CEC can be removed only like Supreme Court judge: ECI

The Election Commission of India (ECI) filed a joint affidavit in the Supreme Court defending the independence, functioning, and statutory provisions governing the Chief Election Commissioner.

The constitutional safeguards, statutory provisions under the 2023 Act, and removal procedures applicable to the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners of India.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Election Commission of India**, along with CEC **Gyanesh Kumar** and Election Commissioners Sandhu and Joshi, filed a joint affidavit in the Supreme Court.
- The ECI asserted that the Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from office only through the same manner and grounds as a **Supreme Court judge**.
- The affidavit emphasized that any attempt to restrain the functioning of the CEC is contrary to the provisions of the **2023 Act**.
- The Commission clarified that **Form 6** regarding voter registration was not amended as alleged in media reports.
- The ECI stated that media reports on inner frictions and alleged unilateral functioning of the CEC do not constitute valid evidence in a court of law.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

Article 324 of the Constitution of India provides for the superintendence, direction, and control of elections to be vested in an Election Commission.

The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from office in like manner and on the like grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court under **Article 124(4)**.

Other Election Commissioners can be removed only upon the recommendation of the **Chief Election Commissioner**.

The Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act, 2023 regulates the appointment, salary, and removal of election officials.

Gyanesh Kumar assumed charge as the **26th Chief Election Commissioner** of India in February 2025.

Form 6 under the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960 is used for applying for new voter registration.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from office only in the manner and on the grounds as a Supreme Court judge.

Syllabus Relevance: Highly relevant for Group 1 and Group 2 questions on constitutional bodies, Article 324, and removal mechanisms of high-ranking officials.

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