

General Elections to Legislative Assemblies and Bye-Elections, 2026

Distribution of Voter Information Slips begins

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1. Election Commission of India (ECI) has commenced the distribution of Voter Information Slips (VIS) for the general elections to the legislative assemblies of Tamil Nadu and West Bengal (Phase-I) which go to polls on **23rd April, 2026 (Thursday)**.
2. VIS contains voter's details, Polling Station location, date and time of poll and a snapshot of the polling station map along with a list of **Do's and Don'ts to guide the voters** on poll day. A QR code also helps the voters in faster searching/matching of elector details. VIS also helps in **reducing crowding** at polling stations and helps in faster polling.
3. It may be recalled that the Commission had, in one of its initiatives, issued instructions to make VIS more **readable and accessible** for the convenience of voters. Accordingly, the part number and the serial number of the voter has been made **clearly legible** on the VIS for ease of identification and use.
4. VIS are being distributed by the BLOs concerned personally to the voters by **visiting door to door**. The process is to be completed **at least 5 days before** the day of poll to all enrolled electors.
5. To make the VIS accessible and voter-friendly, the Commission has also issued instructions that they should only be in the **languages in which Electoral Roll** is published for the assembly constituency.
6. To ensure wholesome constructive participation and active engagement of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in the election process, it has been directed to issue **Accessible Voter Information Slips (AVIS) with Braille Features** to Persons with Visual Impairment or Blind, **over and above the regular VIS**.
7. BLA/Candidate or their agents **may accompany** the BLOs during distribution of VIS.
8. Any unauthorized distribution/ possession of VIS (election material) shall be considered as violation of the relevant provisions of the RP Act, 1951 and the BNS and is **punishable with imprisonment or fine or both**.
9. Voter Information Slip shall **not be accepted** as a **stand-alone identification** document by a voter for the purpose of casting one's vote in the poll. Electors can use any one of the **12 authorised ID** proofs apart from the EPIC to cast their votes.

PK/GDH/RP

