



Centre Amends Conduct of Election Rules, 1961

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Recently, the **Ministry of Law and Justice** has amended **Rule 93 of the [Conduct of Election Rules, 1961](#)**, restricting public access to certain election-related documents.

- **Recent Amendment:**
 - This amendment follows a recommendation by the [Election Commission of India \(ECI\)](#) and impacts **Rule 93(2)(a)**, which **earlier permitted public inspection of all election papers**.
 - The revised rule **now limits access to specific documents** listed within the framework.
- **Background of The Amendment:**
 - It was initiated by a **directive from the Punjab and Haryana High Court** to **ECI** to share all election-related documents, including **CCTV footage** from Haryana Assembly elections.
 - The **ECI highlighted concerns over voter privacy and potential misuse** of sensitive information.
- **RTI Activists and opposition parties** argue the amendment **compromises transparency and accountability** in the electoral process.
- **Conduct of Election Rules, 1961:**
 - It provides a detailed framework for conducting elections in India, as per the [Representation of the People Act, 1951](#).
 - These rules cover **candidate nominations, polling procedures, etc, ensure voter secrecy and electoral integrity, and define the duties of election officers**.

Read More: [Rule 49MA of the Conduct of Election Rules - Drishti IAS](#)

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