

Chapter 6

The Parliamentary System Legislature and Executive

Section A: Fill in the Blanks

1. There have been _____ Lok Sabhas since 1952; the 18th was formed in 2024.
2. Ancient _____ and village panchayats inspired collective decision-making in India.
3. The _____ of the Lok Sabha maintains discipline and order during debates.
4. The _____ of India acts as the Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha.
5. The _____, placed near the Speaker's chair, symbolises dharma and justice.
6. The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the _____.
7. The _____ Hour is the first hour of a Parliamentary session where ministers answer MPs' questions.
8. The _____ is an important tool of financial accountability in Parliament.
9. The _____ is the Head of State and the nominal head of the Executive.
10. The _____ is the de facto executive authority in the state.

Section B: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

1. The first Lok Sabha was constituted in:

a) 1947 <input type="checkbox"/>	b) 1950 <input type="checkbox"/>	c) 1952 <input type="checkbox"/>	d) 1956 <input type="checkbox"/>
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2. The maximum number of members in the Lok Sabha as per the Constitution is:

a) 450 <input type="checkbox"/>	b) 550 <input type="checkbox"/>	c) 500 <input type="checkbox"/>	d) 600 <input type="checkbox"/>
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3. Which country's system inspired India's Parliamentary democracy?

a) Britain <input type="checkbox"/>	b) France <input type="checkbox"/>	c) USA <input type="checkbox"/>	d) Japan <input type="checkbox"/>
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4. Who presides over the Lok Sabha?

a) Vice President <input type="checkbox"/>	b) Prime Minister <input type="checkbox"/>
c) President <input type="checkbox"/>	d) Speaker <input type="checkbox"/>
5. The Rajya Sabha is presided over by:

a) Speaker <input type="checkbox"/>	b) Vice President <input type="checkbox"/>
c) Prime Minister <input type="checkbox"/>	d) President <input type="checkbox"/>
6. How many languages were initially available for simultaneous interpretation in Parliament?

a) 6 <input type="checkbox"/>	b) 10 <input type="checkbox"/>	c) 12 <input type="checkbox"/>	d) 18 <input type="checkbox"/>
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7. Which of the following is a Constitutional function of Parliament?

a) Amending the Constitution <input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conducting elections for MLAs <input type="checkbox"/>
c) Passing state laws <input type="checkbox"/>
d) Conducting municipal elections <input type="checkbox"/>
8. Which article of the Constitution made free and compulsory education a Fundamental Right?

a) Article 14 <input type="checkbox"/>	b) Article 19 <input type="checkbox"/>
c) Article 21A <input type="checkbox"/>	d) Article 32 <input type="checkbox"/>
9. Who is the Union Executive answerable to?

a) President <input type="checkbox"/>	b) Supreme Court <input type="checkbox"/>
c) Rajya Sabha <input type="checkbox"/>	d) Lok Sabha <input type="checkbox"/>

10. Who appoints the Prime Minister of India?

- | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| a) Lok Sabha | <input type="text"/> | b) President | <input type="text"/> |
| c) Rajya Sabha | <input type="text"/> | d) Chief Justice of India | <input type="text"/> |

11. Who is the constitutional head of a state in India?

- | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| a) Prime Minister | <input type="text"/> | b) Governor | <input type="text"/> |
| c) Chief Minister | <input type="text"/> | d) Speaker | <input type="text"/> |

12. Which of the following states has a bicameral legislature?

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|---------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| a) Kerala | <input type="text"/> | b) Rajasthan | <input type="text"/> |
| c) Tamil Nadu | <input type="text"/> | d) Maharashtra | <input type="text"/> |

13. Money bills at the state level can only be introduced in the:

- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| a) Vidhan Sabha | <input type="text"/> | b) Rajya Sabha | <input type="text"/> |
| c) Vidhan Parishad | <input type="text"/> | d) Lok Sabha | <input type="text"/> |

14. Education is included in the:

- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| a) Union List | <input type="text"/> | b) State List | <input type="text"/> |
| c) Concurrent List | <input type="text"/> | d) None of the above | <input type="text"/> |

15. The Vidhan Sabha is also called:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| a) Legislative Assembly | <input type="text"/> | b) Council of States | <input type="text"/> |
| c) Upper House | <input type="text"/> | d) Parliament | <input type="text"/> |

Section C: Write T for True and F for False in the boxes provided.

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. The Rajya Sabha is directly elected by the people. | <input type="text"/> |
| 2. India's Constitution was inspired only by foreign models. | <input type="text"/> |
| 3. The Lok Sabha is also called the House of the People. | <input type="text"/> |
| 4. Translation services in Parliament now cover 18 languages. | <input type="text"/> |
| 5. Ministers in the Council of Ministers are chosen from among MPs of both Houses. | <input type="text"/> |
| 6. The Right to Education Act, 2009 was passed in the Rajya Sabha and then lapsed. | <input type="text"/> |
| 7. Ministers must justify their actions during Question Hour in the Lok Sabha. | <input type="text"/> |
| 8. The Judiciary ensures that laws passed by Parliament do not violate the Constitution. | <input type="text"/> |
| 9. The Prime Minister is directly elected by the people of India. | <input type="text"/> |
| 10. All states in India have bicameral legislatures. | <input type="text"/> |

Section D: Match the Following.

Column A

1. First Lok Sabha formed
2. Draft of a proposed law
3. Maximum age group under RTE Act
4. State with a bicameral legislature
5. Term of Vidhan Sabha
6. Minimum age to become a member of Lok Sabha
7. System with two houses in the legislature

Column B

- a. 6 to 14 years
- b. 5 years
- c. Bicameral System
- d. 1952
- e. 25 years
- f. Bill
- g. Maharashtra

Section E: Short Answer Questions

1. What is Universal Adult Franchise?

Ans. _____

2. Name the three members of the Union Executive.

Ans. _____

3. What are the two main legislative functions of Parliament?

Ans. _____

4. What is the role of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha?

Ans. _____

5. How does Parliament hold the Executive accountable?

Ans. _____

6. What was the significance of the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002?

Ans. _____

7. What is the role of the President in India's Parliamentary system?

Ans. _____

8. How many languages are currently available for simultaneous interpretation in Parliament?

Ans. _____

9. What are the three sessions of Parliament?

Ans. _____

10. What is the role of Standing Committees in Parliament?

Ans. _____

Section F: Long Answer Questions

1. Explain the journey of a bill to becoming an Act with the example of the Right to Education Act, 2009.

Ans. _____

2. Describe the composition of the Indian Parliament. How does it represent the voice of the people?

Ans. _____

3. Discuss the executive functions of the Parliament. What is the role of the President, Prime Minister, and Council of Ministers?

Ans. _____

4. What challenges do legislatures in India face today? Suggest ways to improve their effectiveness.

Ans. _____

5. Explain the concept of Union List, State List, and Concurrent List with examples.

Ans. _____

SECTION G: Give One word Answer.

1. A form of government where power is shared between Centre and States. – _____
2. A gold-plated silver sceptre symbolising righteous rule. – _____
3. The animal figure on top of the Sengol that symbolises justice. – _____

4. The house of Parliament where Money Bills can only be introduced.
5. Permanent committees of Parliament that scrutinise government work.
6. The organ of government that acts as the custodian of the Constitution.
7. The presiding officer of the Vidhan Sabha.
8. The list that gives exclusive powers to the Union Government.
9. The upper house of a state legislature, wherever present.
10. The de facto executive authority at the state level.

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— _____

Section H: Give Reasons.

1. Give reasons why India chose a bicameral legislature at the Union level.

Ans. _____

2. Give reasons why the Rajya Sabha is called the Council of States.

Ans. _____

3. Give reasons why the Speaker is considered an important authority in the Lok Sabha.

Ans. _____

4. Give reasons why civil servants are called permanent administrators.

Ans. _____

5. Give reasons why Question Hour is important in Parliament.

Ans. _____

Section I: Difference Between following terms.

1. Difference between Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

Lok Sabha	Rajya Sabha

2. Difference between Union Government and State Government.

Union Government	State Government.

3. Difference between Unicameral and Bicameral Legislature.

Unicameral Legislature	Bicameral Legislature

4. Difference between Union List and State List.

Union List	State List



One Point Learning

Answer

Section A: Fill in the Blanks

- | | | | | |
|--------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. 17 | 2. mahājanapadas | 3. Speaker | 4. Vice President | 5. Sengol |
| 6. Lok Sabha | 7. Question | 8. Budget | 9. President | 10. Chief Minister |

Section B: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

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|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. c) 1952 | 2. b) 550 | 3. a) Britain | 4. d) Speaker | 5. b) Vice President |
| 6. c) 12 | 7. a) Amending the Constitution | 8. c) Article 21A | 9. d) Lok Sabha | |
| 10. b) President | 11. b) Governor | 12. d) Maharashtra | 13. a) Vidhan Sabha | |
| 14. c) Concurrent List | 15. a) Legislative Assembly | | | |

Section D: True/False

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|----------|----------|---------|----------|-----------|
| 1. False | 2. False | 3. True | 4. True | 5. True |
| 6. False | 7. True | 8. True | 9. False | 10. False |

Section C: Match the Following

- | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 → d | 2 → f | 3 → a | 4 → g | 5 → b | 6 → e | 7 → c |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|

Section E: Short Answer Questions

- Universal Adult Franchise gives all citizens aged 18 and above the right to vote, irrespective of gender, caste, religion, or economic background.
- Three members of the Union Executive: President, Vice President, Prime Minister (with Council of Ministers).
- Two main legislative functions of Parliament: Lawmaking and Executive & Financial accountability.
- Role of the Speaker: Conducts sessions, allows members to speak, maintains discipline, and ensures rules are followed.
- Parliament holds the Executive accountable through Question Hour, debates, and Standing Committees.
- 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002 made free and compulsory education for children 6–14 years a Fundamental Right (Article 21A).
- Role of the President: Head of State, nominal executive, appoints Prime Minister, summons sessions, assents to bills.
- Currently, 18 languages are available for simultaneous interpretation in Parliament.
- Three sessions of Parliament: Budget Session, Monsoon Session, Winter Session.
- Standing Committees scrutinise government policies, bills, and financial accountability.

Section F: Long Answer Questions

- Journey of a Bill to an Act (e.g., RTE Act, 2009): A bill is introduced → discussed in both Houses → passed by majority → sent to President for assent → becomes an Act. The RTE Bill followed this process and became law in 2009.
- Composition of Indian Parliament: Consists of President, Lok Sabha, and Rajya Sabha. Lok Sabha represents people, Rajya Sabha represents states, ensuring people's voice and federal balance.
- Executive functions of Parliament:
 - President: Nominal head
 - Prime Minister: Real executive, head of government
 - Council of Ministers: Implements laws, runs ministries, accountable to Lok Sabha.
- Challenges faced by legislatures:

Absenteeism, disruptions, decline in debate quality, pending bills, criminal cases among members.

Solutions: More public participation, accountability, digital engagement, stronger ethics laws.

5. Union, State, and Concurrent Lists:

- Union List: Defence, foreign affairs, currency
- State List: Police, agriculture, public order
- Concurrent List: Education, forests, marriage laws

Section G: One Word Answer

- | | | | | |
|---------------|------------|---------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Federalism | 2. Sengol | 3. Nandi | 4. Lok Sabha | 5. Standing Committees |
| 6. Judiciary | 7. Speaker | 8. Union List | 9. Vidhan Parishad | 10. Chief Minister |

Section H: Give Reasons

1. Bicameral legislature ensures wider debate, better representation, and checks & balances.
2. Rajya Sabha = Council of States because it represents state interests in federal democracy.
3. Speaker's importance: Maintains order, conducts debates, decides on Money Bills, ensures discipline.
4. Civil servants as permanent administrators: They serve government continuously, even if political leadership changes.
5. Question Hour importance: Ministers must answer MPs' queries, ensuring transparency and accountability.

Section I: Difference Between

1. Lok Sabha vs Rajya Sabha

Lok Sabha: Lower House, directly elected, 5-year term, Money Bills originate here.

Rajya Sabha: Upper House, indirectly elected, permanent body, cannot initiate Money Bills.

2. Union Government vs State Government

Union: President is head, PM is de facto executive, laws on Union & Concurrent List.

State: Governor is head, CM is de facto executive, laws on State & Concurrent List.

3. Unicameral vs Bicameral Legislature

Unicameral: One house only (Vidhan Sabha).

Bicameral: Two houses (Vidhan Sabha + Vidhan Parishad).

4. Union List vs State List

Union List: Subjects of national importance (defence, currency).

State List: Subjects of local/state importance (police, agriculture).