



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Election Department - General Election to the Kerala Legislative Assembly, 2026 – Period of duty of Presiding and Polling Officers – Day following the date of poll shall also be treated as election duty – Orders issued.

ELECTION (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt)No.336/2026/ELEC Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 08-04-2026

Read 1 Instruction Letter No. 576/11/94/JS.II dated 15.11.1994 from the Election Commission of India.

2 Press Note No. ECI/PN/029/2026 dated 15.03.2026 of the Election Commission of India.

ORDER

The Election Commission of India has announced the General Election to the Kerala Legislative Assembly, 2026, and the poll is scheduled to be held on 09.04.2026. After the completion of the poll, the Presiding Officers and Polling Officers involved in polling duty are required to deposit the sealed Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), VVPATs, and sealed packets of election papers at the designated Collection Centers. It has been observed that the process of depositing these materials often extends late into the night on the date of the poll. Consequently, the polling personnel require reasonable time to return to their respective headquarters or places of duty.

The Election Commission of India, in the instructions read as 1st paper above, has directed that the day following the date of poll, and in the case of a re-poll, the day following the date of re-poll, shall also be treated as a period of election duty.

In the above circumstances, in pursuance of the instructions of the Election Commission of India, Government are pleased to order that, in connection with the General Election to the Kerala Legislative

Assembly, 2026, the day following the date of poll (i.e., 10.04.2026) and, in the case of a re-poll, the day following the date of re-poll, shall be treated as a period of election duty. Accordingly, the polling personnel shall not be required to report for duty at their normal place of posting/work on such day.

(By order of the Governor)
DR RATHAN U KELKAR I A S
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER & SECRETARY

To:

All Polling Personnel

All Additional Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries/
Special Secretaries

Secretary, Kerala Legislative Assembly

Secretary, Kerala Public Service Commission

All Heads of Departments

Registrars of all Universities in Kerala

All Departments in Secretariat

The Regional Director, Reserve Bank of India, Thiruvananthapuram.

All District Election Officers/ District Collectors.

All Returning Officers/ Assistant Returning Officers

All Central/State Public Sector Undertakings

The Principal Accountant General (Audit), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram

The Accountant General (A&E) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram

The Web & New Media (for publishing in the Government website)

The Director, Information & Public Relations Department (For wide
publicity through media)

Stock File / Office Copy.

Forwarded /By order

Section Officer