

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: 18th February, 2026

PRESS NOTE

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

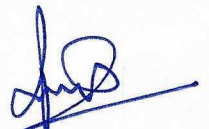
The term of office of 37 members of the Council of States elected from 10 States is due to expire in April 2026, as detailed in Annexure 'A'.

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 th February, 2026 (Thursday)
2.	Last date of making nominations	05 th March, 2026 (Thursday)
3.	Scrutiny of nominations	06 th March, 2026 (Friday)
4.	Last date for withdrawal of candidatures	09 th March, 2026 (Monday)
5.	Date of Poll	16th March, 2026 (Monday)
6.	Hours of Poll	09:00 am- 04:00 pm
7.	Counting of Votes	16 th March, 2026 (Monday) at 05:00 pm
8.	Date before which election shall be completed	20 th 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'

Sl No. 1	State 2	Name of Member (Sh./Smt./Ms.) 3	Date of Retirement 4
1.	Maharashtra	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.	Odisha	Mamata Mohanta	02.04.2026
9.		Muzibulla Khan	
10.		Sujeet Kumar	
11.		Niranjan Bishi	
12.	Tamil Nadu	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.	West Bengal	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.	Assam	Rameswar Teli	09.04.2026
24.		Bhubaneswar Kalita	
25.		Ajit Kumar Bhuyan	
26.	Bihar	Amarendra Dhari Singh	09.04.2026
27.		Prem Chand Gupta	
28.		Ramnath Thakur	
29.		Upendra Kushwaha	
30.		Haribansh Narayan Singh	
31.	Chhattisgarh	Kavi Tejpal Singh Tulsi	09.04.2026
32.		Phulo devi Netam	
33.	Haryana	Kiran Choudhry	09.04.2026
34.		Ram Chander Jangra	
35.	Himachal Pradesh	Indu Bala Goswami	09.04.2026
36.	Telangana	Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi	09.04.2026
37.		K.R. Suresh Reddy	