

VICE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

FROM 1952 TO 1997

BRIEF NOTES

FIRST VICE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 1952

The list of electors for the first Vice-Presidential election was prepared and published by the Commission on 18.4.1952. It contained the names of 715 electors.

According to clause (1) of article 66 of the Constitution, as originally enacted, the Vice President was to be elected by the members of both Houses of Parliament assembled at a joint meeting, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.

RETURNING OFFICER

Shri M. N. Kaul, Secretary to Parliament. A few Assistant Returning Officers were appointed to assist him.

ELECTION PROGRAMME

See Appendix-I

CANDIDATES

Two candidates, namely, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan and Janab Shaik Khadir Hussain from Nandyal in Kurnool District in Andhra Pradesh filed nominations and the Returning Officer held the nomination of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan as valid and rejected the nomination of Shri Hussain. Being the only candidate, Dr. Radhakrishnan was declared as elected unopposed to the office of the Vice-President on 25.04.1952. He entered upon office of Vice-President of India on 13.05.1952.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 1957

The term of Dr. Radhakrishnan as the Vice President expired on 12.05.1957. Before that date an election was held to the office of the Vice President.

RETURNING OFFICER

Shri M. N. Kaul, Secretary to the House of the People.

ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICER

Shri N. C. Nandi, Deputy Secretary to the House of the People.

ELECTION PROGRAMME

See Appendix-I.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

The Electoral College consisted of 735 members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

CANDIDATES

Dr. Radhakrishnan was the only validly nominated candidate and he was declared as elected for a second term on 23.04.1957.

Dr. Radhakrishnan assumed the office of the Vice President of India for a second term on 13.05.1957.

THIRD VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 1962

The second term of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan as Vice-President was due to expire on 12.05.1962.

RETURNING OFFICER

The Secretary to the Rajya Sabha.

ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICER

The Deputy Secretary, Rajya Sabha.

ELECTION PROGRAMME

See Appendix-I.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

The Electoral College consisted of 745 members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

CHANGE IN THE METHOD OF ELECTION

According to clause (1) of article 66 of the Constitution, as originally enacted, the Vice- President was to be elected by the members of both Houses of Parliament assembled at a joint meeting in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote. No such joint meeting, however, took place in the Vice-Presidential Elections held either in 1952 or in 1957, as on both occasions the election was uncontested. The procedure laid down in the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952 for this election was exactly the same as for the Presidential Election and did not visualise or provide for a joint meeting of the members at any stage. It was felt on closer consideration that the various stages of an important election of this character could not be satisfactorily or conveniently gone through at a joint meeting of 700 and odd persons assembled at one place. The clause was accordingly amended by the Constitution (Eleventh Amendment) Act, 1961, providing for election "by the members of an Electoral College consisting of the members of both Houses of Parliament." Accordingly, the Election Commission prepared the list of Electoral College and election was held on 7th May, 1962.

VOTES POLLED

596 members out of 745 of the Electoral College voted and the percentage of voting was 80%. The counting started after one hour of the poll on 07.05.1962 and the result was announced on the same evening. Out of 596 votes, 14 were found invalid (2.35%). Valid votes polled were:

CANDIDATE**VOTES POLLED**

1. Dr. Zakir Hussain

568

2. Shri N. C. Samantsinhar

14

The quota required for election was $582/2=291+1=292$. Dr. Zakir Hussain secured the quota in the first count itself and was declared as elected. He assumed office as the Vice President on 13.05.1962.

FOURTH VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 1967

The term of Dr. Zakir Hussain as the Vice-President of India expired on 12.5.1967.

RETURNING OFFICER

The Secretary to the Lok Sabha.

ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS

The Deputy Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat.

ELECTION PROGRAMME

See Appendix-I.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

The Electoral College consisted of 749 members of Parliament.

VOTING

The place of poll was a Committee Room in Parliament House. The poll took place along with the Presidential Election in 1962. For the Presidential Election, 61 Members of Parliament took permission to vote at their own State Headquarters. However, there is no such provision for the Vice-Presidential election and all members in the electoral college have to vote at the place fixed in the Parliament House in New Delhi. Therefore, since this Vice-Presidential election was held simultaneously with the Presidential election, those 61 members could not vote in New Delhi at the Vice-Presidential election. However, 679 members out of 749 voted and the percentage of voting was 90.65%.

CANDIDATES AND COUNTING OF VOTES

Out of 679 votes, 3 (0.44%) were found to be invalid. The contesting candidates and the votes secured by them were as follows:

<u>CANDIDATE</u>	<u>VOTES POLLED</u>
1. Shri V. V. Giri	483
2. Prof. Habib	<u>193</u>
	576

The quota fixed for election was $576/2=288+1=289$. Shri V. V. Giri who got the quota in the first count was declared as elected and he assumed office on 13.05.1967.

FIFTH VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 1969

The term of office of Shri V. V. Giri as Vice-President elected in 1967 was upto 12.05.1972. However, Dr. Zakir Hussain, the third President of India passed away on 03.05.1969 and the Vice President Shri V. V. Giri assumed office as acting President. However, Shri V. V. Giri resigned on 20th July 1969 as the acting President and Vice President. Thus a vacancy occurred in the office of the President as well as Vice President. The Vice-Presidential election was taken up by the Commission immediately.

RETURNING OFFICER

The Secretary to the Rajya Sabha.

ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS

One Deputy Secretary to the Rajya Sabha.

ELECTORS

The Electoral College consisted of 759 members of Parliament.

ELECTION PROGRAMME

See Appendix-I.

CANDIDATES

There were 6 contesting candidates and the counting of votes was taken up immediately after the conclusion of the poll. The result was declared after the first round of counting of first preference votes. Shri G. S. Pathak who got 400 first preference votes was declared as elected on 30.08.1969. He assumed office on 31.08.1969.

SIXTH VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 1974

The term of Shri G. S. Pathak as the Vice-President of India expired on 30.08.1974. An election was held before that date.

CHANGES IN THE LAW

The Government got an Act passed by Parliament on 23.03.1974 and amended the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Act, 1952. The main features of the amendment are:

1. The nomination paper of a Vice Presidential candidate shall be subscribed by at least 5 electors as proposers and 5 electors as seconders.
2. The security deposit was made Rs. 2,500/-.
3. Election petition challenging an election can be presented only before the Supreme Court by any candidate or by minimum 10 electors joined together as petitioners.
4. The time table for the elections to the offices of the President and Vice-President was made statutory. It was provided that the last date for making nominations shall be the 14th day after the publication of the notification calling the election, the scrutiny will be on the day following such last date for filing nominations, the last date for withdrawal of candidatures will be the second day following the date of scrutiny and the date of poll, if necessary, shall be not earlier than the fifteenth day after the last date for withdrawal of candidatures.

In view of the extensive amendments, the Central Government, in consultation with the Election Commission, issued a new set of Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Rules, 1974, replacing the Rules of 1952.

RETURNING OFFICER

The Secretary General to the Lok Sabha.

ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS

The Joint Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat.

ELECTION PROGRAMME

See Appendix-I.

PLACE OF POLL

Committee Room No. 62 in Parliament House.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

The Electoral College consisted of 767 members of Parliament.

VOTES POLLED & CANDIDATES

Out of 767 members, 672 (87.61%) voted. 10 votes (1.49%) were found to be invalid.

The distribution of 662 valid votes was as follows:

<u>CANDIDATE</u>	<u>VOTES POLLED</u>
1. Shri B. D. Jatti	521
2. Shri N. E. Horo	141

The quota for election was $662/2=331+1=332$. Shri B. D. Jatti who secured the quota on the basis of first preference votes was declared as elected.

The announcement of election was signed by the Chief Election Commissioner of India on 27.08.1974 and sent to the Home Secretary. Shri Jatti assumed office on 31.08.1974.

SEVENTH VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 1979

The term of Shri B. D. Jatti as the Vice-President expired on 30.08.1979.

RETURNING OFFICER

Shri S. S. Bhalerao, Secretary General to the Rajya Sabha.

ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS

Shri Sudarshan Aggarwal, Additional Secretary, Rajya Sabha.

ELECTION PROGRAMME

See Appendix-I.

RESULT

Shri Mohammad Hidayatullah was declared elected unopposed and he assumed the office of the Vice President on 31.08.1979.

EIGHTH VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 1984

The term of office of Shri M. Hidayatullah expired on 30.08.1984 and an election before that date for the office of the Vice-President of India was to be held.

RETURNING OFFICER

The Secretary General, Lok Sabha.

ELECTION PROGRAMME

Date of poll : 22.08.1984.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

The Electoral College consisted of 788 members of Parliament.

COUNTING & RESULT

Out of a total electorate of 788, 745 (94.54%) voted. 30 (4.03%) votes were declared as invalid. The valid votes were 715 and the quota for election was $715/2=357.50+1=358$.

The valid votes secured by the two candidates were:

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Shri Ramaswami Venkataraman | 508 |
| 2. | Shri Bapu Chandrasen Kamble | 207 |

Shri Ramaswami Venkataraman secured the quota on the basis of first preference votes and was declared as elected.

Shri R. Venkataraman assumed the office of the Vice-President on 31.08.1984.

NINTH VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 1987

The term of Shri R. Venkataraman, Vice-President was upto 30.08.1989. However, he was elected as President of India on 16.07.1987 and he tendered his resignation as Vice-President on 25.07.1987.

According to Section 4(4) of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, in the case of an election to fill a vacancy in the office of Vice-President by reason of death, resignation or removal or otherwise, the notification calling upon the election shall be issued as soon as may be after the occurrence of the vacancy. The Commission accordingly took steps to fill the vacancy in the office of the Vice-President immediately.

RETURNING OFFICER

Shri Sudarshan Aggarwal, Secretary General, Rajya Sabha.

ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS

Smt. K. K. Chopra, Additional Secretary, Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

ELECTION PROGRAMME

See Appendix-I.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

The Electoral College consisted of total 790 members (Lok Sabha-545 and Rajya Sabha-245).

PLACE OF POLL

Room No. 63, First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi.

CANDIDATES

27 candidates filed their nominations. On scrutiny, the Returning Officer found that the nomination filed by only one candidate, namely, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, the then Governor of Maharashtra, was valid.

DECLARATION OF RESULT

On 21.08.1987, after the last date of withdrawal of candidatures was over, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma was declared elected unopposed. He assumed the office of the Vice-President on 03.09.1987.

TENTH VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 1992

The term of office of the Vice-President of India Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma was to expire on 02.09.1992. However, he was elected as the president and resigned as Vice-President on 02.09.1992. An election was held to fill the vacancy.

RETURNING OFFICER

Shri C. K. Jain, Secretary General, Lok Sabha.

ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICER

Shri T. S. Ahluwalia, Joint Secretary (L), Lok Sabha Secretariat.

ELECTION PROGRAMME

See Appendix-I

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

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PLACE OF POLL

Room No. 63, First Floor, Parliament House in New Delhi.

CANDIDATES

There were two contesting candidates:

1. Shri K. R. Narayanan
2. Shri Kaka Joginder Singh urf Dharti Pakad.

RESULT OF ELECTION

Out of 790 electors, 711 (90.00%) electors voted at the election. 10 (1.41%) votes were found to be invalid. Out of the 701 valid votes, Shri K. R. Narayanan secured 700 votes and Shri Kaka Joginder Singh urf Dharti Pakad secured only one vote.

The quota required for election was $701/2=350.50+1=351$.

Shri K. R. Narayanan who secured the required quota in the first round of counting on the basis of first preference votes was declared as elected on 19.08.1992. He entered upon the office of the Vice-President on 21.08.1992.

ELEVENTH VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, 1997

The term of office of the Vice-President of India Shri K. R. Narayanan expired on 20.08.2002.

RETURNING OFFICER

Shri R. C. Tripathi, Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS

Shri D. R. Tiwari, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

CANDIDATES

There were two contesting candidates

1. Shri Krishan Kant
2. Shri Surjit Singh

PLACE OF POLL

Room No. 63, First Floor, Parliament House in New Delhi.

RESULT OF ELECTION

Out of 790 electors, 760 (96.20%) electors voted at the election. 46 (5.82%) votes were found to be invalid. Out of 714 valid votes, Shri Krishan Kant secured 441 votes and Shri Surjit Singh secured 273 votes.

The quota required for election was $714/2=357+1=358$.

Shri Krishan Kant who secured the required quota in the first round of counting as first preference votes was declared as elected on 16.08.1997. He entered the office of Vice-President on 21.08.1997 and his term, as Vice-President is upto 20.08.2002.
