

Cabinet Accepts recommendations of High-Level Committee on Simultaneous Elections

The union cabinet has accepted the recommendations of the high-level committee on simultaneous elections under the chairmanship of former president Shri Ram Nath Kovind.

Simultaneous elections: recommendations of the high-level committee

1. Elections were held simultaneously between 1951 and 1967.
2. Law Commission: 170th report (1999): One election to Lok Sabha and all Legislative Assemblies in five years.
3. Parliamentary Committee 79th Report (2015): suggest methods for simultaneous elections in two phases.
4. The high-level committee chaired by Shri Ram Nath Kovind extensively consulted a broad spectrum of stakeholders including political parties and experts.
5. The report is available online at: <https://onoe.gov.in>
6. Extensive feedback has shown widespread support for simultaneous elections in the country.

Recommendations and way forward

1. Implement in two phases.
2. In the first phase: conduct Lok Sabha and assembly elections simultaneously.
3. In the second phase: Conduct local body elections (panchayat and municipalities) within 100 days of general elections.
4. Common electoral roll for all elections.
5. Will initiate detailed discussions throughout the country.
6. Constitute an implementation group.
