

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allotted: Three Hours

Reading Time: Additional Fifteen Minutes

Instructions to Candidates

1. You are allowed **additional fifteen minutes** for **only** reading the question paper.
2. You must **NOT** start writing during reading time.
3. This question paper has **10 printed pages**.
4. There are **thirteen** questions in the paper. All questions are compulsory.
5. It is divided into **three sections: A, B and C**.
6. **Section A** has **sixteen subparts** which are objective / very short answer questions. Each question carries 1 mark.
7. While attempting **Multiple Choice Questions** in Section A, you are required to **write only ONE option as the answer**.
8. **Section B** has **eight questions** which are short answer questions. Each question carries 4 marks.
9. **Section C** has **four questions** which are long answer questions. Each question carries 8 marks.
10. **Internal choices** have been provided in **three questions in Section B** and in **two questions in Section C**.
11. The intended marks for questions are given in brackets [].

Instruction to Supervising Examiner

Kindly read **aloud** the Instructions given above to all the candidates present in the examination hall.

Note: The Specimen Question Paper in the subject provides a realistic format of the Board Examination Question Paper and should be used as a practice tool. The questions for the Board Examination can be set from any part of the syllabus, though the format of the Board Examination Question Paper will remain the same as that of the Specimen Question Paper.

SECTION A – 16 MARKS

Question 1

- (i) Identify the authoritative source used in the U.S to allocate and divide powers between the federal and the state governments? [1]
(Recall)
- (a) The President of the United States
(b) The Constitution of the United States
(c) The Congress and the state legislatures
(d) The Supreme Court of the United States
- (ii) Choose the correct option that matches the types of jurisdictions given in Column I to their description in Column II. [1]
(Recall)

Column I			Column II
A.	Original jurisdiction	1.	Issuance of Quo warranto for wrongful use of office
B.	Writ jurisdiction	2.	Individuals approach Supreme Court directly to protect their fundamental rights
C.	Appellate jurisdiction	3.	President seeks opinion on a question of law of fact of public importance.
D.	Advisory jurisdiction	4.	Individuals approach Supreme Court against any judgment of a court or tribunal through special leave.

- (a) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4
(b) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
(c) A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2
(d) A-2, B-4, C-2, D-3

- (iii) Choose the statements that exhibit the commonality between the President of India and the President of USA. [1] **(Understand)**

- (P) Both are the supreme commanders of their respective armed forces.
- (Q) Both are elected directly through an Electoral College System.
- (R) Both can be re-elected to the office at any number of times.
- (S) Both possess the authority to either assent or veto bills passed by their respective legislatures.

- (a) Only (P) and (R)
- (b) Only (Q) and (S)
- (c) Only (R) and (S)
- (d) Only (P) and (S)

- (iv) The Cabinet of a state in India attempted to mandate job reservations for locals in private companies. The proposed bill aimed to reserve 50% of management jobs and 70-75% of non-management roles in private industries for local candidates who possess proficiency in local language. [1]

Which political principle is reflected in the above situation?

(Understand)

- (a) Sons of the Soil
- (b) National integration
- (c) Local Self Government
- (d) Secularisation of politics

- (v) Country X follows a constitution where the powers of the government are clearly written, and courts exercise the power to invalidate laws if they violate the constitutional provisions. [1]

Which feature of a constitution does Country X demonstrate?

(Recall)

- (a) A written rigid constitution with judicial review
- (b) A rigid constitution with the supremacy of the judiciary
- (c) A written flexible constitution with judicial independence
- (d) An unwritten and flexible constitution without judicial review

- (vi) Given below are two statements marked Assertion and Reason. Read the two statements carefully and choose the correct option. [1]

Assertion: The Venkatachaliah Commission (2002) emphasised that an inquiry into the 'basic structure' of the Indian constitution lay beyond the scope of its work.

Reason: The Constitution can be amended by majority of two-third of the members of both the Houses of the Parliament. (Analyse)

- (a) Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation for Assertion.
- (b) Both Assertion and Reason are true, but Reason is not the correct explanation for Assertion.
- (c) Assertion is true but Reason is false.
- (d) Both Assertion and Reason are false.

- (vii) Given below are two statements marked Assertion and Reason. Read the two statements carefully and choose the correct option. [1]

Assertion: All democracies divide their geographic territory and population into several electoral constituencies.

Reason: In liberal democracies, elections for representatives are conducted only through the First Past the Post system. (Analyse)

- (a) Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation for Assertion.
- (b) Both Assertion and Reason are true, but Reason is not the correct explanation for Assertion.
- (c) Assertion is true and Reason is false.
- (d) Both Assertion and Reason are false.

- (viii) Which form of government is a strong, stable and all-powerful central government? [1]
(Recall)

- (a) Federal
- (b) Unitary
- (c) Presidential
- (d) Parliamentary

- (ix) Arrange the following stages in the correct order of passing a financial bill in the United States until it becomes a law. [1]
(Understand)

- (P) Ratification of the financial bill by the US President
- (Q) Introduction of the financial bill in the House of Representatives
- (R) Passage of bill by the House of Representatives
- (S) Bill goes to the Senate for amendment

Select the correct option from the following:

- (a) (S), (R), (P) and (Q)
 - (b) (Q), (R), (S) and (P)
 - (c) (P), (Q), (R) and (S)
 - (d) (Q), (S), (R) and (P)
- (x) A state allows limited private economic activity and does not seek to control citizens' personal beliefs. It strictly suppresses political opposition and concentrates power in the executive. [1]

This political system is **BEST** categorised as:

(Evaluate)

- (a) Communist
- (b) Totalitarian
- (c) Authoritarian
- (d) Absolute monarchy

- (xi) Which feature is common to both the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts? [1]
(Recall)

- (xii) Which Article in the Constitution of India can be suspended during National Emergency? [1]
(Recall)

- (xiii) G.S. Ghurye, a sociologist, studied Indian society and offered six distinctive principles that defined a particular trait unique to Indian society. According to him, this system compartmentalised the population into groups and then arranged it into a vertical hierarchy. [1]

Identify the particular social system indicated above that poses a challenge to Indian democracy. (Recall)

- (xiv) A two-party system ensures greater government stability than a multi-party system. Comment. [1]
(Analyse)

- (xv) 'The Council of States shall not be subjected to dissolution, but as nearly as possible one-third of the members shall retire every second year.' [1]

(Source: *The Constitution of India*)

Which doctrinal feature of the Council of States is highlighted in the above statement? (Recall)

- (xvi) The Directive Principles of State Policy focus on improving living conditions and ensuring justice for all citizens. What does this reflect about their objective? [1]

(Understand)

SECTION B - 32 MARKS

Question 2

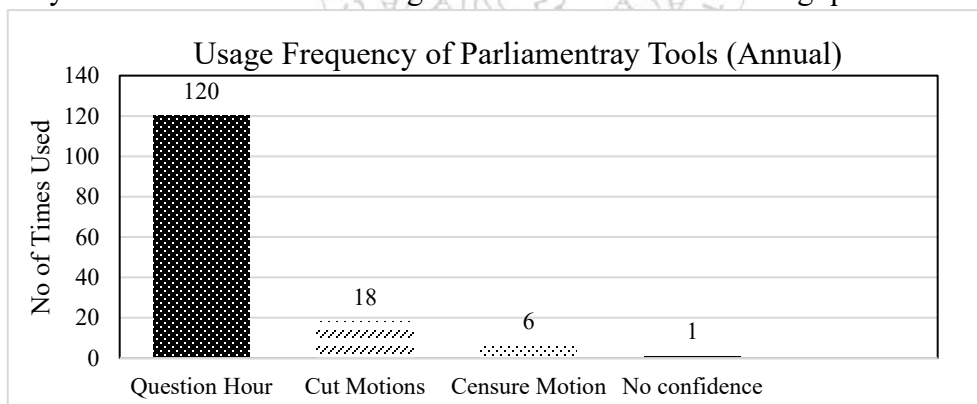
“Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, Parliament may, in exercise of its constituent power, amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any provision of this Constitution in accordance with the procedure laid down in this article.”

(Source: *The Constitution of India*)

- (i) Identify the Article of the Indian Constitution from where the above extract is taken. [1]
(Recall)
- (ii) According to the given extract, which body is empowered to amend the Constitution? Explain the procedure followed for it. [3]
(Understand)

Question 3

Study the bar graph below that represents hypothetical data on the annual use of various parliamentary devices in a democratic legislature. Answer the following questions based on it.



- (i) Which basic principle of parliamentary democracy is reflected in the above graph? Briefly discuss its relevance. [2]
(Understand)
- (ii) Examine the purpose of the most frequently used parliamentary device. Why are the other parliamentary instruments used sparingly? [2]
(Analyse)

Question 4

- (i) The table given below shows the indicators of performance of local self-government in India. Analyse it and answer the given questions.

Indicator	Rural Local Bodies (%)	Urban Local Bodies (%)
Women representatives	46	44
Participation in meetings	62	35
Financial autonomy	38	41

(Source: Economic & Political Weekly, March 2025)

- (a) Compare the level of representation of women representatives with actual participation in meetings between rural and urban local bodies. **[2]**
(Analyse)
- (b) What does the above data suggest about the relationship between political presence of women and financial autonomy given to them? **[2]**
(Analyse)

OR

- (ii) 'The Times of India reported that the Karnataka Assembly passed the Greater Bengaluru Governance (Amendment) Bill, 2025, reaffirming that municipal corporations must remain autonomous.'

(Source: Adapted from Times of India, August 20, 2025)

- (a) Which Constitutional Amendment does the above extract refer to? **[1]**
(Understand)
- (b) Analyse the key provisions of the constitutional reform highlighted in the extract. **[3]**
(Analyse)

Question 5

Comment on the role of caste in Indian politics.

[4]
(Evaluate)

Question 6

'Eventually, they settled on the concept of a shared power - the President would make appointments with the 'advice and consent' of the Senate.'

(Source: <https://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/senate-stories/constitution-day-2024-senates-power-of-advice-and-consent-on-nominations.htm>)

- (i) What is meant by the term 'shared power' in the context of appointments? **[2]**
(Understand)

- (ii) How does the Senate's exercise of power of 'advice and consent' act as a check on the President's authority? [2]
(Understand)

Question 7 [4]

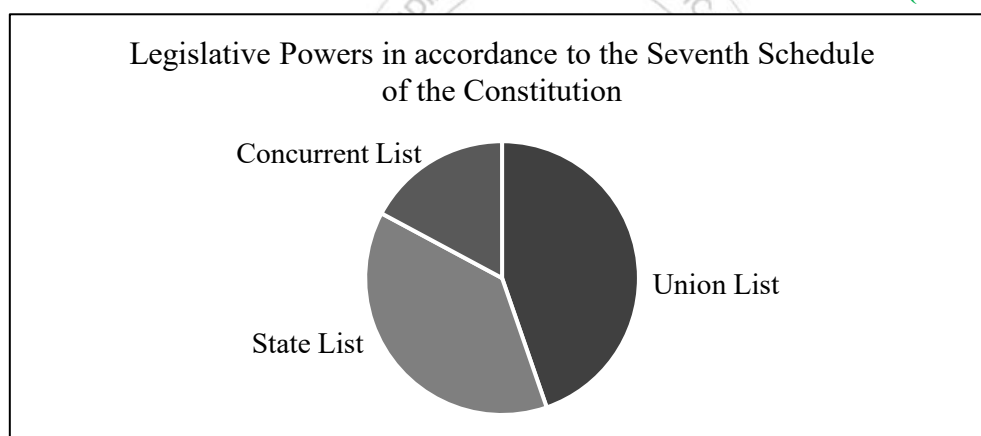
- (i) Contrast the relationship between the Executive and the Legislature in the political systems of India and the United States. (Analyse)

OR

- (ii) Discuss the conditions under which a National Emergency may be declared. Assess the effects of such proclamation on Centre - State relations. (Analyse)

Question 8 [4]

With reference to the pie chart given below, identify the system by which subjects are allocated in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. What does this indicate about the nature of the Indian State? (Understand)



Question 9 [4]

- (i) State *four* constitutional provisions or conditions that ensure the independence of judiciary in India. (Recall)

OR

- (ii) Briefly discuss the strength and tenure rules of the judges of the Supreme Courts of India and the United States. (Recall)

SECTION C – 32 MARKS

Question 10

[8]

- (i) The United States follows a federal model, while the United Kingdom operates under a unitary system. Analyse how the distribution of power impacts the nature of polity in their respective political systems. **(Analyse)**

OR

- (ii) 'India follows a system where executive authority is shared, while the United States adheres to a strict separation of powers.' Considering this distinction, compare the two types of executive systems. **(Analyse)**

Question 11

[8]

- (i) Among the various mechanisms of franchise, Universal Adult Franchise is considered the most equitable. Justify this statement by commenting on its validity. **(Evaluate)**

OR

- (ii) It is often argued that a multi-party system is suitable for diverse democracies like India. Justify this statement by analysing how a multi-party framework accommodates diversity. **(Evaluate)**

Question 12

[8]

Outline *four* differences between Flexible and Rigid Constitutions. Support your answer with an example for each. **(Understand)**

Question 13

Read the excerpt given below and answer the questions that follow.

A certain state in India restricted the entry of women to sacred spaces which was challenged by a group of petitioners. After extensive hearings, the Supreme Court, by a majority decision, held that the practice of denying entry to women of a particular age group could not be sustained in a democratic republic governed by the Constitution. The Court observed that social practices and traditions must conform to constitutional principles, and that exclusion based on biological characteristics undermines the idea of equal citizenship. It further stated that dignity, individual autonomy, and equal participation in public spaces are essential features of democratic governance.

(Source (edited): Based on a story from The Times of India – 29 September 2018)

- (i) Which Fundamental Right and the corresponding Article can be inferred as being challenged in this case? **(Understand)** [2]
- (ii) A group of citizens approached the Supreme Court to challenge the exclusion.
- (a) Which writ would be most suitable in this case and why? **(Understand)** [2]

- (b) Under which Fundamental Right can a citizen directly move to the Supreme Court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights? [1]
(Recall)
- (iii) How do mass protests and resistance to judicial decisions impact democratic institutions? [3]
(Evaluate)





POLITICAL SCIENCE

ANSWER KEY

SECTION A – 16 MARKS

Question 1

In answering Multiple Choice Questions, candidates have to write either the correct option number or the explanation against it. Please note that only ONE correct answer should be written.

- (i) (b) The Constitution of the United States [1]
- (ii) (b) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3 [1]
- (iii) (d) Only (P) and (S) [1]
- (iv) (a) Sons of the Soil [1]
- (v) (a) A written rigid constitution with judicial review [1]
- (vi) (a) Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion. [1]
- (vii) (c) Assertion is true and Reason is false. [1]
- (viii) (b) Unitary [1]
- (ix) (b) (Q), (R), (S) and (P) [1]
- (x) (c) Authoritarian [1]
- (xi) Constitution of State Election Commission
- (xii) Article 19 [1]
- (xiii) Casteism [1]
- (xiv) A two-party system usually produces clear majority, thus making decision-making easier and governments more stable than a multi-party system which is coalition driven and inconsistent in governance due to the threat of withdrawal of support by other parties. [1]
- (xv) Permanency of the upper house [1]
- (xvi) This reflects the objective of establishing a welfare state and achieving social and economic justice. It shows that the government focuses equally on reducing inequalities, securing fair distribution of resources, and protecting vulnerable communities rather than just maintaining law and order. [1]

SECTION B - 32 MARKS

The answers provided in Sections B and C are suggestive and not exhaustive. Any other correct answers will be accepted.

Question 2

- (i) Article 368 of the Constitution of India. [1]
- (ii) The power to amend the Constitution has been vested in the Parliament of India. [3]
Procedure for amendment
- Special Majority of Parliament: Most constitutional provisions can be amended by a special majority, that is, majority of the total membership of each House and two-thirds majority of members present and voting.
 - Special Majority plus ratification by States: Certain provisions (such as those affecting federal features) require not only a special majority in Parliament but also ratification by at least half of the State Legislatures before the amendment becomes valid.

Question 3

- (i) The principle reflected is Ministerial Responsibility, especially Collective Responsibility. It ensures that the Council of Ministers retains the confidence of the majority in the Lok Sabha and remains accountable for all decisions and actions of the government to the general public. [2]
- (ii) The most frequently used parliamentary device is Question hour. It allows the members of the legislature to ask questions directly and hold the government accountable for its actions and policies. It leads to policy review as the loopholes are revealed and government is propelled to revisit its decisions. [2]
The other devices are used less frequently. This is so as devices such as No Confidence motion leads to the resignation of the government resulting in the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. It causes political instability. Further, Cut Motions are applicable only to budget approvals during specific periods and cannot be used for other administrative purposes. Lastly, Censure motion has severe political implications and is a disruptive parliamentary device.

Question 4

- (i) (a) Firstly, women's representation is slightly higher in Rural Local Bodies (46%) compared to Urban Local Bodies (44%) indicating greater rural inclusion of women, possibly due to effective reservation policies. [2]
Secondly, participation is also higher in Rural Local Bodies (62%) than in Urban Local Bodies (35%), suggesting that women in rural areas are more actively involved in discussions and decision-making processes.

- (b) 'Financial autonomy' is higher in Urban Local Bodies (41%) than in Rural Local Bodies (38%). This implies that although rural women participate more in meetings, urban women representatives may have slightly greater control over financial matters. [2]

OR

- (ii) (a) 74th Amendment Act, 1992 [1]
- (b) The provisions in this constitutional amendment decentralised the power and empowered municipalities to function as effective institutions of self-governance and manage local affairs like urban planning, sanitation, and public health. [3]
- It provides a three-tier structure which mandates three types of municipalities in every state:
 - Municipal corporations or Nagar Nigam in big cities for larger urban areas.
 - Municipalities or 'nagarpalikas' in cities with population between two lakh and 20,000 / smaller urban areas.
 - Nagar Panchayat below a population of 20,000 / transitional area, evolving from rural to urban.
 - Seats are reserved for SCs, STs, OBCs and women in proportion to their population. 1/3rd of the seats is reserved for women belonging to SC / ST.
 - 1/3rd of the total seats reserved for women should be filled by direct election. Such seats are allotted by rotation to different Constituencies.

Question 5

[4]

Caste and political socialisation:

- Different caste groups have their loyalties with different political parties and ideologies.
- In the process of political orientation, attitudes and beliefs are influenced by caste groups and casteism.
- Caste values and interests influence socialisation and consequently political thinking, perceptions and participation.

Caste and leadership recruitment:

- In certain states of India, caste influences the process of leadership. The leader often happens to be from the dominant caste group in the region.
- Most civilians support political parties based on their caste. Identity politics play an effective role in electoral politics.
- Often, voters have mistrust in the leaders outside their caste, and they feel insecure under such leadership.

Role of caste in electoral politics:

- Many a times, political parties give special significance to caste factors in selecting their candidates and allocating constituencies.

Role of caste in government making:

- Formulating public policy is a very important function of the government and caste has a special influence in making various policies and programmes.
- While making policies and decisions, political parties consider caste and the repercussions of policies on various caste groups.
- Caste also affects individuals' voting behaviour, political participation and party formulation.

Question 6

- (i) The term 'shared power' means that appointment making is not the sole authority of the President of the US or the Senate. It is shared by both. The President nominates, but the Senate must approve the nomination. [2]

- (ii) The Senate's power of 'advice and consent' acts as a check on the President's authority. It binds the President to the approval of the Senate for taking important decisions: [2]

The President has the authority to nominate anyone they want to run government agencies or serve on the bench, but those nominees cannot take office without confirmation by a majority of the Senate. The Senate can accept or reject the nominations if not convinced. It checks on the arbitrary appointments or actions of the President, ensuring accountability.

The President can negotiate and sign treaties with foreign nations. But those treaties are not valid until the Senate votes to ratify them.

Question 7

- (i) In the United States, the Executive and the Legislature work separately because of the principle of separation of powers. The President is not a member of the Congress and is not answerable to it in day-to-day functioning. Once elected, the President serves a fixed term and cannot be removed by Congress except through impeachment. This makes the Executive independent of the Legislature. [4]

In India, however, the Executive and the Legislature are closely connected. The Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers are members of Parliament and take part in its proceedings. They are collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha and continue in office only as long as they have the support of the majority. If they lose this support, they must resign through a no-confidence motion. This makes the Executive directly accountable to the Legislature.

Thus, while the U.S. system ensures independence of the Executive, the Indian system ensures accountability of the Executive to the Legislature.

OR

(ii) Conditions for declaration of National Emergency

National Emergency under Article 352, may be declared when the security of India or any part of it is threatened by war, external aggression or armed rebellion. These situations indicate serious threats to the nation's sovereignty and internal stability, requiring strong and immediate action by the Union government.

Impacts of such proclamation

During National Emergency, the federal structure of Indian state undergoes significant change. The Centre becomes more powerful, as Parliament can legislate on subjects in the State List and the Union Executive can issue directions to State governments. The States lose much of their autonomy and function under the control of the Centre.

Thus, the system temporarily becomes unitary rather than federal till the time the situation is under control. The emergency can continue for a period of 6 months, or it can get extended, if approved by the Parliament of India.

Question 8

[4]

The pie chart given in the question indicates the Three List System by which subjects are allocated in the Seventh Schedule.

It reflects the following about the Indian state:

- The quasi-federal character of the Indian State is explained through the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.
- Under the list system, the Centre is assigned a larger number of subjects, including those that generate higher revenue, compared to the States.
- The Union List contains over 97 subjects, the State List has 66 subjects, and the Concurrent List includes 47 subjects on which both the Centre and the States can legislate.
- This constitutional distribution of power favours the Central government. It clearly reflects the dominant position of the Union government.

Question 9

[4]

(i) Four constitutional provisions which ensure judicial independence in India:

- Sound method of appointment of judges: Judges appointed by the executive on merit, experience and record are expected to be independent of popular influence and party politics. It is universally regarded as the best available method.
- Long and stable tenure: It ensures stability and satisfaction from material needs. Also, long tenure is always a source of maturity and experience in the judicial service.
- Difficult method of removal of judges: Judges are removed through a difficult process of impeachment in which the legislature and executive both are assigned a role. It is a difficult method and is used only in case of charges of corruption, inefficiency or conduct unworthy of the high office.

- Separation of judiciary from the executive: The judiciary is not a part of the executive. The executive and judicial powers are never vested in the same person.

OR

(ii) Supreme Court of India

- Strength: 34 judges (1 Chief Justice and 33 other judges)
- Tenure: Serve until the age of 65 years. Can be removed through impeachment.

Supreme Court of the United States

- Strength: 9 judges (1 Chief Justice and 8 other Judges)
- Tenure: Life tenure (serve during good behaviour), provision of voluntary retirement, or removed only through impeachment.

SECTION C – 32 MARKS

Question 10

[8]

- (i) The distribution of power in the US and UK shapes the nature of their polity and determines the extent of autonomy, constitutional rigidity and centralisation of authority. While the United States is a federal state, United Kingdom is a unitary state. The features that make the US a federal state are:

- Division of powers: Power is divided between the federal government and the state government. Neither level is subordinate to the other.
- Bicameral legislature: It divides the Congress into two chambers: the Senate and the House of Representatives. This system acts as a check to prevent legislative overreach and ensures representation by both the Houses.
- Independent citizenship: The U.S Constitution permits dual national status to all persons born or naturalised in the state and holds them subject to its jurisdiction.
- Equality of all states: It implies that all states, whether old or newly formed, have civil, legal and constitutional equality.
- Nature of the Constitution: The written and rigid constitution safeguards the state's rights from federal power.
- Dual Polity and Judiciary: Citizens are subject to dual sets of laws and governments. An independent judiciary acts as an arbiter to resolve disputes between the centre and the states.
- Impact on Polity: It fosters decentralised governance, respects regional diversity, and prevents the concentration of power. However, it does lead to friction between the state and the national policies.

On the other hand, Britain is a unitary state due to the following traits:

- Centralisation of powers: All political power and ultimate sovereignty are concentrated in a single central institution, that is, the Parliament.
- Uniformity of administration: The centralisation of power leads to uniformity in administration as the administrative frameworks are designed by a single authority instead of the states.
- Single citizenship: This feature implies that the citizens hold the citizenship of an entire state rather than holding it for several split states.

- **Constitutional Flexibility:** The UK features an unwritten (uncodified) constitution, which implies that the Parliament can pass constitutional laws through the same simple majority process as ordinary laws.
- **Impact on Polity:** It promotes administrative uniformity and swift, decisive national policymaking, but provides fewer institutional vetoes or legal protections to regional minorities against the central majority.

OR

(ii) India follows a parliamentary system while the United States follows a presidential system. India connects the executive and legislature for governance, but the US keeps them distinct.

- In a Presidential executive, President is both the head of the state and head of the government while in a Parliamentary form of government, President is a nominal executive. The real executive authority is with the Prime Minister and his Council of Ministers.
- Presidential form of government is based on separation of powers while Parliamentary form of government is based on division of powers
- In a Presidential form of government, executive is not responsible to the legislature while in a Parliamentary form of government, the executive is directly responsible to the legislature.
- In a Presidential form of government, the tenure of the legislature and executive is fixed while in a Parliamentary form of government, elections are held if the government loses majority.

Question 11

[8]

(i) Universal Adult Franchise is the most relevant mechanism of franchise because of the following reasons:

- Foundation of democracy
- Ensures democratic legitimacy
- Upholds Political equality
- Guarantees civil liberty
- Inclusive governance
- Economic Inclusivity
- Globally accepted success
- Raises political awareness

(Candidates are required to justify the statement given considering the above merits of Universal Adult Franchise. They may give any other argument to justify their views.)

OR

(ii) Multi-party system is good for diverse democracies like India due to the following reasons:

- Broad representatives of diverse interests
- Promotes political inclusivity
- Reduces authoritarian tendencies
- Prevents monopolisation of power
- Promotes responsive governance
- Encourages coalition building

(Candidates are required to justify the statement given by elaborating on the above-mentioned areas. The analysis must be relevant to Indian context.)

Question 12

[8]

Difference between Flexible and Rigid Constitution

Method of Amendment

- Flexible Constitution: It can be amended easily through the ordinary legislative process.
- Rigid Constitution: It cannot be amended easily and requires a special procedure or special majority.

Difficulty Level

- Flexible Constitution: Amendments are relatively simple and quick.
- Rigid Constitution: Amendments are difficult and time-consuming.

Stability

- Flexible Constitution: It is more adaptable to changing circumstances.
- Rigid Constitution: It provides greater stability and protects fundamental principles.

Suitability

- Flexible Constitution is suitable for a unitary state.
- Rigid Constitution is suitable for federal state.

Examples:

- The Constitution of the United Kingdom is flexible, where Parliament can amend constitutional rules like ordinary laws.
- The Constitution of the United States is rigid, where amendments require special procedures and approval by states.

(Candidates are required to outline the differences between the two constitutions and support their answer with relevant examples.)

Question 13

(i) Right to Equality and Article 14

[2]

(ii) (a) Mandamus:

[2]

It is issued to compel a public authority to perform its legal or constitutional duty. The management authority of the sacred space cannot deny access to women contrary to constitutional provisions.

(b) Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32)

[1]

(iii) Mass protests reflect true democracy, as citizens have the right to express dissent. [3]
However, when protests turn violent or aim to openly defy judicial decisions, they can weaken democratic institutions.

- Firstly, resistance to court judgments undermines the authority of the judiciary
- Secondly, violent protests disturb public order and create instability. Political violence damages property and threatens lives. Such actions weaken democratic functioning and reduce citizens' faith in institutions.
- Thirdly, when mass mobilisation is based on narrow religious or emotional appeals, it may deepen social divisions. This can strengthen communal tendencies and weaken national unity, thus challenging Indian Democracy.

(Candidates have to assess how mass protests threaten democratic institutions. They may give any other argument, apart from the ones given above.)

