

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

General Administration Department - General Election to Lok Sabha 2024 - Day of Poll - Declaration of public holiday on 26th April, 2024 to the Public Offices and other institutions - Orders issued.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (COORDINATION) DEPARTMENT
G.O.(Rt)No.1436/2024/GAD Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 26-03-2024

- Read 1. Letter No.78/EPS/2024 dated 16.03.2024 from Chief Electoral Officer, Kerala
2. Letter No.EL6/4/2024/Elec (3) dated 18.03.2024 from Chief Electoral Officer, Kerala

ORDER

Government are pleased to declare Friday, the 26th April, 2024 as a public holiday for all Public Offices and Educational institutions and a paid holiday for Commercial undertakings in the State, in connection with the General Election to the Lok Sabha 2024 as per Section 135B of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

2) The Labour Commissioner will make necessary arrangements with all Private Enterprises, Private Industrial centres and other Private Institutions under the Shops and Commercial Establishment Act to declare the day of poll viz: the 26th April, 2024 (Friday) as a paid holiday for all their employees. No deduction or abatement of the wages of any such persons shall be made on account of a holiday having been granted in accordance with law and if such person is employed on the basis that he would not accordingly receive wages for such a day, he shall nonetheless be paid for such a day, the wages he would have drawn had not a holiday been granted to him on that day.

3) Employees including daily wage/casual workers who are ordinarily resident of the above Constituency where poll is taking place, and registered as an elector, in that constituency but serving/employed in an industrial undertaking or an establishment located outside the constituency where he/she is resident have to be given the benefit of paid holiday on the day of poll.

4) The Section 135B of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 is reproduced below for information:-

“a) Every person employed in any business, trade, industrial undertaking or any other establishment and entitled to vote at election to the house of the people or the Legislative Assembly of a State shall, on the day of poll, be granted a holiday.

b) No deduction or abatement of the wages of any such person shall be made on account of a holiday having been granted in accordance with sub-section (1) and if such person is employed on the basis that he/she would not ordinarily receive wages for such a day, he/she shall nonetheless be paid for such day the wages he/she would have drawn had not a holiday been granted to him/her on that day.

c) If an employer contravenes the provisions of sub-section (1) or sub-section (2), then such employer shall be punishable with fine, which may extend to five hundred rupees.

d) This section shall not apply to any elector whose absence may cause danger or substantial loss in respect of the employment in which he is engaged.”

5) The above provisions require that all the electors who are employees of establishments and shops including those which work on shift basis shall be granted a paid holiday on the day of poll in the Constituency where the General Elections are to be held. Further, there may be cases where a person is ordinarily resident of the Constituency and registered as an elector, may be serving or employed in an industrial undertaking or an establishment located outside the Constituency having a general election. It is clarified that in such a situation, even those electors including casual workers working outside the constituency concerned would be entitled to the benefit of a paid holiday extended under the Section 135B(1) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

6) The daily wage/ casual workers are also entitled for a holiday and wages on the poll day as provided in Section 135B of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

(By order of the Governor)
DR VENU V I A S
CHIEF SECRETARY

The Chief Electoral Officer, Election (General) Department,
Thiruvananthapuram (with C/L)

All Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary/Special
Secretary

All Heads of Departments

All District Collectors

The Chief Executives of all Public Sector Undertakings

All Government /Quasi Government Industrial concerns - Through
the District Collectors

All Government Commercial undertaking - Collector concerned

The Station Director, All India Radio, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Secretary to Governor, Rajbhavan, Thiruvananthapuram (With CL)

The Secretary, Kerala Legislative Assembly, Thiruvananthapuram

The Principal Accountant General (Audit), Kerala,
Thiruvananthapuram.

The Labour Commissioner, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Registrar, High Court of Kerala, Ernakulam

The Advocate General, Ernakulam

The Secretary, Kerala Public Service Commission, Pattom,
Thiruvananthapuram. (With CL)

The Registrar, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram

The Registrar, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam

The Registrar, University of Calicut, Malappuram

The Registrar, University of Kannur, Kannur

The Registrar, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady

The Registrar, Kerala University of Health and Allied Sciences,
Thrissur

The Registrar, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University,
Mannuthi, Thrissur.

The Registrar, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies,
Panagad, Kochi.

The Registrar, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur

The Registrar, Kerala Administrative Tribunal, Vanchiyoor,
Thiruvananthapuram.

The Registrar, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi

The Secretary, Kerala State Electricity Board, Thiruvananthapuram
The Managing Director, KSRTC, Thiruvananthapuram

A/c

All Departments in the Secretariat including Law and Finance
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

Signed by

Sreekumar T

Section Officer
Date: 26-03-2024 17:14:59

The Private Secretary to Chief Minister
The Private Secretary to all Minister
The Private Secretary to Leader of Opposition.
The Private Secretary to Speaker/Deputy Speaker.
The OSD to Chief Secretary
The PA to Additional Chief Secretary, GAD
The CA to Additional Secretary, GAD