

Got it 👍 Let's prepare **quick, exam-oriented revision notes for Indian Polity** (UPSSSC PET level). I'll keep it **point-wise, simple, and focused** so that you can revise fast.

1. Historical Background

Regulating Act 1773

- First step of British govt. interference in Indian affairs.
- Governor of Bengal = Governor-General of Bengal (Warren Hastings, first).
- Supreme Court established at Calcutta (1774).

Pitt's India Act 1784

- Dual system of control: Court of Directors (company) + Board of Control (British govt.).
- British government control over company's political activities.

Charter Acts

- **Charter Act 1813** – Ended East India Company's trade monopoly (except tea & China trade).
- **Charter Act 1833** – Governor-General of Bengal = Governor-General of India (Lord William Bentinck, first). Ended Company's monopoly completely.
- **Charter Act 1853** – First time open competition for Civil Services.

Government of India Acts

- **GOI Act 1858** – After 1857 revolt. East India Company abolished. British Crown took over. Viceroy of India created (Lord Canning, first).
 - **GOI Act 1861** – Indian representation in law-making councils (Legislative Councils).
 - **GOI Act 1892** – Indirect elections introduced in Councils.
 - **GOI Act 1909 (Morley-Minto Reforms)** – Separate electorates for Muslims.
 - **GOI Act 1919 (Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms)** – Dyarchy in provinces (reserved & transferred subjects). Bicameral legislature at centre.
 - **GOI Act 1935** – Provincial autonomy, Federal scheme (not implemented), Bicameral legislatures in provinces, Federal Court.
 - **Indian Independence Act 1947** – India and Pakistan created as two dominions. Constituent Assembly to make Constitution.
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2. Making of the Constitution

Constituent Assembly

- Setup under **Cabinet Mission Plan (1946)**.
 - Total members = **389** (later 299 after partition).
 - First meeting = **9 Dec 1946**, President = **Dr. Rajendra Prasad**.
 - Drafting Committee Chairman = **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**.
 - Constitution adopted on **26 Nov 1949**, came into effect on **26 Jan 1950** (chosen to honour 1930 Purna Swaraj resolution).
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3. Constitution of India

Features of Indian Constitution

- Longest written Constitution (448 articles, 12 schedules originally).
 - Blend of rigidity + flexibility (Amendments possible, not too easy, not too hard).
 - Parliamentary form of govt. (Westminster model).
 - Federal system with strong centre (quasi-federal).
 - Independent Judiciary with Judicial Review.
 - Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties, DPSPs.
 - Secular, Sovereign, Democratic, Republic.
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4. Preamble of the Constitution

- Declares India as: **Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic, Republic**.
 - Objectives: **Justice, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity**.
 - Preamble is **not enforceable in court** but guides interpretation.
 - **Keywords meaning:**
 - **Sovereign** – Independent, free from external control.
 - **Socialist** – Social & economic equality.
 - **Secular** – No state religion, equal respect to all religions.
 - **Democratic** – Govt. elected by the people.
 - **Republic** – Head of state is elected (not hereditary).
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5. Sources of Indian Constitution

- **Britain** – Parliamentary system, Rule of law, Bicameralism, Single citizenship.
- **USA** – Fundamental Rights, Judicial Review, Impeachment, Independence of Judiciary.
- **Canada** – Federation with strong Centre, Residuary powers with Centre.
- **Ireland** – Directive Principles of State Policy, President's nomination of Rajya Sabha members.
- **USSR (Russia)** – Fundamental Duties, Five-Year Plans.
- **France** – Republic, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity.

- **Germany (Weimar Constitution)** – Emergency provisions.
 - **Australia** – Concurrent List, Trade & Commerce freedom, Joint sitting of Parliament.
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3. Fundamental Rights and Duties

Fundamental Rights (Part III, Articles 12–35)

👉 They are **justiciable** (enforceable by courts).

1. Right to Equality (Art. 14–18)

- Equality before law, equal protection of laws (Art. 14).
- No discrimination on religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth (Art. 15).
- Equality of opportunity in public employment (Art. 16).
- Abolition of untouchability (Art. 17).
- Abolition of titles (Art. 18).

2. Right to Freedom (Art. 19–22)

- 6 freedoms under Art. 19: speech & expression, assembly, association, movement, residence, profession.
- Protection in respect of conviction for offences (Art. 20).
- Right to life & personal liberty (Art. 21).
- Protection against arrest & detention (Art. 22).

3. Right against Exploitation (Art. 23–24)

- Prohibits human trafficking, forced labour (Art. 23).
- Prohibits child labour below 14 years in hazardous jobs (Art. 24).

4. Right to Freedom of Religion (Art. 25–28)

- Freedom of conscience, free profession & practice of religion.
- Manage religious institutions (Art. 26).
- No religious instruction in govt. schools (Art. 28).

5. Cultural & Educational Rights (Art. 29–30)

- Protects interests of minorities.
- Right of minorities to establish & administer educational institutions.

6. Right to Constitutional Remedies (Art. 32)

- Called the “**heart & soul of the Constitution**” (Dr. Ambedkar).
- Supreme Court/High Courts can issue **writs** – Habeas Corpus, Mandamus, Prohibition, Certiorari, Quo Warranto.

Reasonable Restrictions on Rights

- Freedom under Article 19 can be restricted in interest of:
 - Sovereignty & integrity of India
 - Security of state
 - Public order
 - Decency & morality
 - Contempt of court
 - Defamation
 - Incitement to offence

Fundamental Duties (Art. 51A, added by 42nd Amendment 1976)

👉 **11 Duties** (10 originally, 11th added by 86th Amendment 2002).

- Abide by Constitution, respect national flag & anthem.
- Protect sovereignty, unity, integrity of India.
- Defend country, render national service.
- Promote harmony, renounce practices derogatory to dignity of women.
- Preserve culture, heritage.
- Protect environment, forests, wildlife.
- Develop scientific temper & spirit of inquiry.
- Safeguard public property.
- Strive for excellence.
- Duty of parents/guardians to provide education to children (6–14 years).

4. Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP, Part IV, Art. 36–51)

- **Non-justiciable**, but fundamental in governance.
- Inspired from **Irish Constitution**.

Classification

1. Socialist Principles

- Right to adequate means of livelihood (Art. 39).
- Equal pay for equal work.
- Distribution of wealth to subserve common good.
- Protection of children, workers, health.

2. Gandhian Principles

- Village Panchayats (Art. 40).
- Promote cottage industries.
- Prohibit intoxicating drinks & drugs (Art. 47).
- Promote cow protection & animal husbandry (Art. 48).

3. Liberal–Intellectual Principles

- Uniform Civil Code (Art. 44).
- International peace & security (Art. 51).
- Protection of environment, monuments, arts (Art. 49).

Difference: Fundamental Rights vs DPSPs

Fundamental Rights	DPSPs
Justiciable (enforceable in court).	Non-justiciable (not enforceable).
Promote individual liberty.	Promote social & economic democracy.
Negative in nature (restrict state).	Positive in nature (direct state).
Borrowed from USA.	Borrowed from Ireland.

5. Union Executive

President of India

- Head of State; Supreme Commander of Armed Forces.
 - **Election:**
 - Indirect, proportional representation by **electoral college** (Elected MPs + MLAs of States & UTs).
 - Term: **5 years**, renewable.
 - **Powers:**
 - **Executive:** Appoints PM, Governors, Judges, CAG, etc.
 - **Legislative:** Summons, prorogues, dissolves Parliament; Gives assent to bills; Can issue **ordinances**.
 - **Judicial:** Pardoning power (Pardon, Reprieve, Respite, Remission, Commute).
 - **Emergency:** Can declare National, State, Financial emergencies.
 - **Impeachment:**
 - For **violation of Constitution** (Art. 61).
 - Process needs 2/3 majority in both Houses.
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Vice-President of India

- Ex-officio **Chairman of Rajya Sabha**.
 - Elected by members of **both Houses of Parliament**.
 - Term: 5 years.
 - Acts as President when:
 - President is absent, resigned, removed, or dies (for max 6 months till new President is elected).
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Prime Minister & Council of Ministers

- **PM = Real head of govt.** (President is nominal head).
 - Appointed by President (usually leader of majority in Lok Sabha).
 - **Council of Ministers:**
 - **Collective responsibility** to Lok Sabha (Art. 75).
 - Three categories: Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State, Deputy Ministers.
 - PM = Chairman of NITI Aayog, National Integration Council, National Development Council, etc.
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6. Parliament

Lok Sabha (Lower House)

- Max strength = **552** (530 from states, 20 from UTs, 2 nominated Anglo-Indians – now abolished by 104th Amendment).
- Current strength = 543.
- Term: 5 years.
- **Powers:**
 - Controls Council of Ministers.
 - Money Bills can only originate here.
 - Elects Speaker & Deputy Speaker.

Rajya Sabha (Upper House)

- Max strength = **250** (238 elected by states + 12 nominated by President).
 - Term: 6 years (1/3rd retire every 2 years).
 - Vice-President is ex-officio Chairman.
 - **Powers:**
 - Not dissolved (permanent body).
 - Can authorise Parliament to legislate on State List subjects.
 - Limited power in Money Bills (only recommendatory).
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Money Bill vs Financial Bill

- **Money Bill (Art. 110):**
 - Only in Lok Sabha, with prior President's approval.
 - Deals ONLY with taxation, borrowing, expenditure.
 - Rajya Sabha can't reject, only recommend (Lok Sabha may accept/reject).
 - Speaker decides if it's a Money Bill.
 - **Financial Bill:**
 - Broader than Money Bill (may contain non-money matters too).
 - Needs approval from both Houses.
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Parliamentary Procedures

- **Question Hour:** 1st hour of a sitting; MPs ask questions, Ministers answer.
 - **Zero Hour:** After Question Hour (not officially mentioned in rules); MPs raise urgent matters without notice.
 - **Adjournment Motion:** For discussing urgent national importance issues.
 - **No-Confidence Motion:** To remove Council of Ministers; needs Lok Sabha majority.
 - **Censure Motion:** Expresses disapproval of govt. policy/minister.
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✓ This covers the **Union Executive + Parliament** in exam-ready points.

Would you like me to prepare the next set on **Judiciary (Supreme Court & High Courts, Judicial Review, PIL, etc.)**, since it's also very important for PET?

Perfect 👍 Let's continue with **State Government & Judiciary** quick notes for UPSSSC PET.

7. State Government

Governor

- Nominal head of the state (like President at Union).
 - **Appointment:** By President, usually for 5 years, can be removed anytime.
 - **Powers:**
 - **Executive:** Appoints CM, other ministers, Advocate General, State Election Commissioner.
 - **Legislative:** Summons, prorogues, dissolves Vidhan Sabha; Gives assent to bills; Can reserve bills for President.
 - **Judicial:** Pardoning power (but only for state laws).
 - **Special:** Administers tribal areas as directed by President.
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Chief Minister & Council of Ministers

- **CM = Real head** of state government (Governor is nominal).
 - Appointed by Governor (leader of majority in Vidhan Sabha).
 - **Council of Ministers:**
 - Collective responsibility to **Vidhan Sabha** (like at Centre with Lok Sabha).
 - Three types: Cabinet, Ministers of State, Deputy Ministers.
 - CM advises Governor in all matters; controls state policies.
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State Legislature

- **Unicameral** (Vidhan Sabha only) or **Bicameral** (Vidhan Sabha + Vidhan Parishad).
 - **Vidhan Sabha (Legislative Assembly):**
 - Members directly elected by people.
 - Term: 5 years.
 - Controls Council of Ministers.
 - Money Bill originates only here.
 - **Vidhan Parishad (Legislative Council):**
 - Permanent body; 1/3 members retire every 2 years.
 - Strength: 1/3rd of Vidhan Sabha (max 1/3, min 40).
 - Members elected by teachers, graduates, MLAs, local bodies + Governor nomination.
 - Weaker than Vidhan Sabha (can only delay bills).
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8. Judiciary

Supreme Court of India

- Established **1950**, apex court, guardian of Constitution.
 - **Structure:** Chief Justice + up to 33 judges (total 34).
 - **Powers:**
 - Original jurisdiction (Centre–State disputes, Fundamental Rights).
 - Appellate jurisdiction (appeals from HC).
 - Advisory jurisdiction (President may seek advice – Art. 143).
 - Judicial Review (check laws against Constitution).
 - Independent & final interpreter of Constitution.
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High Courts

- One in each state (some serve multiple states).
- Composition: Chief Justice + other judges.
- **Powers:**

- Control over Subordinate Courts.
- Writ jurisdiction (like SC) for Fundamental Rights enforcement.

Subordinate Courts

- District Courts (headed by District Judge).
 - Below: Civil & Criminal courts (Munsif, Magistrates).
 - Village level: Nyaya Panchayats.
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PIL (Public Interest Litigation)

- Introduced by SC in 1980s.
 - Any person can approach court for protection of public interest.
 - Example: environment protection, bonded labour, human rights.
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Judicial Activism

- Judiciary's proactive role in policy-making & ensuring justice.
 - Through PILs, suo moto cases (taken up by court itself).
 - Examples: Right to food, environment, 2G case.
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9. Federal System & Centre–State Relations

Distribution of Powers (7th Schedule)

- **Union List** → 97 subjects (defence, foreign affairs, railways, banking, etc.).
 - **State List** → 66 subjects (police, agriculture, health, local govt.).
 - **Concurrent List** → 47 subjects (education, forests, marriage, trade unions).
 - **Residuary powers** → Centre (Union Parliament).
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Emergency Provisions

1. National Emergency (Art. 352)

- Grounds: War, External Aggression, Armed Rebellion.
- Proclaimed by President on advice of Cabinet.
- Fundamental Rights under Art. 19 suspended.
- Parliament can make laws on State List.

2. State Emergency / President's Rule (Art. 356)

- If State govt. cannot function as per Constitution.
- Parliament takes over State powers.
- Maximum period: 6 months at a time (max 3 years with approval).

3. **Financial Emergency (Art. 360)**

- Declared when financial stability threatened.
 - President can reduce salaries, including judges.
 - Never declared in India till now.
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10. Election System in India

Election Commission of India (ECI)

- Independent constitutional body (Art. 324).
 - Composition: Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) + other commissioners (appointed by President).
 - **Functions:**
 - Conducts elections to Parliament, State Legislatures, President, Vice-President.
 - Prepares & updates voter lists.
 - Grants recognition to political parties, allots symbols.
 - Enforces Model Code of Conduct.
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Types of Elections

- **Lok Sabha** → Direct election by people, FPTP (First Past the Post).
 - **State Assembly (Vidhan Sabha)** → Direct election by people in state constituencies.
 - **Rajya Sabha** → Indirect election by MLAs of states (proportional representation, single transferable vote).
 - **President** → Indirect, by elected MPs & MLAs.
 - **Vice-President** → Indirect, by both Houses of Parliament.
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Voting Eligibility

- Universal Adult Suffrage: **18 years+** (since 61st Amendment, 1988).
 - Indian citizen, name on electoral roll, not disqualified.
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NOTA & VVPAT

- **NOTA (None of the Above)** → Option in voting machines since 2013.
 - **VVPAT (Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail)** → Device linked to EVM, shows printed slip of vote for transparency.
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a. Constitutional Bodies

Election Commission of India (ECI) – Art. 324

- Conducts elections to Parliament, State legislatures, President & Vice-President.
 - Independent body.
 - **Composition:** Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) + other ECs (appointed by President).
 - Functions: Voter list, election schedule, Model Code of Conduct, recognition of parties & symbols.
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UPSC (Union Public Service Commission) – Art. 315

- Conducts exams for All India Services, Central Services.
 - Members appointed by President.
 - Advice to govt. on recruitment, promotions, disciplinary actions.
 - **State PSCs** – Appointed by Governor, functions like UPSC at state level.
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Finance Commission – Art. 280

- Constituted every **5 years** by President.
 - Recommends distribution of taxes between Centre & States.
 - Suggests grants-in-aid & measures to strengthen state finances.
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CAG (Comptroller and Auditor General) – Art. 148

- Guardian of public money.
 - Appointed by President, term 6 years or 65 years age.
 - Audits accounts of Union & States, govt. companies.
 - Reports submitted to President/Governor → tabled in Parliament/State legislature.
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Attorney General of India – Art. 76

- Chief legal advisor to Government of India.

- Appointed by President.
- Has right to speak in Parliament (not vote).

Advocate General (State – Art. 165)

- Legal advisor to State govt., appointed by Governor.
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b. Non-Constitutional / Statutory Bodies

NITI Aayog (2015)

- Replaced **Planning Commission**.
 - Policy think-tank of India.
 - Chairperson = Prime Minister.
 - Vice-Chairperson appointed by PM.
 - Promotes cooperative federalism, sustainable development.
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NHRC (National Human Rights Commission, 1993)

- Statutory body (Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993).
 - Chairman = Retired Chief Justice of India.
 - Inquires into human rights violations.
 - States have SHRCs (State Human Rights Commissions).
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CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation)

- Investigative agency (set up under Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946).
 - Functions: Corruption cases, economic crimes, special crimes.
 - Known as India's "premier investigating agency".
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CIC (Central Information Commission, 2005)

- Established under **RTI Act, 2005**.
 - Ensures citizens' right to information from govt. bodies.
 - State level → State Information Commissions.
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Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013

- **Lokpal (Centre), Lokayuktas (States).**
 - Investigates corruption cases against public servants (including PM, ministers, MPs, officials).
 - First Lokpal of India → **Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose (2019).**
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12. Amendments & Schedules

Important Amendments

- **42nd Amendment (1976)** → “*Mini Constitution*”.
 - Added words **Socialist, Secular, Integrity** to Preamble.
 - Added **Fundamental Duties**.
 - Strengthened Directive Principles.
 - **44th Amendment (1978)**
 - Replaced “internal disturbance” with **armed rebellion** (Emergency).
 - Restored Fundamental Rights (Art. 20, 21 cannot be suspended).
 - **73rd Amendment (1992)**
 - Introduced **Panchayati Raj system**.
 - Added **11th Schedule** (29 subjects).
 - **74th Amendment (1992)**
 - Introduced **Urban Local Bodies (Municipalities, Corporations)**.
 - Added **12th Schedule** (18 subjects).
 - **86th Amendment (2002)**
 - Made **Right to Education (Art. 21A)** a Fundamental Right (6–14 years).
 - Added **11th Fundamental Duty** (parents to educate children).
 - **101st Amendment (2016)**
 - Introduced **GST (Goods & Services Tax)**.
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Important Schedules

- **1st Schedule** → Names of States & UTs.
 - **8th Schedule** → Recognised languages (22 currently).
 - **9th Schedule** → Laws placed here immune from judicial review (mostly land reforms).
 - **10th Schedule** → Anti-defection law (1985).
 - **11th Schedule** → Subjects of Panchayats (29).
 - **12th Schedule** → Subjects of Municipalities (18).
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13. Local Self-Government

73rd Amendment (Panchayati Raj, 1992)

- **3-tier structure:** Gram Panchayat (village) – Panchayat Samiti (block) – Zila Parishad (district).
 - **Gram Sabha** → General body of villagers (all registered voters).
 - **Reservation:** 1/3rd seats for women, SC, ST, OBC.
 - **State Finance Commission** → For funds.
 - **State Election Commission** → For local polls.
 - **11th Schedule** → 29 subjects for Panchayats.
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74th Amendment (Urban Local Bodies, 1992)

- **3 types:**
 - Nagar Panchayat (for areas in transition from rural to urban).
 - Municipal Council (for smaller towns).
 - Municipal Corporation (for large cities).
 - **12th Schedule** → 18 subjects (urban planning, slum improvement, water supply, etc.).
 - Reservation like Panchayats.
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14. Important Articles & Parts

Parts of Constitution (I – XXII)

- **Part I** → Union & its Territory.
 - **Part II** → Citizenship.
 - **Part III** → Fundamental Rights.
 - **Part IV** → Directive Principles of State Policy.
 - **Part IV-A** → Fundamental Duties.
 - **Part V** → Union Govt. (President, PM, Parliament).
 - **Part VI** → State Govt. (Governor, CM, State Legislature).
 - **Part IX** → Panchayats.
 - **Part IX-A** → Municipalities.
 - **Part X** → Scheduled & Tribal Areas.
 - **Part XI** → Centre-State Relations.
 - **Part XII** → Finance, Property, Trade.
 - **Part XIV** → Services, PSCs.
 - **Part XV** → Elections.
 - **Part XVII** → Official Language.
 - **Part XVIII** → Emergency Provisions.
 - **Part XX** → Constitutional Amendments.
 - **Part XXI** → Temporary & Special Provisions.
 - **Part XXII** → Short title, commencement.
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Important Articles to Remember

- **Art. 14** → Equality before law.
 - **Art. 19** → Freedom rights.
 - **Art. 21** → Right to life & personal liberty.
 - **Art. 21A** → Right to Education.
 - **Art. 32** → Constitutional Remedies (Heart & Soul).
 - **Art. 44** → Uniform Civil Code (DPSP).
 - **Art. 51A** → Fundamental Duties.
 - **Art. 72 / 161** → Pardoning powers (President / Governor).
 - **Art. 280** → Finance Commission.
 - **Art. 324** → Election Commission.
 - **Art. 356** → President's Rule in state.
 - **Art. 368** → Constitutional Amendment.
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