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Competitive Exams: Political Science Study Material Constitutional safeguards to the office of CEC

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Constitutional Safeguards to the Office of the CEC

The term of the Chief Election Commissioner is for 6 years or till he/she attains 65 years of age, whichever is earlier.

- He is removed from the office in the same manner as the Judges of the Supreme Court
- He cannot be re-appointed to the post.
- He cannot hold any office of profit after his retirement
- His salaries and allowances are drawn from the Consolidated Fund of India.

Registration of Political Parties

- Section 29A of the Representation of the People's Act, 1951 provides for registration of political parties by the Election Commission.
- A party registered with the Election Commission may be granted recognition as National or State Party.

State Party

A political party is recognised as a State Party, if, and only if, either the candidates set up by it, in the last General Election to the House of the People, or to the Legislative Assembly of the State concerned have secured not less than six per cent of the total valid votes polled in that State, in that General Election; and in addition, it has returned at least two members to the Legislative Assembly of the State at the last General Election to the Assembly; or it wins at least three per cent of the total number of seats in the Legislative Assembly of the State.

National Party

A political party is recognised as a National Party when either the candidates set up by it, in any four or more States, at the last General Election to the House of the People, or to the Legislative Assembly of the State concerned, have secured not less than six per cent of the total valid votes polled in their respective States at the General Election; and in addition, it has returned at least four members to the House of the People at the aforesaid last General Election from any State or States; Or its candidates have been elected to the House of the People, at the last General Election to that house, from atleast two per cent of the total number of Parliamentary Constituencies in India.

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