



THEME D - GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRACY

6 - THE PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM: LEGISLATURE AND EXECUTIVE

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. How does the legislature differ from the executive?

Ans: The legislature is the body responsible for making laws and overseeing the government, while the executive is responsible for implementing and enforcing those laws.

2. Describe the historical and cultural significance of the Sengol in India.

Ans: The Sengol, a symbol of justice and authority, connects India's rich past with its democratic present.

The Sengol was used as a symbol of power, justice, and righteousness during the transfer of authority between rulers in the Chola Kingdom. It also signifies the transfer of power from British rule to independent India.

Lord Mountbatten handed over the Sengol to Jawaharlal Nehru in a ceremony marking India's Independence.

3. Mention the role of the Judiciary in a democracy.
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Ans: * The Judiciary is a branch of the government that interprets and applies the laws of the country, especially in cases of disputes.

* The Judiciary ensures that all parts of the government follow the rules laid out in the Constitution.

* It monitors whether laws are being followed properly, settles disagreements and protects the fundamental rights of citizens.

4. Discuss the Structure of State Legislatures.
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Ans: In India, the Structure of State Legislatures is not the same in every state.

* Some states have a Unicameral legislature $\Rightarrow$ which means they have only one house.

* Other states have a bicameral legislature $\Rightarrow$ which means they have two houses.

* The lower House of the state legislature is called the Vidhan Sabha or Legislative Assembly.

* The upper house, present in some states is called the Vidhan Parishad or Legislative Council.

5. Compare the legislative and executive structures of the Union and State Governments.

Ans:

UNION GOVERNMENT

STATE GOVERNMENT

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| 1. Constitutional Head: President | Constitutional Head: Governor |
| 2. Real Executive Power: Prime Minister. | Real Executive Power: Chief Minister. |
| 3. Legislature: Bicameral - Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. | Legislature: Unicameral or Bicameral (varies by state). |
| 4. System: Parliamentary democracy. | System: Parliamentary democracy. |
| 5. Council of Ministers: Responsible to Lok Sabha | Council of Ministers: Responsible to State Legislative Assembly. |