

Judiciary – SSC Notes

Supreme Court of India

- Article: 124–147
- Established: 28 Jan 1950
- Head: Chief Justice of India (CJI)
- Type: Apex Court, highest judicial authority
- Composition: CJI + Other Judges (currently 34 maximum)

◆ Powers & Functions

1. Judicial Review → Ensure laws & actions follow Constitution
2. Guardian of Fundamental Rights → Art. 32 empowers citizens to approach SC
3. Advisory Jurisdiction → President can seek advice on legal matters (Art. 143)
4. Appellate Jurisdiction → Civil, Criminal, Constitutional matters
5. Original Jurisdiction → Disputes between States or Union & States

◆ Important SSC Points

- CJI appointed by President
- SC is guardian of Constitution
- Art. 32 → *Heart & Soul of Constitution*

High Court

- Article: 214–231
- Established: By Constitution or State Act
- Head: Chief Justice of High Court
- Type: Highest Court at State level
- Jurisdiction:
 1. Original Jurisdiction → Matters assigned by Constitution/State Law
 2. Appellate Jurisdiction → Appeals from lower courts
 3. Writ Jurisdiction → Protect Fundamental Rights (Art. 226)

◆ Important SSC Points

- HC judges appointed by President in consultation with CJI & Governor
- Writs issued under Art. 226 (State level)
- High Court → Can declare state law unconstitutional