

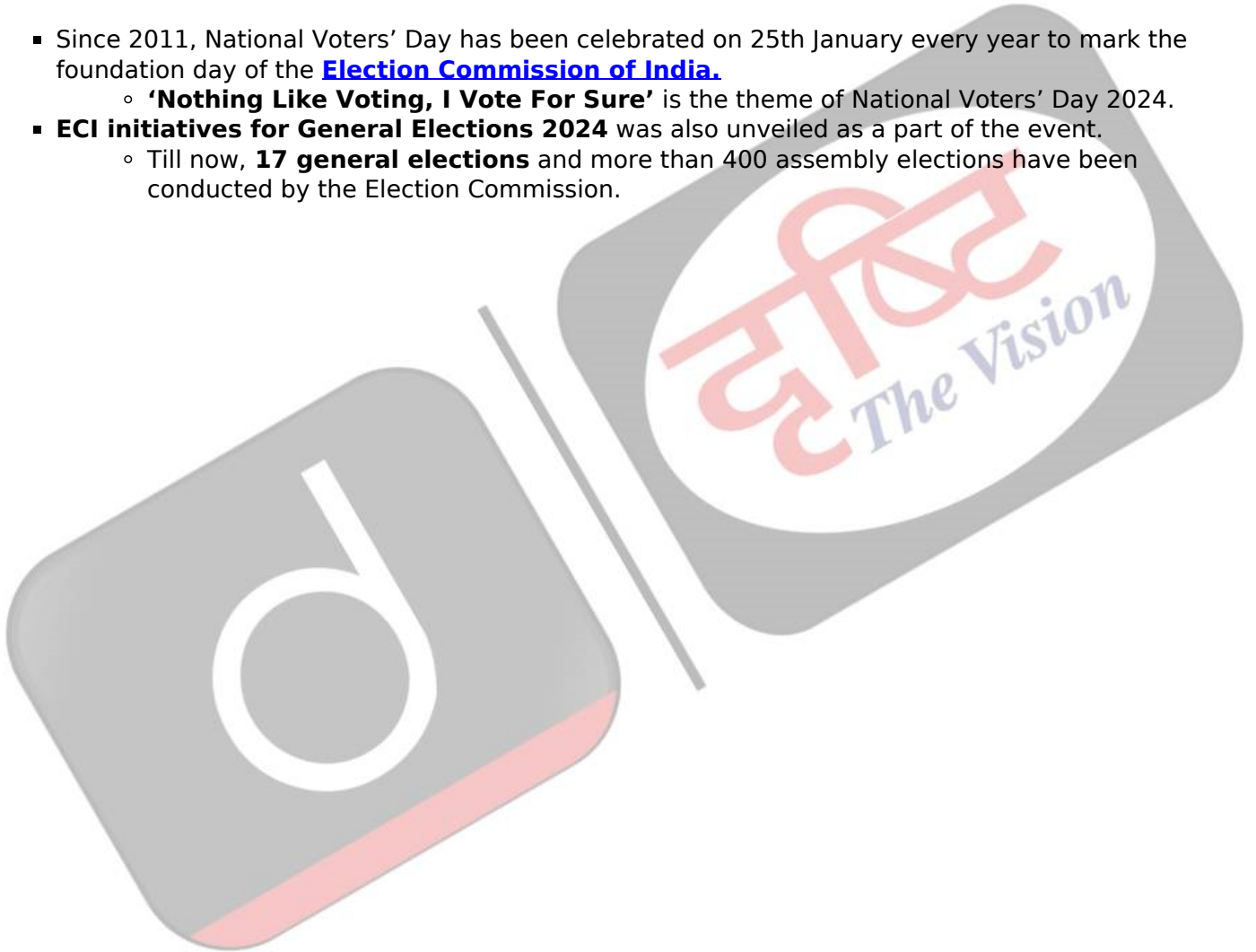


14th National Voters' Day

The President of India recently addressed the **14th National Voters' Day Celebrations** in New Delhi and presented the **Best Electoral Practices Awards for the year 2023** to the State and District level officers for their outstanding performance in the conduct of elections during 2023.

- Since 2011, National Voters' Day has been celebrated on 25th January every year to mark the foundation day of the **Election Commission of India**.
 - **'Nothing Like Voting, I Vote For Sure'** is the theme of National Voters' Day 2024.
- **ECI initiatives for General Elections 2024** was also unveiled as a part of the event.
 - Till now, **17 general elections** and more than 400 assembly elections have been conducted by the Election Commission.

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Election Commission of India (ECI)

About

- **Autonomous Constitutional Authority** - Administers Union/state election
 - LS, RS, State LA, the offices of the President and VP
- Estd - **25th Jan 1950** (National Voters' Day)



Constitutional Provisions

Part XV - Article 324 to 329

Structure

- 1 Chief Election Commissioner and 2 Election Commissioners **appointed by President**
- **Tenure- 6 years, or up to the age of 65 years**, whichever is earlier
- Retiring ECs – **eligible for further appointment by the govt.**
- **Removal of CEC-** Resolution on the **ground of proven misbehaviour or incapacity**, with majority of 2/3rd members present and voting, supported by more than 50% of the total strength of the house



Major Roles and Responsibilities

- Determining Electoral Constituencies
- Preparing/Revising electoral rolls
- Notifying the schedules and dates of elections
- **Registering political parties and granting them the status of national or state parties**
- Issuing the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) for political parties
- Advising the President on **matters concerning the disqualification of MPs**



Challenges

- Truncated Tenure of CEC
- Executive Influence in Appointments
- Dependence on Centre for Finance
- Lack of Independent Staff



Drishti IAS

Read more: [Increasing Voter Turnouts](#)

