



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
Election Commission of India

निर्वाचन सदन
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Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/322/2025/Communication

Dated: 9th October, 2025

PRESS NOTE

Sub: -General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Bihar, 2025-Allotment of Broadcast/ Telecast time to National/State Political Parties-reg.

A copy of the Commission's Order No.437/TA-LA/1/2025/Communication, dated 9th October, 2025 regarding allotment of Broadcast/Telecast time to National/State political parties in the General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Bihar, 2025 is enclosed for the information of the general public.

(Brejesh Kumar)
Under Secretary



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ORDER

At the time of General Elections to the Lok Sabha in 1998, a new initiative for State funding of recognized political parties through free use of the State-owned Television and Radio was introduced under directions of the Commission vide its Order, dated 16th January, 1998. The said scheme was subsequently extended in all General Elections to the State Assemblies and General Elections to the Lok Sabha held after 1998.

With the amendments to the Representation of the People Act, 1951 vide "Election and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2003" and the rules notified there under, equitable time sharing for campaigning by recognized political parties on electronic media has statutory basis. In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (a) of the Explanation below section 39A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Central Government has notified all such broadcasting media which are owned or controlled or financed wholly or substantially by funds provided to them by the Central Government as the electronic media for the purposes of that section. Therefore, the Commission has decided to extend the said scheme of equitable time sharing on electronic media through Prasar Bharati Corporation to the ensuing General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Bihar, 2025.

The facility of use of broadcast time and telecast time is available only to 'National Parties' and 'Recognized State Parties' in Bihar.

THE SALIENT FEATURES OF THE SCHEME ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The facilities will be available from the Regional Kendra of the All India Radio and Doordarshan and relayed by other stations within Bihar.

Time allotted for Telecast/Broadcast:

2. A base time of 45 minutes is given to each National Party and 'Recognized State Parties' in Bihar, uniformly on the Regional Kendras of Doordarshan network and All India Radio network in Bihar.

3. The additional time to be allotted to the party has been decided on the basis of the poll performance of the party in the last assembly election of Bihar.
4. In a single session of broadcast, no party will be allocated more than 15 minutes.

Date of Telecast/Broadcast:

5. **The period of broadcast and telecast will be between the date of publication of list of contesting candidates for the election (in each phase) and two days before the date of poll in Bihar.**
6. The Prasar Bharati Corporation in consultation with the Commission will decide the actual date and time for broadcast and telecast. This will be subject to the broad technical constraints governing the actual time of transmission available with the Doordarshan and All India Radio.

Submission of Transcripts in advance:

7. The guidelines prescribed by the Commission for telecast and broadcast will be strictly followed. **The parties will be required to submit transcripts and recording in advance.** The parties can get this recorded at their own cost in studios, which meet the technical standards prescribed by the Prasar Bharati Corporation or at the Doordarshan/All India Radio Kendra. They can, in the alternative, have these recorded in the studios of Doordarshan and All India Radio by advance requests. In such cases, the recordings may be done at timings indicated by Doordarshan/All India Radio in advance.

Panel Discussions and Debate:

8. In addition to the broadcast by parties, the Prasar Bharati Corporation will organize a maximum of two panel discussions and/or debates on the Kendra/Station of Doordarshan & All India Radio for Bihar. Each eligible party can nominate one representative to such a programme.
9. The Election Commission of India will approve the names of coordinators for such panel discussions and debates in consultation with the Prasar Bharati Corporation.

Guidelines for observance in Telecasts/Broadcasts:

10. The telecasts/broadcasts on Doordarshan/AIR will not permit:
 - a) criticism of other countries;
 - b) attack on religions or communities;
 - c) anything obscene or defamatory;
 - d) incitement of violence;

- e) anything amounting to contempt of court;
- f) aspersion against the integrity of the President and Judiciary;
- g) anything affecting the unity, sovereignty and integrity of the Nation;
- h) any criticism by name of any person;

Digital Time Vouchers for Parties: -

11. Attention is highlighted to ECI order no. 437/TA-LA/1/2023/Communication dated 18th July, 2023, whereby ECI has amended the existing scheme for the use of Government-owned electronic media by political parties by introducing a provision to issue digital time vouchers through an Information Technology (IT) platform.
12. Digital time vouchers will be available in the denomination of 5 minutes each, with one voucher having time allotment of 1 to 4 minutes, if required. The parties will be free to combine them suitably. The allotment of time to different political parties is given in a statement enclosed herewith.

By order,



**(Brejesh Kumar)
Under Secretary**

**GENERAL ELECTION TO
THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF BIHAR, 2025**

***Time available to National/State Parties on
Regional Kendras/State Capital Kendras of Doordarshan/All India Radio***

Name of State	Name of National/State Party	Total time allotted in minutes for		No. of Time Vouchers issued for	
		Broadcast (AIR)	Telecast (DD)	Broadcast (AIR)	Telecast (DD)
Bihar	AAAP	45	45	9(5 minutes each)	9(5 minutes each)
	BSP	55	55	11 (5 minutes each)	11 (5 minutes each)
	BJP	176	176	35 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)	35 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)
	CPIM	49	49	9(5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)	9(5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)
	INC	109	109	21(5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)	21(5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)
	NPEP	45	45	9(5 minutes each)	9(5 minutes each)
	JD (U)	149	149	29(5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)	29(5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)
	RLJP	64	64	12(5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)	12(5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)
	LJPRV	64	64	12(5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)	12(5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)
	RJD	201	201	40(5 minutes each) + 1 (1 minute)	40(5 minutes each) + 1 (1 minute)
	RLSP	57	57	11 (5 minutes each) + 1 (2 minutes)	11 (5 minutes each) + 1 (2 minutes)
	CPI (ML) (L)	66	66	13(5 minutes each) + 1 (1 minute)	13(5 minutes each) + 1 (1 minute)
TOTAL		1080	1080	1080	1080



LIST OF POLITICAL PARTIES

National Parties: -

S. No	Abbreviation	Name of Party
1	AAAP	Aam Aadmi Party
2	BSP	Bahujan Samaj Party
3	BJP	Bharatiya Janata Party
4	CPIM	Communist Party of India (Marxist)
5	INC	Indian National Congress
6	NPEP	National People's Party

State Parties: -

S. No	State	Abbreviation	Name of Party
1	Bihar	JD (U)	Janata Dal (United)
2	Bihar	RLJP	Rashtriya Lok Janshakti Party
3	Bihar	LJPRV	Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas)
4	Bihar	RJD	Rashtriya Janata Dal
5	Bihar	RLSP	Rashtriya Lok Samta Party
6	Bihar	CPI (ML) (L)	Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) (Liberation)

