

# **POLITY MAINS PREMIUM QUESTIONS**

## **(answer in 250 words each)**

**Q.** “The Indian Constitution is no longer merely a legal text but a site of continuous negotiation between competing values.” Examine in the context of recent constitutional developments.

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**Q.** “The shift from ‘constitutional legality’ to ‘constitutional morality’ marks a new phase of Indian constitutionalism.” Discuss with suitable examples.

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**Q.** “Judicial activism in India has transformed governance, but at the cost of institutional balance.” Critically examine.

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**Q.** “The real challenge is not judicial independence, but judicial accountability.” Analyse in the context of existing constitutional mechanisms.

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**Q.** “The NJAC judgment reflects a deeper tension between democracy and constitutionalism.” Discuss.

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**Q.** “Collegium system protects independence but undermines transparency.” Evaluate and suggest reforms.

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**Q.** “Indian federalism is cooperative in theory but competitive—and often conflictual—in practice.” Examine with contemporary examples.

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**Q.** “Fiscal federalism has emerged as the new battleground of Centre–State relations.” Discuss.

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**Q.** “The GST Council exemplifies both the strengths and limits of cooperative federalism.” Analyse.

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**Q.** “The office of the Governor has become the focal point of constitutional friction rather than federal balance.” Critically examine.

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**Q.** “Judicial interventions have reduced, but not resolved, the ambiguity surrounding the Governor’s discretionary powers.” Discuss.

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**Q.** “The credibility of elections depends not only on procedures but on institutional independence.” Examine with reference to the Election Commission of India.

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**Q.** “Recent developments in the appointment of Election Commissioners raise concerns about the erosion of institutional autonomy.” Discuss.

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**Q.** “The misuse of emergency provisions has declined, but concerns over executive overreach persist.” Examine.

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**Q.** “India is witnessing a shift from constitutional emergencies to statutory governance of crises.” Critically analyse.

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**Q.** “The same-sex marriage verdict reflects judicial restraint rather than constitutional failure.” Discuss.

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**Q.** “The debate on Uniform Civil Code is not merely legal but deeply political and social.” Examine.

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**Q.** “Citizenship policies in recent years have raised fundamental questions about the nature of Indian secularism.” Analyse.

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**Q.** “In India, institutional dysfunction often leads to judicial overreach.” Critically evaluate.

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**Q.** “The true test of a constitutional democracy lies not in the design of institutions, but in their functioning.” Discuss with examples.

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**Q.** “To what extent does the Basic Structure doctrine act as a check on majoritarianism without undermining parliamentary sovereignty?”

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**Q.** “The Indian Constitution creates a strong State, but expects it to behave with restraint.” Critically examine.

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**Q.** “India does not follow strict separation of powers, yet conflicts between organs are increasing.” Explain why.

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**Q.** “Blurring of boundaries between legislature, executive, and judiciary is a symptom of institutional weakness.” Discuss.

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**Q.** “Decline in parliamentary deliberation has shifted the centre of gravity of governance towards the executive.” Examine.

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**Q.** “Ordinance-making power reflects both constitutional necessity and executive opportunism.” Critically analyse.

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**Q.** “Judicial review in India is both a democratic safeguard and a counter-majoritarian difficulty.” Discuss.

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Q. “Expansive interpretation of Fundamental Rights has strengthened liberty but created governance dilemmas.” Examine.

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Q. “The relationship between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles has evolved from conflict to complementarity—but tensions persist.” Analyse.

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Q. “Welfare legislation often tests the limits of Fundamental Rights.” Discuss with examples.

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Q. “Electoral democracy ensures representation, but not necessarily accountability.” Critically examine.

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Q. “Money power and electoral competitiveness are reshaping the nature of democratic participation in India.” Discuss.

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Q. “Decentralisation in India is constitutionally mandated but politically constrained.” Analyse.

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Q. “To what extent have local bodies become instruments of governance rather than institutions of self-government?”

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Q. “The amending power of the Constitution reflects a balance between rigidity and adaptability, yet remains contested.” Discuss.

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Q. “Frequent constitutional amendments raise questions about the stability of constitutional values.” Examine.

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Q. “The expansion of technology has outpaced the evolution of constitutional safeguards.” Analyse in the context of privacy and surveillance.

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Q. “Balancing national security and individual liberty has become the central constitutional challenge of the 21st century.” Discuss.

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Q. “In India, legal accountability often exists without effective enforcement.” Critically evaluate.

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Q. “Transparency mechanisms strengthen democracy, but may also slow decision-making.” Examine this trade-off.

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