To

The concerned Pr. Chief Commissioners/ Pr. Director Generals/ Chief Commissioners/ Director Generals of CBIC

Subject: General Elections to the Legislative Assembly of Punjab, 2022- Deployment of Expenditure Observers-Regarding.

Madam,

I am directed to enclose herewith Election Commission of India’s letter No. 464/Exp. Obs/GE-LAs/DEP./EEPS/2022 dated 24.01.2022 on the subject mentioned above and to state that Election Commission of India has deployed Shri Saroj Kumar Behera IRS(C&IT):2006 (R-20307) and Shri Sunil N. Ranote IRS(C&IT):2009 (R-18804) as Expenditure Observer in General Elections to the Legislative Assembly of Punjab, 2022.

2. It is requested that the directions of the Election Commission of India may be intimated to the officer for compliance.

Yours faithfully,

Encl. As Above.

Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel: 23095529/E-mail: sa.ansari@nic.in

Copy to:

The Website Manager, CBIC, with the request to upload this letter along-with the enclosures on the official website of CBIC with a ticker.

(S.A. Ansari)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001
No. 464/Exp. Obs./GE-L.As./DEP./EEPS/2022
Dated: 24th January, 2022

To
Shri. S. A. Ansari, Under Secretary (Ad. II) & Nodal Officer,
M/o Finance, Deptt. of Revenue, Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs,
Room No. 47B, North Block,
New Delhi.
(saansari1967@gmail.com)

Sub:- General Election to Legislative Assembly of Punjab, 2022-Deployment of Expenditure Observers—Reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter no. C-50/26/2020-Ad.II, dated 25.10.2021, letter no. C-50/62/2021-Ad.II, dated 07.12.2021 & 14.12.2021 and to state that in exercise of the power conferred on it by Article 324 of Constitution and Section 20B of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Commission has deployed Sh. Saroj Kumar Behera IRS(C&IT):2006 (R-20307) (mob. no. 7838757488) and Sh. Sunil N. Ranote IRS(C&IT):2009 (R-18804) (mob. no. 8777795912) as Expenditure Observer in General Election to Legislative Assembly of Punjab, 2022, announced by the Commission vide its Press Note no. ECI/PN/03/2022, dated 08.01.2022 (copy enclosed).

2. Under Section 13CC of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and Section 28A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, they will be deemed to be on deputation to the Election Commission during the period they are working as Observer. Working as Observer of the Election Commission they will be subject to the control, superintendence and discipline of the Election Commission with respect to their duties performed as Observer.

3. Observer is entitled for TA/DA as admissible on tour. They will draw TA/DA from their Ministry/Department/Office. The expenditure will be debitable to the Budget grant of their Ministry or Department/Office. They are also entitled to travel by air by any scheduled commercial flight of any airlines. However, whenever they travel by train, it shall be as per their entitled class.

4. The Expenditure Observers are also required to go through “Compendium of Instructions on Election Expenditure Monitoring (October, 2021)” available on the ECI website www.eci.gov.in-Compendium of Instructions-Compendium of Instructions on Election Expenditure Monitoring (October, 2021).
5. The Expenditure Observers may be informed that-

(i) He/She is required to upload his/her photograph in the Personal Information Sheet on the Observer portal. This is required for printing of Identity Cards.

(ii) User id and password for accessing the Observer portal is ‘Observer Code’ mentioned against his/her name. He/She should change his/her passwords on first login, if he/she so wish.

(iii) He/She is requested to remain in contact with his/her Nodal Officer.

(iv) The deployment order indicating the State, District and Constituency is enclosed.

6. Keeping in view of Covid 19 pandemic situation, the Commission has decided to relax physical 1\textsuperscript{st} visit of Expenditure Observers. The Expenditure Observers will do 1\textsuperscript{st} visit related works virtually from date of notification i.e. 25.01.2022 as per schedule enclosed (Annexure A). The Expenditure Observers will do 2\textsuperscript{nd} visit physically on one day before last date of making nominations (31.01.2022 afternoon) and will stay in the Assembly Constituencies assigned to them upto date of poll i.e. 20.02.2022/re-poll, if any. Regarding 3\textsuperscript{rd} visit of Expenditure Observers, instructions will be issued after completion of poll. Copy of the Commission’s Press Note no. ECI/PN/09/2022, dated 17.01.2022 is enclosed.

7. You are requested to intimate the Expenditure Observers accordingly and deliver the deployment order enclosed herewith to the Expenditure Observers concerned.

Yours faithfully,

(Anup Kumar Khakhlary)
Under Secretary
(khakhlaryanup@eci.gov.in)

Copy to: Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab for kind information and requested to intimate the DEOs concerned. (By Speed Post/e-mail)

(Anup Kumar Khakhlary)
Under Secretary
ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NO.464/OBS/2022/OPS

Date: 24-Jan-2022

Observer Code

R-20307

To

Saroj Kumar Behera
IRS/(C&CE): 2006

Subject: General Elections to Legislative Assemblies of Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, 2022 - Appointment of Expenditure Observer-Reg.

Dear Sir/Madam,

In exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 324 of the Constitution of India and Section 208 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Election Commission hereby appoints you as its Expenditure Observer for above mentioned election.

2. You will be Observer in

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the State</th>
<th>Name of Assembly Constituency With [District]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>62-Atam Nagar [Ludhiana], 63-Ludhiana Central [Ludhiana], 64-Ludhiana West [Ludhiana].</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date of Reporting: 28/01/2022

3. This allocation is subject to change, if the situation so warrants. Under Section 13CC of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, you will be deemed to be on deputation to the Election Commission during the period you are working as Observer. You will be subject to the control, superintendence and discipline of the Election Commission.

4. As Apprentice of the Commission, you are entitled for TA/DA as admissible on tour. You will draw TA/DA from your Ministry/Department/Office. The expenditure will be debitable to the Budget grant of your Ministry/Department/Office. You are also entitled to travel by air by any scheduled commercial flight of any Airlines. However, whenever you travel by train, it shall be as per your entitled class.

5. Request of permission for temporary absence, leave etc. should be taken up by you with the DEC concerned. In all such cases, unless a reply is received in that regard, the permission shall not be deemed to have accorded. All requests for exemption should be routed through your Sponsoring Authority. No exemption requests shall be deemed to have been accepted unless you receive communication in writing from Commission that your exemption request has been accepted by the Commission.

6. Your 1st visit will be in virtual mode from date of notification for 3 clear days in which you are required to submit a readiness report (Expenditure Observer Report-I) in completion. In 2nd visit, you must reach the Constituency on one day before the last date of nomination of election (by afternoon) and shall remain in the constituency during the entire campaign period and leave the constituency only after the poll is over, if any. You are required to submit Expenditure Observer Report-II on last date of withdrawal of candidates and Expenditure Observer Report-III within 24 hrs. of completion of poll/poll if any. Your 3rd visit may be in virtual mode from 29th day of declaration of election result onwards for 8 clear days to assist the DEO in scrutinizing the statements of accounts of election expenditure submitted by the candidates after the declaration of results. You should be present in the Account Reconciliation Meeting to be convened by the DEO on the 29th day after the declaration of results. On completion of your duty as Observer in virtual 3rd and last visit, you will send a final report (Expenditure Observer Report-IV) to the Commission and also intimate this to the Commission directly that you have completed your duty as Observer. Unless specifically required by the Commission to continue on duty as Observer, you shall stand automatically released from the duties of Observer after that date. Kindly go carefully through the latest edition of "Compendium of Instructions on Election Expenditure Monitoring" for detailed procedure.

7. You are not requested to report to your controlling authority after completion of each visit (1st, 2nd & 3rd).

8. You are not directed that no appreciation letter of any kind will be issued by you to the Returning Officer or to any other election related official while you are working as Observer of the Election Commission of India or even later on in the same capacity. If the Observer is of the view that any election related official needs to be appreciated, they should send their proposal to Election Commission giving full reasons. The Observer will not issue any direction regarding transfer of officers etc. to the DEO/RO or to any other election related official. In case any deviation in the conduct of officials is noted by the Observer, the same may be brought to the notice of the Commission immediately so that the Commission may take appropriate action on the matter.

Kindly update following Bank Details in the Personal Information Sheet on Observer portal if not yet done. This information is required for transferring honorarium through EFT.

1. Account Holder Name: Anup Kumar Khakhriya
2. Account No.: 3.
3. Bank Name: SBI
4. Branch Name: District Office
5. IFSC Code: SBIDCHI

Your user id and password for accessing the Observer portal is your Observer Code as mentioned above. You should change your password on first login.

The link for Observer Portal is available on https://ec.gov.in/observers/central-observers/
ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

NO.464/OBS/2022/OPS

Date: 24-Jan-2022

NIRVACHAN SADAN,
ASHOKA ROAD ,NEW DELHI-110001

To
Sunil N. Ranote
IRS(C&CE): 2009

Observer Code
R-18804

Subject: General Elections to Legislative Assemblies of Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, 2022 - Appointment of Expenditure Observer-Reg.

Dear Sir/Madam,

In exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 324 of the Constitution of India and Section 20B of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Election Commission hereby appoints you as its Expenditure Observer for above mentioned election.

2. You will be Observer in

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the State</th>
<th>Punjab</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No.&amp; Name of Assembly Constituency With [District]</td>
<td>71-Nihal Singh wala (SC) Moga, 72-Baghapurana [Moga]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Date of Reporting | You are Allocated in above mentioned Constituency(ies). You are required to report on this duty by 25/01/2022 |

3. This allocation is subject to change, if the situation so warrants. Under Section 13CC of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and Section 28A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, you will be deemed to be on deputation to the Election Commission during the period you are working as Observer. You will be subject to the control, superintendence and discipline of the Election Commission.

4. As Observer of the Commission, you are entitled for TA/DA as admissible on tour. You will draw TA/DA from your Ministry/Department/Office. The expenditure will be debitable to the Budget grant of your Ministry/Department/Office. You are also entitled to travel by air by any scheduled commercial flight of any Airlines. However, whenever you travel by train, it shall be as per your entitled class.

5. Request of permission for temporary absence, leave etc. should be taken up by you with the DEC concerned. In all such cases, unless a reply is received in that regard, the permission shall not be deemed to have accrued. All requests for exemption should be routed through your Sponsoring Authority. No exemption requests shall be deemed to have been accepted unless you receive communication in writing from Commission that your exemption request has been accepted by the Commission.

6. Your 1st visit will be in virtual mode from date of notification for 3 clear days in which you are required to submit preparedness report (Expenditure Observer Report-I) on completion. In 2nd visit, you must reach the Constituency on one day before the last date of nomination of election (by afternoon) and shall remain in the constituency during the entire campaign period and leave the constituency only after the polling-poll, if any. You are required to submit Expenditure Observer Report-II on last date of withdrawal of candidates and Expenditure Observer Report-III within 24 hrs. of completion of polling, if any. Your 3rd visit may be in virtual mode from 26th day of declaration of election result onwards for 8 clear days to assist the DO in scrutinizing the statements of accounts of election expenditure submitted by the candidates after the declaration of results. You should be present in the Account Reconciliation Meeting to be convened by the DO the 26th day after the declaration of results. On completion of your duty as Observer in virtual 3rd and last visit, you will send a final report (Expenditure Observer Report-IV) to the Commission and also intimate this to the Commission directly that you have completed your duty as Observer. Unless specifically required by the Commission to continue on duty as Observer, you shall stand automatically released from the duties of Observer after that date. Kindly go carefully through the latest edition of "Compendium of Instructions on Election Expenditure Monitoring" for detailed procedure.

7. You are requested to report to your controlling authority after completion of each visit (1st, 2nd & 3rd).

8. You are also directed that no appreciation letter of any kind will be issued by you to the Returning Officer or to any other election related official while you are working as Observer of the Election Commission of India or even later on in the same capacity. If the Observer is of the view that any election related official needs to be appreciated, they should send their proposal to Election Commission giving full reasons. The Observer will not issue any direction regarding transfer of officers etc. to the DO/RO or to any other election related official. In case any deviation in the conduct of officials is noted by the Observer, the same may be brought to the notice of the Commission immediately so that the Commission may take appropriate action on the matter.

Kindly update following Bank Details in the Personal Information Sheet on Observer portal if not yet done. This information is required for transferring honorarium through EFT.


Your user id and password for accessing the Observer portal is your Observer Code as mentioned above. You should change your password on first login.

The link for Observer Portal is available on https://eci.gov.in/observers/central-observers/

Yours faithfully,

(Anup Kumar Khakhliary)
Under Secretary
**Annexure-A**

Expenditure Observers’ 1st Visit related works from date of notification i.e. 25.01.2022 through Virtual Mode

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day:1 Date 25.01.2022</th>
<th>Events to be carried out by the Expenditure Observers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Though 1st Visit will be in virtual mode, but, Expenditure Observers are requested to submit and upload their Arrival Report. It will be accepted as their presence in the constituencies assigned to them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meeting with DEO, SP, ROs, District level Nodal Officer of Income Tax Department and State Excise Department and will take inputs from them on the following points:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) Appointment and training of Assistant Expenditure Observers and all the teams engaged in election expenditure monitoring viz. Flying Squads, Static Surveillance Teams, Video Surveillance Teams, Video Viewing Teams, Accounting Teams, Media Certification &amp; Monitoring Committee (MCMC), Complaint Monitoring Control Room and Call Centre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) Status of surveillance on distribution of cash, liquor, freebies etc. in the ACs concerned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(c) DEO’s meeting with all political parties and whether copy of “Compendium of Instructions on Election Expenditure Monitoring (October, 2021)” in regional language and amended notification regarding enhancement of maximum limit of candidates’ election expenses prescribed under Rule 90 of the C. E. Rules, 1961 has been given to them or not.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(d) Status of preparation and notification of Rate Chart of various items of election related expenses. Whether rate charts of all Media operating in the constituency has been obtained or not.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(e) Status of Election Expenditure Register to be given to the contesting candidates by RO.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(f) Any other election expenditure monitoring related issues raised by Expenditure Observer, DEO, SP, ROs, District level Nodal Officer of Income Tax Department and State Excise Department etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day:2 Date 26.01.2022</th>
<th>Meeting with AEOs and In-charge of Election Expenditure Monitoring teams viz. VST, VVT, AT, FS, SST, MCMC, Complaint Monitoring Cell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Expenditure Observer will interact and guide AEOs and team</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
members of Election Expenditure Monitoring Teams on course of action to be taken by them.

| Day:3 Date 27.01.2022 | Expenditure Observers are advised to compulsorily carry out activities mentioned above virtually and bring any other issue/shortcoming to the notice of DEO, CEO concerned relating to Election Expenditure Monitoring for corrective measures and thereafter, upload signed copy of Expenditure Observer Report I. Apart from Radio Button facility for submission of report, Expenditure Observer may upload signed copy of their report as “Any Other Report”. No need to send post copy in case signed copy of the report has been uploaded. |
ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/9/2022
Dated: January 17, 2022

PRESS NOTE

After consideration of all facts made available, Election Commission has announced 2022 General Elections to the Legislative Assembly of State of Punjab on 8th January 2022 under which notification for the election is to be issued on 21st January 2022 and poll is to take place on 14th February 2022.

Commission has received several representations from State Government, Political Parties and other organizations drawing attention regarding movement of a large number of devotees from Punjab to Varanasi for participation in Sri Guru Ravidas Ji Jayanti celebrations, which is observed on 16th February 2022. They have also brought to the notice that a large number of devotees start moving for Varanasi around a week before the day of celebration and keeping the poll day on 14th February 2022 will deprive large number of electors from voting. In view of this, they have requested to shift the poll date few days after 16th February 2022. Commission has also taken inputs from State Government and Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab in this regard.

After considering these new facts emerging out of these representations, inputs from the State Government and Chief Electoral Officer, past precedence and all facts and circumstances in the matter, now Commission has decided to reschedule the General Elections to Legislative Assembly of Punjab in the following manner:

1. Date of Notification: 25th January 2022 (Tuesday)
2. Last date of Nomination: 1st February 2022 (Tuesday)
3. Date of Scrutiny: 2nd February 2022 (Wednesday)
4. Date of Withdrawal: 4th February 2022 (Friday)
5. Date of Poll: 20th February 2022 (Sunday).

Counting of Votes will be taken up on 10th March 2022 (Thursday).

Anuj Chandak
Joint Director (Media)