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## HOME (ELECTIONS) DEPARTMENT

### NOTIFICATION

The 24th April, 2023

No.3674—EC-CON-COE-0002/2023/Elec.— The following Notification issued by Election Commission of India, New Delhi is hereby published in the Extraordinary issue of the *Odisha Gazette* for general information.

By Order,  
NIKUNJA BIHARI DHAL  
Chief Electoral Officer, Odisha

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA  
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

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No.576/EXIT/2023/SDR/Vol.I

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2023

### NOTIFICATION

Whereas, the schedules for the **General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Karnataka** has been announced by the Commission vide Press Note No.ECI/PN/24/2023 dated 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 and Bye-Elections to the 04-Jalandhar (SC) Parliamentary Constituency in Punjab, 07-Jharsuguda Assembly Constituency of Odisha, 395-Chhanbey (SC) & 34-Suar Assembly Constituencies of Uttar Pradesh and 23-Sohiong (ST) Assembly Constituency of Meghalaya have been announced by the Press Note No. ECI/PN/25/2023 dated 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

2. Whereas, Section 126A of The Representation of the People Act, 1951 (in short R.P. Act, 1951) specifies that “(1) *No person shall conduct any exit poll and publish or publicise by means of the print or electronic media or disseminate in any other manner,*

*whatsoever, the result of any exit poll during such period, as may be notified by the Election Commission in this regard.*

*(2) For the purposes of sub-section (1), Election Commission shall, by a general order, notify the date and time having due regard to the following, namely: -*

*(a) in case of a general election, the period may commence from the beginning of the hours fixed for poll on the first day of poll and continue till half an hour after closing of the poll in all the States and Union territories;*

*(b) In case of a bye-election or a number of bye-elections held together, the period may commence from the beginning of the hours fixed for poll on and from the first day of poll and continue till half an hour after closing of the poll;*

*Provided that in case of a number of bye-elections held together on different days, the period may commence from the beginning of the hours fixed for poll on the first day of poll and continue till half an hour after closing of the last poll.*

*(3) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this section shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both."*

3. Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers under sub-Section (1) of Section 126A of the R.P. Act, 1951, the Election Commission, having regard to the provisions of Sub-Section (2) of the said Section, hereby notifies the period between **7.00 A.M. and 6.30 PM on 10-05-2023 (Wednesday)**, as the period during which conducting and Publishing or publicizing exit poll by means of the print or electronic media or dissemination in any other manner, whatsoever, the result of any exit poll in connection with the aforesaid General election and bye-elections, shall be prohibited.

4. It is further clarified that under Section 126(1)(b) of the R.P. Act, 1951, displaying any election matter including results of any opinion poll or any other poll survey, in any electronic media, would be prohibited during the period of 48 hours ending with the hours fixed for conclusion of poll in connection with the aforesaid General and bye-elections.

By order,  
(S.B. JOSHI)  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY