

## One Nation One Election

### Why in news?

\n\n

Political parties are divided on the issue of holding simultaneous elections during consultations with the Law Commission.

\n\n

### What are the advantages?

\n\n

- \n
- Frequent elections impose a burden on human resources.
- \n
- They also impede the development process due to the promulgation of Model Code of Conduct.
- \n
- The idea of 'one nation, one election' will drastically cut the election expenditure.
- \n
- The government will be able to focus on legislation and governance.
- \n
- Now, they are deviated in the campaign mode periodically.
- \n

\n\n

### What are the concerns and challenges?

\n\n

- \n
- **Tenure** - Synchronisation would involve curtailment or extension of the tenure of a House.
- \n
- It is proposed that the Assemblies would be bunched into two categories.
- \n
- This will be based on whether their terms end close to the 2019 or the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.
- \n

- Elections could be held for one group in 2019 and another in 2024, helping subsequent synchronisations.  
\n
- The legal validity of this process is however questionable.  
\n
- **Constitutional** - The move requires amendment to the Representation of Peoples's Act 1951.  
\n
- But attempting to draft a constitutional amendment would highlight the hollowness of the whole idea.  
\n
- Discussions with the public, political parties and all other stakeholders would have to be reflected in the bill.  
\n
- Significantly, it requires changes to the Constitution's basic structure, posing a challenge.  
\n
- **Difficulties** - The Election Commission sometimes holds elections to even one state in many phases.  
\n
- Given this, holding simultaneous elections for the whole country has many practical difficulties.  
\n
- **Dissolution** - It is possible for Lok Sabha to be prematurely dissolved on account of a vote of no-confidence.  
\n
- It is still uncertain if all Assemblies would also be dissolved in that case.  
\n
- And in case of a mid-term election, the term of such a House would only be for the remainder of its tenure.  
\n
- **Defection** - Allowing a one-time waiver of the anti-defection law in the event of a hung House is another proposal.  
\n
- This is to enable the House to elect a leader.  
\n
- However, these reforms can be adopted even without simultaneous elections.  
\n

\n\n

\n\n

**Source: The Hindu, Indian Express**

\n



**SHANKAR**  
**IAS PARLIAMENT**  
*Information is Empowering*