

Revision: building the Indian State

From theory to the working constitution

Explanatory Lecture Slides

Political Science — Organisation & Institutions · Minor-I-2 · Semester II

POLITICAL SCIENCE — ORGANISATION & INSTITUTIONS

Topics covered in this unit

01

Re-map Units I–IV onto the Constitution

02

Prepare thinker and article tables

03

Federalism + parliamentary + FPTP in one page

04

Independent bodies list

05

16-mark machine

06

Bridge to Semester III obligation

How this unit is organised

01

Article map

02

Federal +
parliamentary

03

Bodies

04

Thinkers

05

16-mark machine

06

Next paper

One-page Indian State

Federal (quasi) + parliamentary + republican + adult franchise + independent judiciary + ECI.

- That sentence, unpacked, is a 20-mark.
- Support: Arts. 1, 74–75, 79, 324, 326, 368, Parts III and IV, Bommai, Kesavananda, Shamsher Singh.

One-page Indian State

STRUCTURE

- Union of States.
- Parliament.
- Cabinet.
- Courts.

PROCESS

- Election.
- Amendment.
- Judicial review.
- Ordinance (exception).

Article and case drill

Art. 1, 3, 13, 50, 74, 79, 110, 123, 148, 280, 312, 315, 324, 326, 330, 352, 356, 368, Tenth Schedule.

- Cases: Kesavananda, Bommai, Shamsher Singh, Wadhwa, Kihoto, Indira Nehru Gandhi, NJAC, PUCL.
- If you can place ten of these, you cannot fail this paper.

Article and case drill

MUST-KNOW CASES

- Kesavananda.
- Bommai.
- Shamsher Singh.
- Wadhwa.
- Kihoto.

MUST-KNOW ARTICLES

- 1, 74, 324, 326, 356, 368.

Federalism recap

Lists, independent courts, a rigid-ish amendment for federal provisions, a second chamber, a strong centre, cooperative practice, emergency unitariness.

- Quasi-federal is an acceptable exam word if you then specify.
- GST Council is a new cooperative fact — one line.

Federalism recap

FEDERAL FEATURES

- Lists.
- SC.
- RS.
- Amendment with States.

UNITARY FEATURES

- Art. 3.
- All-India services.
- Emergency.
- Single constitution.

Thinkers of this paper

Montesquieu, Mill, Burke (trustee), Weber (bureaucracy), Wheare (federal), Dicey (rule of law, conventions).

- One line each in the margin of the answer book before you write.

Thinkers of this paper

POWER

- Montesquieu.
- Weber.

REPRESENTATION

- Mill.
- Burke.
- Hare.

16-mark machine

Definition, features, merits, demerits, Indian provision, one case, conclusion.

- Works for federalism, parties, civil service, bicameralism, PR.
- Do not moralise without a section.

16-mark machine

TIME

- 20–22 minutes.

CLOSE

- One Article + one case.

Bridge to State and Political Obligations

You now know how the State is built. Next paper asks why you should obey it — and when you may not.

- Carry: democracy, rights, civil service, franchise.
- Add: obligation theories, satyagraha, punishment, dissent.

Bridge to State and Political Obligations

CARRY

- State.
- Rights.
- Democracy.

NEXT

- Obligation.
- Disobedience.
- Punishment.

Thinkers of this paper

Montesquieu, Mill, Burke (trustee), Weber (bureaucracy), Wheare (federal), Dicey (rule of law, conventions).

- One line each in the margin of the answer book before you write.

Cases a KSLU answer should name

CASE

Kesavananda Bharati

(1973) 4 SCC 225

The working constitution has a soul that amendment cannot kill.

CASE

S.R. Bommai

(1994) 3 SCC 1

Federal democracy as a justiciable practice.

CASE

Indira Nehru Gandhi v Raj Narain

(1975) Supp SCC 1

Elections are not a courtesy; they are structure.

Provisions & materials to quote

Art. 1 + Sch. VII

The Union and its lists.

Art. 74 + 79

Parliamentary executive and legislature.

Art. 324 + 326

Elections.

Art. 368

Change without destruction.

Art. 356

The emergency temptation Bommai disciplined.

10 / 16-mark frames from this unit

Q1

'India is quasi-federal.' Examine.

Q2

How is separation of powers organised in the Indian Constitution?

Q3

Write short notes: Hare system; Rajya Sabha; UPSC; ordinance.

Q4

Universal adult franchise — merits, demerits, Indian safeguards.

Unit recap

- 1 One sentence Indian State: federal + parliamentary + FPTP + ECI + rights.
- 2 Ten articles, five cases, six thinkers.
- 3 Quasi-federal is a start, not a finish.
- 4 Always end with a provision.
- 5 Next paper: why obey?