Overview

This special report provides an overview of the Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) general elections scheduled for mid-January 2026, a key civic event for Maharashtra's major urban centres, with polling on 15 January and results expected on 16 January.

The election period is characterized by intensified political campaigning, administrative preparedness, and enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct, alongside processes such as nomination filings, reservation lotteries, and voter roll verification. Against the backdrop of public focus on infrastructure, service delivery, and governance accountability, authorities are implementing enhanced logistical and regulatory measures to ensure orderly conduct of elections across Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad, with potential localized disruptions requiring heightened situational awareness.

To get an overview of list of key events and government's official Note- **Click Here**

Previous elections

- 2017 civic polls were the last full municipal elections held in Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad, marking a major political shift in both urban centres.
- Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC): BJP won 97 of 162 seats, while NCP secured 39 seats; voter turnout was approximately 55–56%.
- Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC): BJP secured a clear majority with 77 of 128 seats, followed by NCP with 36 seats; Congress failed to win any seats.
- The elections reflected urban voter consolidation, increased electoral competitiveness, and rising emphasis on infrastructure, service delivery, and governance accountability.

Predictive Analysis

1. Major Contestants & Political Landscape

- **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP):** Contesting extensively in both municipal corporations, aiming to retain its earlier position in urban local bodies.
- **Nationalist Congress Party (NCP – Ajit Pawar & Sharad Pawar factions):** The two factions are coordinating efforts to regain influence, particularly in traditional strongholds.
- **Congress & Allies:** In PMC, Congress is coordinating with Shiv Sena (UBT) and MNS in select wards to consolidate votes.
- Other Parties & Independents: Shiv Sena (UBT), MNS, AAP, VBA, and independent candidates are active, contributing to multi-cornered contests.

2. Key Campaign Issues

- Civic Infrastructure: Water supply, roads, traffic congestion, and waste management remain key voter concerns.
- Governance: Accountability, financial management, and delivery of civic services are central campaign themes.
- Social Issues: Safety, public transport access, and health services feature prominently in party agendas.

3. Outcome Outlook

- The elections in Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad are expected to be closely contested.
- Coalition or negotiated control remains a possibility in both corporations.
- Final outcomes are likely to vary significantly by ward, driven by local issues and candidate credibility rather than uniform voting patterns.

Government announcement/guidelines

- The Maharashtra government has declared a public holiday on 15 January 2026 for the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation elections to enable voter participation.
- Banks, state and semi-government offices, and many private workplaces are expected to remain closed across Mumbai and parts of the MMR.
- The closure will primarily affect Mumbai, Thane, Navi Mumbai, and adjoining MMR areas with high concentrations of registered voters.
- Essential services such as hospitals, emergency response, police, fire services, public transport, and supply chains will continue to operate.
- The holiday is mandated under election regulations to remove work-related barriers to voting.
- Authorities anticipate high voter turnout, leading to enhanced administrative coordination and security deployment.
- Residents are advised to complete official work in advance, confirm office schedules, and plan for traffic diversions near polling stations.

Know your Elections

- Ahead of the PMC General Elections 2025–26, Pune Municipal Corporation has launched a dedicated voter portal to improve access to voter information and transparency.
- Civic bodies including Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, PMC, PCMC, and Thane Municipal Corporation will set up polling booths in or near housing societies to boost turnout and voter convenience.
- The initiative builds on higher participation in 2024, with 258 booths in Pune, ~850 in Mumbai, and ~40 in PCMC, alongside safeguards to ensure neutrality and open a

Key Issues & Recommendations

- Expect localized traffic disruptions, crowding, and movement restrictions near polling booths, counting centres, and political offices.
- Operational delays may occur due to public holidays, bank closures, and reduced staffing during polling and counting days.
- Maintain heightened situational awareness and monitor official updates from civic and police authorities in Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad.
- Complete essential tasks in advance, avoid non-essential travel near polling areas, and allow flexibility in work schedules.
- Be prepared for short-notice route changes, security checks, and localized access controls during the election period.

Important Contact Details & Links

- **Fire : 101**
- **Police : 100**
- **Child Helpline : 1098**
- **Traffic Helpline : 1073**
- **Ambulance : 102, 108**
- **Women Helpline : 1091, 181**
- **National Emergency Number : 112**
- **Dedicated Voter Portal- Click Here**
- **Know Your Polling Booth-** Click Here
- **For Government Circulars-:**
  Pune - **Click Here**
  PCMC- **Click Here**

Note: Follow official government websites and verified social media channels of election authorities and local police for real-time updates and advisories during the election period.