



# INFORMATION BULLETIN

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## PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2017

**T**he President is the Constitutional Head of State and in the discharge of all functions, the President acts on the aid and advice of the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers<sup>1</sup>.

The Constitution provides that the President of India shall be an integral part of the Parliament but shall not be a member of either House of Parliament or of a House of the Legislature of any State. If a member of either House of Parliament or of the House of the Legislature of any State is elected as President, he shall be deemed to have vacated his seat in that House on the date on which he enters upon the office as the President.

Though the President is a constituent part of the Parliament, the President does not sit or participate in the discussions in either of the two Houses. As part of the Constitutional functions with respect to the Parliament, the President summons and prorogues the two Houses from time to time and also has the power to dissolve the Lok Sabha. At the commencement of the first session after each General Election to the Lok Sabha and at the commencement and the first session of Parliament each year, the President addresses members of both the Houses assembled together in the Central Hall of the Parliament House.

The President is empowered to send messages to either House, whether with respect to a Bill pending in the Parliament or otherwise. Certain Bills can be introduced and proceeded only after the recommendation of the President has been so obtained. Not only that, when both the Houses are not in Session and the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary to take immediate action, the President promulgates Ordinances having the same force and effect as a law passed by the Parliament. The President's assent is essential for a Bill passed by both the Houses to become a law.

### Women in the Presidential Elections

Fifty-seven years after the Indian Constitution came into force, history was created on 25 July 2007 when Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil became the first woman to be elected as the President of India. Smt. Patil was the fifth woman to have contested the Presidential election after Smt. Krishna Kumar Chatterjee (1952), Smt. Manohara Holkar (1967), Smt. Furcharan Kaur (1969) and Smt. Lakshmi Sahgal (2002)<sup>2</sup>.

The President summons the joint sitting of both the Houses in case of a disagreement between them on a Bill. The President causes to be laid, every year, before the Parliament, the Budget of the Government. Besides, the President is empowered to decide, after obtaining the opinion of the Election Commission, whether any member, duly elected attracts any of the disqualifications laid down in the Constitution. The President's decision in this matter is final.

### Interim President

Article 52 of the Constitution provides that there shall be a President of India. The Constitution of India came into force on 26 January 1950 and the first General Election was held during 1951-1952. To ensure that during the intervening period, the office of the President should not remain vacant, a transitional provision was made in Article 380 of the Constitution which provided that the Constituent Assembly of the Dominion of India shall elect the President of India until a President in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution is elected. The Constituent Assembly unanimously elected its President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad as the Interim President of India on 24 January 1950. He assumed the august office on 26 January 1950, which he continued to hold until he was elected as the First President of India and entered upon his office on 13 May 1952.

<sup>1</sup> Constitution of India, Articles 52 to 62 deal with various provisions relating to the office of the President of India.

<sup>2</sup> Election to the Office of President of India, 2017; Election Commission of India, pp. 14, 18, 19 and 33.

## Term of Office of the President

The President holds the esteemed office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office (*See Annexure I for a list of Presidents of India since 1952*). He shall, however, continue to hold office, notwithstanding that his term has expired, until his successor enters upon his office. This provision addresses the need to meet the contingency of an election not completed in time due to unforeseen circumstances.

The Constitution also requires that an election to fill a vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of the office of the President has to be completed before the expiration of the term. However, if any vacancy occurs by reason of death, resignation or removal<sup>3</sup> or otherwise, the person elected to succeed him as President shall serve for the full term of five years from the date he enters upon his office.

Since President Pranab Mukherjee will be completing his five-year term on 24 July 2017, it is necessary that the process of Presidential Election be completed and the result declared in time so that the new President may assume office on 25 July 2017.

## Acting President

The Constitution provides that in the event of the occurrence of any vacancy in the office of the President by reason of his death, resignation or removal or otherwise, the Vice-President of India shall act as President until the date on which a new President elected to fill such vacancy, enters upon his office which in no case shall be later than six months from the date of occurrence of the vacancy. The Vice-President shall also discharge the functions of the President, if the latter is unable to discharge his functions owing to absence, illness or any other cause, until the date on which the President resumes his duty. However, the Constitution does not provide for cases where a vacancy takes place in the office of the President and Vice-President simultaneously, or where the Vice-President, while acting as, or discharging the functions of the President, is unable to do so. To cover such cases, the President (Discharge of Functions) Act, 1969, was enacted by the Parliament to provide that in such cases, the Chief Justice of India, or in his absence, the senior-most Judge of the Supreme Court, who is available shall discharge the functions of the President until a new President is elected.

### Sole Instance of Chief Justice of India functioning as the Acting President

After the demise of the President, Dr. Zakir Husain in 1969, Shri V.V. Giri assumed the office of the Acting President on 3 May 1969. For the Presidential elections, Shri V.V. Giri, who was the Acting President at that point of time, resigned from the office of the Vice-President on 20 July 1969. It was for the first time that a situation arose when both the President and the Vice-President were not in office and the Chief Justice of India, Shri M. Hidayatullah, functioned as the Acting President till the completion of Presidential election, at which Shri V.V. Giri got elected and assumed the Office of the President on 24 August 1969.

## Election of the President

Election to the Office of the President and the Vice-President are regulated by the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, and the Rules made thereunder<sup>4</sup>. Article 324 of the Constitution read with the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, and the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Rules, 1974 vest the superintendence, direction and control of the conduct of election to the office of the President of India in the Election Commission of India<sup>5</sup>.

**Role of Election Commission**—The Election Commission is mandated to ensure that the election to the office of the President of India, which is the highest elective office in the nation, must be a free and fair election and the Commission takes all necessary steps for discharging its constitutional responsibility. The Notification containing the programme of election to the Office of President is issued by the Election Commission.

**Role of Returning Officer to the Presidential Election**—By convention, the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha and the Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha are appointed as the Returning Officers by rotation.

For the 2012 Presidential Election, Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha was appointed the Returning Officer. Therefore, for the 2017 Presidential Election, the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, has been appointed the Returning Officer<sup>6</sup>. Two other senior officers of the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Secretaries and one more senior officer of Legislative Assemblies of all States, including the NCT of Delhi and the Union Territory of Puducherry have also been appointed as the Assistant Returning Officers.

## Process of President's Election

The process of President's election starts with the Notification issued by the Election Commission of India. This Notification is issued within sixty days before the term of the President is completed. In the present scenario, this Notification can be issued any day after 25 May 2017. The Notification contains details about the last date for making nomination; scrutiny of nominations on; last date for withdrawal of nomination; date of poll; and date of counting of votes. The Programme for the 2017 Presidential Election will be notified in due course.

<sup>4</sup> *Practice and Procedure of Parliament*, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, M.N. Kaul and S.L. Shakhder; p 45.

<sup>5</sup> Press Note, Secretariat of the Election Commission of India, Dated 12 June 2012.

<sup>6</sup> Election to the Office of President of India, 2017, Election Commission of India.

<sup>3</sup> Article 56(b) of the Constitution provides that the President may be removed from office, for violation of the Constitution, by impeachment in the manner provided in article 61. However, till date, there has been no instance of impeachment of the President.

## Eligibility for Election as President

Article 58 of the Constitution provides that a person eligible for election as President

- should be a citizen of India;
- must have completed thirty-five years of age; and
- should be qualified for election as a member of the Lok Sabha.

Such a person should not hold any office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State or under any local or other authority subject to the control of any of the said Governments<sup>7</sup>. However, a person shall not be deemed to hold any office of profit by reason only that he is the President or Vice-President of the Union or the Governor of any State or is a Minister either for the Union or for any State.

## Filing for Nomination and the Role of Electors

Apart from meeting the above-mentioned eligibility criteria, a nomination paper of a candidate for the election in the Prescribed Form (Form 2 appended to 1974 Rules) has to be subscribed by at least fifty electors as proposers and at least fifty electors as seconders. The nomination paper must be presented in person to the Returning Officer, either by the candidate himself or by any of his proposers or seconders. Not more than four nominations can be filed by or on behalf of a candidate or received by the Returning Officer. The Returning Officer shall receive any nomination paper, only on the days appointed for that purpose (other than intervening public holidays) between 11 am and 3 pm.

**No elector can subscribe, whether as proposer or as a seconder, more than one nomination paper at**

**the same election. If an elector does this, his signature shall be inoperative on any paper other than the one first delivered to the Returning Officer.**

### Eligibility for Re-election

A person who holds, or has held, office as President is eligible for re-election to that Office. There is no legal limit to the number of terms a person can be elected as President. The first President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, was re-elected when his term got over in 1957. He is the only President to have served two terms (1952-62).

A candidate must also make a security deposit of Rs. 15,000/- along with the nomination paper. This amount is forfeited if the candidate is not elected and the number of valid votes polled by that candidate does not exceed one-sixth of the number of votes necessary to secure return of a candidate at such election.

### President Elected Unopposed

In 1977, for the seventh Presidential election, in all 37 candidates filed their nominations. As the nominations filed by 36 candidates were rejected by the Returning Officer on scrutiny, the only validly nominated candidate Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, remained in the field. After 3 pm on the last day fixed for withdrawal of candidature, viz., 21 July 1977, the Returning Officer declared the result of the election in which Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy was declared elected unopposed on the day itself. It was for the first time that a candidate was declared elected to the highest office of the President of India without a contest.

## Changes in Requirements for a Valid Nomination<sup>8</sup>

	Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952	Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections (Amendment) Act, 1974	Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections (Amendment) Act, 1997
No. of Proposers to the Presidential Election	1	10	50
No of Seconders to the Presidential Election	1	10	50
Security Amount (in Rs.) <sup>9</sup>	0	2,500	15,000

<sup>7</sup> On the day of scrutiny of nomination papers, an objection was raised by Shri P.A. Sangma, a Presidential candidate himself at the 2012 Presidential elections, with regard to the eligibility of Shri Pranab Mukherjee to stand as a candidate on the ground that he was allegedly holding two offices of profit [posts of Leader of the House in the Lok Sabha and Chairman of Council of Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata] at the time of filing the nomination papers on 20 June 2012. The Petition was dismissed by three of the Judges, Chief Justice of India (CJI) Altamas Kabir and Justices P. Sathasivam and Surinder Singh Nijjar, who held that the office of Chairman of the ISI was not capable of yielding profit or pecuniary gain and therefore could not be an Office of Profit. They also held that the position of the leader of a party in the House did not entail the holding of an Office of Profit under the Government. In order to be an Office of Profit, the office must carry various pecuniary benefits or must be capable of yielding such benefits like providing for official accommodation or even a chauffeur-driven car, they held.

## Electoral College for the Election of the President

The President of India<sup>8</sup> is elected by the Members of an Electoral College consisting of (a) the elected

<sup>8</sup> Elections held in 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967 and 1969 for the august office of the President revealed that some persons offered themselves as candidate for the highest office of the President without even a remote chance of getting elected. Another matter of concern was the light hearted manner in which the persons resorted to a court of law for challenging the election to the office of President. In order to remedy these shortcomings, the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act was amended in 1974 and 1997. *Practice and Procedure of Parliament*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, M.N. Kaul and S.L. Shakhder, 2016, pp. 48-49.

<sup>9</sup> However, a candidate nominated by more than one nomination paper has to make only one deposit.

members of both Houses of Parliament and (b) the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States [including National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of Puducherry *vide* the Constitution (Seventieth Amendment) Act, 1992] (Article 54). The members nominated to either House of Parliament or the Legislative Assemblies of State including NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Puducherry are not eligible to be included in the Electoral College.

Under Rule 40 of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Election Rules, 1974, the Election Commission is required to maintain a list of members of the Electoral College referred to in Article 54 with their addresses corrected up to date. The List contains the names of elected members of the Rajya Sabha, the Lok Sabha and the elected members of State Legislative Assemblies and NCT of Delhi and the UT of Puducherry in that order. Numbered in a continuous series, the names are arranged in alphabetical order of the State/ Union Territory. The list of Electoral College for the Presidential Election has been made available for sale to public in May 2017<sup>10</sup>.

The Constitution (Eighty-fourth) Amendment Act, 2001 provides that until the relevant population figures for the first census to be taken after the year 2026 have been published, the population of the States for the purpose of calculation of value of votes for the Presidential Election shall mean the population as ascertained at the 1971 census.

### Members not eligible to vote

*Members in respect of whom the appropriate court, i.e., High Court or Supreme Court has given a limited stay of operation of the order of setting aside of his election by the Court, are not entitled to vote at the election, though their names may have been included in the Electoral College.*

### Use of Whip<sup>11</sup>

A letter addressed by the Prime Minister to all the electors to vote for a candidate belonging to her own party for the Office of the President was held not to constitute undue influence<sup>12</sup>, so also a letter signed by the Chief Whip and addressed to all members of his own party in Parliament to come to Delhi and contact him for the Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections. Further, it was held that there was nothing improper in the members of the party being told in the course of canvassing that it would be better if they only marked their first preference and no other preference in a system where voting is by single transferable vote, because such a request or advice did not interfere with the free exercise of electoral right

<sup>10</sup> Election to the President of India, 2017, Election Commission of India.

<sup>11</sup> *Practice and Procedure of Parliament*, M.N. Kaul and S.L. Shakhder, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2016; p 51.

<sup>12</sup> Despite this, the Prime Minister refused to issue a letter to the voters on the occasion of the election in 1969 when Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy and Shri V.V. Giri were the candidates. *Ibid*.

because the electors would still be free to do what they desired in spite of the advice.<sup>13</sup>

### Rules regarding value of votes

The Constitution stipulates that there shall be uniformity, as far as practicable, in the scale of representation of the different States at the election (Article 55). The value of vote of each elector is pre-determined as may be seen from the Statement at Annexure-II. For example, the value of vote of each Member of Parliament is 708. The value of vote of each Member of the Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh is 208 and that of Sikkim is 7. Thus, the value of votes for the Members of each Legislative Assembly varies. These values of each vote are indicated on each ballot paper, printed State-wise separately and for Parliament.

For securing such uniformity among the States *inter-se* as well as parity between the States as a whole and the Union, a formula based on the population of each State is given in the Constitution for determination of the value of vote which each elected Member of Parliament and of the Legislative Assembly of each State is entitled to cast. According to this Formula:—

- (a) every elected member of the Legislative Assembly of a State shall have as many votes as there are multiples of one thousand in the quotient obtained by dividing the population of the State by the total number of the elected members of the Assembly;
- (b) if, after taking the said multiples of one thousand, the remainder is not less than five hundred, then the vote of each member referred to in (a) above shall be further increased by one; and
- (c) each elected member of either House of Parliament shall have such number of votes as may be obtained by dividing the total number of votes assigned to the members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States under (a) and (b) above by the total number of the elected members of both Houses of Parliament, fractions exceeding one-half being counted as one and other fractions being disregarded.

### Value of Vote of an MLA

The number of votes for each member of the Legislative Assembly differs from State to State as it is calculated on the basis of population of the State. The value of vote for each member in a State Legislative Assembly is calculated as follows:

Total population of Andhra Pradesh (1971 census)	: 2,78,00,586
Total No of elective seats in the State Assembly	: 175
No. of votes for each member	: $\frac{2,78,00,586}{1000 \times 175}$
	= 158.8605
	= 159

<sup>13</sup> *Baburao Patel v. Dr. Zakir Husain*, A.I.R. 1968 S.C. 904.

Total Value of votes of all members of each State Assembly is worked out by multiplying the number of elective seats in the Assembly by the number of votes for each member, e.g.,  $175 \times 159 = 27,825$  for Andhra Pradesh.

### Value of Vote of an MP

The total value of votes of all the elected MLAs of all the States added together is divided by the total number of elected members of Parliament (Lok Sabha 543 + Rajya Sabha 233) to get the value of votes for each Member of Parliament.

#### Value of Member's Vote

Formula:-

$$\text{Value of Vote of each MP} = \frac{\text{Total value of votes of the Elected MLAs of all the States}}{\text{Total number of Elected MPs}}$$

–Value of each Vote of Members of Parliament

Total members

Lok Sabha (543) + Rajya Sabha (233) = 776

Total value of votes of the elected MLAs of all the States = 5,49,495

Value of each Vote =  $\frac{5,49,495}{776} = 708$

– Total value of votes of 776 Members of Parliament =  $708 \times 776 = 5,49,408$

#### Total Electors and Total Value of Votes

The total number of members in the Electoral College for the Presidential election in 2017 is 4896, as detailed below:

House	Seats
(a) Rajya Sabha	233
(b) Lok Sabha	543
(c) State Assemblies	4120
Total	4896

**Total value of votes of 4896 electors for the Presidential Election 2017**

= 5,49,495 (Total value of elected MLAs) + 5,49,408 (Total Value of votes of 776 Members of Parliament) = 10,98,903

### System of Proportional Representation by Means of Single Transferable Vote

The manner of voting at Presidential Election is contained in Rule 17 of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Election Rules, 1974.

The election of the President is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting at such election is held by secret ballot. The ballot paper does not contain any election symbol. There are two columns

in the ballot paper. Column 1 of the ballot paper contains the heading “Name of Candidate” and column 2 contains the heading “Mark order of Preference”.

Each elector has as many preferences as there are candidates. However, no ballot paper is considered invalid solely on the ground that all such preferences are not marked.

An elector while giving his vote may mark the number 1 in the space opposite name of the candidate whom he chooses as his first preference, and may, in addition, mark as many subsequent preferences 2, 3, 4 and so on as he wishes in order of preference.

Marking is required to be done in the international form of Indian numerals or in the Roman form or in the form used in any Indian language.

#### Ensuring a Valid Vote

During the Presidential Election, 2012, a total of 4659 votes were polled out of which 81 [15 (MP)+66 (MLA)] votes were declared invalid.<sup>14</sup> To ensure that none of the votes become invalid at the election to the highest office in the country, the electors must take care of the following:–

1. The preferences should not be indicated in words like one, two, three. It will invalidate the ballot paper.
2. A ballot paper shall also be considered invalid on which number 1 is not marked or it is marked opposite the name of more than one candidate.

#### Places of Poll

A Room in the Parliament House in New Delhi and a room in all State Legislative Assembly Secretariats are generally fixed as places of poll. The Members of Parliament normally vote in New Delhi and the members of the State Legislative Assemblies, including the members of the Legislative Assemblies of NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Puducherry, normally vote at the place fixed in each State Capital. However, facilities are provided by the Commission for any Member of Parliament to vote in the capital of a State and similarly if any Member of any State Legislative Assembly unavoidably stays in Delhi on the date of poll, he is given the facility to vote at the polling booth set up in the Parliament House.<sup>15</sup> However, due intimation of such intention to vote at a place other than the place where a member is designated to vote must be received in the Commission well in advance to make necessary arrangements.

<sup>14</sup> Information received from Rajya Sabha Table Office.

<sup>15</sup> It was in 1969 for the Fifth Presidential Election that for the first time in suitable cases, some MLAs were allowed to cast their votes at Parliament House in New Delhi instead of their State Capitals.

## Quota for Election

After calculating the total value of votes polled by each candidate, the Returning Officer totals up the value of all valid votes polled. The quota for declaring a candidate as elected is determined by dividing total value of the valid votes by 2 and adding one to the quotient, ignoring the remainder, if any. For example, assuming the total value of valid votes polled by all candidates is 1,00,001, the quota required for getting elected would be:—

$$\frac{1,00,001+1}{2} = 50,000.50+1 \text{ (Ignore.50)}$$

$$\text{Quota} = 50,000+1 = 50,001.$$

After ascertaining the quota, the Returning Officer must see whether any candidate secured the quota for being declared as elected on the basis of the total value of first preference votes polled by him/her. If no candidate gets the quota on the basis of first preference votes, then the Returning Officer proceeds further to second round of counting during which the candidate having lowest value of votes of first preference is excluded and his votes are distributed among the remaining candidates according to the second preference marked on these ballot papers. The other continuing candidates receive the votes of excluded candidate at the same value at which he/she received them in the first round of counting. The Returning Officer will go on excluding the candidates with the lowest number of votes in subsequent rounds of counting till either one of the continuing candidates gets the required quota or till only one candidate remains in the field as the continuing candidate and shall declare him/her as elected.<sup>16</sup>

## Disputes regarding Presidential Election

An election petition calling in question an election to the office of the President may be presented by any candidate at such election or by any twenty or more electors coming together as petitioners. Under article 71, doubts and disputes arising out of, or in connection with the election of President shall be inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court whose decision shall be final. An election petition must be presented within 30 days from the date of publication in the official gazette of the declaration containing the name of the returned candidate.

<sup>16</sup> It was for the first time in 1969 that no candidate could secure the required quota in the first count in the Presidential elections. That year, the quota fixed for election was 4,18,169 votes. As no candidate secured the required quota in the first count, candidate after candidate was excluded till only two candidates, namely, Shri V.V. Giri (4,20,077 votes) and Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy (4,05,427 votes) remained in the field. Shri V.V. Giri, who secured the quota was declared elected by the Returning Officer.

## Landmark Judgments

### Eligibility of the Disqualified Members to Vote

After the coming into force of the anti-defection law, a controversy arose whether an MP or MLA disqualified under the law is eligible to vote in a Presidential election when his appeal against his disqualification is pending in a court of law. In 1987, 22 members of the Punjab Legislative Assembly were disqualified by the Speaker on the grounds of defection. During the trial of their special leave petition, the Supreme Court in its Interim Order dated 7 May 1987 held that if any Presidential Election was to be held before the hearing of the matter, the disqualified members would be entitled to participate in the poll and cast their votes as if they had not been disqualified. On a clarification sought by the Commission, the Supreme Court by an Order dated 22 June 1987 held that participation includes proposing and seconding of nomination of candidates. The Court indicated that the votes cast by these members might be separately marked and after counting kept separately until final disposal of the case.

*[Sardar Prakash Singh Badal and others Vs. Union of India JT 1987 (2) SC397]*

### Vacancy in the Electoral College due to dissolution of Assembly

The Legislative Assembly of Gujarat was dissolved by the Governor on 15 March 1974. A question arose whether in the absence of the said Assembly, an election to the office of the President could be validly held or not. A reference was made by the President under Article 143 (1) of the Constitution as to whether the Election to fill the vacancy caused on the expiry of the term of the office of the President on 24 August 1974 must be completed before the expiry of the term of office, notwithstanding the fact that the Legislative Assembly of the State of Gujarat had been dissolved.

The court in its opinion stated that the term of office of the President was fixed. The election to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term was to be completed before the expiration of the term. The members of the electoral college mentioned in article 54 are members of both Houses of Parliament and Legislative Assemblies of the State. The essence as well as the scope of article 54 is merely to prescribe the qualifications required for electors to elect the President.

The court stated that the Gujarat State Assembly had been dissolved. As a result of the dissolution, there were no elected members of the Legislative Assembly in that State. But, that matter would not be a ground either for preventing or holding of the election on the expiry of the term of the President or suggesting that the election to fill the vacancy caused by the expiry of the term of office of the President could be held only after the election to the Legislative Assembly of the State where the Legislative Assembly had been dissolved.

The court held that the election to the office of the President must be held before the expiration of the term of the President, notwithstanding the fact that at

the time of such election, the Legislative Assembly of a State was dissolved.

(in re. Presidential Election 1974, AIR 1974 SC 1682)

### Interesting Facts

- **Elections declared void by high court, but stay orders issued by the supreme court:** During the Ninth Presidential Election held in 1987, Five members of the electoral college - two of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly and one each of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab Legislative Assembly, were not entitled to cast their votes as their elections had been declared void by respective High Courts but orders of the High Courts were stayed by Supreme Court.
- **Broadcast/Telecast Facilities:** During the Ninth Presidential Election held in 1987, Shri Mithesh Kumar Sinha, one of the contesting candidates requested the Commission for facility to put forth his views over AIR/Doordarshan. Under a scheme evolved by the Ministry of I&B, in consultation with the Commission in 1977, such broadcasting/telecasting facilities are accorded to recognized political parties during general elections to Lok Sabha and State Assemblies. However, these facilities are not extended to other elections. Another candidate Shri V.R. Krishna Iyer was reported to have requested the Minister of State in M/o Information & Broadcasting (Shri Ajit Kumar Panja) that the three contesting candidates should be given opportunity to express their views over AIR/Doordarshan and it was reported that the Government did not accept the request and accordingly no candidate was allowed facility of broadcasting/telecasting their views.

### ANNEXURE I

#### Presidents of India

India has had fifteen<sup>17</sup> Presidents in the last sixty-five years of the functioning of the Indian Parliament

1.	Dr. Rajendra Prasad	(26 January 1950 - 13 May 1962)
2.	Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan	(13 May 1962 - 13 May 1967)
3.	Dr. Zakir Husain	(13 May 1967 - 3 May 1969)
4.	Shri V.V. Giri	[3 May 1969 - 20 July 1969 (Acting)] (24 August 1969 - 24 August 1974)
5.	Shri M. Hidayatullah	[20 July 1969 - 24 August 1969 (Acting)]
6.	Dr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed	(24 August 1974 - 11 February 1977)
7.	Shri B.D. Jatti	[11 February 1977 - 25 July 1977(Acting)]
8.	Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy	(25 July 1977 - 25 July 1982)
9.	Giani Zail Singh	(25 July 1982 - 25 July 1987)
10.	Shri R. Venkataraman	(25 July 1987 - 25 July 1992)
11.	Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma	(25 July 1992 - 25 July 1997)
12.	Shri K.R. Narayanan	(25 July 1997 - 25 July 2002)
13.	Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam	(25 July 2002 - 25 July 2007)
14.	Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil	(25 July 2007 - 25 July 2012)
15.	Shri Pranab Mukherjee	(25 July 2012 - Till date)
All the Presidents completed their full five-year term except Dr. Zakir Husain and Dr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, who passed away while in Office on 3 May 1969 and 11 February 1977, respectively.		

<sup>17</sup> The list of Fifteen Presidents includes two Acting Presidents.

## PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 2017

STATEMENT OF VALUE OF VOTES OF ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES AS PER PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 55(2) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA<sup>18</sup>

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of Assembly Seats (Elective)	Population (1971 Census)	Value of Vote of Each M.L.A.	Total Value of Votes for the State
1.	Andhra Pradesh	175	27800586	159	159x175 = 27825
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	60	467511	8	008x060 = 480
3.	Assam	126	14625152	116	116x126 = 14616
4.	Bihar	243	42126236	173	173x243 = 42039
5.	Chhattisgarh	90	11637494	129	129x090 = 11610
6.	Goa	40	795120	20	020x040 = 800
7.	Gujarat	182	26697475	147	147x182 = 26754
8.	Haryana	90	10036808	112	112x090 = 10080
9.	Himachal Pradesh	68	3460434	51	051x068 = 3468
10.	Jammu & Kashmir <sup>19</sup>	87	6300000	72	072x087 = 6264
11.	Jharkhand	81	14227133	176	176x081 = 14256
12.	Karnataka	224	29299014	131	131x224 = 29344
13.	Kerala	140	21347375	152	152x140 = 21280
14.	Madhya Pradesh	230	30016625	131	131x230 = 30130
15.	Maharashtra	288	50412235	175	175x288 = 50400
16.	Manipur	60	1072753	18	018x060 = 1080
17.	Meghalaya	60	1011699	17	017x060 = 1020
18.	Mizoram	40	332390	8	008x040 = 320
19.	Nagaland	60	516449	9	009x060 = 540
20.	Odisha	147	21944615	149	149x147 = 21903
21.	Punjab	117	13551060	116	116x117 = 13572
22.	Rajasthan	200	25765806	129	129x200 = 25800
23.	Sikkim	32	209843	7	007x032 = 224
24.	Tamil Nadu	234	41199168	176	176x234 = 41184
25.	Telangana	119	15702122	132	132x119 = 15708
26.	Tripura	60	1556342	26	026x060 = 1560
27.	Uttarakhand	70	4491239	64	064x070 = 4480
28.	Uttar Pradesh	403	83849905	208	208x403 = 83824
29.	West Bengal	294	44312011	151	151x294 = 44394
30.	NCT of Delhi	70	4065698	58	058x070 = 4060
31.	Puducherry	30	471707	16	016x030 = 480
	Total	4120	549302005		= 549495

<sup>18</sup> Election to the Office of President of India, 2017; Election Commission of India.<sup>19</sup> Constitution (Applicable to the Jammu & Kashmir) Order.

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