1458	1598	3056	48.55%	50.02
4.	Kinnaur	711	193	201	394	55.41%	55.68
5.	Kullu	1834	532	491	1023	55.78%	52.57
6.	Lahaul-Spiti	2363	673	574	1247	52.77%	48.81
7.	Mandi	7006	2080	2077	4157	59.33%	59.62
8.	Sirmaur	296	117	120	237	80.07%	81.63
9.	Una	3257	971	907	1878	57.65%	56.20
	<b>Total</b>	<b>49464</b>	<b>12185</b>	<b>13080</b>	<b>25265</b>	<b>51.08%</b>	<b>52.33</b>

**Table VIII: ULB wise Voting Percentage**

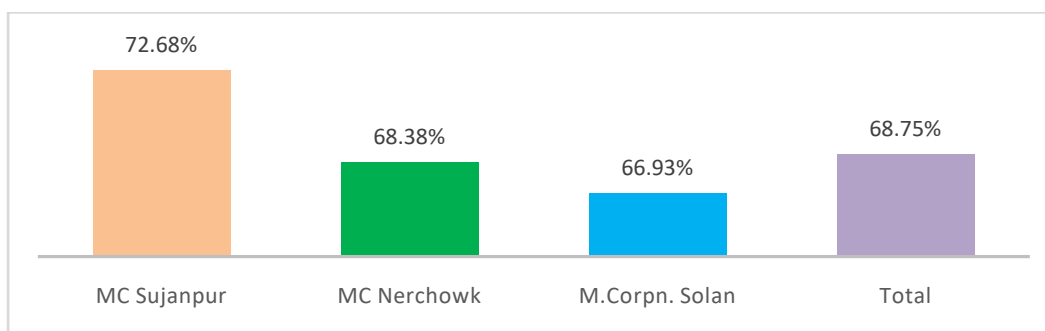
Sr. No.	Name of ULBs	Total No. of Voters	At the end of Poll			
			Votes Polled			Vote%
			Male	Female	Total	
1.	MC Sujampur	637	229	234	463	72.68%
2.	MC Nerchowk	1126	380	390	770	68.38%
3.	M.Corp. Solan	1143	411	354	765	66.93%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2906</b>	<b>1020</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>68.75%</b>

**Figure 1: District Wise Voting Percentage**





**Figure 1: ULBs Wise Voting Percentage**



**6.5) Educational Background of Elected Candidates:**

**6.5.1)** Out of the two elected Zila Parishad Members, one has completed matriculation and one has completed Graduation.

**6.5.2)** The elected Panchayat Samiti Member has completed education upto 12<sup>th</sup> Class.

**6.5.3)** Out of 8 elected Gram Panchayat Pradhans, three pradhans have not completed matriculation while two pradhans have completed matriculation. 1 pradhan has completed graduation while one pradhan has completed post-graduation. The remaining 1 pradhan is an Engineer by training.

**6.5.5)** Out of the 16 Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhans who were elected, four have not completed their matriculation, seven have completed matriculation, four have not completed senior secondary schooling and only one Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhans has completed their Graduation.

**6.5.6)** Out of 111 vacancies of Gram Panchayat Ward member, no nomination has received in one ward and only single nomination received in one ward and that too was rejected. Out of the total 109 elected candidates, 28 members have not completed their matriculation, 45 Gram Panchayat ward members are matriculates while another 27 have completed their senior secondary schooling, 7 have completed their graduation, 1 ward member is a Post Graduate and the remaining 1 is law graduate.

**6.5.7)** Out of the total 136 casual vacancies filled in PRIs, 25.7% of the elected members have not completed their matriculation, 40.4 % seats are filled by

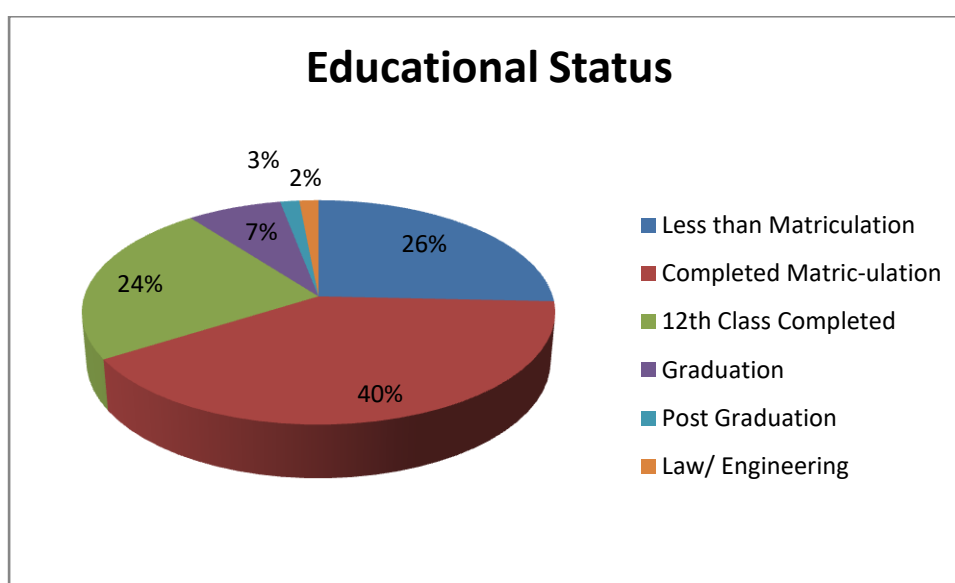
matriculates while 23.5% seats are filled by members who have completed their senior secondary schooling. Only 7.5 % are graduates and 1.5% are Post Graduates and Law/Engineering graduates respectively.

**6.5.8)** Out of 3 vacancies of Urban Local Bodies, 2 are graduates and the remaining elected member has completed Senior Secondary Schooling.

**Table IX: Educational Background of Elected Candidates of PRIs**

Sr. No.	Office	Less than Matriculation	Completed Matriculation	12 <sup>th</sup> Class Completed	Graduation	Post Graduation	Law/ Engineering
1.	Zila Parishad	0	1	0	1	0	0
2.	Panchayat Samiti Wards	0	0	1	0	0	0
3.	Gram Panchayat Pradhan	3	2	0	1	1	1
4.	Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan	4	7	4	1		0
5.	Panchayat Wards	28	45	27	7	1	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>25.7%</b>	<b>40.4 %</b>	<b>23.5%</b>	<b>7.5 %</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>

**Figure 2: Educational Background of Elected Candidates of PRIs.**



## 6.6) Age Profile of Elected Candidates:

**6.6.1)** Out of the two elected Zila Parishad Ward Members, age of one member is between 41-50 and one member is between 51-60 years.

**6.6.2)** The elected Panchayat Samiti Ward Member falls in the age group 41-50 years.

**6.6.3)** Out of 8 elected Gram Panchayat Pradhans, one pradhan is aged between 21-30 years, one pradhan is aged between 31-40 years, three pradhans are aged between 41-50 years. Remaining three Gram Panchayat pradhans are more than 60 years of age.

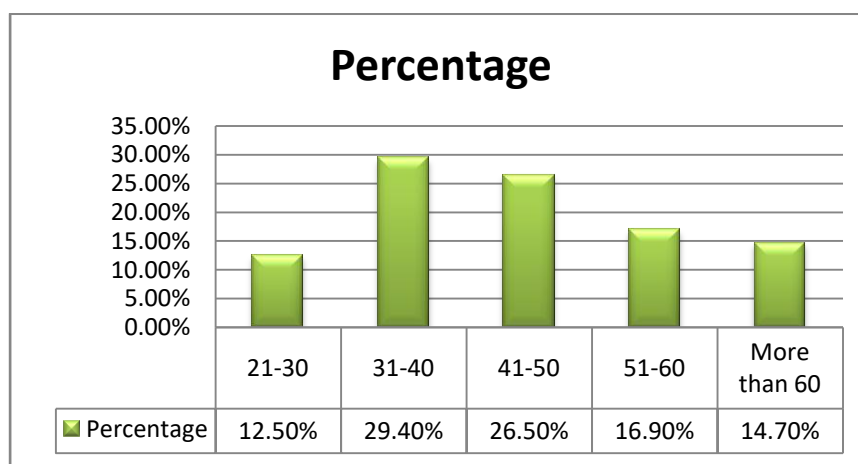
**6.6.4)** Out of the 16 Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhans, seven are aged between 31-40 years, three are aged between 41-50 years, four are aged between 51-60 years and two elected Up-Pradhan are above 60 years of age.

**6.6.5)** Out of the 109 elected Gram Panchayat ward members, 16 members are between 21-30 years of age, 32 members are aged between 31-40 years, 28 of them are in the age group 41-50 years, 18 fall in the age bracket of 51-60 years, while 15 ward members are more than 60 years old.

**6.6.6)** Overall, out of the 136 elected representatives from rural areas, a maximum of 29.4% of the representatives belong to the age group between 31-40 years while 26.5% fall in the 41-50 years age group. 16.9% are aged between 51-60 years, 14.7% are aged more than 60 years. Elected representatives belonging to the age group 21-30 years (12.5%) have the least representation.

**6.6.7)** All the 3 elected representatives of Urban Local Bodies, are between 41-50 years of age group.

**Figure 3: Age profile of Elected Candidates**



## **6.7) Results and Victory Margin**

**6.7.1)** Counting of votes with respect to Municipalities, Pradhans, Up-Pradhan and Ward Members was undertaken on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 on the day of poll itself and counting of votes with respect to Zila Parishad and Panchayat Samiti was undertaken on next day of poll i.e. 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.

**6.7.2)** One elected Councillor from Municipal Corporation Solan won by margin more than 100 and other 2 members of Municipal Council Sujanpur and Nerchowk won by a margin between 10-100 votes.

**6.7.3)** One of the elected Zila Parishad Member won by a margin of more than 100 votes while the second elected ZP member won by a margin between 10-100 votes. The Panchayat Samiti member also won by a margin between 10-100 votes. Among the 8 Gram Panchayat Pradhan vacancies where elections were held, one Pradhan won by draw of lots as there was a tie between two candidates in Gram Panchayat Panjghai Dev. Block Bilaspur Sadar District Bilaspur. Three Pradhans won by a margin of votes ranging between 10-100 and remaining four won by a margin of more than 100 votes. For the 16 vacancies of Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan, 9 were elected unopposed, whereas polling was held for 7 seats. One candidates won by margin of votes between 10-100 votes and six candidates won by a margin of more than 100. For 111 vacancies of Gram Panchayat Ward Member, 87 were elected unopposed, for 1 seat no nomination was filed and for one seat only single nomination was received and rejected. Thus, voting was conducted for 22 wards only, out of which 1 candidate won by less than 10 votes and 21 candidates won by margin of votes between 10-100. Margin of victory for different posts are given in the table below:-

**Table X: Margin of Victory of Elected Candidates**

Sr.No.	Office	Margin of Victory (Votes)		
		<10	10-100	>100
1.	Zila Parishad	0	1	1
2.	Panchayat Samiti Member	0	1	0
3.	Gram Panchayat Pradhan	1*	3	4
4.	Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan	0	1	6
5.	Panchayat Wards	1	21	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>11</b>

\* Declared elected by lot due to tie.

## **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 bye-elections in Municipalities, 1 female won from unreserved seat in Municipal Council Sujanpur. Similarly 17 females won from unreserved seats in rural areas. One female won from unreserved seat for the post of Pradhan, 3 females won from unreserved seats for the post of Up-Pradhan and 13 females were victorious from unreserved seats for the post of Ward member. In case of Scheduled Castes, 7 Males and 4 Females won from unreserved seats for the post of Ward Member. In case of OBC, 6 Males and 3 Females won from unreserved seats for the post of Ward Member. In election to Panchayat Samiti Ward member, one contesting candidates of OBC Community won in the seat of open category. The details are given below: -

**Table VIII: 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.	<b>Zila Parishad</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	<b>Panchayat Samiti Wards</b>	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
3.	<b>Gram Panchayat Pradhan</b>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4.	<b>Gram Panchayat Up-Pradhan</b>	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
5.	<b>Panchayat Wards</b>	13	7	4	11	6	3	9	33
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>38</b>

## **8) Concluding Remarks:**

**8.1)** The Commission was successful in conducting elections to Ward No. 9 Dadour, Municipal Council Nerchowk after repeated boycott by the electorate in the past. Credit is due to Deputy Commissioner Mandi and Sub-Divisional Officer (C) Balh for persuading the voters to actively engage in the election process and elect their own representative to the Municipal Council.

**8.2)** It is also heartening to note that gender and caste barriers are being gradually set aside and candidates from reserved categories are winning from open/unreserved seats.

**8.3)** The timely reporting of vacancies accurately, including cases under litigation continuous to be a challenge. Often vacancies are reported with considerable delay and not all facts are reported. Resultantly the Commission is put in an embarrassing situation of re-scheduling/cancelling elections at the last moment. The Department of Panchayati Raj and Urban Development Department need to sensitize their field officers to be more vigilant and report vacancies in time and with accurate facts, especially about litigation, if any.

**ANNEXURES**

**REPORT ON**

**BYE-ELECTIONS TO**

**PANCHAYATI**

**RAJ**

**INSTITUTIONS**

# Annexure-I

Election Matter

Urgent

Time Bound



## 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- 2377-2388

Dated, the

11<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

To

All the District Election Officers (P)-cum-  
Deputy Commissioners  
Himachal Pradesh.

Subject:- Casual Vacancies to Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Madam/Sir.

I am directed to inform you that the State Election Commission HP is contemplating to conduct by-elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions in the near future.

Therefore, you are requested to intimate the casual vacancies existing as on 31.05.2024 and supply a office wise list of such vacancies to the Commission by 15.06.2024 positively.

Secretary  
State Election Commission  
Himachal Pradesh.

No.SEC(F)1-35/2022- 2389-2402

Dated, the

11<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

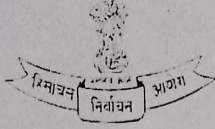
Copy to:-

1. The Secretary (Panchayati Raj) to the Govt. of HP for information please.
2. Director, Panchayati Raj Shimla-9 for information please.
3. All the Assistant District Election Officers-cum-District Panchayat Officers Himachal Pradesh with the directions that if there are any existing vacancies which have not been declared the same may be declared immediately.

Secretary  
State Election Commission  
Himachal Pradesh.



Top Priority  
Election Matter



## राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग हिमाचल प्रदेश

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION HIMACHAL PRADESH

आनर्जंडल िमला-171002, Armsdale, Shimla-171002 Tel. 0177-2620152, 2620159, 2620154, Fax. 2620152  
e-mail: secysec-hp@nic.in

No. SEC-(F)2-10/2022 -2403

Dated 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

To

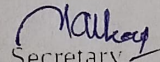
The Director  
Urban Development Department  
Shimla-2

Subject:- Casual vacancies to Urban Local Bodies.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the State Election Commission HP is contemplating to conduct by-elections to Urban Local Bodies in the near future

Therefore, you are requested to intimate the casual vacancies existing upto 31.05.2024 and supply a list of such vacancies to the Commission by 15.06.2024 positively.

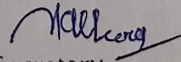
  
Secretary

State Election Commission  
Himachal Pradesh.

No. SEC-(F)2-10/2022 -2404

Dated 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

Copy to Pr. Secretary (UD) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh for information please.

  
Secretary

State Election Commission  
Himachal Pradesh

# Annexure-II

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)1-40/2023-2538

Dated the

11<sup>th</sup> July, 2024

### NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers vested in it under Article 243K & 243ZA of the Constitution of India, Section 160 of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994, Section 281 of the HP Municipal Act, 1994, Section 9 of the Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Act, 1994 read with Rule 22 of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj (Elections) Rules, 1994, Rule 26 of the HP Municipal Election Rules, 2015 and Rule 24 of Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 2012 respectively, 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 and Municipal Council Sujampur of district Hamirpur, Ner Chowk of District Mandi and Municipal Corporation Solan.

The special revision of electoral rolls shall also be undertaken in such local bodies wherein any office bearers have tendered resignation from the post but the same have not been accepted due to moratorium period prescribed under relevant rules. Similarly, in death cases updation of electoral rolls shall also be undertaken irrespective of the fact that vacancy is yet to be declared. 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 **01.07.2024** as required under Rule 14 (e) HP Panchayat Raj (Elections) Rules, 1994, 17(a) of the HP Municipal Election Rules, 2015 and 16(e) of the Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 2012. The programme is as under:-

1	Draft publication of electoral rolls	15.07.2024
2	Filing of claims and objections before the Revising Authority	16.07.2024 to 22.07.2024
3	Disposal of claims and objections by the	By 25.07.2024



	Revising Authority	
4	Filing of Appeals before the Appellate Authority	By 29.07.2024
5	Disposal of Appeals by the Appellate Authority	On or before 01.08.2024
6	Final publication of electoral rolls	On or before 02.08.2024

The last updated final electoral rolls alongwith Supplementary List-2022, 2023, 2024 if any, shall be notified as draft electoral rolls under Rule 15 of Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj (Elections) Rules, 1994, Rule 19 of the HP Municipal Election Rules, 2015 and Rule 17 of Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 2012.

The District Election Officer (Panchayat) and Electoral Registration Officer of concerned Municipality will appoint Revising Authorities as required under relevant provisions of the Rules 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) and Electoral Registration Officer shall prepare a supplementary list 2024-II 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) and concerned Electoral Registration Officers, 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-II 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, 2023 and 2024 if any, and Supplementary list-2024-II shall be used in the ensuing by-elections to fill the casual vacancies.

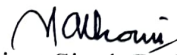
The relevant provisions enshrined under Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj (Elections) Rules, 1994, HP Municipal Election Rules, 2015 and Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 2012 shall be adhered to strictly for the preparation of electoral rolls through special revision. Needless to 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)1-40/2023-2559-2573 Dated the 11 July, 2024

Copy to the following with the request to ensure that the aforesaid programme is implemented in letter and spirit :-

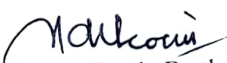
1. All the District Election Officers (P) of HP.
2. Electoral Registration Officers-cum- Sub Divisional Officers (Civil) Solan district Solan, Balh District Mandi and Sujanpur district Hamirpur.

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

No. SEC(F)1-40/2023-2574-2692 Dated the 11 July, 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. Pr. Secretary (UD) to the Government of HP
6. The Secretary (Panchayati Raj) Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
7. The Director Panchayati Raj Department Shimla-9.
8. The Director Urban Development Department HP.
9. All the District Election Officers (M)-cum-Deputy Commissioners with the request to ensure special revision of electoral rolls in those Municipalities wherein casual vacancies have occurred.
10. The Director, Information and Public Relation Department Shimla for wide publicity.
11. The Deputy Director General NIC Shimla.2 for information and necessary action please.
12. The Director AIR/ Doordarshan, Shimla-4 for wide publicity.
13. All the Assistant District Election Officers-cum-District Panchayat Officers of HP.
14. All the Block Development Officers of HP.
15. The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Solan.
16. The Executive Officer Municipal Council Sujanpur and Ner Chowk.
17. E-Gazette/Website.
18. File No. SEC(F)2-10/2022 and SEC (F)1-40/2023.
19. Guard File.

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

# Annexure-III

Election Matter  
Important  
Personal Attention



## राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग हिमाचल प्रदेश

### STATE ELECTION COMMISSION HIMACHAL PRADESH

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

e-mail: secysec-hp@nic.in

No. SEC(F)1-40/2023- 2873

Dated

the 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2024

### NOTIFICATION

Whereas the State Election Commission Himachal Pradesh issued programme for special revision of electoral rolls of Municipal Corporation Solan vide Notification No. SEC(F)1-40/2023-2558 dated 11.07.2024 and date for publication of electoral rolls was fixed as 15.07.2024;

And whereas Electoral Registration Officer-cum-SDO(C) issued the Notice for publication of Electoral Roll on 12.07.2024 i.e. prior to the date fixed by the Commission. Further the Notice was issued in respect of ward no. 5, 8 and 12 only whereas it was to be issued to the entire voters of Municipal Corporation Solan. Further, the Electoral Registration Officer-cum-SDO(C) again issued revised Notice for all the Wards of the Municipal Corporation on 19.07.2024;

And whereas the matter was examined in the Commission at length and the Commission is of the considered view that abovementioned act of the ERO may have deprived some eligible persons from filing applications between 16.07.2024 to 18.07.2024. Hence, in order to provide equal opportunity to eligible electors to enrol their names in the electoral rolls of the relevant wards of the Municipal Corporation Solan and in the interest of larger participation of the voters in democratic process, it will be appropriate to issue another programme for updation of electoral rolls of Municipal Corporation Solan;

Therefore, the State Election Commission in exercise of the powers vested in it under Article 243ZA of the Constitution of India, Section 9 of the HP Municipal Corporation Act, 1994 read with Rule 24 of HP Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 2012 hereby issues another programme for special revision of electoral rolls of Municipal Corporation Solan as under: -



1	Draft publication of electoral rolls	05.08.2024
2	Filing of claims and objections before the Revising Authority	Up to 12.08.2024
3	Disposal of claims and objections by the Revising Authority	By 17.08.2024
4	Filing of Appeals before the Appellate Authority	By 21.08.2024
5	Disposal of Appeals by the Appellate Authority	On or before 24.08.2024
6	Final publication of electoral rolls	On or before 27.08.2024

The date of determining the eligibility of a person for inclusion of the name in the electoral rolls shall be **01.07.2024** as required under Rule 16(e) of the Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 2012. The last updated final electoral rolls alongwith latest Supplementary List-2024, shall be notified as draft electoral rolls under Rule 17 of Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 2012. The Electoral Registration Officer will appoint Revising Authority for Municipal Corporation Solan as required under Rule 19 of the 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, Electoral Registration Officer shall prepare a supplementary list 2024-II 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 Electoral Registration Officer, 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 Lists 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 Lists 2024-I and Supplementary list-2024-II shall be used in the ensuing by-elections to fill the casual vacancies.

The relevant provisions enshrined under Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 2012 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)1-40/2023- 2874-75

Dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2024

Copy to:-


1. The Deputy Commissioner Solan Himachal Pradesh for information please.
2. Electoral Registration Officer-cum-Additional Deputy Commissioner Solan with the request that vide publicity of the revised programme be made in accordance with Rule 17 (2) of the Rules ibid in the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipal Corporation Solan. 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.

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

No. SEC(F)1-40/2023- 2876-87 Dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2024=

Copy to:-

1. The Secretary to H/E the Governor of Himachal Pradesh.
2. The Chief Secretary, Government of Himachal Pradesh.
3. The 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. Pr. Secretary (UD) to the Government of HP
6. The Director Urban Development Department HP.
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. The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Solan with the request to supply a copy of programme to all the elected and nominated councilors of the Corporation.
11. E-Gazette/Website.
12. Guard File.

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

## Annexure-IV

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)-1/2019-8215-8409

Dated the

22<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 along with 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 foreitures-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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 along with 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 -82/5-8401 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.



# Annexure-V

Election Matter  
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)1-35/2022-I -3072

Dated, the

31<sup>st</sup> August, 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. The 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	<b>31.08.2024</b>
2	The nomination papers shall be presented	On <b>11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2024</b> (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 <b>16.09.2024</b> (from 10:00 a.m. onwards).
4	A candidate may withdraw his candidature	On <b>18.09.2024</b> (between 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) .
5	The list of contesting candidates shall be affixed	On <b>18.09.2024</b> 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 <b>11.09.2024</b>
7	The Poll, if necessary shall be held	On <b>29.09.2024</b> (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 and Member Zila Parishad shall be taken up on <b>30.09.2024</b> 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 result of election to Zila Parishad shall be declared in accordance with the provisions contained in rule 75(vi) of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj (Election) Rules, 1994.
---	--	---

The electoral rolls updated with 01.07.2024 as qualifying date through special revision undertaken vide Notification No. SEC(F)1-40/2023-2558 dated 11.07.2024 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 11.07.2024 in such cases the last available finally published electoral rolls shall be used for the conduct of ensuing by-elections. However, 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 30.09.2024.**

**By Order**

(Anil Kumar Khachi)  
State Election Commissioner  
Himachal Pradesh

No.SEC(F)1-35/2022-I-3073-3185

**Dated, the**

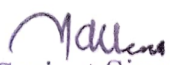
**31<sup>st</sup> August, 2024**

Copy forwarded to All the District Election Officers (Panchayat)-cum-Deputy Commissioners 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.



1. The Secretary to H/E the Governor of Himachal Pradesh.
2. The 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. The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of H.P.
7. The Chief Electoral Officer-cum-Secretary- (Election) Shimla-2.
8. All the Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
9. 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 the Panchayat concerned in order to enable the electors to exercise their right to franchise.
10. The Secretary (Panchayati Raj) to the Government of HP.
11. The Director General of Police, Himachal Pradesh.
12. The Director-cum- Special Secretary, (Panchayati Raj), Government of 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. All the Superintendents of Police, Himachal Pradesh.
15. SIO-cum- Deputy Director General NIC HP for information and necessary please.
16. All the Assistant District Election Officers-cum-District Panchayat Officers, Himachal Pradesh for information and necessary action. They are further directed that in those Panchayats wherein special revision of electoral 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 name registered in the electoral rolls.
17. All the Block Development Officers Himachal Pradesh for information and necessary action. They are further directed that in those Panchayats wherein special revision of electoral 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 name registered in the electoral rolls.
18. E Gazette.
19. Guard File.
20. Website SEC and Common Website .

  
(Surjeet Singh Rathore)  
Secretary  
State Election Commission  
Himachal Pradesh

# Annexure-VI

Top Priority  
Election Matter



राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग हिमाचल प्रदेश

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION HIMACHAL PRADESH

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

e-mail: secysec-hp@nic.in

No.SEC(F)2-10/2022-366

Dated

3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2024

## NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers vested in it under Article 243-ZA of the Constitution of India, Section 9 of Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Act, 1994, Section 281 of Himachal Pradesh Municipal Act, 1994, read with Rule 33 of Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 2012 and Rule 35 of the Himachal Pradesh Municipal Election Rules, 2015, to fill up the casual vacancies in Ward No. 5 of Municipal Corporation Solan, Ward No. 7 of Municipal Council Sujampur District Hamirpur and Ward No.9 of Municipal Council Nerchowk District Mandi, the State Election Commission Himachal Pradesh, hereby issues the following programme:-

1	Date of Notification	3 <sup>rd</sup> September, 2024
2	Nomination papers shall be presented:	On 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024 (between 11.00 am to 3.00 pm). Nomination papers shall be filed at designated places and before the Officers appointed by the Returning Officer for the purpose.
3	The nomination papers shall be scrutinized:	On 16 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024 (From 10.00 AM onwards)
4	A candidate may withdraw his candidature:	On 18 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024 (Between 10.00 am to 3.00 p.m.)
5	List of contesting candidates showing the names of symbols allotted to them shall be prepared and affixed:	On 18 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024 immediately after the time of withdrawal is over
6	List of Polling stations shall be pasted:	On or before 11 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024.
7	The Poll, if necessary, shall be held from <u>8:00 AM to 4:00 PM:</u>	On 29 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024



8	Counting of votes and declaration of result in the event of Poll, shall be done:	On 29 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024 immediately after close of poll at the Municipal Headquarters
9	The process of election shall be completed:	By 30 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024.

The electoral rolls updated with 01.07.2024 as qualifying date through special revision shall be used for the conduct of these elections. However, any eligible elector with 01.07.2024 as qualifying date can apply for inclusion of his/her name in the electoral rolls to concerned Electoral Registration Officer under relevant statutes of the Rules ibid. The applications in this regard shall be received not later than eight days before last date fixed for filing of nomination papers.


The elections to Municipal Corporation Solan shall be conducted on reserved symbols whereas the elections to Municipal Council Sujampur and Nerchowk shall be conducted on free symbols.

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

No.SEC(F)2-10/2022-3647-51 Dated  
Copy to:-

3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2024

1. The Returning Officer-cum-Deputy Commissioner Municipal Corporation Solan, with the request to issue Notice of Election Programme in accordance with the provisions contained in Rule 34 of the Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 2012 on the same date on which the State Election Commission has issued supra notification. Further, the instructions/ guidelines/ handbooks issued by the Commission during the General Elections 2021 shall be adhered to strictly wherever applicable. A copy of notice in Form-19 required under ibid Rules may be sent to this office for information.
2. The District Election Officers(Municipalities)-cum- Deputy Commissioners Hamirpur and Mandi with the request to ensure that the Election Programme issued by the Commission is adhered to strictly.
3. The Returning Officers-cum-Sub-Divisional Officers (C) Municipal Council Sujampur and Balh for information and necessary action. They will issue Notice of Election Programme in accordance with the provisions contained in Rule 36 of the Himachal Pradesh Municipal Election Rules, 2015 on the same date on which the State Election Commission has issued, supra notification. Further, the instructions/ guidelines/ handbooks issued by the Commission during the General Elections 2021 shall be adhered to strictly wherever applicable. A copy of notice in Form-19 required under ibid Rules may be sent to this office for information.


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

No.SEC(F)2-10/2022 -3652-3695 Dated

3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2024

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Secretary to H.E. the Governor of H.P.
2. The Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, H.P.
3. The Chief Secretary to the Govt. of H.P.
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. All the Principal Secretaries/Secretaries to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
7. The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of HP.
8. The Principal Secretary (GAD) to the Govt. of HP with the request that the day of poll within the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipal Corporation Solan, Municipal Council Sujanpur district Hamirpur and Municipal Council Nerchowk district Mandi may be declared a paid holiday under Negotiable Instrument Act in order to enable the electors to exercise their right of franchise.
9. The Principal Secretary (UD) to the Government of HP.
10. The Director General of Police, Himachal Pradesh.
11. The Director, Urban Development Deptt. Shimla-2.
12. The Superintendents of Police, District Solan, Hamirpur and Mandi H.P.
13. The Director, Information and Public Relation Deptt. Shimla and the Director AIR/ Doordarshan, Shimla-4 with the request that wide publicity may please be ensured to the election programme as issued above.
14. The SIO-cum-Deputy Director General NIC HP.
15. The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Solan HP.
16. The Executive Officers Municipal Council Sujanpur district Hamirpur and Municipal Council Nerchowk district Mandi
17. E- Gazette.
18. Guard File.
19. Website SEC and Common Website.

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

# Annexure-VII

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)2-10/2022-3696

Dated

3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2024

### NOTIFICATION

Whereas the State Election Commission has issued election programme vide Notification No.SEC(F)2-10/ 2022- dated 03.09.2024 to conduct by-elections to Ward No. 5 of Municipal Corporation Solan, Ward No. 7 of Municipal Council Sujampur District Hamirpur and Ward No.9 of Municipal Council Nerchowk District Mandi,;

Therefore, the State Election Commission in exercise of the powers vested in it under Article 243-ZA of the Constitution of India, Section 9 of the Himachal Pradesh Municipal Corporation Act, 1994 and Section 281 of the Himachal Pradesh Municipal 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 03<sup>rd</sup> November, 2020, shall come into force with immediate effect in territorial jurisdiction of Municipal Corporation Solan, Municipal Council Sujampur District Hamirpur and Municipal Council Nerchowk District Mandi, till the election process is over.

By Order  
(Anil Kumar Khachi)  
State Election Commission  
Himachal Pradesh

No.SEC(F)2-10/2022-3697-3742 Dated  
Copy is forwarded to:-

3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2024

1. The Secretary to H.E. the Governor of H.P.
2. The Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, H.P.
3. The Chief Secretary to the Govt. of H.P.
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. The Additional Chief Secretaries to the Government of HP.
7. All the Principal Secretaries/Secretaries to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Principal Secretary (UD) to the Government of HP.
9. The Director General of Police, Himachal Pradesh.
10. The Director, Urban Development Deptt. Shimla-2.
11. The Superintendents of Police, District Solan, Hamirpur and Mandi H.P.



12. The Director, Information and Public Relation Deptt. Shimla and the Director AIR/Doordarshan, Shimla-4 with the request that wide publicity may please be ensured to the election programme as issued above.
13. The SIO-cum-Deputy Director General NIC HP.
14. The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Solan HP.
15. The Executive Officers Municipal Council Sujampur district Hamirpur and Municipal Council Nerchowk district Mandi
16. E- Gazette.
17. Guard File.
18. Website SEC and Common Website.



(Surjeet Singh Rathore)  
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

secysec-hp@nic.in

No.SEC(F)1-35/2022-I-3326

Dated, the

31<sup>st</sup> August, 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 31<sup>st</sup> August, 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 03<sup>rd</sup> November, 2020 shall come into force with immediate effect wherein, by elections are scheduled to be held on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 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
3	Member Zila Parishad	Concerned Ward of Zila Parishad 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 - 3327-3530

Dated, the

31<sup>st</sup> August, 2024

Copy is forwarded to:-

1. The Secretary to H.E. the Governor of H.P.
2. The 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. The Additional Chief Secretary Govt. of H.P.
7. All Principal Secretaries/Secretaries to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Chief Electoral Officer-cum-Secretary (Election) HP.
9. The Director General of Police, Himachal Pradesh.
10. The Director Panchayati Raj Department HP.
11. All the Deputy Commissioners Himachal Pradesh.
12. All the Superintendent of Police Himachal Pradesh.
13. The Director, Information and Public Relation Department Shimla-2, for wide publicity.
14. The Director AIR / Doordarshan, Shimla-4, for wide publicity.
15. All the Sub-Divisional Officers (C) Himachal Pradesh.
16. All the District Panchayat Officers HP.
17. All the Block Development Officers HP.
18. E- Gazette.
19. Guard File
20. Website SEC and Common Website.

  
(Surjeet Singh Rathore)  
Secretary  
State Election Commission  
Himachal Pradesh