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ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi - 110001

No. ECI/PN/20/2002

Date : 7.6.2002

PRESS NOTE

Subject : Election to the office of President, 2002 (12th Presidential Election)

The term of office of Shri K.R. Narayanan, President of India, ends on 24th July, 2002. An election to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of the outgoing President shall need to be completed before the expiration of his term. The law provides that the notification for election shall be issued on, or as soon as conveniently may be after, the sixtieth day before the expiry of term of office of the outgoing President.

2. Article 324 of the Constitution read with the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, and the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Rules, 1974, vests the superintendence, direction and control of the conduct of election to the office of the President of India in the Election Commission of India. The Election Commission is mandated to ensure that the election to the office of the President of India, which is the highest elective office in the nation, must be a free and fair election and the Commission is taking all necessary steps for discharging its responsibility.

3. The President is elected by the members of the Electoral College consisting of :

- i. elected members of both Houses of Parliament, and
- ii. elected Members of the Legislative Assemblies of all States including National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of Pondicherry.

(The nominated Members of either Rajya Sabha or Lok Sabha or Legislative Assemblies of the States are not eligible to be included in the Electoral College and therefore, they are not entitled to participate in the voting.)

4. The Seven-Judges Bench of the Supreme Court of India unanimously held in 1974 in the case of Presidential election that "the electoral college as mentioned in Article 54 is independent of the Legislatures mentioned in Article 54. None of the Legislatures mentioned in Article 54 has for the purpose of that Article any separate identity vis-a-vis the Electoral College. The Electoral College compendiously indicates a number of persons, holding the qualifications specified in the Article to constitute the electorate for the election of the President and to act as independent electors ..."

5. The Election Commission, in consultation with the Central Government, has decided to appoint the Secretary General to the Rajya Sabha as the Returning Officer to the election. The Commission has also decided to appoint Assistant Returning Officers in all State Capitals for making arrangements for conducting the poll and for transportation of the ballot boxes and other important documents to and from the Election Commission. For meeting any eventuality in case the Assistant Returning Officer is not available for any reason, a second Assistant Returning Officer is also being appointed. A list of Assistant Returning Officers is at **Appendix I**.

6. In pursuance of sub-section () of section (4) of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, the Election Commission of India has fixed the following programme for the election to fill the office of the President of India :

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| i) Issue of Election Commission's notification calling the election | : | 11.6.2002
(TUESDAY) |
| ii) Last date for making nominations | : | 25.6.2002
(TUESDAY) |
| iii) Date for the scrutiny of nominations | : | 26.6.2002
(WEDNESDAY) |
| iv) Last date for the withdrawal of candidatures | : | 28.6.2002
(FRIDAY) |
| v) Date on which a poll shall, if necessary, be taken | : | 15.7.2002
(MONDAY) |
| vi) Date on which counting, if required, shall be taken | : | 18.7.2002
(THURSDAY) |

7. The nomination paper of candidate must be delivered to the Returning Officer at New Delhi in the place to be specified by him by a public notice either by the candidate or by any of his proposers or seconders between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. A nomination paper of a candidate has to be subscribed by at least fifty electors as proposers and at least fifty electors as seconders. An elector can subscribe to only one nomination paper of a candidate as either a proposer or a seconder. The security deposit for the election is Rs. 15,000/- (Rupees fifteen thousand only) which is required to be made along with the nomination paper.

8. The list of Members of the Electoral College maintained by the Commission for the Presidential Election, 2002 is available in English and Hindi separately for sale at a price of Rs. 300/- per copy from the counter opened in the premises of the Election Commission.

9. The polling, if required, shall take place in the polling stations as given in the list at **Appendix-II**.

10. The Commission has decided to appoint 34 senior officers of the Government of India as its observers at the place(s) of polling.

11. The Chief Electoral Officers of each State appointed by the Commission shall supervise and coordinate with the Assistant Returning Officers for the conduct of poll at the respective State Capitals and transport of the ballot boxes and other important documents to and from the Election Commission to the respective State Capitals.

12. Normally, Members of Parliament are expected to cast their votes at New Delhi and members of all respective Legislative Assemblies at the concerned State's Capital. However, on account of any exigency for special circumstances, the Members of Parliament can vote in any of the polling stations in the State Capitals/Delhi/Pondicherry. Similarly, an MLA desirous of voting at New Delhi instead of voting in the relevant State Capital can also do so. For this purpose, the electors have to apply in the prescribed format available with the Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officers so as to reach the Election Commission at least 10 days before the date of poll.

13. The Commission has brought a comprehensive booklet covering all aspects of election to the office of the President and copies of the publication can be obtained from the Commission's sale counter or from the offices of the Chief Electoral Officers in different States and Union Territories. This publication is priced at Rs. 25/- only.

Sd/- C.R. Brahman
Secretary.

APPENDIX - I

**PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, 2002
ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS**

Headquarters	Officer appointed as Assistant Returning Officer
New Delhi	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Additional Secretary, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Parliament House, New Delhi. 2. Joint Secretary (Shri Vijay Kumar), Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Parliament House, New Delhi.

ASISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS IN THE STATES

State / Union Territory	Officers appointed as Assistant Returning Officers
1. Andhra Pradesh	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Public Gardens, Hyderabad - 500004. 2. Joint Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Public Gardens, Hyderabad - 500004.
2. Arunachal Pradesh	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Itanagar - 791110. 2. Deputy Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Itanagar - 791110.
3. Assam	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly, Dispur, Guwahati - 781006. 2. Joint Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly, Dispur, Guwahati - 781006.
4. Bihar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secretary, Bihar Vidhan Sabha, Patna. 2. Deputy Secretary, Bihar Vidhan Sabha, Patna.

5. Chhatisgarh

1. Secretary,
Chhatisgarh Vidhan Sabha, Raipur.
2. Additional Secretary,
Chhatisgarh Vidhan Sabha, Raipur.

6. Goa

1. Secretary,
Goa Legislative Assembly,
Assembly Complex, Porvorim-Goa.
2. Joint Secretary,
Goa Legislative Assembly,
Assembly Complex, Porvorim-Goa.

7. Gujarat

1. Secretary-in-charge,
Gujarat Legislative Assembly,
Viththalbahi Patel Bhavan,
Sector-10, Gandhinagar-382010.
2. Deputy Secretary,
Gujarat Legislative Assembly,
Viththalbahi Patel Bhavan,
Sector-10, Gandhinagar-382010.

8. Haryana

1. Secretary,
Haryana Vidhan Sabha,
Vidhan Bhawan, Sector-1, Chandigarh.
2. Joint Secretary,
Haryana Vidhan Sabha,
Vidhan Bhawan, Sector-1, Chandigarh.

9. Himachal Pradesh

1. Secretary,
Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha,
Shimla-171004.
2. Deputy Secretary,
Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha,
Shimla-171004.

10. Jammu and Kashmir

1. Secretary,
Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly,
Srinagar.
2. Deputy Secretary,
Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly,
Srinagar.

11. Jharkhand

1. Secretary-in-charge,
Jharkhand Legislative Assembly,
Ranchi.
2. Deputy Secretary,
Jharkhand Legislative Assembly,
Ranchi.

12. Karnataka
 1. Secretary,
Karnataka Legislative Assembly,
Vidhana Soudha,
Bangalore-560001
 2. Joint Secretary,
Karnataka Legislative Assembly,
Vidhana Soudha,
Bangalore-560001.
13. Kerala
 1. Secretary,
Kerala Legislative Assembly,
Secretary's Quarters Legislative Complex,
Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram.
 2. Special Secretary,
Kerala Legislative Assembly,
"Sivam"
Thiruvallam, Thiruvananthapuram.
14. Madhya Pradesh
 1. Secretary,
Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha,
Vidhan Sabha Secretariat,
Bhopal-462004
 2. Deputy Secretary,
Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha,
Vidhan Sabha Secretariat,
Bhopal-462004
15. Maharashtra
 1. Secretary,
Maharashtra Legislature Secretariat,
Vidhan Bhavan, Backbay Reclamation,
Mumbai-400032.
 2. Additional Secretary,
Maharashtra Legislature Secretariat,
Vidhan Bhavan, Backbay Reclamation,
Mumbai-400032.
16. Manipur
 1. Secretary,
Manipur Legislative Assembly,
Imphal.
 2. Joint Secretary,
Manipur Legislative Assembly,
Imphal.
17. Meghalaya
 1. Secretary,
Meghalaya Legislative Assembly,
Shillong-793001.
 2. Deputy Secretary,
Meghalaya Legislative Assembly,
Shillong-793001.

18. Mizoram

1. Secretary,
Mizoram Legislative Assembly,
Aizawl.
2. Joint Secretary,
Mizoram Legislative Assembly,
Aizawl.

19. Nagaland

1. Secretary,
Nagaland Legislative Assembly,
Kohima-797001.
2. Joint Secretary,
Nagaland Legislative Assembly,
Kohima-797001.

20. Orissa

1. Secretary,
Orissa Legislative Assembly,
Bhubaneswar.
2. Joint Secretary,
Orissa Legislative Assembly,
Bhubaneswar.

21. Punjab

1. Secretary,
Punjab Vidhan Sabha,
Chandigarh.
2. Under Secretary,
Punjab Vidhan Sabha,
Chandigarh.

22. Rajasthan

1. Secretary,
Room No. 106
Rajasthan Legislative Assembly,
Jaipur-302005.
2. Deputy Secretary (Administration),
Room No. 112,
Rajasthan Legislative Assembly,
Jaipur-302005.

23. Sikkim

1. Secretary,
Sikkim Legislative Assembly,
Nam Nang, Gangtok.
2. Additional Secretary,
Sikkim Legislative Assembly,
Nam Nang, Gangtok.

24. Tamil Nadu
 1. Secretary,
Legislative Assembly,
Chennai.
 2. Joint Secretary,
Legislative Assembly,
Chennai.
25. Tripura
 1. Secretary,
Tripura Legislative Assembly,
Agartala-799001.
 2. O.S.D.,
Tripura Legislative Assembly,
Agartala-799001.
26. Uttaranchal
 1. Secretary,
Uttaranchal Legislative Assembly,
Dehradun-248121.
 2. Additional Secretary,
Uttaranchal Legislative Assembly,
Dehradun-248121.
27. Uttar Pradesh
 1. Secretary,
Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly,
Vidhan Bhawan, Lucknow-226001.
 2. Special Secretary,
Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly,
Vidhan Bhawan, Lucknow-226001.
28. West Bengal
 1. Secretary,
West Bengal Legislative Assembly,
Assembly House, Kolkata-700001.
 2. Joint Secretary-cum-Committee Officer,
West Bengal Legislative Assembly,
Assembly House, Kolkata-700001.
29. National Capital Territory of Delhi
 1. Secretary,
Delhi Legislative Assembly,
Old Secretariat, Delhi-11054.
 2. Joint Secretary,
Delhi Legislative Assembly,
Old Secretariat, Delhi-11054.
30. Pondicherry
 1. Secretary,
Legislative Assembly Secretariat,
Pondicherry.
 2. Editor of Debates,
Legislative Assembly Secretariat,
Pondicherry.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 2002
LIST OF PLACES OF POLLING
OFFICE OF THE RETURNING OFFICER, NEW DELHI

Elected Members of both Houses of Parliament	Room No. 63, First Floor Parliament House, New Delhi.
STATE	Place of Polling
01. Andhra Pradesh	Committee Hall No. I, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly Building, Hyderabad.
02. Arunachal Pradesh	Nokmey Namati Hall, Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Building, Itanagar.
03. Assam	Room No. 36, Assam Legislative Assembly Building, Dispur.
04. Bihar	Lobby, Bihar Legislative Assembly Building, Patna.
05. Chhattisgarh	Room No. 2, Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly Building,, Raipur.
06. Goa	Room No. 015, Ground Floor, VIP Block, Goa Legislative Assembly Complex, Porvorim.
07. Gujarat	Reading Room, Gujarat Legislature Secretariat Library, Gandhinagar.
08. Haryana	Old Committee Room, Haryana Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, Vidhan Bhawan, Chandigarh.
09. Himachal Pradesh	Main Committee Room, Council Chamber, Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, Shimla.
10. Jammu and Kashmir	Lobby at Rajgarh Lawn, J&K Legislative Assembly, Srinagar.

11. Jharkhand
Lobby No. 2, Jharkhand Legislative Assembly,
Ranchi.
12. Karnataka
Room No. 106, First Floor,
Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore.
13. Kerala
Air Conditioned Hall No. 604, Second Floor,
Kerala Legislative Assembly Building,
Thiruvananthapuram.
14. Madhya Pradesh
Committee Room No. 2, M-02 (Ground Floor),
Indira Gandhi Vidhan Bhawan, Arera Hilla,
Bhopal.
15. Maharashtra
Central Hall, Fourth Floor, Vidhan Bhawan,
Backbay Reclamation, Mumbai.
16. Manipur
Committee Room,
Manipur Legislative Assembly Building,
Imphal.
17. Meghalaya
Conference Hall, Member's Hostel, Shillong.
18. Mizoram
Committee Room,
Mizoram Legislative Assembly Building,
Aizawl.
19. Nagaland
Committee Room,
Assembly Secretariat Building, Kohima.
20. Orissa
Room No. 54, 1st Floor,
Orissa Legislative Assembly Building, Bhubaneswar.
21. Punjab
Committee Room A,
Punjab Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, Vidhan Bhawan,
Chandigarh.
22. Rajasthan
Room No. 751,
Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Secretariat,
Jaipur.
23. Sikkim
Room No. 1,
Sikkim Legislative Assembly Secretariat,
Gangtok.
24. Tamil Nadu
Legislature Committee Room, Ground Floor,
Secretariat Main Building, Chennai - 600009.
25. Tripura
Assembly Library Room,
Agartala.

- | | | |
|-----|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26. | Uttaranchal | Committee Room, IInd Floor,
Uttaranchal Vidhan Sabha Complex, Dehradun. |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | Tilak Hall, Vidhan Sabha Bhavan,
Lucknow - 1. |
| 28. | West Bengal | Assembly Chamber at Assembly House,
Kolkata. |
| 29. | Delhi | Committee Room-1, Room No. 42,
Delhi Vidhan Sabha Bhawan,
Old Secretariat, Delhi-110054. |
| 30. | Pondicherry | Committee Room,
Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Pondicherry. |