



Voting To Be Held On 19th April in Bastar

Why in News?

In **Bastar parliamentary constituency of Chhattisgarh**, voting will be held on **April 19** under the **first phase of Lok Sabha elections**.

Key Points

- In this [Left Wing Extremism](#) affected constituency, about two thousand polling stations have been set up. More than 200 of these polling stations have been shifted due to security reasons.
- The [Election Commission](#) has made all preparations to conduct the voting in a fair and peaceful manner.
- Under this Lok Sabha constituency, there are six polling stations in Bijapur district where people will be able to vote again after about twenty years.

Left Wing Extremism

- Also known as left-wing terrorism or radical left-wing movements, refers to political ideologies and groups that advocate for significant **societal and political change through revolutionary means**.
- LWE groups may target **government institutions, law enforcement agencies**, or private property to further their agenda.
- The LWE movement in India originated in a **1967 uprising in Naxalbari, West Bengal**.

Election Commission of India (ECI)

About

- **Autonomous Constitutional Authority** - Administers Union/state election
 - LS, RS, State LA, the offices of the President and VP
- Estd - **25th Jan 1950** (National Voters' Day)



Constitutional Provisions

Part XV - Article 324 to 329

Structure

- 1 Chief Election Commissioner and 2 Election Commissioners **appointed by President**
- **Tenure- 6 years, or up to the age of 65 years**, whichever is earlier
- Retiring ECs – **eligible for further appointment by the govt.**
- **Removal of CEC-** Resolution on the **ground of proven misbehaviour or incapacity**, with majority of 2/3rd members present and voting, supported by more than 50% of the total strength of the house



Major Roles and Responsibilities

- Determining Electoral Constituencies
- Preparing/Revising electoral rolls
- Notifying the schedules and dates of elections
- **Registering political parties and granting them the status of national or state parties**
- Issuing the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) for political parties
- Advising the President on **matters concerning the disqualification of MPs**



Challenges

- Truncated Tenure of CEC
- Executive Influence in Appointments
- Dependence on Centre for Finance
- Lack of Independent Staff



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