



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

No.Cdn.1/17/2026/GAD
General Administration (Co-ordination) Department,
Thiruvananthapuram, Dated:16-03-2026

CIRCULAR

Sub: General Administration Department – General Election to
Legislative Assembly of Kerala, 2026 - Schedule - Reg.

Ref: 1. Letter No.437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2026, Dated
15.03.2026 of Election Commission of India

2. D.O.No.EL4/822026-ELEC Dated 15/03/2026 from the Chief
Electoral Officer, Kerala.

The Election Commission of India has announced General Election to
Kerala Legislative Assembly - 2026 as per the following schedule:-

1.	Date of Issue of Gazette Notification	16.03.2026 (Monday)
2.	Last Date for making Nominations	23.03.2026 (Monday)
3.	Date for the Scrutiny of Nominations	24.03.2026 (Tuesday)
4.	Last Date for Withdrawal of Candidatures	26.03.2026 (Thursday)
5.	Date of Poll	09.04.2026 (Thursday)
6.	Date of Counting of Votes	04.05.2026 (Monday)
7.	Date before which election shall be completed	06.05.2026 (Wednesday)

The Model Code of Conduct has come into force in the State with effect
from 15.03.2026 with the announcement of General Election Schedule. The
Manual on Model Code of Conduct and the Compendium of Instructions on

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Model Code of Conduct are available on the websites of eci.gov.in/Handbooks and eci.gov.in/manuals of Election Commission of India. It is also available on <http://www.ceo.kerala.gov.in/handbooks>.

K BIJU I A S
SECRETARY

The Under Secretary, Election Commission of India, New Delhi
The Chief Electoral Officer Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
All Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/
Spl.Secretaries
The Additional Chief Secretary to Governor, Lok Bhavan,
Thiruvananthapuram
The Secretary, Kerala Legislative Assembly, Thiruvananthapuram
The Advocate General, Ernakulam
The Registrar, High Court of Kerala, Ernakulam
The Secretary, Kerala Public Service Commission, Thiruvananthapuram
All District Collectors
All Heads of Departments.
The Chief Executives of all Public Sector Undertakings
The Government owned Industrial Concerns } Through District Collectors
All Government Commercial Undertakings } concerned
All Departments in Government Secretariat including Law and Finance
(They may be requested to give necessary directions to the offices under
their administrative control)
The Station Director, All India Radio, Thiruvananthapuram
The Director, Information & Public Relations Department (for giving wide
publicity through media and Govt. Website)
Web & New Media (for publishing in Government Website)
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Signed by

Sabu T K

Date: 16-03-2026 17:55:18

Section Officer.

Copy to :

The Private Secretary to Chief Minister
The Private Secretaries to all Ministers.
The Private Secretary to Leader of Opposition.
The Private Secretary to Speaker, Deputy Speaker
The Officer on Special Duty to Chief Secretary.
PA to Secretary, GAD

**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA****Abstract**

General Administration Department - General Election to Legislative Assembly of Kerala 2026 - Model Code of Conduct - Screening Committee Constituted - Orders issued.

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (CO-ORDINATION)
DEPARTMENT**

G.O.(Rt)No.1331/2026/GAD Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 16-03-2026

Read: 1.Letter No.437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2026, Dated 15.03.2026 of Election Commission of India
2. D.O.No.EL4/822026-ELEC Dated 15/03/2026 from the Chief Electoral Officer, Kerala.

ORDER

In order to streamline the process and to ensure time bound disposal of all Government proposals requiring prior clearance from the Election Commission of India while the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) is in force in the state in connection with the General Election to Legislative Assembly of Kerala-2026, Government are pleased to constitute a Screening Committee with the following members.

- (1) Chief Secretary - Chairman
- (2) Secretary, General Administration Department - Convenor
- (3) Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/ Secretary of Department Concerned

The Committee shall meet **every Wednesday at 11 AM or whenever deemed necessary to examine each proposal**, before sending it to the Chief Electoral Officer, Kerala, in the light of the existing instructions/Manual on Model Code of Conduct/Compendium of Instructions on Model Code of Conduct till the end of the Election process.

(By order of the Governor)
K BIJU I A S
SECRETARY

4/4

The Under Secretary, Election Commission of India, Nirvachan Sadan,
Ashoka Road, New Delhi
The Chief Electoral Officer Kerala, Election Department,
Thiruvananthapuram
All Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/ Spl.
Secretaries
The Additional Chief Secretary to Governor, Lok Bhavan,
Thiruvananthapuram
The Secretary, Kerala Legislative Assembly, Thiruvananthapuram
The Advocate General, Ernakulam
The Registrar, High Court of Kerala, Ernakulam
The Secretary, Kerala Public Service Commission, Thiruvananthapuram
All District Collectors
All Heads of Departments/ Public Sector Undertakings
All Departments in Government Secretariat
Information & Public Relation Department
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PA to Secretary, GAD

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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

No.Cdn.1/17/2026/GAD
General Administration (Co-ordination) Department,
Thiruvananthapuram,
Dated:16-03-2026

CIRCULAR

Sub: General Administration Department - General Election to Legislative Assembly of Kerala 2026 - Model Code of Conduct - Screening Committee - Guidelines - Regarding.

Ref: 1.Letter No.437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC/2026, Dated 15.03.2026 of Election Commission of India
2. D.O.No.EL4/822026-ELEC Dated 15/03/2026 from the Chief Electoral Officer, Kerala.

The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) in connection with General Election to Legislative Assembly 2026 already come into force from 15.03.2026 with a view to making available sufficient time to comprehend the same and to facilitate all officials concerned to give appropriate direction to the subordinate officers in dealing with MCC cases. The following instructions are issued to be complied with so as to avoid sending all files to the Office of the Chief Electoral officer, Kerala for referring it to the Election Commission of India during election period for MCC clearance.

i. All Secretaries may give immediate direction to the HoDs, Head of PSUs, etc. coming under their administrative control that cases/files involving relaxation of MCC norms/ clarifications should be routed only through their respective administrative departments in the Secretariat and not to the Chief Electoral officer, Kerala directly.

ii. Cases that may come under MCC should be examined at the level of Secretaries itself, on the basis of MCC guidelines and decided accordingly. Only those cases where an exemption from MCC norms/clarification in guidelines is needed or cases which do not come under the purview of the existing instructions /guidelines should only be placed before the Screening Committee for referring to the Chief Electoral officer, Kerala for

consideration. Such files should clearly indicate:-

- a) Brief of the Case
- b) How it contravenes MCC provisions and why exemption is needed
- c) Specific remarks (need of urgency) of the Secretary concerned.

iii. Secretaries concerned must thoroughly examine the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) guidelines of the Election Commission and specifically record which provision of the MCC requires an exemption. Furthermore, if action is required while the Model Code of Conduct is in force, the urgency and essential nature of the proposal must be clearly justified

iv. The proposal in prescribed proforma appended with this circular (editable form also) and brief note (not exceeding one page) to be placed before the Screening Committee should be sent well in advance to the Secretary (GAD) (The file should not be sent to GAD). Soft copy of the same should be sent to gadcdn@gmail.com, **latest by Monday for placing in the next meeting on Wednesday.**

v. The General Administration(Co-Ordination) department shall forward all the proposals received from various departments to IT mission on Tuesdays and the IT mission shall return the same to GA(Co-Ordination) Dept in digital format by 3.00 PM on the same day for placing it before the Screening Committee .

vi. The proposals approved by the Screening Committee shall be submitted to the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer Kerala by the Department concerned for referring it to the Election Commission of India along with the full details and note on urgency of the matter, ie. why the proposal cannot wait till the completion of election process.

vii. No department should send proposals directly to the CEO's office/ECI without the recommendation of the Screening Committee.

viii. Casual sending of files to Office of the Chief Electoral Officer will be viewed seriously and reported to the Election Commission of India.

ix. All departments may be sensitized about the above directions and the MCC guidelines. The guidelines are available in the website of the Election Commission of India and Chief Electoral Officer, Kerala.

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SECRETARY

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The Chief Electoral Officer Kerala, Election Department, Thiruvananthapuram
All Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries / Spl.Secretaries
The Additional Chief Secretary to Governor, Lok Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram
The Secretary, Kerala Legislative Assembly, Thiruvananthapuram
The Advocate General, Ernakulam
The Registrar, High Court of Kerala, Ernakulam
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All Registrars of Universities in Kerala
The Director, Information & Public Relations Department (for giving wide publicity through media and Govt. Website)
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The Private Secretary to Speaker, Deputy Speaker
The OSD to Chief Secretary.
PA to Secretary, GAD

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3/5/31

Proforma

Sl No.	Dept & File No.	Subject	Need of urgency