



Haryana's New Chief Secretary

Why in News?

The Haryana government appointed 1990-batch IAS officer Anurag Rastogi as the [state's new chief secretary](#).

Key Points

- **New Appointments:**
 - **Chief Secretary:**
 - According to a government order Anurag Rastogi has been appointed as **the Chief Secretary of Haryana**.
 - He will continue to hold the charge of [the Financial Commissioner](#), Revenue, and **Additional Chief Secretary (Finance and Planning)**.
- **Election Commission:**
 - **Gyanesh Kumar** was appointed as the next [Chief Election Commissioner](#).
 - **Vivek Joshi** has been appointed as **an Election Commissioner** in [the Election Commission of India](#).

Chief Secretary of State

- **Appointment:**
 - The Chief Secretary is '**chosen**' by [the Chief Minister](#). As the appointment of Chief Secretary is an executive action of the Chief Minister, it is **taken in the name of the Governor of the State**.
- **Position:**
 - The post of Chief Secretary is the **senior-most position in the civil services of the states and union territories** of India.
 - The position is a cadre post for the Indian Administrative Services.
 - The Chief Secretary is the **chief advisor to the Chief Minister in all matters** of the cabinet.
- **Tenure:**
 - The office of Chief Secretary has been **excluded from the operation of the tenure system**. There is **no fixed tenure** for this post.

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



Drishti IAS

