For the Lok Sabha General Election-2024

 Regarding giving leave to voters in Lok

 Sabha constituencies to vote on polling day.

**Government of Maharashtra**

**Department of Industries, Energy, Labor and Mines,**

Government Circular No. Losani-2024/P.No.26/Industry-6,

Mantralaya, Mumbai-32

Date: 22 March 2024

**Reference**: - 1. Election Commission of India Press Release No. ECI/PN/23/2024, dated 16th

 March 2024

 2. Election Commission of India letter No. 78/EPS/2024 dated 16th March 2024.

**Government circular**

 Our country has adopted a democratic system and all registered citizens above the age of 18 are expected to vote in every election. In view of this, under Section 135 (b) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, on polling days, voters are generally given ample leave to exercise their right to vote or, in some places, suitable concessions in working hours. But in the last few elections it has been seen that institutions/establishments etc. Don't offer vacations or discounts. As a result, many voters are deprived of their vote, which is very dangerous for democracy.

2. Election Commission of India the program of Lok Sabha General Election-2024 has been announced through a press release dated 16th March 2024. The voting for the said election will be held in five phases in the state on 19th April 2024, 26th April 2024, 7th May 2024, 13th May 2024 and 20th May 2024.

3. As per the order issued by the Election Commission of India, the Lok Sabha General Election will be held in all the districts of the state as per Annexure-1. In order to ensure that all voters exercise their right to vote in this election, the following orders are issued: -

(I) Workers/officers/employees who are voters in the polling area where the election is held, even if they are employed outside the area where the election is held, should be allowed sufficient leave to exercise their right to vote on the day of the election.

(II) The said holiday shall be applicable to all industrial groups, corporations, companies and institutions, industrial undertakings or other establishments, etc., coming under the Industries Department.

(III) In exceptional circumstances if it is not possible to give a full day's leave to workers, officers, employees, etc., a concession of at least two hours may be granted to workers in polling areas in lieu of leave to exercise their right to vote. However, it will be necessary to take the prior permission of the concerned Collector and District Election Officer. In any case, the concerned establishments will have to ensure that the voters get at least two hours concession for voting.

(IV) As mentioned above, all the Corporations, Industrial Groups, Companies and Institutions, Industrial Undertakings etc. under the Industries Department should strictly ensure that the above instructions are properly complied with. If there is a complaint from the electors about not being able to vote due to not getting proper leave or concession for voting, appropriate action will be taken against them.

3. The said circular is being issued in pursuance of ECI/PN/23/2024 press release dated 16th March 2024 and Election Commission of India letter No. 78/EPS/2024 dated 16th March 2024.

4. The said government circular has been made available on the website www.maharashtra.gov.in of the Government of Maharashtra and its reference number is 202403221710362810. This circular is being issued with digital signature.

 By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra.

 **(SHAMKANT SONAWANE)**

 **Karyassan Officer, Government of Maharashtra.**

**Re**: Forwarded with a request to bring the above circular to the attention of all concerned

 establishments.

1. State Election Commission, State of Maharashtra, New Administrative Building, Opposite

 Ministry, Mumbai-32

2. Hon. Ministry of Principal Secretary and Chief Electoral Officer, Mumbai.

3. Development Commissioner, Directorate of Industries, New Administrative Building,

 Opposite Ministry, Mumbai.

4. Chief Executive Officer, Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation, Mumbai. 5.

 Chief Executive Officer, Maharashtra State and Khadi and Village Industries Board, Mumbai.

6. Managing Director, Maharashtra State Small Enterprise Development Corporation Marya,

 Mumbai.

7. Managing Director, Maharashtra State Financial Corporation, Mumbai.

8. Director, Directorate of Government Printing Stationery and Publications, Mumbai. 9.

 Managing Director, Sicom Ltd. Building No.4, Solitaire Corporate Park, Guru Hargovindji

 Road, Chakala, Andheri, (East), Mumbai. 10. Industry groups FICCI, MCCA, CMIA.

11. All Collectors, Maharashtra State.

12. All General Managers, District Industries Centre, Maharashtra State.

13. Forwarded to Director General, Directorate General of Information and Public Relations,

 Ministry, Mumbai with request for wide publicity.

14. All the jobs in industry sector.

15. Elective Nasti (Industry-6).

Government Circular No. Losani-2024/P.No.26/Udyog-6 dated 22/03/2024 Annexure-1 with

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| **Phases of voting** | **Date of polling** | **Name of Lok Sabha Constituency** |
| First stage | 19th April 2024 | 9- Ramtek, 10-Nagpur, 11-Bhandara-Gondia, 12- Gadchiroli-Chimur, 13-Chandrapur |
| Second stage | 26th April 2024 | 5-Buldhana, 6-Akola, 7-Amravati, 8-Wardha, 14-Yavatmal-Washim, 15-Hingoli, 16 -Nanded, 17-Parbhani |
| Third stage | 7th May 2024 | 32-Raigad, 35-Baramati, 40-Osmanabad, 41- Latur, 42-Solapur, 43-Madha, 44-Sangli, 45-Satara, 46-Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, 47- Kolhapur, 48-Hatkanangle |
| Fourth stage | 13th May 2024 | 1- Nandurbar, 3- Jalgaon, 4- Raver, 18- Jalna, 19- Aurangabad, 33- Maval, 34- Pune, 36- Shirur, 37- Ahmednagar, 38- Shirdi, 39- Beed |
| Fifth stage | 20th May 2024 | 2-Dhule, 20-Dindori, 21-Nashik, 22-Palghar, 23- Bhiwandi, 24-Kalyan, 25-Thane, 26-Mumbai North, 27-Mumbai North-West, 28-Mumbai North East, 29- Mumbai North Central, 30-Mumbai South Central, 31-Mumbai South |