How do I Vote
A guide for Service Voters
Who is a Service Voter

1. Those serving in the Armed Forces of the Union.
2. Those serving in a Force to which the Army Act 1950 applies (Assam Rifles, CRPF, BSF, ITBP, SSB, NSG, GREF in BRO, CISF etc.).
3. Those employed under the Government of India, in a post outside India.
4. Member of an Armed Police Force of a State, serving outside that state.

Wife of a Service Voter, if she is ordinarily residing with him, shall also be eligible to be enrolled in the part meant for Service Voters in the constituency concerned.*

* This facility is not available to the husband of a female service voter under the existing law.
Getting Started: Registration in the Electoral Roll

**Enrol as a Service Voter**

Find out the name of your Constituency and Part in the district/state of residence.

Register online or download the form from www.servicevoter.nic.in.

Fill 2 copies of:
- **Form 2** for Armed forces;
- **Form 2A** for Armed Police Force;
- **Form 3** for Govt officials serving abroad.

Fill the Declaration Form & submit to the Record Office or nodal officer.

Wife of a Service Voter can be enrolled in the same part on the basis of declaration made by her husband in the form and no separate declaration is required from her.

**OR Enrol as a General Elector**

Alternatively you can also opt to enrol as General Elector at place of posting, if it's a peace station.

You can remain a Service Voter of your native constituency or register as a General Voter at place of posting (if peace station posting).

Remember to get your name deleted as a Service Voter, when you enrol as a General Elector.
Casting your Valuable Vote: How To Fill The Ballot Paper

Service Voter

When there is an election in your native constituency, Returning Officer (RO) of your constituency will send you the postal ballot along with two envelopes, a declaration and instructions for voting.

Record your vote by placing clearly a mark X or ✔ opposite the name of the candidate of your choice on the ballot paper; your vote will be invalid if the mark does not clearly indicate your choice.

No postage stamp need be affixed by you. It may be noted that the ballot has to reach the RO before the time fixed for commencement of counting of votes which would be mentioned in the instruction sheet.

Give your full signature in the space provided on the cover marked ‘B’. The serial number of ballot paper should be entered on the smaller envelope (Form 13B) in the column meant for it, if the same is not already entered by the RO before sending it to you.

After closing the larger cover, send it to the RO by post or messenger.

Place the Declaration and also the smaller cover marked ‘A’ containing the ballot paper in the larger cover marked ‘B’, which already bears the address of the Returning officer.
Your Vote shall be invalid if:

- If you vote for more than one candidate;
- If the mark does not clearly indicate your choice, you mark in between two names;
- If you put your signature, any word or sign on the ballot paper;
- If the cover is not sealed/pasted;
- If the declaration in Form 13A is not found on opening the outer envelope;
- If declaration in Form 13A does not carry your signature or attestation by competent officer.

Do not put your signature, any word, sign or any other mark on the ballot paper other than the mark required to record your vote.

After recording your vote, place the ballot paper in the smaller cover marked ‘A’ sent with the ballot paper; close the cover and secure it by seal or otherwise.

Sign the declaration in Form 13A in the presence of an officer appointed by the Commanding Officer of the Unit, ship or establishment. Remember to mention the serial number of the postal ballot in the declaration in the place meant for the same.

The officer will attest your signature and return the declaration to you; you must not show your ballot paper to the attesting officer nor tell him how you have voted.
Voting through Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot (ETPB)

When there is an election in your native constituency, you will receive your ballot electronically with your details already filled in. A One Time Password (OTP) shall be provided to enable you to download the ETPB.

Alongwith ETPB, you will receive the following:
1. Declaration Form (Form-13A);
2. Cover A (Form 13B)- Cut along the line and paste on small envelope (4’ x 9’);
3. Cover B (Form-13C)- Cut along the line and paste on large envelope (4.75’ x 11’).

Now place the Declaration (Form -13A) and small envelope with ETPB marked as Cover A, inside the large envelope marked as Cover B and seal it properly.

Sign the Declaration provided in Form 13A in the presence of the appointed officer.

The officer would attest your signature on the Declaration and return it to you.

Sign (full signature) on the envelope B. Now send it to the RO through post or a messenger.

Follow the same process as given on page 4.

After recording your vote, fold the ETPB and place in the small size cover marked ‘A’. Close the cover and secure it with a seal.
Once you are registered as a Service Voter, you (if you are serving in armed forces or in a force to which Army Act applies) can opt for voting through PROXY as a Classified Service Voter, meaning, you can nominate somebody to vote in your place.

**Classified Service Voter**

Fill **Form 13F** and get it attested by the CO and send it to your proxy for his/ her signature before a Notary/ First Class Magistrate.

Proxy can submit the Form to the concerned Returning Officer (RO).

If you are at native place (for leave), both you and your proxy can sign **Form 13F** before a Notary/ First Class Magistrate and send to the RO.

Application for appointment of a proxy should be received by the RO before the last date of filing of nomination papers by political candidates (approximately 16 days before the poll day).

Proxy should be ANY ordinary adult resident of that constituency, may not be registered elector but must not be disqualified to be an elector.

Proxy can be changed or you can revert back to postal ballot by filling **Form 13G** and submitting to RO.

Once appointed, your proxy will continue until his/ her appointment is revoked by you.

**General Voter**

You can vote at the Polling Station of your Constituency in your place of posting, if you have enrolled there as a general voter.
Keeping in Mind: Points to Remember

While wife can be enrolled in the part for Service Voter, husband/son/daughter cannot be enrolled.

You can also opt to enrol as General Voter at place of posting, if it’s a peace station posting but remember no person can be enrolled on more than one electoral roll i.e. when you enrol as a service voter you have to submit a declaration - that you did not get enrolled as a General Voter.

Do not place the declaration form 13A inside the smaller envelope which is meant only for the marked postal ballot paper. The declaration alongwith the smaller envelope should be kept inside the larger envelope.

So get enrolled today at www.servicevoter.nic.in to vote in the next election!

Voter Helpline: Call 1950

Find all the information you need at www.servicevoter.nic.in and at www.ecisveep.nic.in

Systematic Voters’ Education & Electoral Participation (SVEEP)
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