

1. By-election to Panchayati Raj Institutions :

The Commission has issued schedules for holding by-election on **01.09.2009** to the following offices.

A. ZILLA PARISHAD MEMBER

I	Bhadrak	Tihidi-7
II	Jagatsinghpur	Balikuda-21
III	Khordha	Jatni-7
IV	Mayurbhanj	Udala-2
V	Sambalpur	Rengali-18

B. PANCHAYAT SAMITI MEMBER

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Name of the Block	Name of the Gram Panchayat
I	Puri	Gop	Andhara Ichhapur
II	Rayagada	Ramanguda	Nilamguda

C. SARPANCH

I	Bhadrak	Dhamnagar	Raipur
II	Cuttack	Banki	Golaganda
III	Mayurbhanj	Udala	Sriramchandrapur
IV	Puri	Gop	Jangalbori
V	Sundargarh	Lefripada	Sargipali

D. Ward Members - 5

2. The Commission has issued scheduled for holding by-election to the office of President, Nawarangpur Zilla Parishad and Chairperson, Karanjia Panchayat Samiti in the District of Mayurbhanj on **27.08.2009** and Chairperson, Kukudakhandi Panchayat Samiti in the District of Ganjam on **05.09.2009**.

3. By-election to Urban Local Bodies

The Commission has issued schedule for holding by-election to Ward No.12 of Joda Municipality in the District of Keonjhar on **28.08.2009** and Ward No. 5 of Polasara NAC in the District of Ganjam on **30.09.2009**

4. Introduction of Electronic Voting Machine(EVMs) in Municipal Elections.

The State Election Commission in the notification published in the Gazette on 29th June, 2007 has introduced the use the Electronic Voting Machines(EVMs) in the election to Urban Local Bodies in the State. This Commission in consultation with the Election Commission of India(ECI) has approved the EVMs supplied by the Electronics Corporation of India Ltd, Hyderabad. As decided the State Election Commission will procure 25% of the requirement and the balance 75% will be made available by the ECI. The first by-election to Municipality by using EVM was held on 26.07.2007. The General Election to Urban Local Bodies in the State in the month of September, December, 2008 and February, 2009 was held by using EVMs. This Commission has already procured 1206 number of EVMs and placed orders for another 100 EVMs with the Electronic Corporation of India Ltd. The engineers of ECIL are rendering technical assistance satisfactorily in operating the EVMs as and when required and this Commission has found no difficulty in conducting election through EVMs.

5. Filing of nomination of Sarpanch at Block Headquarters.

The Commission vide letter No.3318 dtd.02.03.07 has issued instruction that nomination to the office of Sarpanch will be filed before the Block Development Officer-cum-Election Officer at the Block Headquarters and the scrutiny will be taken up by the Election Officer himself. Earlier the designated officers were being asked to receive the nominations at the Grama Panchayat Headquarters which was found to be inconvenient for many reasons. The filing of nomination and scrutiny at the Block Headquarters has been found satisfactory hitherto.