

## JPSC MAIN EXAM (TOPIC INDIAN CONSTITUTION)

### ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

**Election Commission of India is an important body in the World's Largest Democracy**

- a permanent **Constitutional** Body.
- **Article 324** of the Constitution establishes the Election Commission of India.
- established on **25th January 1950**.
- **supervises** the conduct of elections to Parliament and Legislature of every State and elections to the offices of President and Vice-President of India.
- **consists of** Chief Election Commissioner and two Election Commissioners. Previously, there were no Election Commissioners.

#### **Appointment of Election Commissioners**

- The President **appoints** Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners.
- **tenure** of six years, or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
- **status, salary and perks** of election commissioners **are equivalent to Judges** of the Supreme Court of India.
- The Chief Election Commissioner **can be removed from office only** through impeachment by Parliament.
- **Other members can be removed by** the President in consultation with the Chief Election Commissioner
- The President **may appoint Regional Election Commissioners** in consultation with the CEC before elections to the Parliament or Assemblies. The regional election commissioners **resign after the elections**
- The Chief Election Commissioner cannot hold any office of profit after retirement.
- The Chief Election Commissioner **cannot be reappointed to the post**

#### **Powers of the Election Commission**

- The EC enjoys complete autonomy and is insulated from any interference from the Executive
- **It also functions as** a quasi-judiciary body regarding matters related to elections and electoral disputes
- **Its recommendations are binding** on the President of India
- However, its decisions are **subject to judicial review by High Courts and the Supreme Court acting on electoral petitions**
- **During the election process**, the entire Central and state government machinery (including paramilitary and police forces) is **deemed to be on deputation** to the Commission
- The Commission **takes effective control of** government personnel, movable and immovable property for successful conduct of elections

#### **Functions of the Election Commission :**

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- **Demarcation** of constituencies
- **Preparation** of electoral rolls
- **Issue notification** of election dates and schedules
- **Establish and enforce** code of conduct
- **Scrutiny of** nomination papers of candidates
- **Scrutiny of election** expenses
- **Allot symbols and accord recognition** to political parties
- **Render advice to the** President and Governors regarding disqualification of MPs and MLAs
- **Allot schedules for broadcast** and telecast of party campaigns
- Grant exemptions to persons from disqualifications imposed by judicial decisions

**CONTD.....**