

POST INDEPENDENT KERALA

**KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ELECTION 1957**

Prepared and presented by,
Sajin Thomas

- **After the State Reorganisation Act , 1956, the assembly constituencies increased from 106 with 177 seats in 1954 to 114 with 126 seats in 1957.**
- The merger of Travancore and Kochi helped the Communist Party of India to increase their base in the region.
- The ruling **Indian National Congress** lost the prominence due to the factionalism within the party. Furthermore, **communalism** and struggles against **feudalism** played a major role.

- The Kerala Legislative Assembly election of 1957 was the first assembly election in the Indian state of Kerala.
- The **Communist Party of India** won the election with 60 seats.
- The election led to the formation of first democratically elected communist government in India and second in the world after **San Marino**.

Election

- The **Election Commission of India** conducted elections to the newly created state between 28 February – 11 March 1957.
- The elections were held to the 126 seats (114 constituencies) including 12 two member constituencies of which 11 and one **reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes** respectively, in which 406 candidates were contested.
- In the election, five women candidates were elected out of nine candidates.

Government formation

- Communist Party of India formed the government with the support of five independents.
- On 5 April 1957, **E. M. S. Namboodiripad** became the chief minister of Kerala and first non-Congress chief minister of the country.
- But the government was dismissed in 1959 by the central government following the **Liberation Struggle**.

Liberation Struggle

- The *Vimochana Samaram* (1958–59) (*Liberation Struggle*) was an anti-Communist backlash against the first elected state-government in Kerala, which was led by E. M. S. Namboodiripad of the Communist Party of India.
- Communist government initiated the pioneering land reforms and educational reforms by introducing new bills in the state assembly. However, some clauses in the new bills became controversial and the government had to face severe opposition from influential interest groups, such as the Catholic Church of Kerala, Muslim League and NSS.

- Although termed a "liberation struggle", the campaign was largely peaceful, taking the form of statewide meetings and public demonstrations.
- In June 1959, Kerala was rocked by mass protests calling for the resignation of the communist ministry.
- The Indian government finally bowed to pressure and dismissed Nambudiripd on July 31, 1959.

First EMS Namboodiripad Ministry

- The Council of Ministers (1957–59) of Legislative Assembly, Kerala state (better known as E. M. S. Namboodiripad ministry - first term) was the first Council of Ministers, the executive wing of state government, in the Indian state of Kerala.
- The ministry was led (Chief Minister) by **Communist Party of India leader E. M. S. Namboodiripad** from 5 April 1957 to 31 July 1959 and had eleven ministers.

Kerala Assembly Election Results in 1957

Party	Seats
Communist Party of India (CPI)	55
Indian National Congress (INC)	38
Independent (IND)	13
PSP	8
Total	114

- **In which year the first ever election for Kerala Legislative Assembly was held?**

-1957

- **Who was the leader of Vimochana Samaram (liberation struggle)?**

-Mannath Padmanabhan

- **Who was Kerala's first non congress chief minister?**

-E.M.S. Namboodiripad

- **Which election led to the formation of first democratically elected communist government in India?**
 - Kerala legislative assembly election 1957
- **When did EMS Namboodiripad government was dismissed?**
 - July 31, 1959
- **Name the anti communist backlash against the first elected state government in Kerala?**
 - Liberation Struggle

- **Who was the first finance minister of Kerala?**
-C. Achutha Menon
- **The first budget of Kerala state was presented on**
-7th Aug 1957
- **Who was the first education and cooperation minister of Kerala?**
-Joseph Mundessery

THANK YOU EVERYONE

LET'S HAVE FUN LEARNING