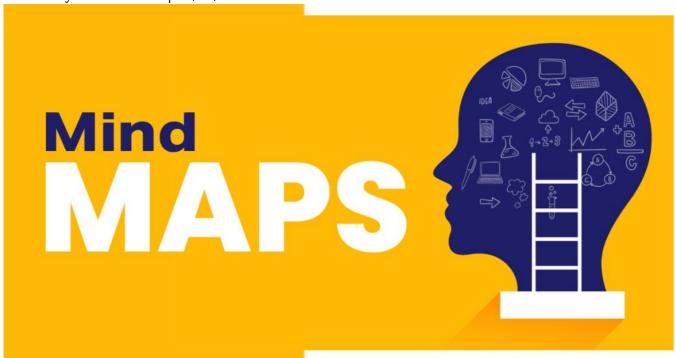
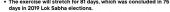
## Lok Sabha Election 2024 Schedule

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- The exercise will stretch for 81 days, which was concluded in 75 days in 2019 Lok Sabha elections.
  The ECI also announced the time table for the Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim Assembly elections, when polling would be held on the same day as the Lok Sabha polling. The EC also introduced by—elections to 26 Assembly seats.
- The EC also introduced bye-elections to 26 Assembly seats throughout states. At the same time as all political events in J&K asked for the Assembly elections to be held simultaneously with Lok Sabha, it was no longer possible because of administrative motives. Owing to the security concerns in J&K, each candidate might have to be provided with security.

- According to the CEC, the ECI faces four challenges 4Ms (muscle, money, misinformation and MCC violations).
  Asked why the elections spread across seven phases (in 2024 as was the case in 2019 as well), the CEC highlighted the Historical and geographic situation of the country.
  Weather (sextending into the peak summer months) festivals, examinations and movement of security forces
  The ECI is establishing 247 integrated control rooms in districts and webcasting in sensitive booths and a minimum of 50% of all polling stations.
  Addressing political parties, the CEC sald the ECI would not tolerate MCC violations and would have a "calibrated approach".
  Asked if voting in a peak summer month would affect voter turnout, the official said that by the 7th phase, only 57 seats would be left.
  All southern states and a state like Rajasthan where maximum temperatures go very high would have finished their voting by then.

About Why 2024 Lok Sabha Polls Challenges and Remedies Extend into June?

- A total of 96.8 crore voters, of which 49.7 crore are male and 47.1 crore are female, along with 88.4 lakh persons with disabilities, 48.000 transgender voters and 19.1 lakh service electors, might be eligible to forged their votes.
  There are 1.8 crore first-time voters who are 18 to 19 years old, and 19.74 crore within the age organization 20-29 years.
  In different words, those underneath 30 make up a 5th of the total electorate.
  Young voters and women citizens, who outnumber men in 12 states, have been well represented in the electoral roll.
  The quantity of polling stations expanded to 10.48 lakh (up from 10.35 lakh in 2019) and might involve 1.5crore polling and protection officers, 55 lakh EVMs and 4 lakh vehicles.

- The first general election to Lok Sabha was held over 68 phases from October 25, 1951, to February 21, 1952.
   The only other time general elections were held in June was the 1991 Lok Sabha polis, but it was because the Chandra Shekhar government was dissolved 16 months after it was sworn in.
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  The spillover of the 18th Lok Sabha elections into June is primarily due to two reasons: 6-days delay in the poil announcement (when compared with the 2019 polls) and consecutive festivals.

  The Commission had to ensure that important dates such as the last date of withdrawal or polling days did not coincide with festivals (such as Holi, Tamil new year, Bihu and Balsakhi in March and April).

  The delay in the poil announcement was partly circumstantial, as Election Commissioner Arun Goel abruptly resigned, citing personal reasons.

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