



புதுச்சேரி மாநில அரசிதழ்

La Gazette de L'État de Poudouchéry

The Gazette of Puducherry

PART - I

சிறப்பு வெளியீடு

EXTRAORDINAIRE

EXTRAORDINARY

அதிகாரம் பெற்ற
வெளியீடு

Publiée par
Autorité

Published by
Authority

எண் } No. } No. }	52	புதுச்சேரி Poudouchéry Puducherry	திங்கட்கிழமை Lundi Monday	2026 ௨௫ 16 16th	மார்ச் 16 Mars March	16 ௨ 2026 (25 Phalguna 1947) 2026
-------------------------	----	---	---------------------------------	-----------------------	----------------------------	---

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

No. E.47/1/2026-GEPLA 26.

Puducherry, dated 16th March 2026.

The following notifications are published for information of the General Public :—

- Notification of the Election Commission of India No. 52/2026/SDR/Vol. IV, dated 15-03-2026 regarding postal ballot facility extended to electors over 85 years of age.
- Notification of the Election Commission of India No. 52/2026/SDR/Vol. IV, dated 15-03-2026 regarding postal ballot facility extended to COVID 19 suspect.
- Notification of the Election Commission of India No. 52/2026/SDR/Vol. IV, dated 15-03-2026 regarding postal ballot facility extended to essential services.
- Notification of the Election Commission of India No. 3/4/ID/2026/SDR/Vol. 1, dated 15-03-2026 regarding alternative photo identity documents produced by the Electors to establish their identity during polling.

P. JAWAHAR, I.A.S.,
Chief Electoral Officer.

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.52/2026/SDR/Vol.IV

Dated: 15th March, 2026

NOTIFICATION

In pursuance of the provisions of clause (c) of Section 60 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Election Commission hereby specifies that the elector above the age of 85 years and person with benchmark disability as already marked/flagged in the data base of the electoral rolls of the State and, who requests for voting by postal ballot paper and subject to the verification of his request by Returning Officer concerned, would be a class of persons to give his vote by postal ballot in the **current general election to the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry and bye-elections to 8 Assembly Constituencies in 6 States (as per Annexure-I), Scheduled to be notified on 16.03.2026, 30.03.2026 and 02.04.2026** under Section 30 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as per the provisions in Part-IIIA of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961.

By Order,

(S.B.JOSHI)
Principal Secretary

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.52/2026/SDR/Vol.IV

Dated: 15th March, 2026

NOTIFICATION

In pursuance of the provisions of clause (c) of Section 60 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Election Commission hereby specifies that the Covid-19 suspect or affected person, certified by competent authority, who applies for voting by postal ballot paper, and subject to verification of their request by the Returning Officer concerned, would be a class of persons to give their vote by postal ballot in the **current general election to the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry and bye-elections to 8 Assembly Constituencies in 6 States (as per Annexure-I), scheduled to be notified on 16.03.2026, 30.03.2026 and 02.04.2026** under Section 30 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as per the provisions in Part-III A of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, as amended vide Ministry of Law & Justice, Govt. of India, Notification SO No. 1964(E), dated 19th June, 2020 read with the directions and guidelines issued by the Election Commission on the subject.

By Order,

(S.B.JOSHI)
Principal Secretary

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.52/2026/SDR/Vol.I

Dated: 15th March, 2026

NOTIFICATION

In pursuance of the provisions of clause (c) of Section 60 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 and on due consideration of the matter in consultation with the Government of Puducherry, the Election Commission hereby notifies the persons employed in the essential services as mentioned in Annexure-I (copy enclosed) as a class of persons to give vote by postal ballot on account of being on duty on the day of poll in the current General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Puducherry, 2026 as per the relevant provisions of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, and the Commission's directions and guidelines. The programme of the said election is scheduled to be notified on 16th March, 2026.

By Order,

(S. B. JOSHI)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Annexure – I

1. Sanitation
 2. Water Supply
 3. Hospitals and dispensaries
 4. Power
-

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.3/4/ID/2026/SDR/VOL.I

Dated: 15th March, 2026

ORDER

Whereas, Section 61 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 provides that with a view to preventing personation of electors, so as to make the right of genuine electors to vote under section 62 of that Act more effective, provisions may be made by rules under that Act for use of Electors Photo Identity Card for electors as the means of establishing their identity at the time of polling; and

2. Whereas, Rule 28 of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, empowers the Election Commission to direct, with a view to preventing personation of electors and facilitating their identification at the time of poll, issue of Electors' Photo Identity Card to electors bearing their photographs at State cost; and

3. Whereas, Rules 49H (3) and 49K (2) (b) of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, stipulate that where the electors of a constituency have been supplied with Electors' Photo Identity Card under the said provisions of Rule 28 of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, the electors shall produce their Elector Photo Identity Card at the polling station and failure or refusal on their part to produce those Elector Photo Identity Card may result in the denial of permission to vote; and

4. Whereas, a combined and harmonious reading of the aforesaid provisions of the said Act and the Rules, makes it clear that although the right to vote arises by the existence of the name in the electoral roll, it is also dependent upon the use of the Elector Photo Identity Card, where provided by the Election Commission at State cost, as the means of establishing their identity at the time of polling and that both are to be used together; and

5. Whereas, the Election Commission made an Order on the 28th August, 1993, directing the issue of Electors' Photo Identity Card (EPIC) to all electors, according to a time bound programme; and

6. Whereas, Electors' Photo Identity Card have been issued to approximately 100% electors in the States of Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Puducherry, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Nagaland, Tripura and Gujarat; and

7. Now, therefore, after taking into account all relevant factors and the legal and factual positions, the Election Commission hereby directs that for the current general election to the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry and bye-elections to 8 Assembly constituencies in 6 States (as per Annexure-I) to be notified on 16.03.2026, 30.03.2026 and 02.04.2026, all electors who have been issued EPIC are expected to produce the

EPIC for their identification at the polling stations before casting their votes. Those electors who are not able to produce the EPIC shall produce one of the following alternative photo identity documents for establishing their identity: -

- (i) Aadhaar Card;
- (ii) MGNREGA Job Card;
- (iii) Passbooks with photograph issued by Bank/Post Office;
- (iv) Health Insurance Smart Card issued under the scheme of Ministry of Labour/Ayushman Bharat Health Card;
- (v) Driving License;
- (vi) PAN Card;
- (vii) Smart Card issued by RGI under NPR;
- (viii) Indian Passport;
- (ix) Pension document with photograph;
- (x) Service Identity Cards with photograph issued to employees by Central/State Govt./PSUs/Public Limited Companies;
- (xi) Official identity cards issued to MPs/MLAs/MLCs and
- (xii) Unique Disability ID (UDID) Card, M/o Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India

8. In the case of EPIC, clerical errors, spelling mistakes, etc. should be ignored provided that the identity of the elector can be established by the EPIC. If an elector produces an EPIC which has been issued by the Electoral Registration Officer of another Assembly Constituency, such EPIC shall also be accepted for identification provided that the name of that elector finds place in the electoral roll pertaining to the polling station where the elector has turned up for voting. If it is not possible to establish the identity of the elector on account of mismatch of photograph, etc. the elector shall have to produce one of the alternative photo documents mentioned in Para 7 above.

9. Notwithstanding anything in Para 7 above, overseas electors who are registered in the electoral roll under Section 20A of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, based on the particulars in their Indian Passport, shall be identified on the basis of their original passport only (and no other identity document) at the polling station.

By Order,

(S.B.JOSHI)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Annexure-1

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number and Name of the AC
1.	Maharashtra	223-Rahuri AC
2.		201-Baramati AC
3.	Goa	21-Ponda AC
4.	Karnataka	24-Bagalkot AC
5.		107-Davanagere South AC
6.	Nagaland	28-Koridang(ST) AC
7.	Tripura	56-Dharmanagar AC
8.	Gujarat	111-Umreth AC