**FEATURES OF CONSTITUTION**

* Ours is a longest Constitution of the world.
* It has XXII (22) Parts with 395 Articles and it is added with 12 Schedules.
* The most important parts and articles are as follows:
* Part II Containing Articles 5-11 relating to citizenships
* Part III Containing Articles 12-35A relating to Fundamental Rights
* Part IV Containing Articles 36-51 relating to Directive Principles of State Policy
* Part V Containing Articles 52-152 relating to the Union
* Part VI Containing Articles 153 relating to the States
* Part XVIII Containing Articles relating to Emergency Provisions.

**Purpose of Constitution**

* The Constitution defines and determines the relation between Following various institutions and the functional areas of Government,

1. Executive, the legislature and the judiciary,
2. Central government, State governments and the local

Governments

1. People and the government,
2. Political, social and economic issues.

* The constitution prescribes the constitution for the Union and the State governments along with clear-cut and well defined division of power of Union and State Governments and jurisdiction and powers of Union and State Governments.

**UNION OF INDIA**

* Article 1 of the Constitution states India, that is Bharat and it shall be Union of States.
* At present India is the Union of 29 States and 6 Union Territories.
* The names of States and the names of Union Territories are specified in Schedule I to the Constitution.
* The territory of India comprises the territories of States, Union Territories and other territories which can be acquired from time to time.

**Federal System of the Government**

* The Indian Constitution sets up a federal system of the government.
* The federal system of the government is that system where the powers of the Central Government and the State Governments are well-defined. There are separate governments at the Centre and in the States.
* The division of powers between the Central Government and the State Governments has been defined through the three lists given in our constitution:

**The Union List**: -

Armed forces, Posts and Telegraph and External Affairs are some of the subjects included in the Union List

**The State List**:-

Police, Jail, Education, Agriculture, and Health are some of the subjects included in the State List.

**The Concurrent List**

* The Union Government has exclusive power to make laws on all matters in the Union List.
* Similarly, the States have exclusive powers to make laws in the State List.
* The Centre cannot normally legislate on any matter included in the State List.
* However, the Parliament can do so when the Council of States recommends by at least two thirds majority that such legislation is in national interest or when two or more states mutually agree that this should be done for them.
* Both the Union and the States can legislate on matters included in the Concurrent List.
* However, in case of any conflict between the Union laws and State laws, the Union laws shall prevail.
* Moreover, the Union has exclusive power to make laws on any matter not enumerated in the State List or Concurrent List.
* Thus, the respective jurisdictions of the Union and the States and mutual relations between them have been clearly defined in the constitution of our country.

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