



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Perunthalsivai Kamarajar"

Bye election

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Why is in news? Bye Election to the Council of States from Uttar Pradesh

Bypolls, also called bye-elections or special elections, are conducted to **fill vacant seats in legislative bodies**.

Bypolls are important in the electoral cycle to **address unforeseen vacancies**.

The primary purpose of bypolls is to **ensure timely representation of the affected constituency** or district in the legislative body.

Bypolls are held when a seat in the legislature **becomes vacant due to death, resignation, disqualification, or expulsion of a sitting member**.

Section 151A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 mandates the Election Commission to fill the casual vacancies in the Houses of Parliament and State Legislatures through by-elections **within six months from the date of occurrence of the vacancy**, provided that the remainder of the term of a member in relation to a vacancy is one year or more.

No need to hold bypolls if the **remaining term of the Lok Sabha is less than one year** from the date of occurrence of vacancies.

Impact:

Bypolls serve as a **significant indicator of the popularity and strength of political parties**.

Bye-elections often **serve as a litmus test for political parties** and their popularity.

They provide an opportunity for parties to **gauge public sentiment and assess their support base**.

The outcomes of by-elections can have an **impact on the ruling government's majority**.

If the ruling party loses a substantial number of bypoll seats, it may lead to a loss of the government's stability and decision-making.

Bypolls offer a **platform for political parties to experiment with their electoral strategies** and refine their campaign approaches.

Parties can test various aspects such as candidate selection, campaign themes, and messaging during by-polls that can influence their strategies in subsequent elections.

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