



**GENERAL ELECTIONS TO THE HOUSE OF PEOPLE FROM
LAKSHADWEEP PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY 2024**

PRESS NOTE

The Election Commission of India announced the schedule for the General Elections to the House of People from Lakshadweep Parliamentary Constituency in a press conference on Saturday at 3 PM on 16.03.2024. The Poll Schedule is as follows:

Sl. No.	Poll Event	Date (Tentative)
1.	Issue of Notification	20.03.2024 (Wednesday)
2.	Last date for making Nominations	27.03.2024 (Wednesday)
3.	Scrutiny of nominations	28.03.2024 (Thursday)
4.	Last date for withdrawal of candidature	30.03.2024 (Saturday)
5.	Date of Poll	19.04.2024 (Friday)
6.	Counting of Votes on	04.06.2024 (Tuesday)

MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT

- The Model Code of Conduct comes into effect immediately from today (ie.16.03.2024) and shall remain in force till the completion of election process
- The Model Code of Conduct will be applicable to all Political Parties, all Candidates, the Government and the Government Officials/servants.
- The Political Parties are requested to abide by the Model Code and extend their co-operation for conduct of free, fair and peaceful election that is free of hostilities, acrimony and does not give room for bitterness.
- The hoardings and banners displaying political advertisements are being removed as per provision of The Lakshadweep Open Places (Prevention of Defacement) Regulation 2022. Action for violation will be initiated on the basis of complaint from the owners. The police is also bound to register cases.
- The Political Parties are requested to extend their full co-operation for removal of advertisements and defacements in public places.
- Attention of the Political Parties and Candidates is invited to Letter No. 437/6/INST /ECI/FUNCT /MCC/2024 (Election Manifestos) dated 02.01.2024 of the ECI, relating to MCC provisions regarding welfare schemes contained in Election Manifesto and shall ensure strict adherence to the guidelines issued by the Election Commission in this regard.
- All Secretaries to Government and Heads of Departments/ Boards/Corporations were sensitized on MCC.
- Government Servants have been warned not to participate in any political activity. Any complaint against erring Government servants will be dealt with sternly. Besides taking disciplinary action

under Service Rules against those Government servants participating in political activities, criminal action would also be instituted under section 188 of IPC.

- All Officers / officials, including Police engaged in the conduct of elections shall be deemed to be on deputation to the Election Commission of India and would discharge their duties in an impartial manner without fear or favor. Their performance would be under constant scrutiny of the Commission.

ELECTORAL ROLLS

- The final Electoral Rolls with reference to 01.01.2024 as qualifying date were published on 05.01.2024.
- As per the Roll, the total number of electors is 57729 (Male: 29232; Female: 28497 and Third Gender: 0) This includes 166 Service voters and 0 NRI Voters.
- After the publication of the final electoral roll, applications for addition, deletion and correction which are received will be added after processing.
- After announcement of Election, applications for Deletion and Modifications will not be entertained.
- Applications for inclusions that are received 10 days before the last date for nomination of candidates will be included in the Second Supplement containing new inclusions.
- However, applications will be continued to be received till last date of nominations, which will be taken up for process after completion of election process.

POLLING STATION

- Rationalization of Polling Stations in the U.T. of Lakshadweep has been completed.
- After rationalization, a total of 55 Polling stations are in this constituency.

Assured Minimum Facility

- It has been ensured that all the polling stations are provided with basic minimum facilities such as ramps, electricity, separate toilets, shades, approach roads etc.,

Additional facilities for PwDs

- All polling stations will be mapped with the disabled voters in their respective polling stations.
- Facilitation services such as wheel chairs will be provided for orthopedically handicapped.
- Saksham App has also been developed by the ECI through which PwD voters can seek assistance.

VOTING OF SERVICE VOTERS/GOVERNMENT SERVANTS ON ELECTION DUTY

- All Service voters will be provided ballots through Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System (ETPBS)
- All the Government Servants on duty will be provided EDC to enable voting through EVM in their respective Polling Stations.

ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES & VVPATs:

- ECI has allotted BEL made M3 EVMs/VVPATs to U.T of Lakshadweep.
- Sufficient quantity of EVMs & VVPATs are available and will be used in all Polling stations.
- The First Level Checking of EVMs/VVPATs had been carried out in the presence of Political Parties.
- EVM - VVPAT demonstration was given through EVM Demonstration Centres to the Electors in all the inhabited islands of Lakshadweep.

- Intensive awareness campaigns to familiarize and sensitize people on the use of EVM - VVPATs have been carried out through Mobile Demonstration Van in all the Polling Station Locations of Lakshadweep Parliamentary Constituency.

LAW & ORDER

- Police Department, in co-ordination with District Election Officer, will be putting in place Bandobast arrangements at all Polling Stations.
- They have also been directed to invoke Section 107 & 110 CrPC for binding down trouble mongers.
- Sufficient strength of CAPF (Central Armed Police Force) has been sought.
- Police Department has been directed to hold Inter-State Co-ordination meeting with neighbouring states.

ELECTION EXPENDITURE MONITORING

- Flying Squads, Static Surveillance Teams, Video Surveillance Teams will function from today.
- Apart from this Expenditure Monitoring Cell, Video Viewing Team, Accounting Team will function.
- The State Level / District Level Media Certification and Monitoring Committee have been constituted and will function from today for pre-certification of Political advertisements and to keep watch over instances of Paid News.
- No advertisement shall be published or telecast without prior certification obtained from DL-MCMC.

COMPLAINT REDRESSAL MECHANISM-CALL CENTER

- The State/District Contact Centres at Lakshadweep have been established with Toll Free Number 1950.
- Both of these will be operational 24 × 7.
- 1950 will be a single source for availing the bundle of election services apart from registering complaints.
- Electors may log on to voters.eci.gov.in to find their sl.no. part no., location of the Polling Station and the contact details of their BLO.
- Web based online complaints can also be registered through NGSP portal

SYSTEMATIC VOTER EDUCATION & AWARENESS PROGRAMME (SVEEP)

- The focus of the SVEEP campaign would be on "No voter to be left behind" and achieving higher voter enrolment and "Ethical Voting".
- Various awareness programmes targeting youth, women, senior citizens, disabled, urban elite and rural poor would be undertaken.
- Sensitization of EVM/VVPAT awareness campaign in the digital mode will be pressed into service.

I.T. INITIATIVES

- As in the previous elections, the Poll Day happenings in all the 55 Polling Stations in the Union Territory will be web cast.
- I.P. Cameras will be installed in critical polling stations to monitor the happenings at the vicinity of the polling stations.

c-Vigil

- c-Vigil is mobile application which allows general public to report Model Code of Conduct and Election Expenditure violations as messages, photos or videos. On receipt of the complaint, dedicated Flying Squads will inspect the complaint location immediately and necessary action will be taken within 100 minutes.

Suvidha:

- Suvidha is an on-line portal for candidates/political parties to enable them to submit on-line application seeking prior permission for the conduct of meetings/political campaigns etc.,

KYC

- Know Your Candidate (KYC) is an app rolled out by the ECI for allowing the elector to know about the contesting candidates in the Parliamentary Constituency. Particulars about the Candidates will be available once the nomination process starts. Citizens, particularly the youth, are requested to use the App and cast their vote as an Informed Voter.

Sd/-

**A Vikranth Raja IAS
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER**