Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine the role of electoral-roll revision in ensuring inclusive and credible elections in India. What institutional and procedural safeguards are necessary to minimise wrongful inclusion and exclusion of voters?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 17/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Electoral integrity, Article 324, ECI, electoral-roll revision, universal adult suffrage, voter inclusion, transparency, grievance redressal, data accuracy, accountability.

Model Answer

Introduction

Accurate electoral rolls are essential for free and fair elections. Special revision exercises help incorporate eligible voters, remove inaccuracies and maintain the credibility of India's electoral process.

Significance of Electoral-Roll Revision

1. **Universal adult suffrage:** It enables newly eligible citizens, particularly those attaining 18 years, to exercise their constitutional right to vote.
2. **Accuracy:** Revision helps identify duplicate, shifted, deceased and otherwise ineligible entries.
3. **Inclusion:** Special enrolment drives can improve participation among women, migrants, marginalised communities and first-time voters.
4. **Electoral credibility:** Updated rolls strengthen public confidence in election administration.

Challenges

- Migration and frequent changes in residence.
- Exclusion due to documentation or procedural difficulties.
- Duplicate entries and inaccurate demographic information.
- Limited awareness of objection and correction procedures.
- Risks arising from opaque or inadequate verification processes.

Necessary Safeguards

The Election Commission should ensure transparent verification, accessible claims and objections procedures, adequate publication of draft rolls, time-bound grievance redressal and independent monitoring. Technology should support, rather than replace, due process and human oversight.

Conclusion

Electoral-roll revision must balance accuracy with universal inclusion. Transparent procedures, institutional accountability and accessible remedies are essential to protect every eligible citizen's right to participate in democracy.

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