#### UNIT-1

Evolution of the Indian Constitution: 1909 Act, 1919 Act and 1935 Act. Constituent Assembly:

Composition and Functions; Fundamental features of the Indian Constitution Indian Councils Act 1909 (Morley-Minto Reforms)

# Government of India Act 1919 (Montague-Chelmsford Reforms)

- Introduced by:
  - Lord Morley (Secretary of State for India) and Lord Minto (Viceroy of India).
  - That's why it's also called Morley-Minto Reforms.
- Main Features (in points):
- Expansion of Legislative Councils
  - The number of members in Central and Provincial Legislative Councils was increased.
  - Non-official members (Indians) were also added, but British officials were still in majority.
- 2 Introduction of Separate Electorates
  - Muslims were given separate electorates for the first time.
  - It meant only Muslims could vote for Muslim candidates.
  - This was done to win Muslim support but later created divisions in Indian society.
- Right to Discuss Budget
  - Indian members could discuss the budget and ask questions in councils.

But they could not vote on budget matters.

# Increase in Indian Participation

 Some Indians were appointed to important posts (e.g., Satyendra Prasad Sinha became the first Indian to join the Viceroy's Executive Council).

# **5** Limited Powers

 The councils could discuss and ask questions but had no real power to make laws.

# **3** Significance

√ It was the first time Indians got a chance to participate in administration.

✓ But it also divided Hindus and Muslims by introducing separate electorates.

# In Short (For Quick Revision):

Year: 1909

Other Name: Morley-Minto Reforms

- Key Points:
  - 1. Enlarged legislative councils.
  - 2. Separate electorates for Muslims.
  - 3. Indians allowed to discuss budget and ask questions.
  - 4. Limited Indian representation in governance.
  - Started communal division (Hindu-Muslim divide).

# Government of India Act 1919 (Montague-Chelmsford Reforms)

# Introduced by:

- Edwin Montague (Secretary of State for India)
- Lord Chelmsford (Viceroy of India)
- Other name: Montague-Chelmsford Reforms

- Aim: To give Indians more participation in administration after World War I.
- Main Features (in points):
- Diarchy in Provinces (Dual Government):
  - Provincial subjects were divided into two parts:
    - ✓ Transferred Subjects Handled by Indian ministers (e.g., health, education, agriculture).
    - Reserved Subjects Controlled by British officials (e.g., police, finance, law).
- Bicameral Legislature at the Centre:
  - Central legislature now had two houses:
    - Council of State (Upper House)
    - Legislative Assembly (Lower House)
- Franchise (Voting Rights):
  - Some Indians were allowed to vote, but the right to vote was limited to the wealthy and educated people.
- **Separate Electorates Continued:** 
  - Muslims and some other communities still had separate electorates.
- **Extension of Legislative Councils' Powers:** 
  - Councils could now discuss budgets, ask questions, and suggest laws.
- **Significance:**
- √ Gave Indians more participation in administration.
- ✓ Introduced Diarchy, but it was confusing and failed.
- √ Continued separate electorates, increasing communal divisions.

# In Short (For Quick Revision):

• **Year:** 1919

Other Name: Montague-Chelmsford Reforms

#### Key Features:

- 1. Introduced **Diarchy** in provinces.
- 2. Created bicameral legislature at the center.
- 3. Limited voting rights (franchise).
- 4. Continued separate electorates.
- 5. Councils got more powers but British control remained strong.

#### **Government of India Act 1935**

- Introduced by: British Parliament
- Purpose: To provide a new administrative framework for India.
- It was the largest and most important Act passed by the British for India.

# Main Features (in points):

# **1** Abolition of Diarchy in Provinces:

- Diarchy (dual government) introduced by the 1919 Act was ended in provinces.
- Now, provincial governments were given autonomy (they could make laws in provincial subjects).

# Introduction of Diarchy at the Centre:

 Diarchy was now introduced at the central level (dual system for central subjects).

# **Division of Powers:**

- Powers were divided between Centre and Provinces through 3 lists:
  - Federal List (Centre)

- ✓ Provincial List (Provinces)
- Concurrent List (Both).

### 4 Establishment of Federal Government:

 Planned to create a federation of British India and princely states, but it never worked because princely states didn't join.

# **5** Bicameral Legislature:

- Central legislature had two houses:
  - Federal Assembly (Lower House)
  - Council of States (Upper House).

# Franchise (Voting Rights):

 More Indians were given voting rights, but still based on property, tax, or education qualifications (only about 10% of Indians could vote).

# **7** Separate Electorates Extended:

 Separate electorates were extended to Sikhs, Christians, Anglo-Indians, women, and laborers (not just Muslims).

# **8** Establishment of Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

RBI was set up in 1935 to manage currency and credit.

# **Significance:**

- ✓ Provinces got autonomy for the first time.
- ✓ Gave Indians a little more say in administration.
- ✓ But it also strengthened communalism by extending separate electorates.
- √ Laid the foundation for India's Constitution (1950) later.

# In Short (For Quick Revision):

- **Year:** 1935
- **Key Features:** 
  - 1. Ended Diarchy in provinces, introduced it at centre.
  - 2. Divided powers into Federal, Provincial & Concurrent lists.
  - 3. Planned Federal Government (never implemented).
  - 4. Extended separate electorates.
  - Set up RBI (1935).

### Constituent Assembly A



# Introduction:

- The Constituent Assembly of India was a body set up to frame the Constitution of India.
- It was formed in 1946 under the plan proposed by the Cabinet Mission.
- The Assembly held its first meeting on 9 December 1946 and its last meeting on 26 November 1949.
- It took 2 years, 11 months, and 18 days to draft the Constitution.
- The final Constitution came into force on 26 January 1950.

# **Composition of the Constituent Assembly**

The Constituent Assembly had 389 members (later reduced to 299 after Partition).

# 2 Members were chosen indirectly:

They were elected by the provincial assemblies (not directly by the people).

# **Representation:**

- Seats were distributed among provinces and princely states based on their population.
- Communal representation was provided for Muslims, Sikhs, and other minorities.
- Chairman: Dr. Rajendra Prasad became the President of the Assembly.
- **5** Important Committees:
  - Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee.
- **Functions of the Constituent Assembly**
- 1 Framing the Constitution
  - The main function was to draft and adopt the Constitution of free India.
- 2 Making Laws
  - Till the new Parliament was set up, it also acted as the legislature of India and passed laws.
- Adoption of National Symbols
  - Adopted the National Flag (July 22, 1947), National Anthem and other symbols.
- Declaration of Independence
  - On 26 January 1950, it declared India as a Sovereign Democratic Republic.
- Integration of Princely States
  - Worked on the political integration of over 500 princely states into India.
- In Short (Quick Revision):
- ♦ Formed: 1946 under Cabinet Mission Plan.
- **Members:** 389 (later 299).

- President: Dr. Rajendra Prasad.
- > Drafted Constitution: Completed in Nov 1949; enforced on 26 Jan 1950.
- Main Functions:
  - Drafting Constitution.
  - Acting as Legislature.
  - Adopting National Symbols.
  - Integrating Princely States.

# 1. Define Preamble

The **Preamble** is the **introduction to the Constitution** of India.

- It states the objectives, ideals, and principles on which the Constitution is based.
- It begins with "We, the people of India..." and declares India to be a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic.

# 2. Define Democracy

**Democracy** is a form of government in which the **people have the power to elect their leaders** and participate in decision-making.

 It is based on the principle of "government of the people, by the people, and for the people."

#### Salient Features of the Indian Constitution

The **Constitution of India** is the **supreme law of the land**. It was adopted on **26th November 1949** and came into force on **26th January 1950**. It is unique and has several **salient (important) features** that make it one of the best in the world.

# Main Features (in points):

# Longest Written Constitution

- The Indian Constitution is the longest written Constitution in the world.
- It originally had 395 Articles, 8 Schedules, and 22 Parts (now it has more due to amendments).

# Blend of Rigidity and Flexibility

 Some parts of the Constitution can be easily amended (like ordinary laws), while others require a special procedure (like fundamental rights).

# Federal System with Unitary Bias

- India has a federal system with powers divided between the Centre and States.
- But in emergencies, the Centre becomes stronger, making it unitary in nature.

# Parliamentary System of Government

 The Indian Constitution provides for a parliamentary democracy like the UK, where the executive is responsible to the legislature.

# 5 Secular State

 India is a secular country, meaning there is no official religion and all religions are treated equally.

# **6** Fundamental Rights and Duties

- The Constitution guarantees Fundamental Rights to all citizens like equality, freedom, and the right to constitutional remedies.
- It also prescribes Fundamental Duties for citizens.

# **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)**

 These are guidelines for the government to make laws for the welfare of the people (e.g., providing education, health, etc.).

# **8** Independent Judiciary

 India has an independent and powerful judiciary that protects the Constitution and citizens' rights.

# 9 Universal Adult Franchise

 Every citizen of India above 18 years has the right to vote, without discrimination.

# 1 Single Citizenship

 All Indians are citizens of India only. There is no separate citizenship for states.

# **©** Conclusion

The Indian Constitution reflects the **aspirations of the people** and ensures **justice**, **equality**, **liberty**, **and fraternity**. It has successfully guided India as a **sovereign**, **democratic republic** for over seven decades.

- Quick Revision (10 Keywords)
- 1 Longest Written Constitution Largest in the world.
- Blend of Rigidity & Flexibility Some parts easy, some hard to amend.
- Federal with Unitary Bias Powers divided but Centre stronger.
- Parliamentary System Executive responsible to legislature.
- **Secular State** No official religion; all treated equally.
- Fundamental Rights & Duties Rights for citizens + duties for them.
- Directive Principles (DPSP) Guidelines for welfare laws.
- 8 Independent Judiciary Protects Constitution & rights.
- Universal Adult Franchise Right to vote for all above 18.
- Single Citizenship Only Indian citizenship, no state citizenship.

#### **UNIT-II**

Union Government: Executive-President, Prime Minister, Council of Minister
State Government: Executive: Governor, Chief Minister, Council of Minister
Local Government: Panchayat Raj Institutions, Urban Government

# SAQ: Who is elected as the President and How is he elected?

- The President of India is the head of the state and the constitutional head of the executive.
- He is elected by an Electoral College, consisting of:
  - Elected members of both Houses of Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha), and
  - Elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of States and Union Territories.
- The election is done by proportional representation through the single transferable vote system and is conducted by the Election Commission.
- The President holds office for a term of five years.

# **LAQ:** Powers and Functions of the President of India

The **President of India** is the **formal head of the country** and holds several important powers and functions. Although the real executive powers lie with the Council of Ministers led by the Prime Minister, the President has significant constitutional roles.

#### 1. Executive Powers:

- Appoints the Prime Minister and other ministers.
- All government decisions are made in the President's name.
- Supreme commander of defense forces.

Grants pardons and reprieves.

#### 2. Legislative Powers:

- Summons, prorogues, and dissolves Parliament.
- Gives assent to bills to become law.
- Can promulgate ordinances when Parliament is not in session.

#### 3. Financial Powers:

- Recommends introduction of money bills.
- Lays Annual Financial Statement (Budget) before Parliament.

#### 4. Judicial Powers:

- Appoints Chief Justice and other judges.
- Grants pardons and reprieves.

#### 5. Diplomatic Powers:

- Represents India internationally.
- Appoints ambassadors and receives foreign diplomats.

#### 6. Emergency Powers:

- Declares national, state, and financial emergencies on Cabinet advice.
- Powers increase during emergencies.

- President elected by Electoral College (Parliament + State Assemblies).
- Term: 5 years.
- Executive head but real power with PM.
- Appoints PM, ministers, judges.
- Summons/dissolves Parliament, assents to bills.
- Can issue ordinances.
- Supreme commander of armed forces.

Declares emergencies on Cabinet advice.

# SAQ: Who is elected as the Prime Minister and How is he elected?

- The Prime Minister (PM) is the head of the government in India.
- He is usually the leader of the political party or coalition that has a majority in the Lok Sabha (Lower House of Parliament).
- The President formally appoints the Prime Minister.
- The PM must have the confidence of the majority of Lok Sabha members to stay in office.

# **LAQ:** Powers and Functions of the Prime Minister of India

The **Prime Minister of India** is the chief executive authority and plays a key role in running the government. His powers and functions include:

#### 1. Executive Powers:

- Heads the Council of Ministers and leads the government in policymaking and administration.
- Advises the President on appointments like ministers, governors, ambassadors, etc.
- Oversees the implementation of laws and policies across the country.

#### 2. Legislative Powers:

- Leader of the majority party in Lok Sabha and controls government business in Parliament.
- Initiates and guides important legislation through Parliament.
- Represents the government in Parliament and answers questions on its behalf.

#### 3. Financial Powers:

- Presents the Union Budget to Parliament along with the Finance Minister.
- Controls government spending and financial policies.

#### 4. Diplomatic Powers:

- Represents India in international forums and summits.
- Makes decisions on foreign policy with the Cabinet's support.

#### 5. Emergency Powers:

 Plays a crucial role in advising the President to declare national, state, or financial emergencies.

#### 6. Miscellaneous Powers:

- · Coordinates and leads the Cabinet meetings.
- Acts as the chief advisor to the President and the government's spokesperson.

- PM is leader of majority party in Lok Sabha.
- Appointed by the President.
- Heads Council of Ministers & government.
- Leads legislative business in Parliament.
- Presents Union Budget.
- Leads foreign policy and represents India abroad.
- Advises President on emergencies.

# **1** LAQ: Council of Ministers – Composition, Role, and Functions

The **Council of Ministers** is the central body of executive authority in India that aids and advises the President in the exercise of his functions. It is headed by the Prime Minister and consists of different types of ministers with specific roles.

#### **Composition:**

- The Council includes the Prime Minister and other ministers appointed by the President on the PM's advice.
- It is divided into three categories:
  - 1. Cabinet Ministers: Senior ministers heading important ministries.
  - 2. Ministers of State (Independent Charge): Ministers who head ministries not under any Cabinet minister.
  - 3. Ministers of State: Junior ministers assisting Cabinet ministers.

#### **Role and Functions:**

#### 1. Executive Functions:

- The Council of Ministers is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the government.
- It implements laws and policies passed by Parliament.
- Advises the President on various matters and administers government departments.

#### 2. Collective Responsibility:

- The entire Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha (the lower house).
- If the Lok Sabha passes a vote of no-confidence, the entire Council must resign.

#### 3. Legislative Role:

- The Council of Ministers controls the government's legislative agenda in Parliament.
- Ministers introduce bills, explain government policies, and respond to parliamentary questions.

#### 4. Policy Making:

 Formulates policies and programs for the development and welfare of the country.

## 5. Advisory Role to the President:

 Acts as the constitutional advisors to the President, as the President acts on their advice.

#### **Important Points:**

- The Prime Minister is the leader of the Council and coordinates its work.
- The Council must maintain the confidence of the Lok Sabha to remain in power.
- Ministers are usually members of Parliament (either Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha).

- Council of Ministers = PM + Ministers appointed by President on PM's advice.
- Three types: Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State (Independent Charge),
   Ministers of State.
- Responsible for day-to-day administration and policy implementation.
- Collective responsibility to Lok Sabha.
- Controls government's legislative agenda in Parliament.
- Advises the President and helps in policy-making.

Must have Lok Sabha's confidence to stay in power.

# SAQ: Who is elected as the Governor and How is he elected?

- The Governor is the constitutional head of a State in India.
- He is appointed by the President of India and is not elected by the people.
- The Governor holds office for a term of five years, but can be removed earlier by the President.
- Usually, a Governor is a respected person with political, administrative, or other public experience.

# **LAQ:** Powers and Functions of the Governor

The **Governor** is the nominal head of the state government, acting on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers, but also has important discretionary powers.

#### 1. Executive Powers:

- Appoints the Chief Minister and other ministers of the state.
- Can ask the party with majority support to form the government.
- Acts as the supreme commander of the state's police and armed forces.
- Can grant pardons and reprieves for offences under state laws.

#### 2. Legislative Powers:

- Summons, prorogues, and dissolves the State Legislative Assembly.
- Gives assent to bills passed by the state legislature to become law.
- Can withhold assent or reserve certain bills for the President's consideration.
- Can promulgate ordinances when the legislature is not in session.

#### 3. Financial Powers:

- Money bills can only be introduced in the state legislature with the Governor's recommendation.
- Presents the state budget or causes it to be presented.

#### 4. Discretionary Powers:

- Can act without the advice of ministers in certain situations (e.g., when no party has a clear majority).
- Can recommend President's Rule in the state if constitutional machinery fails.

#### 5. Judicial Powers:

 Grants pardons, reprieves, respites, or remission of punishment for offences against state laws.

#### 6. Emergency Powers:

Plays a key role during President's Rule in the state.

# **Quick Revision Points:**

- Governor appointed by the President, not elected.
- Term of 5 years, removable by President.
- Appoints Chief Minister and ministers.
- Summons/dissolves State Legislature, assents to bills.
- Can promulgate ordinances.
- Holds discretionary powers in certain situations.
- Recommends President's Rule.
- Grants pardons under state laws.

# SAQ: Who is elected as the Chief Minister and How is he elected?

 The Chief Minister (CM) is the head of the government of a state in India.

- He is usually the leader of the majority party or coalition in the State Legislative Assembly.
- The Governor appoints the Chief Minister, who must have the confidence of the majority of the members in the state assembly.
- The CM holds office as long as he enjoys the majority support in the assembly.

#### **LAQ:** Powers and Functions of the Chief Minister

The Chief Minister is the real executive authority in the state and plays a central role in the administration and governance of the state.

#### 1. Executive Powers:

- Heads the State Council of Ministers and leads the government in policymaking and administration.
- Advises the Governor on the appointment of other ministers.
- Supervises the functioning of various government departments.

#### 2. Legislative Powers:

- Leader of the majority party in the state assembly, controls legislative business.
- Introduces and guides bills through the state legislature.
- Answers questions and participates in debates in the assembly.

#### 3. Financial Powers:

- Presents or causes the state budget to be presented to the legislative assembly.
- Controls the state's financial resources and expenditure.

#### 4. Judicial Powers:

Can recommend pardons or clemency in cases under state jurisdiction (through the Governor).

#### 5. Miscellaneous Powers:

- Represents the state government in meetings with the central government and other states.
- Plays a key role in maintaining law and order in the state.
- Coordinates disaster management and development activities.

# **Quick Revision Points:**

- Chief Minister is leader of majority party in State Assembly.
- Appointed by Governor, must have majority support.
- Heads State Council of Ministers & administration.
- Leads legislative business in the State Assembly.
- Controls state budget and finances.
- Recommends pardons via Governor.
- Coordinates state governance and law & order.

# SAQ: Introduction to Local Government and its Evolution

- Local Government is the administration closest to the people, handling local issues in towns, cities, and villages.
- It promotes democratic participation at the grassroots level.
- During British rule, local bodies existed but had limited power.
- After independence, committees like Balwant Rai Mehta recommended strengthening local self-government.
- The need for stronger local democracy led to the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments.

# **LAQ:** The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments

The **73rd and 74th Amendments** to the Indian Constitution, enacted in 1992, were landmark reforms aimed at strengthening local self-government by giving constitutional status to rural and urban local bodies, respectively. These

amendments promoted democratic decentralization, ensuring that power and decision-making reached the grassroots level.

#### 73rd Amendment – Panchayati Raj Institutions (Rural Local Government):

- Added Part IX ("The Panchayats") and the Eleventh Schedule to the Constitution, listing 29 subjects under the jurisdiction of Panchayats such as agriculture, health, sanitation, and education.
- Established a three-tier system of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to function at:

Village level: Gram Panchayat

Intermediate/Block level: Panchayat Samiti

District level: Zila Parishad

- Made elections to Panchayats regular and mandatory every five years, ensuring democratic continuity.
- Provided for reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled
  Tribes (ST), and women (at least one-third of seats) to promote
  inclusivity and representation.
- Empowered Panchayats to prepare and implement local development plans and oversee government schemes.
- Created the State Election Commission responsible for conducting free and fair Panchayat elections.
- Introduced the State Finance Commission to recommend financial devolution and resource sharing between state and Panchayats, ensuring Panchayats have funds to function effectively.

#### 74th Amendment – Urban Local Government:

 Added Part IX-A ("The Municipalities") and the Twelfth Schedule listing 18 functions such as urban planning, water supply, public health, and sanitation assigned to urban local bodies.

- Strengthened Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), including Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, and Nagar Panchayats, to provide effective urban governance.
- Ensured regular elections every five years for all urban local bodies, strengthening democratic governance.
- Reserved seats for SC, ST, and women (minimum one-third seats) in municipal bodies to enhance representation.
- Empowered ULBs with functions related to urban infrastructure, development, and welfare, enabling them to plan and manage local resources.
- Established the State Election Commission for conducting elections in urban areas.
- Mandated the setting up of **Urban Finance Commissions** to recommend the distribution of financial resources between the state government and urban local bodies.

### **Significance of These Amendments:**

- Gave constitutional legitimacy to local governments, making them a vital part of Indian democracy.
- Strengthened decentralization of power from central and state governments to local levels.
- Promoted participatory democracy by involving marginalized groups like women, SCs, and STs.
- Enabled better planning and execution of development programs at the grassroots level.
- Provided a clear framework for financial devolution ensuring local bodies have necessary funds.



- **73rd Amendment:** Added Part IX, 3-tier Panchayati Raj (Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti, Zila Parishad), regular 5-year elections, reservations for SC/ST/women, State Election & Finance Commissions.
- 74th Amendment: Added Part IX-A, strengthened urban local bodies (Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, Nagar Panchayats), regular elections, reservations, clear urban functions, State Election & Urban Finance Commissions.
- Both promote constitutional status, decentralization, inclusive democracy, and local development.

#### **UNIT-III**

# Rights and Duties: Fundamental Rights, Directive principles, Fundamental Duties

# SAQ: Introduction to Fundamental Rights

- Fundamental Rights are the basic rights guaranteed by the Constitution to every citizen of India.
- They protect individual freedoms and ensure equality and justice.
- These rights are justiciable, meaning citizens can approach the courts if they are violated.
- They form the core of the democratic framework and uphold the dignity of individuals.

# **LAQ: Explanation of Fundamental Rights**

The Fundamental Rights are enshrined in Part III (Articles 12 to 35) of the Indian Constitution. They are classified into six main categories:

#### 1. Right to Equality (Articles 14-18):

- Ensures equality before the law and equal protection of laws for all citizens.
- Prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth.

Abolishes untouchability and titles.

#### 2. Right to Freedom (Articles 19-22):

- Includes freedoms like speech and expression, assembly, association, movement, residence, and profession.
- Protects citizens against arbitrary arrest and detention.
- Guarantees protection in respect of conviction and safeguards against preventive detention.

#### 3. Right against Exploitation (Articles 23-24):

 Prohibits trafficking of human beings, forced labor, and child labor below the age of 14 years in factories and hazardous jobs.

#### 4. Right to Freedom of Religion (Articles 25-28):

- Guarantees freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice, and propagate religion.
- Prohibits religious instruction in government-funded educational institutions unless allowed.

#### 5. Cultural and Educational Rights (Articles 29-30):

- Protects the interests of minorities by allowing them to preserve their culture, language, and script.
- Gives minorities the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

#### 6. Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32):

- Empowers citizens to move the Supreme Court or High Courts to seek enforcement of Fundamental Rights.
- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar called it the "heart and soul" of the Constitution.

# **Quick Revision Points:**

- Fundamental Rights protect individual liberty, equality, and justice.
- They include Right to Equality, Freedom, Protection from Exploitation, Freedom of Religion, Cultural & Educational Rights, and Right to Constitutional Remedies.
- Citizens can approach courts if these rights are violated.
- Enshrined in Part III of the Constitution (Articles 12-35).

#### Importance and Significance of Fundamental Rights

- Protects Individual Liberty: Safeguards personal freedoms from arbitrary actions of the state.
- Promotes Equality: Prevents discrimination and ensures equal treatment for all citizens.
- Strengthens Democracy: Empowers people to participate in governance and voice their concerns.
- Social Justice: Helps in uplifting weaker sections through provisions like reservations.
- Rule of Law: Ensures government acts within constitutional limits.
- Judicial Protection: Citizens can approach courts for enforcement, ensuring accountability.

- 6 Fundamental Rights: Equality, Freedom, Protection from Exploitation, Religion, Cultural/Educational Rights, and Remedies.
- Significance: Protect liberty, promote equality, strengthen democracy, enforceable in courts.
- SAQ: Introduction to Fundamental Duties

- Fundamental Duties are moral obligations of every citizen to promote patriotism and maintain the unity of the country.
- They were added to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976 on the recommendation of the Swaran Singh Committee.
- They are listed in Article 51A under Part IV-A of the Constitution.

#### **LAQ:** Fundamental Duties – Explanation

The Fundamental Duties are guidelines for citizens to behave responsibly and contribute to the nation's development and harmony.

# List of Fundamental Duties (Article 51A):

- 1. To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals, institutions, the National Flag, and the National Anthem.
- 2. To cherish and follow the noble ideals that inspired the freedom struggle.
- 3. To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity, and integrity of India.
- 4. To defend the country and render national service when called upon.
- 5. To promote harmony and brotherhood among all people and renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women.
- 6. To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife, and to have compassion for living creatures.
- 7. To develop scientific temper, humanism, and a spirit of inquiry and reform.
- 8. To safeguard public property and abjure violence.
- 9. To strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity.
- 10.(Added by 86th Amendment, 2002): To provide opportunities for education to children between 6 and 14 years of age.

# Importance and Significance of Fundamental Duties

- Promotes National Unity: Encourages citizens to protect the sovereignty and integrity of India.
- Supports Democracy: Complements Fundamental Rights by emphasizing responsibilities.
- Protects the Environment: Urges citizens to conserve natural resources.
- Develops Patriotism: Fosters respect for national symbols and institutions.
- Improves Society: Encourages harmony, scientific temper, and non-violence.

Though these duties are **not enforceable by law**, Parliament can make laws to punish their violation (e.g., disrespect to the National Flag).

# **Quick Revision Points:**

- Added by: 42nd Amendment, 1976 (Swaran Singh Committee).
- Where: Article 51A, Part IV-A of Constitution.
- Total: 11 Duties (10 original + 1 added in 2002).
- Significance: Promote patriotism, harmony, and responsibility among citizen

# SAQ: Introduction and Features of Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)

- DPSPs are guidelines for the government to create laws ensuring social and economic welfare.
- They are found in Part IV (Articles 36-51) of the Constitution and are non-justiciable (not enforceable by courts).

#### **Features:**

- Non-justiciable guidelines to the government
- Aim to build a welfare state

- Applicable to Union and State governments
- Complement Fundamental Rights
- Inspired by the Irish Constitution
- Broad in scope covering social, economic, and political justice

#### **LAQ:** Detailed Explanation of Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)

DPSPs guide the government in making laws and policies to create a just and equitable society. They are divided into three main groups:

#### 1. Socialistic Principles

These focus on creating social and economic equality and improving citizens' welfare:

- Ensure that citizens have adequate means of livelihood, preventing exploitation and poverty.
- Promote equal pay for equal work for both men and women, supporting gender equality in the workplace.
- Secure the health and strength of workers, children, and youth to ensure a healthy workforce and society.
- Provide children with opportunities for education and development to build a knowledgeable future generation.
- Work towards reducing income inequality and promoting the welfare of all citizens through state policies.

Relevant Articles: 38, 39(a), 39(d), 39(e), 39(f)

#### 2. Gandhian Principles

Inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's ideals of simplicity, non-violence, and rural development:

Promote cottage industries and village panchayats to strengthen rural economy and local self-government.

- Encourage prohibition of intoxicating drinks and drugs to improve public health and morality.
- Protect cows and other milch and draught cattle as they are vital to agrarian economy and culture.
- Emphasize the importance of self-reliance and sustainable village development to uplift rural India.

Relevant Articles: 40, 47, 48

# 3. Liberal-Intellectual Principles

These aim to protect justice, legal rights, environment, and promote peace:

- Provide free legal aid to ensure justice reaches the poor and marginalized sections of society.
- Ensure separation of judiciary from the executive to maintain judicial independence and fairness.
- Promote protection and improvement of the environment, forests, and wildlife for sustainable development.
- Encourage India's commitment to international peace and security through diplomatic efforts.

Relevant Articles: 39A, 48A, 50, 51

- DPSPs are non-justiciable guidelines for the government found in Part IV (Art. 36-51).
- Divided into Socialistic (livelihood, equality), Gandhian (rural development, prohibition), and Liberal (justice, environment) principles.
- Aim to create a welfare state balancing Fundamental Rights.
- Guide both Central and State governments in policy-making.

#### **UNIT-IV**

Relation between Federal and Provincial units: Union-State relations, Administrative, legislative and Financial, Inter State council, NITI Ayog, Finance Commission of India.

# SAQ: Introduction to Union-State Relations

- India follows a federal system with a strong central government.
- The Constitution defines the distribution of powers and responsibilities between the Union (Central) government and State governments.
- Relations between them are categorized into Administrative, Legislative, and Financial relations.



#### 1. Administrative Relations

These define how the Union and State governments coordinate in administration and governance:

- Appointment of Governors: Governors are appointed by the President and act as the Union's representatives in states.
- Union Control over States: The Union government can give directions to states in certain situations (e.g., during emergencies).

- All-India Services: Services like IAS, IPS officers serve both Union and State governments ensuring coordination.
- Inter-State Councils: Established to resolve disputes and promote cooperation between states and the Union.
- President's Rule: If a state government cannot function according to the Constitution, the Union can impose President's Rule (Article 356).

#### 2. Legislative Relations

These explain how legislative powers are distributed between Union and State legislatures:

- Union List: Parliament has exclusive powers to make laws on subjects like defense, foreign affairs, atomic energy (List I).
- State List: State legislatures make laws on subjects like police, public health, agriculture (List II).
- Concurrent List: Both Parliament and State legislatures can legislate on subjects like education, marriage, bankruptcy (List III).
- Residuary Powers: Any subject not mentioned in the lists falls under the Union Parliament's jurisdiction.
- Conflict Resolution: If a law is passed by both Parliament and State on a concurrent subject, the Union law prevails if there is conflict.

#### 3. Financial Relations

These concern the distribution of financial resources and revenues:

- Division of Tax Revenues: The Constitution provides a clear division of taxes collected by the Union and the States.
- Grants-in-Aid: The Union government provides financial assistance to states via grants recommended by the Finance Commission.
- Loans: Union can give loans to states if necessary.
- Financial Emergency (Article 360): In case of financial instability, the
   Union can impose financial emergency to control state finances.

Recommendations of Finance Commission: The Finance Commission recommends how revenues should be shared between Union and States and grants given to states.

# **Quick Revision Points:**

- Administrative: Governors, All-India Services, President's Rule, Inter-State Councils.
- Legislative: Union List, State List, Concurrent List, Residuary Powers, Union law prevails in conflict.
- Financial: Division of taxes, Grants-in-Aid, Loans, Finance Commission, Financial Emergency.

# SAQ: Introduction to Inter-State Council

- The Inter-State Council is a constitutional body set up to promote coordination and cooperation between the Union and State governments.
- It was established in 1969 on the recommendation of the Rajamannar Committee.
- Its purpose is to discuss and resolve disputes and issues related to Centre-State and inter-state relations.



**LAQ:** Inter-State Council – Composition, Functions, and Significance

#### Composition:

- **Chairperson:** The Prime Minister of India.
- Members:
  - Chief Ministers of all states.
  - Administrators of Union Territories.
  - Six Union Cabinet Ministers nominated by the Prime Minister.

Governors of some states (optional members).

#### **Functions:**

- Discuss Policies: To discuss policies and problems affecting the states and the Centre.
- Coordinate Actions: To coordinate actions between the Union and States on matters of common interest.
- Dispute Resolution: To investigate and recommend solutions for interstate disputes.
- 4. **Promote Cooperation:** To foster cooperative federalism by improving communication between different levels of government.
- 5. Advise the President: On matters relating to Centre-State relations.

#### Significance:

- Helps maintain harmonious relations between the Centre and States.
- Provides a platform for dialogue, avoiding conflicts and misunderstandings.
- Promotes cooperative federalism in India's governance system.
- Addresses regional imbalances and developmental issues by bringing states together.
- Plays a key role in the smooth functioning of a federal system with a strong Centre.

- Established in 1969 on Rajamannar Committee's recommendation.
- Chaired by Prime Minister; includes Chief Ministers and Union Ministers.
- Functions: Discuss policies, resolve disputes, coordinate Centre-State actions.

Promotes cooperative federalism and harmonious Centre-State relations.

# SAQ: Introduction to NITI Aayog

- **NITI Aayog** (National Institution for Transforming India) is the premier policy think tank of the Indian government.
- It was established in 2015, replacing the earlier Planning Commission.
- Its main role is to foster cooperative federalism and promote sustainable development through strategic planning and policy formulation.



## LAQ: NITI Aayog – Composition, Functions, and Significance

#### Composition:

- **Chairperson:** The Prime Minister of India.
- Vice-Chairperson: Appointed by the Prime Minister.
- Full-time Members: Experts in various fields.
- Part-time Members: Usually Union Ministers.
- Ex-officio Members: Chief Ministers of all States and Union Territories.
- **Special Invitees:** Eminent persons invited as needed.

#### **Functions:**

- 1. Policy Formulation and Strategic Planning: Advises the central and state governments on development policies and strategies.
- 2. Foster Cooperative Federalism: Encourages states to participate in policymaking and development initiatives.
- 3. Monitoring and Evaluation: Tracks the progress of government programs and provides feedback.

- 4. **Innovation and Best Practices:** Promotes innovative ideas and shares best practices among states.
- Capacity Building: Supports states in improving governance and implementation capacity.
- 6. **Think Tank:** Provides research and knowledge support to the government.

#### Significance:

- Replaces the Planning Commission's top-down approach with a more collaborative and flexible model.
- Promotes decentralized and bottom-up planning involving states directly.
- Helps in aligning state and central priorities for balanced development.
- Enhances the role of states in national policy formulation.
- Focuses on sustainable and inclusive growth with emphasis on innovation.

# **Quick Revision Points:**

- Established in 2015, replacing the Planning Commission.
- Chaired by the Prime Minister with state Chief Ministers as members.
- Promotes cooperative federalism and bottom-up planning.
- Acts as a policy think tank and advisor.
- Focuses on monitoring, innovation, and capacity building.

# SAQ: Introduction to Finance Commission of India

- The Finance Commission is a constitutional body constituted every five years.
- It recommends how the Union government should share its tax revenues with the States.

- It also suggests measures to ensure financial stability and balanced development among States.
- Established under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution.

# **LAQ:** Finance Commission of India – Introduction, Composition, Functions, and Importance

The Finance Commission plays a crucial role in the financial relations between the Union and State governments. It ensures an equitable distribution of financial resources so that states have sufficient funds to carry out their functions effectively. By recommending tax-sharing formulas and grants-in-aid, it promotes balanced regional development and fiscal stability across the country.

## **Composition:**

- The Finance Commission consists of a Chairman and four other members appointed by the President.
- Members are chosen for their expertise in public finance, economics, or administration.
- The commission is constituted every five years or earlier as deemed necessary.

#### **Functions:**

- Distribution of Tax Revenues: It recommends how the net proceeds of taxes collected by the Union government should be shared with the States.
- 2. **Grants-in-Aid:** Advises on grants-in-aid to states to supplement their resources for specific purposes or to maintain financial stability.
- 3. **Financial Stability:** Suggests measures to improve the overall financial position of states, ensuring that no state suffers undue hardship.
- 4. Addressing Special Needs: Recommends financial assistance to states with special problems or backward regions.

5. **Debt Management:** Occasionally advises on the terms and conditions of loans from the Centre to states.

## Significance:

- Promotes fiscal federalism by defining financial relations between Centre and states.
- Ensures equitable distribution of financial resources, reducing regional disparities.
- Provides financial autonomy and stability to states.
- Facilitates better planning and implementation of welfare and development schemes.
- Maintains cooperative federalism and balanced economic growth.

## **Quick Revision Points:**

- Constitutional body under Article 280, appointed every 5 years.
- Composed of a Chairman and four expert members.
- Recommends tax revenue sharing and grants-in-aid to states.
- Ensures financial stability and equity among states.
- Key institution for maintaining fiscal federalism in India.

#### **UNIT-V**

Statutory Institutions: Elections-Election Commission of India, National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Women.

## SAQ: Introduction to Election Commission of India

- The Election Commission of India is a constitutional body under Article
   324, established on 25th January 1950.
- It is responsible for conducting elections to Parliament, State Legislatures, and the offices of President and Vice-President.
- Its main aim is to ensure free, fair, and impartial elections in the world's largest democracy.

## **LAQ: Election Commission of India – Introduction, Composition, Powers, and Significance**

The Election Commission of India is one of the pillars of Indian democracy. It ensures that elections are conducted in a transparent, free, and unbiased manner. As an independent constitutional body, it plays a vital role in strengthening democratic values and protecting the integrity of the electoral process in India.

#### **Composition:**

- The Election Commission consists of:
  - Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)

- Two Election Commissioners (currently making it a multi-member body).
- Appointed by the President of India.
- All members enjoy equal powers and have fixed tenures to ensure independence.
- Can only be removed through a process similar to that of Supreme Court judges, ensuring security of office.

#### **Powers and Functions:**

- Conducting Elections: Organizes and supervises elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, and the offices of President and Vice-President.
- Preparation of Electoral Rolls: Prepares and revises voter lists regularly to include all eligible citizens.
- 3. **Enforcing Model Code of Conduct:** Ensures political parties and candidates adhere to ethical standards during elections.
- 4. **Registration of Political Parties:** Registers political parties and allots election symbols.
- Monitoring Election Expenses: Keeps track of candidates' expenditure to avoid misuse of money power.
- 6. **Cancelling Elections:** Has the authority to cancel or order re-polling in case of serious malpractices.
- 7. **Voter Awareness Programs:** Educates voters to improve electoral participation.

#### Significance:

- Ensures free and fair elections in India's large and diverse population.
- Maintains democratic integrity by acting impartially.
- Strengthens people's faith in the electoral process.

Plays a vital role in promoting transparency and accountability during elections.

## **Quick Revision Points:**

- Article 324; established in 1950.
- CEC + 2 Election Commissioners appointed by the President.
- Ensures free, fair, and impartial elections.
- Enforces Model Code of Conduct, updates voter lists, and monitors expenses.
- Independent body with strong constitutional safeguards.

## SAQ: Introduction to Electoral Reforms in India

- **Electoral reforms** refer to the changes made in the electoral system to ensure free, fair, and transparent elections.
- In India, reforms started during the British period (pre-independence) and continued after independence to strengthen democracy.
- These reforms aim to improve the efficiency, inclusiveness, and credibility of the electoral process.

## Reforms in India - Pre-Independence and Post-**Independence Reforms**

The electoral system of India has undergone several reforms to ensure that elections reflect the true will of the people. These reforms started in colonial times and were significantly developed after independence. The focus has been on making elections inclusive, transparent, and free from malpractices.

## 1. Pre-Independence Electoral Reforms

## 1. Indian Councils Act, 1909 (Morley-Minto Reforms):

- Introduced the concept of elections for the first time in India.
- Allowed limited Indians to elect representatives to legislative councils.
- Introduced separate electorates for Muslims.

## 2. Government of India Act, 1919 (Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms):

- Expanded the number of elected members in provincial councils.
- Introduced the bicameral legislature at the centre.
- Increased the franchise slightly but kept it limited to the elite.

## 3. Government of India Act, 1935:

- Extended franchise to about 10% of the population.
- Established provincial autonomy and gave Indians more representation.
- Provided the basis for modern legislative assemblies.

#### IN 2. Post-Independence Electoral Reforms

After independence, many reforms were introduced to improve and strengthen the democratic process.

## Constitutional and Legal Reforms:

#### 1. Introduction of Universal Adult Franchise (1950):

 Gave voting rights to all citizens above 21 years (later reduced to 18 in 1988).

## 2. Representation of People Acts (1951 & 1952):

 Laid down detailed rules for elections, including the conduct of elections, eligibility of candidates, and disqualification norms.

#### 3. Anti-Defection Law (52nd Amendment, 1985):

Prevented elected members from switching parties (defection).

## 4. Lowering of Voting Age (61st Amendment, 1988):

 Reduced voting age from 21 years to 18 years to include youth participation.

## 5. Introduction of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs):

 Brought in to avoid malpractices like booth capturing and invalid votes.

## Recent Electoral Reforms:

## 1. NOTA (None of the Above), 2013:

Voters can reject all candidates.

## 2. Introduction of VVPAT (Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail):

Provides transparency in electronic voting.

### 3. Capping Election Expenditure:

 Limits on how much a candidate can spend to ensure a level playing field.

#### 4. Mandatory Disclosure:

 Candidates must declare assets, criminal cases, and educational qualifications.

### 5. Linking of Aadhaar with Voter ID (2021 onwards):

To remove fake and duplicate voters (still under process).

## Significance of Electoral Reforms:

- Ensures free and fair elections.
- Enhances transparency and accountability.
- Encourages wider participation, especially of youth and marginalized groups.
- Strengthens the democratic process and reduces malpractices.

## **Quick Revision Points**

## **Pre-Independence Reforms:**

- 1909: Introduced elections & separate electorates for Muslims.
- 1919: Expanded representation.
- 1935: Provincial autonomy & extended franchise.

## **Post-Independence Reforms:**

- Universal Adult Franchise (1950).
- Anti-Defection Law (1985).
- Lowered voting age to 18 (1988).
- EVMs, NOTA, VVPAT for transparency.
- Disclosure of candidates' details.

## SAQ: Introduction to NHRC (National Human Rights Commission)

- The NHRC is a statutory body set up in 1993 under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- It works to protect and promote human rights in India.
- NHRC is an independent body that investigates complaints of human rights violations and advises the government on related matters.

# LAQ: National Human Rights Commission – Introduction, Composition, Functions and Significance

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) acts as the watchdog of human rights in India. Established in **1993** under the **Protection of Human Rights Act**, it plays a vital role in ensuring the dignity, liberty, and equality of individuals as guaranteed by the Constitution. NHRC works to prevent

violations, spread awareness, and promote the culture of human rights in the country.

## **Composition of NHRC**

Chairperson: A former Chief Justice of India.

#### Members:

- 1. One former judge of the Supreme Court.
- 2. One former Chief Justice of a High Court.
- 3. Two members with knowledge of human rights.
- The Chairperson and members are appointed by the President on the recommendation of a committee headed by the Prime Minister.

## **Functions of NHRC**

## 1. Inquiry into Violations:

 Investigates complaints of human rights violations by public servants or negligence in preventing such violations.

#### 2. Suo Motu Action:

Takes up cases on its own (even without a formal complaint).

#### 3. Visit to Jails and Institutions:

 Reviews conditions in prisons, detention centres, and makes recommendations for improvements.

## 4. Promotion of Human Rights Awareness:

 Spreads awareness through education, seminars, publications, and training.

#### 5. Research and Recommendations:

 Conducts studies and recommends changes in laws to strengthen human rights protection.

#### 6. Intervention in Court Cases:

 With court permission, NHRC can intervene in ongoing cases concerning human rights issues.

## **Significance of NHRC**

- Acts as a guardian of human dignity.
- Provides a platform for victims of human rights violations.
- Ensures accountability of public authorities.
- Encourages human rights education and awareness.
- Works towards building a just and humane society.

## **Quick Revision Points**

- Established in 1993 under Protection of Human Rights Act.
- Chairperson = former Chief Justice of India + 4 members.
- Functions: Investigates complaints, visits jails, spreads awareness, recommends legal reforms.
- Suo motu powers to take up cases on its own.

## SAQ: Introduction to NCW (National Commission for Women)

- The NCW is a statutory body set up in 1992 under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.
- It works for the protection and promotion of women's rights in India.
- The NCW investigates issues related to women's safety, equality, and justice, and advises the government on women-related policies.

## **LAQ:** National Commission for Women – Introduction, Composition, Functions and Significance

The **National Commission for Women (NCW)** is the apex statutory body dedicated to protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women in India. Established in **1992**, NCW acts as a **watchdog for women's issues**,

ensuring their constitutional and legal rights are upheld. It also works towards eliminating gender discrimination and empowering women through various initiatives.

## **Composition of NCW**

 Chairperson: A person of eminence and experience in women's issues (appointed by the Central Government).

#### Members:

- 5 Members nominated by the Central Government from various fields related to women's welfare, including law, health, education, and social work.
- Member-Secretary: An expert in management or an officer of administrative rank.

## Functions of NCW

#### 1. Investigate Women's Issues:

 Inquires into complaints related to deprivation of women's rights and non-implementation of laws.

## 2. Advisory Role:

Suggests amendments to laws to improve justice for women.

#### 3. Monitoring and Evaluation:

 Reviews policies and programs of the government for women's welfare.

#### 4. Legal Assistance and Research:

 Provides free legal aid to women and funds studies on womenrelated issues.

#### 5. Public Awareness Campaigns:

 Organizes workshops, seminars, and campaigns to spread awareness about women's rights.

## 6. Visits and Inspections:

 Visits jails, remand homes, and women's institutions to check conditions and suggest improvements.

## **Significance of NCW**

- Acts as a guardian of women's rights in India.
- Provides a voice for women in matters of policy and governance.
- Works to bridge gender gaps in society.
- Encourages gender justice and empowerment through awareness and advocacy.

## **Quick Revision Points**

- Established in 1992 under the NCW Act, 1990.
- Chairperson + 5 members + 1 Member Secretary.
- Functions: Investigates issues, advises government, spreads awareness, provides legal aid.
- Works for protection and promotion of women's rights.