

ARUNACHAL PRADESH
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER : ITANAGAR

PRESS NOTE

Election Commission of India has announced the schedule for holding general elections to both the Lok Sabha Constituencies, i.e., 1-Arunachal (West) Parliamentary Constituency and 2-Arunachal (East) Parliamentary Constituency to constitute 16th Lok Sabha today. The schedule of election is as follows::

<u>Sl.No.</u>	<u>Poll event</u>	<u>General Elections-2014</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>Announcement & Issue of Press Note</u>	<u>05/03/2014 (Wednesday)</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>Issue of Notification</u>	<u>15/03/2014(Saturday)</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>Last date for filing Nominations</u>	<u>22/03/2014(Saturday)</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>Scrutiny of Nominations</u>	<u>24/03/2014(Monday)</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>Last date for withdrawal of candidature</u>	<u>26/03/2014(Wednesday)</u>
<u>6.</u>	<u>Date of Poll</u>	<u>09/04/2014(Wednesday)</u>
<u>7.</u>	<u>Counting of votes on</u>	<u>16/05/2014(Friday)</u>
<u>8.</u>	<u>Date before which the election shall be completed.</u>	<u>28/05/2014 (Wednesday)</u>

Consequent upon the announcement of election schedule, **Model Code of Conduct comes into operation in the entire State which will be applicable to all candidates, political parties and the State Government.** The instructions of the Election Commission on Model Code of Conduct, Do's and Don't's are circulated to all concerned for information and strict compliance. Adequate teams have been formed to monitor the Model Code of Conduct in the State. All media houses have been requested to publish Do's and Don'ts and MCC instructions for awareness of the people and its strict implementation.

The Electoral Rolls of Arunachal Pradesh have been updated, w.r.t. 1-1-2014 as qualifying date, and published on 27-01-2014 (and 07-02-2014 in Kurung Kumey) in the entire State. The total electorate in the State, after the summary revision, is 7,53,170 (Male -3,75,898, Female – 3,77,272). The polling will happen in all 2158 polling stations in the State. Out of these, eight polling stations are having less than 10 electors; 20 polling stations are having less than 20 electors; 105 polling stations are having less than 50 electors; 311 nos. of polling stations are having less than 100 electors; and 775 nos. of polling stations are having electors less than 200. The polling station C-Sector, Itanagar is having highest number of electors at 1650, whereas, Malogaon of Hayuliang is having only two electors. Few polling stations are located on high altitude areas: Thingbu (12,148 ft.), Mago (12,248 ft.) and Luguthang (13,157 ft.) under 3-Mukto A/C in Tawang District.

More than 15,000 government employees are being deployed to conduct the elections. Thirteen senior officers have been appointed as State Nodal Officers to supervise various activities of election related works. At the level of district, Nodal Officers have been appointed for smooth function of the election works. A massive training programme is already underway at each level. Hands on training are being conducted in the districts, in small batches, under the watchful eyes of observers.

Adequate arrangements have been made to ensure peaceful election process. Central Para Military Forces will be deployed throughout the State for creating conducive environment. This will be in addition to the state security forces. Each and every police station will be guarded. To ensure free and fair elections, all those officers, who are engaged in election related works, who were either in the home district or had a tenure of three years in the particular district have been transferred. Most of these officers have already joined to their new places of posting. Remaining officers must report to the respective places by 6/3/2014 failing which immediate action will be taken against the concerned. **All such officers are deemed to be on deputation with the Election Commission Of India now onwards.**

Election Commission has declared Arunachal Pradesh as one of the most expenditure sensitive state. High power committee has been constituted for Election Expenditure Monitoring (EEM) in entire State. Control room has been set up at State and District HQs. As per ECI directions, EEM teams

like Video Surveillance Teams, Video Viewing Teams, MCMC, Flying Squads and Static Surveillance Teams have been constituted to check any type of malpractices during election. Banks have been asked to furnish daily reports on any abnormal withdrawal or deposit in the State. Flying Squads and Static Surveillance Teams in each Assembly Constituency will check all the vehicles to ensure that no unaccounted cash of more than Rs fifty thousand is carried by individual/political parties for the election related activities. Each search activity will be videographed. The checking will be also carried out at all the helipads, check gates, and the airports at Guwahati, Dibrugarh by the airport surveillance teams. From today onwards, these teams will start functioning in each of the Assembly Constituencies.

As 'ethical voting' is the objective this year, the Commission is focusing to check all kinds of inducements including cash, liquor, and gift by any political party, candidate or its representatives etc. Any offence committed will be ensured for appropriate strict action. ECI has constituted MCMC team to monitor activities of both print and electronic media. 'Paid News' is strictly under watch. Elaborate arrangements have been made for checking this. Meeting with various financial institutions, bonded warehouses, petrol pump dwellers and printing press were already held to implement the ECI directions.

EPIC cards have been issued to all the electors in the State. But, every elector must check his/her name in the published electoral roll so that he/she is not deprived of voting. At each polling station, the roll will be on display on 09/03/2014 (Sunday). The elector may also search it on the website ceoarunachal.nic.in. They must use appropriate forms to rectify any mistake. The new voters must collect their EPIC cards from the concerned DEO/ERO.

Adequate number of General Observers, Police Observers, and Expenditure Observers are being deployed in the State. All these senior officers will be coming from outside the State and will remain in the concerned district till the declaration of result.

I solicit all co-operation and support from the people of Arunachal Pradesh to conduct the Lok Sabha Elections smoothly. Arunachal Pradesh has the history of conducting peaceful elections and high percentage polling and we intend to make it memorable elections.