



TEST -16 (Polity) Detailed English Answers Key

- Question 1: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect because the term '**Basic Structure**' is not mentioned anywhere in the Constitution. It is a doctrine developed by the judiciary. Statements 2 and 3 are entirely true.
- Question 2: (D)** Explanation: All these four elements have been identified as part of the Basic Structure by the Supreme Court from time to time (**e.g., Indira Gandhi case, S.R. Bommai case**).
- Question 3: (A)** Explanation: Both the Assertion and Reason are true. The judiciary is the protector because it can examine amendments on the basis of the Basic Structure.
- Question 4: (D)** Explanation: All three statements correctly present the relevance of the Basic Structure and its philosophical foundation.
- Question 5: (D)** Explanation: All four pairs are correct. It was the L.M. Singhvi Committee that recommended the constitutionalization of Panchayats for the empowerment of democracy.
- Question 6: (D)** Explanation: There are 29 subjects in the 11th Schedule (**such as agriculture, land reforms, education, etc.**). Gram Sabha is the foundation of direct democracy.
- Question 7: (A)** Explanation: According to Article 243S, the criterion of a population of 3 lakhs is mandatory for Ward Committees. Both Assertion and Reason are true and related to each other.
- Question 8: (D)** Explanation: Members are elected directly (**Direct Election**), but the Chairpersons of intermediate and district levels are elected indirectly (**Indirect Election**). 33% reservation for women is a mandatory provision.
- Question 9: (C)** Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect because only 10 duties were added by the 42nd Amendment. The 11th duty was added later in 2002. The objective of the 86th Amendment was to make education a duty of parents along with being a right.
- Question 10: (A)** Explanation: This is a very important point. The Swaran Singh Committee had suggested provisions for punishment, but the then government thought it appropriate to keep them '**non-justiciable**' keeping in view democratic decorum. Therefore, (**R**) correctly explains (**A**).
- Question 11: (D)** Explanation: Fundamental Duties are '**Civic Duties**' in nature. The Verma Committee clarified that although the duties themselves are not punishable, Parliament has already made several laws for their protection. The courts also take their help to check '**constitutional propriety**'.
- Question 12: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are true. Due to Article 3, India is called an '**indestructible Union of destructible States**'. This is a unique feature of Indian federalism that distinguishes it from American federalism.
- Question 13: (B)** Explanation: Both statements are independently correct. Withholding of bills by the Governor is a center of recent controversies (**Statement A is true**). The Shamsher Singh case confirms the binding advice of the Council of Ministers (**Statement R is true**). However, Reason (**R**) does not directly explain the specific process of withholding bills (**Pocket Veto**), but rather states a general position.
- Question 14: (A)** Explanation: Article 249 gives special power to Parliament. Article 262 is for water disputes. Article 263 allows the President to create an Inter-State Council and 275 relates to financial grants.
- Question 15: (A)** Explanation: Statements 1 and 2 are constitutional means of administrative control. Statement 3 can be analytically disputed, but constitutionally, All India Services are considered an '**essential element**' of federalism that ensures the unity of the nation (**Article 312**), rather than its '**violation**'.
- Question 16: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. There was no mention of the Collegium in the original Constitution; it developed through '**Judges Cases**' between 1981-1998. The striking down of the NJAC was a symbol of the autonomy of the judiciary.
- Question 17: (A)** Explanation: The concept of Judicial Review is taken from the Constitution of the USA. It is not directly written in the Indian Constitution, but its power flows through various articles.



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- Question 18: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. Through '**Judicial Activism**', the judiciary can give directions to fill a policy vacuum (e.g., **Vishaka Guidelines**). Article 142 is its extraordinary power.
- Question 19: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The judges of the High Court are also appointed by the President, not the Governor. Statement 3 is correct because the HC can issue writs for legal rights as well.
- Question 20: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The era of Judicial Activism in India started in the late 1970s (**Justice P.N. Bhagwati and V.R. Krishna Iyer**).
- Question 21: (C)** Explanation: Statement 2 is not entirely true because a retired High Court judge can practice in the Supreme Court or in those High Courts where he has not served. All other provisions ensure independence.
- Question 22: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are true. The new law of 2023 removed the Chief Justice of India (**CJI**) from the selection committee and included a Cabinet Minister, which is currently a subject of discussion.
- Question 23: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The Delimitation Commission is appointed by the President, and it involves the cooperation of the Election Commission and State Election Commissioners (**consultation with the CJI is not mandatory**). Its orders are kept outside the scope of judicial review.
- Question 24: (D)** Explanation: These three are independent criteria. Currently, there are a total of 6 national parties in India (**BJP, INC, BSP, CPI(M), AAP, and NPP**).
- Question 25: (A)** Explanation: Uttar Pradesh (**31**), Maharashtra (**19**), West Bengal (**16**), and Andhra Pradesh (**11**). The allocation of seats is based on population according to the Fourth Schedule.
- Question 26: (B)** Explanation: Both statements are correct, but the Reason (**R**) does not explain the Assertion (**A**) because they talk about different election categories (**President vs. Parliament**). Disputes regarding the Presidential election are heard only by the Supreme Court under Article 71.
- Question 27: (A)** Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect because in FPTP, a candidate only needs more votes than others, not a limit of 50%. Statement 3 is analytically complex, but theoretically, FPTP leads towards a two-party system (**Duverger's Law**), although in India, it has remained multi-party.
- Question 28: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. In the original Constitution, there was no limit on the size of the Council of Ministers. This limit was added in 2003 by the 91st Amendment to maintain administrative economy and political stability.
- Question 29: (D)** Explanation: Assertion (**A**) is partially incorrect because the Council of Ministers is collectively responsible specifically to the '**Lok Sabha**' only, not to the entire '**Parliament**'. Therefore, the statement is incorrect and the reason is correct.
- Question 30: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are correct. The 91st Amendment has made strict provisions to prevent defectors from becoming ministers. Additionally, it is mandatory to obtain membership within 6 months (**Article 75(5)**).
- Question 31: (A)** Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect. India has a parliamentary system where the Executive is a part of the Legislature and is responsible to it. Absolute separation of powers (**as exists in the USA**) is not found in India.
- Question 32: (D)** Explanation: In India, the counter-signature of a minister on the President's order is not required; therefore, unlike Britain, there is no legal responsibility of ministers here. Article 74(**2**) explicitly bars courts from inquiring into the advice of ministers.
- Question 33: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are correct. Dr. Radhakrishnan, Dr. Zakir Hussain, V.V. Giri, R. Venkataraman, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, and K.R. Narayanan are the six individuals who first became Vice-President and then President.
- Question 34: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect because although the term '**Violation of the Constitution**' is used, it has not been defined anywhere in the Constitution. The participation of nominated members in impeachment reflects its quasi-judicial nature.



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- Question 35: (A)** Explanation: To date, no President has been impeached in India. The rigidity of its process (**2/3rd majority of the total membership**) is a major reason, which protects it from political misuse.
- Question 36: (D)** Explanation: Dr. Zakir Hussain died while in office, and V.V. Giri resigned from the post of Vice-President to contest the Presidential election. Therefore, both did not complete their terms.
- Question 37: (B)** Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect because the Rajya Sabha is a permanent house and can never be dissolved. The President can only dissolve the Lok Sabha. The ordinance-making power of the President makes him an important part of the legislative process.
- Question 38: (D)** Explanation: The Citizenship Act 1955 describes these five methods (**Birth, Descent, Registration, Naturalisation, and Incorporation of Territory**) in detail. All three statements correctly present the mandatory conditions of these methods.
- Question 39: (D)** Explanation: These articles were created for the special circumstances at the time of Partition. The date July 19, 1948, was the date the '**Permit System**' was implemented, which is significant for both Articles 6 and 7.
- Question 40: (A)** Explanation: Article 9 clarifies that Indian citizenship will terminate upon voluntarily acquiring foreign citizenship. India has the principle of '**Single Citizenship**', which makes (**R**) the correct explanation of (**A**).
- Question 41: (D)** Explanation: NRIs are '**Indian citizens**', therefore they have the right to vote. OCIs are foreign citizens who enjoy certain special facilities, but they do not possess political rights (**such as voting or contesting elections**).
- Question 42: (D)** Explanation: Articles 5-10 are not permanent citizenship laws. Article 11 gave the Parliament the power to make permanent laws, the latest use of which was through CAA 2019.
- Question 43: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect because the President cannot appoint anyone as PM at his own will; he must appoint the leader of the majority party in the Lok Sabha. Discretionary power is available only when no single party has a clear majority. Statements 2 and 3 are constitutionally correct.
- Question 44: (A)** Explanation: Article 78 clearly describes the three main duties of the PM. It is the PM's responsibility to furnish information to the President, therefore he acts like a '**Bridge**'. (**R**) correctly explains (**A**).
- Question 45: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are correct. The Prime Minister is the '**Keystone**' of the cabinet arch. His resignation is considered the resignation of the entire government. A No-Confidence Motion is brought only in the Lok Sabha because the Council of Ministers is responsible to it (**Article 75(3)**).
- Question 46: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect because prior permission of the President is not required for a Constitutional Amendment Bill. Under Article 368(**2**), the provision for a joint sitting is only for ordinary bills, not for amendment bills.
- Question 47: (A)** Explanation: Statement 4 is incorrect because amendments to Fundamental Rights and DPSP require only a special majority, not the consent of states. For subjects affecting the federal structure (**1, 2, 3**), ratification by the states is mandatory.
- Question 48: (A)** Explanation: The restrictions imposed on the judiciary and civil rights during the Emergency by the 42nd Amendment were restored by the 44th Amendment. Therefore, Reason (**R**) correctly explains Assertion (**A**).
- Question 49: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are correct. The amendment process is a mixture of flexibility and rigidity, which allows for development while keeping democracy secure. The '**Basic Structure**' puts a check on the unlimited power of Parliament.
- Question 50: (A)** Explanation: 52nd (**Defection**), 61st (**Voting age**), 86th (**Education**), and 101st (**GST**). All these amendments are considered milestones in the Indian polity.
- Question 51: (C)** Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect because the '**McMahon Line**' refers only to the border of the Eastern Sector (**Arunachal Pradesh**), not Ladakh (**Western Sector**). In Ladakh, the boundary line is primarily seen as the Johnson Line or the LAC.
- Question 52: (B)** Explanation: Both statements are true. But the Shimla Agreement (**R**) does not explain why India adopted the policy of '**No terror and talks together**' (**A**); it only talks about bilateralism. The anti-terror policy is a result of India's own security concerns.



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- Question 53: (A)** Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect. No decision has been taken to abolish the IMBL; rather, it is the violation of this boundary that leads to the arrest of fishermen. Bottom trawling is the main technical cause of the dispute.
- Question 54: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are correct. There is a 'Roti-Beti' relationship with Nepal, but the Kalapani dispute and the security misuse of the open border are currently the main causes of tension in bilateral relations.
- Question 55: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are true. The 1996 Ganga Treaty is set to expire in 2026 (**important for current affairs**). The Kushiyara agreement is the first major river water agreement in 25 years.
- Question 56: (C)** (Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect because the same '**State Finance Commission**' makes recommendations for both Panchayats and Municipalities.
- Question 57: (C)** (Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect because bills do not lapse due to the prorogation of the session; they remain alive for the next session. Only dissolution causes bills in the Lok Sabha to lapse.
- Question 58: (A)** (Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect because IMEC includes a comprehensive rail link along with the sea route.
- Question 59: (A)** (Explanation: The Bommai case ensured that President's Rule does not become a tool for political vendetta. The court can examine the relevance, not the adequacy, of the material.
- Question 60: (A)** (Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect. This division is not geographical but socio-economic and political. Australia is geographically in the South but is part of the '**Global North**'.)
- Question 61: (D)** (Explanation: All three statements are true. The expansion of NATO (entry of Finland and Sweden) after the Ukraine war is the biggest event in global politics.)
- Question 62: (A)** (Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect. AUKUS is only for nuclear-powered (propulsion) submarines; it is not a treaty to give '**Nuclear Weapons**' to Australia.)
- Question 63: (A)** (Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect. India is not a member of this group, although the discussion of sharing intelligence with India often takes place.
- Question 64: (C)** (Explanation: Assertion (A) is correct. Reason (R) is incorrect because '**NATO Plus**' is a security cooperation agreement; it does not involve a legal obligation like NATO's '**Article 5**'. India is hesitant to join it due to its '**Strategic Autonomy**'.)
- Question 65: (A)** (Explanation: ANZUS (1951), AUKUS (2021), QUAD (2007/2017), and Warsaw Pact (1955-1991).)
- Question 66: (C)** (Explanation: Non-permanent members are elected for 2 years, not 5 years. The veto is used only on '**substantive**' matters, not '**procedural**' ones.
- Question 67: (A)** (Explanation: General Assembly resolutions are '**recommendatory**' in nature; they are not legally binding. Only the decisions of the Security Council are binding.
- Question 68: (A)** (Explanation: ECOSOC and its '**High-Level Political Forum**' (HLPF) have a major role in monitoring the SDGs.)
- Question 69: (B)** (Explanation: Both statements are correct, but issuing the SOFI report is not an explanation of the objective of ending hunger; it is merely a data tool.
- Question 70: (B)** (Explanation: The headquarters of UNICEF is in New York, not Geneva.
- Question 71: (A)** (Explanation: A member of the UNHRC is not eligible for immediate re-election after two consecutive terms, but can be after one term. Its headquarters is in Geneva.
- Question 72: (A)** (Explanation: ICJ—The Hague, FAO—Rome, UNESCO—Paris, UNHRC—Geneva.
- Question 73: (D)** (Explanation: All three statements are strategically and contemporaneously correct. India is continuously advocating for multilateralism and UN reforms.



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- Question 74: (A)** (Explanation: India is not a member of ASEAN (it is a neighbor and partner) and is also not a member of OPEC (India is an importer of oil, not an exporter). India is a member of the remaining 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6.)
- Question 75: (A)** Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect. 'Territory of India' is a wider expression that includes States, Union Territories, and acquired territories, while 'Union of India' includes only the States.
- Question 76: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The President sends the bill to the concerned State Legislature for views, but their opinion is not mandatory or binding on the Parliament. Parliament can take a decision even contrary to the opinion.
- Question 77: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are correct. India has done this twice majorly so far—9th Amendment (for Berubari) and 100th Amendment (for transfer of enclaves with Bangladesh). Amendment is not required for settlement of a routine boundary dispute, but it is mandatory for ceding territory.
- Question 78: (D)** Explanation: Constitutionally, the administration of Union Territories is carried out through an administrator appointed by the President. Articles 239-241 provide detailed provisions for this.
- Question 79: (A)** Explanation: This is a distinct feature of the Indian federal system, called a 'Union with a unitary bias'. The existence of states depends on the will of the Parliament; that is why it is called an 'indestructible Union of destructible States'.
- Question 80: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are correct. The writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is larger than that of the High Court (Article 226) in terms of 'territory' (entire India) but smaller in terms of 'type of jurisdiction' (only fundamental rights). Parliament can grant this power to lower courts under Article 32(3).
- Question 81: (A)** Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect. Under Articles 33 and 35, the power to amend or give effect to fundamental rights lies only with the Parliament, so that uniformity of discipline is maintained in the security forces.
- Question 82: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The term 'Martial Law' has been used in the Constitution, but it has not been defined anywhere. It is derived from English Common Law. Statements 2 and 3 reflect its actual powers.
- Question 83: (A)** Explanation: Article 35 explicitly states that only the Parliament shall make laws on subjects like Articles 16(3), 32(3), 33, and 34. If this power were given to State Legislatures, diversity would arise in the enforcement of fundamental rights, destroying constitutional uniformity.
- Question 84: (D)** Explanation: Article 358 applies only in case of war/external aggression (External Emergency). Article 359 applies in both internal and external emergencies. Suspension of Articles 20 and 21 is prohibited.
- Question 85: (A)** Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect. During President's Rule, the President can take over the powers of the State government and legislature, but he cannot touch the powers of the High Court. The independence of the court remains intact.
- Question 86: (A)** Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect. Financial Emergency has never been imposed in India so far (Not even in 1991).
- Question 87: (C)** Explanation: Reason (R) is incorrect. Parliament can make laws on the State List, but the State Legislature is not abolished. It can also make laws, but the law of Parliament prevails (Article 250). The State Assembly is suspended or dissolved only during 'President's Rule'.
- Question 88: (D)** Explanation: All these changes were made after the experiences of the 1975 Emergency so that in the future, no government can impose an emergency arbitrarily.
- Question 89: (A)** Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect. The Constitution has not mentioned any specific qualification for the members of the Election Commission.
- Question 90: (A)** Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect. NITI Aayog has no power of fund allocation; this task now lies with the Ministry of Finance.
- Question 91: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are correct. In India, the CAG only conducts audits after the payment has been made. He does not exercise control over the issuance of 'checks'.



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- Question 92: (D)** Explanation: All three statements are correct. The NHRC is often called a '**Toothless Tiger**' because its powers are only recommendatory.
- Question 93: (A)** Explanation: The government usually accepts the advice, but upon not accepting it, it has to provide accountability. This arrangement maintains the dignity of the Commission.
- Question 94: (A)** Explanation: Finance Commission (**Article 280**), CVC (**Santhanam Committee**), CBI (**DSPE Act**), and Lokpal (**Anti-corruption**).
- Question 95: (D)** Explanation: The 1935 Act is the main blueprint of the current Constitution. It transferred Dyarchy to the Centre and made the provinces autonomous.
- Question 96: (B)** Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The members of the Constituent Assembly were elected indirectly by the Provincial Assemblies, not directly by the people.
- Question 97: (A)** Explanation: Impeachment (**USA**), Parliamentary Privileges (**UK**), Federal structure (**Canada**), and DPSP (**Ireland**).
- Question 98: (D)** Explanation: These four features make the Centre more powerful compared to the States, which are characteristics of a unitary system.
- Question 99: (A)** Explanation: After the Revolt of 1857, the British Parliament took the reins of governance directly into its own hands.
- Question 100: (A)** Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect. The words '**Socialist**', '**Secular**', and '**Integrity**' were added by the 42nd Amendment (**1976**); they were not in the original Constitution.