

POLITICAL SCIENCE

(Maximum Marks: 80)

(Time allowed: Three hours)

(Candidates are allowed additional 15 minutes for **only** reading the paper.
They must NOT start writing during this time.)

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

PART I (20 Marks)

Answer **all** questions.

Question 1

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

[10 × 2]

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

This paper consists of 3 printed pages and 1 blank page.

1217-852

© Copyright reserved.

Turn over

PART II (60 Marks)

SECTION A

Answer any three questions.

Question 2

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

Question 3

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

Question 4

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

Question 5

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

Question 6

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

SECTION B

Answer *any two* questions.

Question 7

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

Question 8

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

Question 9

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