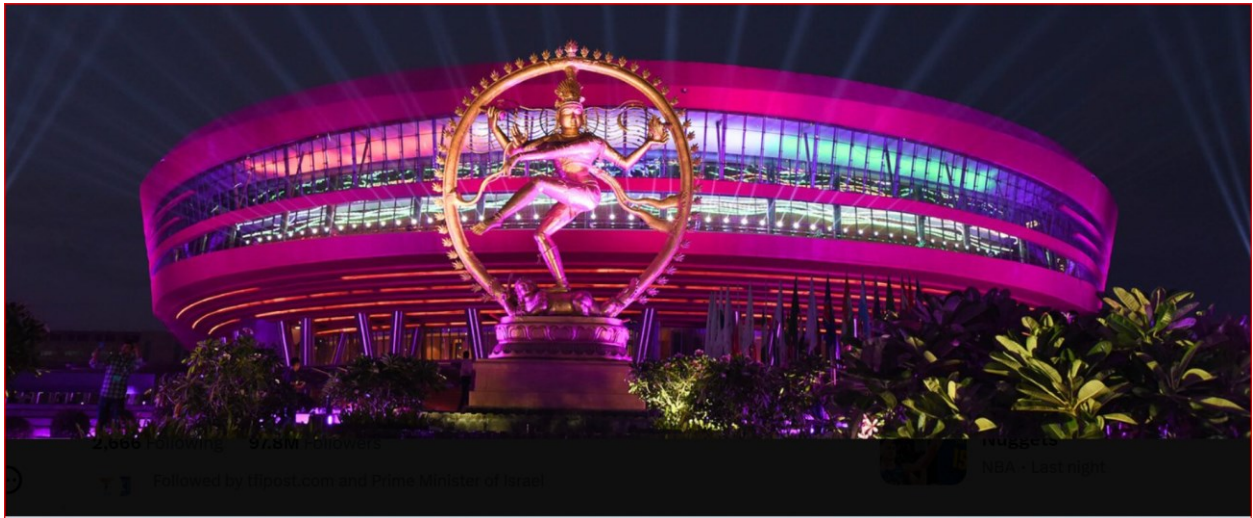


*Festival of Democracy: General Elections 2024:*  
**India Votes: 6<sup>th</sup> Phase May 25, 2024**  
May 22, 2024

May 22, 2024: **Delhi**, India: In the **sixth phase**, 58 constituencies across 6 States (**Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh** and **West Bengal**), and, 2 Union Territories (**Delhi** and **Jammu & Kashmir (J&K)**), a Union Territory, as of October 31, 2019) will participate in electing **Members of Parliament (MPs)** to the **Lok Sabha** (*the lower house of Parliament*). In this phase, Delhi and Haryana will vote for all their seats in the Lok Sabha – 7 and 10 seats respectively, on May 25, 2024. In this phase, polling will also be conducted in J&K's **Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha constituency**.

The 2024 general elections is being held in seven phases, from April 19 to June 1, to elect the **543 members of the 18th Lok Sabha**. The results will be announced on **June 4, 2024**.

The two main contenders for power are Prime Minister **Narendra Modi's** governing **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)** and the **Indian National Developmental Inclusive (I.N.D.I.) Alliance**, a coalition of 26 parties led by the main opposition party, **Indian National Congress (INC)**, the Grand Old Party, which had ruled over India for 54 years, after independence on August 15, 1947.



*Bharath Mandapam, Delhi*

The decision makers in INC are a family of three persons, led by **Sonia Gandhi**, a naturalized Indian of Italian origin. Her son **Rahul Gandhi** and daughter **Priyanka Gandhi-Vadra** are the other two. Nominally Shri **Mallikarjun Kharge** is President of INC since October 19, 2022.

Close to 67% of the 67.45 crore eligible voters participated in the first four phases of the elections. These phases took place on April 19, 26, May 7, and 13.

In the fifth phase on May 20, 60.48% voter turnout was recorded. (Once a voter reaches a polling booth before the official closing time, the booth has to facilitate voting by every such voter. Moreover, the data from some of the polling booths, located in far-flung areas, may be received, after the official closing time. So, the data, made available at the official closing time by the Office of the Election Commission at Delhi, is always updated later.)

The Election Commission has been actively promoting voter awareness through various channels, including messages from cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar, telecom providers, social media platforms, and more.

**SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS** by the **ELECTION COMMISSION** of **INDIA**:

1. For Policemen and for Army Personnel, on duty outside their homes, postal ballots are used and arrangements are put in place for the purpose.



*May 17, 2024: New Delhi, India: Postal Ballot being used by **Hamid Ansari**, former Vice-President; **Dr. Manmohan Singh**, former Prime Minister, **Dr. Murali Manohar Joshi**, former Cabinet Minister for Education*

2. HOME VOTING FACILITY for **Persons with Disabilities** (PwDs): For the first time in a Lok Sabha Election, at the 2024 elections, voters **above 85 years of age** and **PwDs** with a 40% benchmark disability can avail the optional home voting facility through Postal Ballot.
3. FACILITIES for SENIOR CITIZENS: On request, every Electoral Officer will arrange transport facilities to reach the polling booth and to go back. Volunteers and wheelchairs are deployed at polling stations to assist PwDs during the voting process.  
Saksham App: The Saksham app provides special facilities at polling stations for voters with disabilities.  
Templates and Interpreters: The ECI provides signature guides for those who need assistance signing their names and offers sign language interpretation (*if requested in advance*).
4. Unusually Hot Season: The ECI has issued an advisory to electoral officers on the **management of heatwaves and sunstrokes** during the elections. **Proactive measures for supply of drinking water** at all the polling booths have been made.

Overall, there are **543 parliamentary constituencies** across **36 States** and Federally-governed **Union Territories**.



*MAY 21, 2024: Women Rally at Baba Vishwanath's city: **KASHI**, India*

---- The KEY CONSTITUENCIES in the 6<sup>th</sup> PHASE ----

In the **fifth phase**, 49 constituencies across 6 States and 2 Union Territories will participate in electing **Members of Parliament (MPs)** to the **Lok Sabha** (*the lower house of Parliament*).

KEY CANDIDATES in LOK SABHA ELECTIONS PHASE 6:

1. New Delhi: Bansuri Swaraj (BJP) and Somnath Bharti (AAP)
2. North East Delhi: Manoj Tiwari (BJP) and Kanhaiya Kumar (Congress)



*Manoj Tiwari (b. 1 Feb 1971), a singer, actor, television presenter and music director; Popular Actor in the Bhojpuri genre of the Indian film industry*

3. North West Delhi: Udit Raj (Congress) and Yogendra Chandolia (BJP)
4. Chandni Chowk: Praveen Khandelwal (BJP) and JaiPrakash Agarwal (INC)
5. Valmiki Nagar, Bihar: SunilKumarKushwaha (JD(U)) and DeepakYadav (RJD)
6. PaschimChamparan,Bihar: SanjayJaiswal (BJP) and MadanMohanTiwari (INC)
7. Purvi Champaran: Radha Mohan Singh (BJP) and Rajesh Kushwaha (VIP)
8. Gopalganj, Bihar: Alok Kumar Suman (JD(U)) and Premnath Chanchal (VIP)
9. Sultanpur, UP: Maneka Gandhi (BJP) and Rambhual Nishad (SP)
10. Azamgarh, UP: Dinesh Lal Yadav 'Nirahua' (BJP) and Dharmendra Yadav (SP)

11. Allahabad, UP: Ujjwal Revati Raman Singh (Congress) and Neeraj Tripathi (BJP)
12. Jaunpur, UP: Kripashankar Singh (BJP) and Babu Singh Kushwaha (SP)
13. Anantnag-Rajouri, J&K: Mehbooba Mufti (JKPDP) and Mian Altaf Ahmed Larvi
14. Tamluk, WB: Abhijit Gangopadhyay (BJP) and Debangshu Bhattacharya (TMC)
15. Jhargram, WB: Kalipada Soren (TMC) and Pranat Tudu (BJP)
16. Medinipur, WB: Agnimitra Paul (BJP) and June Malia (TMC)
17. Karnal, Haryana: Manohar Lal Khattar (BJP) and Satpal Brahmachari (INC)
18. Kurukshetra, Haryana: Naveen Jindal (BJP) and Sushil Gupta (AAP)
19. Gurgaon: Rao Inderjit Singh (BJP) and Raj Babbar (Congress)
20. Rohtak, Haryana: Deependra Singh Hooda (INC) and Arvind Kumar Sharma (BJP)
21. Ambala, Haryana: Varun Chaudhary (INC) and Banto Kataria (BJP)
22. Bhubaneswar, Odisha: Aparajita Sarangi (BJP) and Manmath Routray (BJD)
23. Puri, Odisha: Sambit Patra (BJP) and Arup Patnaik (BJD)
24. Sambalpur, Odisha: Dharmendra Pradhan (BJP) and Pranab Prakash Das (BJD)
25. Ranchi, Jharkhand: Sanjay Seth (BJP) and Yashaswini Sahay (INC)
26. Jamshedpur, Jharkhand: Samir Mohanty (JMM) and Bidyut Baran Mahato (BJP)
27. Giridih, Jharkhand: Chandra Prakash Choudhary (AJSU) and Mathura Prasad Mahto (JMM)

---- The Vibrant Democracy of India ----

A Democracy runs well when the Parties **compete hard** with one another **to put forward their ideology and programs**, and, when the leaders of the parties **respect one another as patriots and as good human beings, who are working to create a better world for all**. Please see the following photograph of three candidates from 3 different parties from an important constituency of Thiruvanthpuram in Kerala State, India:



*Thiruvananthapuram candidates:*

*Shashi Tharoor (INC), Rajeev Chandrasekhar (BJP) and Pannyan Raveendran (CPI)*  
Will the electorate of **Thiruvananthapuram**, through a fair process, defenestrate (means “to throw somebody out of a window”) **Shashi Tharoor** (INC) and elect the Union minister **Rajeev Chandrasekhar** (BJP)? A **Communist Party of India** (CPI) candidate is also in the fray.

Voter turnout remained robust, reflecting citizens’ commitment to democracy.

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**Note 1.:** Please see “*A Festival of Democracy: India: General Election 2024: Geo-Political Considerations & Interference*” dated May 5, 2024 at

<https://diginews360.com/india-geo-political-considerations-elections-2024/> for  
Title #1: “Voices from Pakistan: The Most Vexing Test for India-Pakistan Relations”  
Title #2: China’s Attempt to influence Elections through Leftist Media; “NewsClick: Arrests, Allegations, and Press Freedom”

**Note 2.:** Please see “*A Festival of Democracy: Geo-Political Considerations: India: General Election 2024: Interference by Canada*” dated May 5, 2024 at

<https://diginews360.com/india-general-election-2024-interference-by-canada/> for  
Title #3: Canada: Foreign Interference in the Election to the Federal Parliament – **the initial Report** by the *Honourable Marie-Josée Hogue*, the Judge of the Quebec Court of Appeal: Judge **Marie-Josée Hogue** refused to mention India, when there is no evidence whatsoever against India, in spite of the efforts by the *Khalistani Leader in Canada*.

Title #4: Canada: Killing of a terrorist, living in Canada and responsible for terrorism in India: On May 3, 2024, **the worst that Canadian Government**, in spite of the efforts by the Khalistani Leader of Canada, could say was as follows:

REGARDING INDIA: *Assistant Commissioner David Teboul*, the *RCMP Commander for the Pacific region*, said he wouldn't comment on the alleged links between these men and Indian officials.

When the Canadian Government's Title #3 and Title #4 proved to be a damp squib, Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** himself chose to **smile** at the **public shouting of the slogan of Khalistan Jindabad** in **Toronto** on the soil of Canada wants to emphasize that it is a miniscule minority from the Sikhs of Canada that supports Jagmeet Singh. He has captured the Leadership of the New Democratic Party by using a *well-organized, and, funded campaign*.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS: [www.DigiNews360.com](http://www.DigiNews360.com) notes that the slogans were shouted through a microphone, put near the stage, so that the eloquent silence of the Sikhs and Punjabis in the audience could be hidden. [www.DigiNews360.com](http://www.DigiNews360.com) calls on Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** to clearly separate his stance from that of Jagmeet Singh and to come forward as the Statesman, who re-established close relations with the fellow Commonwealth country of India, which is the most vibrant and the largest democracy of the world.

Title #5: **Interference by Khalistanis**: PART 1.: *Amritpal's entry to the Lok Sabha polls causes a big flutter in Punjab* at <https://diginews360.com/india-general-election-2024-interference-by-khalistanis-amritpals-entry/>

with a Brief BACKGROUNDER on Shiromani Akal Dal (Amritsar) on pages 2-3

**Notes:** 1. Please read about the great **success stories of India and Senegal**, two vibrant democracies at <https://diginews360.com/senegal-and-india-great-democracies-of-the-world/> dated April 2, 2024.

2. Please refer to "Canada: China Interferes in Elections; Relations with India" dated April 7, 2024 at <https://diginews360.com/canada-china-interferes-in-elections-relations-with-india/>.
3. Please read "Canada: China Interferes; Celebration of Indian Democracy" dated April 11, 2024 at <https://diginews360.com/canada-china-interferes-celebration-of-indian-democracy/>.