

- i. providing equal security of tenure to Election Commissioners and chief Election Commissioners strengthen their Independence.
Analyse.

Election Commission of India is a well reputed institution to conduct free & fair election. Yet it is not immune from ^{charges of} favouring the political parties.

Issues with Election Commission

1. Appointment of chief election commissioners
Election Commission.

There is no mechanism of committee, for recommending appointment by president, but simply by ^{or} cabinet recommendation.

i) Art 324(2) allows parliament to create act to maintain independence, yet no act has been made

ii) Though honest persons are appointed, over time there tends to be political leaning by officers.

2. \$Tenure.

1960's. - The tenure for chief election commissioner is 8 years. eg: 1st CEC - Sukumar Sen's tenure was more than 8 yrs while 24th CEC - Sushil Chandra's tenure was just above 1 yr.

Election Commissioner's appointment Act - provides the tenure - 6 yrs (6 yrs) which is earlier

3. Security of tenure.

Chief Election Commissioner can be removed by process of impeachment (similar to supreme court judge). But such mechanism is not for Election Commissioner, who can be removed on recommendation of Chief election commissioner.

Thus there is a need for provide equal amount of importance to in security of tenure for both chief election commissioner & election commissioner, to maintain independence of the body from political leaning. Supreme court calls for officers, who can take actions even against prime minister. Thus there is a need of ^{change in} mechanism to maintain independence of the body.