

## BJP retains Vidisha Lok Sabha seat

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Madhya Pradesh Thursday retained the Vidisha Lok Sabha seat, elections to which were held on Monday.

State Public Health Engineering Minister Rampal Singh emerged victorious, defeating his nearest Congress rival Rajshri Singh by about 85,000 votes, official sources said here.

Uma Bharati's Bharatiya Jan Shakti Party (BJSP) candidate and party state president, Raghunandan Sharma, secured third place.

The election was necessitated with Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan vacating the seat after he was elected chief minister a year ago. He had retained the seat for the past five general elections.

Last time, he bagged the seat with a record margin of over 250,000 votes. The Congress has once again remained in the second position.

While the BJP bagged 258,263 votes, the Congress was second with 173,175 votes and the BJSP had to contend with 137,354 votes. The Samajwadi Party was fourth with 173,97.

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