

**Regarding giving a holiday to voters in Lok Sabha' constituencies to vote on Election day for Lok Sabha General Election-2024.**

Government of Maharashtra  
Industries, Energy, labour & mines division  
Government circular no. LEP-2024/WN.26/Industry-6,  
Ministry, Mumbai-32  
Dated: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

**Reference**

- 1. Press release No ECI/PN/23/2024 dated 16<sup>th</sup> March 2024 of Election Commission of India**
- 2. Letter of Election Commission of India No 78/EPS/2024 dated 16<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Government Circular**

Our country has adopted a democratic system and all registered citizens above the age of 18 are expected to vote in every election. In view of this, under Section 135 (b) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, on the day of polling, voters are generally given paid holiday to exercise their right or, in some places, suitable relaxation given in working hours. However, in the last few elections, it has been seen that institutions, establishments etc. do not provide paid holiday or concessions in working hours. As a result, many voters are deprived of their voting rights. Which is very dangerous for democracy.

2. The Election Commission of India through a press release dated March 16, 2024 has announced the schedule for the Lok Sabha General Election-2024. The polling for the election will be held in five phases i.e. on April 19, 2024, April 26, 2024, May 7, 2024, May 13, 2024 and May 20, 2024.

3. As per the order issued by the Election Commission of India, the Lok Sabha General Election will be held in all the districts of the state as per Annexure-1. The following orders are being given to all the voters to exercise their right to vote properly in this election.

i) Workers/officers/employees who are voters in polling areas where elections are held, even if they are working outside the polling area for work, should be given paid holiday to exercise their right to vote on Election Day.

ii) The said holiday will be applicable to all industrial groups, corporations, companies, and institutions, industrial undertakings or other establishment's etc. coming under the Industries Department.

iii) In exceptional circumstances if it is not possible to give a full day holiday to workers, officers, employees etc., the workers come under polling area may be given a concession of at least two hours in lieu of paid holiday to exercise their right to vote. However, it will be necessary to take the prior permission of the respective Collector and District Election Officer. In any case, the

relevant establishments will have to ensure that voters get at least two hours concession for voting.

iv) As mentioned above, all the corporations, industrial groups, companies, and institutions, industrial undertakings etc. coming under the Industries Department should strictly ensure that the above instructions are duly complied with. If there is a complaint from the voters about not being able to vote due to not getting a holiday or concession for voting, appropriate action will be taken against them.

3. The said circular is being issued in accordance with Election Commission of India press release No. ECI/PN/23/2024 dated 16th March 2024 and letter No. 78/EP/2024 dated 16th March 2024 of Election Commission of India.

4. The said government circular has been made available on the Maharashtra government website [www.maharashtra.gov.in](http://www.maharashtra.gov.in) and its serial number is 202403221710362810. This circular is being issued with digital signature attestation.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra.

**Sd/- (Digital Signature)**

**(Shamkant Sonavane)**

**Sessions officer, Government of Maharashtra.**

Copy: Forwarded with a request to bring the above circular to the attention of all concerned establishments.

1. State Election Commission, Govt of Maharashtra, New administration Bhawan, Opp. To Mantralay, Mumbai 32.
2. Hon. Chief Secretary and Chief Election officer, Mantralay, Mumbai.
3. Development Commissioner, Directorate of Industries, New administrative Bhawan, Opp Mantralay, Mumbai.
4. Chief Executive officer, MIDC, Mumbai
5. Chief Executive officer, Maharashtra State KHADI & Village Industries Corporation, Mumbai.
6. Managing Director, Maharashtra State Small Industries Development Corporation, Mumbai
7. Managing Director, Maharashtra State Finance Corporation, Mumbai
8. Directorate of Government Printing Stationery and Publications, Mumbai
9. Managing Director, SICOM Limited Bldg-4, Solitare Corp. Park, G H Road, Chakala, Andheri East Mumbai.
10. Industry Group FICCI, MCCA, CMIA.
11. All District Collectors, Maharashtra State.
12. All General Manager, District Industry Center, Maharashtra State.

13. Forwarded with request for wide publicity to Directorate General of Information and Public Relations.
14. All Sessions of industry Department
15. File (Industry- 6)

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Annexure 1 as per Governement Circular No. LSN-2024/CN.26/Industry 6, dated 22/03/2024.

<b>Phases of Voting</b>	<b>Date of Voting</b>	<b>Name of Loksabha Constituency</b>
First Phase	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	9-Ramtek, 10-Nagpur, 11-Bhandara- Gondiya, 12- Gadchiroli-Chimur, 13- Chandrapur
Second Phase	26 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	5-Buldhana, 6-Akola, 7-Amravati,8-Vardha,14- Yavatmal-Washim, 15-Hingoli, 16-Nanded, 17- Parbhani,
Third Phase	7 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	32-Raigad, 35-Baramati, 40-Usmanabad (Dharashiv), 41-Latoor, 42-Solapur, 43- Madha, 44- Sangli, 45-Satara, 46- Ratnagiri- Sindhudurga, 47- Kolhapur, 48-Hatkanangale
Forth Phase	13 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	1-Nandurbar, 3-Jalgaon, 4-Raver, 18-Jalna, 19- Aurangabad (Chatrapati Sambahji Nagar) , 33- Maval, 34-Pune, 36-Shirur, 37-Ahmednagar, 38- Shirdi, 39-Beed
Fifth Phase	20 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	2-Dhule, 20 Dindori, 21- Nashik, 22-Palghar, 23 Bhiwandi, 24- Kalyan, 25-Thane, 26-Mumbai North, 27-Mumbai North –West, 28-Mumbai North East, 29-Mumbai North Central, 30 – Mumbai South Central , 31-Mumbai South