

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

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PRESS NOTE

ECI holds CEO conference in the run up to IICDEM, 2026

Nearly 100 international delegates to participate in IICDEM 2026

Over 40 bilateral meetings; 36 breakout sessions scheduled at IICDEM

1. The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** held a conference of Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) at **IIIDEM, New Delhi today**. The conference is being held **in the run up India International Conference on Democracy and Election Management (IICDEM) to be held from 21st to 23rd January, 2026** at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
2. Chief Election Commissioner of India, Shri Gyanesh Kumar along with Election Commissioners Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Dr. Vivek Joshi addressed the participants and apprised them about the **nuances of IICDEM 2026 and their specific roles**.
3. Following the address, the **CEOs discussed the 36 thematic groups that will be led by respective CEOs at IICDEM 2026**. The themes encompass all aspects of election management and are aimed at developing a body of knowledge building on the rich and varied experiences of the EMBS.
4. IICDEM 2026 will be the **largest global conference of its kind hosted by India** in the field of election management and democracy. It will be attended by nearly 100 international delegates representing Election Management Bodies (EMBs) from across the world, along with representatives from international organisations, foreign missions in India, and academic and practicing experts in the field of elections.
5. IICDEM 2026 will include general and plenary sessions such as the Inaugural Session, EMB Leaders' Plenary, EMB Working Group Meetings, and the launch of ECINET, **along with thematic sessions covering global electoral themes, model international electoral standards, and best practices** and innovations in electoral processes.
6. The conference will also see participation from leading academic institutions, including **4 IITs, 6 IIMs, 12 NLUs and IIMC, with 36 thematic groups led by CEOs** of States/UTs and national and international academic experts contributing to deliberations.



P. Pawan

Deputy Director
