भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
Election Commission of India

निर्वाचन सदन
NIRVACHAN SADAN
अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली- 110001
ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

No. ECI/PN/117/2026 **Dated: 22nd September, 2026**

PRESS NOTE

Subject: Biennial Elections to the Council of States from Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand and Bye Election to the Council of States from West Bengal- reg.

The terms of office of 11 members of the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) from Uttar Pradesh (10 seats) and Uttarakhand (1 seat) are going to expire in the month of November, 2026, as detailed in Annexure 'A'.

2. Further, there is one casual vacancy which has occurred in the Council of States from the State of West Bengal as per the following details: -

Name of Member	Reason	Date of vacancy	Term Up to
Smt. Rukmini Mallik	Resignation	16.07.2026	02.04.2032

2. Now, the Commission has decided to conduct Biennial Elections to the Council of States from Uttar Pradesh (10 seats) and Uttarakhand (1 Seat) and Bye Election to the Council of States from West Bengal (1 seat) as per the following programme:

Sl. No.	Events	Dates
1.	Issue of Notifications	29th September, 2026 (Tuesday)
2.	Last date of making nominations	6th October, 2026 (Tuesday)
3.	Scrutiny of nominations	7th October, 2026 (Wednesday)
4.	Last date for withdrawal of candidatures	9th October, 2026 (Friday)
5.	Date of Poll	**16th October, 2026 (Friday)**
6.	Hours of Poll	09:00 am- 04:00 pm
7.	Counting of Votes	16th October, 2026 (Friday) at 05:00 pm
8.	Date before which election shall be completed	19th October, 2026 (Monday)

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 elections.

(SUMAN KUMAR DAS)
SECRETARY

ANNEXURE- 'A'

S.No	Name of State	Name of Member		Date of Retirement
1.	**Uttar Pradesh**	1	Arun Singh	25.11.2026
2.		2	Geeta Alias Chandraprabha	
3.		3	Neerja Shekhar	
4.		4	Brijlal	
5.		5	Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav	
6.		6	Ramji	
7.		7	B.L. Verma	
8.		8	Seema	
9.		9	Dr. Dinesh Sharma (vacant w.e.f 11/09/2026)	
10.		10	Hardeep Singh Puri	
11.	**UttaraKhand**	1	Naresh Bansal	25.11.2026