

General Elections and bye-elections 2026: Scrutiny of Nominations concludes

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1. Election Commission of India (ECI) announced the schedule for the General Election to Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and bye-elections in 6 states on March 15, 2026.
2. The last date of filing of nominations for the States of Assam and Kerala and the UT of Puducherry and bye-elections in 4 states which go to polls on April 9, 2026 was March 23, 2026.
3. Scrutiny of nominations was taken up by the Returning Officers (ROs) on 24th March and completed for these poll-going states/UT and the bye-elections today. Details of the total number of candidates left in the fray after scrutiny are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of ACs	No. of candidates
General Elections			
1.	Assam	126	789
2.	Kerala	140	985
3.	Puducherry	30	366
TOTAL		296	2,140
Bye-elections			
1.	Goa	1	3
2.	Karnataka	2	50
3.	Nagaland	1	7
4.	Tripura	1	6
TOTAL		5	66

4. Scrutiny of nominations was done by the ROs in the presence of the candidates/their agents and the entire process was video-graphed for ensuring utmost transparency.
5. As per ECI instructions, the ROs drew up a list of the validly nominated candidates and displayed the list with the photographs of the candidates against their names on their notice board.
6. The last date of withdrawal of nominations is March 26, 2026 by 3:00 PM.

PK/GDH/RP

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