

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi - 110 001

Dated: 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2015

No. ECI/PN/5/2015

## PRESS NOTE

**Subject: Biennial Elections to the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) from the State of Jammu & Kashmir**

The term of office of 4 members of the Council of States representing the State of Jammu & Kashmir is to be expire on 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2015. The details are as given below: -

S.No.	Name of the Member	Date of Retirement
1.	Prof. Saif-ud-Din Soz	10.02.2015
2.	Sh. Ghulam Nabi Azad	10.02.2015
3.	Sh. Ghulam Nabi Wani	15.02.2015
4.	Sh. Mohammad Shafi	15.02.2015

The State of Jammu & Kashmir is currently under the Governor's rule. The term of the existing Assembly expires on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 unless dissolved earlier. From the 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 the newly constituted State Assembly will be in subsistence. The new Assembly members may not be in a position to take oath as Members immediately i.e. till the Governor's rule ends/is revoked. However, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has held that the MLAs, once elected, can vote for electing members of the Council of States even though they have not formally taken oath as such members to sit in the Assembly.

In respect of members of the Council of States to be elected by the elected Members of Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly, all the four seats are to be filled up on account of biennial retirement of members. On the last occasion, these four vacancies were filled up by holding **three** separate elections, in accordance with the law on the subject, i.e. one biennial election for the seat of Prof. Saif-Ud-Din Soz, second biennial election for the seat of Sh. Ghulam Nabi Azad and third biennial election for the seats of Sh. Ghulam Nabi Wani and Sh. Mohammad Safi. Consequently, the four members to be elected now shall hold office for the full tenure of six years. This time also **three separate biennial elections** will be held to fill up these four seats as was done on the last occasion

The Commission has decided to hold Biennial Elections to the Council of States from the State of Jammu & Kashmir to fill up the above said vacancies so arising in accordance with the following schedule:-

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Particular of events</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	Issue of Notification	21 <sup>st</sup> January, 2015 (Wednesday)
2	Last date of making nominations	28 <sup>th</sup> January, 2015 (Wednesday)
3	Scrutiny of nominations	29 <sup>th</sup> January, 2015 (Thursday)
4	Last date for withdrawal of candidatures	31 <sup>st</sup> January, 2015 (Saturday)
5	Date of poll	7 <sup>th</sup> February, 2015 (Saturday)
6	Hours of poll	9.00 A.M. to 4.00 P.M.
7	Counting of Votes	7 <sup>th</sup> February, 2015 (Saturday) at 5.00 P.M.
8	Date before which election shall be completed	9 <sup>th</sup> February, 2015 (Monday)



**(DHIRENDRA OJHA)**  
**DIRECTOR**