

1. Which of the following statements about Judiciary is false?

- a) Every law passed by the Parliament needs approval of the Supreme Court
- b) Judiciary can strike down a law if it goes against the spirit of the Constitution
- c) Judiciary is independent of the Executive
- d) Any citizen can approach the courts if his/her rights, are violated

2. Judiciary (court) can take up any dispute like

(i) Between citizens and the judiciary

(ii) Between citizens and the government

(iii) Between two or more state governments

(iv) Between government at the Union and governments of the other countries.

Select the best options

- a) (i)
- b) (ii)
- c) (i), (ii) and (iii)
- d) (iv)

3. Can the Houses of Parliament be dissolved? Select the correct option.

- a) Lok Sabha cannot be dissolved because it is a permanent house whereas Rajya Sabha can be dissolved.
- b) Both the Houses of Parliament cannot be dissolved
- c) Rajya Sabha is a permanent house so it cannot be dissolved whereas, Lok Sabha can be dissolve
- d) Both Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha can be dissolved.

4. The President of India is elected by

- a) Direct election by citizens who are 18 years or above
- b) Indirect election by the Electoral College
- c) Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers
- d) None of these

5. Who is the Real Executive of the Indian Union?

- a) The Prime Minister
- b) The President
- c) The Union Cabinet
- d) The President and the Prime Minister

6. Which of the following statements is true regarding President of India?

- a) Head of the government
- b) Head of the state
- c) Head of the Parliament

d) None of these

7. What is the strength of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha?

- a) 485 in Lok Sabha and 265 in Rajya Sabha
- b) 620 in Lok Sabha and 340 in Rajya Sabha
- c) 460 in Lok Sabha and 240 in Rajya Sabha
- d) 545 in Lok Sabha and 250 in Rajya Sabha

8. In what ways Lok Sabha exercises Supreme Power over Rajya Sabha?

(i) Lok Sabha exercises more powers on money matter.

(ii) Lok Sabha controls the President of India

(iii) During the joint session final decision is taken by Lok Sabha because of its larger number of members

(iv) It guides the functioning of Rajya Sabha.

- a) (i) and (iv)
- b) (i) and (iii)
- c) (ii) and (iv)
- d) All above

9. Which one of the following institutions exercises greater power over the Union budget?

- a) The Reserve Bank of India
- b) The Rajya Sabha
- c) The Lok Sabha
- d) The Supreme Court of India

10. The cabinet as a team assisted by

- a) Chief Ministers and Governor
- b) Ministers of State
- c) A team of Civil Servants of Cabinet Secretariat
- d) President and Speaker

11. What is meant by 'Office Memorandum'?

- a) Order issued by the Government of India
- b) Memoirs of the leaders of the past
- c) Important defence documents
- d) None of the above

12. When was the Second Backward Class Commission appointed?

- a) 1989
- b) 1979
- c) 1999
- d) 2001

13. Why did people react strongly to the Mandal Commission Report?

- a) It left out many backward communities
- b) It affected thousands of job opportunities
- c) Some high castes wanted to be included in it
- d) Both (a) and (c)

14. What do the Civil Servants do?

- a) They take important policy decisions
- b) They implement the ministers' decisions
- c) They settle the disputes
- d) None of the above

15. What is 'Parliament'?

- a) Assembly of elected representatives at the national level
- b) A body consisting of appointed ministers
- c) Body comprising judges
- d) Assembly of only appointed members

16. Which of these are correct so far as powers of the Parliament are concerned, apart from making laws?

- a) Exercising control over the government
- b) Controlling finance of the country
- c) Serving as the highest forum of discussion and debate
- d) All the above

17. Apart from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, who else constitutes the Parliament?

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Chief Minister
- c) Governor
- d) President

18. What happens if there is a difference of opinion between Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha over an ordinary bill?

- a) The President decides the matter
- b) The will of Rajya Sabha prevails
- c) There is a joint sitting of the two Houses
- d) The bill is cancelled

19. For how long can the Rajya Sabha delay a Money Bill?

- a) 15 days
- b) 1 month
- c) 3 months
- d) 14 days

20. Who is the presiding officer of the Lok Sabha?

- a) Speaker
- b) Vice President

- c) President
- d) Prime Minister

21. Two features of Indian judicial system are:

- a) Independent Judiciary
- b) Integrated Judiciary
- c) Dependent Judiciary
- d) Both (a) and (b)

22. Which of these disputes can the Supreme Court take?

- a) Between citizens of the country
- b) Between citizens and the government
- c) Between two or more state governments
- d) All the above

23. Who appoints the judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts?

- a) President, according to his own wishes
- b) President, on the advice of the PM
- c) President on the advice of the PM in consultation with the Chief Justice of India
- d) None of the above

24. How can a judge of the Supreme Court be removed?

- a) By the Supreme Court itself
- b) By the Parliament through impeachment
- c) By the President alone
- d) By the Police

25. What is the power of the Supreme Court to judge the constitutional validity of a law passed by the Parliament or an action of the Executive called?

- a) Judicial Revision
- b) Judicial Review
- c) Judicial Consent
- d) Judicial Permission

26. Which of the following institutions can make changes to the existing law of the country?

- a) The Supreme Court
- b) The President
- c) The Prime Minister
- d) The Parliament

27. What does the Supreme Court say over the Parliament's power of amendment of the Constitution?

- a) Parliament can amend the entire Constitution

- b) Parliament can amend only the basic structure of the Constitution
- c) Parliament cannot amend the basic structure of the Constitution
- d) None of the above

28. Which body acts as the guardian of Fundamental Rights?

- a) District Courts
- b) Supreme Court
- c) Election Commission
- d) Legislature

29. What is a Public Interest Litigation?

- a) Filing a case in the court in the interest of the public
- b) Reviewing of Supreme Court judgements
- c) Procedure of removal of a judge
- d) None of the above

30. What are the two types of 'Executives' in India?

- a) Political Executive
- b) Permanent Executive
- c) Judicial Executive
- d) Both (a) and (b)

31. Why does the political executive have more powers than the permanent executive?

- a) Because hardly any expertise is required in taking policy decisions
- b) Because political executive consists of the direct representatives of the people
- c) Political leaders are more educated
- d) None of the above

32. Who holds the most important and powerful position in the government?

- a) President
- b) Vice President
- c) Prime Minister
- d) Speaker

33. Whom does the President appoint as the Prime Minister?

- a) Anyone he likes
- b) Leader of the majority party
- c) MP who has secured the largest number of votes
- d) None of the above

34. What is the tenure of office of the Prime Minister?

- a) 5 years
- b) 6 years
- c) As long as he wants

d) He does not have a fixed tenure

35. What is the government formed by an alliance of two or more political parties called?

- a) Cooperation government
- b) Coalition government
- c) Consensus government
- d) Cooperative government

36. Who among the following is a part of the political executive?

- a) Home Minister
- b) District Collector
- c) Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs
- d) Director General of Police

37. Which organ of the government has the power to interpret the Constitution?

- a) Supreme Court
- b) District Court
- c) High Court
- d) Both (a) and (c)

38. About how many ministers are there in the Cabinet?

- a) 80
- b) 60
- c) 20
- d) 10

39. Which of these options is/are correct regarding the powers of the Prime Minister?

- a) He chairs the Cabinet meetings
- b) He distributes work to the different departments
- c) He can dismiss ministers
- d) All the above

40. What is the position of the President?

- a) Nominal head of the state
- b) Real head of the state
- c) Hereditary head of the state
- d) None of the above

41. Which of the following statements is not true?

- a) The Judiciary safeguards the laws
- b) The Legislature implements the laws
- c) The political executives are more powerful than the permanent executives

d) The permanent executives comprises the civil servants

42. The Council of Ministers at the centre is responsible to:

- a) The President
- b) The Prime Minister
- c) The Rajya Sabha
- d) The Lok Sabha

43. The president of India is elected by

- a) Direct Election by citizens 18 years of age
- b) Indirect Election by the Electoral College
- c) The Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers
- d) None of the above

44. President of India is:

- a) Head of the Government
- b) Head of the State
- c) Head of the parliament
- d) None of the above

45. The judges of Supreme Court are appointed by:

- a) President
- b) Prime Minister
- c) Chief Justice
- d) Law Minister

Answers

1. a) Every law passed by the Parliament needs approval of the Supreme Court

2. c) (i), (ii) and (iii)

3. c) Rajya Sabha is a permanent house so it cannot be dissolved whereas, Lok Sabha can be dissolve

4. b) Indirect election by the Electoral College

5. a) The Prime Minister

6. a) Head of the government

7. d) 545 in Lok Sabha and 250 in Rajya Sabha

8. b) (i) and (iii)

9. c) The Lok Sabha

10. c) A team of Civil Servants of Cabinet Secretariat

11. a) Order issued by the Government of India

12. b) 1979

13. b) It affected thousands of job opportunities
14. b) They implement the ministers' decisions
15. a) Assembly of elected representatives at the national level
16. d) All the above
17. d) President
18. c) There is a joint sitting of the two Houses
19. d) 14 days
20. a) Speaker
21. d) Both (a) and (b)
22. d) All the above
23. c) President on the advice of the PM in consultation with the Chief Justice of India
24. b) By the Parliament through impeachment
25. b) Judicial Review
26. d) The Parliament
27. c) Parliament cannot amend the basic structure of the Constitution
28. b) Supreme Court
29. a) Filing a case in the court in the interest of the public
30. d) Both (a) and (b)
31. b) Because political executive consists of the direct representatives of the people
32. c) Prime Minister
33. b) Leader of the majority party
34. d) He does not have a fixed tenure
35. b) Coalition government
36. a) Home Minister
37. a) Supreme Court
38. c) 20
39. d) All the above
40. a) Nominal head of the state
41. b) The Legislature implements the laws
42. d) The Lok Sabha
43. b) Indirect Election by the Electoral College
44. b) Head of the State
45. a) President

WORKING OF INSTITUTIONS

1. *What is an office Memorandum?*

It is a communication issued by an appropriate authority stating the policy or decision of the government.

2. *Why do we need a Parliament?*

Or

What are the functions of a Parliament?

OR

In which 4 ways does the Parliament exercise political authority on behalf of the people?

OR

“Parliament is the Supreme legislature of India” – Justify.

OR

What is a Parliament? Explain its role.

Parliament is the highest legislative institution of India.

i) Parliament makes new laws and changes the existing laws or abolish existing laws. Parliament can make laws on the subjects given in the Union list and Concurrent list.

ii) Parliament controls the executive. The ministers are responsible and answerable to the Parliament.

iii) Parliament controls the financial resources of the country. The Government cannot spend money without the approval of the Parliament.

iv) Public issues and national policies are discussed in parliament.

v) The Party which wins majority support in the Parliament forms the Government

3. *Examine the role of the Prime Minister in the Central Government.*

OR

Describe the Powers and Functions of the Prime Minister of India.

OR

“Prime Minister is the most important political institution in the country”. Justify this statement.

- i) Other ministers of the Central Government are appointed by the President as per the advice of the Prime Minister.
- ii) He can remove any minister and bring in new ministers.
- iii) He presides over the cabinet meetings. All major decisions of the Central Government are taken by him.
- iv) He is the chairman of the Planning Commission.
- v) He supervises different ministries and smoothens out frictions.
- (vi) He is the chief advisor to the President of India.

4. What is the tenure of the President of India? Mention the qualifications of President of India.

The tenure of the President of India is 5 years. Qualifications of the President:

- (i) He should be the citizen of India.
- (ii) He should be at or above the age of 35 years.
- (iii) He should not be a mentally unsound person
- (iv) He must have all the qualifications needed for a Lok Sabha Member.

5. Explain the main functions of the President of India.

Legislative Powers

- i) A bill becomes law only after getting the assent of the Prime Minister.
- ii) He has the power to issue ordinances when the Parliament is not in session.
- iii) He inaugurates the Parliament by addressing the Lok Sabha after a General Election.

Executive Powers

- i) He appoints the Prime Minister of India. Other ministers are appointed by him as per the advice of the Prime Minister.
- ii) All the higher officers of the Central Government are appointed by him.
- iii) He is the supreme commander of the armed forces of India.
- iv) He is the head of the Union Government. All major orders are issued in his name.
- v) All international treaties are signed by him.

Judicial Powers

i) All judges of the Supreme Court and the State High Courts are appointed by him.

ii) He can grant Pardon or reduce the punishment awarded to a convicted person.

6. “Lok Sabha is more powerful than the Rajya Sabha”. Prove by giving examples.

OR

Compare the powers of Loksabha and Rajyasabha.

OR

Loksabha exercises supreme powers. Justify this statement by giving 3 examples.

i) If there is a disagreement between the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha over a bill, a joint sitting will be conducted. Lok Sabha has domination in a joint sitting because it has more members.

ii) Money Bill has to be passed only by the Lok Sabha. It is sent to Rajya Sabha only for its recommendations.

iii) The government is formed by the party which has majority in the Lok Sabha.

iv) Lok Sabha can remove the government by passing a no confidence motion.

7. What is a Money Bill? Compare the powers of Rajyasabha and Loksabha regarding Money Bill.

A bill which is connected with the Income and expenditure of the Government is called a money bill. Ex: Budget.

Money Bill has to be passed only by the Lok Sabha. It is sent to Rajya Sabha only for its recommendations. Rajya Sabha has to give its recommendations within 14 days. Loksabha may or may not accept these recommendations.

8. Write a short note on the Union Council of Ministers.

OR

Explain the composition of the Council of Ministers.

These are three types of Ministers in the Union Government.

a) Cabinet Ministers:- They are the senior members of the ruling government. They are in charge of important ministries. All major decisions are taken by them.

b) Ministers of State with independent charge:- They are in charge of less important departments.

- c) Ministers of State:- They work as assistants of Cabinet Ministers.

9. Point out the differences between political and permanent executive

OR

Differentiate between the two types of Executives.

Political executive: political leaders who take major decisions of the government as ministers constitute the political executive. They are elected by the people for a given period of time

Permanent executive: The government officers who implement the decisions taken by the political executive constitute the permanent executive. They are appointed on a long term basis.

10. How is the Judicial System organized in India?

India has a single integrated Judicial System. The Supreme Court is at the top of our Judicial System. It controls and supervises the subordinate courts. The High Court is at the State level. Below the High Court there are Subordinate Courts. The High Court controls and supervises the Subordinate Courts.

11. Examine the role of judiciary in the Indian democracy

OR

Mention the major functions of the Judiciary.

Judiciary performs the following functions:

- (i) It settles the disputes between the citizens.
- (ii) It settles the disputes between the citizens and government.
- (iii) It settles the disputes between two or more state governments.
- (iv) It settles the disputes between governments at the union and state level.
- (v) Supreme court is the guardian of citizen's rights. Citizens can approach the court to get their rights enforced.
- (vi) Supreme Court interprets the constitution.

12. Describe any three Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India.

- (i) It settles the disputes between the citizens and government
- (ii) It settles the disputes between two or more state governments
- (iii) It settles the disputes between governments at the union and state level
- (iv) supreme court is the guardian of citizen's rights. Citizens can approach the court to get their rights enforced.

(v) Supreme Court interprets the constitution.

13. What do you mean by Integrated Judiciary?

Indian Judiciary is single unified and Integrated. The Supreme Court is at the top of the Judicial System. At the State level there are High Courts. Subordinate Courts are below the High Court. The Supreme Court supervises the functioning of the High Court. The subordinate courts are supervised by the High Court. If anyone is unhappy with a decision given by a lower court, he can go with an appeal to the next higher court.

14. What steps have been taken to ensure that the judiciary remains independent and impartial?

OR

How has the Indian Constitution ensured the independence of the Judiciary? Give three provisions.

- (i) Chief justice of India is appointed by the president as per the advice of the Prime Minister. The other judges are appointed after consulting the chief justice.
- (ii) Judges are appointed purely on the basis of their experience and qualification.
- (iii) It is very difficult to remove a judge.
- (iv) Judges are given good salary and other allowances.

15 Why are Political Institutions important? Give any three points.

OR

Why do we need institutions to govern a country?

- (i) Political Institutions prepare the rules and regulations needed for the smooth functioning of democracy.
- (ii) They help in democratic decision making process. They ensure that several people are consulted while taking decisions.
- (iii) They implement the decisions and take care of the day today administration of the country.
- (iv) They settle the disputes that may arise between people.

16. What are the qualifications needed for a person to become a Member of Parliament?

- (i) He should be a citizen of India.
- (ii) He should be at or above the age of 25
- (iii) He should not be a mentally unsound person.
- (i) He should not be a bankrupt.

17. What is Secret Ballot? Give three reasons why Secret Ballot is good?

Secret Ballot is a system in which the choice expressed by the voter in an election is kept as a secret. No one will come to know to which candidate a particular voter cast his vote.

It is good because:

- (i) The voter can cast his vote without any fear. He need not have a fear that the other candidate will turn against him.
- (ii) It saves the voter from outside pressure. He can freely express his choice.
- (iii) The elected candidate will work impartially.

18. What is the significance of the principle of Collective Responsibility of Council of Ministers?

- (i) The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible and answerable to the Legislature.
- (ii) The decisions taken by the cabinet is considered as the decision of all the ministers
- (iii) If the legislature rejects a decision of the Cabinet the entire Council of Ministers take the responsibility and resign.
- (iv) If the Prime Minister resigns, it is treated as the resignation of the entire Council of Ministers

19. What is a Coalition Government? Why the Prime Minister of a coalition government cannot take decisions as he likes?

OR

What is a Coalition Government? Mention any two limitations of a coalition Government.

Coalition Government is a government formed by more than one political party. The Prime Minister cannot take decisions as he likes because:

(i) The ministers are from different parties and each one works as per his party policy.

(ii) The Prime Minister will have to listen to the voice and opinions of the other parties in the coalition.

20. Do you think educational qualifications should be necessary for the candidate aspiring to fight elections? Give reasons in support of your answer.

Educational qualifications are not necessary for a candidate aspiring to contest elections.

(i) The qualification needed for an MLA or MP is to understand the problems of the people and the readiness to work for solving them.

(ii) If educational qualifications are made compulsory, a large number of citizens will not be able to contest elections.

(iii) Making educational qualifications compulsory is against the spirit of democracy.

21. Why do the Political Executives have more powers than the Permanent Executives?

Or

Why are the Ministers more powerful than the civil servants?

(i) Political Executives are people's representatives. In a democracy people's representatives should enjoy more powers.

(ii) Political Executives are responsible and answerable to the people. The Permanent Executives do not have such a responsibility.

(iii) Political Executives have to think about the welfare of the people.

(iv) All the decisions are taken by the Political Executive.

22. Under what circumstances does the President exercise discretion in the appointment of the Prime Minister? Who appoints the other ministers?

(i) The President can use his discretion in the appointment of the Prime Minister when no party wins a clear majority in the Lok Sabha.

(ii) The President appoints a leader, who in his opinion can win majority support in the Lok Sabha.

(iii) The President can ask the newly appointed Prime Minister to prove majority within a given period of time.

The other ministers are appointed by the President according to the advice given by the Prime Minister.

23. Write any three powers and functions which the President can exercise by his / her own.

OR

What are the discretionary powers of the President of India.

- (i) The President can use his discretion in the appointment of the Prime Minister when no Party wins majority in the Lok Sabha.
- (ii) The President can send a Bill back to the Parliament for reconsideration.
- (iii) He can return an advice of the Cabinet for reconsideration.

24. Describe the emergency powers of the President of India.

The President can declare three types of emergency:

- (i) National Emergency: The President declare emergency throughout the country when the country is facing war or external aggression. The citizen's rights can be restricted.
- (ii) State Emergency: If the Governor of a State reports to the President that the State Government cannot be run as per the constitution, the President can declare emergency in that particular State. The State Government will be dismissed and the Governor rules the State as a representative of the President.
- (iii) Financial Emergency: President can declare financial emergency when the country is facing severe financial crisis. The Government can reduce the salaries of officers.

25. Explain the features of a Secular State.

- (i) All the religions are treated with equal respect.
- (ii) There is no state religion.
- (iii) The Government will not favour any particular religion.
- (iv) No one is discriminated in the name of religion.
- (iv) Every citizen can practice his own religion.

26. Give any three functions or responsibilities of the Government.

- (i) The Government has to defend the country from the enemies. The Government maintains army, navy and the air force to protect its people.

(ii) The Government has to maintain law and order. The Police Force maintains law and order.

(iii) The Government under take several welfare activities. It provides educational facilities, health facilities, drinking water etc.

(iv) The Government establishes diplomatic relations with the other countries.

(v) The Government establishes and runs Public Sector Undertakings.

27. What is Public Interest Litigation? Mention its significance.

If a Government action is against the interest of the people, a citizen can file a PIL in the Court.

(i) PIL enables the Court to prevent misuse of powers by the Government.

(ii) Malpractices by the officers can be prevented.

28. What is a Bill? Differentiate between the two types of Bills.

The proposal for a law is called a Bill. Money bill and ordinary bill are the two types of bills. Money Bill is connected with the income and expenditure of the Government. For example: Budget. All other Bills are called Ordinary Bills. Money Bill has to be passed only by the Loksabha. It is sent to Rajyasabha only for its recommendations. Ordinary bill has to be passed in both the houses of Parliament.

29. Write about the process of appointment and removal of a Judge of the Supreme Court of India.

Supreme Court Judges are appointed by the President of India as per the advice of the Prime Minister. The Chief Justice of India is consulted while appointing the other Judges.

A Judge can be removed by passing an impeachment motion by two third majority in both the houses of Parliament.

30. Write about the two houses of Parliament.

Rajyasabha is the upper house of the Indian Parliament. It has 250 members. It is a permanent house. The term of a member is 6 years. Its members are elected by the State Legislative Assembly members. 12 members are nominated by the President. It is less powerful when compared with the Loksabha.

Loksabha is the lower house of the Parliament. It has 543 members. Its members are elected directly by the people. Its term is 5 years. It passes money bills. It is more powerful than the Rajyasabha.

31. Differentiate between the Head of The State and the Head of the Government.

Head of the State is a nominal head. He enjoys a lot of prestige without much power. In India, the President is the Head of the State.

The Head of the Government is the real head. He enjoys wide powers. In India, Prime Minister is the Head of the Government.

32. How far is it correct to say that the President of India exercises all the powers only on the advice of the Council of Ministers?

Yes, this statement is true. All the powers of the President are nominal. He exercises his powers according to the advice of the Prime Minister and his Council of Ministers.

(i) The ministers are appointed by the President according to the advice of the Prime Minister.

(ii) All orders of the Government are issued in the name of the President. But, these orders are as per the decisions taken by the Cabinet.

(iii) The President appoints the higher officers of the Central Government as per the advice of the Council of Ministers.

(iv) A bill passed by the Parliament becomes law only after getting the assent of the President. If he wants he can send the bill back to the House and ask it to reconsider it. If the Bill comes second time, the President has to give his assent.

33. Working with Institutions is not easy. Explain.

(i) The rules and regulations of the Political Institution restrict the freedom of the rulers.

(ii) Institutions involve meetings and Committees. This may lead to delay in decision making.

(iii) Leaders and people may become unhappy due to delay in decision making.

(iv) The government is always worried about majority support in the institutions.

34. Why in most countries Parliamentary democracy is known as Cabinet form of Government?

(i) All the major decisions are taken by the Cabinet in a Parliamentary Democracy.

(ii) The entire Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Parliament.

(iii) The Cabinet works as a team. The Ministers have to accept the decisions taken in the Cabinet meeting.

35. What is meant by Executive? Why should Ministers have final say on all important policy matters?

Executive is that branch of the government which implements the policies of the government. It consists of two parts – Political Executive and Government Officers. Political Executive consists of the ministers.

In a democracy people are supreme. The Ministers are the representatives of the people. They are elected by the people. They are answerable to the people. So, they have the final say in all matters related with the government.