PART I (20 Marks)

Question 1
Answer all questions.

Answer briefly each of the questions (i) to (x). [10 \times 2]

(i) State two features of a liberal democratic state.
(ii) Distinguish between a flexible constitution and a rigid constitution.
(iii) Distinguish between bi-party system and multi-party system.
(iv) Give one reason why it is important for a federal state to have a bicameral legislature.
(v) Distinguish between political executive and permanent executive.
(vi) In which landmark case was judicial review first exercised by the Supreme Court of the United States?
(vii) Why is November 26 celebrated as Constitution Day in India?
(viii) Which fundamental right was removed by the 44th Constitutional Amendment?
(ix) Briefly explain the composition of the Zila Parishad.
(x) What is meant by communalism, in the Indian context?
PART II (60 Marks)

SECTION A

Answer any three questions.

Question 2

(a) What are the characteristics of a federal state?  [6]
(b) Explain why India is characterised as a quasi-federal state.  [6]

Question 3

(a) Discuss three merits and three demerits of the First-Past-the-Post system.  [6]
(b) Explain the rationale for minority representation in the legislature.  [6]

Question 4

(a) Explain the important functions of the Lok Sabha.  [6]
(b) Compare the relative positions of the Rajya Sabha and the United States Senate in their respective systems.  [6]

Question 5

(a) Explain how the President of the United States is elected.  [6]
(b) Discuss briefly, the limitations that the constitution of the United States places on the powers of the President.  [6]

Question 6

(a) Explain the various jurisdictions of the Supreme Court of India.  [6]
(b) Do you agree with the view that the Supreme Court of India is the most powerful apex court in the world? Explain the reasons for your answer.  [6]
SECTION B

Answer any two questions.

Question 7
(a) Explain the rights conferred under Right to Freedom (Article 19). [6]
(b) Explore the relationship between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles. [6]

Question 8
(a) Explain the main features of the 74th Amendment to the Indian constitution, relating to urban local self-government institutions. [6]
(b) Discuss three challenges faced by Panchayati Raj institutions in India. [6]

Question 9
(a) Explain three forms of political violence in India and comment briefly on the causes of each. [6]
(b) Identify three challenges facing Indian democracy and explore how these can be overcome. [6]