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Gujarat Local Body Election Results 2026 — BJP Sweeps All 15 Municipal Corporations

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Gujarat Local Body Election Results 2026 — BJP Sweeps All 15 Municipal Corporations

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WHY IN NEWS

The results for Gujarat’s **local body elections** — held on April 26, 2026 across **393 civic bodies and 9,262 seats** — were declared on **April 28, 2026**. The BJP recorded a comprehensive sweep across all **15 municipal corporations, 84 municipalities, 34 district panchayats, and 260 taluka panchayats**. The most striking result: **Morbi Municipal Corporation — 52 seats, BJP wins all 52**. The elections were also the first to implement OBC reservation in District Panchayat President posts following the Supreme Court’s triple test.

KEY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION RESULTS

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION	BJP SEATS	OPPOSITION	TOTAL SEATS	NOTES
Morbi	52	0	52	Clean sweep — every seat
Porbandar	All	—	All	Clean sweep
Vapi	37	Congress 11, Others 4	52	—
Surat	47+	Congress 1	52	Dominant
Rajkot	44+	—	54	Leading strongly
Ahmedabad	Majority	Congress distant 2nd	192	Clean sweep in initial wards
Vadodara	Majority	—	76	BJP dominant
Bhavnagar	Majority	—	52	—

VOTER TURNOUT ANALYSIS

LOCAL BODY TYPE	TURNOUT
Municipal Corporations (15)	55.1%
Municipalities (84)	65.53%
District Panchayats (34)	66.64%
Taluka Panchayats (260)	67.26%

The pattern — higher turnout in rural/semi-urban bodies than urban corporations — is consistent with historical Gujarat local body trends. Municipal corporation turnout at 55.1% is below the 66%+ at the panchayat level, reflecting the urban-rural engagement gap in electoral participation.

THE OBC DIMENSION — FIRST TRIPLE TEST IMPLEMENTATION

For the first time in Gujarat’s history, **7 of 34 District Panchayat President posts** were reserved for OBC candidates following the Supreme Court’s **triple test** (empirical inquiry, proportionality, 50% aggregate cap). This was a historic first — no state had previously held District Panchayat President elections with OBC-reserved posts after fulfilling the triple test before elections.

The BJP’s performance in OBC-reserved DP President seats will be closely watched — OBC mobilisation is central to the party’s social coalition in Gujarat, and the formal recognition of OBC claims in local body reservation represents a shift in the political economy of reservation.

MORBI — THE POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The **52/52 BJP clean sweep in Morbi** is symbolically loaded. Morbi was the site of the **October 2022 suspension bridge collapse** that killed 135 people — India’s worst bridge disaster in decades. The disaster had prompted sharp criticism of local administration and the BJP government’s crisis response. The comprehensive 2026 election result suggests the political fallout has been fully absorbed.

WHAT THE RESULTS MEAN FOR GUJARAT POLITICS

INDICATOR	SIGNIFICANCE
BJP urban dominance	Consolidates hold on all 15 cities — critical before 2027 Rajya Sabha cycles
Congress weakness	Negligible wins even in urban strongholds; party remains structurally weak
AAP performance	Did not emerge as expected urban challenger; Gujarat remains resistant to AAP
OBC reservation	First successful implementation of SC triple test in a major state
Morbi sweep	Political recovery after 2022 bridge tragedy complete

UPSC RELEVANCE

PAPER	ANGLE
GS2 — Polity	Local body elections; municipal governance; State Election Commission
GS1 — Indian Society	OBC reservation; triple test; political mobilisation
GS2 — Governance	Urban local governance; municipal corporation structure; Mayor election systems

Mains Keywords: Gujarat local body elections, municipal corporation, BJP sweep, OBC triple test, District Panchayat President, State Election Commission, urban governance

Facts Corner

ITEM	FACT
Elections held	April 26, 2026
Results declared	April 28, 2026
Bodies voting	393 (15 MC + 84 municipalities + 34 DP + 260 TP)
Total seats	9,262
Municipal corporation turnout	55.1%
Morbi result	52/52 — BJP clean sweep
Vapi result	BJP 37, Congress 11, Others 4
Surat result	BJP 47+, Congress 1
OBC DP President posts	7 of 34 — first time in Gujarat history
Triple test case	Vikram Singh v. State of UP (2021)

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