



# புதுச்சேரி மாநில அரசிதழ்

## La Gazette de L'État de Poudouchéry

### The Gazette of Puducherry

#### PART - I

சிறப்பு வெளியீடு

EXTRAORDINAIRE

EXTRAORDINARY

அதிகாரம் பெற்ற  
வெளியீடு

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No.		Poudouchéry	Samedi	21	Mars	2026 (30 Phalgunā 1947)
No.		Puducherry	Saturday	21st	March	2026

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY  
ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

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

Puducherry, dated 21st March 2026.

NOTIFICATION

The Notification of the Election Commission of India No. 576/EXIT/2026/SDR/Vol. I, dated 20-03-2026 regarding Ban on Exit Poll is published for the information of the General Public.

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

## ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi – 110001

No. 576/EXIT/2026/SDR/Vol.I

Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2026

### NOTIFICATION

Whereas, the schedule 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) have been announced by the Election Commission vide Press Notes No. ECI/PN/029/2026 and No. ECI/PN/030/2026 both dated 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2026; and

2. Whereas, Section 126A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (in short R.P. Act, 1951) specifies that “(1) No person shall conduct any exit poll and publish or publicise by means of the print or electronic media or disseminate in any other manner, whatsoever, the result of any exit poll during such period, as may be notified by the Election Commission in this regard.

(2) For the purposes of sub-section (1), the Election Commission shall, by a general order, notify the date and time having due regard to the following, namely: —

(a) in case of a general election, the period may commence from the beginning of the hours fixed for poll on the first day of poll and continue till half an hour after closing of the poll in all the States and Union territories;

(b) In case of a bye-election or a number of bye-elections held together, the period may commence from the beginning of the hours fixed for poll on and from the first day of poll and continue till half an hour after closing of the poll;

*Provided that in case of a number of bye-elections held together on different days, the period may commence from the beginning of the hours fixed for poll on the first day of poll and continue till half an hour after closing of the last poll.*

(3) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this section shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both. ”

3. Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers under sub-Section (1) of Section 126A of the R.P. Act, 1951, the Election Commission, having regard to the provisions of sub-Section (2) of the said Section, hereby notifies the period between 7:00 A.M on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 (Thursday) and 6:30 PM on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 (Wednesday), as the period during which conducting and publishing or publicizing exit poll by means of the print or electronic media or dissemination in any other manner whatsoever, the result of any exit poll in connection with the aforesaid general election and bye elections, shall be prohibited.

4. It is further clarified that under Section 126(1)(b) of the R.P. Act, 1951, displaying any election matter including results of any opinion poll or any other poll survey, in any electronic media, would be prohibited during the period of 48 hours ending with the hours fixed for the conclusion of the poll in connection with the aforesaid general elections and bye elections.

By order,

(S. B. Joshi)  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Annexure-I

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