

MESSAGE

Blessed with a pleasant climate virtually throughout the year, Thiruvananthapuram, the city built on seven hills, the state capital of Kerala has today grown in to sprawling metropolis, but thankfully the city still retains her past glory and charm. Thiru Anantha Puram, or the city of the Holy Anantha, is named after Ananthan, the cosmic serpent with a thousand heads on whose coils Lord Mahavishnu reclines. This iconic representation is the chief deity in the Padmanabha Swamy Temple. The temple was built by King Marthanda Varma of Travancore Royal family in 1745. The district's spirit of 'live and let live' is nowhere more evident than of Palayam (cantonment), a place in the heart of the city, where three centres of worships of three faiths rub shoulders the ancient Ganapathy temple, the Palayam Mosque and the Palayam Cathedral .



The district has 2 Loksabha constituencies and 14 Legislative constituencies. There are no major law and order issues in the district. The General Election to the Local Self Government Institutions held during November 2015 was peaceful. Being the capital of the state the implementation of Model Code of Conduct in the district is a challenge. It is pertinent to note that the political scenario of the state at present is entirely different from earlier occasions. It can be described as "predictably unpredictable". But it is the bounden duty of the district administration to try its best to enforce the Model Code of Conduct effectively. To achieve this as many as 4 MCC teams for each LAC will be deployed. For monitoring the expenditure from the date of filing nomination and for inspection of expenditure register for 3-4 days and for tracking dummy candidates separate teams has been constituted. The team will maintain shadow register folder of evidence etc for close monitoring of expenditure.

Regarding Polling Personnel deployment, as done in earlier occasions female employees can be exempted from duty since the district has so many Central and State Govt. it is also aiming 100% connectivity for all the polling stations through BSNL and other service providers. It is also proposes to provide wireless system to the ROs, EROs and other Nodal Officers so as to make the communication more easier.



Overall a number of innovative measures have been taken for the successful conduct of election in the district.

I am thankful to Sri. E.K. Mahji, Chief Electoral Officer and his office for their guidance and support.

BIJU PRABHAKAR I.A.S.

DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER & DISTRICT COLLECTOR