

Rajiv Kumar named new CEC, to assume office on May 15

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THE MINISTRY of Law and Justice on Thursday announced that Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar will take over charge as the Chief Election Commissioner from May 15.

Kumar will take over charge from CEC Sushil Chandra who is due to retire on May 14. Chandra is the 24th poll panel chief.

"In pursuance of clause (2) of article 324 of the Constitution, the President is pleased to appoint Shri Rajiv Kumar as the Chief Election Commissioner with effect from the 15th May, 2022. My best wishes to Shri Rajiv Kumar," union Law Minister Kiren Rijju said in a tweet.

During a conference organised by the EC on Thursday with the Chief Electoral Officers of all states/UTs in New Delhi, Sushil Chandra congratulated Rajiv Kumar for being appointed as new C.

"While complimenting the Chief Electoral Officers, he (Chandra) added that these five states' elections (Manipur, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Goa



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and Punjab) conducted amidst the pandemic were exemplary and had no previous examples or references...," the statement said.

Election Commissioner and CEC-designate Rajiv Kumar said that with the mandate provided by the Constitution, the EC has "developed extremely robust internal mechanisms and practices to ensure that elections are conducted in a free, fair, accessible and participative manner..."

"While narrating his experiences of conducting elections for the first time amidst the pandemic in Bihar till the recently held Assembly Elections in the five states, he mentioned that the journey has been full of challenges and learnings..." the EC statement said.