

LAST MINUTE PRELIMS RECKONER 2025

POLITY

CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES

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ELECTION COMMISSION

ARTICLE	✓ Article 324 (Part XV)
APPOINTMENT	✓ By the President (<i>Selection panel comprises of the Prime Minister and any Union Minister, besides the Leader of the Opposition, or the leader of the largest single party in the Opposition</i>)
QUALIFICATION	✓ Constitution has not prescribed the qualifications
MEMBERS	✓ Chief election commissioner and such number of other election commissioners, as the President may fix
TENURE & SALARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Service and tenure conditions are determined by the President (Subject to the provisions of parliamentary law) ✓ Salary, allowances etc. similar to those of a judge of the Supreme Court ✓ Hold office for a term of 6 years or until they attain the age of 65 years ✓ Constitution has not specified the term of the members
RESIGNATION	✓ By addressing the resignation letter to the President
REMOVAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Does not hold his office till the pleasure of the President ✓ Removed by the President on the basis of a resolution passed to that effect by both the Houses of Parliament with special majority ✓ Either on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity
MISCELLANEOUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advise president and governor on matters of disqualification of MP and MLA ✓ Other members cannot be removed except on the recommendation of the chief election commissioner ✓ Not debarred from any further appointment



STATE ELECTION COMMISSION

ARTICLE	✓ Article 243 K (Part IX)
APPOINTMENT	✓ By the Governor
MEMBERS	✓ Chief Elector Officer and as many members as are required by the Acts of respective State Governments
TENURE & SALARY	✓ Conditions of service and tenure shall be determined by the governor
REMOVAL	✓ In the manner and on the grounds prescribed for the removal of a judge of the state high court >> removed only by the President
MISCELLANEOUS	✓ Deal with elections to the panchayats and municipalities in the state

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC), Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners Act, 2023

The Act replaces the Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act

Judicial Background:

- In the **Anoop Baranwal Case, 2023**, the SC ruled that a panel of the Prime Minister, LoP, and CJI would select CEC and ECs until Parliament passed a law.
- Before the Judgement, the appointment of the CEC and other ECs was made by the President on the advice of the Union Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister.

Key Provisions of the Act

Selection Committee: The CEC and ECs will be appointed by the President based on the recommendation of a Selection Committee consisting of:

- **Prime Minister (Chairperson).**
- **Leader of the Opposition (LoP)** (or leader of the largest opposition party) in the **Lok Sabha**.
- **Union Cabinet Minister** nominated by the Prime Minister.

Search Committee: Led by the Law Minister and comprising two other members not below the rank of Secretary to the Government of India, shortlists five candidates.

Eligibility Criteria: The CEC and other ECs must have held a secretary-level post in the Government of India and possess integrity, election management experience.

Salary, Term, and Reappointment: CEC and ECs receive a SC judge's salary and serve for six years or until age 65, whichever is earlier.

- CEC and ECs **cannot be re-appointed**. If an EC becomes CEC, their total tenure **cannot exceed six years**.

Removal and Resignation: The CEC can be removed only in the same manner and on the same grounds as a SC Judge, while an EC can be removed on the CEC's recommendation.

- Both can resign to the President.



COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL OF INDIA (CAG)

ARTICLES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Article 148 to 151 (Part V)
APPOINTMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By the President by warrant under his hand & seal ✓ Before taking over his/her office, makes and subscribes before the President an oath or affirmation
TENURE & SALARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Holds office for six years or up to the age of 65 years ✓ Salary is equal to that of a judge of the Supreme Court (<i>Charged on the Consolidated Fund of India</i>) ✓ Salary and service conditions determined by the Parliament ✓ Constitution authorises the Parliament to prescribe the duties and powers of the CAG
RESIGNATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By addressing the resignation letter to the President
REMOVAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Does not hold his office till the pleasure of the President ✓ Removed by the President on the basis of a resolution passed to that effect by both the Houses of Parliament with special majority ✓ Either on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity
FEATURES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The most important officer in the Constitution of India, as per Dr B.R. Ambedkar ✓ Submits three audit reports to the President: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Audit report on appropriation accounts ○ Audit report on finance accounts ○ Audit report on public undertakings ✓ Guardian of the public purse and head of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department ✓ Not eligible for further office after retirement ✓ Administrative expenses of the office of the CAG are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India.



UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ARTICLE	✓ Articles 315 to 323 in Part XIV	
MEMBERS & APPOINTMENT	✓ Chairman and members are appointed by the President	✓ Chairman and members are appointed by the Governor
QUALIFICATION	✓ No qualifications are prescribed except that half of the members of the Commission should have held office for at least 10 years either under Central or State Government	
COMPOSITION, TENURE & SALARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Constitution has not specified the strength of the Commission & has left it to the President's discretion ✓ President determines the conditions of service of the chairman and other members ✓ Holds office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 65 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Constitution has not specified the commission's strength & has left it to the Governor's discretion ✓ Governor determines the conditions of service of the chairman and other members ✓ Holds office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years
RESIGNATION	✓ Address resignation to the President	✓ Address resignation to the Governor
REMOVAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ President can remove the chairman or member from the office if he/she: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ is adjudged an insolvent ○ engages in paid employment outside his office; or ○ is unfit to continue by reason of infirmity of mind/body ✓ President can also remove the chairman or member for misbehavior: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ President has to refer the matter to the Supreme Court for an enquiry ○ Advice tendered by the Supreme Court in this regard is binding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ They can be removed only by the President ✓ The President can remove them on the same grounds and in the same manner as he can remove a chairman or a member of the UPSC.

FEATURES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Expenses of the chairman and members are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India ✓ Chairman is not eligible for further employment under government ✓ Member is eligible for appointment as the chairman of UPSC or a State PSC, but not for any other employment under government ✓ The chairman or a member is not eligible for reappointment ✓ Presents annual report to President ✓ President can exclude posts, services and matters from the purview of the UPSC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Expenses of the chairman and members are charged on the Consolidated Fund of the state ✓ Chairman is eligible for appointment as the chairman or member of the UPSC or as the chairman of any other SPSC ✓ Member is eligible for appointment as the chairman or a member of the UPSC, or as the chairman of that SPSC or any other SPSC ✓ Chairman or a member is not eligible for reappointment to that office ✓ Presents annual report to Governor ✓ Governor can exclude posts, services and matters from the purview of the SPSC
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Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC)

- ✓ JSPSC can be created by an **act of Parliament** on the request of the state legislatures concerned >> It is a **statutory** and not a constitutional body.
- ✓ Chairman and members of a JSPSC are appointed by the **President**.
- ✓ They hold office for a term of **6 years or until they attain the age of 62 years**
- ✓ They can resign by submitting their resignation letters to the **President**
- ✓ Number of members of a JSPSC and their conditions of service are determined by the **President**.
- ✓ JSPSC presents its annual performance **report to each of the concerned state governors**



FINANCE COMMISSION

ARTICLE	✓ Article 280 (Part XII)
APPOINTMENT	✓ Constituted by the President every fifth year or at such earlier time as he considers necessary
MEMBERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Chairman and four members to be appointed by the President ✓ Hold office for such period as specified by the President in his order ✓ Eligible for reappointment
QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Constitution authorises the Parliament to determine the qualifications of members ✓ Parliament has specified the qualifications: Chairman should be a person having experience in public affairs ✓ Four other members should be selected from amongst the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A judge of high court or one qualified to be appointed as one. ○ A person with specialised knowledge of finance and accounts of the government ○ A person with wide experience in financial matters and in administration ○ A person with special knowledge of economics
FUNCTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ make recommendations to the President on the following matters: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distribution of the net proceeds of taxes to be shared between the Centre and the states, and the allocation between the states of the respective shares of such proceeds. 2. The principles that should govern the grants-in-aid to the states by the Centre 3. Measures needed to augment the consolidated fund of a state to supplement the resources of the panchayats and the municipalities on the basis of the recommendations made by state finance commission. 4. Any other matter referred to it by the president in the interests of sound finance
FEATURES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Quasi-judicial body ✓ Submits its report to the President ✓ Recommendations are only of advisory nature and not binding on the government ✓ “Balancing wheel of fiscal federalism in India”



GOODS AND SERVICES TAX COUNCIL

ARTICLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Article 279-A (101st Amendment Act) empowers the President to constitute a GST Council ✓ Accordingly, the President issued the order in 2016 and constituted the Council
COMPOSITION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Union Finance Minister as the Chairperson ○ The Union Minister of State in-charge of Revenue or Finance ○ The Minister in-charge of Finance or Taxation or any other Minister nominated by each state governments & UTs ✓ Members of the Council from the states have to choose one amongst themselves to be the Vice-Chairperson. They can also decide his term. ✓ Chairperson of the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) is a permanent invitee (non-voting) to all proceedings
WORKING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Council is required to make recommendations to the centre and the states ✓ Quorum: One-half of the total number of members of the Council ✓ Decisions are taken by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the weighted votes of the members present and voting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote of the central government shall have a weightage one-third of the total votes cast in that meeting. ○ Votes of all the state governments combined shall have weightage of two-thirds of the total votes cast in that meeting
MISCELLANEOUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Secretariat of the Council is located at New Delhi. ✓ The Union Revenue Secretary acts as the ex-officio Secretary to the Council.

NATIONAL COMMISSIONS

	FOR SCHEDULED CASTES (NCSC)	FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES (NCST)	FOR BACKWARD CLASSES (NCBC)
ARTICLE	✓ Article 338 in Part XVI	✓ Article 338-A in Part XVI	✓ Article 338-B (102 nd Amendment Act of 2018)
COMPOSITION	✓ A chairperson, a vice-chairperson and three other members		
APPOINTMENT	✓ By the President by warrant under his hand and seal		
TENURE & SALARY	✓ Conditions of service and tenure of office are determined by the President		
FEATURES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Required to discharge similar functions with regard to the Anglo-Indian Community ✓ Has the powers of a civil court trying a suit ✓ Presents an annual report to the president ✓ Central and state governments must consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting the SCs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Presents an annual report to the president ✓ Has the powers of a civil court trying a suit ✓ Central and state governments must consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting the STs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Presents an annual report to the president ✓ Has the powers of a civil court trying a suit ✓ Central and state governments must consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting the STs

- Approval of NCSC and NCST is necessary to include a community into SC or ST list.
- NCBC recommendation is not binding on the government in this case

SPECIAL OFFICER FOR LINGUISTIC MINORITIES

ARTICLE	✓ Article 350-B (Part XVII)
APPOINTMENT	✓ By the President
QUALIFICATION, TENURE, REMOVAL	✓ Constitution does not specify the qualifications, tenure, salaries and allowances, service conditions and procedure for removal of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities
REPORT	✓ Submits the annual reports or other reports to the President through the Union Minority Affairs Minister
OFFICES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Headquarters at Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh) ✓ Three regional offices at Belgaum (Karnataka), Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Kolkata (West Bengal)
MISCELLANEOUS	✓ A linguistic minority is a group of people whose mother tongue is different from that of the majority in the state or part of a state. Thus, the linguistic minorities are determined on a state-wise basis.

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF INDIA

ARTICLE	✓ Article 76
APPOINTMENT	✓ By the President
QUALIFICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A person who is qualified to be appointed a judge of the Supreme Court, i.e.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A citizen of India AND ○ A judge of some high court for five years OR ○ An advocate of some high court for ten years OR ○ An eminent jurist
TERM & SALARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Not fixed by the Constitution ✓ Receives such remuneration as the President may determine
RESIGNATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By submitting resignation to the President ✓ Conventionally, he resigns when the government resigns or is replaced
REMOVAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Constitution does not contain the procedure and grounds for his removal. ✓ Holds office during the pleasure of the President >> he may be removed by the president at any time.
RIGHTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Highest law officer in the country ✓ Has the right of audience in all courts in the territory of India ✓ Has the right to speak and to take part in the proceedings of both the Houses of Parliament or their joint sitting and any Parliament committee of which he may be named a member, but without a right to vote

ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE STATE

✓ Article 165
✓ By the Governor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A person who is qualified to be appointed a judge of a high court, i.e.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A citizen of India AND ○ Must have held a judicial office for 10 years OR ○ Been an advocate of a high court for ten years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Not fixed by the Constitution ✓ Receives such remuneration as the Governor may determine
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ By submitting resignation to the Governor ✓ Conventionally, he resigns when the government resigns or is replaced
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Constitution does not contain the procedure and grounds for his removal. ✓ Holds office during the pleasure of the Governor >> he may be removed by the Governor at any time.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Highest law officer in the state ✓ Entitled to appear before any court of law within the state ✓ Has the right to speak and to take part in the proceedings of both the Houses of the state legislature or any committee of the state legislature of which he may be named a member, but without a right to vote.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enjoys all the privileges and immunities available to a member of Parliament 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enjoys all the privileges and immunities that are available to a member of the state legislature.
MISC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Not a fulltime counsel for the Government ✓ Does not fall in the category of government servants ✓ Not debarred from private legal practice 	

