

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1076

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, 22ND JULY, 2022

Simultaneous General and Assemblies Election

†1076. SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of Law and Justice be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the frequency of elections conducted in some States or the other every year in the country not only affects the administrative and policy decisions but also puts heavy burden on the State Exchequer;
- (b) if so, the total number of Legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha elections conducted since 2014 and the total expenditure incurred thereon;
- (c) the year-wise and State-wise details of the total number of States where polls were held during the said period along with the expenditure incurred thereon and the total number of days spent in conducting elections;
- (d) whether the Law Commission of India in its 170th Report has endorsed simultaneous elections of Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for the implementation of the report concerning political and electoral reforms?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

- (a): The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on simultaneous elections on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law & Justice in its Seventy-ninth Report has observed that frequent elections lead to

disruption of normal public life and impact the functioning of essential services and that it would reduce the massive expenditure incurred for conduct of separate elections every year.

(b)& (c): Elections were held for fifty State Legislative Assemblies during the period from 2014 to 2022. The details of the States are attached at Annexure 'A'. As per standing instructions on the subject, the entire expenditure on conduct of elections to Lok Sabha is to be borne by the Central Government and such expenditure on the conduct of election to the State Legislatures is borne by the respective State Governments when such elections are held independently. In case the elections are held simultaneously, the expenditure is borne by the concerned State Governments and the Central Government on 50:50: ratio basis. The details of the funds released to the States/Union territories during the period from 2014 to 2019 are given below:

Year	Rs. (In Crore)
2014-15	510.00
2015-16	1490.16
2016-17	356.14
2017-18	1199.85
2018-19	886.11
2019-20	1372.03
2020-21	60.87
2021-22	1556.86

(d): The Department Related Parliament Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice had examined the issue of simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies

in consultation with various stake-holders including Election Commission of India. The Committee has given certain recommendations in this regard in its 79th Report. The matter now stands referred to the Law Commission for further examination to work out practicable road map and framework for simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Assemblies.

(e): On the recommendation of the Election Commission, the Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2021 has been enacted by Parliament, which provides for the various electoral reforms. Further, the issues of electoral reform are continuous and ongoing process that involves a major policy decision in consultation with all stakeholders and the same are considered and implemented through various amendment Acts from time to time.

ANNEXURE-A
STATE WISE AND YEAR WISE ELECTIONS FROM 2014-2022

Sr. No.	State Name	No. of Days from Announcement to Completion of Election
2014		
1	Jharkhand	66
2	Jammu & Kashmir	66
3	Haryana	41
4	Maharashtra	41
5	Arunachal Pradesh	80
6	Andhra Pradesh	80
7	Odisha	80
8	Sikkim	80
2015		
9	Bihar	65
10	NCT of Delhi	32
2016		
11	Assam	79
12	Kerala	79
13	Puducherry	79
14	Tamil Nadu	79
15	West Bengal	79
2017		
16	Gujarat	56
17	Himachal Pradesh	70
18	Goa	71
19	Manipur	71
20	Punjab	71
21	Uttar Pradesh	71
22	Uttarakhand	71
2018		
23	Chhatisgarh	69
24	Madhya Pradesh	69
25	Rajasthan	69
26	Mizoram	69
27	Telangana	69
28	Tripura	47
29	Meghalaya	47
30	Nagaland	47
31	Karnataka	53
2019		
32	Jharkhand	56
33	Haryana	37
34	Maharashtra	37
35	Arunachal Pradesh	79
36	Andhra Pradesh	79
37	Odisha	79
38	Sikkim	79
2020		
39	NCT of Delhi	39
40	Bihar	49
2021		
41	Assam	67
42	Kerala	67
43	Tamil Nadu	67
44	West Bengal	67
45	Puducherry	67
2022		
46	Goa	64
47	Manipur	64
48	Punjab	64
49	Uttarakhand	64
50	Uttar Pradesh	64