

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 584**

ANSWERED ON 07.12.2023

ELECTIONS IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

584. Shri Syed Nasir Hussain:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to conduct assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir;*
(b) if so, the details thereof, including the timeline by which the process of holding assembly elections is expected to begin and completed; and
(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF
THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE;
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS;
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)**

(a) to (c): The Election Commission of India (the Commission) has informed that by virtue of its powers, duties and functions under Article 324 read with Article 172 (1) of the Constitution and section 15 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951), the Commission is under a constitutional mandate to hold General Elections to constitute the new House of the People in Parliament and new Legislative Assemblies in the States within a period of six months before the expiry of the present term or within six months of the premature dissolution of the House or the Assembly, Further, the Commission considers all relevant aspects such as law and order situation in the State, school/college examinations, festivals, weather conditions, holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 (26 of 1881) and availability of Central Armed Police Forces as well as availability of Electronic Voting Machine/Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail and conducive atmosphere to conduct election before finalizing the dates of poll and counting while announcing any election.
