

frequently asked questions

Registration of Political Parties

Q.1. Is it necessary for an association to get registered by the Election Commission?

Ans. No

It is not necessary for every association to get registered by the Election Commission. Only an association or body of individual citizens of India calling itself a political party and intending to avail itself of the provisions of Part-IV-A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, (relating to registration of political parties) is required to get itself registered with the Election Commission of India.

Q.2. What are the benefits of registration with the Election Commission of India?

Ans. The candidates set up by a political party registered with the Election Commission of India will get preference in the matter of allotment of free symbols vis-à-vis purely independent candidates. Further, registered political parties, in course of time, can get recognition as 'State Party' or National Party' subject to the fulfillment of the conditions prescribed by the Commission in the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968, as amended from time to time. If a party is recognised as a State Party', it is entitled for exclusive allotment of its reserved symbol to the candidates set up by it in the State of States in which it is so recognised, and if a party is recognised as a 'National Party' it is entitled for exclusive allotment of its reserved symbol to the candidates set up by it throughout India. Recognised 'State' and 'National' parties need only one proposer for filing the nomination and are also entitled for two sets of electoral rolls free of cost and broadcast/telecast facilities over Akashvani/Doordarshan during general elections

Q.3. What is the procedure for registration?

Ans. An application for registration is to be submitted to the Secretary, Election Commission of India, Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001 in the Performa prescribed by the Commission. The Performa is available on request by post or across the counter from the office of the Commission. The application should be neatly typed on the party's letter head, if any, and it should be sent by registered post or presented personally to the Secretary to the Election Commission within thirty days following the date of formation of the party.

2. The application must be accompanied by the following documents/information:-

(i) A demand draft for Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) on account of processing fee drawn in favour of Under Secretary, Election Commission of India, New

Delhi. The processing fee is non-refundable.

(ii) A neatly typed/printed copy of the memorandum/rules and regulations/Constitution of the Party containing a specific provision as required under sub-section (5) of Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 in the exact terms, which reads "-----
--(name of the party) shall bear true faith and allegiance to the constitution of India as by law established, and to the principles of socialism, secularism and democracy and would uphold the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India". The above mandatory provision must be included in the text of party constitution/rules and regulations/memorandum itself as one of the Articles/clauses.

(iii) The copy of the party Constitution should be duly authenticated on each page by the General Secretary/President/Chairman of the Party and the seal of the signatory should be affixed thereon.

(iv) There should be a specific provision in the Constitution/rules and regulations/memorandum of the party regarding organizational elections at different levels and the periodicity of such elections and terms of office of the office-bearers of the party.

(v) The procedure to be adopted in the case of merger/dissolution should be specifically provided in the Constitution/rules and regulations/memorandum.

(vi) Certified extracts from the latest electoral rolls in respect of at least 100 members of the party (including all office-bearers/members of main decision-making organs like Executive Committee/Executive Council) to show that they are registered electors.

(vii) An affidavit duly signed by the President/General Secretary of the party and sworn before a First Class Magistrate/Oath Commissioner)/ Notary Public to the effect that no member of the party is a member of any other political party registered with the Commission.

(viii) Individual affidavits from at least 100 members of the party to the effect that the said member is a registered elector and that he is not a member of any other political party registered with the Commission duly sworn before a First Class Magistrate/Oath Commissioner)/Notary Public. These affidavits shall be in addition to the furnishing of certified extracts of electoral rolls in respect of the 100 members of the applicant party mentioned at (vi) above.

(ix) Particulars of Bank accounts in the name of the party.

3. The application along with all the required documents mentioned above must be reach the Secretary to the Commission within 30 days following the date of formation of the party.

Q.4. What are the criteria for recognition of a party?

Ans. A political party shall be treated as a recognised political party in a State, if and only if either the conditions specified in Clause (A) are, or the condition specified in Clause (B) is, fulfilled by that party and not otherwise, that is to say-

(A) that such party –
has been engaged in political activity for a continuous period of five years; and
has, at the last general election in that State to the House of the People, or, as the case
may be, to the Legislative Assembly of the State, returned-

either (i) at least one member to the House of the People for every twenty-five members
of that House or any fraction of that number from that State;
or (ii) at least one member to the Legislative Assembly of that State for every thirty
members of that Assembly or any fraction of that number;

(B) that the total number of valid votes polled by all the contesting candidates set up by
such party at the last general election in the State to the House of the People, or as the
case may be, to the Legislative Assembly of the State, is not less than six per cent of the
total number of valid votes polled by all the contesting candidates at such general election
in the State.

2. The conditions in Clause (A) or Clause (B) above shall not be deemed to have been
fulfilled by a political party, if a member of the House of the People or the Legislative
Assembly of the State becomes a member of that political party after his election to that
House or, as the case may be, that Assembly.

3. 'State' includes the National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of
Pondicherry.

4. If a political party is treated as a recognised political party in four or more States, it
shall be known as a 'National Party' throughout the whole of India, but only so long as
that political party continues to fulfill thereafter the conditions for recognition in four or
more States on the results of any subsequent general election either to the House of the
People or to the Legislative Assembly of any State.

5. If a political party is treated as a recognised political party in less than four States, it
should be known as a 'State Party' in the State or States in which it is so recognised, but
only so long as that political party continues to fulfill thereafter the conditions for
recognition on the results of any subsequent general election to the House of the People
or, as the case may be, to the Legislative Assembly of the State, in the said State or
States.

Q.5. Which are National Parties registered by the Election Commission of India?

As on 23rd October, 2003 the following National Parties have been registered by the
Election Commission of India and symbols reserved for them.

Sr. No. National Parties Symbol reserved Address

1 Bahujan Samaj Party Elephant 12, Gurudwara Rakabganj Road, New Delhi-110001.

2 Bharatiya Janata Party Lotus 11, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

3 Communist Party of India Ears of Corn and Sickle Ajoy Bhawan, Kotla Marg, New

Delhi-110002

4 Communist Party of India (Marxist) Hammer, Sickle and Star A.K. Gopalan Bhawan, 27-29, Bhai Vir Singh Marg (Gole Market), New Delhi-110001.

5 Indian National Congress Hand 24, Akbar Road, New Delhi-110001

6 Nationalist Congress Party Clock 10, Bishambhar Das Marg, New Delhi-110001

Q.6. Which are State Parties registered by Election Commission of India?

Ans. As on 23rd October, 2003 the following State Parties have been registered by the Election Commission of India and symbols reserved for them.

Sl. No. Name of the State National Parties Party Symbol Address

1 Andhra Pradesh Telugu Desam Bicycle Telugu Desam Party Office, N. T. R. Bhavan, Road No. 2 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-500033 (Andhra Pradesh).

2 Arunachal Pradesh Arunachal Congress Two Daos Intersecting G-Extension, Naharlagun (Arunachal Pradesh)

3 Assam Asom Gana Parishad Elephant Head Office:- Gopinath Bordoloi Road, Guwahati-781001(Assam).

Communist Party of India (Marxist Leninist) (Liberation) Flag with three Stars U-90, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092.

4 Bihar Jharkhand Mukti Morcha Bow and Arrow Bariatu Road, Ranchi-834008 (Jharkhand)

Rashtriya Janata Dal Hurricane Lamp 13, V.P. House, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001.

Samata Party Flaming Torch 220, Vitthalbhai Patel, House, Rafi marg, New Delhi-110001

Janata dal (United) Arrow 7- Jantar Mantar Road, New Delhi-110 001

5 Goa Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Lion Vikas 'A' bldg., 3rd floor, Near Pharmacy College, 18th June Road, Panaji 403001

6 Goa United Goans Democratic Party Two leaves 1st floor, Casa Dos Aliados, Behind Gomat Vidya Niketan, Absde Faria Road, Margao, Goa 403601

7 Haryana Indian National Lok Dal Spectacles 100, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi.

8 Himachal Pradesh Himachal Vikas Congress Telephone Samkhetar Bazar, mandi 175001 (Himachal Pradesh)

9 Jammu & Kashmir Jammu & Kashnir national Conference Plough (i)Shere-e- Kashmir Bhavan, Residency Road, Jammu (Jammu & Kashmir)

(ii)Nawai Subh Complex, Zero bridge, Srinagar. (Jammu & Kashmir)

Jammu & Kashnir National Panthers Party Bicycle 17, V.P House, Rafi Marg, New Delhi.

Jammu & Kashmir Ink Pot & Pen Nowgam Bye-Pass, Srinagar (J.K.)

10 Jharkhand Jharkhand Mukti Morcha Bow & Arrow Bariatu Road, Ranchi-834008 (Bihar).

Rashtriya Janata Dal Hurricane Lamp 13, V. P. House, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001.

Samata Party Flaming Torch 220, Vitthalbhai Patel House, Rafi Marg, New Delhi – 110001.

Janata Dal (United) Arrow 7, Jantar Mantar Road, New Delhi-110001.

11 Karnataka Janata Dal (Secular) A Lady Farmer carrying Paddy on her head 5, Safdarjung Lane, New Delhi – 110003.
Janata Dal (United) Arrow 7, Jantar Mantar Road, New Delhi – 110001.
12 Kerala Kerala Congress Bicycle State Committee Office, Near Star Theatre Junction, Kottayam South (Kerala)
Kerala Congress (M) Two Leaves State Committee Office, Near Fire Station, Kottayam (Kerala)
Muslim League Kerala State Committee Ladder Kerala State Committee, League House, Red Cross Road, Calicut-32 (Kerala)
Janadhipathya Samrakshana Samithi Bus Janadhipathiya Samrekshna Samiti, Kerala State Committee Office, Iron Bridge P.O., Alleppey-688011, Kerala.
13 Maharashtra Shivsena Bow and Arrow Shivsena Bhavan, Gadhari Chowk, Dadar, Mumbai-400028 (Maharashtra)
14 Manipur Federal Party of Manipur Rising Sun Soram Leirak, Naga Mapal, Imphal-795001 (Manipur)
Manipur People's Party Bicycle People's Road, Imphal- 795001 (Manipur)
Manipur State Congress Party Cultivator Cutting Crop Keishampat (Opposite Raj Bhawan), Imphal-795001, (Manipur).
Samata Party Flaming Torch 220, Vitthalbhai Patel House, Rafi Marg, New Delhi – 110001.
15 Meghalaya Hill State People's Democratic Party Lion Kench's Trace, Laban, Shillong-793004 (Meghalaya)
Meghalaya Democratic Party (To be notified later on) Mission Compound, Mawkhar Shillong-793001, Meghalaya."
People's Democratic Movement Two Swords & a Shield Mawlai Nongkwar, Shillong-793008 (Meghalaya).
United Democratic Party Drum Mawlai Nonglum, Shillong-793008 (Meghalaya).
16 Mizoram Mizo National Front Star General Headquarters, Zarkawt, Aizawl (Mizoram)
Zoram Nationalist Party Sun (without rays) General Headquarters, Treasury Square, Aizawl-796001 (Mizoram).
Mizoram People's Conference Electric Bulb General Headquarters, Treasury Square, Aizawl-796001 (Mizoram).
17 Nagaland Janata Dal (United) Arrow 7, Jantar Mantar Road, New Delhi-110001.
Nationalist Democratic Movement (To be notified later on) NDMHQ, Nagaland Post Box-106, Dimapur-797112, Nagaland.
Nagaland Peoples Front (To be notified later on) Burma Camp, Dimapur-797112, Nagaland."
18 Orissa Biju Janata Dal Conch Naveen Nivas, Aerodrome Gate, Bhubaneswar-751009 (Orissa).
19 Pondicherry All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Two Leaves 275, Avvai Shanmugam Salai, Royapettah, Chennai-600014 (Tamil Nadu)
Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Rising Sun 'Anna Arivalayam' 268-269, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai- 600018 (Tamil Nadu)
Pattali Makkal Katchi Mango 63, Nattu Muthu Naiken Street, Vanniya Teynampet, Chennai-600018 (Tamil Nadu)

Tamil Maanila Congress (Moopanar) Bicycle Satyamurthy Bhavan, General Patters Road, Chennai-600002 (Tamil Nadu)

20 Punjab Shiromani Akali Dal Scales House No.256, Sector-9 C, Chandigarh.
Shiromani Akali Dal (Simranjit Singh Mann) Cart Flat No. 36, Sector-4, Chandigarh.

21 Sikkim Sikkim Democratic Front Umbrella Upper Deorali, Gongtok, East Sikkim.
Sikkim Sangram Parishad Elephant Sangram Bhavan, Jewan Theeng Marg, Gangtok (Sikkim)

22 Tamil Nadu All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Two leaves 275, Avvai Shanmugam Salai, Royapettah, Chennai-600014 (Tamil Nadu).
Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Rising Sun 'Anna Arivalayam' 268-269, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai-600018 (Tamil Nadu)

Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Top 'THAYAGAM', No.141, Rukmani Lakshmi Pathi Salai, Egmore, Chennai- 600008 (Tamil Nadu).

Tamil Maanila Congress (Moopanar) Bicycle Satyamurthy Bhavan, General Patters Road, Chennai- 600002 (Tamil Nadu)

Pattali Makkal Katchi Mango 63, Nattu Muthu Naiken Street, Vanniya Teynampet, Chennai-600018 (Tamil Nadu)

23 Tripura Indigenous Nationalist Party of Twipra Two Leaves Abhoyanagar, Agartala-799005 (Tripura)

All India Trinamool Congress Flowers & Grass 30-B, Harish Chatterjee Street, Calcutta-600026 (West Bengal)

24 Uttar Pradesh Samajwadi Party Bicycle 18, Copernicus Lane, New Delhi
Rashtriya Lok Dal Hand Pump 12-Tughlak Road, New Delhi-110011

25 Uttaranchal Samajwadi Party Bicycle 18, Copernicus Lane, New Delhi
Uttarakhand Kranti Dal Chair Central Office: Panchakuti, Malital, Nainital, (Uttaranchal).

25 West Bengal All India Forward Bloc Lion 28, Gurudwara Rakab Ganj Road, New Delhi -110001

Revolutionary Socialist Spade & Stoker 37 Ripon Street (Muzaffar Ahmed Sarani), Caluctta-700016 (West Bengal)

All India Trinamool Congress Flowers & Grass 30-B, Harish Chatterjee Street, Calcutta-600026 (West Bengal)

Q.7. Which are free Symbols that are registered by Election Commission of India?

Ans. As on 23rd October, 2003 the following free symbols have been registered by the Election Commission of India. To view the symbols [Click Here](#)