

General Elections to Legislative Assemblies and bye-elections 2026

Second Randomisation of EVM-VVPATs for Assam, Kerala and Puducherry completed

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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. EVMs are allotted to their respective polling stations through a 2-stage randomisation process through EVM Management System. In the first stage, EVMs are randomly allocated from **District level warehouses to the Assembly Constituencies**. In the second stage, EVMs are randomly allocated from the **AC level to the polling station level**.
3. As per the directions of the Election Commission of India (ECI), the First Randomization was done through EVM Management System (EMS) by the DEOs in the presence of the representatives of **National and State recognised political parties** for the General Election to Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and bye-elections in 6 states. Around **8.85 lakh** units of EVM (Ballot Unit, Control Unit and VVPAT) were allocated for use in elections through the first randomization process of EVMs.
4. Second randomisation of EVMs has been done through EVM Management System (EMS) by the ROs in the presence of contesting candidates for the General Election to Legislative Assemblies of **Assam, Kerala and Puducherry** and bye-elections in **Goa, Karnataka, Nagaland and Tripura** going to polls on April 9, 2026.
5. The list of first and second randomized EVMs and VVPATs will also be shared with all the contesting candidates.
6. Second randomization of EVMs will also be done for the General Election to Legislative Assemblies of Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and bye-elections in remaining 2 states as per procedure, after the last date of withdrawal of candidature.

PK/GDH/RP

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