

**LOCAL BODIES ELECTIONS
2018**

PRESS NOTE

**ELECTIONS TO
MUNICIPAL BODIES**

**IN
JAMMU & KASHMIR**

PRESS NOTE

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS:-

SCHEDULE FOR ELECTIONS TO THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS/ COUNCILS/ COMMITTEES, 2018:-

The last Elections to the Municipal Bodies in the State were held in the year 2005 through secret ballot and the term of five years expired in February, 2010.

As per Section 9 (1) of Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Corporation Act, 2000 and Section 282 (1) of Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Act, 2000, the powers for the superintendence, direction and control for and the conduct of all elections to the Municipal Corporations, Councils and Committees, is vested with the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K.

The Housing and Urban Development Department, J&K, Srinagar vide its letter dated 12-07-2018, requested to initiate the process of holding elections including preparation and updation of Electoral Rolls.

REVISION OF MUNICIPAL ELECTORAL ROLLS:-

The Municipal Electoral Rolls, 2018 with reference to 1st January, 2018 as the qualifying date have been revised for all the Municipal Bodies of the State. The draft roll was put in public domain on 4th August 2018, with claims/ objections up to 18th August. The final roll has been published, having 1697291 electors.

DETAILED STATISTICS

The statistics of Municipal Corporations/Councils/Committees in the State with no. of wards are given below:-

S. No	District	Name of the Local Body	No. of Wards	Total Electors
1	Kupwara	1.Municipal Committee Kupwara	13	5307
2	Kupwara	2. Municipal Committee Handwara	13	7972
3	Kupwara	3. Municipal Committee Langate	13	4572
		Total	39	17851
4	Bandipora	1. Municipal Committees Bandipora	17	18464
5	Bandipora	2. Municipal Committees Hajin	13	7304
6	Bandipora	3. Municipal Committees Sumbal	13	9048
		Total	43	34816

S. No	District	Name of the Local Body	No. of Wards	Total Electors
7	Baramulla	1. Municipal Council Baramulla	21	35727
8	Baramulla	2. Municipal Council Sopore	21	41228
9	Baramulla	3. Municipal Committees Pattan	13	5352
10	Baramulla	4. Municipal Committees Kunzar	7	1366
11	Baramulla	5. Municipal Committees Uri	13	3552
12	Baramulla	6. Municipal Committees Watergam	13	4407
		Total	88	91632
13	Ganderbal	Municipal Committee Ganderbal	17	10902
		Total	17	10902
14	Srinagar	Municipal Corporation Srinagar	74	663775
		Total	74	663775
15	Budgam	1. Municipal Committees Budgam	13	9535
16	Budgam	2. Municipal Committees Charar-I-Sharief	13	7587
17	Budgam	3. Municipal Committees Beerwah	13	3555
18	Budgam	4. Municipal Committees Magam	13	3359
19	Budgam	5. Municipal Committees Chadoora	13	3330
20	Budgam	6. Municipal Committees Khansahib	7	1488
		Total	72	28854
21	Pulwama	1. Municipal Committees Tral	13	8708
22	Pulwama	2. Municipal Committees Awantipora	13	3648
23	Pulwama	3. Municipal Committees Pampore	17	13004
24	Pulwama	4. Municipal Committees Khrew	13	5997
25	Pulwama	5. Municipal Committees Pulwama	13	10769
		Total	69	42126
26	Shopain	1. Municipal Committees Shopian	17	19171
		Total	17	19171
27	Kulgam	1. Municipal Committees Kulgam	13	10868
28	Kulgam	2. Municipal Committees Devsar	8	3942
29	Kulgam	3. Municipal Committees Yaripora	6	3729
30	Kulgam	4. Municipal Committees Frisal	13	3409
		Total	40	21948
31	Anantnag	1. Municipal Council Anantnag	25	47923
32	Anantnag	2. Municipal Committee Achabal	8	3730
33	Anantnag	3. Municipal Committee Bijbehara	17	12044
34	Anantnag	4. Municipal Committee Kokernag	13	4012
35	Anantnag	5. Municipal Committees Mattan	13	7534
36	Anantnag	6. Municipal Committees Pehalgam	13	3335
37	Anantnag	7. Municipal Committees Qazigund	7	2813
38	Anantnag	8. Municipal Committees Doru Varinag	17	10774
39	Anantnag	9. Municipal Committees Ashmugam	13	3849
40	Anantnag	10. Municipal Committees Seer Hamdan	13	5409
		Total	139	101423
41	Kargil	1. Municipal Committees Kargil	13	6069
		Total	13	6069

S. No	District	Name of the Local Body	No. of Wards	Total Electors
42	Leh	1.Municipal Committees Leh	13	14156
		Total	13	14156
43	Kishtwar	1.Municipal Committees Kishtwar	13	8830
		Total	13	8830
44	Doda	1. Municipal Committees Doda	17	5863
45	Doda	2. Municipal Committees Bhaderwah	13	6799
46	Doda	3. Municipal Committees Thatri	7	734
		Total	37	13396
47	Ramban	1. Municipal Committees Ramban	7	1781
48	Ramban	2. Municipal Committees Banihal	7	1879
49	Ramban	3. Municipal Committees Batote	7	2818
		Total	21	6478
50	Udhampur	1. Municipal Council Udhampur	21	30229
51	Udhampur	2. Municipal Committees Ramnagar	13	3885
52	Udhampur	3. Municipal Committees Chenani	7	1405
		Total	41	35519
53	Reasi	1. Municipal Committees Reasi	13	4530
54	Reasi	2. Municipal Committees Katra	13	5674
		Total	26	10204
55	Kathua	1. Municipal Council Kathua	21	34885
56	Kathua	2. Municipal Committees Hiranagar	13	6075
57	Kathua	3. Municipal Committees Nagri Parole	13	5345
58	Kathua	4. Municipal Committees Lakhanpur	7	791
59	Kathua	5. Municipal Committees Billawar	13	3610
60	Kathua	6. Municipal Committees Basohli	13	3993
		Total	80	54699
61	Samba	1. Municipal Committees Samba	17	15728
62	Samba	2. Municipal Committees Ramgarh	13	4447
63	Samba	3. Municipal Committees Vijaypur	13	5227
64	Samba	4.Municipal Committees Bari Brahmana	13	6209
		Total	56	31611
65	Jammu	Jammu Municipal Corporation	75	400301
66	Jammu	1. Municipal Committees Bishnah	13	7093
67	Jammu	2. Municipal Committees Arnia	13	6692
68	Jammu	3. Municipal Committees R.S.Pora	13	9746
69	Jammu	4. Municipal Committees Ghomanhas	7	3184
70	Jammu	5. Municipal Committees Akhnoor	13	7408
71	Jammu	6. Municipal Committees Jourian	7	2646
72	Jammu	7. Municipal Committees Khour	13	5110
		Total	154	442180
73	Rajouri	1. Municipal Committees Rajouri	17	14544
74	Rajouri	2. Municipal Committees Thanamandi	13	2551
75	Rajouri	3. Municipal Committees Nowshara	13	3541
76	Rajouri	4. Municipal Committees Sunderbani	13	2820
77	Rajouri	5. Municipal Committees Kalakote	7	2219
		Total	63	25675

S. No	District	Name of the Local Body	No. of Wards	Total Electors
78	Poonch	1. Municipal Council Poonch	17	13191
79	Poonch	2. Municipal Committees Surankote	13	2785
		Total	30	15976
		Grand Total	1145	1697291

RESERVATION OF WARDS:-

Notifications with regard to Reservation of wards for Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Women as per provisions of the Act and Rules governing Municipal Elections have been issued. Out of 1145 Wards, 90 Wards have been reserved for Scheduled Castes and 38 Wards have been reserved for Scheduled Tribes which includes 31 and 13 wards reserved for SC and ST Women respectively. In addition to this 322 wards have been reserved for Women belonging to Open category.

ELECTORS PHOTO IDENTITY CARDS (EPIC)/ALTERNATE DOCUMENTS:-

The Chief Electoral Officer, J&K has decided that compulsory identification of voters will be made in the Election to the Urban Local Bodies. Electors who have already been provided with EPIC shall be identified through EPIC only. However the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K has also notified a list of alternative documents which can also be used for the purpose of identification, by the electors who are yet to be provided EPICs.

POLLING STATIONS

Suitable number of Polling Stations have been notified for each Ward of the Municipal Corporations/ Councils/ Committees after final publication of electoral rolls.

ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES (EVMs):-

Vide SRO 336 and 337 of 2016 dated 19-10-2016, the Government has amended rules, thus allowing the use of EVMs in Municipal Elections. The Election in the Municipal Corporations/ Councils/Committees will accordingly be conducted at all polling stations using M1 EVMs. Chief Electoral Officer, J&K has already made arrangements to ensure availability of adequate number of EVMs for the smooth conduct of elections. The Randomization of EVMs shall be carried out before polls as per standard practice.

OBSERVERS:-

General Observers shall be deployed, one for each Municipal Body, to ensure free and fair elections. The Observers will be asked to keep a close watch on every stage of the electoral process. Their names, addresses within the district and their telephone numbers will be publicized in local

newspapers so that the general public can quickly approach them for any grievance redressal. In addition to General Observers, Micro Observers shall be deployed to observe the poll proceedings in the polling stations on the poll day in select polling stations.

ELECTION EXPENDITURE MONITORING:-

Comprehensive instructions for the purpose of effective monitoring of the election expenditure of the candidates have been issued. For greater transparency and for ease of monitoring of Election Expenses, Candidates would be required to open a separate bank account and incur their election expenses from that very account. Expenditure Observers are being appointed to keep close watch on election expenditure of the candidates. Control room and Complaint Monitoring Centre shall be operative during the entire election process. All candidates have to ensure that they maintain day-to-day expenditure record in the prescribed register, which will be supplied to the contesting candidate in the form of '**Expenditure Register**' from the date of nomination to the date of declaration of result.

Expenditure limits have been fixed through Notification dated 29-08-2018 for different categories of candidates as under:-

i)	For election to Municipal Corporation	=	1,50,000/-
ii)	For election to Municipal Council	=	1,00,000/-
iii)	For election to Municipal Committee	=	50,000/-

VIDEOGRAPHY:-

All critical events will be videographed. Deputy Commissioners will arrange sufficient number of video and digital cameras and camera teams for the purpose. The events for videography will include filing of nominations, scrutiny thereof and allotment of symbols, First Level Checking, preparations and storage of Electronic Voting Machines, important public meetings, processions etc. during campaign, process of dispatching of postal ballot papers, polling process, storage of polled EVMs, counting of votes, etc.

VOTER SLIPS:-

To facilitate the voters to know where he/she is enrolled as a voter at a particular polling station and what is his/her serial number in the Electoral roll, voter slips will be distributed to all enrolled voters. It has also been directed that the said voter slip should be in the Urdu and English languages.

POSTAL BALLOTS:-

In order to facilitate the Kashmiri Migrants, a scheme to enable them to vote through Postal ballot is being provided in the Urban Local Bodies.

MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT:-

With the announcement of this Schedule for the conduct of Election to the Urban Local Bodies through this Press Note, provision of the **Model Code of Conduct** shall come into force with immediate effect. All the provisions of the Model Code will apply to the whole of the Urban Local Bodies (Municipal areas) and will be applicable to all candidates, political parties & the State/Central Government.

SCHEDULE OF ELECTIONS:-

Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu & Kashmir has prepared the Schedules for holding of Elections to the Municipal Corporations/Councils/Committees after taking into consideration of all relevant aspects. The Election Schedule to the Municipal Corporations/Councils/Committees is given as under:-

A) PHASES AND IMPORTANT DATES

S.No.	Schedule	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV
1.	Date of issue of Notification	18-09-2018 (Tuesday)	20-09-2018 (Thursday)	22-09-2018 (Saturday)	24-09-2018 (Monday)
2.	Last date for making nomination	25-09-2018 (Tuesday)	27-09-2018 (Thursday)	29-09-2018 (Saturday)	01-10-2018 (Monday)
3.	Date of Scrutiny	26-09-2018 (Wednesday)	28-09-2018 (Friday)	01-10-2018 (Monday)	03-10-2018 (Wednesday)
4.	Last date for withdrawal	28-09-2018 (Friday)	01-10-2018 (Monday)	03-10-2018 (Wednesday)	05-10-2018 (Friday)
5.	Date of Poll	08-10-2018 (Monday)	10-10-2018 (Wednesday)	13-10-2018 (Saturday)	16-10-2018 (Tuesday)
6.	Date of Counting	20-10-2018 (Saturday)			
7.	Hours of poll	7:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.			
8.	Completion of Elections	27-10-2018 (Saturday)			

B) PHASE-WISE DETAILS OF MUNICIPAL BODIES:-

KASHMIR DIVISION			
Phase-I	Phase-II	Phase-III	Phase-IV
Srinagar Municipal Corporation Ward No. 16 to 17 & 74	Srinagar Municipal Corporation Ward No. 18-37	Srinagar Municipal Corporation Ward No. 6 to 15 & 38 to 53	Srinagar Municipal Corporation Ward No. 1 to 5 & 54 to 73
Municipal Committee Kupwara	Municipal Committee Langate	Municipal Committee Hajin	Municipal Committee Pattan
Municipal Committee Handwara	Municipal Committee Sumbal	Municipal Council Sopore	Municipal Committee Ganderbal
Municipal Committee Bandipora	Municipal Committee Kunzar	Municipal Committee Uri	Municipal Committee Pampore
Municipal Council Baramulla	Municipal Committee Watergam	Municipal Committee Tral	Municipal Committee Khrew
Municipal Committee Budgam	Municipal Committee Charar-I-Sharief	Municipal Committee Awantipora	Municipal Committee Pulwama
Municipal Committee Chadoora	Municipal Committee Beerwah	Municipal Committee Mattan	Municipal Committee Shopian
Municipal Committee Khansahib	Municipal Committee Magam	Municipal Committee Pahalgam	Municipal Committee Dooru Verinag
Municipal Committee Kulgam	Municipal Committee Yaripora	Municipal Committee Ashmuqam	--
Municipal Committee Devsar	Municipal Committee Frisal	Municipal Committee Seer Hamdan	--
Municipal Committee Achabal	Municipal Council Anantnag	--	--
Municipal Committee Kokernag	Municipal Committee Bijbehara	--	--
Municipal Committee Qazigund	--	--	--
Municipal Committee Kargil	--	--	--
Municipal Committee Leh	--	--	--

JAMMU DIVISION			
Phase-I	Phase-II	Phase-III	Phase-IV
Municipal Committee Bishnah	Municipal Committee Kishtwar	Municipal Committee Samba	--
Municipal Committee Arnia	Municipal Committee Doda	Municipal Committee Ramgarh	--
Municipal Committee R.S.Pora	Municipal Committee Bhandarwah	Municipal Committee Vijaypur	--
Municipal Committee Ghomanhasan	Municipal Committee Thatri	Municipal Committee Bari Brahmana	--
Municipal Committee Akhnoor	Municipal Committee Ramban	--	--
Municipal Committee Jourian	Municipal Committee Banihal	--	--
Municipal Committee Khour	Municipal Committee Batote	--	--
Jammu Municipal Corporation	Municipal Council Udhampur	--	--
Municipal Committee Rajouri	Municipal Committee Ramnagar	--	--
Municipal Committee Thanamandi	Municipal Committee Chenani	--	--
Municipal Committee Nowshera	Municipal Committee Reasi	--	--
Municipal Committee Sunderbani	Municipal Committee Katra	--	--
Municipal Committee Kalakote	Municipal Council Kathua	--	--
Municipal Council Poonch	Municipal Committee Hiranagar	--	--
Municipal Committee Surankote	Municipal Committee Nagri Parole	--	--
--	Municipal Committee Lakhanpur	--	--
--	Municipal Committee Billawar	--	--
--	Municipal Committee Basohli	--	--

In the process of finalizing the election schedule, the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K has taken into account various holidays and festivals during the months of September and October, 2018.

PUBLICATION OF RESULT OF ELECTIONS

The name of all the persons elected shall be published in the Govt. gazette by Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, as soon as possible after such elections are over.
