

Polity & Economy in India

Comprehensive Guide to Indian Constitution, Governance & Economic Systems
for SSC CGL

Updated: December 2023

 **Focus: Indian Polity & Economy (2023-24 Updates)**

Indian Constitution - Basic Features Fundamental

Constitution of India World's Longest

Fundamental Law

- ✓ **Adopted:** 26th November 1949
- ✓ **Implemented:** 26th January 1950
- ✓ **Total Articles:** 448 (Originally 395)
- ✓ **Total Parts:** 25
- ✓ **Total Schedules:** 12
- ✓ **Amendments:** 105 (as of 2023)
- ✓ **Father of Indian Constitution:** Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Salient Features of Indian Constitution

Feature	Description	Significance
Longthiest Written Constitution	Detailed provisions covering various aspects	Comprehensive governance framework
Drawn from various sources	Features borrowed from 10+ countries	Blend of global best practices
Blend of Rigidity and Flexibility	Some provisions easy to amend, others difficult	Balances stability and adaptability
Federal System with Unitary Bias	Division of power between center and states	Strong center during emergencies
Integrated and Independent Judiciary	Single system of courts	Uniform interpretation of laws

Fundamental Rights Part III

Six Fundamental Rights

Right	Articles	Description	Important Cases
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Right to Equality	14-18	Equality before law, prohibition of discrimination	Kesavananda Bharati Case
Right to Freedom	19-22	Freedom of speech, assembly, movement, etc.	Maneka Gandhi Case
Right against Exploitation	23-24	Prohibition of human trafficking, child labor	Bandhua Mukti Morcha Case
Right to Freedom of Religion	25-28	Freedom of conscience and religion	S.R. Bommai Case
Cultural and Educational Rights	29-30	Protection of minority interests	TMA Pai Foundation Case
Right to Constitutional Remedies	32	Right to move Supreme Court for enforcement	Golaknath Case

Important: Article 32 is called the "Heart and Soul" of the Constitution by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Union Executive

Government

President of India

Head of State

Constitutional Position

- ✓ **Current President:** Droupadi Murmu (15th President)
- ✓ **Elected by:** Electoral College (MPs + MLAs)
- ✓ **Term:** 5 years
- ✓ **Qualification:** Citizen of India, 35 years age, eligible for Lok Sabha
- ✓ **Impeachment:** By Parliament for violation of Constitution

Prime Minister & Council of Ministers Real Executive

Political Executive

- ✓ **Current PM:** Narendra Modi (Since 2014)
- ✓ **Appointed by:** President
- ✓ **Collective Responsibility:** To Lok Sabha
- ✓ **Types of Ministers:** Cabinet, Minister of State, Deputy Minister
- ✓ **Current Cabinet Ministers:** 30 (as of 2023)

Economic Planning in India Development

Five Year Plans - Evolution

Plan	Period	Focus Area	Achievements
First Five Year Plan	1951-56	Agriculture, Irrigation	Community Development Program
Second Five Year Plan	1956-61	Industrialization	Heavy industries establishment
Third Five Year Plan	1961-66	Self-reliance	Green Revolution initiated
Twelfth Five Year Plan	2012-17	Faster, sustainable growth	Last five year plan

NITI Aayog Policy Think Tank

Replaced Planning Commission

- ✓ **Established:** 1st January 2015
- ✓ **Full Form:** National Institution for Transforming India
- ✓ **Chairperson:** Prime Minister
- ✓ **Vice Chairperson:** Suman Bery (as of 2023)

✔ **Key Initiatives:** SDG India Index, Aspirational Districts

Banking & Financial System

RBI & Banks

Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

Central Bank

Monetary Authority

- ✔ **Established:** 1st April 1935
- ✔ **Nationalized:** 1949
- ✔ **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- ✔ **Current Governor:** Shaktikanta Das (25th Governor)
- ✔ **Functions:** Monetary policy, currency issue, banking regulation

Key Policy Rates (as of December 2023)

Rate	Current Value	Purpose
Repo Rate	6.50%	Rate at which RBI lends to banks
Reverse Repo Rate	3.35%	Rate at which RBI borrows from banks

CRR	4.50%	Cash Reserve Ratio
SLR	18.00%	Statutory Liquidity Ratio

Types of Banks in India

Bank Type	Examples	Regulated by
Public Sector Banks	SBI, PNB, Bank of Baroda	RBI
Private Sector Banks	HDFC, ICICI, Axis Bank	RBI
Payment Banks	Paytm Payments Bank, Airtel Payments Bank	RBI
Small Finance Banks	Ujjivan, Equitas, AU Small Finance Bank	RBI

Fiscal Policy & Budget

Government Finance

Union Budget 2023-24

Amrit Kaal

Financial Statement

✓ **Presented by:** Nirmala Sitharaman (Finance Minister)

✓ **Date:** 1st February 2023

✔ **Theme:** "Amrit Kaal - Blueprint for India@100"

✔ **Total Expenditure:** ₹45 lakh crore

✔ **Fiscal Deficit Target:** 5.9% of GDP

Key Budget Highlights 2023-24

Area	Allocation/Change	Impact
Capital Investment	₹10 lakh crore (3.3% of GDP)	Infrastructure boost
New Income Tax Regime	Rebate limit increased to ₹7 lakh	Tax benefits for middle class
Agriculture	Agriculture credit target ₹20 lakh crore	Farmers support
Railways	Highest ever allocation ₹2.4 lakh crore	Modernization

Major Economic Reforms

Liberalization

LPG Reforms 1991

Landmark

Economic Liberalization

- ✓ **LPG:** Liberalization, Privatization, Globalization
- ✓ **Initiated by:** PM P.V. Narasimha Rao
- ✓ **Finance Minister:** Dr. Manmohan Singh
- ✓ **Key Features:** Abolition of License Raj, FDI reforms
- ✓ **Impact:** High GDP growth, increased foreign investment

Recent Economic Reforms

Reform	Year	Key Features	Impact
GST Implementation	2017	One nation, one tax	Simplified tax structure
Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code	2016	Time-bound resolution	Improved ease of doing business
Demonetization	2016	Withdrawal of ₹500, ₹1000 notes	Digital payments boost
Corporate Tax Cut	2019	Reduced to 22% for existing companies	Investment attraction

Recent Policies & Schemes 2023-24

PM Vishwakarma Scheme

New 2023

Social Welfare

- ✓

Launched: September 2023
- ✓

Objective: Support traditional artisans and craftspeople
- ✓

Coverage: 18 traditional trades
- ✓

Benefits: Skill training, toolkit incentive, credit support
- ✓

Budget: ₹13,000 crore

Other Recent Initiatives

Scheme/Policy	Launch Year	Ministry	Objective
National Green Hydrogen Mission	2023	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy	Make India global hub for green hydrogen
Digital India Act	2023 (Proposed)	Ministry of Electronics and IT	Replace IT Act 2000
PM PRANAM	2023	Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers	Promote alternative nutrients

Key Economic Indicators

Current Data

India's Economic Performance (2023-24)

Indicator	Current Value	Previous Value	Trend
GDP Growth Rate (Q2 FY24)	7.6%	7.8% (Q1 FY24)	↗ Strong
Inflation (CPI) - Nov 2023	5.55%	4.87% (Oct 2023)	↗ Within target
Forex Reserves	\$606 billion	\$595 billion	↗ Growing
Fiscal Deficit (Apr-Oct FY24)	45.6% of target	36.3% (Previous year)	↗ Higher
GST Collection (Nov 2023)	₹1.68 lakh crore	₹1.72 lakh crore	↘ Slight dip

Important Constitutional Cases

Landmark Judgments

Recent Significant Judgments

Case	Year	Court	Significance
Same-Sex Marriage Case	2023	Supreme Court	Refused to legalize same-sex marriage
Electoral Bonds Case	2023	Supreme Court	Referred to Constitution Bench
Demonetization Case	2023	Supreme Court	Upheld government's decision
Article 370 Case	2023	Supreme Court	Upheld abrogation of Article 370

Preparation Strategy for Polity & Economy:

- Focus on constitutional articles and amendments
- Remember key economic indicators and their current values
- Note important Supreme Court judgments
- Follow recent government schemes and policies
- Practice matching concepts with their descriptions
- Create timelines for historical developments

Important Tips for SSC CGL:

- Focus on Fundamental Rights and DPSP differences
- Remember current economic data (GDP, inflation, forex)
- Note recent constitutional amendments and cases
- Follow Union Budget highlights

- Practice questions on government schemes
- Keep updated with current economic surveys

Polity & Economy in India - Comprehensive Notes for SSC CGL | Updated Study Material for Competitive Exams

Regularly update with current economic data and recent constitutional developments