

Constitution of the Praja Prathamik Party

As adopted for registration with the Election Commission of India

प्रजा प्राथमिक पार्टी · People's Primary Party (PPP)

Preamble

We, citizens of India, form this party with one foremost aim, to free India from corruption, and to renew public life through a structure in which ordinary members choose the party's candidates, those who seek office earn it through open contest, and the experience of India's most accomplished citizens guides the party without ruling it. In this party, the ticket to contest an election is never sold: it is earned by winning the votes of members. The party will practise constructive, issue-based politics: it will support any measure that serves India's development, whichever party proposes it.

The party is organised in three tiers:

1. **Members** (Tier 1): basic and paid members who form the base of the party and choose its candidates.
2. **Executive Members** (Tier 2): paid members who have met published, objective criteria, who govern the party's organisation and who alone may contest its primaries.
3. **Advisory Councils** (Tier 3): a Central Advisory Council and State Advisory Councils of eminent citizens, who advise the party and decide, against published criteria, who may become an Executive Member and who may appear in a primary. Advisory Council members never hold executive office or contest elections.

Part I: Name, office, objects and definitions

Article 1. Name. The party shall be called Praja Prathamik Party (प्रजा प्राथमिक पार्टी) in Hindi and People's Primary Party in English, abbreviated PPP in both languages.

Article 2. Head office. The head office of the party shall be at [full address]. Any change of address shall be communicated to the Election Commission within 30 days.

Article 3. Allegiance to the Constitution. The party shall bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India as by law established, and to the principles of socialism, secularism and democracy, and shall uphold the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.

Article 4. Objects. The objects of the party are:

1. to contest elections to Parliament, State Legislatures and local bodies through candidates chosen by its members;

2. to practise internal democracy through regular, secret-ballot elections and published rules;
3. to free India from corruption, which is the party's foremost aim, to replace caste-based reservation with reservation based on economic need, and to make India a developed nation by 2047, the centenary of Independence, and to that end:
 1. to end the sale of party tickets and the use of unaccounted money in elections, beginning with the party's own conduct;
 2. to strengthen the Lokpal and Lokayuktas, protect whistle-blowers, and secure time-bound investigation and trial of corruption cases;
 3. to make government services, payments, licences and public procurement digital, transparent and free of discretionary delay;
 4. to reform policing and the justice system so that justice is speedy, impartial and affordable;
 5. to secure quality, affordable health care and education for every citizen;
 6. to promote economic growth, employment, enterprise, manufacturing, agriculture, science and innovation;
 7. to build modern infrastructure while protecting the environment; and
 8. to work, through lawful amendment of the Constitution and laws, for reservation in education, public employment and welfare to be based on economic need rather than caste, and to secure equal opportunity and dignity for every citizen, with particular care for women, farmers, workers and the poor;
4. to pursue its objects only by lawful, peaceful and constitutional means.

Article 4A. Issue-based politics.

1. The party shall judge every policy, bill, budget and action of any government or political party on its merits, measured against the objects in Article 4, and not by which party proposes it.
2. The party, its office-bearers and its elected representatives shall support, by vote and in public, any measure that advances corruption-free governance or India's development, whichever party or government proposes it.
3. The party shall not oppose any measure merely because it is proposed by another party, nor obstruct the proceedings of Parliament, a State Legislature or a local body for partisan advantage.
4. Where the party opposes a measure, it shall publish its reasons and, wherever practicable, propose a constructive alternative.
5. The party shall criticise policies and conduct, not persons, and shall not engage in personal attacks on members of other parties.
6. The National Executive Council shall publish, at least once a year, a record of the measures of other parties and governments the party has supported and opposed, with reasons.

Article 5. Flag and symbol. The party flag shall be white, bearing the party's symbol in deep blue at its centre, with the party's name in Hindi and English beneath it. The party shall apply to the Election Commission for the scales (तराजू) as its common election symbol, with the ballot

box as its second preference, subject to the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968.

Article 6. Status of this constitution. This constitution binds every member, office-bearer and council of the party. Any rule, resolution or decision inconsistent with it is void to the extent of the inconsistency. The Schedules form part of this constitution.

Article 7. Definitions. In this constitution:

1. “Member” means a basic member or a paid member under Part II;
2. “Executive Member” means a paid member admitted to Tier 2 under Part III;
3. “Central Advisory Council” (CAC) and “State Advisory Council” (SAC) mean the councils constituted under Part IV, and “Advisory Council” means either;
4. “Eligibility Criteria” means the criteria in Schedule I, and “Disqualifying Offence” means an offence listed in Schedule II;
5. “Primary” means an election among members to choose the party’s candidate for a public election;
6. “Aspirant” means an Executive Member seeking to contest a primary;
7. “Election Authority” and “Arbitration Tribunal” mean the bodies constituted under Part VII;
8. “State” includes a Union Territory with a legislature.

Part II: Tier 1 — Members

Article 8. Eligibility and classes of membership. Any citizen of India aged 18 or over whose name is on an electoral roll in India may become a member, provided they are not a member of any other political party and accept this constitution and the Code of Conduct in Schedule III in writing. Membership is of two classes:

1. **Basic members**, who pay no fee; and
2. **Paid members**, who pay an annual membership fee of ₹100, which the National Executive Council may revise once a year.

Article 8A. Non-resident Indians and Overseas Citizens of India.

1. A citizen of India living abroad (a non-resident Indian) may become a basic member.
2. An Overseas Citizen of India cardholder may become a basic member as an overseas associate. Overseas associates pay no fee (including any contribution under Article 10A) and make no donation to the party, are not counted among the members required for registration with the Election Commission, and shall not take part in any activity that the law prohibits to Overseas Citizens of India.
3. Non-resident Indians and overseas associates shall not vote in any primary or internal election, become paid members or Executive Members, hold party office, or be party candidates.
4. Non-resident Indians and overseas associates may serve on an Advisory Council within the limit in Article 22. On the Council, they take part in giving advice and in decisions on

admission of Executive Members under Article 24(2), and recuse themselves from all other certification decisions.

5. If the law on Overseas Citizens of India or on foreign contributions changes, the National Executive Council shall amend this Article as needed to keep the party within the law.

Article 9. Registration and verification. Every application, whether online or on paper, shall be verified against the applicant's electoral roll entry before membership is granted. The Election Authority shall keep a single digital register of members, organised by State, Lok Sabha constituency and Assembly constituency. Members' personal data shall be handled with their consent and in accordance with the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023.

Article 9A. Public register of members.

1. The party shall publish on its website, and keep current, the names and constituencies of all Executive Members, office-bearers, Advisory Council members, aspirants and candidates.
2. The party shall also publish the names and Assembly constituencies of all other members, with their consent given at the time of joining. A member may ask the Election Authority to withhold their name for reasons of personal safety, employment or privacy; the member is then shown only in the count for their constituency.
3. The number of members in each constituency, and the number eligible to vote in each primary, shall be published before every primary.
4. No address, telephone number, email address, identity number or other contact detail of any member shall be published. The register shall be kept in accordance with the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023.

Article 10. Rights by class. Basic and paid members alike may vote in primaries and internal elections, subject to Article 12. Only a paid member who has held paid membership continuously for at least one year may apply to become an Executive Member. A basic member may become a paid member at any time; the one-year period runs from the date the first fee is paid.

Article 10A. Working contributions.

1. Every Executive Member shall contribute ₹1,000 per month towards the party's working costs; this includes the paid membership fee under Article 8. Every Advisory Council member shall contribute ₹1,00,000 per year, except an Overseas Citizen of India cardholder, who pays nothing under Article 8A.
2. All contributions go into a Working Fund, used only for the party's organisational costs: offices and staff, the online membership, voting and verification systems, training, audits, and the costs of the Election Authority, the Arbitration Tribunal, the Integrity Commission and the Members' Ombudsman. The Working Fund shall not be spent on any individual's primary or election campaign.
3. The contribution is the same for every Executive Member, whether or not they seek to contest. It gives no right to certification, nomination or candidature, and no one may pay more than the contribution to gain any advantage in the party; any further payment is a donation under Article 47.

4. An Executive Member who is a student, is unemployed, or has a household income below ₹3,00,000 a year may instead contribute ₹100 per month, or ten hours a month of verified party service. The Election Authority decides on a confidential self-declaration; the decision is not disclosed to any Advisory Council and plays no part in any certification.
5. The National Executive Council shall set the contributions each year so that they do not exceed the budgeted working costs, and any surplus shall reduce the next year's contributions. Contributions may be revised once a year by a two-thirds vote.
6. All contributions shall be paid through banking channels in the payer's own name, receipted, and accounted for and published under Articles 47 and 47A.
7. An Advisory Council member who has not paid within 60 days of the due date vacates their seat.

Article 11. Rights of all members. Every member in good standing has the right to:

1. vote in the primaries for their own Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies, subject to Article 12;
2. vote in elections to party bodies as provided in this constitution;
3. receive the party's audited annual accounts and the Advisory Councils' annual certification reports;
4. propose policy resolutions to their State Executive Council; and
5. appeal any disciplinary decision to the Arbitration Tribunal.

Article 12. Requirements to vote in a primary. A member may vote in a primary only if they:

1. have been a member in good standing for at least 12 months before the date the primary is notified and, in the case of a paid member, have paid their fees up to date;
2. are a citizen of India ordinarily resident in India and registered as an elector in that constituency;
3. have verified their identity for online voting through the Election Authority's process, using their electoral photo identity card or another method permitted by law;
4. have completed, once, the party's short online orientation on this constitution, the Code of Conduct and how primaries work; and
5. are not a non-resident Indian, an overseas associate or a member of any Advisory Council.

The same requirements apply to every other internal election, for the State or the country as the case may be.

Article 13. Termination. Membership ends on resignation, on joining another political party, or on expulsion under Part VIII. A paid member who does not renew within 6 months of notice becomes a basic member and ceases to be an Executive Member.

Part III: Tier 2 — Executive Members and the Executive Councils

Article 14. Role. Executive Members form the party's working organisation. Only Executive Members may hold party office or contest a primary.

Article 15. Admission. A paid member becomes an Executive Member only on certification by the State Advisory Council of the State in which they are registered as a voter, under Article 25. Certification may be granted only if the applicant meets every criterion in Part A of Schedule I, and remains subject to the Advisory Council's decision under Article 25(3).

Article 16. Continuing eligibility. An Executive Member shall continue to meet the Part A criteria throughout their membership, shall update their sworn disclosure every year and within 30 days of any material change, and shall remain a paid member and keep up the monthly contribution under Article 10A; three months' arrears end Executive Member status. An Executive Member who ceases to meet any criterion ceases to be an Executive Member on a finding by the State Advisory Council under Article 25, subject to appeal.

Article 17. State Executive Councils. All Executive Members registered in a State form the State Executive Council of that State. The State Executive Council shall:

1. elect the State office-bearers under Article 40;
2. run the party's organisation, campaigns and membership drives in that State;
3. frame rules for district and constituency units, consistent with this constitution; and
4. meet at least twice a year, with a quorum of one-fifth of its members, in person or by secure electronic means.

Article 18. National Executive Council. The National Executive Council is the party's highest governing body. It consists of:

1. the national office-bearers;
2. delegates elected by secret ballot by each State Executive Council, at the rate of one delegate for every 500 Executive Members in that State, with at least two delegates for each State with a State Executive Council; and
3. the leader of the party in the Lok Sabha and in each State Legislative Assembly, as non-voting members.

It shall meet at least twice a year, with a quorum of one-third of its voting members. Decisions are by simple majority of those present and voting, unless this constitution requires otherwise.

Article 18A. Annual Members' Convention. The party shall hold a national convention of members every year, in person and online. The National Executive Council shall report on the year's work and the audited accounts, the results of the annual policy vote shall be announced, and every member may attend and put questions.

Article 19. Obligations. Executive Members shall observe the Code of Conduct, declare any conflict of interest, abide by the result of any primary they contest, and support the party's chosen candidates.

Article 20. Leaving. An Executive Member may resign that status at any time without ending their membership.

Part IV: Tier 3 — Advisory Councils

Article 21. Central Advisory Council. The Central Advisory Council has a fixed membership of 21 persons of national standing, drawn from industry, commerce and finance; science and medicine; law and public service; religious and spiritual life, with representation of more than one faith; philanthropy; and arts, culture and public life.

Article 22. State Advisory Councils. A State Advisory Council of 21 members, of standing in that State and drawn from the same fields, shall be constituted for each State once the party has at least 10,000 members there. It may begin with as few as 11 members and add members up to 21 as suitable applicants are found. Until a State Advisory Council is constituted, the Central Advisory Council performs its functions for that State. At least three-quarters of the members of every Advisory Council, and its Chair, shall be citizens of India ordinarily resident in India; the rest may be non-resident Indians or Overseas Citizens of India under Article 8A.

Article 23. Appointment and tenure.

1. The first 21 members of the Central Advisory Council are chosen by the founder of the party, [name of founder], within six months of registration, subject to Articles 21, 22, 26 and 27: seven for a term of six years, seven for four years and seven for two years, the term of each being decided by a draw of lots held in public.
2. After the first terms, every member of an Advisory Council is appointed for six years, and one-third of the seats of each Advisory Council fall vacant every two years.
3. Thereafter, seats are filled from applications. The Election Authority shall invite applications publicly at least 90 days before seats fall vacant. An applicant must be a person of standing in one of the fields listed in Article 21, must meet criteria 4 to 8 and 11 in Part A of Schedule I, and must not have been an Executive Member or held party office in the previous 12 months.
4. Seats on the Central Advisory Council are filled from eligible applicants by a Nominations Committee (the national President, the General Secretary and three members of the National Executive Council elected by it by secret ballot), subject to ratification by a two-thirds vote of the National Executive Council.
5. Members of every State Advisory Council are chosen by the Central Advisory Council, by a two-thirds vote, from eligible applicants and after consulting the State Executive Council. The first members of each State Advisory Council are appointed for staggered terms of six, four and two years in equal thirds (or as near as possible), decided by a draw of lots held in public; members added later to reach 21 are placed by lot in the term groups with the fewest members. The Central Advisory Council is the body that ratifies their appointment for the purposes of Article 29.
6. A seat vacated before its term ends is filled in the same way for the rest of that term.
7. No person may serve more than three terms on Advisory Councils in a lifetime. A first term of two or four years under clause 1 or 5 counts as a term; the remainder of a term

filled under clause 6 does not, if it is shorter than three years. No person may serve on more than one Advisory Council at a time.

8. Each Advisory Council elects its own Chair from among its members for a term of two years.

Article 24. Functions.

1. Each Advisory Council advises the party on policy, strategy and public affairs at its level.
2. Each State Advisory Council certifies, under Article 25, which members of that State may become Executive Members and which Executive Members may appear in a primary for any Lok Sabha, Assembly or local-body constituency in that State.
3. The Central Advisory Council certifies, under Article 25, the eligibility of candidates for national office and for the Rajya Sabha, and of anyone whose application involves more than one State.
4. The Central Advisory Council shall audit a random sample of at least 10% of each State Advisory Council's certifications every year, and publish its findings, to ensure the criteria are applied consistently across States.
5. Except as provided in this Article and Article 25, an Advisory Council's role is advisory only, and none of its resolutions binds an Executive Council or the membership.

Article 25. Certification against objective criteria.

1. An application for admission as an Executive Member, or for approval to appear in a primary, shall be made to the Election Authority, with the sworn disclosure and documents required by Schedule I.
2. The Election Authority's secretariat shall verify each document against the public record (including court records, income-tax filings, the electoral roll and the party's own records) and place before the Advisory Council a verification report stating, for each criterion in Schedule I, whether the evidence shows it is met.
3. The Advisory Council shall decide on the verification report, criterion by criterion. The Advisory Council retains the final right to accept or reject every application. It shall not certify an applicant who fails any criterion. It may reject an applicant who meets every criterion only by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting, with written reasons based on the applicant's conduct or record, which shall be given to the applicant and summarised, without personal data, in the annual report.
4. The Council may interview an applicant. No personal recommendation, donation, or assessment of an applicant's popularity, loyalty to any individual or electoral prospects shall form part of the decision.
5. Decisions require a quorum of one-half of the Council's members and are taken by majority. Every decision shall record, for each criterion, "met" or "not met" with the evidence relied on.
6. A member of the Council with a personal, business or family connection to an applicant shall recuse themselves.
7. The Council shall decide within 21 days of receiving a complete verification report. If it does not, the applicant may ask the Central Advisory Council (or, for the Central

Advisory Council itself, its Chair) to require a decision within a further 14 days. No applicant is certified without a decision of the Council.

8. A refused applicant receives the written criterion-by-criterion decision within 7 days, may re-apply once the failed criterion is met, and may appeal to the Arbitration Tribunal under Article 45.
9. An Advisory Council may not propose, nominate or add aspirants, rank them, or influence the outcome of a primary in any other way.
10. Each Advisory Council shall publish an annual report of applications received, certified and refused, with the criterion failed in each refusal.

Article 26. Restrictions on Advisory Council members. Members of any Advisory Council shall not:

1. contest any election under the party's name, including elections to Parliament, State Legislatures, local bodies and the Rajya Sabha;
2. become Executive Members, hold any party office, or contest internal party elections;
3. seek candidature through party primaries, or vote in any primary or internal election; or
4. campaign for the party or its candidates in a religious capacity.

Article 27. Disclosure and conflicts. Every Advisory Council member shall publicly declare their business interests, directorships and donations to the party on appointment and every year, and shall recuse themselves from any advice or decision touching their own business, family or associates.

Article 28. Movement between tiers.

1. An Executive Member may be appointed to an Advisory Council after resigning all party offices, Executive Member status and candidatures, and after a cooling-off period of 12 months.
2. A person who has served on any Advisory Council shall never become an Executive Member or a party candidate.
3. A person who resigns from an Advisory Council to stand for election against the party's candidates shall not be readmitted to the party in any tier.

Article 29. Removal. A member of an Advisory Council may be removed for cause by a two-thirds vote of the body that ratified their appointment, after a hearing before the Arbitration Tribunal.

Part V: Candidate selection and primaries

Article 30. Primaries required. The party's candidate for every Lok Sabha, Assembly and municipal corporation constituency it contests shall be chosen by a primary of eligible members registered in that constituency. No other method is permitted except under Article 34.

Article 31. Sequence. Each primary proceeds in this order:

1. The Election Authority notifies the primary and its timetable, and the voter roll for the primary closes on that date.
2. Executive Members apply to appear in the primary, with updated disclosures and the supporting signatures required by Part B of Schedule I.
3. The State Advisory Council certifies eligibility under Article 25, with any appeal to the Arbitration Tribunal decided within 10 days.
4. The Election Authority publishes the list of certified aspirants and their disclosures on the party's website.
5. Aspirants campaign within the spending cap under Article 33 and take part in the online debate under Article 32A.
6. Eligible members vote online under Articles 32 and 32B. If no aspirant wins more than 50%, the top two hold a second debate and go to a second round.

Article 32. Voting and second round.

1. Members vote online by secret ballot for one aspirant.
2. An aspirant who receives more than 50% of the valid votes is the party's candidate.
3. If no aspirant receives more than 50%, the two aspirants with the most votes go to a second round, held 10 days later, after a second debate between them under Article 32A. The aspirant with more votes in the second round is the party's candidate.
4. A tie in the second round is resolved by a further round within 3 days and, if still tied, by a draw of lots held in public by the Election Authority.
5. If only one certified aspirant remains, members hold a confirmation vote. If more than 50% vote against, the primary is reopened for fresh applications.

Article 32A. Online debates.

1. Before the first round of every primary, the Election Authority shall hold at least one live online debate among all certified aspirants. Before a second round, it shall hold a further debate between the two remaining aspirants.
2. The moderator of each debate is chosen by the Advisory Council that certified the aspirants: the State Advisory Council for constituencies in its State, and the Central Advisory Council for national office. The moderator shall not be a party member or connected with any aspirant, and may be, for example, a journalist, academic or retired judge. The Council shall announce its choice at least 7 days before the debate.
3. The moderator shall give each aspirant equal time and follow debate rules published by the Election Authority, and may put questions submitted by members.
4. Every debate shall be streamed live, recorded and published on the party's website, in Hindi, English and, for a State, its principal language.
5. Taking part is compulsory. An aspirant who misses a debate without a reason accepted by the Election Authority is disqualified from that primary.

Article 32B. Online elections.

1. All primaries and internal elections shall be held online by the Election Authority, through a secure system that verifies each voter, allows one vote per eligible member, keeps every ballot secret and keeps an auditable record.

2. The system shall be audited by an independent security auditor before each election, and the results published with turnout for each constituency.
3. Voting shall stay open for at least 48 hours. The Election Authority shall provide help desks where members without internet access can vote in secret.
4. Members may change their vote as many times as they wish while voting is open; only the last vote counts.
5. Each member receives a confidential receipt that lets them check their vote was recorded as cast, without revealing to anyone else how they voted.
6. Any dispute about an online election may be taken to the Arbitration Tribunal.

Article 33. Campaign conduct. Each aspirant's primary spending is capped at one-tenth of the expenditure limit fixed by the Election Commission (or State Election Commission) for a candidate in that election, and shall be reported to the Election Authority with receipts. Aspirants shall not offer inducements to members, and shall not appeal for votes on grounds of religion, caste, community or language. Breach of this Article, proven before the Arbitration Tribunal, voids the aspirant's result.

Article 34. Vacancies and emergencies. If a primary cannot be held before the last date for nominations, or the chosen candidate dies, withdraws or is disqualified, the State Executive Council shall choose a candidate by secret ballot from the certified aspirants for that constituency, failing whom from Executive Members certified under Article 25 for that purpose.

Article 35. Rajya Sabha and Legislative Council candidates. The party's candidates for the Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Councils shall be chosen by secret ballot of the State Executive Council of the State concerned, from Executive Members certified by the Central Advisory Council under Article 24(3).

Article 36. Authorisation of candidates (Forms A and B). The office-bearer authorised to sign Forms A and B under the Election Symbols Order shall issue them to the winner of the primary, or the person chosen under Article 34 or 35, and to no other person. That office-bearer has no discretion in this matter. Failure or refusal to do so is a breach of this constitution and may be challenged before the Arbitration Tribunal.

Article 37. No sale of tickets. No person shall demand, offer, pay or accept any money, donation, gift or other consideration, directly or through another person, for certification under Article 25, for nomination as an aspirant, or for the issue of Forms A and B. No fee shall be charged for any application under this constitution. Contributions under Article 10A are not consideration for these purposes and give no right to certification, nomination or candidature. Any aspirant or candidate who breaches this Article is disqualified and their candidature void, and any member who does so shall be expelled. Every aspirant and the authorised office-bearer shall file a sworn declaration that no such consideration was given or received.

Article 38. Defeated aspirants. An aspirant who loses a primary shall not contest that election against the party's candidate. Doing so ends their membership in all tiers.

Part V-A: Integrity and anti-corruption

Article 38A. Declaration of wealth.

1. Every aspirant, every party candidate and every elected representative of the party shall file a sworn declaration of all assets and liabilities, in India and abroad, held by themselves, their spouse, their dependants and any Hindu Undivided Family or entity they control, together with the sources of their income and income-tax returns for the last five years.
2. The Election Authority shall publish every such declaration on the party's website before the primary.
3. Every elected representative shall file an updated declaration every year while in office and on leaving office.
4. A false, incomplete or late declaration is itself a ground for expulsion under Article 38C.

Article 38B. Integrity Commission.

1. An independent Integrity Commission of three members shall examine declarations, audit the wealth of elected representatives, receive complaints and inquire into corruption by any member.
2. At least one member shall be a retired judge of a High Court or the Supreme Court, and at least one a chartered accountant or forensic auditor of at least 15 years' standing. Members shall hold no other party office and shall not be Executive Members or Advisory Council members.
3. Members are appointed for 5-year terms by a two-thirds vote of the National Executive Council and are removable only for proven misconduct.
4. The Commission shall accept complaints from any person, including anonymous complaints supported by documents, and shall protect the identity of whistle-blowers. No member shall be penalised for making a complaint in good faith.
5. The Commission shall audit the declarations of every elected representative every year, and shall publish an annual report of complaints received, inquiries held and findings made.

Article 38C. Grounds for expulsion. A member shall be expelled from the party if the Integrity Commission finds, after inquiry under Article 38D, that they have:

1. made a false, incomplete or suppressed declaration under Article 38A;
2. assets which, after allowing for declared lawful income, exceed what that income can account for by more than 10%, and which they cannot satisfactorily explain;
3. demanded, accepted, offered or paid a bribe or any illegal gratification, or misused public office or public funds for private gain;
4. been convicted of, or had charges framed by a court for, an offence under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, or the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002; or
5. breached Article 37.

Article 38D. Procedure.

1. The Commission shall give the member written notice of the allegation and the evidence, and a hearing.
2. The Commission may suspend the member from all party rights pending inquiry where charges have been framed by a court or it finds a prima facie case.
3. The Commission shall report within 60 days, deciding on the documentary and other evidence before it on the balance of probabilities.
4. The member may appeal to the Arbitration Tribunal within 15 days, and the Tribunal shall decide within 30 days.
5. Every finding shall be published.

Article 38E. Consequences for aspirants and candidates. A member expelled under Article 38C is removed from all tiers and may never be readmitted. An aspirant's certification is withdrawn, and where the party has already authorised them as its candidate, the authorised office-bearer shall withdraw or substitute that authorisation to the extent the law permits.

Article 38F. Elected representatives.

1. Before receiving Forms A and B, every candidate shall sign a public undertaking that, if expelled under Article 38C while holding office, they will resign their seat.
2. If an elected representative is found corrupt under Article 38C, they shall be expelled from the party, and the party shall take every lawful step to have them removed from office, including:
 1. referring the evidence to the police, the Central Bureau of Investigation, the Enforcement Directorate, the Lokpal or the Lokayukta, and pursuing prosecution;
 2. filing or supporting an election petition where the corruption relates to their election;
 3. seeking their disqualification where a conviction makes them disqualified under Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951;
 4. publicly calling on them to honour their undertaking and resign; and
 5. moving or supporting a motion of censure in the House concerned.
3. The party shall publish the steps taken under this Article and their outcome.

Part V-B: Declared leadership and ministerial standards

Article 38G. Leader always declared. The party shall never contest a general election to the Lok Sabha or a State Legislative Assembly without first publicly declaring who will lead it:

1. for a Lok Sabha election in which the party contests at least 272 seats, the person the party will propose as Prime Minister; when it contests fewer, it shall instead name the leader of its group in the Lok Sabha; and
2. for an Assembly election, the person the party will propose as Chief Minister of that State.

The declaration shall be made at least six months before the expected date of polling, or within 30 days of the announcement of an early election.

Article 38H. Choosing the declared leader.

1. The Prime Ministerial candidate is chosen by all members eligible under Article 12, and a Chief Ministerial candidate by eligible members of that State, by secret online ballot under Articles 32 and 32B, after debates under Article 32A.
2. To stand, a person must be an Executive Member, certified by the Central Advisory Council as meeting the leader's qualifications in Schedule IV, and nominated by at least 10% of the National Executive Council (for Prime Minister) or the State Executive Council (for Chief Minister).
3. The party's members of the House concerned shall elect the declared leader as leader of their legislature party, and shall propose that person for the office of Prime Minister or Chief Minister.
4. If the office becomes vacant during the term, a new leader is chosen under this Article within 90 days; until then the legislature party may elect an interim leader by secret ballot.

Article 38I. Ministerial team declared before the election. Together with the declared leader, and at least three months before polling, the party shall publicly name the persons it will appoint to the following posts if it forms or joins the government:

1. Home;
2. Finance;
3. Defence;
4. External Affairs;
5. Health and Family Welfare;
6. Education;
7. Law and Justice; and
8. any other portfolio the National Executive Council (or, for a State, the State Executive Council) adds by resolution.

The same applies, with the State equivalents of these portfolios, to Assembly elections. For the National Capital Territory of Delhi, the portfolios named shall be those within the Delhi Government's powers, including Finance, Health, Education, Law and Justice, Urban Development, Power and Water, and Transport, within the limit on the size of the Council of Ministers in Article 239AA of the Constitution of India.

Article 38J. Ministerial qualifications.

1. Every person named under Article 38I shall meet the qualifications for that portfolio in Schedule IV, as certified by the Central Advisory Council (or, for a State government, the State Advisory Council) under the procedure in Article 25.
2. Every person named shall also meet the criteria in Part A of Schedule I, other than criteria 1 (one year of paid membership) and 9 (service hours), and shall file the wealth declaration under Article 38A.
3. No member of an Advisory Council may be named, in keeping with Article 28.

4. The declared leader proposes the names; the National Executive Council (or the State Executive Council) approves them by majority. Where Schedule IV states a preference, the leader shall prefer, among qualified persons, the one who meets it.

Article 38K. Entry to the legislature. A person named under Article 38I who is not already a member of the legislature may seek election through a party primary, may be chosen for the Rajya Sabha or a Legislative Council under Article 35, or may be appointed and then seek election within the six months allowed by Articles 75(5) and 164(4) of the Constitution of India.

Article 38L. Changes and coalitions.

1. A named person may be replaced only by another person meeting the same qualifications, with the reasons published.
2. In a coalition government, the party shall nominate to any portfolio it holds only persons who meet Schedule IV, and shall seek its partners' agreement to the same standards for the posts listed in Article 38I.
3. A minister who ceases to meet the qualifications, or is expelled under Part V-A, shall be asked to resign, and the party shall withdraw its support from that minister.

Part VI: Office-bearers and internal elections

Article 39. National office-bearers. The party shall have a President, two Vice-Presidents, a General Secretary and a Treasurer, all of whom shall be Executive Members.

1. The President is elected by all members eligible under Article 12, by secret online ballot under Articles 32 and 32B, after debates under Article 32A. To stand, a candidate must be certified by the Central Advisory Council and nominated by at least 15% of the party's elected legislators or, until the party has 20 legislators, by at least 10% of the National Executive Council.
2. The Vice-Presidents, General Secretary and Treasurer are elected by the National Executive Council by secret ballot.

Article 40. State and district office-bearers. Each State shall have a State President, a State General Secretary and a State Treasurer. The State President is elected by members of that State eligible under Article 12; the others by the State Executive Council. District and constituency units shall follow rules framed under Article 17.

Article 41. Terms. All office-bearers serve terms of 3 years, with a limit of two consecutive terms in the same office. Internal elections shall be held at least once every 3 years, as the Election Commission's guidelines require.

Article 42. Authorised office-bearer. The General Secretary is the party's authorised office-bearer for correspondence with the Election Commission, including Forms A and B, subject to Article 36. The party may sue and be sued in the name of its General Secretary.

Article 43. Notification to the ECI. The party shall notify the Election Commission of any change in its name, head office, office-bearers or this constitution, as required by Section 29A(9).

Part VI-A: Member democracy and accountability

Article 43A. Members approve alliances. No pre-poll alliance, seat-sharing arrangement, post-poll coalition, or decision to join or support a government led by another party shall take effect unless approved by a majority of eligible members voting in an online ballot under Article 32B: all eligible members for a national decision, and eligible members of the State concerned for a State decision. Where time does not allow a ballot before a government is sworn in, the National Executive Council (or State Executive Council) may give provisional approval, which lapses unless members ratify it within 30 days; if members refuse, the party shall withdraw from the arrangement.

Article 43B. Member initiatives.

1. Eligible members numbering at least 5% of all eligible members (or, for a State matter, 5% of those in the State) may, by online petition verified by the Election Authority, require an online vote of members on a policy proposal or an amendment to this constitution.
2. A policy proposal approved by a majority of members voting becomes party policy and shall be included in the next manifesto, subject to costing under Article 43K.
3. An amendment proposed by initiative takes effect if approved by two-thirds of members voting, with a turnout of at least 20% of eligible members; an amendment to an Article protected under Article 49 needs three-quarters of members voting.
4. The Election Authority shall hold the vote within 60 days of a valid petition.

Article 43C. Members write the manifesto.

1. Every member may propose items for the party's manifesto online at any time. A proposal supported by at least 500 eligible members goes to the annual online policy vote.
2. Before each general election, the National Executive Council (or State Executive Council) shall publish a draft manifesto built from member-approved policy, open it to member comment for at least 30 days, and adopt it only after an online vote of eligible members.

Article 43D. Recall of office-bearers. If at least 20% of the members eligible to vote for an office petition the Election Authority, the holder of that office shall face an online confidence vote within 30 days. If a majority of those voting withdraw confidence, the office falls vacant and a fresh election is held within 60 days. No office-bearer may face more than one recall vote in any 12 months.

Article 43E. Party office separate from public office. No person may at the same time be a Union or State Minister and hold the office of President, General Secretary or Treasurer at the national or State level. An office-bearer who becomes a Minister shall resign party office within 30 days.

Article 43F. No automatic renomination. Every sitting Member of Parliament, Member of a Legislative Assembly or councillor of the party who seeks re-election shall contest the party primary on the same terms as any other aspirant.

Article 43G. Term limits. No person shall be the party's candidate for the same seat for more than three consecutive terms, or be nominated by the party to the same ministerial portfolio for more than three consecutive terms of the House.

Article 43H. Limited use of the whip.

1. The party shall issue a whip to its members in a legislature only on motions of confidence or no confidence, on budgets and money bills, and on measures implementing commitments in the member-approved manifesto.
2. On all other matters, the party's legislators vote according to their judgement and conscience, consistent with Article 4A.
3. The decision to issue a whip shall be taken by a majority of the legislature party and published with reasons.

Article 43I. Women's representation. At least one-third of the members of every Executive Council delegation, every Advisory Council, every team of office-bearers, the Election Authority, the Integrity Commission and the Arbitration Tribunal shall be women. The Election Authority shall actively encourage and support women aspirants, and if fewer than one-third of the party's candidates in a general election are women, the National Executive Council shall publish the reasons and the steps it will take.

Article 43J. Youth wing. The party shall have a youth wing open to members aged 18 to 35. The youth wing elects its own president and executive by online ballot under Article 32B, has two voting seats on the National Executive Council and on each State Executive Council, and shall be consulted on every manifesto.

Article 43K. Independent costing of the manifesto. Before a manifesto is adopted, every commitment in it shall be costed by an independent panel of three economists or public-finance experts who are not party members, appointed by the Central Advisory Council. The costing, and how each commitment will be paid for, shall be published with the manifesto. No commitment may be included without a costing.

Article 43L. Prompt disclosure of donations. Every donation to the party, and every donation received by an aspirant for a primary campaign, shall be published on the party's website within 7 days of receipt: by donor name and amount for donations above ₹2,000, and in aggregate for smaller donations, in addition to the disclosures required by law.

Article 43M. Revolving-door ban. For two years after leaving office, no person who served as a Minister or legislator for the party shall lobby the government for any private interest, or accept employment, a directorship or a consultancy with any company whose affairs they regulated or decided while in office. A breach is a ground for expulsion under Article 48.

Article 43N. Published records. The decisions, minutes and recorded votes of the National Executive Council, every State Executive Council, every Advisory Council and the Election Authority shall be published on the party's website within 14 days, leaving out only personal data of applicants and members.

Article 43O. Members' Ombudsman. An independent Members' Ombudsman, who shall not be a party member, is appointed for a 5-year term by a two-thirds vote of the National

Executive Council. The Ombudsman investigates members' complaints about the party's administration, including membership, data handling and delays; recommends remedies; may refer matters to the Arbitration Tribunal; and publishes an annual report.

Article 43P. Reporting to constituents. Every Member of Parliament, Member of a Legislative Assembly and councillor of the party shall hold a public town hall in their constituency at least once every three months, open to all residents and streamed online, and shall publish an annual report card covering attendance, questions asked, votes cast, use of constituency development funds and progress on manifesto commitments.

Part VII: Election Authority and Arbitration Tribunal

Article 44. Election Authority. An independent Election Authority of three members, with a secretariat, maintains the register of members, verifies applications under Article 25, conducts all primaries and internal elections, enforces spending caps and declares results. Its members shall not be Executive Members or Advisory Council members, or contest any election they oversee. They are appointed for 5-year terms by a two-thirds vote of the National Executive Council and removable only for proven misconduct.

Article 45. Arbitration Tribunal. An Arbitration Tribunal of three members hears:

1. appeals against Advisory Council decisions under Article 25: where it finds that a criterion was wrongly applied or the procedure was not followed, it shall return the application to the Council for a fresh decision, and shall not itself certify any applicant;
2. disputes over primaries and internal elections;
3. disciplinary appeals; and
4. complaints that any party body has acted contrary to this constitution.

At least one member shall be a retired judge or an advocate of at least 15 years' standing. Members shall hold no other party office, and are appointed for 5-year terms by a two-thirds vote of the National Executive Council, removable only for proven misconduct.

Article 46. Procedure. The Tribunal shall give every party a hearing, decide within 30 days (or 10 days during a primary), and record reasons in writing. Its decisions are final within the party, without prejudice to any remedy available in law.

Part VIII: Finance, discipline, amendment and dissolution

Article 47. Finance. The Treasurer shall:

1. keep the party's funds in bank accounts in the party's name, operated by at least two authorised signatories;
2. accept no cash donation above ₹2,000 from any person, and no foreign contribution as defined in the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010;
3. report every donation above ₹20,000 to the Election Commission each year (Form 24A);

4. have the accounts audited annually by a chartered accountant and filed as required for exemption under Section 13A of the Income-tax Act; and
5. publish the audited accounts and the list of donors above ₹20,000 to members, keeping accounts for the financial year from 1 April to 31 March in line with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India's guidance for political parties, and filing the contribution report and audited accounts with the Election Commission within the time it sets.

Article 47A. Public accounts.

1. Every donation received by the party, of any amount, shall be shown on the party's website within 7 days of receipt, with its date and amount, and with the donor's name as provided in Article 43L.
2. The party shall publish on its website every month a statement of all funds received (contributions, fees and donations), all expenditure, and the closing balance of every party bank account.
3. Every item of expenditure above ₹10,000 shall be shown with its date, amount, purpose and payee.
4. The audited annual accounts, the contribution report filed with the Election Commission and the auditor's report shall be published on the website as soon as they are filed.
5. Every State unit shall publish its own accounts on the same terms.

Article 48. Discipline. A member may be suspended or expelled for breach of this constitution or the Code of Conduct, after written notice of the charge and a hearing before a disciplinary committee of the relevant Executive Council. Every disciplinary decision may be appealed to the Arbitration Tribunal.

Article 49. Amendment. This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the National Executive Council, ratified by a majority of members voting in a ballot conducted by the Election Authority. Articles 3, 25, 26, 28, 37 and 38A to 38F and Schedules I and II may be amended only by a three-quarters vote at both stages, and no amendment to Schedule I or II applies to an application already made. An amendment may also be made by member initiative under Article 43B. Every amendment shall be notified to the Election Commission.

Article 50. Merger and dissolution. The party may merge with another party or dissolve only by a three-quarters vote of the National Executive Council and a two-thirds vote of members. On dissolution, after debts are paid, remaining assets shall pass to a registered charitable body named by the National Executive Council and not to any individual.

Article 51. Founding provisions. Until the first internal elections, which shall be held within 18 months of registration, the founding office-bearers named in the registration application shall hold office and perform the functions of the National Executive Council. The first Central Advisory Council shall be chosen by the founder under Article 23(1). The first members of the Election Authority, the Arbitration Tribunal, the Integrity Commission and the Members' Ombudsman shall be appointed by the founding office-bearers within three months of registration, and ratified at the first meeting of the elected National Executive Council. During the first two years, the one-year paid membership requirement in Schedule I may be reduced to

6 months for founding members. The party shall begin in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and extend to other States one at a time, in phases decided by the National Executive Council; until then, the Central Advisory Council and the Delhi State Executive Council shall perform the functions of the State bodies for Delhi. For the first municipal election in Delhi only, the voting cut-off in Article 12 may be reduced to 6 months by a two-thirds vote of the founding office-bearers.

Article 52. Interpretation and language. This constitution is adopted in English and Hindi; if the two texts differ, the English text prevails. Any question about its interpretation is decided by the Arbitration Tribunal. If any provision is held invalid, the rest remains in force.

Adopted at the founding meeting of the party held at [place] on [date].

President: _____ General Secretary: _____

Schedule I: Eligibility Criteria

Each criterion is met or not met on documentary evidence. An applicant who fails any criterion shall not be certified; an applicant who meets them all may still be rejected by the Advisory Council under Article 25(3).

Part A: Admission as an Executive Member

1. **Membership:** a paid member continuously for at least one year immediately before applying, with fees paid up to date.
2. **Citizenship and residence:** a citizen of India ordinarily resident in India, with name on the electoral roll of a constituency in the State concerned; not registered as an overseas elector, and not an Overseas Citizen of India cardholder.
3. **Training:** completed the party's training programme on this constitution, the party's objects and the Code of Conduct, and passed its written assessment with at least 60%.
4. **Sworn disclosure:** filed a sworn declaration of assets, liabilities, income, educational qualifications and criminal antecedents, in the form prescribed for candidates by the Election Commission (Form 26 or its successor), with income-tax returns for the last three years where filing was required by law.
5. **No conviction:** not convicted of any Disqualifying Offence.
6. **No pending serious charge:** no court has framed charges against the applicant for a Disqualifying Offence that remain pending. A first information report or complaint alone does not fail this criterion.
7. **No legal disqualification:** not disqualified under Article 102 or 191 of the Constitution of India or Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
8. **No wilful default:** not declared a wilful defaulter by any bank or financial institution under the Reserve Bank of India's directions, and no final, unpaid tax demand above ₹1,00,000.
9. **Service:** at least 50 hours of party or community service in the previous year, recorded in the party's service register and verified by the district unit.
10. **Tier separation:** has never served on any Advisory Council.

11. **Truthful disclosure:** no finding by the Arbitration Tribunal of false or suppressed disclosure in the previous six years.

Part B: Approval to appear in a primary

1. An Executive Member in good standing for at least 6 months before the primary is notified.
2. Continues to meet every criterion in Part A, on disclosures updated within 30 days before applying.
3. Meets the qualifications for that seat under the Constitution of India and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, including minimum age.
4. Registered as a voter in the State in which the constituency lies.
5. Nomination supported by the signatures of at least 50 members eligible to vote in that primary, verified by the Election Authority.
6. Has filed the sworn declaration under Article 37 that no consideration has been given or promised for the nomination, and the wealth declaration under Article 38A, and is not suspended or expelled under Part V-A.
7. Not a defeated aspirant who contested against the party's candidate within the previous six years.

Part C: National office and Rajya Sabha

Candidates for national office and for the Rajya Sabha or a Legislative Council shall meet every criterion in Parts A and B (other than Part B, criteria 4 and 5) and, for national office, shall have been an Executive Member for at least 2 years.

Schedule II: Disqualifying Offences

1. Any offence under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, or the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002.
2. Any offence listed in Section 8(1) or 8(2) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
3. Offences relating to elections under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (or the corresponding provisions of the Indian Penal Code, 1860).
4. Rape, sexual assault, dowry death, or any offence under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.
5. Murder, attempt to murder, kidnapping for ransom, or extortion.
6. Any offence under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.
7. Trafficking in persons, or trafficking offences under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.
8. Any other offence punishable with imprisonment for five years or more.

Schedule III: Code of Conduct

Every member shall:

1. uphold the Constitution of India and this constitution;
2. neither give nor take a bribe, and report any demand for one to the Election Authority;
3. not seek or offer any payment, gift or favour for a party post, certification or ticket;
4. not incite hatred or violence on grounds of religion, caste, community, language, region or gender;
5. respect the result of every primary and internal election, and criticise the policies of other parties, never their members personally;
6. declare any conflict of interest in any party matter they take part in; and
7. use party funds and property only for party purposes, with receipts.

Schedule IV: Leader and ministerial qualifications

Each qualification is met or not met on documentary evidence. “Preferred” items guide the leader’s choice among qualified persons but are not conditions of eligibility.

Post	Required qualifications	Preferred
Prime Minister / Chief Minister	A graduate degree from a recognised university; at least 10 years as an Executive Member or in senior professional, administrative or public leadership	A postgraduate degree
Education	A postgraduate degree from a recognised university, in India or abroad; at least 10 years in teaching, research or education administration	A degree from a leading foreign university; a doctorate
Health and Family Welfare	A qualified medical doctor (MBBS or equivalent) registered with the National Medical Commission or a State Medical Council; at least 10 years in clinical practice, public health or health administration	A postgraduate medical or public-health qualification
Defence	A retired officer of the Army, Navy or Air Force of the rank of Colonel (Army), Captain (Navy) or Group Captain (Air Force) or above, retired for at least two years	Higher rank; experience of joint or strategic command
Finance	At least 15 years of senior leadership, including at least 5 years as chief executive,	Experience of a listed company or a major public-sector enterprise; full

Post	Required qualifications	Preferred
	chief financial officer, managing director or whole-time director of a company or group with annual turnover above ₹10,000 crore; and a professional qualification (chartered accountant, cost accountant or company secretary) or a postgraduate degree in economics, finance, commerce or business administration	divestment or a blind trust for all holdings while in office
Home	A retired Indian Police Service officer of the rank of Director General of Police or above, a retired judge of a High Court or the Supreme Court, or a retired Indian Administrative Service officer of the rank of Secretary to the Government of India or above	Experience in internal security or criminal-justice reform
External Affairs	A retired Indian Foreign Service officer of the rank of Secretary or Ambassador or above, or at least 15 years in international affairs, diplomacy or global business	Fluency in a major foreign language
Law and Justice	A law degree and at least 15 years as an advocate, judge or law teacher	Designation as a Senior Advocate, or service as a High Court judge

For State governments, the same qualifications apply to the corresponding State portfolios (Home, Finance, Health, Education, Law), with Defence and External Affairs omitted.