Contempt Action Sought Against CEC Over Multi-Member Consensus Issues

A Supreme Court advocate sought the Attorney General's consent to initiate criminal contempt proceedings against CEC Gyanesh Kumar for allegedly bypassing fellow commissioners.

A legal application seeking statutory consent to initiate criminal contempt against the CEC for violating Supreme Court precedents on collective decision-making in the Election Commission.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- A Supreme Court advocate requested statutory consent from the **Attorney General of India** under **Section 15** of Contempt of Courts Act 1971.
- The plea seeks criminal contempt action against Chief Election Commissioner **Gyanesh Kumar**.
- The advocate alleged that bypassing fellow **Election Commissioners** to issue directives violates established law declared by the Supreme Court.
- The petition invokes **Article 141** of the Constitution, which makes Supreme Court rulings binding on all Indian authorities.
- The action follows media reports alleging a breakdown of multi-member consensus within the **Election Commission of India**.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

Article 324 of the Constitution vests the superintendence, direction, and control of elections in the Election Commission of India.

The Election Commission was made a multi-member body permanently with 1 CEC and 2 ECs with effect from **October 1, 1993**.

Article 141 states that the law declared by the Supreme Court shall be binding on all courts within the territory of India.

Under **Section 15** of the **Contempt of Courts Act 1971**, consent of the Attorney General is required for private individuals to initiate criminal contempt in the Supreme Court.

Gyanesh Kumar took charge as the **26th** Chief Election Commissioner of India on February 19, 2025.

Article 76 of the Constitution provides for the office of the Attorney General for India, appointed by the President.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Criminal contempt in SC requires AG consent under Section 15 of Contempt of Courts Act 1971; Article 324 governs ECI.

Syllabus Relevance: Crucial topic for Unit 5 (Indian Polity) covering Constitutional Bodies (ECI Article 324), Judiciary (Article 141), and Legal Provisions (Contempt of Courts Act).

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