

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi - 110 001

No. ECI/PN/ 08/2004/MCPS

Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2004

## PRESS NOTE

**Subject: Biennial elections to the Council of States to fill the Seats of members retiring in April, 2004.**

The term of office of 13 members of the Rajya Sabha elected from 6 States is due to expire on their retirement in April, 2004 as detailed below:

| S.No. | NAME OF STATE    | NO. OF MEMBERS<br>RETIRING | DATE OF<br>RETIREMENT |
|-------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.    | Assam            | 2                          | 2.4.2004              |
| 2.    | Himachal Pradesh | 1                          | 2.4.2004              |
| 3.    | Kerala           | 3                          | 2.4.2004              |
| 4.    | Nagaland         | 1                          | 2.4.2004              |
| 5.    | Tripura          | 1                          | 2.4.2004              |
| 6.    | Punjab           | 5                          | 9.4.2004              |

A statement showing the names of the Members retiring as mentioned above is given in the Appendix.

2. On the last occasion in April, 1998, five seats in the Rajya Sabha, which fell vacant from the State of Punjab, were filled by holding two separate biennial elections. One for three seats and the other for two seats, as these seats fell under different categories.

3. In accordance with the law on the subject, the said 5 seats, now again due to fall vacant in the Rajya Sabha on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2004 from the State of Punjab, will also be filled by holding two separate biennial elections, one to fill three seats and the other to fill two seats.

4. The Election Commission has decided that the aforesaid biennial elections to the Council of States from the 6 States shall be held in accordance with the following programme: -

1. Issue of Notifications : 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2004 (Tuesday)
2. Last date of making nominations : 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2004 (Tuesday)
3. Scrutiny of nominations : 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2004 (Wednesday)
4. Last date for withdrawal of candidature : 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2004 (Friday)
5. Date of poll : 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2004 (Friday)
6. Hours of poll : 9.00 A.M. to 4.00 P.M
7. Counting of Votes : 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2004 (Friday) at 5.00 PM
8. Date before which election shall be completed : 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2004 (Monday)

(S. K. KAURA)  
SECRETARY

**APPENDIX**

**VACANCIES IN COUNCIL OF STATES**

| <b>S.NO.</b> | <b>STATE/UT</b>         | <b>NAME OF THE MEMBER</b> |                                   | <b>DATE OF RETIREMENT</b> |
|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>1.</b>    | <b>Assam</b>            | <b>1.</b>                 | <b>Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma</b>       | <b>02.04.2004</b>         |
|              |                         | <b>2.</b>                 | <b>Shri Drupad Borgohain</b>      | <b>02.04.2004</b>         |
| <b>2.</b>    | <b>Himachal Pradesh</b> | <b>3.</b>                 | <b>Shri Anil Sharma</b>           | <b>02.04.2004</b>         |
| <b>3.</b>    | <b>Kerala</b>           | <b>4.</b>                 | <b>Vacant since 12.5.2003</b>     | <b>02.04.2004</b>         |
|              |                         | <b>5.</b>                 | <b>Shri M.J. Varkey Mattathil</b> | <b>02.04.2004</b>         |
|              |                         | <b>6.</b>                 | <b>Shri A. Vijaya Raghavan</b>    | <b>02.04.2004</b>         |
| <b>4.</b>    | <b>Nagaland</b>         | <b>7.</b>                 | <b>Shri C. Apok Jamir</b>         | <b>02.04.2004</b>         |
| <b>5.</b>    | <b>Tripura</b>          | <b>8.</b>                 | <b>Shri Matilal Sarkar</b>        | <b>02.04.2004</b>         |
| <b>6.</b>    | <b>Punjab</b>           | <b>9.</b>                 | <b>Shri Ashwani Kumar</b>         | <b>09.04.2004</b>         |
|              |                         | <b>10.</b>                | <b>Shri Lajpat Rai</b>            | <b>09.04.2004</b>         |
|              |                         | <b>11.</b>                | <b>Shri Sukhbir Singh</b>         | <b>09.04.2004</b>         |
|              |                         | <b>12.</b>                | <b>Shri Sukhdev Singh</b>         | <b>09.04.2004</b>         |
|              |                         | <b>13.</b>                | <b>Shri Gurcharan Singh</b>       | <b>09.04.2004</b>         |