

# **ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA**

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi

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**No.ECI/PN/36/2005**

**Dated: September 3, 2005**

## **PRESS NOTE**

**Subject: Schedule for General Election to the Legislative Assembly of BIHAR.**

The last Legislative Assembly of Bihar was dissolved by the President of India in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (b) of clause 2 of Article 174 of the Constitution, read with clause (a) of the Proclamation Number G.S.R. 162 (E), dated the 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2005 issued under Article 356 of the Constitution on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2005.

2. By virtue of its powers, duties and functions under Article 324 read with Article 172(1) of the Constitution of India and Section 15 of Representation of the People Act, 1951 and following the principle laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Reference Case No.1 of 2002 (Reference by the President under Article 143 relating to General Elections to the Gujarat Legislative Assembly on its premature dissolution), the Commission is under mandate to hold elections to constitute the new Legislative Assembly in the State of Bihar within six months from the date of dissolution of the last Bihar Legislative Assembly, i.e., by the 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2005.

3. There are 243 Assembly Constituencies in Bihar, out of which 39 are reserved for the scheduled castes. The number of electors as per the roll with reference to 01.01.2005 as the qualifying date is about 5.27 crores. At the last General Elections to Bihar Legislative Assembly held earlier this year, 50,063 polling booths were set up.

## **ELECTORAL ROLL**

4. The electoral roll in the State of Bihar with reference to 01.01.2005 as qualifying date was finally published on 03.01.2005. In respect of this roll, the Commission has initiated an exercise to delete the names of dead and duplicate electors after due verification. The Commission has given strict instructions that no name would be deleted from the electoral roll without proper verification and death certificate in respect of dead electors and without proper enquiry and giving due notice in case of duplicate voters. All entries where fifteen or more names have been enlisted in the electoral roll against any house number, are also being checked in order to ensure that the names of eligible electors only find place in the electoral roll.

## **ELECTORS PHOTO IDENTITY CARDS (EPIC)**

5. Identification of voters at the Polling Booth at the time of poll will be mandatory. Since the middle of July, special campaign has been launched in the State to provide Electors Photo Identity Cards to all residual electors. When the campaign was launched the coverage of voters under EPIC was only 57%. As of date the percentage coverage of electors under EPIC programme has already reached 67%. Efforts are being made to maximize the coverage and the progress made in various districts is closely being monitored.

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

6. As in the last Assembly elections, EVMs will be used in the forthcoming elections also.

## **LAW & ORDER AND DEPLOYMENT OF FORCES**

7. The Commission had issued instructions to the State Government of Bihar as early as 18.06.2005 to expedite execution of all pending non-bailable warrants especially

against criminals and to launch special drives to unearth illegal arms, ammunitions and explosives. The State was also asked to prepare district-wise lists of habitual offenders and anti-social elements for taking proper preventive action at the time of elections. As per the report submitted by the State Government, 76,471 non-bailable warrants including permanent warrants against proclaimed offenders/absconders were pending execution in the State of Bihar as on 31.08.2005.

8. The Commission on 05.08.2005 had asked the State Government to furnish the details of all those persons against whom non-bailable warrants are pending for more than six months to the Chief Electoral Officer, Bihar by 19.8.2005. The State Government furnished the details of 52,686 such persons to the Chief Electoral Officer, Bihar. The Electoral Registration Officers have been asked to issue notices to all such persons as per law in order to verify whether they are “ordinarily residing” at their given address. In case they are found to be not residing at the address given, EROs will take necessary action for deletion of their names from the electoral rolls in accordance with the provisions of law.

9. Central Para-Military Forces (CPMFs) in sufficient numbers will be provided to the State for maintaining law and order and for the security of electors, candidates, polling personnel and EVMs. The forces will be deployed in various constituencies in consultation with the Observers.

10. The District Magistrates will make detailed review for assessment of all licensed arm holders, and if considered necessary shall get their arms deposited in the District Armoury for the period of elections.

### **RETURNING OFFICERS**

11. Unlike in the past when one officer acted as Returning Officer for more than one constituency, sometimes even for 3-4 constituencies, this time one officer will act as Returning Officer in respect of only one constituency. The officers who will act as

Returning Officer for each of the 243 constituencies have already been notified by the Commission.

## **OBSERVERS**

12. One General Observer in each assembly constituency and at least one Expenditure Observer in each district will be deployed to supervise the conduct of elections.

## **CONDUCT OF OFFICIALS**

13. The Commission expects all officials engaged in the conduct of elections to discharge their duties in an impartial manner without any fear. Several instructions have been issued from time to time to ensure impartiality of officials who are engaged in conduct of elections and their non-involvement in the electoral politics. In spite of such instructions, the Commission received several complaints during the previous elections regarding bias and partisan behaviour of certain officials. The Commission desires to make it clear, in no uncertain terms, that the conduct of all government officials who have been entrusted with election related responsibilities and duties would remain under its constant scrutiny and strict action shall be taken against those officials who are found wanting on any account.

14. The Commission has already given instructions that no election related official or police officer of the rank of Sub Inspector and above shall be allowed to continue in his home district. Instructions have already been issued that these officials will not be allowed to continue in the same district if they have completed three years in that district during last four years. The posts of Sergeant Major and Sergeant who are responsible for deployment of forces have also been covered for transfer under these instructions. The State Government has also been asked to transfer all those officers against whom the Commission has recommended disciplinary action or who have been charged for any lapse during previous elections or for any election related work from the posts entailing election work.

15. The State Government has been instructed to ensure that those who stand transferred should move out physically of their last place of posting and not remain there on any pretext including leave.

### **POLLING STATIONS**

16. The Commission has decided to open auxiliary polling stations in the same building for booths where number of electors exceeds 1400 and provide an additional polling personnel at polling stations where number of electors is between 1200 and 1400. As stated above, for the last Assembly elections, 50,063 Polling Booths were set up in the State. In addition to this number, it is estimated that about 7300 more auxiliary polling stations will be set up for the forthcoming election.

### **POLLING PARTIES AND RANDOMIZATION**

17. The polling parties shall be prepared through the process of randomization utilizing a common software programme. The Central Government employees will be deployed to the extent possible.

### **COMMUNICATION SYSTEM**

18. The District Election Officers in the State of Bihar have been asked to set up a comprehensive communication system to facilitate quick complaint redressal on the day of poll. They have also been asked to open Helplines / Control Rooms in each constituency for the convenience of electors.

### **VIDEOGRAPHY**

19. The Commission has issued detailed guidelines for Videography of critical events during the election process and polling at sensitive / hypersensitive polling booths on the

poll day. The District Election Officers have been asked to follow these instructions scrupulously.

### **PROTECTION TO SC/ST ELECTORS**

20. As per Section 3 (1) (vii) of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, whoever, not being a member of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe, forces or intimidates a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe not to vote or to vote to a particular candidate or to vote in a manner other than that provided by law; shall be punishable with imprisonment of a term which shall not be less than six months but which may extend to five years and with fine. The Commission has asked the State Government to bring these provisions to the notice of all concerned for prompt action.

### **CITIZENS, MEDIA AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS**

21. The Commission urges all electors, candidates, political parties, media and non-governmental organisations to perform an active and responsible role in the forthcoming elections.

### **MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT**

22. The Model Code of Conduct comes into effect immediately from now onwards. The Code will apply to the whole of the State of Bihar and will be applicable to all Political Parties, the State Government of Bihar and the Union Government, in so far as the State of Bihar is concerned.

### **SCHEDULE**

23. The election schedule and the phasing of the elections have been drawn up by the Commission taking into consideration all relevant aspects like the availability of Central

Para Military Forces (CPMFs), prevailing law and order situation including the problems posed by the Naxalists, existing communication systems and conditions of roads for movement of poll personnel, poll materials and the security forces. Besides, the number of festivals in months of October and November like Dussehra, Diwali, Eid, Shri Guru Nanak's Birthday and festival of Chhath considered very important in Bihar, and consequent holidays have also been taken in full consideration for purposes of drawing the schedule and phasing of the elections. In order to have optimum deployment of CPMFs to the maximum extent possible, the Commission has decided to recommend to the Governor of the State of Bihar to issue notification for the said General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Bihar, under the relevant provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as per the four phased schedule given in Annexure.

( A.K. MAJUMDAR )  
SECRETARY

**ANNEXURE**

Annexure to the Press Note of the Election Commission of India No.ECI/PN/36/2005  
dated September 3, 2005.

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Poll Event</b>	<b>Ist Phase</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Phase</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Phase</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Phase</b>
1.	Announcement	03/09/2005	03/09/2005	03/09/2005	03/09/2005
2.	Issue of Notification	23/09/2005	28/09/2005	19/10/2005	26/10/2005
3.	Last Date for making nominations	30/09/2005	05/10/2005	26/10/2005	02/11/2005
4.	Scrutiny of Nominations	01/10/2005	06/10/2005	27/10/2005	03/11/2005
5.	Last Date for Withdrawal of Candidature	03/10/2005	08/10/2005	29/10/2005	05/11/2005
6.	Date of Poll	18/10/2005	26/10/2005	13/11/2005	19/11/2005
7.	Counting of Votes	22/11/2005	22/11/2005	22/11/2005	22/11/2005
8.	Date before which Election Process shall be Completed	23/11/2005	23/11/2005	23/11/2005	23/11/2005

BIHAR

PHASE-I ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES GOING TO POLLS ON  
18.10.2005 TOTAL : 61 ACs

<i>AC NO</i>	<i>AC NAME</i>	<i>AC TYPE</i>	<i>DISTRICT NAME</i>
187	MASAURHI	GEN	PATNA
193	PHULWARI	SC	PATNA
194	BIKRAM	GEN	PATNA
195	PALIGANJ	GEN	PATNA
210	RAMAGARH	GEN	KAIMUR
211	MOHANIA	SC	KAIMUR
212	BHABHUA	GEN	KAIMUR
213	CHAINPUR	GEN	KAIMUR
207	KARAKAT	GEN	ROHTAS
208	BIKRAMGANJ	GEN	ROHTAS
209	DINARA	GEN	ROHTAS
214	SASARAM	GEN	ROHTAS
215	CHENARI	SC	ROHTAS
216	NOKHA	GEN	ROHTAS
217	DEHRI	GEN	ROHTAS
196	SANDESH	GEN	BHOJPUR
197	BARHARA	GEN	BHOJPUR
198	ARRAH	GEN	BHOJPUR
199	SHAHPUR	GEN	BHOJPUR
204	JAGDISHPUR	GEN	BHOJPUR
205	PIRO	GEN	BHOJPUR
206	SAHAR	SC	BHOJPUR
200	BRAHMPUR	GEN	BUXOR
201	BUXAR	GEN	BUXOR
202	RAJPUR	SC	BUXOR

203	DUMRAON	GEN	BUXOR
218	NABINAGAR	GEN	AURANGABAD
219	DEO	SC	AURANGABAD
220	AURANGABAD	GEN	AURANGABAD
221	RAFIGANJ	GEN	AURANGABAD
222	OBRA	GEN	AURANGABAD
223	GOH	GEN	AURANGABAD
229	BELAGANJ	GEN	GAYA
230	KONCH	GEN	GAYA
231	GAYA MUFASSIL	GEN	GAYA
232	GAYA TOWN	GEN	GAYA
233	IMAMGANJ	SC	GAYA
234	GURUA	GEN	GAYA
235	BODH GAYA	SC	GAYA
236	BARACHATTI	SC	GAYA
237	FATEHPUR	SC	GAYA
238	ATRI	GEN	GAYA
224	ARWAL	GEN	ARWAL
225	KURTHA	GEN	ARWAL
226	MAKHDUMPUR	GEN	JAHANABAD
227	JAHANABAD	GEN	JAHANABAD
228	GHOSI	GEN	JAHANABAD
239	NAWADA	GEN	NAWADA
240	RAJALI	SC	NAWADA
241	GOBINDPUR	GEN	NAWADA
242	WARSALIGANJ	GEN	NAWADA
243	HISUA	GEN	NAWADA
159	CHAKAI	GEN	JAMUI
160	JHAJHA	GEN	JAMUI
170	JAMUI	GEN	JAMUI
171	SIKANDRA	SC	JAMUI
154	AMARPUR	GEN	BANKA
155	DHURAIYA	SC	BANKA

156	BANKA	GEN	BANKA
157	BELHAR	GEN	BANKA
158	KATORIA	GEN	BANKA

**PHASE-II ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES GOING TO POLLS ON**  
**26.10.2005 TOTAL: 69 ACs**

147	PIRAPANTI	GEN	BHAGALPUR
148	COLGONG	GEN	BHAGALPUR
149	NATHNAGAR	GEN	BHAGALPUR
150	BHAGALPUR	GEN	BHAGALPUR
151	GOPALPUR	GEN	BHAGALPUR
152	BIHPUR	GEN	BHAGALPUR
153	SULTANGANJ	SC	BHAGALPUR
161	TARAPUR	GEN	MUNGER
162	KHARAGPUR	GEN	MUNGER
167	MONGHYR	GEN	MUNGER
168	JAMALPUR	GEN	MUNGER
169	SURAJGARHA	GEN	LAKHISARAI
172	LAKHISARAI	GEN	LAKHISARAI
173	SHEIKHPURA	GEN	SHEIKHPURA
174	BARBIGHA	SC	SHEIKHPURA
103	BALIA	GEN	BEGUSARAI
104	MATIHANI	GEN	BEGUSARAI
105	BEGUSARAI	GEN	BEGUSARAI
106	BARAUNI	GEN	BEGUSARAI
107	BACHWARA	GEN	BEGUSARAI
108	CHERIA BARIARPUR	GEN	BEGUSARAI
109	BAKHRI	SC	BEGUSARAI
163	PARBATTA	GEN	KHAGARIA
164	CHAUTHAM	GEN	KHAGARIA
165	KHAGARIA	GEN	KHAGARIA
166	ALAUJI	SC	KHAGARIA
140	KORHA	SC	KATI HAR

141	BARARI	GEN	KATIHAR
142	KATIHAR	GEN	KATIHAR
143	KADWA	GEN	KATIHAR
144	BARSOI	GEN	KATIHAR
145	PRANAPUR	GEN	KATIHAR
146	MANIHARI	GEN	KATIHAR
124	RUPAULI	GEN	PURNEA
125	DHAMDAHA	GEN	PURNEA
126	BANMANKHI	SC	PURNEA
136	AMOUR	GEN	PURNEA
137	BAISI	GEN	PURNEA
138	KASBA	GEN	PURNEA
139	PURNEA	GEN	PURNEA
45	HAJIPUR	GEN	VAISHALI
46	RAGHOPUR	GEN	VAISHALI
47	MAHNAR	GEN	VAISHALI
48	JANDAHA	GEN	VAISHALI
49	PATEPUR	SC	VAISHALI
50	MAHUA	SC	VAISHALI
51	LALGANJ	GEN	VAISHALI
52	VAISHALI	GEN	VAISHALI
53	PARU	GEN	MUZAFFARPUR
54	SAHEBGANJ	GEN	MUZAFFARPUR
55	BARURAJ	GEN	MUZAFFARPUR
56	KANTI	GEN	MUZAFFARPUR
57	KURHANI	GEN	MUZAFFARPUR
58	SAKRA	SC	MUZAFFARPUR
59	MUZAFFARPUR	GEN	MUZAFFARPUR
60	BOCHAHA	SC	MUZAFFARPUR
61	GAIGHATTI	GEN	MUZAFFARPUR
62	AURAI	GEN	MUZAFFARPUR
63	MINAPUR	GEN	MUZAFFARPUR
93	KALYANPUR	GEN	SAMASTIPUR
94	WARISNAGAR	SC	SAMASTIPUR
95	SAMASTIPUR	GEN	SAMASTIPUR
96	SARAIRANJAN	GEN	SAMASTIPUR

97	MOHIUDDIN NAGAR	GEN	SAMASTIPUR
98	DALSINGHSARAI	GEN	SAMASTIPUR
99	BIBHUTPUR	GEN	SAMASTIPUR
100	ROSEDA	GEN	SAMASTIPUR
101	SINGHIA	SC	SAMASTIPUR
102	HASANPUR	GEN	SAMASTIPUR

**PHASE-III ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES GOING TO POLLS ON**  
**13.11.2005 TOTAL : 72 ACs**

1	DHANAHA	GEN	WEST CHAMPARAN
2	BAGAHA	SC	WEST CHAMPARAN
3	RAMNAGAR	GEN	WEST CHAMPARAN
4	SHIKARPUR	SC	WEST CHAMPARAN
5	SIKTA	GEN	WEST CHAMPARAN
6	LAURIA	GEN	WEST CHAMPARAN
7	CHANPATIA	GEN	WEST CHAMPARAN
8	BETTIAH	GEN	WEST CHAMPARAN
9	NAUTAN	GEN	WEST CHAMPARAN
10	RAXAUL	GEN	EAST CHAMPARAN
11	SUGAULI	GEN	EAST CHAMPARAN
12	MOTIHARI	GEN	EAST CHAMPARAN
13	ADAPUR	GEN	EAST CHAMPARAN
14	DHAKA	GEN	EAST CHAMPARAN
15	GHORASAHAN	GEN	EAST CHAMPARAN
16	MADHUBAN	GEN	EAST CHAMPARAN
17	PIPRA	SC	EAST CHAMPARAN
18	KESARIYA	GEN	EAST CHAMPARAN
19	HARSIDHI	GEN	EAST CHAMPARAN
20	GOBINDGANJ	GEN	EAST CHAMPARAN
64	RUNI SAIDPUR	GEN	SITAMARHI
65	BELSAND	GEN	SITAMARHI
67	SITAMARHI	GEN	SITAMARHI
68	BATHNAHA	GEN	SITAMARHI
69	MAJORGANJ	SC	SITAMARHI
70	SONBARSA	GEN	SITAMARHI
71	SURSAND	GEN	SITAMARHI

72	PUPRI	GEN	SITAMARHI
66	SHEOHAR	GEN	SHEOHAR
84	MANIGACHHI	GEN	DARBHANGA
85	BAHERA	GEN	DARBHANGA
86	GHANSHYAMPUR	GEN	DARBHANGA
87	BAHERI	GEN	DARBHANGA
88	DARBHANGA (RURAL)	SC	DARBHANGA
89	DARBHANGA	GEN	DARBHANGA
90	KEOTI	GEN	DARBHANGA
91	JALE	GEN	DARBHANGA
92	HAYAGHAT	GEN	DARBHANGA
73	BENIPATTI	GEN	MADHUBANI
74	BISFI	GEN	MADHUBANI
75	HARLAKHI	GEN	MADHUBANI
76	KHAJALI	SC	MADHUBANI
77	BABUBARHI	GEN	MADHUBANI
78	MADHUBANI	GEN	MADHUBANI
79	PANDAU	GEN	MADHUBANI
80	JHANJIHARPUR	GEN	MADHUBANI
81	PHULPARAS	GEN	MADHUBANI
82	LAUKAHA	GEN	MADHUBANI
83	MADHEPUR	GEN	MADHUBANI
110	RAGHOPUR	GEN	SUPAUL
111	KISHUNPUR	GEN	SUPAUL
112	SUPAUL	GEN	SUPAUL
113	TRIBENIGANJ	GEN	SUPAUL
114	CHHATAPUR	SC	SUPAUL
117	SAHARSA	GEN	SAHARSA
118	MAHISHI	GEN	SAHARSA
119	SIMRI - BAKHTIARPUR	GEN	SAHARSA
121	SONBARSA	GEN	SAHARSA
115	KUMARKHAND	SC	MADHEPURA
116	SINGHESHWAR	GEN	MADHEPURA
120	MADHEPURA	GEN	MADHEPURA

122	KISHANGAN	GEN	MADHEPURA
123	ALAMNAGAR	GEN	MADHEPURA
127	RANIGANJ	SC	ARARIA
128	NARPATGANJ	GEN	ARARIA
129	FORBESGANJ	GEN	ARARIA
130	ARARIA	GEN	ARARIA
131	SIKTI	GEN	ARARIA
132	JOKIHAT	GEN	ARARIA
133	BAHADURGANJ	GEN	KISHANGANJ
134	THAKURGANJ	GEN	KISHANGANJ
135	KISHANGANJ	GEN	KISHANGANJ

**PHASE-IV ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES GOING TO POLLS ON**  
**19.11.2005 TOTAL : 41 ACs**

183	MOKAMEH	GEN	PATNA
184	BARH	GEN	PATNA
185	BAKHTIARPUR	GEN	PATNA
186	FATWHA	SC	PATNA
188	PATNA WEST	GEN	PATNA
189	PATNA CENTRAL	GEN	PATNA
190	PATNA EAST	GEN	PATNA
191	DANAPUR	GEN	PATNA
192	MANER	GEN	PATNA
175	ASTHAWAN	GEN	NALANDA
176	BIHAR	GEN	NALANDA
177	RAJGIR	SC	NALANDA
178	NALANDA	GEN	NALANDA
179	ISLAMPUR	GEN	NALANDA
180	HILSA	GEN	NALANDA
181	CHANDI	GEN	NALANDA
182	HARNAUT	GEN	NALANDA
35	MANJHI	GEN	SARAN
36	BANIAPUR	GEN	SARAN

37	MASRAKH	GEN	SARAN
38	TARAIYA	GEN	SARAN
39	MARHAURA	GEN	SARAN
40	JALALPUR	GEN	SARAN
41	CHAPRA	GEN	SARAN
42	GARKHA	SC	SARAN
43	PARSA	GEN	SARAN
44	SONEPUR	GEN	SARAN
27	BASANTPUR	GEN	SIWAN
28	GOREAKOTHI	GEN	SIWAN
29	SIWAN	GEN	SIWAN
30	MAIRWA	SC	SIWAN
31	DARAULI	GEN	SIWAN
32	ZIRADEI	GEN	SIWAN
33	MAHARAJGANJ	GEN	SIWAN
34	RAGHUNATHPUR	GEN	SIWAN
21	KATEYA	GEN	GOPALGANJ
22	BHORE	SC	GOPALGANJ
23	MIRGANJ	GEN	GOPALGANJ
24	GOPALGANJ	GEN	GOPALGANJ
25	BARAULI	GEN	GOPALGANJ
26	BAIKUNTHPUR	GEN	GOPALGANJ