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THE PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM: LEGISLATURE AND EXECUTIVE
Class 08 - Social Science (Exploring Society)

Time Allowed: 1 hour and 28 minutes

Maximum Marks: 140

1. Who directly elects the members of Lok Sabha? [1]
 - a) The people of India
 - b) The Prime Minister
 - c) The Rajya Sabha
 - d) The President of India

2. Identify the important feature of Indian federalism: [1]
 - a) Powers are distributed among different levels of government
 - b) Centre and Judiciary can make laws
 - c) States can override central laws in concurrent list
 - d) Rajya Sabha has more power than the Lok Sabha

3. What service is provided to make Parliamentary discussions more accessible? [1]
 - a) Recorded sessions on TV
 - b) Free public tickets
 - c) Open member interactions
 - d) Translation services in multiple Indian languages

4. What is the Sengol? [1]
 - a) A sceptre handed over to Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru
 - b) A sword used during Independence
 - c) A ceremonial robe
 - d) A new technological device

5. What is usually the daily duration of Parliamentary sessions? [1]
 - a) 5 hours
 - b) 4 hours
 - c) 8 hours
 - d) 6 hours

6. What symbol sits at the top of the Sengol? [1]
 - a) Tiger
 - b) Peacock
 - c) Lion
 - d) Nandi

7. India has a bicameral house. Which of the following is/are not features of the bicameral legislature in India? [1]
 - i. It ensures three levels of government
 - ii. It includes Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
 - iii. Promotes federal balance and diversity
 - iv. Found at all states
 - a) (i), (ii) and (iv)
 - b) only (iii)
 - c) (i) and (iv)
 - d) (i), (ii) and (iii)

14. Match the following: [1]

Column A	Column B
a. Bill	i. Official law after approval
b. Act	ii. Draft of proposed law
c. Money Bill	iii. Financial legislation introduced in Lok Sabha
d. Clause	iv. Specific section of a bill

a) a-ii, b-i, c-iii, d-iv

b) a-iv, b-iii, c-ii, d-i

c) a-iii, b-iv, c-i, d-ii

d) a-i, b-ii, c-iv, d-iii

15. Match the following: [1]

Column A	Column B
a. Speaker of Lok Sabha	i. Presides over Rajya Sabha
b. Vice President	ii. Ensures orderly conduct of Lok Sabha
c. Translation services	iii. Makes debates accessible in multiple languages
d. Union Executive	iv. Implements laws and policies

a) a-ii, b-i, c-iii, d-iv

b) a-iii, b-iv, c-i, d-ii

c) a-i, b-ii, c-iv, d-iii

d) a-iv, b-iii, c-ii, d-i

16. **Assertion (A):** The Lok Sabha members are directly elected by the people of India. [1]

Reason (R): The Lok Sabha holds legislative power as the supreme body.

a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

c) A is true but R is false.

d) A is false but R is true.

17. **Assertion (A):** The Parliament of India is responsible for making laws. [1]

Reason (R): The Executive regularly introduces most of the new bills to the Parliament.

a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

c) A is true but R is false.

d) A is false but R is true.

18. **Assertion (A):** The Union Executive consists of elected members only. [1]

Reason (R): The President of India is a part of the Union Executive.

a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

c) A is true but R is false.

d) A is false but R is true.

19. **Assertion (A):** The first important step for India after gaining independence was the drafting of its Constitution. [1]

Reason (R): Universal Adult Franchise was exclusively meant for the male population in India.

a) Both A and R are true and R is the

b) Both A and R are true but R is not the

- correct explanation of A. correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false. d) A is false but R is true.
20. **Assertion (A):** The Prime Minister is a de facto executive head of the country. [1]
Reason (R): The President acts on the advice of the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers.
- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A. b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
c) A is true but R is false. d) A is false but R is true.
21. What mechanism does the Judiciary use to maintain checks and balances in governance? [1]
22. Why is it important for the Judiciary to interpret laws? [1]
23. Identify the structure of state legislatures in India and highlight any distinctions. [1]
24. What inspired India's system of Parliamentary democracy? [1]
25. When was the 18th Lok Sabha constituted in India? [1]
26. Identify the supreme legislative body in India's governance. [1]
27. How are representatives for the Lok Sabha chosen? [1]
28. What is the maximum permissible number of members in the Lok Sabha? [1]
29. Which branch of government is responsible for interpreting laws? [1]
30. What is the primary legislative power of the Vidhan Sabha in an Indian state? [1]
31. Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the Union Executive in the Indian Parliamentary System. [2]
32. Describe how the involvement of elected representatives in the Lok Sabha contributes to the governance of India? [2]
33. Explain the significance of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. [2]
34. List the main components involved in executive accountability within the Indian Parliament's functions. [2]
35. Differentiate between the legislative and executive roles of the Parliament in India. [2]
36. How does the concept of federalism manifest in India's parliamentary system? [2]
37. Describe the significance of the Directive Principles in shaping educational laws, citing the Right to Education Act as an example. [2]
38. Define the term 'State Assembly' and explain its legislative and executive functions. [2]
39. Discuss the influence of other countries on India's parliamentary democracy structure. [2]
40. What role do the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers play in ensuring Executive Accountability? [2]
41. What are the functions of the civil servants in India's Parliamentary system? [3]
42. Explain the significance of India achieving independence after years of colonial rule and sacrifices. [3]
43. How might the structure of the Union government influence the functioning of state governments in India? [3]
44. Identify how the Judiciary functions symbiotically with the Legislature and Executive branches within a democracy. [3]
45. Describe the role and functions of the President as the Head of State in the Indian Parliamentary system. [3]
46. How do the legislative powers of Union and State governments differ in India? [3]

47. What role does the Indian Parliament play in the governance of the country? [3]
48. Explain two key responsibilities of the Judiciary in maintaining the balance of power within the government. [3]
49. Describe the role of the Parliament in enforcing financial accountability. [3]
50. Explain the parallel structures of Union and State governments in India. [3]
51. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]
- Each Indian state has a legislature and executive similar to the Union Government. MLAs make laws on subjects in the State and Concurrent Lists. The Governor is the nominal head, while the Chief Minister is the de facto executive authority. State legislatures can be unicameral (Vidhan Sabha) or bicameral (Vidhan Sabha and Vidhan Parishad). Financial powers, legislative structure, and the formation of councils mirror the Union system, with collective responsibility to the Vidhan Sabha.
- Questions:**
- What are the functions of MLAs in the state legislature? (1)
 - How is the executive structured at the state level in India? (1)
 - Explain the parallel structure between the Union and State governments in India. (2)
52. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]
- The President is the Head of State and nominal Executive, appointing the Prime Minister and ministers, summoning Parliament, and giving assent to bills. The Prime Minister leads the Council of Ministers, advises the President, coordinates ministries, and shapes policies. The Executive implements laws with the help of civil servants and is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha. Unlike the Legislature, which makes laws, the Executive enforces them and runs government functions.
- Questions:**
- What are the main functions of the President of India? (1)
 - How does the Prime Minister coordinate the work of the government? (1)
 - Explain the key differences between the Legislature and the Executive in India. (2)
53. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]
- India achieved independence after years of struggle and sacrifice, allowing citizens to govern themselves. The drafting of the Constitution laid down foundational principles, including Universal Adult Franchise, giving all adults the right to vote regardless of social or economic background. Citizens directly elect representatives to the Lok Sabha, where a majority forms the government. The Parliament, as the supreme legislative body, guides and controls government work, reflecting the people's consent.
- Questions:**
- What is Universal Adult Franchise and why is it important in India? (1)
 - How is the government in India formed after Lok Sabha elections? (1)
 - Explain the role of the Parliament in India's democratic system. (2)
54. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]
- The Judiciary in India interprets and applies laws through a system of courts, safeguarding democracy and fundamental rights. It acts as the custodian of the Constitution, ensuring that the Legislature and Executive operate within constitutional limits. By reviewing laws passed by

Parliament and their implementation by the Executive, the Judiciary ensures that governance follows constitutional principles, resolves disputes, and maintains checks and balances among all branches of government.

Questions:

- a. What is the primary role of the Judiciary in India? **(1)**
- b. How does the Judiciary check the powers of the Legislature and Executive? **(1)**
- c. Explain how the Judiciary acts as the custodian of the Constitution. **(2)**

55. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** **[4]**

The Parliament of India performs several key functions: constitutional, legislative, executive, and financial. It upholds the Constitution, ensures fundamental rights, and implements federalism. Lawmaking involves the passage of bills into acts, such as the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. The Executive, including the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, is accountable to Parliament through mechanisms like Question Hour. Parliament also monitors government expenditure via the annual budget.

Questions:

- a. What are the constitutional functions of the Indian Parliament? **(1)**
- b. How does the Parliament ensure executive accountability? **(1)**
- c. Explain the lawmaking and financial accountability functions of the Parliament. **(2)**

56. **State whether the given statement is True or False:** **[5]**

- (a) Universal Adult Franchise ensures voting rights for citizens regardless of social and economic backgrounds. **[1]**
- (b) In a state, the Chief Minister is considered the nominal head of the executive. **[1]**
- (c) The Rajya Sabha seats are allocated based on the geographical size of each state. **[1]**
- (d) The Speaker of the Lok Sabha also manages Rajya Sabha. **[1]**
- (e) All states in India have a bicameral legislature with two houses. **[1]**

57. What are the roles of the legislature and the executive in India's Parliamentary democracy? **[5]**

58. Compare and contrast the roles of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha in the Indian Parliament. Highlight their composition and method of election. **[5]**

59. Identify and discuss the role of the Parliament of India as the supreme legislative body. **[5]**

60. What role does the Vice President of India play in the Rajya Sabha, and why is this significant for the house's functioning? **[5]**

61. What makes the Indian Parliament the "voice of the people"? How does it ensure that different opinions are heard? **[5]**

62. **Fill in the blanks:** **[10]**

- (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act was passed in the year _____. **[1]**
- (b) The elected representatives in India's Parliament are members of the _____. **[1]**
- (c) _____ is a formal change, addition, or deletion made to the provisions of the Constitution. **[1]**
- (d) The Executive is collectively responsible to the _____. **[1]**
- (e) The Judiciary ensures that the _____ and Executive operate within constitutional limits. **[1]**

- (f) The Parliament typically meets three times a year in _____, Monsoon, and Winter Sessions. [1]
- (g) Checks and balances among the Legislature, Executive, and _____ protect citizens' rights and uphold democratic values. [1]
- (h) A draft of a proposed law introduced in Parliament is called a _____. [1]
- (i) The Prime Minister leads the _____ and coordinates different ministries. [1]
- (j) The first hour of a Parliamentary session, where ministers answer questions, is called _____. [1]

USP

Solution
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1. **(a)** The people of India
Explanation:
People of India directly elect members to the Lok Sabha.
2. **(a)** Powers are distributed among different levels of government
Explanation:
This question is about Indian federalism and the distribution of powers between the Union and State governments. Since it deals with how authority is shared across different levels of government, including the role of states.
3. **(d)** Translation services in multiple Indian languages
Explanation:
Parliamentary discussions are accessible with translations available in several languages.
4. **(a)** A sceptre handed over to Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru
Explanation:
The Sengol was symbolically given to Nehru as a sign of power transfer.
5. **(d)** 6 hours
Explanation:
The usual sitting length is 6 hours.
6. **(d)** Nandi
Explanation:
Nandi sits atop the Sengol symbolizing justice.
7. **(c)** (i) and (iv)
Explanation:
This question is about the structure of India's bicameral legislature, specifically the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and their features. Since it deals with how Parliament is organized and composed.
8. **(b)** 550
Explanation:
The Constitution envisages a maximum of 550 members for the Lok Sabha.
9. **(c)** Universal Adult Franchise
Explanation:
It guarantees voting rights to all adult citizens.
10. **(c)** Civil Servants
Explanation:
Civil Servants

11. (a) a-ii, b-iii, c-i, d-iv

Explanation:

- Universal Adult Franchise → right to vote for all adults (ii)
- Lok Sabha → directly elected house (iii)
- Parliament → makes laws for the country (i)
- Constitution → foundational governing document (iv)

12.

(b) a-i, b-ii, c-iii, d-iv

Explanation:

- Absenteeism → disrupts parliamentary functioning (i)
- Criminal MPs → weaken representation quality (ii)
- Media → informs public (iii)
- Citizen participation → strengthens democracy (iv)

13.

(b) a-ii, b-i, c-iii, d-iv

Explanation:

- PM → leads Council of Ministers (ii)
- President → Head of State (i)
- Council of Ministers → implements laws (iii)
- Civil servants → administrative support (iv)

14. (a) a-ii, b-i, c-iii, d-iv

Explanation:

- Bill → draft law (ii)
- Act → final law (i)
- Money Bill → financial legislation (iii)
- Clause → section of bill (iv)

15. (a) a-ii, b-i, c-iii, d-iv

Explanation:

- Speaker → conducts Lok Sabha proceedings (ii)
- Vice President → presides over Rajya Sabha (i)
- Translation services → ensure accessibility (iii)
- Union Executive → implements laws (iv)

16.

(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The Lok Sabha is indeed elected by the people but being the legislative body is not why they are directly elected.

17.

(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The Parliament makes laws, regardless of who introduces the bills.

18.

(d) A is false but R is true.

Explanation:

The Union Executive includes the President, who is elected indirectly, not directly elected members.

19. **(c)** A is true but R is false.
Explanation:
Universal Adult Franchise was for all adult citizens irrespective of gender.
20. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Explanation:
This question is about the relationship between the Prime Minister, Council of Ministers, and President in the executive branch. It explains why the Prime Minister is considered the real (de facto) executive head of the government.
21. The Judiciary maintains checks and balances by ensuring that the Legislature and Executive operate within the Constitutional framework.
22. It is important because interpreting laws ensures that they are applied correctly and consistently, preserving justice and legality.
23. State legislatures can be unicameral (one house) or bicameral (two houses). A unicameral legislature has only a Vidhan Sabha, while a bicameral legislature includes both a Vidhan Sabha and a Vidhan Parishad.
24. India's Parliamentary democracy was inspired by Britain's system and the participation of Indian freedom fighters in British governance.
25. The 18th Lok Sabha was constituted in June 2024.
26. The supreme legislative body in India's governance is the Parliament.
27. Representatives for the Lok Sabha are chosen through a direct election based on universal adult suffrage.
28. The maximum number of members in the Lok Sabha is 550.
29. The Judiciary is responsible for interpreting laws.
30. The Vidhan Sabha is responsible for making laws on subjects within the State List and Concurrent List. They also debate and pass the annual state budget.
31. The Union Executive in India includes the President, Vice President, and the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister. It is responsible for implementing and enforcing laws created by the Parliament. The Council of Ministers, chosen from MPs, is collectively accountable to the Lok Sabha, ensuring the seamless execution of legislative functions.
32. Elected Lok Sabha representatives are crucial in forming the government. These members are chosen by the public and are accountable for enhancing democratic governance. The majority party or coalition among them forms the executive branch, ensuring it reflects public opinion. Their debates and policies drive the legislative process, thereby contributing significantly to the functioning of the Indian government.
33. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, guarantees free education for children aged 6 to 14 years, aligning with Article 21A of the Constitution. This legislation fulfills a critical Directive Principle, ensuring every child's right to education and facilitating equitable opportunities for personal and social development, contributing to national progress.
34. Executive accountability involves the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers implementing laws, meeting Lok Sabha inquiries during Question Hour, and responding to parliamentary questions and committee evaluations. These practices ensure that executive actions align with constitutional principles and legislative directions.
35. The legislative role of the Parliament involves law-making, creating legal frameworks that govern the nation. In contrast, the executive role focuses on implementing and enforcing these laws. The Union Executive, comprising the President, Vice President, and the Council of Ministers, ensures that the laws created by the Parliament are effectively translated into action.
36. India's federalism is evident in the distribution of power between the centre, states, and local governments. The Rajya Sabha or Council of States reflects this federal nature by representing state interests at the national level, ensuring a balance between unity and local autonomy. This structure allows collaborative governance across different government tiers.
37. Directive Principles guide policymakers towards achieving socio-economic goals, including education. The Right to Education Act reflects these principles, fulfilling constitutional mandates by providing

- accessible education to children. This legislation not only enhances individual welfare but also bolsters national advancement, depicting the principles' role in transformative policy-making for social equity.
38. The State Assembly, also known as Vidhan Sabha, is the legislative body at the state level that formulates laws on subjects in the State List and Concurrent List. It has both legislative and executive functions similar to the Parliament at the Union level.
 39. India's parliamentary democracy is inspired by Britain's system, as reflected in its democratic institutions and procedures. Additionally, practical experiences of Indian leaders in colonial governance and indigenous practices like ancient republics and village panchayats contributed to shaping the democracy, blending international and local experiences.
 40. The Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers enforce laws, manage state affairs, and respond to parliamentary inquiries, thus ensuring executive accountability. Through mechanisms like the Question Hour in the Lok Sabha, ministers must justify their actions, which helps maintain governmental transparency and answerability.
 41. Civil servants, often known as administrators or bureaucrats, play a critical role in India's Parliamentary system. They assist in implementing laws and policies and ensure the smooth operation of governmental departments. Working under the direction of ministers, civil servants provide the necessary administrative support needed to execute decisions made by the Executive. They bridge the gap between policymaking and implementation, maintaining the functionality of the state apparatus away from the political sphere, thus ensuring a stable governance structure.
 42. India's independence was a landmark event that marked the end of colonial domination and began a new era of self-governance. Achieving independence was significant as it allowed the country to draft its own Constitution, laying the foundation for a democratic society. The sacrifices and struggles of countless individuals over many years of colonial oppression underscored the importance of liberty and sovereignty, and thus the newfound independence was celebrated as a triumph of the people's resolve and determination for self-rule.
 43. The Union government's structure can significantly influence state functioning. By prioritizing accountability and checks within a bicameral system, states can be encouraged to adapt similar practices. The Union Parliament's supremacy over Concurrent List matters and its legislative precedence ensure uniform policies across states. States may mirror these features to maintain cohesion. The constitutional delineation between Union and state authority can prompt states to refine their governance models, ensuring alignment with national frameworks.
 44. The Judiciary functions symbiotically with the Legislature and Executive branches by interpreting and applying laws within Constitutional boundaries. While the Legislature creates and the Executive implements laws, the Judiciary ensures their alignment with constitutional principles. This interdependent relationship maintains checks and balances, safeguarding the democratic structure and ensuring each branch operates within its remit.
 45. The President of India serves as the Head of State and the nominal head of the Executive. The President's role involves appointing the Prime Minister and other ministers, summoning the Parliament, giving assent to bills, and other ceremonial functions. Although the Council of Ministers aids and advises the President, the President can exercise discretionary powers during political crises, such as when no party secures a majority in a Lok Sabha election. This position emphasizes ceremonial duties over executive authority, acting upon the advice of the Council of Ministers.
 46. In India, legislative powers differ based on subject matter allocation between the Union and State governments. The Union Parliament legislates on the Union List subjects such as defense and foreign affairs. State Assemblies legislate on State List subjects like police and public health. Both can legislate on Concurrent List subjects, but Union laws override state laws in case of a conflict. This division ensures distinct roles while allowing cooperation on overlapping areas.
 47. The Indian Parliament is the country's supreme legislative body, responsible for making laws and controlling the government's work. Elected representatives who form the Lok Sabha make up the Parliament, reflecting the democratic essence of governance in India. The Parliament functions with the consent of the people, ensuring that the government's actions align with the citizenry's will. It guides, supervises, and checks the executive branch, maintaining a balance of power within the structure of governance.

48. The Judiciary has two key responsibilities in maintaining the balance of power: first, it checks that laws passed by Parliament do not violate the Constitutional framework. Second, it ensures that when laws are implemented by the Executive, they adhere to the Constitution. By doing so, the Judiciary acts as a guardian of the Constitution, ensuring that the Legislature and Executive operate within established legal boundaries.
49. The Indian Parliament plays a crucial role in ensuring financial accountability by approving and examining the annual budget before disseminating funds to various ministries. It monitors government spending and scrutinizes the allocation of resources, demanding accurate and timely information from the government. This oversight ensures that public funds are used efficiently, adhering to the approved financial plans while preventing misuse or misappropriation. Through its financial control, Parliament maintains fiscal discipline and upholds the public's interest.
50. Union and State governments in India mirror each other's structures. Both have a constitutional head—the President at the union level and the Governor at the state level. The executive head, being the Prime Minister at the center and the Chief Minister at the state, holds actual power. Both levels feature similar legislative processes, with state bodies resembling the bicameral setup of the Parliament. Such structure aids in balanced governance and aligns state-specific policies with national interests.
51. a. MLAs formulate laws on subjects in the State List and Concurrent List. They debate policies, pass bills, and oversee the work of the State Executive, ensuring governance aligns with the needs of their constituencies.
- b. The Governor is the nominal head of the state, while the Chief Minister, elected by the majority in the Vidhan Sabha, is the de facto executive authority. The Chief Minister selects the Council of Ministers, who are collectively responsible to the Vidhan Sabha.
- c. Both Union and State governments have a nominal head (President/Governor) and a de facto executive (Prime Minister/Chief Minister). They maintain a Council of Ministers, legislate on separate and concurrent subjects, and have financial powers originating in the lower house. State legislatures can be unicameral or bicameral, reflecting the parliamentary system at the Centre.
52. a. The President appoints the Prime Minister and other ministers, summons the Parliament, gives assent to bills, and exercises discretionary powers in specific situations, especially during political crises like a hung Lok Sabha.
- b. The Prime Minister leads the Council of Ministers, advises the President, coordinates different ministries, shapes national policies, and ensures the smooth functioning of government with support from civil servants and majority MPs in the Lok Sabha.
- c. The Legislature makes laws, oversees the Executive, and can introduce some bills. The Executive enforces laws, runs the government, introduces most bills, prepares the budget, and aids the President. The Legislature consults committees to check the Executive, while the Executive functions daily under ministers, consulting committees when needed.
53. a. Universal Adult Franchise means every adult citizen has the right to vote regardless of caste, religion, gender, or economic status. It is important because it ensures equality, participation, and democracy in India.
- b. Citizens elect representatives to the Lok Sabha, and the party or coalition with the majority of elected members forms the government, ensuring that it functions with the consent of the people.
- c. The Parliament is India's supreme legislative body. It comprises all elected representatives and makes laws for the country. It controls and guides the government's work, ensuring the administration functions according to the people's consent and democratic principles, reflecting the will of the citizens.
54. a. The Judiciary interprets and applies laws, safeguards fundamental rights, resolves disputes, and ensures that the Legislature and Executive function within constitutional limits to maintain democracy and rule of law.
- b. The Judiciary reviews laws passed by Parliament to ensure they follow the Constitution and steps in if the Executive violates constitutional principles during law implementation, maintaining checks and balances in governance.
- c. The Judiciary protects the Constitution by interpreting laws, ensuring that the Legislature and Executive follow constitutional principles, resolving disputes, and safeguarding fundamental rights. It

prevents misuse of power by reviewing laws and their implementation, maintaining democratic governance and the balance among all branches of government.

55. a. The Parliament upholds parliamentary democracy, maintains separation of powers, ensures federalism, and protects Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy by framing laws and policies for the country.
- b. The Prime Minister and Council of Ministers are accountable to the Lok Sabha. Mechanisms like Question Hour and parliamentary committees require ministers to explain, justify, and answer questions about government policies and actions.
- c. Lawmaking involves introducing bills in Parliament, debating, amending, and obtaining presidential assent before a bill becomes an act, like the RTE Act, 2009. Financial accountability is ensured through approval and monitoring of government expenditure via the annual budget, with timely and accurate information provided to Parliament by the government.

56. State whether the given statement is True or False:

- (a) **(a)** True

Explanation:

Universal Adult Franchise guarantees voting rights for all adults.

- (b) **(b)** False

Explanation:

The Governor is the nominal head, while the Chief Minister is the de facto executive authority.

- (c) **(b)** False

Explanation:

Rajya Sabha seats are allocated based on the population of each state.

- (d) **(b)** False

Explanation:

The Vice-President of India serves as the Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha.

- (e) **(b)** False

Explanation:

Only six states have bicameral legislatures; others have unicameral.

57. In India's parliamentary democracy, the legislature and executive have distinct but interconnected roles, ensuring governance aligns with the people's will and the Constitution:

Legislature (Parliament and State Assemblies):

- **Lawmaking:** The Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) and state legislatures (Vidhan Sabha, Vidhan Parishad in bicameral states) create laws for the Union List, State List, or Concurrent List. For example, the Lok Sabha passed the Right to Education Act, 2009, based on Article 21A.
- **Representation:** Represents the people (Lok Sabha, Vidhan Sabha) and states (Rajya Sabha, Vidhan Parishad), ensuring diverse voices shape policies. The Lok Sabha reflects direct public will, while the Rajya Sabha balances state interests.
- **Oversight:** Holds the executive accountable through Question Hour, committees, and budget approvals. For instance, MPs question ministers on policies, ensuring transparency.
- **Leadership Roles:** The Lok Sabha elects a Speaker to manage sessions, while the Rajya Sabha is chaired by the Vice President, maintaining order and fairness in debates.

Executive (Union and State Levels):

- **Implementation:** The Union Executive (President, Prime Minister, Council of Ministers) and State Executive (Governor, Chief Minister, Council of Ministers) enforce laws and run daily governance. The Council of Ministers, drawn from Parliament or state legislatures, makes policy decisions.
- **Leadership:** The Prime Minister (Union) or Chief Minister (state) leads the executive, advising the President or Governor and coordinating ministries. For example, the Prime Minister shapes national policies, as seen in budget presentations.
- **Accountability:** The executive is collectively responsible to the legislature (Lok Sabha or Vidhan Sabha). Ministers must answer MPs' questions and justify actions, as exemplified by Lal Bahadur Shastri's resignation in 1956 over a train accident.

- **Administrative Support:** Civil servants assist the executive in implementing laws and managing departments, ensuring smooth governance.

The legislature creates the legal framework, while the executive implements it, with accountability to the legislature, ensuring checks and balances in India's democracy.

58. The Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha differ in composition, method of election, and roles within Indian Parliament. The Lok Sabha consists of directly elected members representing constituencies based on universal adult suffrage, while the Rajya Sabha has indirectly elected members chosen by the state legislative assemblies. Lok Sabha focuses on being the voice of the people, initiating budget proposals and influencing government formation. Contrastingly, the Rajya Sabha acts as a revising chamber, scrutinizing, suggesting amendments, and tempering legislation passed by the Lok Sabha. While Lok Sabha's tenure of five years brings in frequent accountability cycles, Rajya Sabha operates continually, with one-third of its members retiring every two years, providing stability and consistency in legislative processes.
59. The Parliament of India serves as the supreme legislative body responsible for framing the country's laws. Comprising elected representatives, it plays a vital role in law-making, ensuring governance in accordance with the constitution. The Parliament exercises control over the Executive branch by debating crucial issues, approving budgets, and scrutinizing government actions. Its establishment ensures that the legislative process remains representative and accountable to the people. By guiding government work and keeping checks on its functioning, the Parliament upholds the democratic ethos by ensuring laws are made reflecting public interest and consent.
60. The Vice President of India serves as the ex-officio Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha. This involves presiding over its sessions, maintaining order during discussions, allowing members to participate in deliberations, and ensuring that proceedings align with established parliamentary rules. The role is significant as it introduces an aspect of continuity and neutrality to the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha. As the body where states are represented at the national level, orderly conduct allows for effective federal governance and exchange of regional perspectives within the national legislative framework. The Vice President, neutral and above political affiliations, ensures that debates are balanced and inclusive, thus contributing to informed and diverse discussions on national legislation.
61. The Indian Parliament is the "voice of the people" because it represents the collective will of India's diverse population through elected representatives. Its structure and functions ensure democratic participation and inclusivity:
- **Universal Adult Franchise:** Every citizen aged 18 and above can vote for Lok Sabha MPs, ensuring the Parliament reflects the people's mandate. The 18th Lok Sabha (2024) represents 980 million eligible voters, making it a direct expression of public will.
 - **Bicameral Representation:** The Lok Sabha represents the people directly, while the Rajya Sabha ensures state voices are heard, balancing national and regional interests. This federal structure, rooted in the Constitution, accommodates India's diversity.
 - **Diverse Representation:** With 543 Lok Sabha and 245 Rajya Sabha members, including reserved seats for Scheduled Castes (84) and Scheduled Tribes (47), the Parliament amplifies marginalised voices, as noted in prior chapters.

Ensuring Different Opinions Are Heard:

- **Debates and Discussions:** The Lok Sabha (led by the Speaker) and Rajya Sabha (chaired by the Vice President) provide platforms for MPs to debate bills, policies, and issues, as seen in the Question Hour where ministers address MPs' concerns.
- **Translation Services:** Simultaneous interpretation in 18 languages (e.g., Hindi, Tamil, Bodo) ensures MPs from diverse linguistic backgrounds can participate, promoting inclusivity.
- **Committees:** Cross-party committees scrutinise bills and policies, incorporating varied perspectives before laws are passed, as in the Right to Education Act, 2009.
- **Public Engagement:** Media coverage, including cartoons, and digital platforms allow citizens to follow debates, encouraging diverse input, as noted in the challenges section.
- **Poetry and Humour:** Light-hearted exchanges, like Sushma Swaraj's and Manmohan Singh's poetic quotes in 2011, make debates accessible and engaging, reflecting diverse communication styles.

62. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) 2009
- (b) Lok Sabha
- (c) Amendment
- (d) Lok Sabha
- (e) Legislature
- (f) Budget Sessions
- (g) Judiciary
- (h) Bill
- (i) Council of Ministers
- (j) Question Hour

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