



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग  
Election Commission of India

निर्वाचन सदन  
NIRVACHAN SADAN  
अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली- 110001  
ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. ECI/PN/21/2026

Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

PRESS NOTE

**Subject: Biennial Elections to the Council of States to fill the seats of members retiring in April, 2026.**

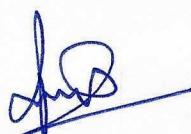
The term of office of 37 members of the Council of States elected from 10 States is due to expire in April 2026, as detailed in Annexure 'A'.

2. Now, the Commission has decided to conduct biennial elections to the Council of States for those 37 seats as per the following programme:

Sl. No.	Events	Dates
1.	Issue of Notifications	26 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026 (Thursday)
2.	Last date of making nominations	05 <sup>th</sup> March, 2026 (Thursday)
3.	Scrutiny of nominations	06 <sup>th</sup> March, 2026 (Friday)
4.	Last date for withdrawal of candidatures	09 <sup>th</sup> March, 2026 (Monday)
5.	Date of Poll	<b>16<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 (Monday)</b>
6.	Hours of Poll	09:00 am- 04:00 pm
7.	Counting of Votes	16 <sup>th</sup> March, 2026 (Monday) at 05:00 pm
8.	Date before which election shall be completed	20 <sup>th</sup> March, 2026 (Friday)

3. The Commission has directed that only integrated violet colour sketch pen(s) of pre-fixed specification, provided by the Returning Officer, shall be used for the purpose of marking preference(s) on the ballot paper. No other pen shall be used for marking preferences in the above said elections.

4. Adequate measures for close monitoring of the election process by appointing observers shall be taken to ensure free and fair election.

  
**(RAJESH KUMAR SINGH)**  
**UNDER SECRETARY**

**ANNEXURE- 'A'**

<b>Sl No. 1</b>	<b>State 2</b>	<b>Name of Member (Sh./Smt./Ms.) 3</b>	<b>Date of Retirement 4</b>
1.	<b>Maharashtra</b>	Karad, Dr. Bhagwat Kishanrao	02.04.2026
2.		Khan, Dr. (Smt.) Fauzia Tahseen Ahmed	
3.		Chaturvedi, Priyanka Vickram	
4.		Pawar, Sharadchandra Govindrao	
5.		Patil, Dhairyashil Mohan	
6.		Patil, Rajani Ashokrao	
7.		Athawale, Ramdas Bandu	
8.	<b>Odisha</b>	Mamata Mohanta	02.04.2026
9.		Muzibulla Khan	
10.		Sujeet Kumar	
11.		Niranjan Bishi	
12.	<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	N.R. Elango	02.04.2026
13.		P. Selvarasu	
14.		M. Thambidurai	
15.		Tiruchi Siva	
16.		Dr. Kanimozhi NVN. Somu	
17.		G.K. Vasan	
18.	<b>West Bengal</b>	Saket Gokhale	02.04.2026
19.		Ritabrata Banerjee	
20.		Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya	
21.		Mausam Noor ( <i>vacant w.e.f. 05.01.2026</i> )	
22.		Subrata Bakshi	
23.	<b>Assam</b>	Rameswar Teli	09.04.2026
24.		Bhubaneswar Kalita	
25.		Ajit Kumar Bhuyan	
26.	<b>Bihar</b>	Amarendra Dhari Singh	09.04.2026
27.		Prem Chand Gupta	
28.		Ramnath Thakur	
29.		Upendra Kushwaha	
30.		Haribansh Narayan Singh	
31.	<b>Chhattisgarh</b>	Kavi Tejpal Singh Tulsi	09.04.2026
32.		Phulo devi Netam	
33.	<b>Haryana</b>	Kiran Choudhry	09.04.2026
34.		Ram Chander Jangra	
35.	<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>	Indu Bala Goswami	09.04.2026
36.	<b>Telangana</b>	Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi	09.04.2026
37.		K.R. Suresh Reddy	