

FAQs

What are the Important acts pertaining to Local elections?

- I. Municipal Corporation Act 1956
- II. MP Municipalities Act 1961
- III. MP Panchayat Raj evam gram swaraj Adhiniyam 1993
- IV. MP Local authorities (Electoral offences Act, 1964

What are the important rules pertaining to local elections?

- i. MP nagar palika nirvachan niyam 1994
- ii. MP Panchayat Nirvachan Niyam

What are the functions of State Election Commission?

The Superintendence, direction and control for the preparation of the electoral rolls and the conduct of all the elections to the local bodies shall be vested in the state election commission referred to in article 243(k) of constitution of India. By notification issued by General Administration Department on 1st Feb 1994 Madhya Pradesh State Election Commission was constituted.

In urban bodies who can be the voter?

Every person who:

- i. Is not less than 18 years of age as on the 1st January of the year in which the electoral roll for a ward is prepared or revised,
- ii. Is ordinarily resident in the ward within the meaning of section 20 of the representation of the people act 1950 subject to the modification that reference to "constituency" therein were a reference to "area comprised in ward"; and
- iii. Is otherwise qualified to be registered in the assembly roll relatable to the ward.

Can I be a candidate?

Any person may be a candidate for election to fill a seat if he is qualified to be elected to fill the seat under the provision of the Act:

Provided that in the case of a seat reserved for the scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes or Other backward classes or a women, no other person or is not a woman, as the case may be, shall be qualified to be elected to such a seat.

How can I nominate?

Candidates for registered political parties can only be nominated by the registered officer of the party. These nominations must be lodged with the District Election Office.

Candidates who are not endorsed by a political party must nominate with the Returning Officer for the district they are nominating for. Candidates nominating for a Region may nominate with the Returning Officer for any district within the Region they are nominating for.

Independent candidates are also encouraged to nominate using the forms available from any Returning Officer, [or on this website](#), whenever there is an election or by-election.

How much does it cost?

Each candidate nomination must be accompanied by a deposit as follows. The deposit must be paid in cash and no cheque is acceptable.

- In case of Panch from any ward Rs.100.00
- In case of Sarpanch of a gram panchayat and Rs. 500.00
- In case of member of Janpad Panchayat Rs. 1000.00 and
- In case of member of a Zila Panchayat Rs. 2000.00

For the seat of "councillor"

- Nagar Pachayat Rs. 250.00
- Municipal Council Rs. 500.00
- Municipal Corporation Rs. 1000.00
- For the seat of President of a Nagar Panchayat Rs. 2000.00
- For the seat of President of a Municipal Council Rs. 3000.00
- For the seat of Mayor of Municipal Corporation Rs. 5000.00

The deposit will be returned to the person who originally paid it, or someone authorised by that person, if the candidate:

is elected;

- receives at least **three percent** of the first preference votes in the electorate;
- retires before the close of nominations;
- dies before 6:00pm on election day; or
- if the election fails (an election can fail if the number of candidates is fewer than the number of positions).

All other candidates will forfeit their deposits.

Do I need to live in the electorate?

Candidates do not need to live in the electorate for which they are standing.

Can I have a copy of the electoral roll?

Candidates will be provided with an electronic copy of the roll for the election they are contesting, free of charge. This file can be printed if required and will be in a format suitable for looking up names and mail-merging letters.

Each candidate must personally sign an electoral roll confidentiality agreement to ensure that the data is used solely for campaign purposes in relation to the election.

All copies of the roll that are provided to candidates must be destroyed or returned after the declaration of the result for that election.

Common voting questions

Why vote?

India is a democratic country, which means we elect representatives to make decisions on our behalf. In India, voters elect representatives at regular intervals to each of the three levels of government; **Central Government, State Government** and **local bodies**. Each level has different responsibilities.

It is the **right** and **responsibility** of everyone on the electoral roll to vote. This ensures that everyone's preference is accounted for and that our elected representatives genuinely are those preferred by the majority of the electorate.

Local Elections

The councillors you elect make decisions on a range of local issues. Their responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- maternal and child health care centres;
- child care;
- sewage and sanitation;
- sporting facilities and recreation reserves;
- libraries and community centres;
- animal registrations;
- safety security
- energy and water facilities
- rubbish and recycling collection;
- town planning and building regulations; and
- local roads and footpaths.

Do I have to vote?

Voting has been compulsory in Madhya Pradesh State elections since 1994. If you are enrolled to vote, then you **must vote** in all Central, State and local elections.

Are there age limits for voting?

You must be at least 18 years of age to vote in India.

There is no upper age limit to voting in India.

Do I have to vote if I'm renting?

If you are enrolled you must vote at each Central, state and local election that is relevant to your enrolled address, even if you do not own the property.

Voting is difficult for me

If you need assistance to vote, there are several options available to you at the Polling Station.

If a relative is no longer capable of understanding voting, and you believe that they should be removed from the roll, their doctor will be required to provide formal advice to the nearest District Election Office.

What if I didn't vote?

Voting has been compulsory in Madhya Pradesh State elections. If you are enrolled to vote, then you **must vote** in all Central, State and local elections. This is the fundamental right to vote.

Where to vote?

Elections that require you to cast your vote in person are called attendance elections. For these elections, all people vote at Polling Stations on election day. All Polling stations are open from 8:00am until 6:00pm and their locations are advertised well in advance. These details will also be available on this website.

How do I vote?

People go to vote at polling stations on election day and are open from 8:00am until 6:00pm. Their locations are advertised before the election in the media and on this website.

At the Polling Station

When you arrive at the Polling Station, you will be directed to an election official who will ask for your name and address, and whether you have already voted in the election. The election official will also:

- confirm your electorate;
- mark your name on the electoral roll to indicate that you've voted; and
- issue you with ballot papers.
- Once the voting is complete, you will be marked with indelible ink on your index finger

You will then be directed to one of the voting machines / ballot boxes set up around the room so that you can fill in your ballot papers privately. Then you place your ballot papers in the ballot box or vote using the EVM. For a detailed process of voting using EVM, please [click here](#)

Election officials are available at every Polling station to help voters who have questions about the voting process or who may have difficulty voting.

Polling Stations close promptly at 6:00pm.

What are the Special Features of Electronic Voting Machine (EVM)?

Unique Serial Number : Each EVM has a Unique Serial Number (factory Programmed) which matches with the laser marked serial number and Bar Code on rear site of EVM

Real Time Clock (RTC) : The real time clock is used to display the current date and time. The current date and time is displayed with "Power On" and on pressing the "Total" button. Any malfunction of the RTC shall be displayed by "CLOCK ERROR" but all other functions will be working normally.

Time Stamping : Provision for Time Stamping for each voter.

Time Logging : Provision for Time Logging of events

Alpha Numeric Display : Provision for Alpha Numeric Display

Ward Number &

Polling Booth Number : Provision of acceptance and display of Ward Number and polling booth number

Tamper Detect : Incorporates Tamper Detect feature in CU and BU

Laser Marking : LASER marking of serial number on CU, BU and DMM

Anchoring of PCB : Anchoring of CU & BU PCBs to the bottom covers of the respective cabinets.

Potting : Potting of critical components to enhance security

Status of Battery Power: Battery Power status is displayed. At lower end of battery status, display flashes "CHANGE BATTERY"

Print : Provision for printing of poll data if required

Braille : Braille signage is moulded on ballot on BU for visually challenged persons.

Non-Clonable ID tags : EVM contains Non-Clonable ID tags (NC tags) located at different parts of the CU, BU and DMM.

NC tags provide the following features:

- o Unit authentication of CU, BU and DMM
- o Track and trace anytime – Anywhere for the EVM units.