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IAS & State PSCs, CBSE, ICSE etc.: Political Science Subjective Questions (Part 1 of 2)

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- What are the major commitments of the Constitution of India as incorporated in its preamble (1988) ?
- What is the significance of a Preamble to a Constitution? Bring out the philosophy of the Indian polity as enshrined in the Preamble of Indian Constitution (2004) .
- How are the new States formed in India? Why have the demands of separate States like those of Vidarbha, Telangana etc, not been considered by the Government recently (1998) ?
- Is it possible to distinguish between judicial review and judicial activism in India? Does the recent behavior of the Indian judiciary partake more of judicial activism? Argue with suitable examples (2005)
- What is the position of the Supreme Court under the Constitution of India? How far does it play a role as the guardian of the Constitution (2002) .
- Present your views for and against the creation of an All India Judicial Service (1997) .
- What is the position of the Supreme Court under the Constitution of India? Discuss its role as a guardian of the Constitution (1995) .
- Explain the significance of the April 1994 Supreme Court judgement on the proclamation of President's rule (1994) .
- Explain the scope of the Advisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India (1992) .
- Discuss the meaning of " breakdown of constitutional machinery " What are its effects " (2004)
- Explain the grounds on which the President can proclaim a state of Emergency. Give examples from the Indian experience (1985) .
- Discuss how state governments can exercise control over panchayats (2004) .
- What are the steps that the Election Commission may take if a recalcitrant State Government wants to put off Assembly Elections (2005) ?
- Describe the methods of delimiting constituencies for parliamentary elections in India (2002) .

- Identify the major electoral reforms which are necessary in the Indian Political System (2000) .
- Differentiate and state the significance of general election, mid-term election and by-election (1998) .
- How are electoral constituencies delimited for Parliamentary elections in India (1996) ?
- Explain the position of the Election Commission with regard to the residential qualification of the members of the Council of States. What do you think about it (1994) ?
- Describe the composition and functions of the Election Commission of India (1993) . Review the present Electoral System in India and suggest modifications to ensure better and healthier Polity (1990) .
- Explain the Constitutional responsibilities of the Election Commission of India (1988) .
- There are political personalities but no political parties in India. Comment (1987) .
- Discuss the role of the pressure groups in Indian politics (1986) .
- Analyze the main factors which influenced the voting patterns in the 1984 Lok Sabha Elections in India (1985) .
- How does the Indian Constitution seek to maintain independence of the Public Service Commissions (2004,2002)
- What is a Finance Commission? Discuss the main functions of the State Finance Commission (2004)
- Explain the role of the Planning Commission and the National Development Council in the formulation of public policy in India (1994) .
- Describe the composition and functions of the National Development Council (1993) .
- What are Zonal Councils? Discuss their constitution, role and importance in achieving inter-state community (1992) .
- Explain the status, composition and functions of the Minorities Commission (1992)
- What are the constitutional provisions that ensure the independence of the Public Service Commissions in India (1991) ?
- Give your views on the right to freedom of religion as enshrined in the Indian Constitution. Do they make India a secular State (2005) ?
- What are the constitutional limitations on the free movements of Indians throughout the country (2005) ?
- Discuss how the Constitution of India provides equal rights (2004) .
- Discuss the constitutional provisions regarding the rights of children (2001) .
- What constitutes the doctrine of 'basic features' as introduced into the Constitution of India by the Judiciary (2000) ?

- Explain Public Interest Litigation. Who can file it and on what basis can it be rejected by the Court of Law (2000) ?
- On what grounds does Article 15 of the Indian Constitution prohibit discrimination? Indicate the way the concept of 'Special protection' has qualified this prohibition, and contributed to social change (1999) .
- Briefly state the stages through which the present position of Directive Principles vis-a-vis the Fundamental Rights has emerged (1998) .
- What is Social Justice? How can reservation of seats for women in Parliament contribute to the establishment of a socially just society in India (1997) ?
- What, according to the Supreme Court, constituted 'The Basic Features' which it upheld in cases known as Keshvanand Bharati v/s State of Kerala (1973) and Minerva Mills v/s Union of India (1980) (1997) ?
- What do you understand by the term 'Rule of Law' How does the Constitution of India seek to establish it (1996) ?
- Describe the emergence of Basic Structure concept in the Indian Constitution (1994) .
- Discuss the secular nature of Indian polity and the position of minorities in India (1991) .
- What are the "reasonable restrictions" mentioned in the Indian Constitution accompanying the fundamental rights (1990) ?
- Explain the concept of Minorities in the Indian Constitution and mention the safeguards provided therein for their protection (1988) .
- Discuss the importance of Article 32 of the Indian Constitution (1987) .
- Discuss the question of death sentence and Presidential clemency (2003) .
- Why does the Constitution of India provide different forms of Oaths for the President, the Ministers, the legislators and the members of the judiciary? Discuss their significance (2003) .
- What is the composition of the Electoral College for the election of the President of the Indian Republic? How is the value of votes cast counted (2002) ?
- Comment on the nature of Ordinance-making power of the President of India. What safeguards are there against possible misuse (2001) ?
- How are the President and the Vice President of India elected? What are the constitutional issues involved in their election (1997) ?
- Why does the Constitution of India contain different forms of Oath for the President, the Ministers, the legislators and the members of the judiciary? Discuss their significance (1996) .
- Examine the constitutional relation between the President and the Prime Minister in India.
- Discuss the powers of the President of India regarding the scheduled areas (1991) .

- Define the duties and powers of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India in regard to Audit and show how the Constitution provides for his independence from Executive control (1989) .
- To what extent does the President of India possess discretionary powers? If any, what are they (1987) ?
- Examine the role of the bureaucracy as an instrument of social and economic change in India. In this context, discuss the relationship between the ministers and the civil servants in the policy making process (1986) .
- Write a note on the Ordinance making power of the President of India (1986) .
- Define Money Bill. Discuss how it is passed in the Parliament Discuss Parliamentary Control over the Executive.
- Explain the relevance of Rajya Sabha as a second chamber in the federal set up of Parliamentary System.
- Explain the role of the Public Accounts Committee.
- Distinguish between Cabinet Secretariat and Prime Minister's Secretariat. Which of these is more important (2001) ?
- How does Parliament control the Union Executive? How effective is its control (2000) ?
- Examine the role of Estimates Committee (2000) .
- In what ways is the Rajya Sabha expected to play a special role in today's changing political scenario (1999) ?
- Assess the importance of the role played by the Public Accounts Committee (1999) .
- How does the Parliament control the financial system in India (1997) ?
- What is a Cut Motion? Discuss its significance (1996) .
- What are the Consolidated and Contingency Funds of India? How are the two operated (1996) ?
- Explain the functions of the Estimates Committee (1995) .
- Describe the non-federal features of the Council of States (1995) .
- Describe the powers and functions of the Council of States. Compare its powers with those of the House of the People (1993) .
- Indicate the structure and functions of the Committee on Public Undertakings (1992) .
- Discuss the powers, privileges and immunities of the Indian Parliament (1989) .
- Examine the powers and functions of the speaker of the Lok Sabha (1989) .
- Explain the relevance of Rajya Sabha as a second chamber in the Federal set-up of the Indian Parliamentary System (1989) .
- Discuss the relationship between the Executive and the legislative wings with reference to India (1989) .

- Describe the organization and functions of the committee system in Indian Parliament (1989) .
- Discuss the methods by which Parliament controls public expenditure in India (1988) .
- Identify the nature and methods of parliamentary control over the executive in Indian polity (1987) .
- How does the Parliament seek to exercise control over the public sector undertaking (1986) ?