

**ELECTION URGENT
BY FAX/E-MAIL**

**STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, ODISHA
TOSHALI BHAWAN, 1ST FLOOR, BLOCK-B-2,
SATYANAGAR, BHUBANESWAR-751007
E-mail ID – stateelectioncommission.odisha@gmail.com
Fax No. 0674-2573494**

ORDER

No. Ele. (GP) 1358 /SEC.,

Date: 16/04/2021

Whereas, the State Election Commission, Odisha issued Notification Nos.1149, 1156 and 1164 all dated 22.03.2021 to hold by-election to the office of the Panchayat Samiti Members, Zilla Parishad Members, Sarpanches and Ward Members and the date of poll is fixed for 28.04.2021;

Whereas, due to the resurgence of SARS-COV 2, the Office of Special Relief Commissioner vide their Order No1968 dated.15.04.2021 have imposed Night Curfew in 10 districts, Night Curfew in all Urban areas of the State and weekend shut down on Saturdays and Sundays in all Urban areas of 10 Districts in Western Odisha and issued a set of general guidance on various issues to ensure that the public follows Covid appropriate behaviour and protocols in order to prevent the transmission of the Covid 19 virus;

Whereas, the general guidance referred to in the aforesaid Order includes a complete ban on political meetings and disallows rallies and processions of any sort;

Whereas, public gatherings in the meetings and rallies of the political parties as well as during dispersal of the polling parties and on the dates of poll and counting are part of the election process, which cannot be avoided and thus be unable to ensure Covid appropriate behaviour;

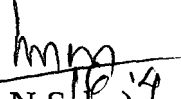
Whereas, the State Election Commission takes into consideration the emerging challenges posed by COVID-19 and is of the view that continuing with the election schedule may be detrimental and harmful to public health at large due to movement of large numbers of Polling Personnel as well as voters in the ensuing by-elections.

Now therefore, the State Election Commission in exercise of the powers conferred under Article-243-K of the Constitution of India and with due consideration of the gravity of the situation and the ground realities, directs that the ensuing by-elections process be postponed. The Model Code of Conduct is

hereby withdrawn due to postponement of the by-election process with immediate effect and until further orders.

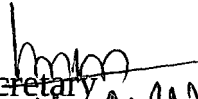
This Notification is available on the Commission's website-
www.sec.odisha.gov.in.

By order and in the name of
State Election Commission, Odisha


(R.N. Sahu) 16.4.2021
Secretary

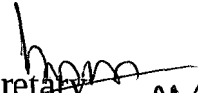
Memo No. 1359 /SEC., Dated 16/04/2021

Copy forwarded to Director, Printing Stationery and Publication, Odisha, Cuttack for publication of this statutory notification in the next Extraordinary issue of Odisha Gazette and supply ten (10) copies to the Commission.


Secretary
16.4.2021

Memo No. 1360 /SEC., Dated 16/04/2021

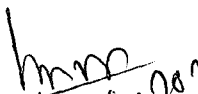
Copy forwarded to Principal Secretary to Govt., Panchayati Raj & D.W. Department for information and necessary action.


Secretary
16.4.2021

Memo No. 1361 /SEC., Dated 16/04/2021

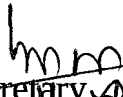
Copy forwarded to concerned Collectors /Superintendent of Police/D.P.O, Sub- Collector, / Block Development Officers for information and necessary action. **Collectors/Election Officers are requested to ensure the postponement of the poll to be put in the notice board of District Office/ Concerned Panchayat Samiti Office/ Concerned Gram Panchayat Office/ Wards for information of the public.**

The Contesting candidates shall also be intimated in writing about the postponement of poll with immediate effect


Secretary
16.4.2021

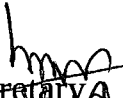
Memo No. 1362 /SEC., Date: 16/04/2021

Copy forwarded to Political Parties for information and necessary action.


Secretary A. W. M

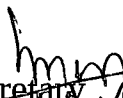
Memo No. 1363 /SEC., Date 16/04/2021

Copy forwarded to Principal Private Secretary to State Election Commissioner for kind information of Commissioner.


Secretary A. W. M

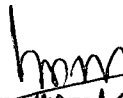
Memo No. 1364 /SEC., Date 16/04/2021

Copy forwarded to all Officers/Notice Board of SEC/Gazette Notification Seat for information and necessary action.


Secretary A. W. M

Memo No. 1365 /SEC., Date: 16/04/2021

Copy forwarded to Computer Programmer, SEC to transmit the notice in the Website of State Election Commission.


Secretary A. W. M