



DATE: 25 SEPTEMBER 2026

1 Election Commission of India (Source: The Hindu)

- *It is a constitutionally permanent independent body.*
- *According to Article 324, the Election Commission shall have the authority to supervise, direct, and regulate elections for the Indian Parliament, state legislatures, the President of India, and the Vice-President of India.*

Selection Process of the Election Commission of India as per the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners Act, 2023:

- **Search Committee**
 - **Composition:** Led by the Union Minister of Law and Justice, alongside two other members not below the rank of Secretary to the Government of India.
 - **Eligibility Standard:** Candidates must be serving or former officers holding a rank equivalent to Secretary to the Government of India, known for integrity, and possessing experience in election management.
 - **Action:** The Search Committee prepares a panel of five candidates to submit to the Selection Committee.
- **Selection Committee**
 - **Composition:**
 - Prime Minister (Chairperson)
 - Leader of the Opposition (or the leader of the single largest opposition party in the Lok Sabha)
 - A Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister
 - The Selection Committee reviews the panel submitted by the Search Committee, selects the final candidate(s), and formally recommends them to the President.
- **The President of India officially appoints the CEC and ECs by warrant under their hand and seal**



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Removal of Election Commission

- **Grounds for Removal of CEC:** The CEC can be removed only on two grounds under Article 124(4) (applicable via Article 324(5)):
 - **Proved Misbehaviour:** Includes corrupt practices, abuse of office, or actions incompatible with the office of CEC; courts have interpreted this to cover failure to discharge official duties.
 - **Incapacity:** Refers to situations where the officer is unable to perform their duties.
- **Procedure for Removal of CEC**
 - Members of Parliament must bring a notice of motion explicitly alleging misbehaviour or incapacity. Minimum signatures required: Lok Sabha (at least 100 MPs) and Rajya Sabha (at least 50 MPs)
 - The Speaker/Chairman may consult people and materials to decide whether to admit or refuse the motion.
 - If admitted, a committee is formed to investigate evidence of misbehaviour or incapacity.
 - The motion must be passed by a special majority in both Houses
 - Once both Houses pass the motion, the President orders the removal of the CEC.



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2 Enemy State under the UN Charter (Source: The Indian Express)

An “enemy state” means any state that, during the Second World War (1939–45), was an enemy of any signatory of the UN Charter.

- The provisions were directed primarily at the former Axis powers, notably Germany, Japan and Italy, along with other states that fought against the Allied powers.

What are the provisions dealing in UN charter?

- Permitted certain enforcement measures through regional arrangements against an enemy state in the post-WWII context, subject to the conditions stated in the Charter. Article 53(2) provides the definition itself. United Nations Legal Affairs
- Concerns the International Trusteeship System and included territories detached from enemy states as a result of WWII.
- Provides that the Charter would not invalidate or prevent actions concerning former enemy states that were taken or authorised as a result of WWII by governments responsible for such actions.

Present Status

- The clauses still appear in the text of the UN Charter, but they are regarded as obsolete.