



State Public Service Commission

In this blog, we will discuss the State Public Service Commission (SPSC) in detail. So, let's start with the introduction first.

State Public Service Commission:

The same set of Articles (i.e. 315 to 323 in Part XIV) of the Constitution also deal with the composition, appointment and removal of members, power and functions and independence of a SPSC.

Composition:

- A State Public Service Commission consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the governor of the state.
- The Constitution does not specify the strength of the Commission but has left the matter to the discretion of the Governor.
- The Constitution also authorises the governor to determine the conditions of service of the chairman and members of the Commission.
- The chairman and members of the Commission hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier.
- However, they can relinquish their offices at any time by addressing their resignation to the governor.

Removal:

- Although the chairman and members of a SPSC are appointed by the governor, they can be removed only by the president (and not by the governor).



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- The president can remove them on the same grounds and in the same manner as he can remove a chairman or a member of the UPSC.
- The president can also remove the chairman or any other member of SPSC for misbehaviour.
- In this regard, the president has to refer the matter to the Supreme Court for an enquiry. If the Supreme Court, after the enquiry, upholds the cause of removal and advises so, the president can remove the chairman or a member.

Independence:

- The chairman or a member of a SPSC can be removed from office by the president only in the manner and on the grounds mentioned in the Constitution. Therefore, they enjoy the security of
- The entire expense including the salaries, allowances and pensions of the chairman and members of a SPSC are charged on the consolidated fund of the state. Thus, they are not subject to the vote of the state legislature.
- The chairman of a SPSC (on ceasing to hold office) is eligible for appointment as the chairman or a member of the UPSC or as the chairman of any other SPSC, but not for any other employment under the Government of India or a state.
- The chairman or a member of a SPSC is (after having completed his first term) not eligible for a second term to that office.

Functions:

- A SPSC performs all those functions in respect of the state services as the UPSC does in relation to the Central services.



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- The additional functions relating to the services of the state can be conferred on SPSC by the state legislature
- The SPSC presents, annually, to the governor a report on its performance.

Joint State Public Service Commission:

- The Constitution makes a provision for the establishment of a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states.
- While the UPSC and the SPSC are created directly by the Constitution, a JSPSC can be created by an act of Parliament on the request of the state legislatures concerned.
- Therefore, a JSPSC is a statutory and not a constitutional body.
- After the creation of Haryana out of Punjab in 1966, the two states of Punjab and Haryana had a JSPSC for a short period.

Composition:

- The chairman and members of a JSPSC are appointed by the president.
- They hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier.
- They can be suspended or removed by the president.
- They can also resign from their offices at any time by submitting their resignation letters to the president.



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- The number of members of a JSPSC and their conditions of service are determined by the president.

So, this is all for today. Do try the questions of this topic for a better understanding.

