Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine the role of the Election Commission of India in ensuring free and fair elections to State Legislative Assemblies. Discuss the major administrative and logistical challenges involved in conducting large-scale elections.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 09/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Article 324, electoral rolls, Model Code of Conduct, polling personnel, security deployment, multi-phase elections, electronic voting machines, voter accessibility, electoral transparency.

Model Answer

Introduction

Free and fair elections are essential to India's parliamentary democracy. The Election Commission of India (ECI), under Article 324, supervises and conducts elections to Parliament and State Legislatures.

Role of the ECI

- Supervises electoral roll preparation and revision.
- Announces election schedules and oversees polling.
- Enforces the Model Code of Conduct.
- Coordinates election personnel, security arrangements and voting infrastructure.
- Promotes voter awareness and electoral participation.

Administrative and Logistical Challenges

1. **Large electorate:** Managing millions of voters across diverse geographical regions requires extensive planning.
2. **Security:** Sensitive constituencies may require central and state security forces.
3. **Multi-phase polling:** Large states may need phased elections to manage personnel and security.
4. **Electoral integrity:** Preventing bribery, intimidation, misinformation and procedural irregularities remains important.
5. **Accessibility:** Remote areas, elderly voters and persons with disabilities require suitable arrangements.

Way Forward

Technology-enabled monitoring, transparent procedures, effective security coordination and stronger voter awareness can improve electoral management.

Conclusion

An independent and efficient Election Commission strengthens democratic legitimacy by ensuring elections are conducted transparently, peacefully and fairly.

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