

IC-CHEAT_SHEET

INDIAN CONSTITUTION EXAM CHEAT SHEET

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Date	Significance
26 November 1949	Constitution of India adopted
26 January 1950	Constitution of India enforced
1947	Indian Independence Act passed
1946	Cabinet Mission Plan sent to India
1946	Constituent Assembly formed
1919	Government of India Act (introduced dyarchy)
1935	Government of India Act
1950	Supreme Court of India established

KEY FIGURES

Person	Position/Role
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar	Chairman of Drafting Committee
Dr. Rajendra Prasad	President of Constituent Assembly
B.N. Rau	Constitutional Advisor

CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE

PREAMBLE

- Declares India as: **Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic**
- Was amended by the **42nd Amendment**

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS (PART III)

Article	Right	Key Points
Article 14	Equality before Law	Basic equality provision
Article 15	Prohibition of Discrimination	Based on religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth
Article 16	Equality of Opportunity	In public employment
Article 17	Abolition of Untouchability	Social equality
Article 19	Right to Freedom	Six freedoms including speech, assembly, etc.
Article 21	Protection of Life and Personal Liberty	Most fundamental right
Article 21A	Right to Education	Added through 86th Amendment
Article 32	Right to Constitutional Remedies	Allows approach to Supreme Court

UNION EXECUTIVE

Position	Key Points	Articles
President	<div><div>- Head of State</div><div>- Elected by Electoral College</div><div>- 5-year term</div><div>- Minimum age: 35 years</div></div>	Article 52-62 Article 54 : Election

Position	Key Points	Articles
Vice President	- Chairperson of Rajya Sabha	
Prime Minister	- Real executive - Appointed by President - Heads Council of Ministers	
Council of Ministers	- Advises President	Article 74

STATE EXECUTIVE

Position	Key Points	Articles
Governor	- Executive head of state - Appointed by President - 5-year term	Article 153: One Governor for each state
Chief Minister	- Appointed by Governor - Heads State Council of Ministers - Responsible to State Legislative Assembly	

PARLIAMENT (UNION LEGISLATURE)

House	Key Points	Term
Parliament	Consists of President, Rajya Sabha, and Lok Sabha	
Rajya Sabha (Council of States)	- Permanent body - 1/3 members retire every 2 years - Members elected for 6 years	6 years
Lok Sabha (House of People)	- Maximum strength: 552 - Minimum age for membership: 25 years - Money Bills can only be introduced here - Speaker elected by its members	5 years

Important Points:

- Joint sitting presided by Speaker of Lok Sabha
- Budget presented in Lok Sabha
- Lok Sabha more powerful in financial matters
- President can summon or dissolve Lok Sabha
- Bill becomes law after President's signature

JUDICIARY

Court	Key Points	Articles
Supreme Court	- Guardian of Constitution - Established in 1950 - Chief Justice appointed by President - Retirement age: 65 years	Article 124: Establishment
High Court	- Highest court at state level	Article 214: Establishment

Important Writs:

- Habeas Corpus
- Mandamus
- Prohibition
- Certiorari
- Quo Warranto

FEDERALISM

- Division of powers between Centre and States
- **Part XI** deals with Centre-State relations
- **7th Schedule** lists Union, State, and Concurrent subjects
- Residuary powers rest with Union Government

EMERGENCY PROVISIONS

Type	Article	Purpose
National Emergency	Article 352	External aggression, armed rebellion
President's Rule	Article 356	State constitutional machinery failure
Financial Emergency	Article 360	Threat to financial stability

LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT

Amendment	Focus	Structure
73rd Amendment	Panchayati Raj	3-tier: Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti, Zila Parishad
74th Amendment	Urban Local Bodies	Municipalities, Municipal Corporations

Panchayati Raj:

- Based on principle of decentralization
- Given constitutional status by **Article 243**
- 5-year term
- Elections conducted by State Election Commission
- Panchayat Samiti deals with block-level administration
- Zila Parishad prepares district development plan

Urban Local Bodies:

- Municipality formed in area with population of 100,000+
- Nagar Panchayat in transitional areas
- Mayor is chairman of Municipal Corporation

HIGH-PROBABILITY ANSWERS

Common Amendment Questions

If asked about amendments without knowing the answer, these are the most frequent answers:

- **42nd Amendment**: Most recurring (3 questions mention it)
 - Known as "Mini Constitution"
 - Amended the Preamble
- **73rd Amendment**: Panchayati Raj
- **74th Amendment**: Urban Local Bodies

Other High-Probability Answers

If unsure about:

- **Important Articles**: Article 32, Article 356, Article 14, Article 21
- **Terms of Office**: 5 years (President, Lok Sabha, Panchayats)
- **Emergency Types**: National, State (President's Rule), Financial

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS TO AVOID

- Constitution was **adopted** on 26 November 1949, but **enforced** on 26 January 1950
- Lok Sabha maximum strength is 552, not 545 (which is elected members)

- Rajya Sabha is permanent, 1/3 members retire every 2 years
- Money Bills can ONLY be introduced in Lok Sabha
- Prime Minister is the real executive, President is nominal head

MODULE-WISE KEY CONCEPTS

Module 1: Historical Background

- Focus on dates, key figures, and acts leading to Constitution

Module 2: Preamble & Fundamental Rights

- Know all key articles (14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21, 32)
- Remember Preamble contents and amendment

Module 3: Union & State Executive

- Roles, appointments, terms of President, PM, Governor, CM
- Key articles defining their powers

Module 4: Union & State Legislature

- Structure, terms, powers of Parliament
- Financial powers especially important

Module 5: Judiciary & Federalism

- Supreme Court establishment, powers
- Types of emergencies and relevant articles

Module 6: Local Self Government

- 73rd & 74th Amendments
- Three tiers of Panchayati Raj
- Urban local body types