

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/124/2024

21.06.2024

PRESS NOTE

EC kicks off updation of Electoral Rolls for Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra & Jammu and Kashmir

Historic participation in Lok Sabha Elections 2024 prompts EC to initiate preparations for J&K Assembly elections, starting with updation of electoral rolls

Pre-SSR activities to begin from June 25, 2024 to set up/rationalise the polling stations at locations most convenient to electors in group housing societies, slums, city outgrowths & rural areas

Urge all eligible citizens in these States/UT to register in the electoral roll

After successful completion of General Election to the 18th Lok Sabha, the Election Commission of India has initiated the preparations for forthcoming State Assembly Elections in the States of Haryana, Maharashtra and Jharkhand with updation of the electoral rolls in these states w.r.t. July 1, 2024 as the qualifying date. The term of the existing Legislative Assemblies in the three states are going to end on 03.11.2024, 26.11.2024 and 05.01.2025 respectively and elections to these Legislative Assemblies are required to be conducted before the completion of their terms.

Besides, General Election to the Legislative Assembly of UT of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) is also to be conducted for constituting a new house after delimitation of Constituencies. Witnessing the huge participation of the people of Jammu and Kashmir in the recently concluded Lok Sabha Elections, the Commission has also directed for the updation of the electoral rolls in the UT of J&K with July 1, 2024 as the qualifying date. It may be recalled that CEC Shri Rajiv Kumar in the last press conference had remarked that *“the story of huge participation in Lok Sabha elections by people of J&K is very hopeful and inspiring, showing how eager people are to participate in democracy. It's crucial for people to stay peaceful and united, fulfilling their aspirations and decide their future and governance. The Commission is excited and gratified to help make this happen and will soon start the Assembly election process in J&K”*.

The last Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls was conducted in all the States and UT w.r.t. 1st January, 2024 as the qualifying date. After the amendment in the Section 14 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 by the Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2021 the provision of four qualifying dates in a year is available now. Accordingly, the Commission, for the purpose to provide ample opportunity to all eligible and unenrolled citizen to get themselves enrolled in the electoral roll and thereby get the chance to vote in the upcoming elections, has decided to conduct 2nd

Special Summary Revision (SSR) of Electoral Rolls w.r.t. 01.07.2024 in the states of Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and UT of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Commission firmly believes that pure, inclusive and updated electoral rolls are the foundation of free, fair and credible elections. To ensure the fidelity of electoral roll, the Commission is giving special emphasis on the conduct of intensive pre-revision activities before the publication of draft electoral roll.

Pre-revision activities would mainly include:

A. House to House survey by the BLOs: Booth Level Officers shall make house to house visits within their area of jurisdiction to collect the following information:

- Un-enrolled eligible citizen (eligible on 01.07.2024)
- Multiple entries/dead electors/permanently shifted electors
- Corrections in the ER entries

B. Rationalization/Re-arrangement of Polling Stations:

The Commission has been endeavouring for rationalisation of the polling stations with a view to bring the polling stations nearer to even smaller habitation for the convenience of voters and, at the same time eliminating the scope of intimidation, silent or otherwise, which inhibits free exercise of voting rights. With the same intent, the Commission before the Lok Sabha elections 2024 vide its instructions dated 22nd September, 2023 had directed to the Chief Electoral Officers of all the States/UTs for the setting up of polling stations at locations most convenient to electors in the High Rise/Group Housing societies, slum dwelling clusters in urban area and also where outgrowth has taken place in the expanding urban/semi-urban/rural areas. It has been experienced during the recently held Lok Sabha elections that there were a substantial high percentage of voting turnout in such polling stations in comparison to the polling stations set up apart from the residential societies, etc. Therefore, the Commission once again directed CEOs of these states/UT to conduct an extensive survey during the ongoing exercise of rationalization of polling stations to identify those urban areas where Group Housing Societies and high-rise residential buildings are located having adequate rooms/common facilitation area/community halls/schools for the purpose of setting up a polling station to cater to the resident electors, after following the due procedure.

C. Improvement of image quality ensuring good quality photographs, by replacing blurred, poor quality and not to specification and non-human images in the roll, wherever necessary.

The schedule for the SSR would be as follows:

S.No.	Activity	Period
Pre-revision activities		
1.	a) H2H verification through BLOs b) Rationalization/Re-arrangement of Polling Stations	25.06.2024 (Tuesday) to 24.07.2024 (Wednesday)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Removal of discrepancies in the Electoral roll/EPIC d) Improvement of image quality ensuring good quality photographs, by replacing blurred, poor quality and not to specification and non-human images in the roll, wherever necessary e) Recasting of Section/Parts and Finalization of proposed restructuring of section/part boundaries location of polling stations and getting approval of list of polling stations f) Updation of Control table g) Preparation of Format 1 to 8 h) Preparation of integrated draft roll with reference to 01.07.2024 as the qualifying date 	
Revision Activities		
2.	Publication of Integrated draft electoral roll.	On 25.07.2024 (Thursday)
3.	Period for filing claims & objections	25.07.2024 (Thursday) to 09.08.2024 (Friday)
4.	Special campaign dates	Saturdays and Sundays within claims and objection period (to be fixed by the CEO)
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i.) Disposal of claims and objections (ii.) Checking of health parameters and obtaining Commission's permission for final publication (iii.) Updating database and printing of supplements 	By 19.08.2024 (Monday)
6.	Final publication of electoral roll	On 20.08.2024 (Tuesday)

The Commission's intensive and sustained focus has always been in ensuring inclusivity, purity and health of electoral roll so that no eligible citizen is deprived of their right to be included in the electoral roll and to maintain error free electoral roll without any duplicate and ineligible entries, to the extent possible. Therefore, the Commission appeals to all the eligible citizens to come forward to get themselves enrolled in the electoral roll, if not enrolled so far, to exercise their voting right in the forthcoming elections.



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