

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (ELECTION MANIFESTOS REGULATION AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

Legislation Primer PPT





Overview

New Additions to RPA, 1951



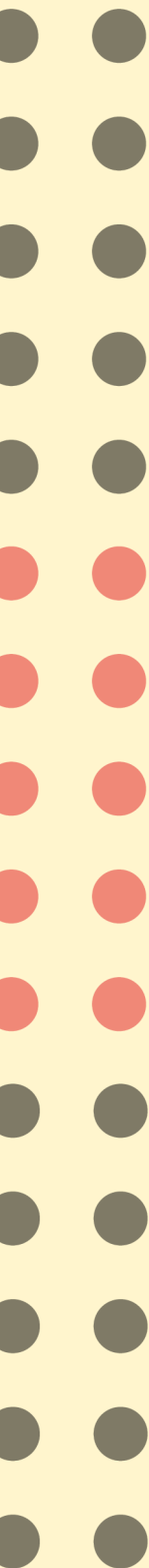
38

New Sections



10

New Chapters





Introduction



The Bill has the following objectives

1

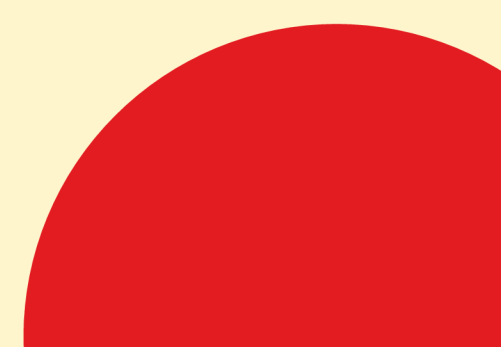
**Regulate Election
Manifesto Preparation &
their Promises**

2

**Make Political Parties &
Contesting Candidates
adhere to fiscal realities of
public finance.**

3

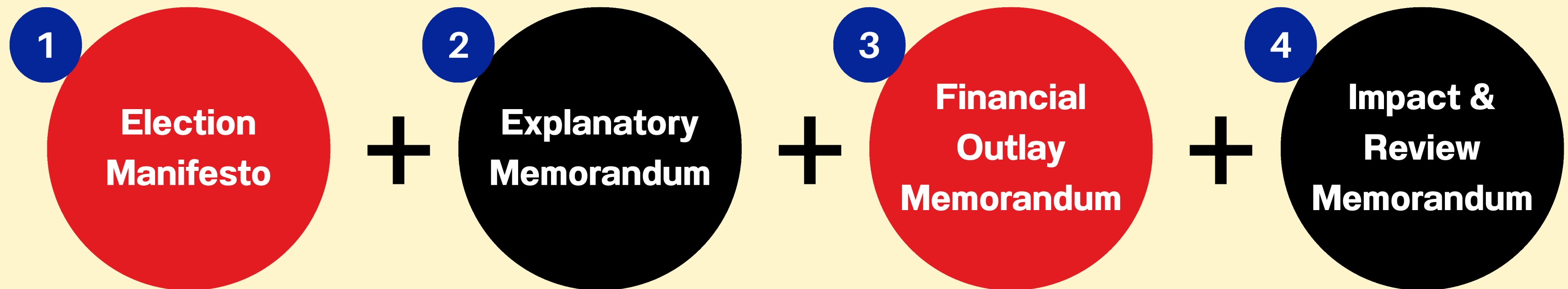
**Restoration of faith in the
democratic processes by
enabling voters to take
informed decisions**



Election Manifesto Preparation Criteria

(Section 78D)

(for National, State & Recognized Political Parties Only)

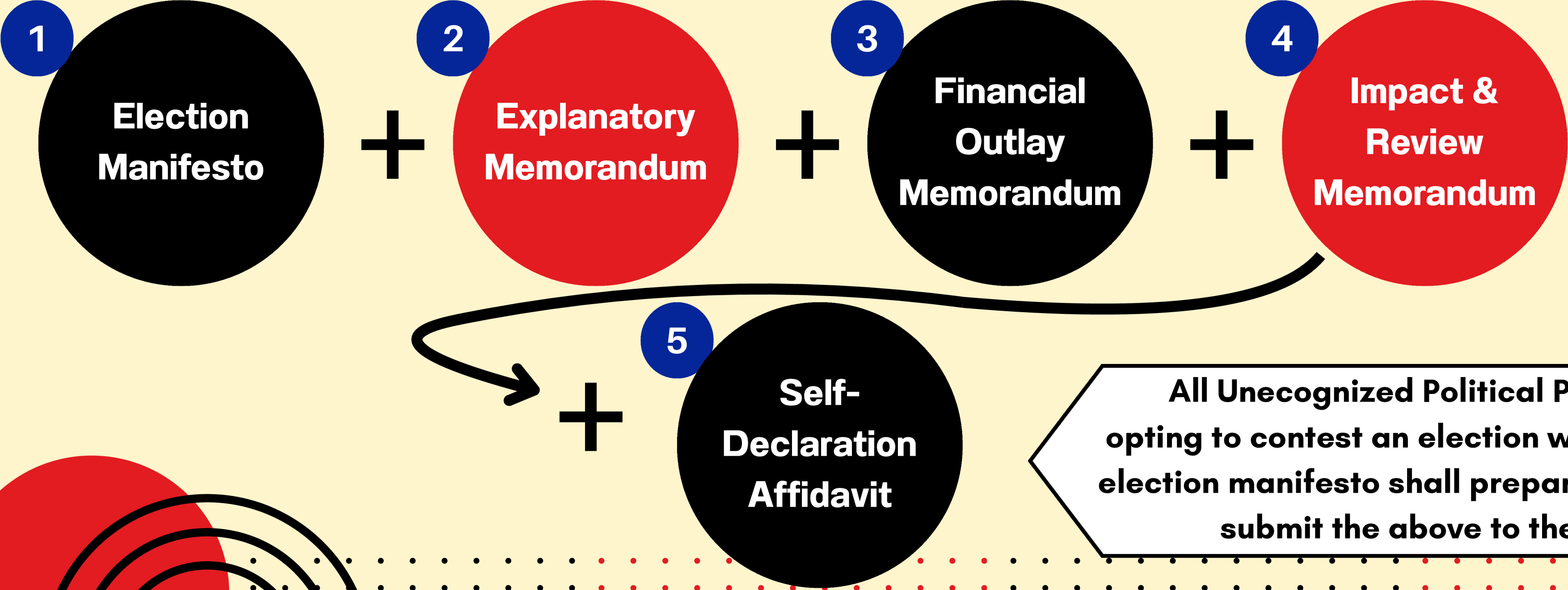
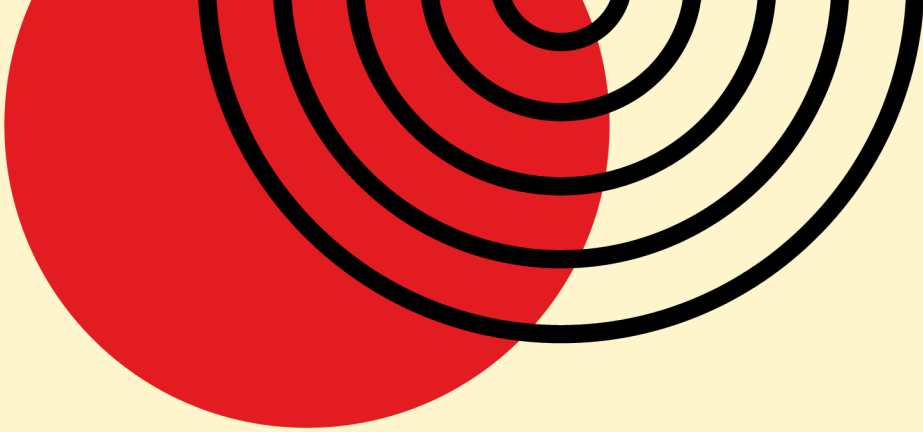


All National, State & Recognized Political Parties opting to contest an election with an election manifesto shall prepare all the 4 documents as mentioned above and submit them to EMP for approval.

Election Manifesto Preparation Criteria

(for Unrecognized Political Parties Only)

(Section 78D)



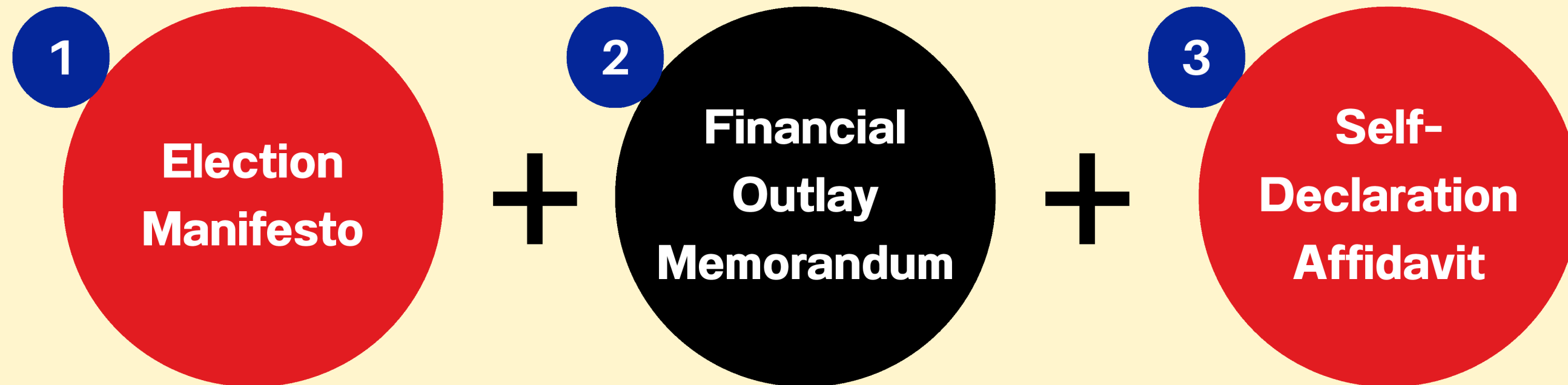
All Unrecognized Political Parties opting to contest an election with an election manifesto shall prepare and submit the above to the EMP.



Election Manifesto Preparation Criteria

(Section 78D)

(for ALL Contesting Candidates Only)



All Contesting candidates opting to contest an election with an election manifesto shall prepare and submit the above 3 documents to the EMP.

Election Manifesto (Document Categories)

(Section 78F)

1



**Election
Manifesto**

(a)

List out all policies, schemes & programmes

(b)

Total cost to fulfill all proposals in terms of % of GDP / GSDP.

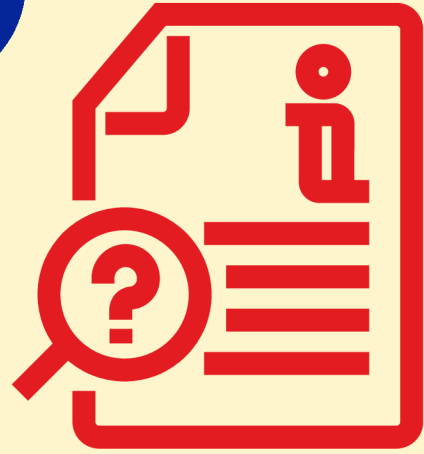
(c)

Details related to human & material resource requirements

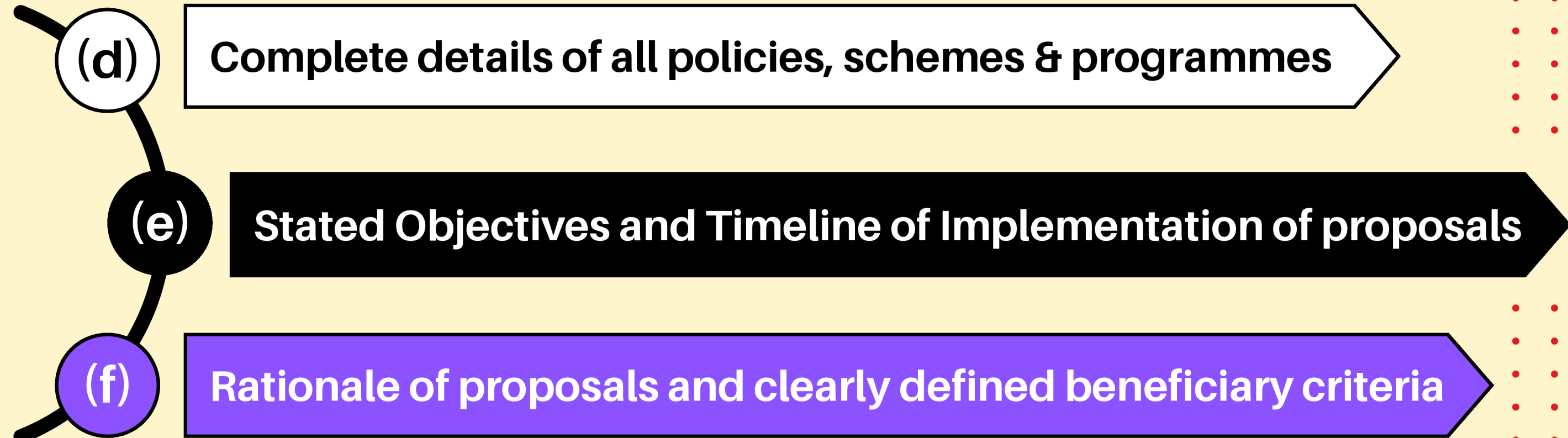
Election Manifesto (Document Categories)

(Section 78F)

2



**Explanatory
Memorandum**



Election Manifesto (Document Categories)

(Section 78F)

3



**Financial Outlay
Memorandum**

(g)

Itemized cost (in % GDP / GSDP) of all proposals mentioned

(h)

Details of funding and financing of all policy proposals

(i)

Budget Planning & Control, Timeline to clear debts related

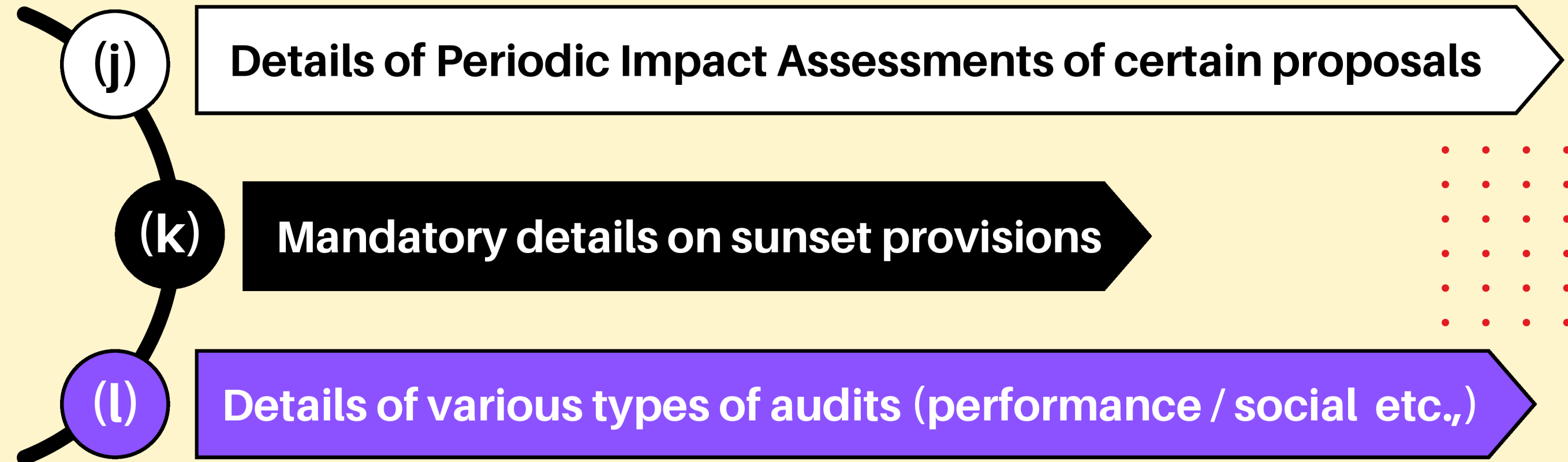
Election Manifesto (Document Categories)

(Section 78F)

4



**Impact & Review
Memorandum**



Finance Commission to prescribe limits on Expenditure

(Section 78Y)

Article 280
(Indian
Constitution)

Finance Commission constituted every 5 years by the Hon'ble President shall prescribe limits for different types of expenditure for political parties to prepare their Election Manifesto proposals accordingly.

These limits are determined in terms of % GDP / % GSDP in accordance with the current and forecasted fiscal health of Union & State Government(s) and submits its report to the Hon'ble President, Govt. & Parliament and the ECI.

Election Manifestos Panel

(Sections 19B & 78K)



CEC & other ECs elect one of the EMP members as the Chairperson of EMP.

RESPONSIBILITY



1. EM Format verification
2. Approval / Seek format changes.
3. Time-bound rejection of EMs submitted.

5

Members

3
Year

Term



Chairperson



1. Former Union Cab. Sec.
2. Former Union Fin. Sec.
3. Former Deputy RBI Governor
4. Former IIM Director.
5. Former Chairperson of Planning Commission, or NITI Aayog.

Election Manifestos Panel

(Sections 78Q – 78T)

Term

EMP has a fixed
tenure of 3 years.

Constitution

Starting of a fresh
EMP.

Prorogation

Temporary recess /
suspension of EMP.

Re-constitution

Convening the
prorogued EMP.

Session

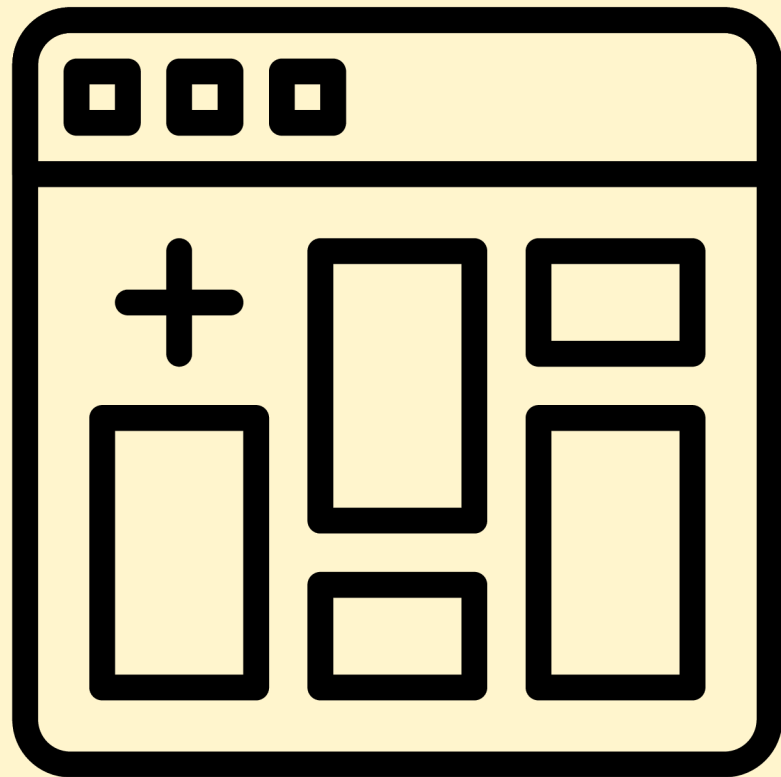
Time b/n constitution
/ re-constitution &
recess.

Dissolution

Termination of an
EMP after its term.

Election Manifestos (Regulation) Rules

Section 78I



**Format, Template
& Content**



**Explanatory
Memorandum**



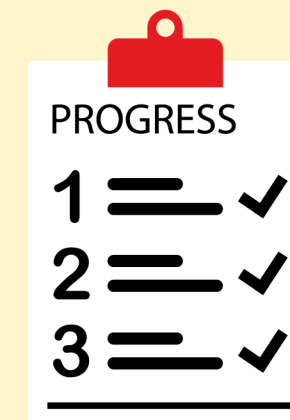
**Financial Outlay
Memorandum**



**Impact-cum-Review
Memorandum**



**Self-Declaration
Affidavit**



**Election Manifesto
Progress Report**

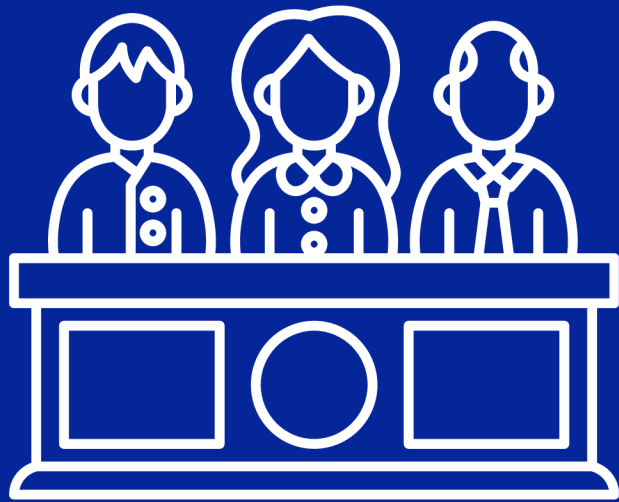


Media Publication



Joint Parliamentary Committee on Rules (JPCR)

(Sections 78J & 78JA)



35

Members

18

Lok Sabha
MPs

+

17

Rajya Sabha
MPs

/

2

Independent
MPs
(1 each from LS & RS)

1

Year

Term

JPCR makes Election Manifestos (Regulation) Rules related to all aspects concerning Election Manifestos.

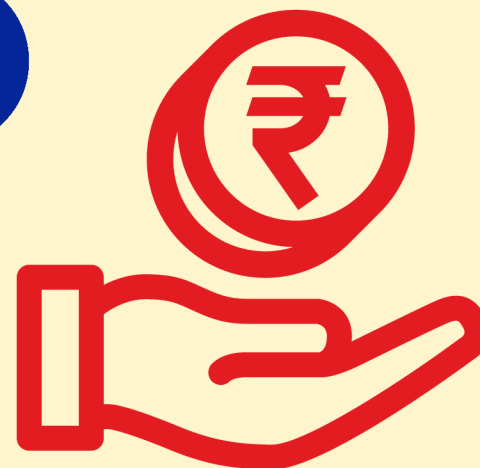
What will change for Political Parties & Candidates?

1



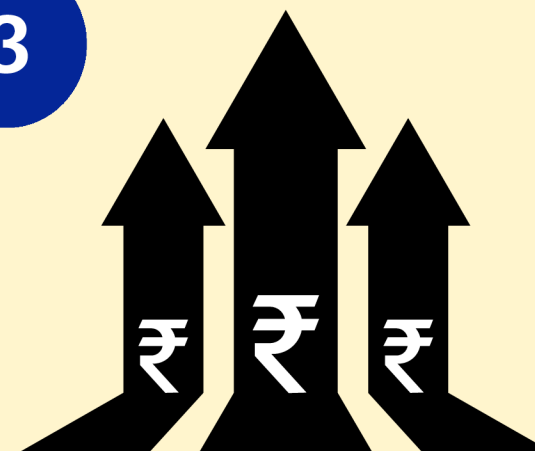
Clearly defined beneficiary eligibility criteria for all the schemes

2



Financial Outlay for all proposed schemes

3



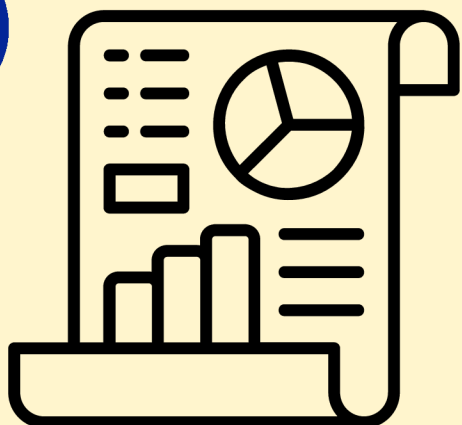
Sources, ways & means of Funding the schemes

4



Impact Assessment to evaluate the efficiency of welfare schemes

5



Need to publish Election Manifestos Progress Report on past EMs from 2030.

6



Mandatory Sunset Provisions for all applicable proposals

7



Mandatory Adherence to Expenditure Limits determined by Finance Commission.

8

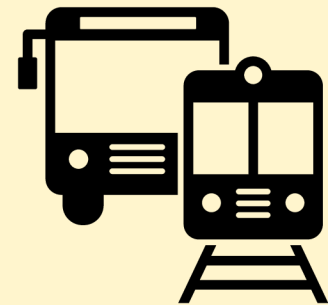
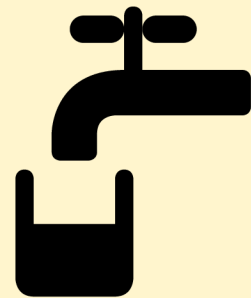
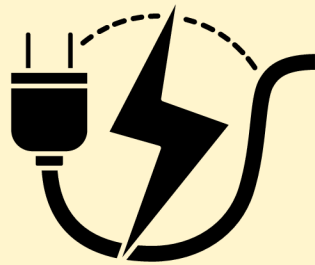


Penalties related to offences and violations.

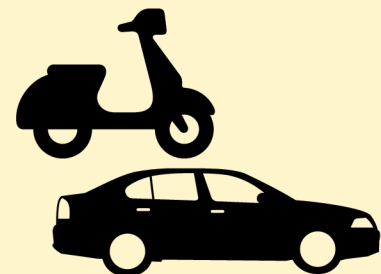
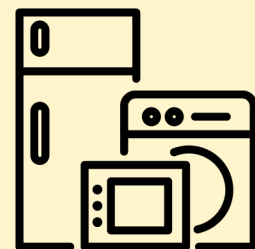
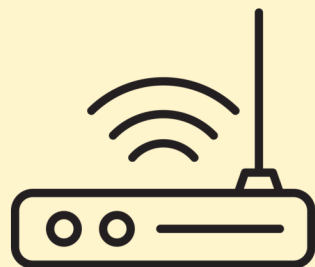
Freebies v/s Welfare

(Sections 78U & 78V)

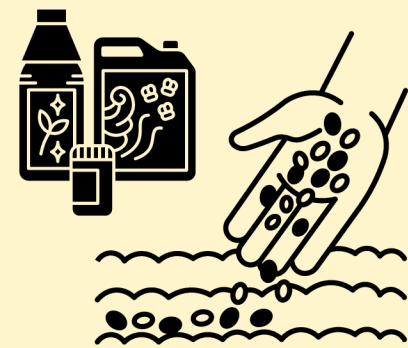
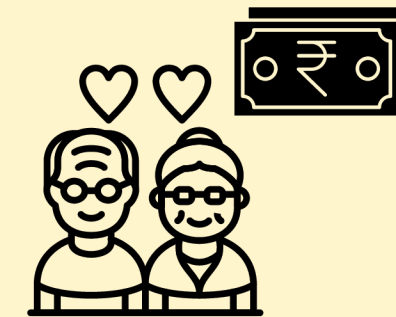
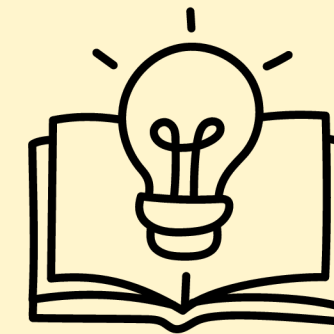
Freebies



FREE!

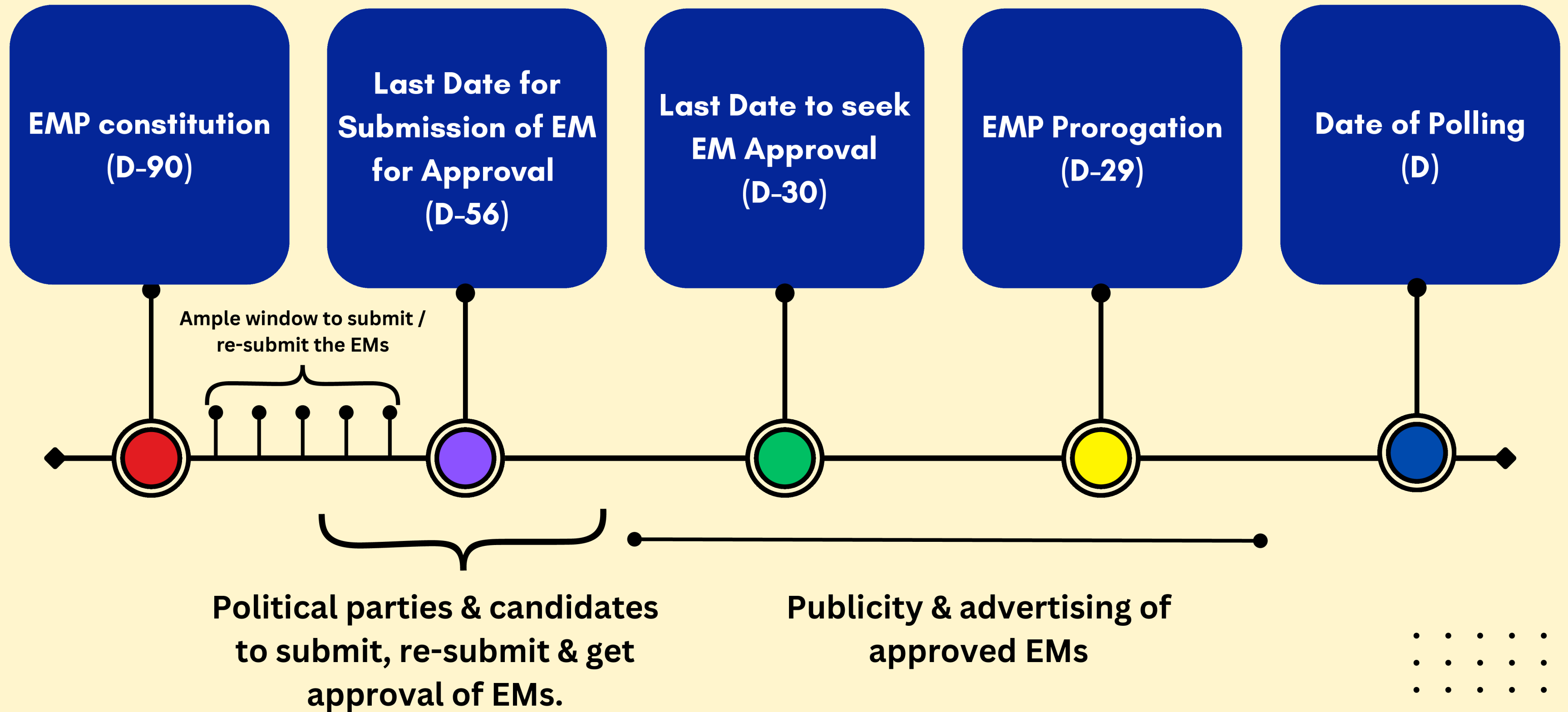


Welfare



EM Submission Timeline (EMPI)

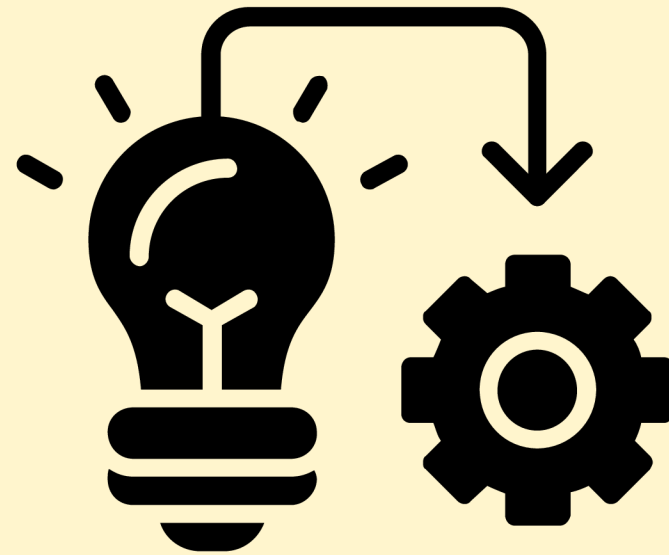
(Sections 78N & 78O)



Election Manifestos Progress Report (EMPR)

(Sections 78Z - 78ZB)

1



Extent of Implementation
of Manifesto Proposals

2

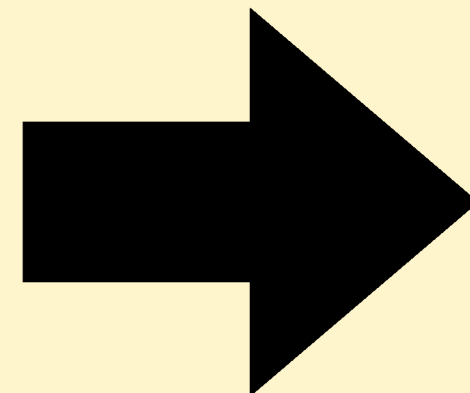


Performance Reports of All
implemented Proposals

Last Date
to release
EMPR
(D - 60)

Date of
Polling
(D)

2030



EMPRs release to be mandated after
the year 2030.

Penalties & Offences

(Sections 78ZD – 78ZF)

For National, State & Recognized Political Parties

**₹ 1
Crore**

**For releasing EM without
Approval of EMP**

+

**15
Year**

**Ban on Contesting
Elections**

**For All Other Political Parties
& All Contesting Candidates**

**₹ 20
Lakhs**

**For releasing EM without
Approval of EMP**

+

**10
Year**

**Ban on Contesting
Elections**

**For EMP members &
other staff**

**₹ 50
Lakhs**

**For violations related to
confidentiality & integrity**

+

**7
Years**

**Minimum Term for
Rigorous Imprisonment**

Publication of Election Manifestos

(Sections 78ZG - 78ZI)

Web Portal



Dedicated web portal for EMP to be made available (just like ECI Affidavits website).



Maximum time for EMP to publish all approved EMs on EMP web portal.

Political Parties & Candidates



Political parties and contesting candidates to publicize, advertise their EMs along-with Financial Outlay of schemes and other details in a format prescribed under **Election Manifesto (Regulation) Rules** subject to EMP's approval as applicable.

Media Responsibility



Responsibility of all forms of media i.e., Print / Electronic / Digital media to

1. publicize, advertise **only approved EMs**.
2. conduct public awareness programmes on contents of **ALL Election Manifestos** of all prominent political parties.

Ban on Cash Handouts

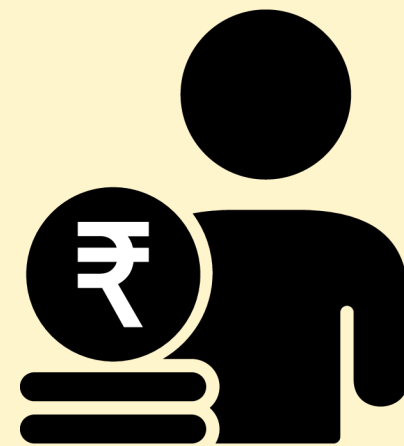
(Sections 123A & 126C)



Parties of the Incumbent Govt. CANNOT

announce any new cash-handout scheme of any kind targeting any particular class, group, category of individuals six months prior to the date of polling (definitive or tentative).

Penalty and Imprisonment



Finance Secretary

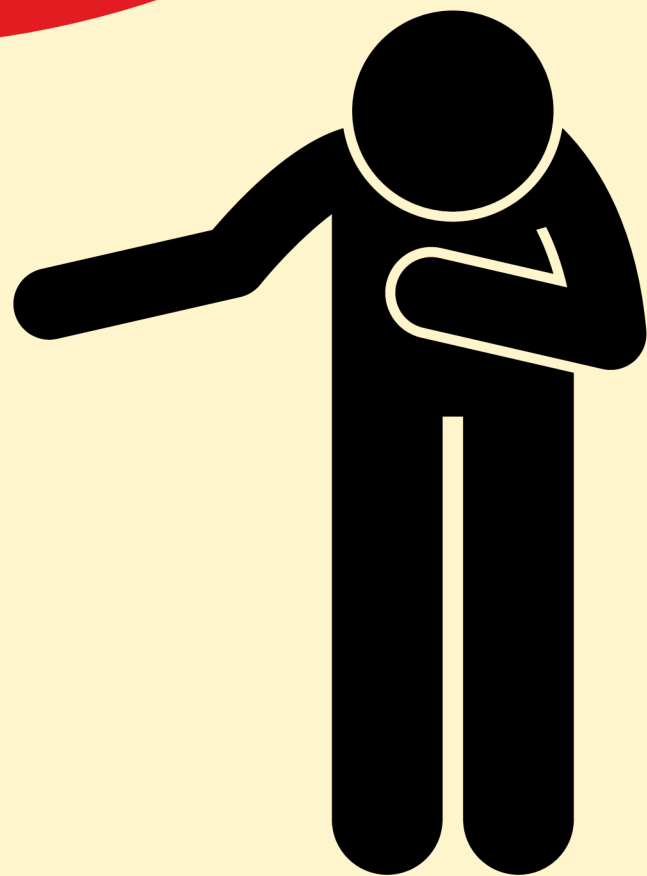


President of the Incumbent Party

₹ 1
Crore

15 Years
Imprison-
ment

THANK YOU



Prepared by:
Mr. Akhil Chirravuri,
Chairman & MD – CRFHGR



CRFHGR

Chirravuri Research Foundation
for Human and Global Reforms

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 **+91-9392035128**

 **www.crfhgr.org**

 **communications@crfhgr.org**

