

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

(Maximum Marks: 80)

(Time allowed: Three hours)

(Candidates are allowed additional 15 minutes for **only** reading the paper.

They must NOT start writing during this time.)

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Answer **Question 1** (compulsory) from Part I, and **five** questions from Part II, choosing **three** questions from Section A and **two** questions from Section B. The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].

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### PART I (20 Marks)

Answer **all** questions.

#### Question 1

Answer briefly each of the questions (i) to (x).

[10 × 2]

- (i) State *two* features of a liberal democratic state.
- (ii) Distinguish between a *flexible constitution* and a *rigid constitution*.
- (iii) Distinguish between *bi-party system* and *multi-party system*.
- (iv) Give *one* reason why it is important for a federal state to have a bicameral legislature.
- (v) Distinguish between *political executive* and *permanent executive*.
- (vi) In which landmark case was *judicial review* first exercised by the Supreme Court of the United States?
- (vii) Why is November 26 celebrated as *Constitution Day* in India?
- (viii) Which fundamental right was removed by the 44<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment?
- (ix) Briefly explain the composition of the Zila Parishad.
- (x) What is meant by *communalism*, in the Indian context?

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**PART II (60 Marks)**

**SECTION A**

*Answer any three questions.*

**Question 2**

- (a) What are the characteristics of a *federal* state? [6]  
(b) Explain why India is characterised as a *quasi-federal* state. [6]

**Question 3**

- (a) Discuss *three* merits and *three* demerits of the *First-Past-the-Post* system. [6]  
(b) Explain the rationale for minority representation in the legislature. [6]

**Question 4**

- (a) Explain the important functions of the Lok Sabha. [6]  
(b) Compare the relative positions of *the Rajya Sabha* and the *United States Senate* in their respective systems. [6]

**Question 5**

- (a) Explain how the President of the United States is elected. [6]  
(b) Discuss briefly, the limitations that the constitution of the United States places on the powers of the President. [6]

**Question 6**

- (a) Explain the various jurisdictions of the Supreme Court of India. [6]  
(b) Do you agree with the view that the Supreme Court of India is the most powerful apex court in the world? Explain the reasons for your answer. [6]

**SECTION B**

Answer *any two* questions.

**Question 7**

- (a) Explain the rights conferred under Right to Freedom (Article 19). [6]
- (b) Explore the relationship between *Fundamental Rights* and *Directive Principles*. [6]

**Question 8**

- (a) Explain the main features of the 74<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Indian constitution, relating to urban local self-government institutions. [6]
- (b) Discuss *three* challenges faced by Panchayati Raj institutions in India. [6]

**Question 9**

- (a) Explain *three* forms of political violence in India and comment briefly on the causes of each. [6]
- (b) Identify *three* challenges facing Indian democracy and explore how these can be overcome. [6]