

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 437/TA-LA2016/Communication

Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2016

## ORDER

At the time of General Elections to the Lok Sabha in 1998, a new initiative for State funding of recognized political parties through free use of the State owned Television and Radio was introduced under directions of the Commission vide its Order, dated 16<sup>th</sup> January, 1998. The said scheme was subsequently extended in all the General Elections to the State Assemblies held after 1998 and General Elections to the Lok Sabha in 1999, 2004, 2009 & 2014.

With the amendments to the Representation of the People Act, 1951 vide "Election and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2003" and the rules notified thereunder, equitable time sharing for campaigning by recognized political parties on electronic media now has statutory basis. In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (a) of the Explanation below section 39A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Central Govt. has notified all such broadcasting media which are owned or controlled or financed wholly or substantially by funds provided to them by the Central Government as the electronic media for the purposes of that section. Therefore, the Commission has decided to extend the said scheme of equitable time sharing on electronic media through Prasar Bharati Corporation to the ensuing General Election 2016 to the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu & West Bengal.

The facilities of use of broadcast time and telecast time will be available only to 'National Parties' and 'Recognized State Party' in respect of General Election 2016 to the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu & West Bengal.

### **THE SALIENT FEATURES OF THE SCHEME ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The facilities will be available from the Regional Kendra of the All India Radio and Doordarshan and in the headquarters of above mentioned States/UT and relayed by other stations within above mentioned States/UT.

### **Time allotted for Telecast/Broadcast:**

2. A base time of 45 minutes will be given to each National Party and Recognized State Party (recognized in respect of above mentioned States/UT) uniformly on the Regional Kendras of Doordarshan network and All India Radio network in the above mentioned States/UT.
3. The additional time to be allotted to the parties has been decided on the basis of the poll performance of the parties in the last assembly elections from the respective above mentioned States/UT.
4. In a single session of broadcast, no party will be allocated more than 15 minutes.

### **Date of Telecasts/Broadcasts**

5. The period of broadcast and telecast will be between the last date of filing the nominations and two days before the date of poll (in each phase) in the above mentioned States/UT.

6. The Prasar Bharati Corporation in consultation with the Commission will decide the actual date and time for broadcast and telecast. This will be subject to the broad technical constraints governing the actual time of transmission available with the Doordarshan and All India Radio.

#### **Submission of Transcripts in advance**

7. The guidelines prescribed by the Commission for telecast and broadcast will be strictly followed. **The parties will be required to submit transcripts and recording in advance.** The parties can get this recorded at their own cost in studios, which meet the technical standards prescribed by the Prasar Bharati Corporation or at the Doordarshan/All India Radio Kendra. They can, in the alternative, have these recorded in the studios of Doordarshan and All India Radio by advance requests. In such cases, the recordings may be done at the State Capital and at timings indicated by Doordarshan /All India Radio in advance.

#### **Panel Discussions and Debate**

8. In addition to the broadcast by parties, the Prasar Bharati Corporation will organise a maximum of two panel discussions and/or debates on the Kendra/Station of Doordarshan/All India Radio. Each eligible party can nominate one representative to such a programme.
9. The Election Commission of India will approve the names of coordinators for such panel discussions and debates in consultation with the Prasar Bharati Corporation.

#### **Guidelines for observance in Telecasts/Broadcasts**

10. The telecasts/broadcasts on Doordarshan/AIR will not permit:
  - (a) criticism of other countries;
  - (b) attack on religions or communities;
  - (c) anything obscene or defamatory;
  - (d) incitement of violence;
  - (e) anything amounting to contempt of court;
  - (f) aspersion against the integrity of the President and Judiciary;
  - (g) anything affecting the unity, sovereignty and integrity of the Nation;
  - (h) any criticism by name of any person.

#### **Time Vouchers for Parties**

11. Time Vouchers will be available in the denomination of 5 minutes with one voucher having time allotment from 1 to 4 minutes and the parties will be free to combine them suitably. The allotment of time to different political parties is given in a statement enclosed herewith.

**By order,**

**(Dhirendra Ojha)**  
Director

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

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No. 437/TA-LA2016/Communication

Dated : 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2016

To

The Chief Executive Officer,  
Prasar Bharati,  
(Broadcasting Corporation of India),  
Mandi House, Copernicus Marg,  
New Delhi

**Sub.:- General Election 2016 to the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu & West Bengal- Allotment of Broadcast/Telecast time to National/State Political Parties – regarding.**

Sir,

I am directed to send herewith a copy of the Commission's Order No. 437/TA-LA2016/Communication, dated 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 relating to allotment of broadcast/telecast time to National/Recognized State political parties in connection with the General Election 2016 to the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu & West Bengal, for your information and necessary action in the matter.

The receipt of this letter together with its enclosures may kindly be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

(Dhirendra Ojha)  
Director

Copy forwarded to:

1. Director General, All India Radio,  
Akashwani Bhawan,  
New Delhi-110001
1. Director General, Doordarshan,  
Mandi House, New Delhi-110001
3. Sh. Rajiv Kumar Shukla  
Dy. Director General of Programme (Policy)  
Room no.101, Akashwani Bhawan,  
Parliament Street, New Delhi

By Speed Post

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan,. Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

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No. 437/TA-LA2016/Communication

Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of  
Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu & West Bengal.

**Sub: General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu & West Bengal - Allotment of Broadcast/Telecast time to Political Parties - regarding**

Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the Commission's Order No. 437/TA-LA2016/Communication, dated 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2016, which stipulates the allocation of time to the National/Recognized State Political Parties for broadcast/telecast on State Capital Kendras/Regional Kendras of Doordarshan/All India Radio during above mentioned general election. A copy of the order allocating the time may be given to Station Directors of All India Radio/Doordarshan concerned for implementation of the scheme. The time vouchers will be given to the political parties who will submit them to the Doordarshan/AIR Kendras alongwith the script of speech.

Time Vouchers will be available in the denomination of 5 minutes with one voucher having time allotment from 1 to 4 minutes and the parties will be free to combine them suitably.

The receipt of this letter with its enclosures may kindly be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

(Dhirendra Ojha)  
Director

Encl: As above

**GENERAL ELECTION TO  
THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF KERALA 2016**

*Time available to National Parties & State Parties on  
Regional Kendras/State Capital Kendras of Doordarshan/All India Radio*

Name of State/U.T .	Name of National/ State Party	Total time allotted in minutes for		No. of Time Vouchers issued for	
		Broadcast	Telecast	Broadcast	Telecast
Kerala	BSP	48	48	9 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)	9 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)
	BJP	76	76	15 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)	15 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)
	CPI	90	90	18 (5 minutes each)	18 (5 minutes each)
	CPI (M)	191	191	38 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)	38 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)
	INC	182	182	36 (5 minutes each) + 1 (2 minutes)	36 (5 minutes each) + 1 (2 minutes)
	NCP	51	51	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)
	JD (S)	53	53	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)
	Kerala Congress (M)	71	71	14 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)	14 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)
	IUML	86	86	17 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)	17 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)
	RSP	52	52	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)
<b>Total</b>		900	900		

**GENERAL ELECTION TO  
THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ASSAM 2016**

*Time available to National Parties & State Parties on  
Regional Kendras/State Capital Kendras of Doordarshan/All India Radio*

Name of State/U.T .	Name of National/ State Party	Total time allotted in minutes for		No. of Time Vouchers issued for	
		<i>Broadcast</i>	<i>Telecast</i>	<i>Broadcast</i>	<i>Telecast</i>
ASSAM	BSP	45	45	9 (5 minutes each)	9 (5 minutes each)
	BJP	98	98	19 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)	19 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)
	CPI	47	47	9 (5 minutes each) + 1 (2 minutes)	9 (5 minutes each) + 1 (2 minutes)
	CPI (M)	50	50	10 (5 minutes each)	10 (5 minutes each)
	INC	227	227	45 (5 minutes each) + 1 (2 minutes)	45 (5 minutes each) + 1 (2 minutes)
	NCP	47	47	9 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)	9 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)
	AIUDF	103	103	20 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)	20 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)
	AGP	120	120	24 (5 minutes each)	24 (5 minutes each)
	BOPF	73	73	14 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)	14 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)
<b>Total</b>		810	810		

**GENERAL ELECTION TO  
THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF PUDUCHERRY 2016**

*Time available to National Parties & State Parties on  
Regional Kendras/State Capital Kendras of Doordarshan/All India Radio*

Name of State/U.T .	Name of National/ State Party	Total time allotted in minutes for		No. of Time Vouchers issued for	
		Broadcast	Telecast	Broadcast	Telecast
<b>PUDUCHERRY</b>	BSP	46	46	9 (5 minutes each) + 1 (1 minute)	9 (5 minutes each) + 1 (1 minute)
	BJP	52	52	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)
	CPI	50	50	10 (5 minutes each)	10 (5 minutes each)
	CPI (M)	51	51	10 (5 minutes each) + 1 (1 minute)	10 (5 minutes each) + 1 (1 minute)
	INC	179	179	35 (5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)	35 (5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)
	NCP	45	45	9 (5 minutes each)	9 (5 minutes each)
	AIADMK	115	115	23 (5 minutes each)	23 (5 minutes each)
	AINRC	206	206	41 (5 minutes each) + 1 (1 minute)	41 (5 minutes each) + 1 (1 minute)
	DMK	99	99	19 (5 minutes each) +1 (4 minutes)	19 (5 minutes each) +1 (4 minutes)
	PMK	57	57	11 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)	11 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)
<b>Total</b>		900	900		

**GENERAL ELECTION TO  
THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF TAMIL NADU 2016**

*Time available to National Parties & State Parties on  
Regional Kendras/State Capital Kendras of Doordarshan/All India Radio*

Name of State/U.T	Name of National/ State Party	Total time allotted in minutes for		No. of Time Vouchers issued for	
		Broadcast	Telecast	Broadcast	Telecast
<b>TAMIL NADU</b>	BSP	48	48	9 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)	9 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)
	BJP	56	56	11 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)	11 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)
	CPI	54	54	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (4 minutes)	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (4 minutes)
	CPI (M)	56	56	11 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)	11 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)
	INC	89	89	17 (5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)	17 (5 minutes each) + 1 (4 minutes)
	NCP	45	45	9 (5 minutes each)	9 (5 minutes each)
	AIADMK	228	228	45 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)	45 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)
	DMK	152	152	30 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)	30 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)
	DMDK	82	82	16 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)	16 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)
<b>Total</b>		<b>810</b>	<b>810</b>		



**GENERAL ELECTION TO  
THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF WEST BENGAL 2016**

*Time available to National Parties & State Parties on  
Regional Kendras/State Capital Kendras of Doordarshan/All India Radio*

Name of State/U.T .	Name of National/ State Party	Total time allotted in minutes for		No. of Time Vouchers issued for	
		Broadcast	Telecast	Broadcast	Telecast
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>	BSP	48	48	9 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)	9 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)
	BJP	63	63	12 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)	12 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)
	CPI	53	53	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)	10 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)
	CPI (M)	177	177	35 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)	35 (5 minutes each) +1 (2 minutes)
	INC	85	85	17 (5 minutes each)	17 (5 minutes each)
	NCP	45	45	9 (5 minutes each)	9 (5 minutes each)
	AIFB	66	66	13 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)	13 (5 minutes each) +1 (1 minute)
	AITC	215	215	43 (5 minutes each)	43 (5 minutes each)
	RSP	58	58	11 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)	11 (5 minutes each) +1 (3 minutes)
<b>Total</b>		810	810		