

The Election Commission of India's (ECI) online voter registration portal, ECINET, now requires applicants to provide details of their parents' status in the last Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls — down to the polling booth number and the individual elector's serial number on that roll.

This **is even as Form 6**, which is the statutory form for new enrolments, has yet to be amended under the procedure established by law. Here's what is known about the new procedure and what it means for new electors.

What is the new procedure?

The EC's ECINET portal lets users submit forms for new electoral registrations, changes to existing electoral rolls, and deletions.

The version of Form 6, which is the electors' enrolment form under the Representation of the People Act, 1950, and the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, available for online submission now has a new part that requires applicants to answer whether their parents were in the last SIR. This is under a section called the "declaration form".

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If yes, they are required to provide the Assembly constituency number, the polling booth number (known as part number) and the serial number at which their father or mother was registered in the last SIR.

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So far, the EC has completed the SIR in 10 states and three Union Territories since June last year; for the

remaining states/UTs, the last intensive revision refers to the exercise conducted in the early 2000s.

The exercise is currently underway in 19 other states/UTs, while the EC is yet to announce the SIR for Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir.

In the case of Assam, the EC has decided not to hold the SIR till the National Register of Citizens (NRC) exercise is completed in the state.

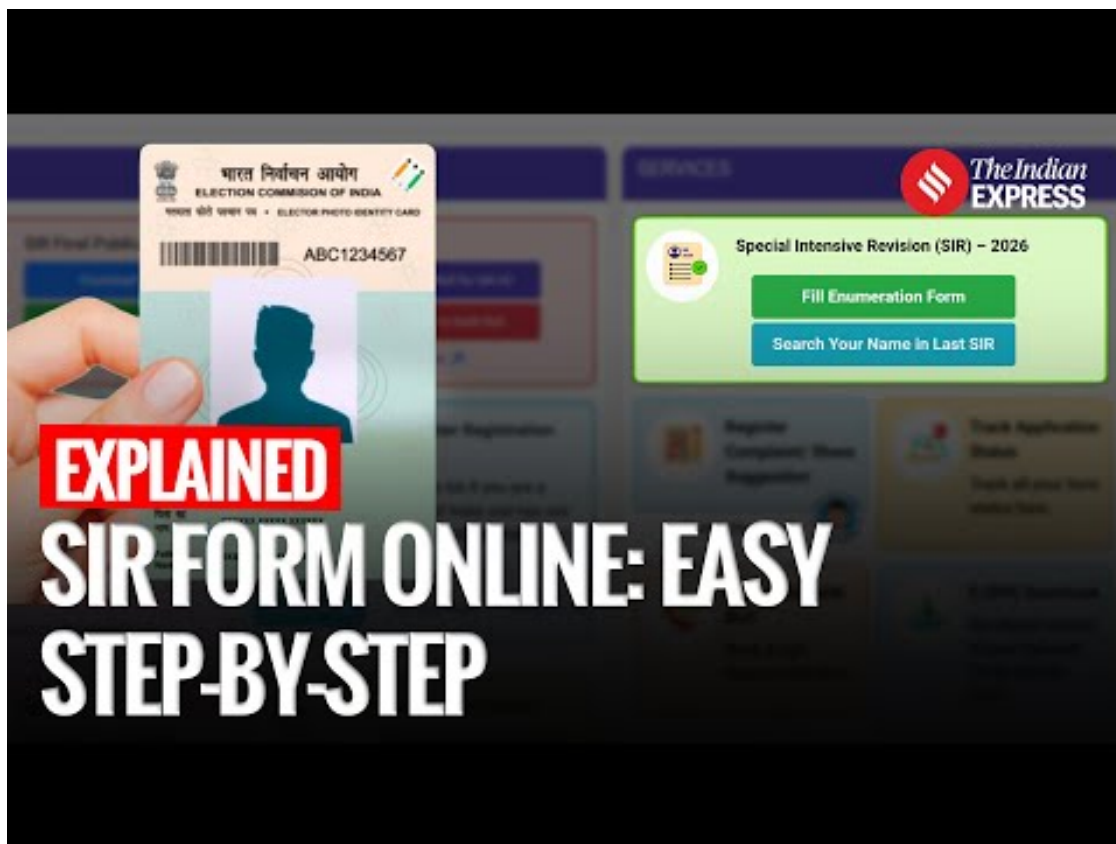
For all states where the SIR has been completed or is underway, except for Bihar, the EC's online Form 6 submission process requires the applicant to fill the new "declaration form" about their parents, inserted between existing parts of the form.

If the applicant's parents were not in the last SIR, then they must select that option and provide their parents' names and Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) numbers, if available.

What does the law say?

Article 326 of the Constitution guarantees the right to enrol as an elector to all adult citizens who are ordinarily resident in a particular Assembly constituency, unless otherwise disqualified by law.

The Representation of the People Act, 1950 gives the Union government the power to make rules regarding the conduct of elections and the registration of electors.



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Section 28 of the RPA, titled “Power to make rules”, says: “The Central Government may, after consulting the Election Commission by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.” It also says that every rule made under the Act “shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament”.

Form 6 is a part of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, which emanates from the Act. Therefore, any change to the form would require an amendment and gazette notification by the Law and Justice Ministry.

Has there been an amendment?

No, the Law and Justice Ministry is yet to notify any change to Form 6, as seen in the notifications available on the e-Gazette website from June 24, 2025 — when the EC first announced the SIR — until now.

In fact, the Form 6 available for download on the EC’s ECINET portal, ostensibly for printing and submitting physically to electoral officials, does not have the new SIR “declaration form” part, showing that the form itself has not been amended according to due process.

The EC did not respond to requests for comment, including on whether there had been an amendment and when the new declaration had been rolled out in the ECINET portal.

What does it mean for new electors?

New applicants, predominantly people who have recently turned 18, are now required to trace themselves or their parents to the last SIR. Since the EC has yet to comment on or announce this change, it is unclear whether those who are unable to provide the details will face greater scrutiny.

The introduction of the SIR declaration assumes greater significance at a time when the EC is conducting an unprecedented SIR of electoral rolls, where the rolls are being prepared afresh instead of being revised as was done annually so far.

Previous intensive revisions conducted by the commission have not required all electors to submit forms and documents to prove their eligibility, including citizenship, as the SIR does.

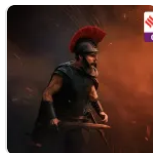
So far, the SIR has been completed in 13 states/UTs, leading to the deletion of 5.58 crore names, as per EC data, mostly on account of being found deceased, shifted, absent or enrolled at multiple places by Booth Level Officers.

In West Bengal, 27 lakh electors who had provided documents have been deleted through an unprecedented judicial adjudication process, while their appeals are now pending before appellate tribunals. What impact the SIR declaration will have on the enrolment of the children of those deleted in the exercise is not known.

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