

PRESS NOTE

ELECTION TO THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF INDIA 2022



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
Election Commission of India

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ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

NO.ECI/PN/56/2022

Date: 09/06/2022

PRESS NOTE

Sub: Election to the Office of President of India, 2022 (16th Presidential Election).

The term of office of Shri Ram Nath Kovind, President of India, is ending on 24th July, 2022. As per Article 62 of the Constitution of India, an election to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of the outgoing President is required to be completed before the expiration of the term.

2. Article 324 of the Constitution read with the Presidential and Vice – Presidential Elections Act, 1952, and the Presidential and Vice – Presidential Elections Rules, 1974 vests the superintendence, direction and control of the conduct of election to the office of the President of India in the Election Commission of India. The Election Commission is mandated to ensure that the election to the office of the President of India, which is the highest elective office in the country, must be a free and fair election and the Commission is taking all necessary steps for discharging its constitutional responsibility. Election Commission of India is privileged and honoured to announce today the schedule of election for the 16th Presidential Election. Section 4(3) of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952 provides that the notification for election shall be issued on or after the sixtieth day before the expiration of term of office of the outgoing President.

3. As per the Article 54 of the Constitution of India, the President is elected by the members of the Electoral College consisting of:

- (I) elected members of both Houses of Parliament, and
- (II) elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of all States including National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of Puducherry.

(The nominated members of either Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha or Legislative Assemblies of the States are not eligible to be included in the Electoral College and therefore, they are not entitled to participate in the election. Similarly, members of the Legislative Councils are also not electors for the Presidential election). The value of votes of the elected members of State Legislative Assemblies and both Houses of Parliament is governed by Article 55(2) of the Constitution. The total value of votes for MLAs for 16th Presidential Election is 543231. The total value of votes for MPs is 543200. The total value of vote of electors for the Presidential Election, 2022 is 1086431. The **Appendix-I** in the booklet 'Election to the office of President of India, 2022', gives the State wise and other details of the above mentioned figures.

4. Article 55 (3) of the Constitution provides that the election shall be held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting at such election shall be by secret ballot. In this system, the elector has to mark preferences against the names of the candidates. Preference can be marked in the international form of Indian numerals, in Roman form, or in the form in any recognised Indian languages. Preference has to be marked in figures only and shall not be indicated in words. The elector can mark as many preferences as the number of candidates. While the marking of the first preference is compulsory for the ballot paper to be valid, other preferences are optional.

5. For marking the vote, the Commission will supply particular pens. The pen will be given to the electors in the polling station by the designated official when the ballot paper is handed over. Electors have to mark the ballot only with this particular pen and not with any other pen. Voting by using any other pen shall lead to invalidation of the vote at the time of counting.

6. The Election Commission, in consultation with the Central Government, appoints the Secretary General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, by rotation, as the Returning Officer. Accordingly, the Secretary General, Rajya Sabha will be appointed as the Returning Officer for the present election to the Office of the

President. The Commission has also decided to appoint Assistant Returning Officers in all State capitals, including NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Puducherry, for making arrangements for conducting the poll and for transportation of the ballot boxes and other important election materials to and from the Election Commission. For meeting any eventuality, in case the Assistant Returning Officer is not available for any reason, a second Assistant Returning Officer is also being appointed. A list of Assistant Returning Officers is at **Appendix-I**.

7. As per Rule 7 of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Rules 1974, poll for the election will be taken in the Parliament House and in the premises of State Legislative Assemblies, including the Legislative Assemblies of NCT of Delhi and Puducherry where Legislative Assembly meets for transaction of business. The polling, if required, shall take place at the places of polling as given in the list at **Appendix-II**.

8. As per the Schedule of the election, the nomination paper of a candidate must be delivered to the Returning Officer at New Delhi in the place to be specified by him by a public notice that will be issued by him (in Form-1 appended to the Presidential and Vice- Presidential Elections, Rules, 1974), and at no other place. Under the law, nomination (in prescribed Form 2) can be filed either by the candidate himself or by any of his proposers or seconders between 11.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Nomination cannot be filed on public holidays. A nomination paper of a candidate has to be subscribed by at least fifty electors as proposers and by at least other fifty electors as seconders. An elector can subscribe to only one nomination paper of a candidate as either a proposer or a seconder and is governed by Section 5B (5) of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952. A candidate can file maximum of four nomination papers. The security deposit for the election is Rs. 15,000/- (Rupees fifteen thousand only), which is required to be made along with the nomination paper, or should be deposited in Reserve Bank of India or a Govt. Treasury under the relevant Head of Accounts for the purpose, prior to filing of nomination.

9. As per Rule 40 of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Rules, 1974, the Commission shall maintain a list of members of the electoral college referred to in Article 54 with their correct up to date addresses, for the purpose of Presidential election. The list of members of the Electoral College maintained by the Commission for the Presidential Election, 2022, would be available for sale @ Rs. 300/- per copy from the counter opened in the premises of Election Commission of India. A copy of the Electoral College is also being uploaded on the Commission's website. However, the said list will be updated after filling of the 55 vacancies in the ongoing Council of States elections, whose terms are expiring before the date of poll for Presidential Elections. Similarly, it will be updated after the results of the bye-elections in some State Legislative Assemblies. Therefore, Supplementary list(s) to the Electoral College will be published, as and when required.

10. Each contesting candidate can authorize a representative to be present in each place of polling and at the place fixed for counting (counting hall). Authorization of representatives for this purpose shall be made by the candidate, in writing.

11. Normally, Members of Parliament are expected to cast their votes at the place of polling in the Parliament House, New Delhi. Similarly, Members of State Legislative Assemblies are expected to vote at the respective State Legislative Assembly. However, on account of any exigency or special circumstances, the Members of Parliament can vote in any of the approved places of polling in the Legislative Assemblies of States/NCT of Delhi/UT of Puducherry. In similar conditions, any MLA may vote at the place of polling in Parliament House, New Delhi or in any of the approved places of polling in the Legislative Assembly of other States/NCT of Delhi/UT of Puducherry. For this purpose, the MPs/MLAs concerned have to apply, in advance, to the Election Commission in the prescribed format so as to reach the Election Commission at least 10 days before the date of poll. The format for making such application will be available with the Returning Officer and with the Assistant Returning Officers.

12. The Constitution has expressly provided that election to the office of President shall be by secret ballot. Therefore, the electors are expected to scrupulously maintain secrecy of vote. There is no concept of open voting in this election and showing the ballot to anyone under any circumstances in the case of Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections is totally prohibited. Voting procedure laid down in the 1974 Rules provides that after marking the vote in the Voting Compartment, the elector is required to fold the ballot paper and insert it in the Ballot Box. Any violation of the voting procedure will entail cancellation of the ballot paper by the Presiding Officer. As already mentioned in paragraph 5, marking of vote can be done only with the particular pen provided by the Presiding Officer to the electors at the place of polling.

13. It is also clarified that political parties cannot issue any whip to their MPs and MLAs in the matter of voting in the Presidential election. It is further clarified that as per Section 18 of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, the offence of 'bribery' or 'undue influence' as defined in Sections 171B and 171C of IPC, by the returned candidate or any person with the consent of the returned candidate are among the grounds on which the election can be declared void by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in an election petition.

14. The Chief Electoral Officer of each State including NCT of Delhi and UT of Puducherry shall supervise and coordinate with the Assistant Returning Officer for the conduct of poll at the respective State Legislative Assembly and transportation of the ballot boxes and other important election materials from the Election Commission to the respective State Legislative Assemblies and back to New Delhi, after the poll.

15. To ensure a free and fair election, the Commission also appoints senior Officers of the Government of India as its Observers at the place(s) of polling.

16. All related Covid-19 safeguards and protocols will be enforced in all the steps of the electoral process and, on the day of polling and counting.

17. It has always been the Commission's endeavour to make elections eco-friendly. The election to the office of President of India, being an indirect election, does not involve election campaigning in the conventional way of displaying banners, posters etc. Still, the Commission, in view of importance of this election, has directed the Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officers concerned to ensure use of eco-friendly and biodegradable material and eliminate the use of prohibited plastic/materials as per extant instructions of Government of India.

18. Counting of votes will be held in New Delhi under the supervision of the Returning Officer. On completion of counting, Return of Election (in Form 7 appended to the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Rules, 1974) will be signed and issued by the Returning Officer.

19. In pursuance of sub-section (1) of section (4) of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, the Election Commission of India has fixed the schedule for the election to fill the office of the President of India as given in **Appendix-III**.

20. All available material in this Press Note is being uploaded on Commission's website. The Commission has brought out a comprehensive booklet covering all aspects of election to the office of the President and copies of the publication can be obtained @ Rs. 25/- per copy from the Commission's sale counter or from the offices of the Chief Electoral Officers in different States and Union Territories.

Narendra N. Butolia
Sr. Principal Secretary

Appendix-I

Assistant Returning Officers at Parliament	Shri Mukul Pande, Officer on Special Duty (OSD), Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Parliament House, New Delhi-110001.
	Shri Surendra Kumar Tripathi, Joint Secretary and Chief Vigilance Officer, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Parliament House, New Delhi-110001.

ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS

Sl. No	State/Union Territory	Officers appointed as Assistant Returning Officer
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Sh. K. Raja Kumar, Deputy Secretary to State Legislature, Andhra Pradesh, A.P. Legislature Secretariat, Assembly Buildings, Block No. 6, Velagapudi-522503, Guntur District
		Smt. R. Vanitha Rani, Deputy Secretary to State Legislature, Andhra Pradesh, A.P. Legislature Secretariat, Assembly Buildings, Block No. 6, Velagapudi-522503, Guntur District
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Sh. Kago Habung, Secretary, Legislative Assembly Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar - 791111
		Smt. Tadar Meena, Additional Secretary, Legislative Assembly Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar - 791111

3.	Assam	Sh. Dulal Pegu, Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Dispur, Guwahati – 781006
		Sh. Rajib Bhattacharyya, Joint Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Dispur, Guwahati – 781006
4.	Bihar	Sh. Pawan Kumar Pandey, Joint Secretary, Patna Bihar Legislative Assembly
		Sh. Anil Kumar Jaiswal, Deputy Secretary, Bihar Legislative Assembly
5.	Chhattisgarh	Sh. Dinesh Sharma Secretary, Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly
		Sh. Dinesh Trivedi Under Secretary, Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly
6.	Goa	Smt. Namrata Ulman, Secretary, Goa Legislature Secretariat
		Sh. Hercules Noronha, Joint Secretary, Goa Legislature Secretariat

7.	Gujarat	Sh. C.B.Pandya, Deputy Secretary, Gujarat Legislature Secretariat, Viththalbhai Patel Bhavan, Sector No. 10, Gandhinagar, pin-382010
		Smt. Reeta Mehta Deputy Secretary, Gujarat Legislature Secretariat, Viththalbhai Patel Bhavan, Sector No. 10, Gandhinagar, pin-382010
8.	Haryana	Sh. Rajender Kumar Nandal, Secretary, Haryana Vidhan Sabha, Vidhan Bhawan, Sector-1, Chandigarh
		Sh. Vishnu Dev, Under Secretary, Haryana Vidhan Sabha, Vidhan Bhawan, Sector-1, Chandigarh
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Sh. Yash Paul Sharma, Secretary, Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, Shimla-171004
		Sh. Sanjeev Gupta, Deputy Secretary, Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, Shimla-171004
10.	Jharkhand	Sh. Syed Jawed Haider, Secretary-In-Charge Jharkhand Legislative Assembly, Ranchi

		Sh. Ram Niwas Das, Joint Secretary, Jharkhand Legislative Assembly, Ranchi
11.	Karnataka	Smt. M.K.Vishalakshi, Secretary (I/C), Karnataka Legislative Assembly, P.B.No.5074, No. 121, 1 st Floor, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru – 560 233
		Sh. B.S. Mahalingesh, Deputy Secretary, Karnataka Legislative Assembly P.B.No.5074, No. 127/B, 1 st Floor, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru – 560 233
12.	Kerala	Smt. Kavitha Unnithan, Additional Secretary, Kerala Legislature Secretariat, Room No. 806, IVth Floor, Administrative Building, Legislature Complex, Thiruvananthapuram, Pin - 695033
		Sh. K. Suresh Kumar, Joint Secretary, Kerala Legislature Secretariat, Room No. 104, Ground Floor, Administrative Building, Legislature Complex, Thiruvananthapuram, Pin - 695033
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Sh. Awadhesh Pratap Singh, Principal Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, Bhopal-462004 (M.P.)

		Sh. Bhagwatdeen Singh Paraste, Additional Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, Bhopal-462004 (M.P.)
14.	Maharashtra	Sh. Rajendra G. Bhagwat, Principal Secretary, Maharashtra Legislative Secretariat, Vidhan Bhavan, Backbay Reclamation, Mumbai – 400 032
		Sh. Raturaj J. Kudtarkar, Deputy Secretary, Maharashtra Legislative Secretariat, Vidhan Bhavan, Backbay Reclamation, Mumbai – 400 032
15.	Manipur	Sh. K. Meghajit Singh, Secretary, Manipur Legislative Assembly, Chingmeirong, Imphal West – 795001
		Sh. Rohit Sapam, Additional Secretary, Manipur Legislative Assembly, Chingmeirong, Imphal West – 795001
16.	Meghalaya	Smt. I.Ch. Momin, Secretary, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly Secretariat, M.G.Road, Police Bazar, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya, Shillong-793001

		Smt. O. Kharmujai, Joint Secretary, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly Secretariat, M.G.Road, Police Bazar, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya, Shillong-793001
17.	Mizoram	Sh. H. Lalrinawma, Commissioner & Secretary, Mizoram Legislative Assembly
		Sh. Lalhmahruaia Zote, Additional Secretary, Mizoram Legislative Assembly
18.	Nagaland	Smt. Khruohituonuo Rio, Additional Secretary, Nagaland Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Kohima-797001, Nagaland
		Sh. Darhu Shupao, Joint Secretary, Nagaland Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Kohima-797001, Nagaland
19.	Odisha	Sh. Raghuram R. Iyer, OAS (SAG), Special Secretary to State Election Commission, Odisha
		Sh. Rangadhar Mallick Under Secretary, To Odisha Legislative Assembly, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

20.	Punjab	Sh. Surinder Pal, Secretary, Punjab Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, Sector-1, Chandigarh
		Sh. Ram Lok Khatana, Joint Secretary, Punjab Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, Sector-1, Chandigarh
21.	Rajasthan	Dr. Joga Ram, Secretary to Government, Local Self Government, Rajasthan, Jaipur
		Sh. Vinod Kumar Mishra, Chief Research & Reference Officer, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly
22.	Sikkim	Sh. Lalit Kumar Gurung, Special Secretary, Sikkim Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Namnang, Gangtok, Sikkim-737101
		Sh. Karma T. Gyatso, Special Secretary, Sikkim Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Namnang, Gangtok, Sikkim-737101
23.	Tamil Nadu	Dr. K. Srinivasan, Secretary, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Chennai-600009

		Smt. R. Santhi, Joint Secretary, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Chennai- 600009
24.	Telangana	Sh. Ch. Upender Reddy, Joint Secretary, State Legislature, Telangana Legislature Secretariat, Public Gardens, Hyderabad- 500 004
		Smt. V. N. Prasanna Kumari, Deputy Secretary, State Legislature, Telangana Legislature Secretariat, Public Gardens, Hyderabad- 500 004
25.	Tripura	Sh. Suithuifru Mog, TCS, SSG
		Sh. Abdul Rahaman, Chief Documentation Officer, Tripura Legislative Assembly
26.	Uttarakhand	Sh. Mukesh Singhal, Secretary, Room No. 303, Vidhan Sabha Bhawan, Dehradun.
		Sh. Chandra Mohan Goswami, Joint Secretary, Room No, 307, Vidhan Sabha Bhawan, Dehradun.

27.	Uttar Pradesh	Sh. Brij Bhushan Dubey, Special Secretary, Vidhan Sabha, Vidhan Bhawan, Lucknow – 226001 (Uttar Pradesh)
		Sh. Mohammad Mushahid, Special Secretary, Vidhan Sabha, Vidhan Bhawan, Lucknow – 226001 (Uttar Pradesh)
28.	West Bengal	Sh. Supratim Bhattacharya, Secretary, West Bengal Legislative Assembly
		Smt. Swasti Acharya, Joint Secretary, West Bengal Legislative Assembly
29.	NCT of Delhi	Sh. Raj Kumar, Secretary, Delhi Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110054
		Sh. C. Velmurugan, Joint Secretary, Delhi Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110054
30.	Puducherry	Sh. R. Mounissamy, Secretary, Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Victor Simonel Street, Puducherry – 605001
		Smt. N. Alamelu, Editor of Debates, Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Victor Simonel Street, Puducherry – 605001

Appendix-II

Sl. No.	Place of Polling	Group of electors who will be entitled to vote at the place
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Room No. 63, 1 st Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi-110001.	Elected Members of both Houses of Parliament.
2.	Committee Hall No. 201, First Floor, Assembly Buildings, Velagapudi, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh.	Elected Members of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly
3.	Nokmey Namati Hall, premises of Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Itanagar.	Elected Members of the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly
4.	Central Hall of Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat Building, Dispur	Elected Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly
5.	Old Reading Room at First floor of Bihar Legislative Assembly, Main Building.	Elected Members of the Bihar Legislative Assembly
6.	Committee Room No. 2, Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Raipur.	Elected Members of the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly
7.	Room No. 015, Ground Floor, VIP Block, Goa Assembly Complex, Porvorim.	Elected Members of the Goa Legislative Assembly
8.	Banquet Hall, Fourth Floor, Viththlabhai Patel Bhavan, Gujarat Legislative Assembly, Gandhinagar	Elected Members of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly
9.	Old Committee Room, Haryana Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, Vidhan Bhawan, Chandigarh.	Elected Members of the Haryana Legislative Assembly
10.	“Dr. Y. S. Parmar Library Hall, Vidhan Sabha”, Shimla.	Elected Members of the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly
11.	Tribunal Room, Room No. -GW-042 Jharkhand Legislative	Elected Members of the Jharkhand Legislative Assembly

	Assembly, Ranchi.	
12.	Room No. 106, 1 st Floor, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru-560233.	Elected Members of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly
13.	Room No. 740(Parliamentary Study Hall), 3 rd Floor, Kerala Legislative Assembly Building Legislature Complex, Vikas Bhavan P.O, Thiruvananthapuram-33.	Elected Members of the Kerala Legislative Assembly
14.	Committee Room No. 2, M-02 (Ground Floor), Indira Gandhi Vidhan Bhawan, Arera Hills, Bhopal (M.P.).	Elected Members of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly
15.	Central Hall, 4th Floor, Vidhan Bhavan, Backbay Reclamation, Mumbai-400032.	Elected Members of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly
16.	Committee Room, Manipur Legislative Assembly, Chingmeirong, Imphal, Manipur – 795001.	Elected Members of the Manipur Legislative Assembly
17.	Annexe Hall, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly, Rilbong, Shillong.	Elected Members of the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly
18.	Committee Room, Mizoram Legislative Assembly, Main Building (2 nd Floor), Treasury Square, Aizawl.	Elected Members of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly
19.	Conference Hall, Annexe Room of the, Assembly Secretariat	Elected Members of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly
20.	Room No. 54 (1 st Floor), Odisha Legislative Assembly Buildings, Bhubaneswar.	Elected Members of the Odisha Legislative Assembly
21.	‘Committee Room A’, Punjab Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, Vidhan Bhawan, Chandigarh.	Elected Members of the Punjab Legislative Assembly
22.	Room No. 751, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Secretariat,	Elected Members of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly

	Jaipur.	
23.	Conference Room Sikkim Legislative Assembly Secretariat.	Elected Members of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly
24.	“The Committee Room”, Ground Floor, Main Secretariat Building, Fort St. George, Chennai-600009.	Elected Members of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly
25.	Committee Hall No. 1, Assembly Buildings, Public Gardens, Hyderabad, Telangana	Elected Members of the Telangana Legislative Assembly
26.	Assembly Lobby, Tripura Legislative Assembly, Agartala.	Elected Members of the Tripura Legislative Assembly
27.	Room No. 321, Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly, Dehradun.	Elected Members of the Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly
28.	Tilak Hall, Vidhan Bhawan, Lucknow.	Elected Members of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly
29.	Chamber of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly at ‘Assembly House’, Kolkata.	Elected Members of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly
30.	Committee Room No. 01 (Room No. 37), Delhi Legislative Assembly, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110054.	Elected Members of the NCT of Delhi Legislative Assembly
31.	The Conference Hall, 4 th Floor, Phase-II Building, Legislative Assembly Complex, No. 4, Victor Simonel Street, Puducherry-605001	Elected Members of the Puducherry Legislative Assembly

Appendix-III

SCHEDULE FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 2022

Issue of Election Commission's notification calling the election	15.06.2022 (Wednesday)
Last date for making nominations	29.06.2022 (Wednesday)
Date for the scrutiny of nominations	30.06.2022 (Thursday)
Last date of withdrawal of candidatures	02.07.2022 (Saturday)
Date on which a poll shall, if necessary, be taken	18.07.2022 (Monday)
Date on which counting shall, if required, be taken	21.07.2022 (Thursday)



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