

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/120/2026

26.09.2026

PRESS NOTE

The meeting of the Commission was held today i.e. 26.09.2026 at 3:00 PM. The following decisions were taken in the meeting:

- i. In case of any person to whom notice has been issued during the ongoing SIR, for being unmapped and logical discrepancies, BLOs will visit the homes of such persons for collection of documents and thereafter upload them on the ECINet, for decision by the ERO. Such persons need not be called for hearing to ERO/AERO office. Only in exceptional circumstances, as decided by the ERO, the hearing will be held preferably online. Any adult member of the family can be authorized by the elector to attend the hearing on their behalf, if required. Facilities for the online hearing to be strengthened.
- ii. DEOs (District Election Officers) will create adequate number of help desks/hold special camps for the people living in night shelters, labor, poor people, homeless etc. as per requirement.
- iii. The declaration attached to Form 6 for SIR has been upheld by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. For non-SIR period, the Forms applicable as per Rules (the Registration of Electors Rules 1960) will be used.
- iv. Field officers have role-based access to the ECINET system as per their statutory powers. A Committee headed by Sr. Deputy Election Commissioner (DEC) and including an independent expert from IIT/IIT will review the ECINET to double-check that it complies with the provisions of the Acts and Rules and submit report to the Commission. Various upgradations of the portal have already been made based on the inputs from State CEOs in the past few months. In case, any further flexibility is required by the field officers, that will be made operational. Henceforth, all the new initiatives about IT modules and portals will be discussed in the Committee of Officers (COO) before approval by the Commission.
- v. In view of the request received from **CEO Delhi**, the period for filing claims and objections has been extended by the Commission till **30th October, 2026**. The period of disposal of notices and claims & objections has been extended till **30th November 2026**. Also, as per the request received from **CEO Maharashtra**, the period for filing claims and objections in Maharashtra has been extended by the Commission till **12th October, 2026**. The period of disposal of notices and claims & objections in Maharashtra has been extended till **10th November 2026**.

- vi. For all Commission's meeting, agenda will be circulated in advance and minutes will be issued.
- vii. APARs {Annual Performance Appraisal Reports} of all the officers will be completed within the stipulated time frame, i.e., 31st December every year.
- viii. Approval of the Commission will be taken for foreign trips of the officers.
- ix. All directions issued by the Commissioners to the officers of the Commission shall be meticulously complied with.

2. SIR has already been completed in 20 States/UTs including Bihar and West Bengal. Any person whose name has got left out during SIR or thereafter, and any person including young/ first-time voter, may apply to the concerned ERO, for inclusion of their names in the electoral rolls under the process of continuous updation. CEOs have been directed to facilitate the same. The CEOs, DEOs, EROs will immediately launch a special drive for enrolment of these electors.

3. It is further reiterated that

- i. The letter to Cabinet Secretary was not related to any policy matter of the Commission or IT division but related to working of an officer on deputation to ECI. The work re-distribution orders issued by the concerned officer were not actually implemented after the orders of the two Commissioners and the oversight over the IT division by the DEC was never actually withdrawn.
- ii. In the recent months, the Commission has taken numerous decisions including SIR across the country. The order for the SIR issued on 24.6.2025 for all the States/UTs, starting with Bihar, followed by West Bengal and 30 other States/UTs was issued with the unanimous approval of the Commission. The same has been upheld by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its order dated **27.5.2026**. The schedule for SIR for 12 States and UTs was issued on 27.10.2025 and those for 19 States/ UTs was issued on 14.05.2026 with the unanimous approval of the Commission. The final figure of number of electors will be known only after final publication in the remaining 12 states of Phase-III.
- iii. The CEO Goa has directed concerned BLOs to conduct house to house visits to left out voters to collect their forms. 81 voters out of 97 have already filled Form 6 for inclusion.

4. **This Press Note is issued as per the decisions of the meeting of the Commission held on 26.09.2026 and has the approval of the full Commission.**



P Pawan

Deputy Director



Chief Election Commissioner Shri Gyanesh Kumar along with Election Commissioners Dr S S Sandhu and Dr Vivek Joshi at the Election Commission meeting held at Nirvachan Sadan, New Delhi at 3 PM on 26th September 2026