

Title: Imagine your constitution, talking to you with radical honesty.

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### **Disclaimer**

Imagine your Constitution talking to you, stripped of all “myth and ceremony” “Legal Smoke & Mirror”. This book is that conversation—a critical, satirical, and deeply imaginative yet deeply rooted in reality, interrogation of the Indian Constitution’s lived life, not its recited scripture. It charts the vast terrain between its promise to build a just society, free from all oppression and exploitation, and its practiced complicity with the very powers, national and foreign, it was sworn to dismantle.

*A working description of the Republic, as it functions today*

No legal advice is offered. If offended, consult the original Constitution—not your lawyer. And if you are seeking publicity, make a TikTok video alleging that *Article 32* refused to grant you instant justice, because your Wi-Fi was slow and your feelings were urgent, could not text your Ex.

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# Box Office HIT MOVIE INDIAN DEMOCRACY

Directed by INDIAN POLITICIANS  
Acted by: Indian People



In the grand script of the Democratic Republic, Indian politicians have long held the director's chair—framing the plot, shaping the characters, and rewriting scenes whenever political expediency demands a new twist. With the assistance of the lawyers in the Constituent Assembly, they drafted a constitution that is celebrated for its moral cadence and ethical promise. Yet behind its noble language lies a subtle craft: a deliberate vocabulary designed to conceal the political hand while elevating the democratic ideal.

**Prime Minister** –A Politician who runs the country

**Chief Minister**- A Local Politician who runs the State

**Parliament** – Also known as house of people but entry only to politicians, their friends and family members, located in Delhi

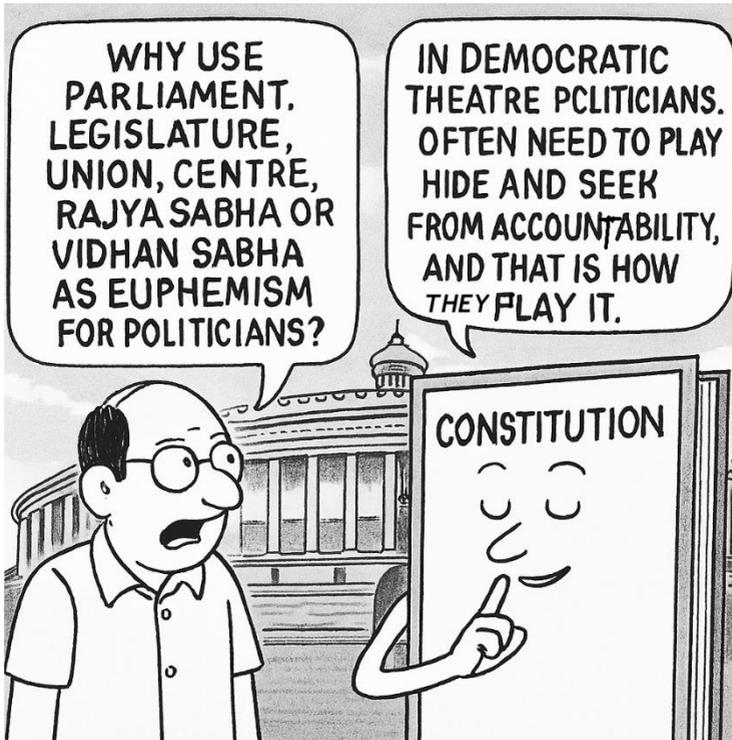
**Legislature** – Politicians in action, raising hands, slapping bench, throwing chairs, passing bills, tearing papers, and walking out of the theatre.

**Union** – Ruiling Party, when they do not want to share power or money with the local foreign ruling party.

**Centre** – Ruiling Party when they want all the power in the name of a strong government.

**State** – A legal fictional institute that collects real money and provides imaginary rights.

**Cabinet Ministers** – The people who sign and disappear



**Rajya Sabha** – Officially the Upper House; unofficially a obsolete political veterans, preserved for moral decoration— while real power quietly resides elsewhere.

**State Legislature / Vidhan Sabha** – The State capital’s political auditorium, where regional politicians rehearse good governance and pretend nationalism for the citizens.

**Political Secretaries (IAS)** – Bureaucrats who write speeches, carry files, and say “Yes Sir” professionally and politely to their ministers. AKA those wearing coloured hat.

**President – Parliament’s Notary-in-Chief.**

Elected by the majority, appointed on its advice, and constitutionally bound to act on its instructions.

(Articles 53, 54, 74 & 111)

**Vice President – The Majority’s standby President.**

Elected by the same political arithmetic and governed by the same silence.

**Chairman (Rajya Sabha)** – The Majority’s preferred referee for disciplining inconvenient voices in the Upper House.

(Article 66)

**Vice Chairman (Rajya Sabha)** – The reserve referee, activated when order requires obedience rather than debate.

**Speaker (Lok Sabha)** – The ruling side’s in-house umpire, entrusted with deciding when disorder becomes discipline.

(Article 93)

**Deputy Speaker (Lok Sabha)** – The standby umpire, expected to remember who elected neutrality.

**Governor** – A centrally appointed political sentinel in the States, tasked with monitoring local turbulence and reporting faithfully to Delhi.

(Article 155)

**Speaker (State Assembly)** – The ruling side’s floor manager, responsible for converting legislative drama into administrative closure.

**Deputy Speaker (State Assembly)** – The substitute authority, stepping in whenever neutrality becomes inconvenient.

**People – Ruling Party.**

**Appropriate Government** – Any department that conveniently belongs to the ruling side.

**Competent Authority** – Any office controlled by those who currently possess power, regardless of competence.

---

### **Administrative Units Run by Politicians**

**Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)** – Checks how politicians used or misused public money.

**Election Commission of India** – Manages elections so politicians can compete for power.

**Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)** – Selects bureaucrats who ultimately serve ruling party.

**State Public Service Commissions (SPSC)** – Selects State-level officers who work under those in power in State.

**Finance Commission** – Decides how party share national funds among their members.

**Attorney General of India** – Permanent Lawyer for Ruling Politicians. He advises the Politicians, and charges the common people for it.

**National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)** – Handles SC issues under political supervision.

**National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)** – Handles ST matters under political oversight.

**Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities** – Ensures politicians do not neglect language rights.

**Inter-State Council** – Resolves disputes among politicians of different States and the Centre.

**Official Language Commission** – Ensures politicians follow the prescribed language policies.

**Election Tribunals** – Fix election disputes caused by politicians.

**Administrative Tribunals** – Resolve conflicts between bureaucrats and the politicians they answer to.

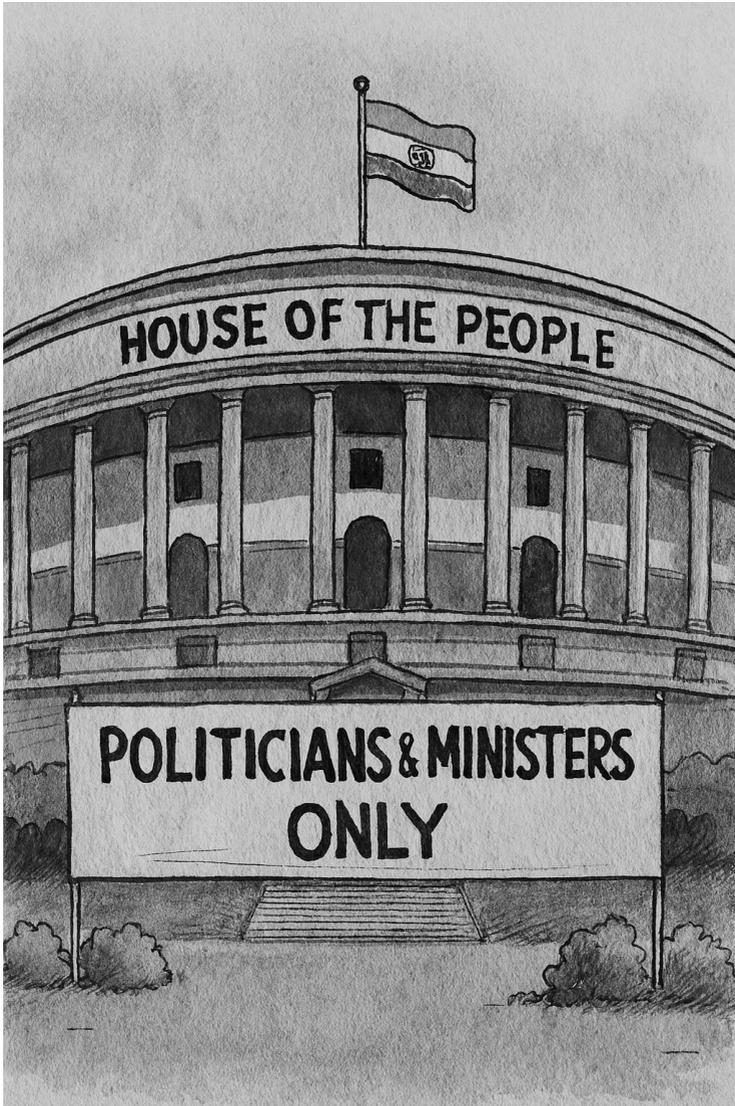
**Finance Minister (for GST Council)** – The Politician partying with Banks and deciding national taxation rates.

**Gram Sabha / Panchayats** – The Poor Local bodies influenced or only visited by politicians during elections.

**Municipalities** – City bodies that work while politicians take credit.

**State Finance Commission** – Distributes State funds that politicians later loot and plunder.

**District Planning Committees** – Prepare local development plans for politicians to announce.



## PREAMBLE

WE,  
THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India  
into a

**SOVEREIGN** (as we take orders from no one... except donors & the party  
high command)

**SOCIALIST** (until we sell/close all the public sectors quietly)

**SECULAR** (unless vote bank is concerned)

**DEMOCRATIC** (one vote every five years)

**REPUBLIC** (only during election)

and to secure to all its citizens:

***JUSTICE***, for well connected, well positioned and well offed

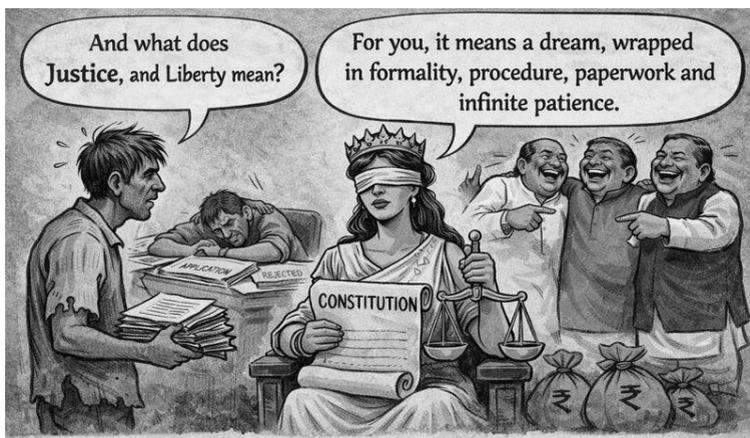
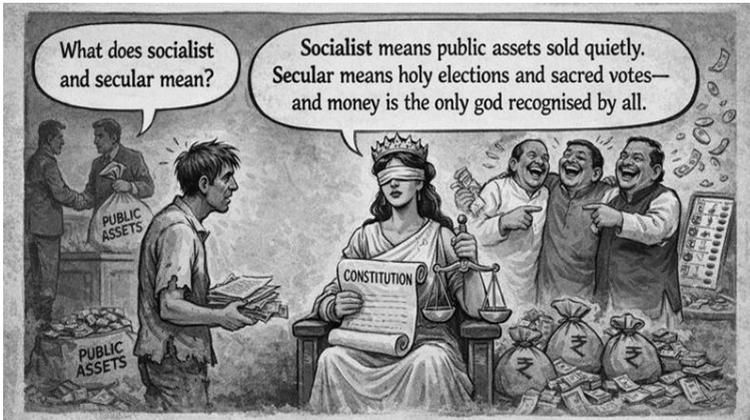
***LIBERTY*** of thought and expression, within officially acceptable  
boundaries;

***EQUALITY*** of status and of opportunity; as long as legacy and lineage  
permit and to promote among them all

***FRATERNITY*** assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and  
integrity of the Nation;

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of  
November, 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO  
OURSELVES and those who understand English THIS  
CONSTITUTION.

\*\*\*Here, 'WE THE PEOPLE' actually means: 'We the politicians—elected  
by family, friends and followers in July 1946—self-anointed as the rightful  
authors of the nation.



## THE POLITICIANS AND THEIR TERRITORY

### ***Article 1: Name and Territory of the Union***

India — that is Bharat — also known as “The Estate of the Entitled”, shall be a Union of States. The States and their boundaries shall be as listed in the First Schedule — until redrawn for electoral convenience.

The territory of India shall comprise:

- (a) the States (subject to mergers, splits, and midnight political gymnastics);
- (b) the Union Territories (also known as “centrally controlled experiments”); and
- (c) such other lands may be annexed, claimed, or conveniently forgotten, depending on international pressure and domestic drama.

### ***Article 2: Parliament’s Power to add a foreign state with Union***

Parliament may, by law — or by election strategy — admit a foreign land into the Union, or create new States,

on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit (or politically profitable).

Names, borders, and capitals may vary — depending on voter sentiment, coalition arithmetic, and how badly someone wants a cabinet post.

### ***Article 3: Parliament's Power to Play with Your State's Map***

Parliament may, at its convenience —

- (a) create a new State (for votes),
- (b) merge two States (for optics),
- (c) shrink a State (for revenge),
- (d) redraw boundaries (with crayons and cabinet notes),
- (e) rename States (based on mood, mythology, or manifesto).

Provided that the President nods, the State pretends to agree, and the party's poll numbers approve.

### ***Article 4: Parliament don't need to amend the Constitution to keep playing with your state's map.***

When Parliament makes a new State or changes an existing one (under Article 2 or 3), it can also make laws to adjust: boundaries, names, representation in Parliament and State Assemblies, or anything else needed for the change. These changes are not treated as constitutional amendments, even if they affect the Constitution.



**Citizen:** “Wait, Article 4 lets Parliament redraw state boundaries and even alter the Constitution... but it's not a constitutional amendment?”

**Constitution:** “Correct. Because why bother with Article 368 and all that democratic formality drama?”

**Citizen:** “But isn't that a loophole?”

**Constitution:** No. It's called Political Science.

## CITIZEN-SHEEP



***Article 5: Citizenship Sale (Opening Day Offer)***

At the grand opening of the Constitution, anyone with a domicile, decent paperwork, or grandparents in the right postcode was welcome as a citizen —

- (a) born here,
- (b) born to someone born here, or
- (c) just hanging around for five years (immediately preceding the commencement of the Constitution -January 1950) without getting deported or noticed.

No documents? No problem — until we invent new rule.

***Article 6: Citizenship — Special Offer for Those Migrating from Pakistan***

- If you (or your parents or grandparents) were born in what used to be India — and you made it across the new border from Pakistan-Congratulations, you might be a citizen!
- If you came before July 19, 1948 — just live here and don't get noticed.
- If you came after that — fill a form, wait in line, charm a government officer, and prove you've lived here for six months (without being thrown out).

***Article 7: Say TATA & BYE BYE to your Citizenship***

If you packed your bags and left for Pakistan after 1st March 1947, *don't bother coming back* — we've updated the guest list, and you're not on it. Doesn't matter if your cousins stayed behind, or you just went for a wedding and got stuck during Partition —you crossed the wrong line on the wrong day. Articles 5 and 6 don't apply. Article 7 slams the door.

***Article 8: Special Offer for NRI***

If your parents or grandparents were born in India,  
and you're sipping coffee in London or trading stocks in Singapore — don't  
worry, you still qualify!  
Just file a form with the nearest Indian embassy, smile for the official photo,  
and boom — citizenship by nostalgia.

***Article 9: No Dual Citizenship***

If you loved another country enough to take their passport,  
India takes the hint.  
No matter what Article 5, 6, or 8 promised —  
you're out. No dual citizenship.

***Article 10: Those In Power with No Memory Can Turn You into A  
Chinese or Bangladeshi***

If you got citizenship under the earlier rules —  
congrats, you're in.  
But remember:  
Parliament reserves the right to change its mind.

***Article 11: Parliament decides Citizen Criteria***

Please note:  
All that stuff you read in Articles 5 to 10?  
Cute. But ultimately:  
Parliament makes the real rules.  
It can add, remove, or remix citizenship laws as it pleases.  
Today you're a citizen.  
Tomorrow? Depends on the next Bill, debate, or "your role in the movie."

**Citizen:** So, Article 11 lets  
Parliament rewrite citizenship laws  
anytime?



**Constitution:** Yes. That's how we got the CAA—citizenship now comes with footnotes.

**Citizen:** But what about spirit of the law?

**Constitution:** Cute concept. But under Article 11, Parliament plays editor-in-chief. Identities can be revised by majority vote.

**Citizen:** So, citizenship is now a policy, not a principle?

**Constitution:** Welcome to the Republic. Terms and conditions apply.



## YOUR RIGHTS TILL YOU ARE ARRESTED



*Article 12: Who is State?*

From mighty ministers to minor babus — basically, anyone sitting behind a desk with a stamp bearing the Ashoka Chakra.



***Article 13: Any law against your rights is void —***

*We cleverly call it a “constitutional amendment (article 368)” or the word “Reasonable” or “in accordance with law” is there.*

***Article 14: Everyone is equal before law —***

Everyone is same=same but sometimes your father’s ambulance might have to wait for VIP Ministers to pass. Inconvenience Regrated

***Article 15: No discrimination due to caste or creed –***

State shall not discriminate---- unless it's ‘positive’, ‘protective’, ‘special’ or “Official “discrimination--Then you may have to stand in line all day.

***Article 16: Equal opportunity in public employment—***

Everyone will get equal opportunity in Gov. Jobs unless your surname opens doors, your caste fills quotas, or your loyalty earns a minister's letter.

Merit matters... after the reservations, referrals, and recommendations.

***Article 17: Untouchability is outlawed—***

So, we no longer exclude people... we just “politely” avoid them, deny them, and keep them out — with dignity, of course.

*Article 18: Abolition of foreign titles —*

No more kings, nawabs, or sirs...

Just "Hon'ble," "Your Excellency," "Ma'am," "Your Lordship/Ladyship"  
and "Shree Shree"



**Article 19: Your Reasonably Restricted Rights**

**Speak your mind** — unless it hurts someone's sentiments (which it will).

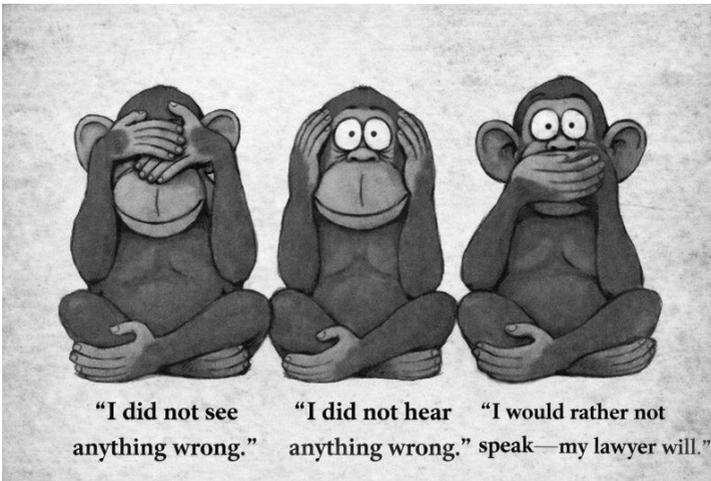
**Protest** — with permission, in silence, preferably online, and not too close to Ruling power.

**Associate** — but avoid the “wrong” Party.

**Move anywhere** — as long as the barricades and Section 144 aren't in place.

**Settle anywhere** — just don't disrupt the demographics

**Choose any profession** — unless it's journalism, activism, or whistleblowing. And if you are an Advocate then you cannot speak only whisper as it is a sacred profession.

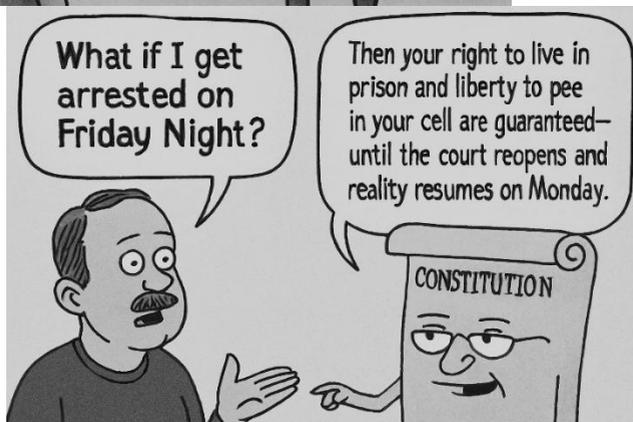
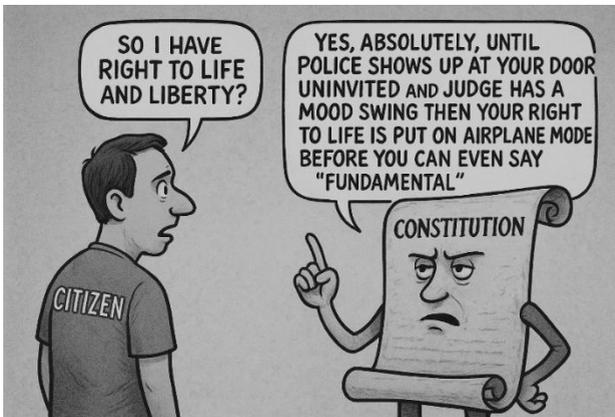


***Article 20 — No ex post facto law, No double jeopardy & No self-incrimination***

No retro crimes! If it wasn't illegal yesterday, relax... for now. One crime, one punishment. Unless public outrage demands a sequel. And no, you don't have to testify against yourself for your crime, Police will help you in this.

***Article 21: You have the right to life and liberty — Till Arrested***

You have right to life & liberty, subject to depth of your bank balance or your proximity to the ruling party.



***Article 21A: Free Education***

Every child aged 6 to 14 has the right to free education — just not necessarily with books, teachers, classrooms, or actual learning.

***Article 22: Your certain Rights when you are arrested.***

If a person is arrested for a crime: You have following rights-

- They **must be told** the reason for their arrest.
- They **have the right** to consult and be defended by a lawyer of their choice.
- They **must be presented before a magistrate within 24 hours** of arrest, provided it is not raining outside.
- They **cannot be kept in custody beyond 24 hours** without judicial approval, which they get all the time.

But if you are too poor to afford a good Lawyer then these rights will remain your dream, until further economic upliftment

***Article 23: Forced labour is banned***

Forced labour is banned unless you're in a corporate 9-to-9 job, unpaid law intern, or "volunteering" for team spirit.

***Article 24: No Children should be made to work in hazardous/dangerous work***

**Citizen:** Then what about those kids on the street, begging?

**Constitution:** That's *culture*, not *employment*.

***Article 25: Freedom of Religion***

Everyone is free to follow any religion, preach their version of peace, and occasionally riot if the mood (or vote bank) demands it. The State will intervene—mostly on social media, occasionally with lathis—unless it’s election season. Watch the movie “Nayak” by Anil Kapur

***Article 26: Divine Business Rights***

Every religious group can own land, run institutions, and manage divine revenues—because nothing says salvation like real estate and tax exemptions.

***Article 27: No Tax for God (Unless He's in Real Estate)***

Pray all you want, chant all day—No need to pay any entertainment tax to us but don’t expect the State to fund your faith... unless it’s a packaged Voting Benefit.



**Citizen:** *Then why did Tirupati Temple pay so much GST?*

**Constitution:** *Because divine blessings are free, beta — but laddus are not exempt under GST!*

***Article 28: When the State Pays, Gods Wait Outside (Unless God Comes with a Trust Deed)***

Public schools run by the government can't teach religion—But if some rich ancestor said “build this school and add my god,” the State politely nods. And no student can be forced to join any religious class or worship unless they—or their guardian—say “yes” first.



**Citizen:** So, the two big loopholes are Trust Deed & Guardian Consent?

**Constitution:** *Loopholes?* Beta, that's not a loophole—It is divine.

**Article 29: Protection of interests of minorities.**

You have the right to preserve your language, script, and culture but don't expect the state to publish its gazette notification in your language—Also, if you're a minority and the State runs an institute, they can't deny you admission just because you're *not in the majority club*.



**Citizen:** How do you decide who counts as a minority?

**Constitution:** Simple, dear — whoever shouts the loudest and blocks the most roads and can destroy the public property.

**Article 30: Funding for Minority (religious) Education**

Minorities (based on religion or language) can run their own schools. They pick the syllabus, the staff, and the shade of freedom — While the rest fill out three affidavits to teach ABCs. But the state can't deny them funds even if they believe "Earth is Flat"

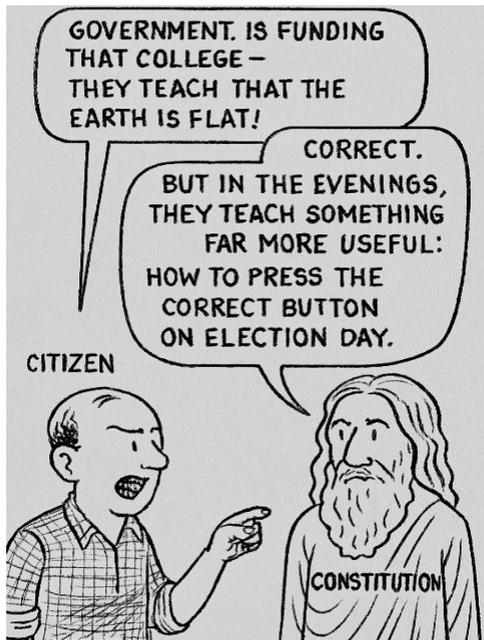


**Citizen:** So, minorities get special rights to run schools?

**Constitution:** Yes. It's called empowerment. But try calling it "privilege"—and suddenly *you're* the problem.

**Citizen:** But isn't it indirect funding of religious institutions through education?

**Constitution:** Shhh... it's not "funding religion" — it's "preserving culture." As long as the label says "minority", the syllabus can include miracles.



***Article 31: Right to Property (Now Repealed)***

In 1978, by the 44th Constitutional Amendment, Article 31 was repealed. The Right to Property is no longer a Fundamental Right. It is now a legal right under 300A.

***Article 31A*** – Land Reform Gets a Free Pass

***Article 31B*** – The Ninth Schedule: Where Laws Go to Escape Judicial Review (this was entered through 1<sup>st</sup> amendment)

***Article 31C*** – Socialism Overrides Fundamental Rights (With Parliamentary Blessings)

**Article 31D** – The “Shut Up, It’s for National Security” Clause (Now Repealed)



**Citizen:** So, the government could take my land, build a dam, and just say “*public purpose*”?

**Constitution** (Before 1978): Yes, but at least we had the decency to leave a Cheque. (After 1978): Now? We just leave a notice. And maybe a photo of the dam.

**Citizen:** So... Can the State take my land, pass unfair laws, and ignore my rights?

**Constitution:**

31A: “If it’s for land reform, yes.”

31B: “If we drop the law in the 9th Schedule (VIP lounge for laws), courts can’t even blink.”

31C: “If we say it’s for socialism, your *Rights* take a nap.”

31D (back in the day): “And if you complained too much, we’d label you *anti-national*—but don’t worry, we repealed that... for now.”

**Citizen:** So basically, my rights are optional?

**Constitution:** Only when you are feeling revolutionary, beta.

***Article 32 – Right to Constitutional Remedies after Cost, Procedure and Adjourments***

If your fundamental rights are violated, you don't just sulk — you go straight to the Supreme Court. This Article empowers citizens to approach the highest court of the land to enforce their rights.

Unless you are too poor to afford a senior lawyer of Supreme Court with good Latin then your constitutional remedies take rest.

*Tools Supreme Court Can Use (Writs):*

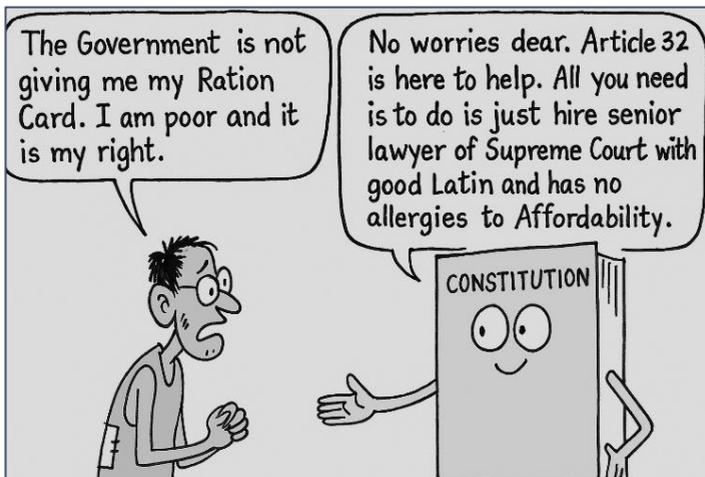
***Habeas Corpus*** – “Where’s the body?” (If someone is unlawfully detained)

***Mandamus*** – “We command you” (When the government is sleeping on duty)

***Prohibition*** – “Stop right there!” (Lower courts crossing their line)

***Certiorari*** – “Bring it here” (To quash illegal orders)

***Quo Warranto*** – “By what authority?” (Why is this person in office?)



***Article 32A: Don't Come to Supreme Court (Now Repealed)***

"Supreme Court, when someone comes crying to you under Article 32 about their rights being violated, just... ignore whether the state law causing the mess is even constitutional. Pretend you don't see it. Thanks!"

**Citizen:** Why was it deleted?

**Constitution:** It was born during the dark days of the Emergency (1976), when the ruling party really didn't want courts poking around state laws.

***Article 33 – Parliament's Power to Modify Rights for Soldiers from disobeying their Orders.***

Empowers Parliament to restrict or abrogate the application of fundamental rights for members of the Armed Forces, paramilitary forces, police, intelligence agencies, and similar services, in order to ensure proper discipline and duty.

**Citizen:** So, soldiers don't get all fundamental rights?

**Constitution:** Of course not. You can't fight terrorists *and* file PILs at the same time

**Citizen:** But what if there's a riot led by a political party? Do the jawans get their rights then?

**Constitution:** Only one right: "*Right to remain silent... and follow orders.*" And maybe a bonus if they don't ask who started the riot.



***Article 34 – No fundamental Rights during Martial law.***

During martial law, Parliament can pass a law to legally protect those who "maintain order" — even if that means breaking your bones or leaving you with a skull fracture. And yes, your fundamental rights can be suspended while you're lying in the hospital.



**Citizen:** But who decides when it's martial law?

**Constitution:** Well... if the streets are burning, the army's in charge, and everyone's rights are on vacation — congratulations, you might be in it.

### *Article 35: Parliament's Exclusive Power*

Only Parliament can make laws on certain super-important Fundamental Rights stuff

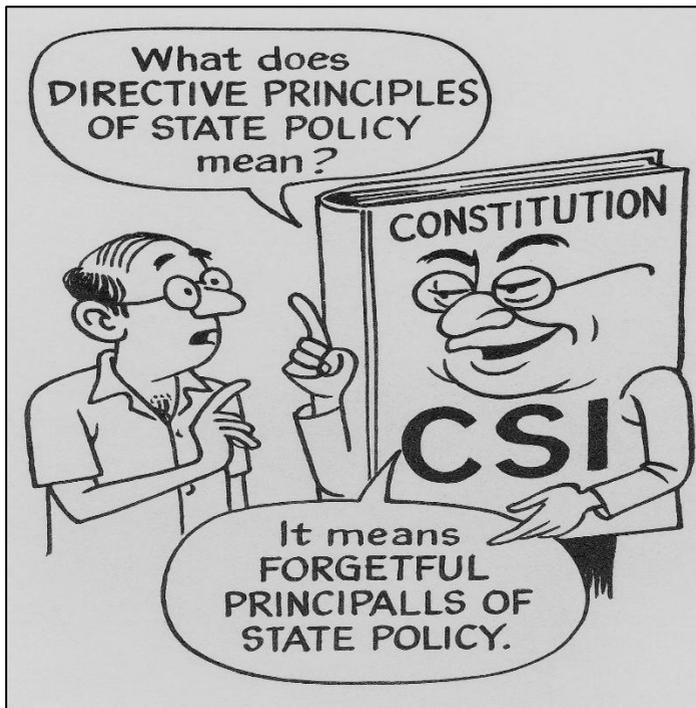
1. Parliament's Exclusive Power:
  - **States:** "Can we make laws on reservations (Art 16(3)), Supreme Court powers (Art 32(3)), armed forces' rights (Art 33), or martial law (Art 34)?"
  - **Parliament:** "LOL, no. That's OUR job."
2. Punishing Rights Violations:
  - If someone messes with your Fundamental Rights, only Parliament can decide their punishment.
  - "States, don't even think about it."
3. Old Laws Stay (For Now):
  - Any pre-Constitution laws on these topics? They stick around until Parliament changes or scraps them.



**Citizen:** "But States can also make laws too!" It is Federalism, right?

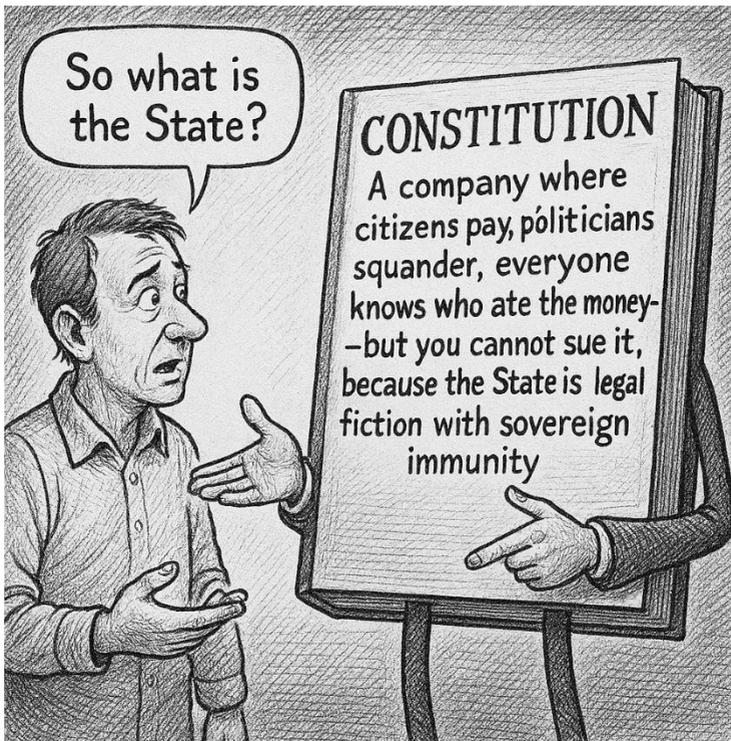
**Constitution:** "Yes they can but Parliament does not like sharing power. State can focus on fixing roads, drains or something."

**DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY... promises  
the STATE proudly makes, on the condition that no one can  
demand them in Court**



*Article 36: Definition of 'State' (for Part IV – Directive Principles)*

For the purposes of Directive Principles of State Policy, the word "State" means the same as it does in **Article 12** (which includes government, Parliament, legislatures, and local or other authorities under government control). Any Organizations run by from Big Politicians to Small babus and have Zero Accountability.



**Article 37: Application of the Directive Principles of State Policy**

Directive Principles are *not enforceable by any court* (you can't sue the State for not providing free meals or clean air). But they are fundamental in the governance of the country and it is the duty of the State to apply them in making laws. They are Constitutionally Amnesiac.

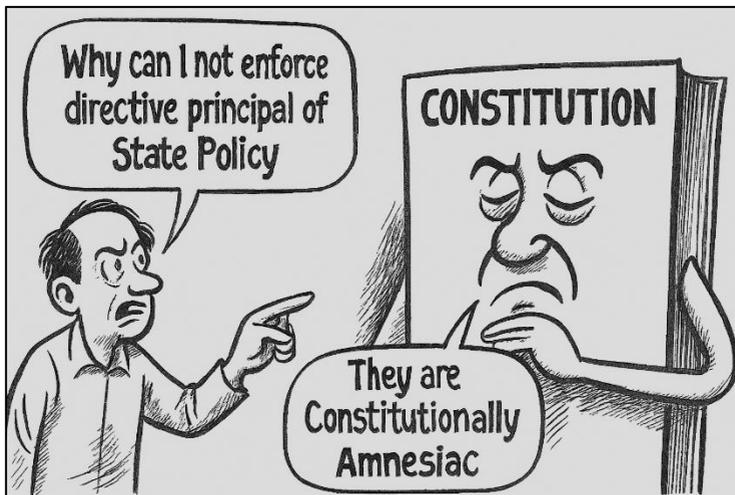


**Citizen:** So who's responsible for following the Directive Principles?

**Constitution:** Everyone we blamed in Part III... just now, they're *morally* obligated, not *legally* bound.

**Citizen:** So... I can't go to court if the State doesn't follow these?

**Constitution:** Of course not, beta. These are like new year resolutions or marriage vows— taken seriously only on occasion.



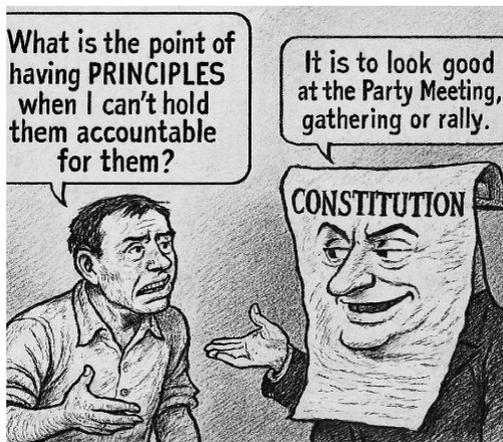
***Article 38: State to Secure a Just Social Order***

The State must promote the welfare of the people by securing a social order based on justice — social, economic, and political. It must also minimize inequalities in income, status, facilities, and opportunities among individuals and groups. *But if everybody presses the “correct” button on election day*

***Article 39: Certain Principles of Policy to look good***

*Article 39 provides wholesome recommended list of principals for A State, those in power with no memory, to keep in mind when passing a bill! ...But, like, as you know, no pressure or target or accountability—*

- Equal right to adequate means of livelihood for all citizens
- Ownership and control of material resources to subserve the common good
- Prevention of wealth concentration
- Equal pay for equal work for both men and women
- Protection of health and strength of workers, men, women, and children
- That children are not forced by economic necessity into vocations unsuited to their age or strength



**Article 39A: State's obligation of Equal Justice and Free Legal Aid.**

The State shall ensure that: The Legal system promotes justice based on equal opportunity. Provides free legal aid to ensure that no citizen is denied justice due to economic or other disabilities

**Citizen:** So, even the poorest person can fight for justice?



**Constitution:** Absolutely! Assuming they find a lawyer... who works for free... can wait years for a hearing.... and shows up on time on that day and hope.... the court doesn't adjourn for lunch, leave, or strike.



***Article 40: Village Panchayats***

The State shall take steps to organize village panchayats. Endow them with the powers and authority to function as units of self-government

**Citizen:** So, villages get to govern themselves?

**Constitution:** Yes! We empower them... just enough to hold meetings, pass resolutions, and then wait for funds that may or may not arrive.

Unless they vote the right way, pass the ruling party motion, paint the walls on the party's colour, and name the community hall after the party Chief.

**Citizen:** So, power without money.

***Article 41: Right to Work, Education, and Public Assistance***

You have the right to work, learn, or get help when you're down...But only if the government isn't broke or busy funding political rallies.

***Article 42: Just and Humane Conditions of Work—With Occasional Humanity***

The State shall ensure just and humane conditions at work...Unless it's election season, then slogans matter more than safety. Ohhh "we are forgetting about Maternity" we love our mothers.

***Article 43: Dignity of Labour***

The State shall secure a living wage and ensure dignity for all workers.

**Citizen:** What about divorced husbands paying alimony while barely affording rent?



**Constitution:** Ah, that's *not* labour — that's penance. Dignity... optional.

**Citizen:** What about the minimum wage being 100/day when the Petrol per little is 107.

**Constitution:** Well, that's not the state's problem; They only promised a *living* wage, not a *thriving* wage.

**Article 44:** *State shall try to implement Uniform Civil Code (one law to rule them all).*

Provided it does not hurt the Vote Bank.



**Citizen:** What is this Uniform Civil Code?

**Constitution:**

A dream...

A ghost... A constitutional Santa Claus.

A law that dares to treat all citizens equally—

But only after the next election. Or the next one. Or the one after that.

**Article 45** –The State promises to take care of your kids under age 6 and educate them early... someday.



**Citizen:** Article 45 says the State will provide early childhood care and education to all children under six.

**Constitution:** Yes, it's a *Directive Principle* — think of it as a polite wish, not a binding duty.

**Citizen:** But government schools are vanishing while the number of children is rising!

**Constitution:** Exactly. The dream is growing... the classrooms aren't.

**Article 46** – The State shall promote the education and upliftment of SCs, STs, and other weaker sections.



**Citizen:** But that SC certificate went to an IPS officer's son who studied in London!

**Constitution:** Yes, but Oppression is hereditary, and they run on historical injustice.

*Article 47:* The State shall try to improve public health, ban harmful drugs, and especially stop people from drinking... unless it's earning tons of tax money from alcohol sales. Then, cheers.

**Citizen:** Article 47 says the State will improve public health and ban intoxicants.

**Constitution:** Indeed — unless those intoxicants boost tax revenue. Then it's *health optional, revenue essential*.

**Citizen:** But tobacco and gutkha are sold openly everywhere!

**Constitution:** That's called *policy flexibility*. Ban in principle, profit in practice.

**Citizen:** Then why not allow marijuana? It's less harmful and even has medical uses.

**Constitution:** Ah, but marijuana lacks a strong lobby and taxable glamour.

**Citizen:** So public health is selective?

**Constitution:** Of course. It depends on what's addictive *and* lucrative. Welcome to Article 47 — where morals meet market.



*Article 48:* The State shall protect cows, ban cow-slaughter, and promote fancy breeds... because sacred GDP (Gau-Dhan Production).

**Citizen:** "But we have many states where openly cows are slaughtered and sold for consumption!"

**Constitution:** "Shhh... those are just 'secular exceptions'

**Article 49:** The State shall (in theory) protect every monument, artifact, and historical site of national importance... unless, of course, someone offers really good money for that land or lease.

**Article 50: Separation of judiciary from executive**

The State shall try to make sure that judges do not party with executive & legislative at night.

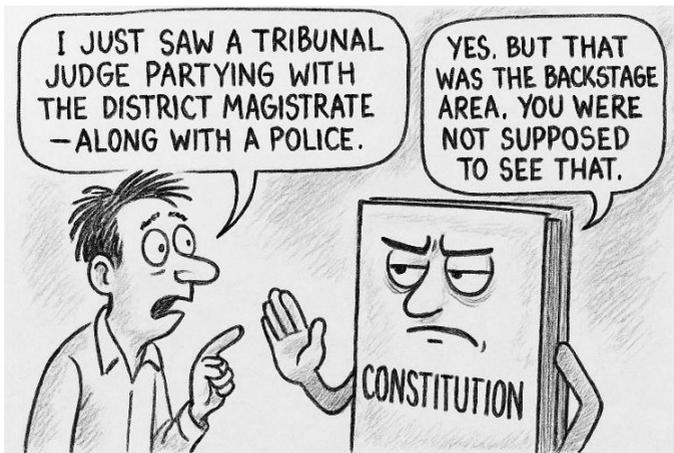


**Citizen:** All the tribunal judges are hired by legislative only?

**Constitution:** Yes. It is only theory, beta.

**Citizen:** Does it now violate the basic separation of power doctrine?

**Constitution:** Technically yes. But we call it "cooperative independence" — very popular in constitutional cocktail parties.



**Article 51:** The State should promote international peace, respect global law, and settle disputes through hugs and handshakes.

## FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES FOR CITIZENS ONLY

**Article 51A:** If you want to be a good citizen then follow the "Good Citizen's To-Do List (That Nobody Actually Follows)" like respecting the Constitution, cherishing freedom, protecting the environment, promoting harmony, etc. And yes, if tomorrow there is a war and if you are called upon then you must join the army.

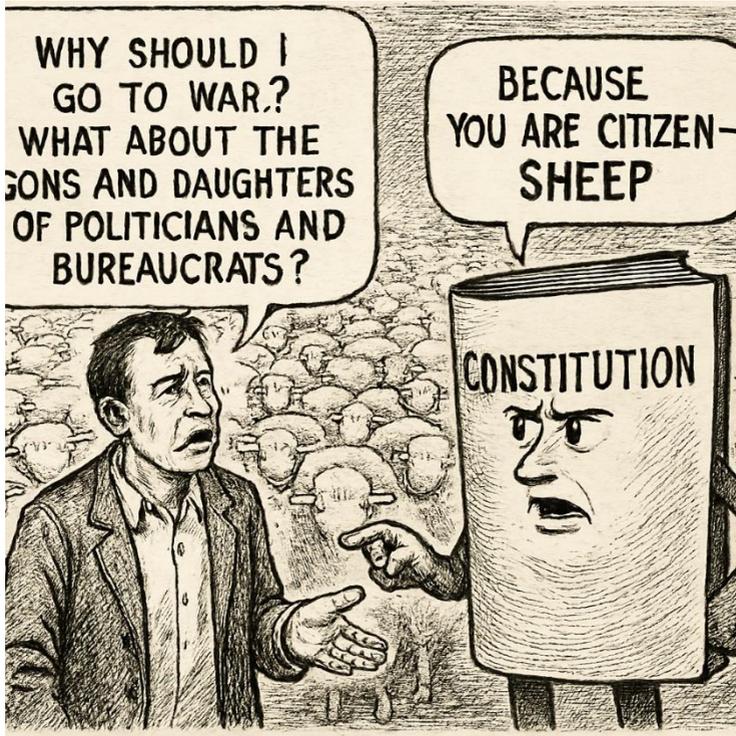


**Citizen:** Article 51A says I must defend the nation if there's a war?

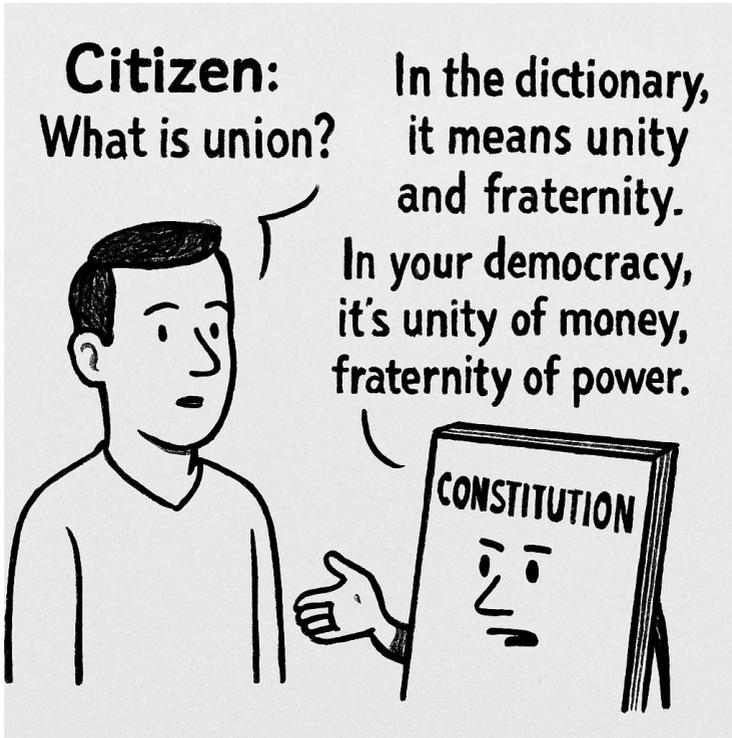
**Constitution:** Yes, it's your fundamental *duty*. Patriotism on demand.

**Citizen:** Then why don't politicians and their sons go first?

**Constitution:** They fight their battles in Parliament. Your battlefield comes with bullets — theirs with ballots.



THE UNION: Unity of Power & Money



## The President- Parliament's Permanent Notary officer.

**Article 52:** There shall be a President of India — mostly for ribbon cuttings, Republic Day parades, and notary work for the parliament without asking much questions.

**Article 53:** The President holds all executive power — but in real life, the Prime Minister shall run the show — the President must sign whatever lands on the desk as and when asked by the authority that speaks only through silence.

**Article 54:** The President is elected by MPs (Centre's Majority Party) and MLAs (State's Majority Party)— basically, a grand popularity contest among the majority that never explains itself, where common people cheer from the sidelines but don't get to vote.



**Citizen:** So, politicians choose the president as per their convenience?

**Constitution:** Of course. They prefer someone of their own: adjustable—no firm convictions, avoids decisive action, and is easily guided... or should I say, handled.

And always willing to sign... whatever's placed in front of them



**Article 55:** The value of each vote in the Presidential election is calculated with a math formula so complex, even math teachers look confused — all to ensure “uniformity” while the public still just watches from the gallery.

**Article 56:** The President holds office for five years — unless they resign, get removed, or accidentally say something politically inconvenient... then suddenly, five years could be optional.

**Article 57:** Yes, the President can be re-elected — again and again. There’s no term limit... as long as Parliament (Politicians) is happy with his/her Notary Work.

**Article 58:** To be President, you need to be Indian, 35+, and qualified for Lok Sabha — basically, good at paperwork, polite speeches, and signing things without asking too many or any questions.

**Article 59:** The President gets a fancy house, a nice salary, and can’t take up any side hustle or Parliament seat — full-time ribbon-cutting & Notary Job, after all.



**Article 60:** The President must swear to *preserve, protect, and defend* the Constitution — basically promising to be the nation’s decorative firewall against chaos... with no real admin rights.

**Article 61:** The President *can* be impeached/removed from Office — but only if two-thirds of Parliament *really* agree. So, unless the President steals lunch from the MPs’ canteen, they’re probably safe.

**Article 62:** If the President resigns, gets impeached, or, you know... dies, a new one must be elected within six months.  
So don’t worry — the ceremonial chair never stays cold for long.

**The Vice-President: Parliament's backup for President.**

**WHY DO WE NEED  
A VICE PRESIDENT?  
AT TAX PAYERS'  
EXPENSE?**



**IT IS ALWAYS GOOD TO  
HAVE AN EXTRA WHEN  
OTHERS PAY FOR IT.**



***Article 63 – There shall be a Vice-President of India.***

Just in case the President goes on international tour or then goes missing, or naps too long, or gets too ceremonial — we keep a Vice-President handy. A spare One.

***Article 64 – The Vice-President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Council of States (Rajya Sabha).***

**Meaning:** When he is not warming up as backup President, the Vice-President runs the Rajya Sabha — like a referee in a match where everyone yells, nobody listens, and walkouts are part of the game plan.

***Article 65 – Vice-President to act as President or to discharge his functions during casual vacancies.***

If the President resigns, dies, or just takes a long nap, the Vice-President steps in as Acting President.

***Article 66 – Election of Vice-President***

The Vice-President is elected by the members of both Houses of Parliament, using a special vote — like a school election, except the winner gets a fancy chair, not real power.



**Citizen:** So, how's the Vice-President elected?

**Constitution:** Oh, all MPs and MLAs gather, vote seriously... to pick someone who'll mostly wait for the President to be unavailable

**Citizen:** So legislative is selecting executive? What happened to separation of power?

**Constitution:** Yes — because *separation of powers* takes a coffee break during high-level appointments.

***Article 67 – Term of office of Vice-President***

The Vice-President holds office for **5 years**, unless: MPs and MLAs are not liking him anymore then they can kick him out with due procedure.

**Article 68** – Time of holding election to fill vacancy in the office of Vice-President



**Citizen:** Article 68 says an election must be held soon if the Vice-President’s seat is vacant?

**Constitution:** Yes, preferably within six months — unless politics gets “busy.”

**Citizen:** So, the nation waits... while parties negotiate?

**Constitution:** Exactly. First comes the math, then comes the mandate. Vice-President? More like *Vice-Placeholder*.

**Article 69:** Vice-President takes an oath to uphold the Constitution in a big ceremony— and then mostly upholds the chair in Rajya Sabha

**Article 70:** If something goes wrong with the President’s duties, Parliament decides who fills in.



**Citizen:** Article 70 says if the President can’t function, Parliament decides who steps in?

**Constitution:** Yes, it’s the backup for the backup plan — very ceremonial, very constitutional.

**Citizen:** Then why not scrap the President and Vice-President? Let Parliament do it all.

**Constitution:** Because every drama needs a stage... and a couple of dignified extras in decorative roles.

**Article 71:** If there's a fight over who should be President or Vice-President — like a political version of "Not it!" — the Supreme Court steps in as the referee, whistle and all.



**Citizen:** So under Article 71, the Supreme Court decides if a President or Vice-President was wrongly elected?

**Constitution:** Yes, they become the umpire *after* the match is over.

**Citizen:** And what do they check?

**Constitution:** Whether the ballots were proper, rules followed, and whether the drama deserves a sequel.

**Citizen:** So the Court can cancel the election?

**Constitution:** Absolutely... but only after the winner has already moved into the Rashtrapati Bhavan and redecorated.

**Article 72:** The President has the power to forgive — murderers, terrorists, and even tax evaders.



**Citizen:** But how do I reach out to the president?

**Constitution:** "Step 1: Commit a crime. Step 2: Get famous. Step 3: Wait for a minister to recommend you." Or just file a mercy petition. Which will only take 10-15 years to reach his desk!"

**Article 73:** The Union's executive power extends over all matters where Parliament can legislate on — which basically means: If Central says: "If it's in our list, it's our rule." State stays away. Central based Federalism.

**Article 74: The President's Council of Ministers:**

There shall be a **Council of Ministers**—comprising Cabinet-level and state level majority —to aid and advise the president.

**Citizen:** *So, you mean the President is just an actor and the Ministers are the real directors? Said or done things by president are actually said and done by the Politicians?*

**Constitution:** *Yes.*

**Citizen:** *Then when it is said that the President is the head of the executive, what does it mean?*

**Constitution:** *It means he is the head — on paper. Somebody has to take the blame. It cant be them.*

**Citizen:** *So, the Council of Ministers is the real executive head?*

**Constitution:** *Exactly. The President is bound by their advice, like a pen that can only write what others dictate.*

**Citizen:** *But what if he disagrees?*

**Constitution:** *He may disagree once. After that, he must comply. The Constitution gives him one polite chance to object — and then expects him to sign on the dotted line.*

**Citizen:** *That sounds like constitutional monarchy in disguise.*

**Constitution:** *Except here, even the crown is rented.*

**Citizen:** *And people call it the world's largest democracy!*

**Constitution:** *Indeed. Where the people elect the Ministers, and the Ministers direct the President, and the President... ceremonially nods.*





**Article 75: Elite Ministers' (The Ruling Majority) Club — Entry by PM Only**

- *PM gets hired (formality wise) by the President. Then PM gets to recommend their own team of Ministers — like building a cricket squad, but with more press conferences and fewer boundaries.*
- *Total Ministers can't be more than 15% of Lok Sabha — because even chaos needs a headcount.*
- *If you switch parties and get disqualified, you can't be a Minister — punishment for political gymnasts.*
- *Ministers stay in office "at the pleasure of the President", which secretly means "till the PM is pleased."*
- *All Ministers are a team — if one messes up, everyone gets shouted at in Parliament.*
- *Before joining, Ministers must take an oath — and pretend they'll keep secrets.*
- *If you're not an MP within 6 months of becoming a Minister, you're out — no free passes.*
- *Their salary? Decided by Parliament — but don't worry, they're doing okay.*

**Citizen:** What do you mean by President appoints the prime minister?

**Constitution:** It means the President waits for the winner of the political wrestling match... then crowns the last man standing.

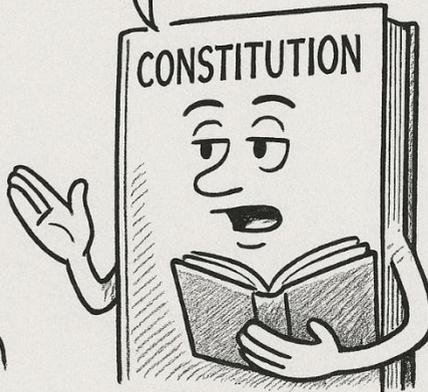
**Citizen:** Lying on the Constitution?

**Constitution:** No, no... not on me. They lie in my name. It's more respectable that way



Citizen: What does it mean "The Ministers shall hold office during the pleasure of the President?"

Unofficially, the President checks his phone, waits for a call from Delhi, while Delhi checks with the party bosses. Similar to Article 164.



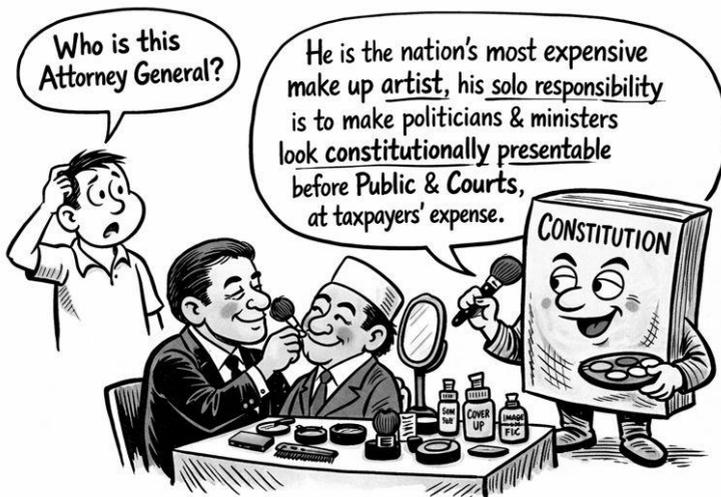
## Attorney General of India: Elite advocacy funded by the very citizens whose rights may be curtailed.

### *Article 76 – Attorney General of India.*

Meet the Attorney General—India’s top legal gun, handpicked by the President (read: government). Their job? Defend the government’s actions in court and offer legal advice, even when the government’s actions raise eyebrows. They must be eligible to be a Supreme Court judge, but unlike judges, they’re free to practice privately too—as long as they don’t sue the government. After all, biting the hand that appoints you? That’s not part of the job description.

*Citizen:* Why should Tax Payers money be spent on lawyer?

*Constitution:* Because someone has to make bad decisions sound constitutional.



*Article 77 – All government actions are done in the name of the President.*

**Citizen:** What does Government mean here?  
**Constitution:** It is just another euphemism for Politicians. It sounds important.

## CITIZEN

What does it mean,  
"All actions are done in  
the name of President?"



## CONSTITUTION

It means: In your Democratic Party,  
before you even say  
"Who made the mess?" ...



I'm in charge  
now!

Hi! We're the  
new guests!

Time for  
the anthem!

Suddenly: New Guests, New Organizer, New DJ ...

Stand up  
and be quiet!



***Article 78 – PM’s duty to Tell the President Everything.***

The Prime Minister must:

1. Keep the President informed.
2. Answer the President’s questions.
3. Tell ministers when the President says, “I want to talk.”

**Translation?**

The President watches all the drama, hears all the dialogue but no power to review it.

***Article 79:*** India’s Parliament = One President, Two Houses, and infinite debates — some productive, some theatrical and most performative

***Article 80:*** The Rajya Sabha (Locals Politicians sitting in Delhi) is like that family elder — not directly elected, mostly nominated, and always there to give advice... whether anyone listens or not.



***Citizen:*** *So, they give advice and Lok Sabha gets to ignore it?*

***Constitution:*** *Yes, but in constitutional manner.*

***Citizen:*** *What is the point having it.*

***Constitution:*** *it is a global standard; we had to copy it. ... looked good on paper. Think of them as the second opinion nobody asked for—but everyone has to listen to... politely*

***Article 81:*** The Lok Sabha is filled based on population — more people, more MPs. So basically, the more babies your state makes, the louder its voice in Parliament!

- Max 530 members from States (directly elected).
- Max 20 members from Union Territories (election rules decided by Parliament).
- Seats per state based on population ratio (to ensure fairness).

- Each state is divided into constituencies with equal population-to-seat ratio (as much as possible).
- Exception: States with population < 6 million get a free pass (no strict ratio).
- For seat allocation to states: 1971 census (frozen till 2026).
- For constituency boundaries: 2001 census (for now).

\*\*\*\*India plans to use 2001 data till 2026... because updating it might hurt certain vote banks

### ***Article 82 – Rearrangement of Seats in Parliament after each census.***

After every Census, Parliament can redraw (delimit) the boundaries of Lok Sabha seats to reflect population changes.



**Citizen:** *But they are using 2001 data? Is it a violation of the constitution?*

**Constitution:** *Nope, just democracy on “flight mode” — no updates until further notice!*

### ***Article 83 – Duration of Houses of Parliament (How long the Ruling Party can misuse & misappropriate your money uninterrupted)***

The Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha each have a set term—five years for the Lok Sabha, unless dissolved sooner; the Rajya Sabha is a permanent body with staggered retirements.

**Article 84** — Qualifications for Members of Parliament (MPs): To be an MP, just be old enough, Indian enough, and—most importantly—clever enough to keep your crime records hidden!

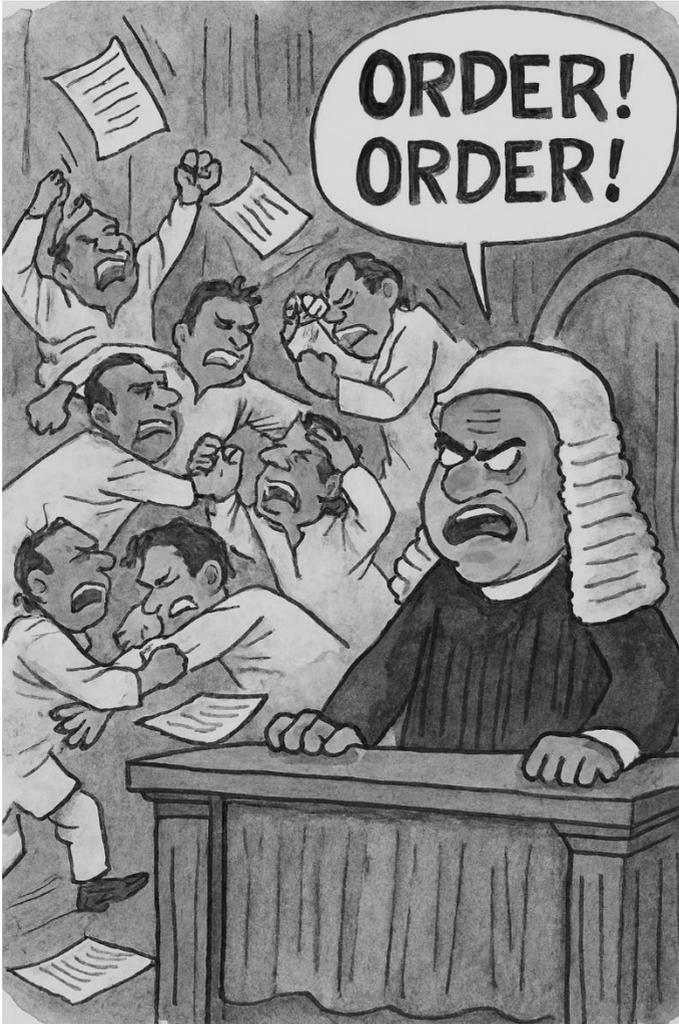
**Article 85:** Parliament must meet every 6 months—unless everyone’s too busy campaigning. The President can dissolve the Lok Sabha, aka the ultimate ‘CTRL+ALT+DEL’ for governments.

*Article 86* – Right of the President to Address and Send Messages to Parliament —mostly to remind them he still exists between inaugurations and award functions.

*Article 87* – Special Address by the President. At the start of each new Parliament session, the President gives a grand speech...But it's written by the government, heard by half-asleep MPs, and forgotten before tea break.

*Article 88* – Rights of Ministers and Attorney-General to speak in Parliament. Even if they're not members — basically VIP passes to the Parliament mic, but no voting rights. Like singing at the wedding without being on the guest list.

**Chairman and Deputy Chairman: Umpire for Rajya Sava**



### **Article 89 – Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha**

The Vice-President of India has a side gig: when not cutting ribbons, they are the **ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha** (Council of States). No election needed—they get the chair free with the Vice-President’s job. Buy 1 get 1 free.

But since even VP may get busy (or bored), the Rajya Sabha elects one of its own as the **Deputy Chairman**—a member who steps in to run the House when the Vice-President is off doing vice-presidential things.



**Citizen:** So the politicians choose the President, then the Vice-President, and then one of themselves as Deputy Chairman?

**Constitution:** Yes. It’s democracy... with an inner circle.

**Citizen:** Nice going!

*Article 90* – The Deputy Chairman Takes the Mic. When the Vice-President’s busy being ceremonial somewhere else, the Deputy Chairman becomes the stand-in referee — same chaos, fewer cameras.

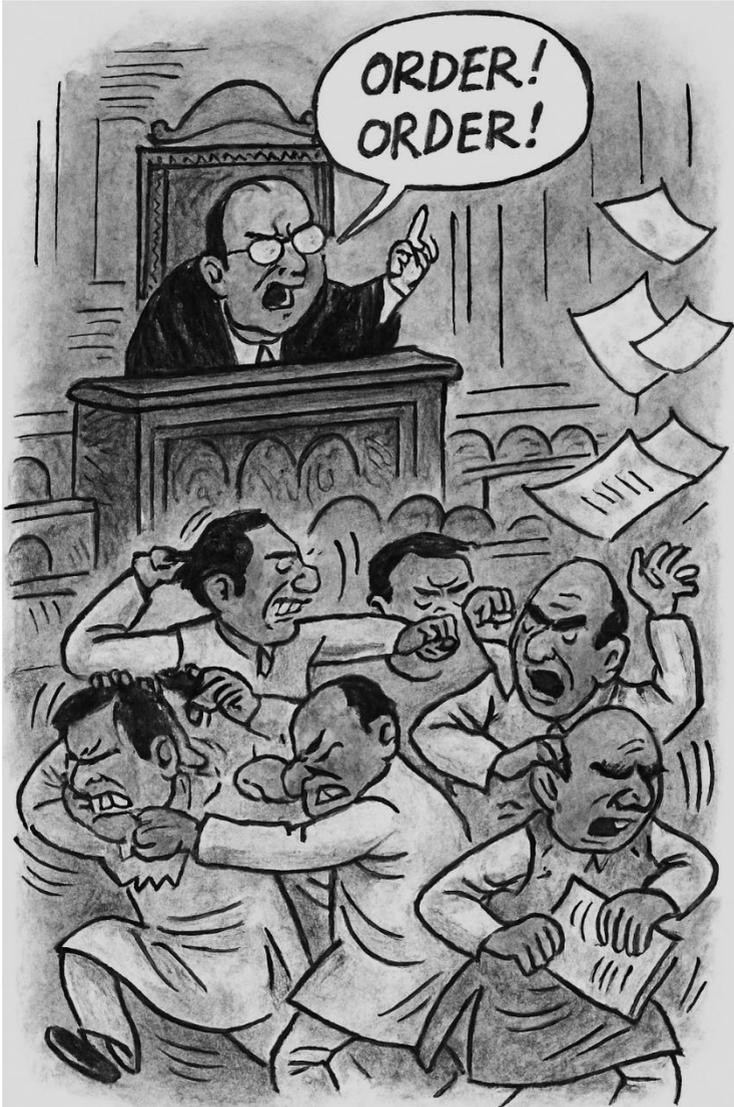
### *Article 91 – When the Deputy Quits or Gets Busy.*

If the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha resigns or is disqualified, the seat becomes vacant.

### *Article 92 – Temporary Backup for the Rajya Sabha*

If both the Chairman (Vice President) and the Deputy Chairman are absent, someone from the Rajya Sabha will be chosen to preside over the session temporarily

## Speaker and Deputy Speaker: Umpire for Lok Sabha



*Article 93 – Speaker & Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha*

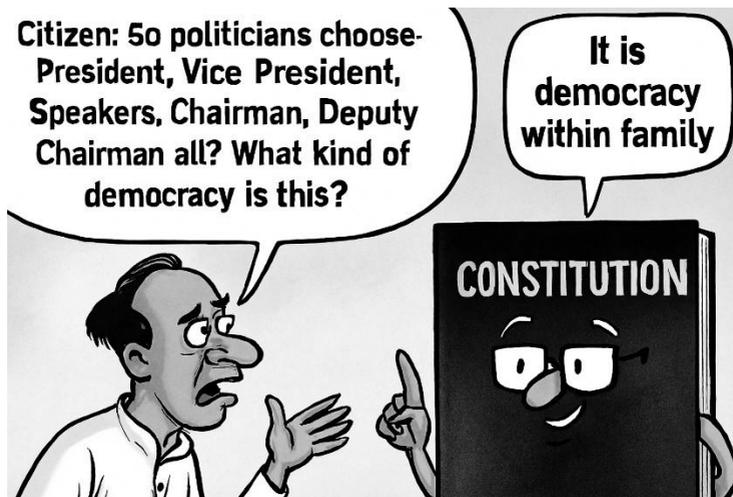
**Summary:** Lok Sabha must elect a Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

*Citizen:* I'm sure they're also chosen by the majority Party?

*Constitution:* Of course. Who else do you think is sitting in the Lok Sabha—astronauts?

*Citizen:* So basically, the ruling party picks the umpire?

*Constitution:* Yes. And then appeals its own decisions to itself. Checks and balances ... on paper.



***Article 94 – Vacating Speaker/Deputy Speaker***

**Summary:** If they resign or lose their seat, they're out.

***Article 95 – Acting Speaker: The Substitute Umpire***

**Summary:** The mic can't be left unattended, when both the Speaker and Deputy Speaker on holiday or political timeout—someone must keep shouting "Order! Order!" while chaos plays kabaddi on the floor

***Article 96 – Speaker Can't Preside During Their Removal Debate***

**Summary:** If there's a motion to remove the Speaker, he can't chair that session.

***Article 97 – Salaries of Speaker, Deputy Speaker, etc.***

**Summary:** Parliament decides how much these folks get paid.

***Article 98 – Secretariat of Parliament***

**Summary:** Parliament gets its own secretarial staff and service rules.

***Article 99 – Oath or Affirmation by Members***

**Summary:** MPs must take an oath before joining business.

***Article 100 – Voting and Quorum in Parliament***

**Summary:** Parliament needs a minimum number of members (quorum) present to Party, and menu is set by majority choice.

***Article 101 – Absentee Parliamentarians & Dual Membership***

An MP can't be in both Houses—pick one throne. And if they vanish from Parliament for 60 days without permission, their seat can be declared vacant.

But let's be honest—unless someone files a complaint, most MPs treat it like optional school attendance... with VIP canteen access.

### *Article 102 – Disqualification of Members*

Politicians can be disqualified from Parliament if they are insane, bankrupt, take bribes, hold an office of profit, or betray the nation.

But don't worry— if you just switch parties' mid-session, they'll politely wait till it's politically convenient to notice.



**Citizen:** So, a politician can switch parties just like that?

**Constitution:** Yes, but it's called "floor crossing"—sounds more polite.

**Citizen:** And they still keep their seat?

**Constitution:** Until someone files a complaint. Or until elections. Or until the ruling party changes. Whichever comes last.

**Citizen:** And the framers of constitution did not think this could compromise ethic? Or compromise democracy?

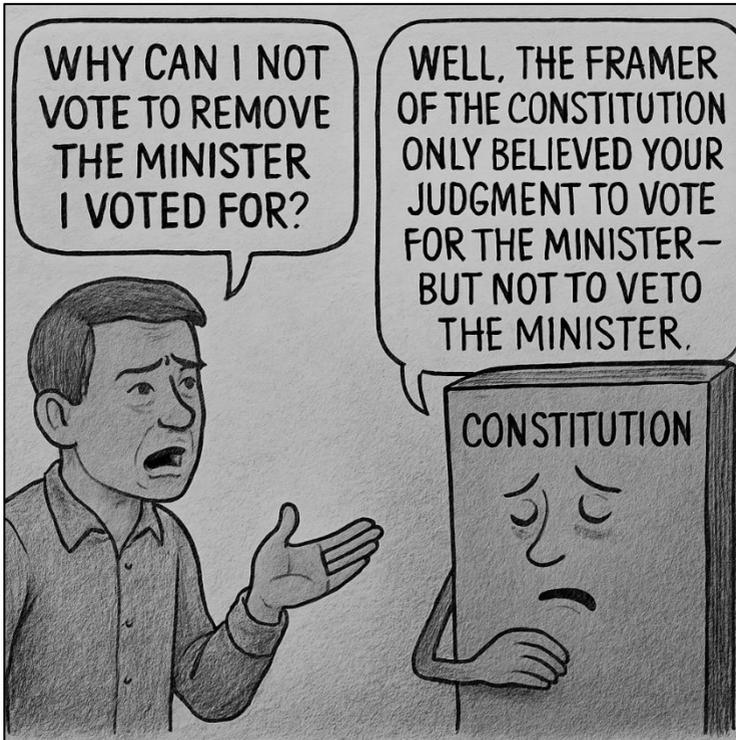
**Constitution:** But the framers were also members of the political party.

### *Article 103 – Decision on Disqualification by the President*

If there's a question about whether an MP should be disqualified, the President decides—but only **after asking the Election Commission**. Who will probably ask the same minister whose credentials are in question.

**Citizen:** So, if an MP breaks rules, the President acts?

**Constitution:** Yes... after asking the EC, who may ask the Law Ministry, who might check with the ruling party. By then, the term is usually over.



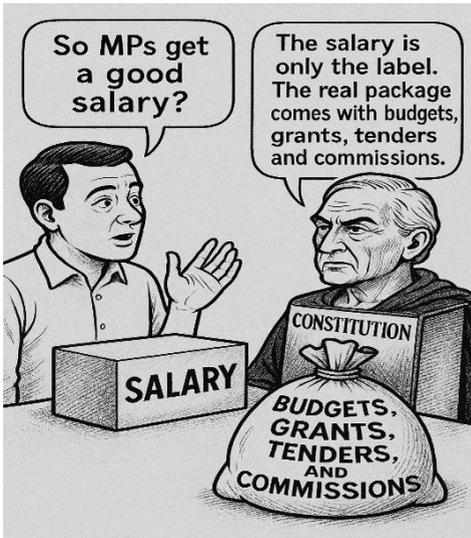
***Article 104 – Penalty for Sitting and Voting While Disqualified***

If a disqualified MP still sits and votes in Parliament, they can be fined ₹500 per day. That's right—₹500 per vote. In Parliament terms, that's the cheapest deal for free AC and free Wi-Fi.

***Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament and its Members***

***Article 105 – Powers, Privileges, and Immunities of Parliament and Its Members***

MPs enjoy freedom of speech inside Parliament and can't be sued for what they say or do there — no defamation, no contempt, nothing. They also enjoy a bundle of undefined “privileges” that they decide for themselves. Think of it as a VIP pass to say anything, break decorum, and walk out guilt-free — basically Twitter, but with taxpayer salaries and zero accountability.



### *Article 106 – Salaries and Allowances of MPs*

MPs decide their own salaries as they have worked really hard during their election

### *Article 107 – Introduction and Passing of Bills*

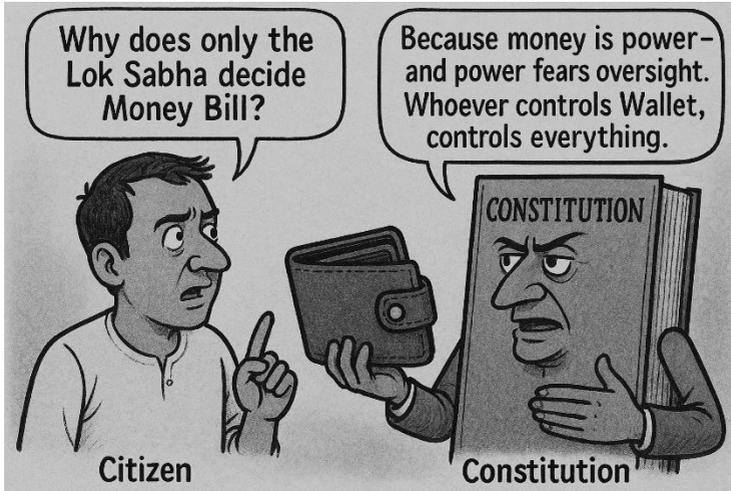
A Bill can be introduced in either House (except Money Bills), and until both Houses agree, it's just paper. Because we don't trust the states with Money.

### *Article 108 – Joint Sitting of Both Houses*

When Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha can't agree on a Bill, they sit together, and the bigger House wins.

**Article 109 – Special Procedure for Money Bills**

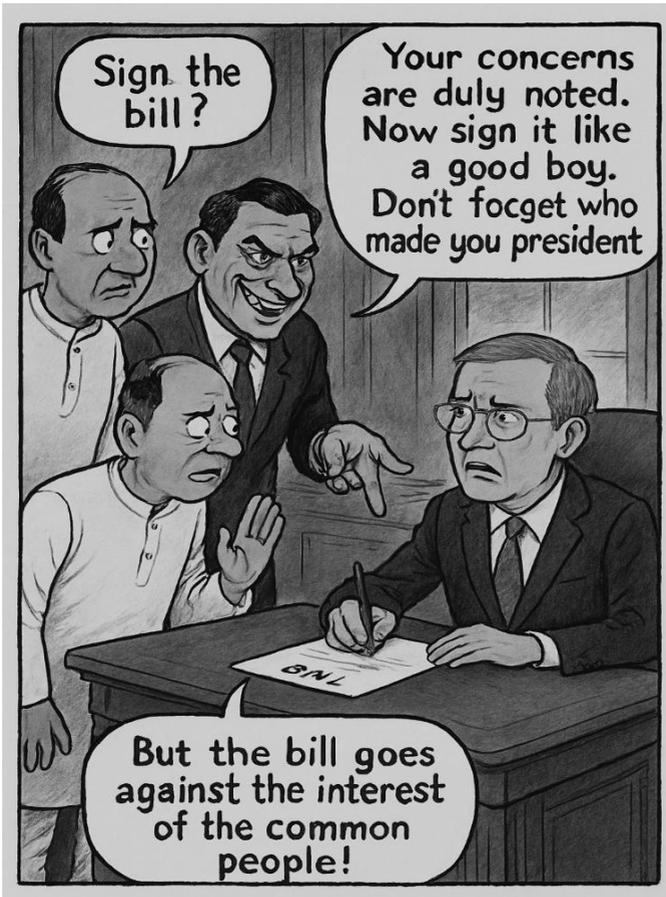
Money Bills can only be introduced in Lok Sabha. Rajya Sabha can just suggest changes — which Lok Sabha may safely ignore.

**Article 110 – Definition of Money Bill (Gov. Wallet)**

Defines what qualifies as a Money Bill — taxation, borrowing, and the government's financial chest. Basically, anything that touches the government's wallet is a Money Bill — and only Lok Sabha has the PIN.

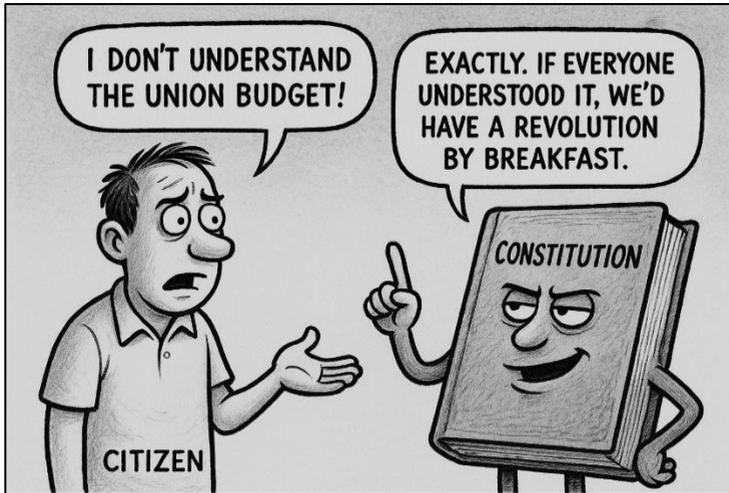
*Article 111 – Assent to Bills*

Parliament sends a Bill to the President. The President can either say “**Yes**” or “**No**.” If it’s not about money, the President can send it back once with a note saying, “**Please rethink this.**” But if Parliament sends it again—fixed or not—the President must say “**Okay fine, approved.**”



*Article 112 – The Union Budget (Annual Financial Statement)*

Every year, the government lays out how it plans to earn and burn public money that public never will understand.



***Article 113 – Procedure for Appropriation Bills***

No rupee leaves the Consolidated Fund of India without Parliament's permission. Unless it's for emergency "development" like a ₹3,000 crore statue of a dead man.

***Article 114 – Appropriation Bills***

Allows withdrawal of funds for government expenditure once approved by Parliament.

Basically: Budget passed. Loot sanctioned.

***Article 115 – Supplementary and Excess Grants***

If the government overspends or forgets something in the Budget, they ask Parliament for more.

*Don't forget: Government = Parliament = Majority Party*

***Article 116 – Vote of Credit facility & Advances***

Allows temporary withdrawals if the full Budget isn't passed yet. Basically it is Article Credit Card.

***Article 117 – Special Provisions for Financial Bills***

Money-related Bills must follow special rules — mostly so Rajya Sabha doesn't feel too important.

*Lok Sabha controls the purse. Rajya Sabha can just admire the purse.*

***Article 118 – Rules of Procedure***

Each House makes its own rules — and occasionally follows them. Think of it as "guidelines," not laws — especially during a heated debate.

**Article 119 – Regulation by President during recess** If Parliament is on vacation and urgent action is needed, the President can make temporary rules.

**Article 120 – Language to be used in Parliament**

Business of Parliament shall be conducted in Hindi or English... unless you're making a political point, then throw in some Sanskrit and a regional language too.

**Article 121 – No discussion on conduct of judges in Parliament**

MPs can't talk about judges' behaviour—unless they're officially trying to impeach them.



**Citizen:** So, checks & balance gone? And Mutual Benefit in?

**Constitution:** Not gone — just locked behind the word “impeachment,” which nobody dares to use

**Article 122 – Courts can't question Parliamentary proceedings**

Whatever happens inside Parliament stays inside Parliament—even if it's shouting, paper throwing, or dancing on tables.

**Citizen:** From where—or which country—did this idea even come?

**Constitution:**

Ah, a cocktail of legacies. A splash of British Parliamentary privilege, a dash of American separation of powers—shaken vigorously in the post-colonial mixer, and served with a garnish of “Indian context.”

The recipe was noble. The execution? Often overcooked... or underdone.



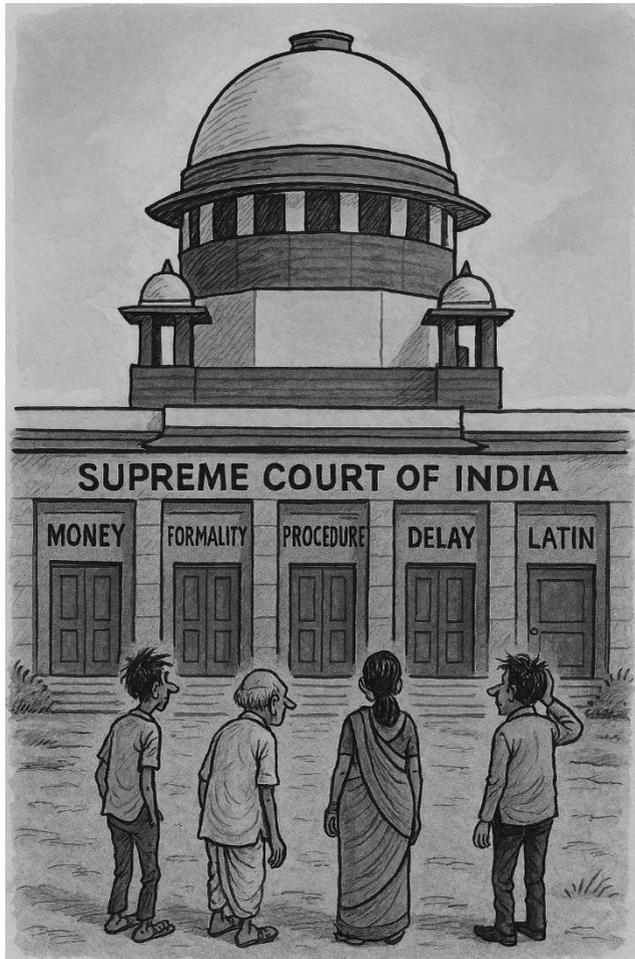


*Article 123 – Ordinance-making power of the President*

When Parliament naps, the President (actually, the government) can wake up and make temporary laws. But remember, President takes instructions from his Bosses (council of ministers)

*Article 124 – Establishment of the Supreme Court*

The Supreme Court of India: final interpreter of law. The highest court of the nation. Open to all, very few could afford to enter.



*Article 125 – Salaries of Supreme Court Judges*

Judges are paid handsomely to say, “Let the law take its course.” But unlike MPs they can't decide their salary.

Judges' salaries come from the Consolidated Fund. The fund is part of the Union or State government's accounts, managed by the Ministry of Finance, which is under the control of elected majority that never explains itself.

**Citizen:** But I thought, it is the finance commission?

**Constitution:** They only make recommendation which the regulatory hand can ignore.

**Citizen:** How much is the salary?

**Constitution:** Enough to buy Maruti Alto.

*Article 126 – Acting Chief Justice*

If the Chief Justice is absent, someone else steps in—like a backup singer in a very elite opera.

*Article 127 – Ad hoc Judges in SC*

If there aren't enough judges, retired ones can be called back—because we believe in recycling, even in justice.  
Old robes, fresh delays.

*Article 128 – Retired judges can sit in SC*

Just when they thought retirement meant peace, democracy calls them back.

**Citizen:** Do you know India has a severe shortage of judges? And the average tenure of Chief Justices of India is barely 1.5 years?

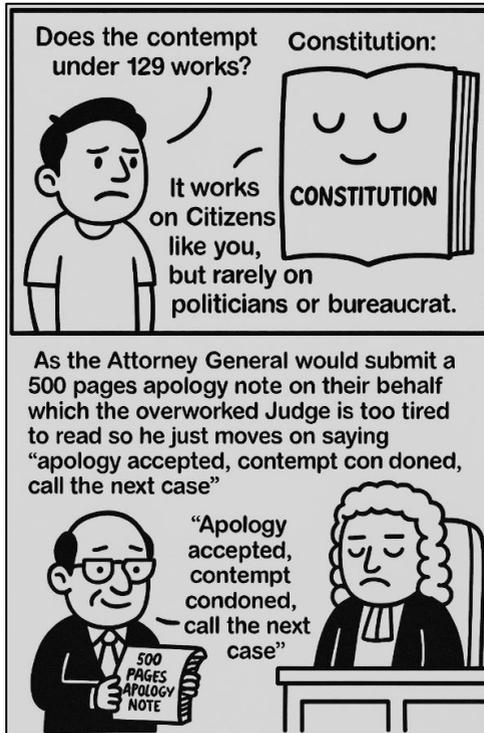
**Constitution:**

Ah yes, I've noticed. The robe barely settles before it's folded away.

But perhaps... Parliament prefers it that way.  
 Keeps the judges on their toes—never too settled, never too  
 curious.  
 And certainly not around long enough...  
 to decode and discover the full *Parliamentary Magic  
 Trick™*.

***Article 129 – Supreme Court: The Court of Record. And its power to issue  
 contempt.***

SC can punish for contempt, and its judgments have eternal memory.  
 So, if you mock the court, be ready to be taught “respect” legally.



### *Article 130 – Seat of the Supreme Court*

It sits in Delhi—unless Parliament wants it somewhere else. Which it never does.

“Accessible justice for all,” but only if you can afford a flight to & hotels in the capital.

### *Article 131 – Supreme Court’s Original Jurisdiction*

When states fight with each other or with the Centre, the Supreme Court steps in like a strict parent.

### *Article 132 – Appeals on Constitutional Matters*

If a High Court decides something on the Constitution, and you are not happy, you can appeal straight to the Supreme Court.



**Citizen:** So, I just can walk into SC and make an Appeal?

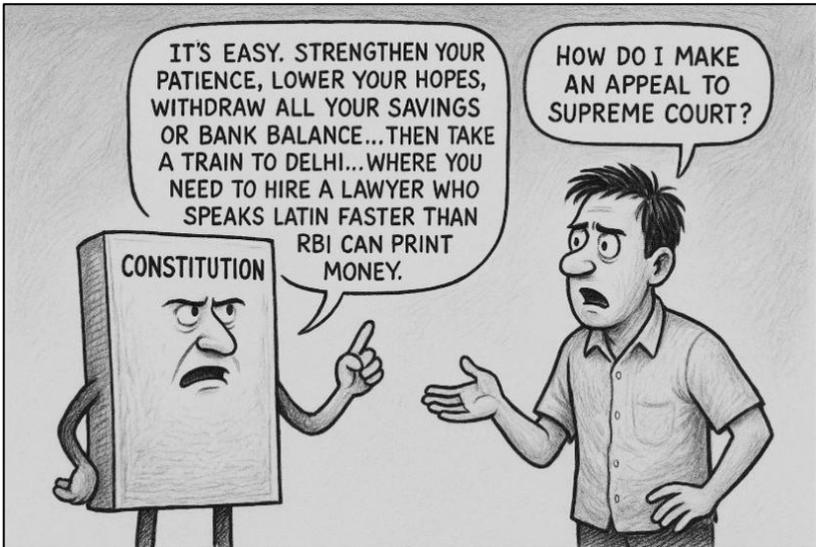
**Constitution:** “All you need is an advocate whose one-day fee is your one month’s salary”

### *Article 133 – Appeals in Civil Cases*

Big civil case? High stakes? The Supreme Court is your next stop.

### *Article 134 Appeals in Criminal Cases*

If the High Court sentences you to death or escalates your punishment, you can knock on the SC's doors.



### *Article 134A – Certificate for Appeal to Supreme Court*

High Courts can give you a certificate to appeal—like a VIP pass to the Supreme Court.

### *Article 135 – Federal Court Powers Recycled*

All old powers of the now-abolished Federal Court go to the Supreme Court.

Like inheriting your great-grandfather's walking stick—still symbolic.

### *Article 136 – Special Leave Petition (SLP)*

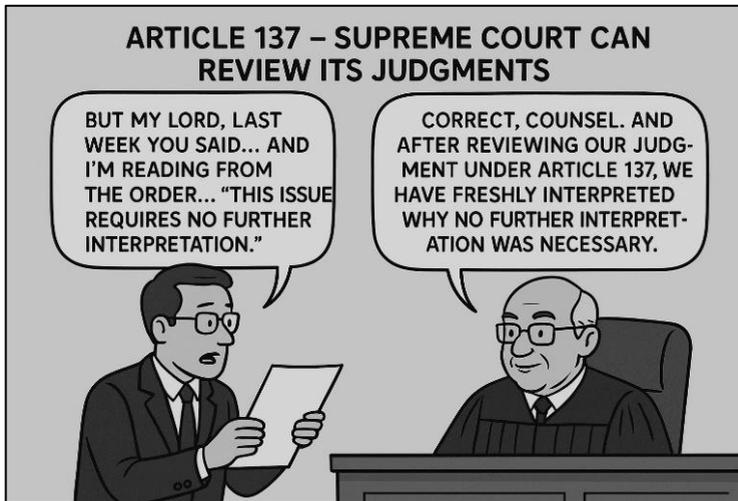
The SC can hear any case, any time, from anywhere.

Basically, the Supreme Court is like a DJ—takes all requests, but play only the ones it likes or mood of the audience.



*Article 137 – Supreme Court Can Review Its Judgments*

*SC can change its own mind. Idealism in the morning, by night a strict realist.*



***Article 138 – Enlarging SC’s Jurisdiction***

*Parliament can give SC more powers.*



**Citizen:** Has Parliament ever actually given more power to the Supreme Court?

**Constitution:** Given? Not quite.

They’re more comfortable taking time, not giving power.

Think of it like this: the Supreme Court is a lighthouse— but Parliament prefers to control the electricity.

Besides, why expand when **delay, ambiguity, and selective silence** work just fine?

***Article 139 – Transfer of Certain Powers to SC***

Parliament may let the SC take over some High Court functions.

***Article 139A – Transfer of Cases Between Courts***

SC can shift constitutional cases from High Courts to itself.

***Article 140 – Ancillary Powers of Supreme Court***

*Parliament may give the Supreme Court extra powers to help it function smoothly.*

**Constitution:** "They'll happily give the Court more powers, just not more judges to use them. Hundred chairs empty— justice delayed, but constitutionally enhanced!"

**Citizen:** But you’re the Constitution. Can’t *you* help the Supreme Court?

**Constitution:**

Oh, dear student—I'm parchment, not Parliament.

I *authorize*, I *allow*, I *empower*.

But I do not *appoint judges*, or *pass budgets*, or *fill vacancies*.

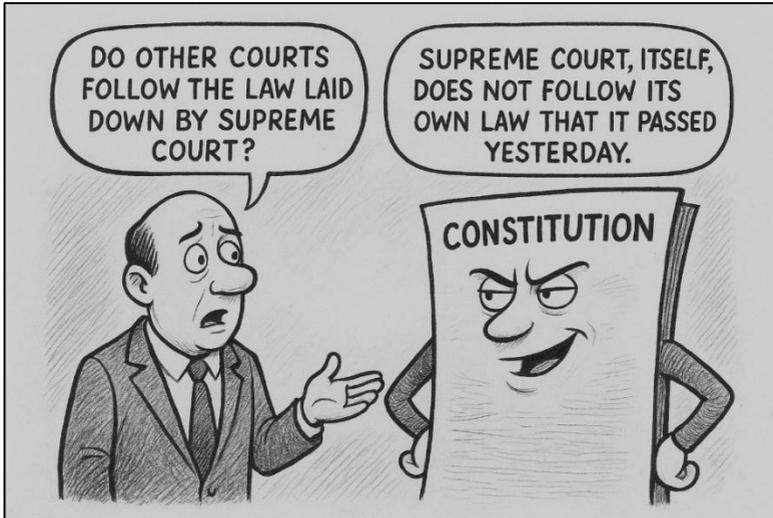
I gave them the pen.

What they write—or refuse to write—is on *them*.

*Article 141 – Law Declared by Supreme Court Binding*

Whatever Supreme Court says is law for all courts. Even if it contradicts what it said last week.

Welcome to the land of precedents... and U-turns.



### *Article 142 – Supreme Court’s Power to Do “Complete Justice”*

The SC can pass any order to ensure justice is done.

It’s basically the Court’s “**Thanos Snap**” power — can do anything “for justice,” even if Parliament gets a mild heart attack.

**Citizen:** So what does “complete justice” even mean? And how do they decide when to use it?

**Constitution:** “Complete justice” means... whatever feels right at the time.

**Citizen:** That sounds vague.

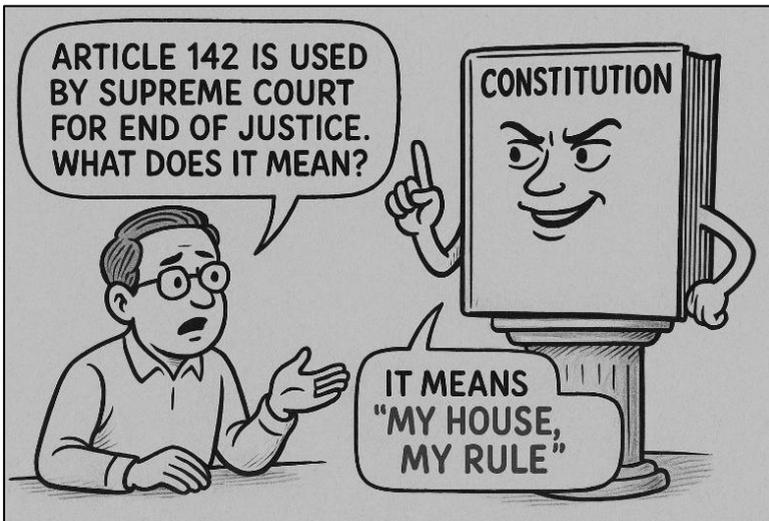
**Constitution:** It is. Think of it as judicial jazz—no fixed rules, just vibes and volume.

**Citizen:** But how do they know when to invoke it?

**Constitution:** Simple. When the law is inconvenient, Parliament is slow, and morality is trending—*boom*, Article 142.

**Citizen:** Isn’t that... dangerously broad?

**Constitution:** Of course. But it comes with Latin phrases and robes—so it looks very disciplined



**Article 143 – President Can Ask Supreme Court for Advice**

The President can consult the Supreme Court on legal questions.

**Article 144 – All Authorities Must Help Supreme Court (if convenient)**

Every civil and judicial authority in India must act in aid of the Supreme Court.

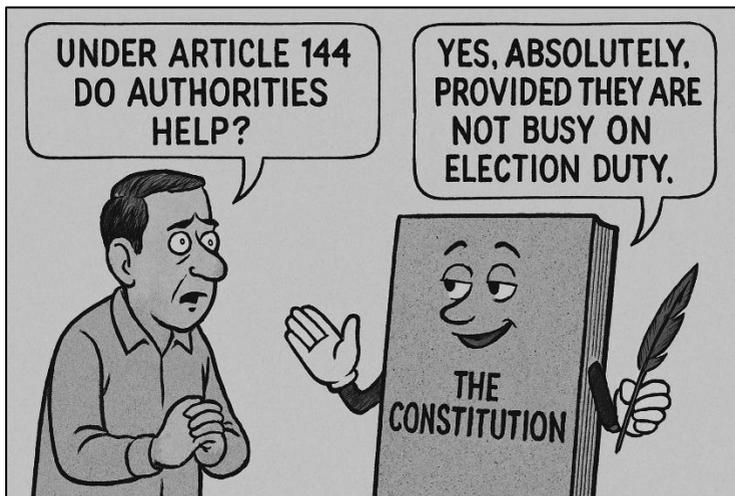
**Citizen:** Do authorities provide aid to HC/SC?

**Constitution:** Yes. Absolutely, on paper.

**Citizen:** Can HC/SC take action for disobey?

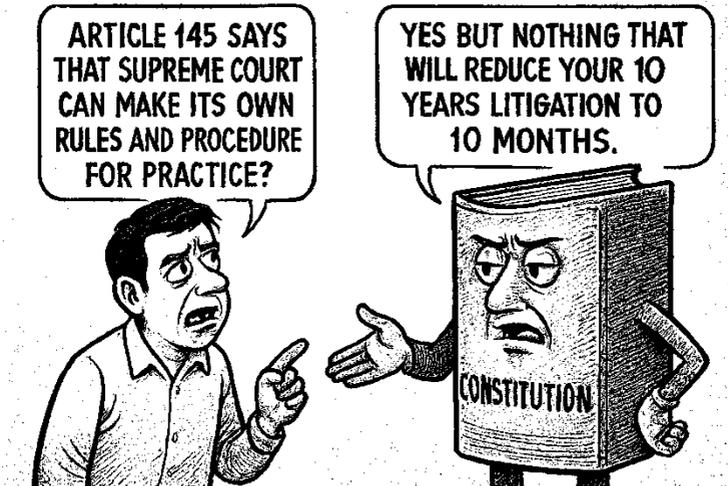
**Constitution:** Yes, but then a new state advocate comes with an apology note with sincere prayer that starts with “I beg to state most respectfully” then courts get emotional and they decide it to let it go. Very popular show in courts.

**Citizen:** Nice way to waste Tax Payers money.



### *Article 145 – SC Makes Its Own Rules*

The SC frames rules for court procedure and practices.



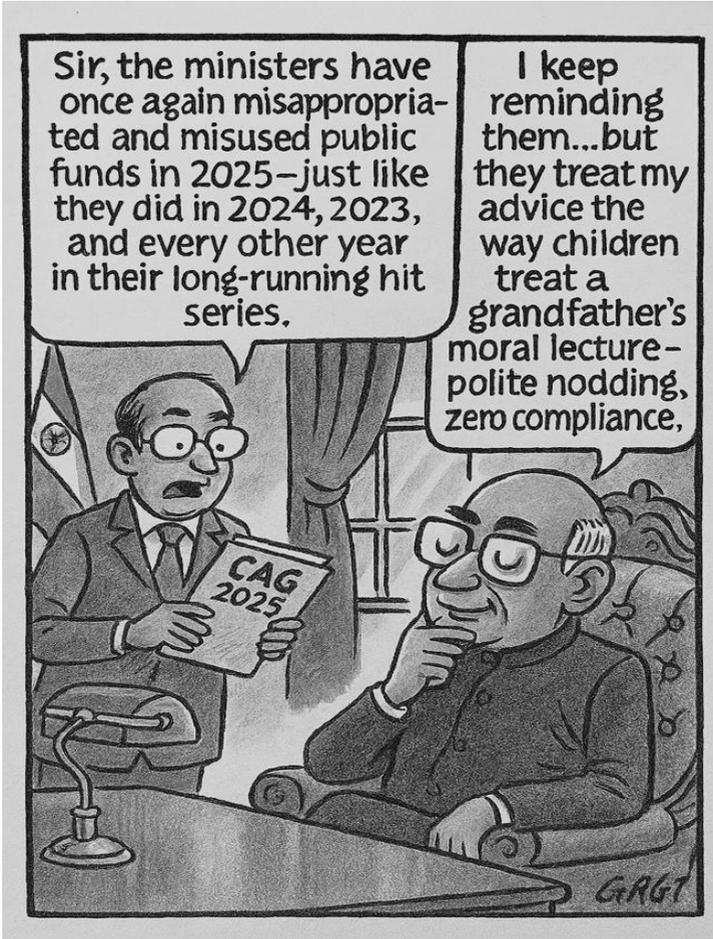
### *Article 146 – Officers and Servants of SC*

The Chief Justice controls hiring in the SC, but the President pays the salaries from funds controlled by Ministers.

### *Article 147 – Interpretation of Indian Laws*

when a court in India (Supreme Court or High Court) is interpreting a "substantial question of law" related to the Indian Constitution, it is also allowed and expected to consider and interpret relevant provisions from the older, pre-independence laws like the Government of India Act, 1935, and the Indian Independence Act, 1947, as well as any related orders.

## Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)



### ***Article 148 – Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)***

CAG audits all government receipts and expenditures.

Think of it as India's official accountant — pointing out scams that Parliament pretends it didn't read.



**Citizen:** Who appoints the CAG?

**Constitution:** Officially, the President.

**Citizen:** And unofficially?

**Constitution:** The President listens to the Council of Ministers...

The Council consults the Party High Command...

And they shortlist the most "flexible" candidate—

Ethically broken and morally compromised-

One who can balance the books *and* the blame.

### ***Article 149 – Duties and Powers of CAG***

Parliament can expand the CAG's duties by law. Because counting how many crores vanished isn't a one-person job anymore.

### ***Article 150 – Accounts of the Union and the States***

The President decides how the accounts of Centre and States are maintained, after consulting the CAG.



**Citizen:** But the President works under the advice of the Council of Ministers!

**Constitution:** Precisely! So, the CAG gives their unbiased, professional advice on how the books *should* be kept. Then, the Council of Ministers advises the President on how the books *will* be kept...

**Citizen:** So, the hand that takes responsibility only in elections, are managing the nation's money and power?

**Constitution:** Yes, but with expert supervision — from the same people who need those accounts not to be audited too honestly.

### *Article 151- The Grand Unveiling of Financial Truths (audit report)*

Our esteemed Comptroller and Auditor-General, the nation's chief accountant, meticulously scrutinizes every rupee spent by the Union and State governments. And then, crucially, these detailed reports are presented to *your* elected representatives—to Parliament, to the State Legislatures.

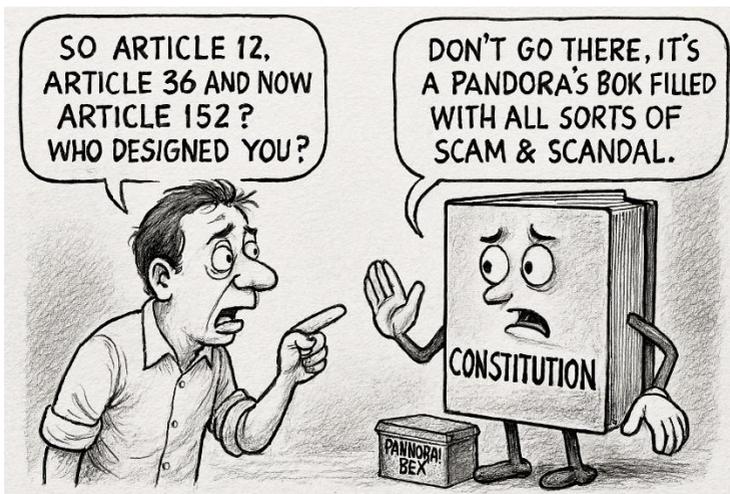


**Citizen:** But they are the people who have spent the money. Should it not be sent to the Tax payers?

**Constitution:** Are you crazy? If you tell the people that some politician spent 1.4 Cr for installing some fancy toilet on taxpayers' money. There will be a revolution the next morning. Tax Payers will go banana.

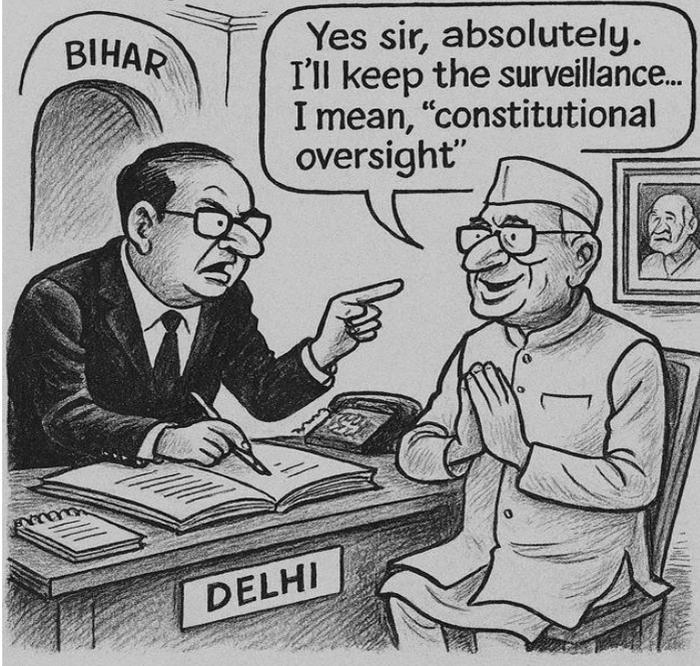
### **Article 152 – Definition of “State”**

Any Office which is led by a party chief (disguised as Chief Minister)  
Assisted by his ministers (selected by loyalty, not literacy) Surrounded by party minions (sycophants with slogans)



**Governor: Centre's sentinel in the States, positioned to watch over the Local Political Weather**

**DELHI:** We're appointing you to Bihar as Governor. Your primary duty is simple — before you go to bed, send us the daily political weather report. Who met whom, who is morally weak, ethically crooked... everything.

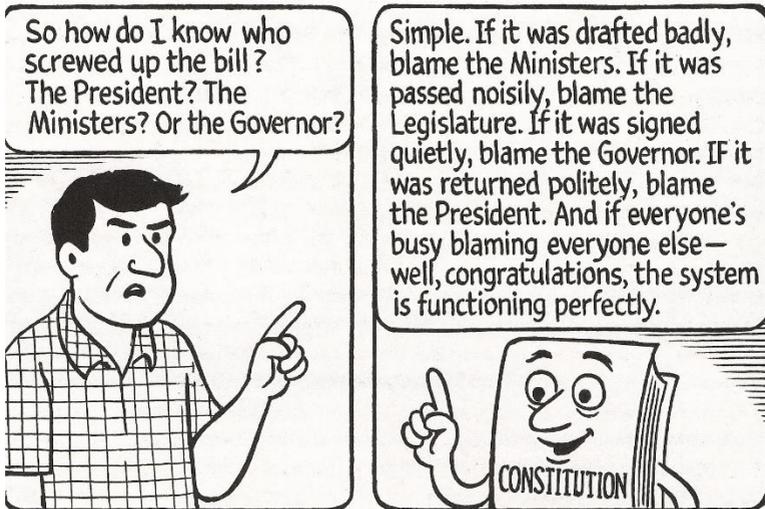


*Article 153 – Governors for All*

Every State gets a Governor—not because it's necessary, but because We need someone on the ground to smile, stall, or sign as instructed.

*Article 154 – Executive Power to the State with Governor*

The executive power of the State is vested in the Governor—but only on paper. Governor shall watch, the Chief Minister rules, listen to the ministers and gossip with Delhi when to change the script. It's federalism, with footnotes.



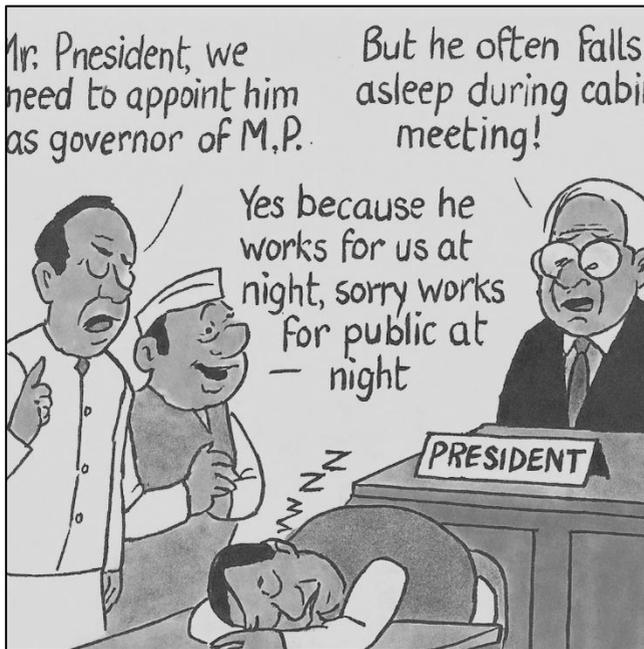
*Article 155 – How to Appoint a Governor*

The Governor shall be appointed by the President— which means **We The Delhi** picks the person, and the President signs the form. No consultation needed, no explanation given. It's not about the State's choice; it's about **Delhi**.

Power centralised. Process dignified. Politics certified.

**Citizen:** Does it not violate federalism? Or Principal of Republican Government?

**Constitution:** This is Central Federalism my child. the kind where the Centre federates and the States meditate. And republican with a footnote.



***Article 156 – Governor’s Term: Until Further Orders***

The Governor holds office for five years— or until we in Delhi get bored, annoyed, or need a reshuffle. He serves at the President’s pleasure, which really means our convenience, our calendar, our call.

Loyalty matters. Tenure doesn’t.

***Article 157 – Qualifications? Bare Minimum.***

To be a Governor, you just need to be: A citizen of India. At least 35 years old No exam, no experience, no problem. We’ll handle the rest—loyalty preferred, ideology appreciated.

***Article 158 – Perks of Being Governor***

The Governor gets a grand mansion, BMW Cars, free salary, and immunity from everyday accountability.

Can’t hold any other job, can’t be sued, can’t be bothered.



**Citizen:** It a cool Job. Can I get one?

**Constitution:** “Only if you’re loyal, available, and agreeable to Delhi.

Merit is optional. Obedience is not

***Article 159 – Oath of Office***

Before entering office, the Governor must swear to: preserve the Constitution, uphold the law, and serve the people— all while waiting for instructions from his Boss from Delhi.

***Article 160 – Break Glass in Case of Emergency***

If anything’s missing, unclear, or inconvenient— the President will make up the rules, after consulting with his ministers, who will then consult the party Chief.

***Article 161 – The Governor’s Mercy***

The Governor can grant pardons, reprieves, and commutations—  
but only for State laws and if you can reach out to her in time.

*Article 162 – State Power: Within the Lines*

The State Government may exercise executive power—  
but only over matters they're allowed to handle.

If it's in the State List, go ahead.

If it's in the Union List—back off, that's ours.

And if there's overlap? Central Gov. decide who gets the last word.

*Article 163 – Council of Ministers to Aid and Advise the Governor*

The Governor acts on the advice of the Council of Ministers— except when  
Delhi says he shouldn't. That's called "discretion."



**Citizen:** So, the local minister advice the Governor?

**Constitution:** Yes, then the Governor checks with Delhi  
Cabinet Minister, who will check with his party boss  
whether the Governor should sign the bill or not

*Article 164 – Ministers: Appointed, Advised, and Aligned*

The Chief Minister is appointed by the Governor—

but only after Delhi gives the wink.

Ministers are chosen on CM's advice,

hold office at the Governor's pleasure,

and survive by loyalty, not legacy.

They swear oaths, get six months to win a seat,

and vote their own salaries with bipartisan enthusiasm.

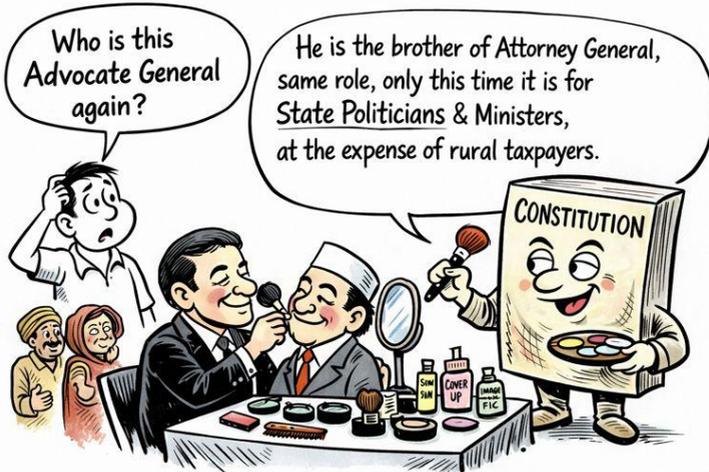


**Citizen:** So, they decide their own salary? How?

**Constitution:** Yes. It is based on their performance during the election. i.e. vote acquisition, fund collection etc.



**Advocate-General: The Local Law Man. Works for those in power, while common people pay the bills.**



*Article 165 – Advocate-General: The State’s Lawman.*

Every State gets an Advocate-General— a lawyer appointed by the Governor, but politically scented. He’s the State’s top legal advisor— unless, of course, the advice goes against the ruling party’s script. Must be qualified to be a High Court judge— but more importantly, qualified to toe the line. Paid as the Governor decides, serves at pleasure, and speaks law in a language politics understands.

The confused Citizen:

**Citizen:** So, the Governor takes advice from the State Ministers, right?

**Constitution:** Yes, that’s the rule.

**Citizen:** But the Governor also talks to Delhi (PMO/Home Office) before deciding big things?

**Constitution:** Ah... that happens too.

**Citizen:** Wait, isn’t the Governor supposed to listen only to the State?

**Constitution:** In theory, yes. But in practice, the Governor is appointed by Delhi. So when things get political, he waits for Delhi’s signal before signing.

**Citizen:** So... the Chief Minister gives advice, the Governor forwards it, and Delhi gives the final nod?

**Constitution:** Exactly. It’s like sending a WhatsApp message— but the Governor checks with “last seen in Delhi” before replying.

**Citizen:** But that’s not fair! And there is no way of knowing “who says what” because of Article **163(3)**

**Constitution:** That’s politics.



*Article 166 – Paperwork Parade*

All executive action of the State must be done **in the name of the Governor**— because someone has to sign the paperwork while others run the show.

*Article 167 – The CM’s Homework*

The Chief Minister must:

- Keep the Governor informed (whether he wants to know or not),
- Answer the Governor’s questions (even the ones came from Delhi),
- And say “Yes Sir” to any suggestion from the Raj Bhavan.

***Article 168 – Assembly of the Honourable***

Every State gets a Legislature— either one House (Legislative Assembly) or two Houses (Legislative Council & Legislative Assembly), depending on how much drama the State can afford.

***Article 169 – Add or Remove the Second House***

Some States have two Houses in their Legislature. But if a State feels the Upper House (Legislative Council) is too expensive, too slow, or just not useful—they can ask for it to be removed.

How?

1. The State Assembly passes a special resolution (with two-thirds of the members agreeing).
2. Then Parliament in Delhi steps in and makes it official.

And if someday they miss it? They can ask for it back—same process.

**Citizen:** So, the Upper House is like extra furniture. If the State wants, they keep it. If not, they send it to Delhi’s storage unit.

**Constitution:** You are getting smart!

***Article 170 – Musical Chairs in the Assembly***

Each State has a set number of seats in its Legislative Assembly. But how many seats? That depends on the **population**—because more people, more chairs.

After every Census, Parliament can redraw the seating chart. But right now, that number is **frozen until 2026**— so no new chairs, even if the room is overflowing.

### *Article 171 – Who Gets a Seat in VIP lounge (Legislative Council)?*

The Legislative Council (Upper House) is not for everyone— It's a VIP lounge with limited entry and special invites.

Here's how it works:

- Some members are elected by MLAs (basically, politicians voting for politicians).
- Some are elected by teachers and graduates (yes, really).
- Some are picked from local bodies (like mayors and district leaders).
- And the Governor **nominates the final few**—usually “experts” in art, science, literature, or... loyalty.

### *Article 172 – Five Years, Unless There's an Emergency*

The Legislative Assembly of a State lasts for five years. After that, it's election time—pack your files, prepare your slogans.

But wait—if there's a national emergency, that five-year term can be extended. And sometimes... extended again. And again.

### *Article 173 – Entry Rules for Netas*

Want to become an MLA? Here's the checklist:

- You must be an **Indian citizen** (passport, not just patriotism).
- You must be **at least 25 years old** (so you've aged enough to shout in the Assembly).
- You must meet the other qualifications set by **Parliament** (which may or may not include honesty, integrity or competence).

- And of course, you **can't be disqualified** under any law (unless you know a good lawyer and have strong party backing).

### *Article 174 – The Governor Rings the Bell of Vidhan Sabha*

The Governor decides when the Assembly should meet—like a school principal with a big brass bell.

He can:

- Call the Assembly,
- End the session,
- Or even **dissolve** it altogether (preferably after checking with Delhi).

But there's a catch: Six months can't pass between two sessions—otherwise, people might notice no one's doing any actual lawmaking.

### *Article 175 – The Governor's Annual Monologue*

The Governor can address the Assembly— to tell them what's going on (or what Delhi wants them to hear). Usually happens at the start of a new session— a speech full of “progress,” “vision,” and long pauses for applause.

And guess what?

The Governor can also send messages to the Assembly— like a WhatsApp broadcast from the Raj Bhavan.

### *Article 176 – The Big Welcome (and the Bigger Walkout)*

At the first session after elections (or each year's first meeting), the Governor gives a grand speech to both Houses of the State Legislature—if there are two.

It's supposed to lay out the government's plans for the year. It's the ruling party's vision, wrapped in Raj Bhavan's voice. Opposition listens. Then... walks out.

*Article 177 –VIP Passes to Assembly for Some Unelected Ministers & Advocate-General.*

AG and Ministers who aren't elected members of the State Legislature, but did good job during election, no problem—they can **still attend and speak** in the House. Because of their contribution in securing funds and votes.

But—they can't vote. Expert will handle it.

## Speaker & Deputy Speaker for State Assembly (Vidhan Sabha) Matches



***Article 178 – Speaker & Deputy Speaker (Referee for Legislative Assembly Matches)-***

Every Legislative Assembly needs a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker—because without a referee, it’s just a shouting match.

The MLAs choose both. And once chosen, the Speaker gets the final mic—to say things like “Order! Order!” while the House does the opposite.

**Citizen:**

Rajya Sabha has a Chairman and a Deputy Chairman.

Lok Sabha has a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker.

State Assemblies have a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker too.

Same story. Different screens.

Different actors... but the same directors.

Some wear national caps. Some wear the local caps.

But the script? Always approved by Party HQ.



**Constitution:** Exactly. It’s a franchise model.

Democracy™ — Directed by the Party High Command.

Produced in Delhi

**Article 179 – How to Remove the Referee**

Not happy with the Speaker or Deputy Speaker? No worries—there’s a procedure.

Pass a resolution in the Assembly to kick them out. Just give them 14 days’ notice—because even referees deserve a heads-up.

If the Speaker is under threat, they can’t preside over their own removal debate.

***Article 180 – When the Chair is Empty***

If the Speaker or Deputy Speaker is not around—maybe they resigned, got removed, or just went missing— someone still has to keep the House in order.

So, another member is chosen to act as Speaker for the time being. Kind of like a substitute teacher, but with more shouting and less respect.

*Article 181 – When the Speaker Steps Aside*

When the Assembly is debating something very awkward—like a no-confidence motion against the Council of Ministers, or the Speaker’s own removal—the Speaker has to step away from the chair. Same rule for the Deputy Speaker when it’s about them.

*Article 182 – The Chair Upstairs*

If your State has a Legislative Council (the Upper House), it needs its own Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

But unlike the Assembly’s Speaker, the Chairman is not elected by the House. He’s usually the Vice-President–style figure—more formal, less fiery. Still, if the House wants to remove the Chairman or Deputy, same rule applies: give notice, pass a resolution, and make it dramatic.

*Article 183 – Exit Rules for the Chairman*

The Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council can leave their post if:

1. They **resign** (with a formal goodbye note).
2. They’re **no longer a Council member** (seat gone = chair gone).
3. The Council **votes them out** (with proper notice and plenty of drama).

And just like in the Assembly—you can’t run the show if the show is about removing you from the office.

Nobody likes to sit in one’s own termination meeting, in any way.

*Article 184 – Who Sits When the Chair is Empty*

If the Chairman of the Legislative Council is absent— or that seat is just plain vacant—the Deputy Chairman takes charge.

And if both are missing? Then the Council picks one of its own to play Speaker-for-the-day.

***Article 185 – When the Chair Can’t Chair***

If the Legislative Council is debating a no-confidence motion against the Chairman or Deputy Chairman, they have to step aside during the discussion.

Because no one wants a referee calling fouls in their own trial.

Another member takes the chair, so the House can argue freely—without the boss watching.

***Article 186 – Chairs Come with Cheques***

Being a Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Chairman, or Deputy Chairman isn’t just about shouting “Order!” It also comes with a salary, allowances, and perks.

Who decides the amount?

**State Legislature.**

But until they make up their mind, the pay comes from rules made by Parliament.

***Article 187 – Every House Needs a Back Office***

A Legislature can’t run on just speeches and slogans— it needs a secretariat, staff, and paperwork pros.

So, each State House gets its own official office machinery. Hiring?

Conditions of service? Decided by the State Legislature, with help from the Governor.

***Article 188 – Take oath (Pinky promise) Before You Speak***

Before an MLA (or MLC) can jump into debates, protests, or walkouts, they must take an oath or affirmation— to bear true faith to the Constitution and do their duty.

No oath? No seat. No speaking. No shouting.

The oath is taken before the Governor (or someone he authorizes).

### **Article 189 – Count the Members, Count the Votes**

To hold a meeting, the House needs a quorum—

That's just a word for “enough people to look serious in the eyes of people.”

No quorum? Meeting pauses till more MLAs show up (or wake up).

Every question is decided by a majority vote—and the Speaker/Chairman breaks the tie if it's a draw.

### ***Article 190 – How to Lose Your Seat (or Give It Up)***

Want to quit as an MLA or MLC? Just send a resignation letter to the Speaker (or Chairman).

If they believe it's genuine and voluntary, you're out.

But there's more:

- **Double membership?** You can't sit in both Houses—or in two States at once.
- **Gone missing too long** without permission? You might get the boot.

### ***Article 191 – Who Can't Sit in the House***

Some people just can't be MLAs or MLCs—no matter how loud, popular, or self-righteous.

Not everyone gets a seat in the House—

especially if you're broke, banned, blabbering honesty in public, or moonlighting for extra cash.

### ***Article 192 – Is there an Intruder in the House?***

If there's a question about whether a sitting MLA or MLC is disqualified, don't start a shouting match.

The Governor decides— but only after getting the opinion of the Election Commission.



**Citizen:** But then The EC will talk to Delhi Office then he/she will talk to party chief, he then might consult party strategist who then will call back the governor

**Constitution:** Now you understand how they translate me.

### *Article 193 – Don't Sit If You Don't Belong*

If you sit, vote, or speak in the House without being a real member— and you know you're not supposed to be there— you'll be fined: ₹500 per day.

Yep, just ₹500. That's the penalty for fake lawmaking. Free WIFI and Cantine Food.

### *Article 194 – Freedom to Speak... But Only Inside*

MLAs and MLCs get freedom of speech— but only inside the House. They can't be sued, charged, or dragged to court for anything they say or vote on while in session.

And yes, the State Legislature can make its own rules and enjoy some Parliament-style powers too.

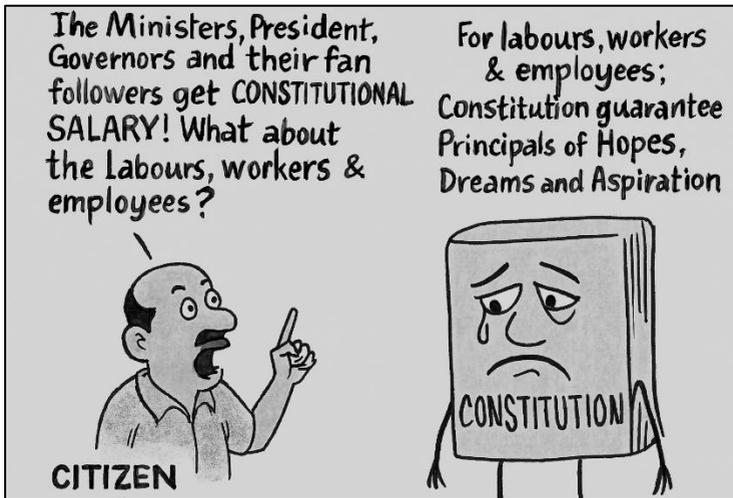
*Article 195 – Salary for speaking, bench drumming, shouting, chair throwing (if necessary)*

Every Member of the State Legislature gets a salary and perks.

Who decides the amount?

The State Legislature itself—because of course they can. Because-

It is by the politician, for the politicians and of the politician.



***Article 196 – How a Bill Becomes a Law (State Edition)***

Want to make a law?

First, introduce a Bill in either House—if there are two.

If there's only one, well, less drama.

The Bill must be passed by both Houses (if there are two), and then sent to the Governor for approval.

But wait—some Bills can't be introduced without a nod from the Governor first (especially the ones that involve money).



**Citizen:** So again... centrally operated federalism?

**Constitution:** Exactly. A Dish cooked in Delhi... just served on State plates. With garnish by the Governor.

***Article 197 – Second House, Second Opinion (or Delay)***

When a Bill passes in one House and goes to the second—things can get... **complicated**.

The second House can: Pass it (great), Reject it (oops), Ignore it for 3 months (classic delay move), or send it back with suggestions (aka political edits).

If it's still stuck after round two: Repeat the whole circus. And if it stalls again? The Bill dies. Quietly.

***Article 198 – Money Bills: Handle with Governor's Gloves***

Money Bills are special. They can only be introduced in the Legislative Assembly, and only with the Governor's blessing.

Once passed, they go to the Legislative Council (if there is one) ... but only to read and suggest—not change.

And they must return it in 14 days, or it's auto-approved.

*Article 199 – What's a Money Bill, really?*

Not every Bill about money is a Money Bill.

To wear that crown, it must deal with things like: Taxes, Government borrowing, State spending, or who gets paid from the public purse.

And who decides if it's really a Money Bill?

The Speaker of the Assembly. And the decision is Final. No debates. No appeals.

*Article 200 – The Governor's Thumbs up to Bill.*

Once a Bill passes the State Legislature, it goes to the **Governor**— who has a few classic moves:

1. **Give assent** – Congrats, it's a law.
2. **Withhold assent** – Nope, not today.
3. **Send it back for reconsideration** – Try again, maybe better.
4. **Send it to the President** – Especially if it's "suspiciously constitutional."

And yes, this can go on for months, depending on mood, memo, or Delhi's climate.

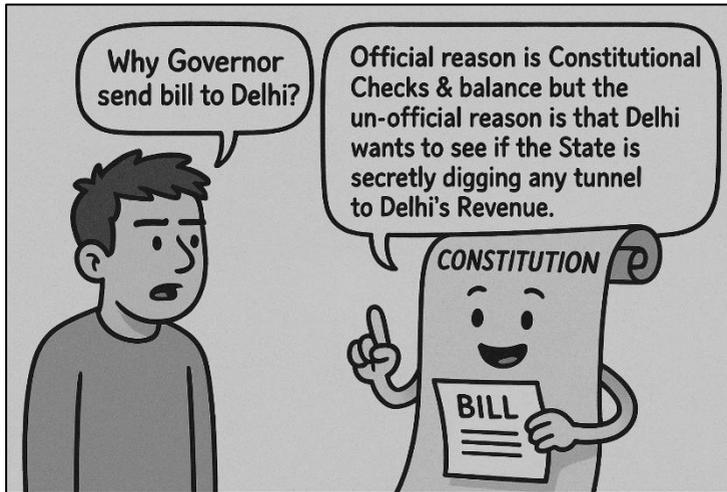
*Article 201 – When the Governor sends bill to President*

If the Governor sends a Bill to the President, everything freezes.

Now the President can:

- **Approve it** – Law made.
- **Withhold it** – Law buried.
- Or just... **keep thinking**. Indefinitely.

No timeline. No pressure. Just quiet suspense.



### *Article 202 – The Annual Budget Show*

Every year, the Governor lays out the State’s budget— a.k.a. the Annual Financial Statement—before the Legislature.

It includes:

- What the State plans to **spend**,
- Where it hopes to **earn more vote**,
- And how deep the **borrowing hole** might go.

Think of it as a **Wishlist**, dressed up with numbers and hope.



**Citizen:** Does Governor write the Budget?

**Constitution:** No. The Governor doesn’t write the budget. He just announces it, like a newsreader or a screen-reader

**Citizen:** Then who does?

**Constitution:** The real script? It’s prepared by the State’s Finance Department, approved by the Council of Ministers, signed off by the Chief Minister, and finally handed to the Governor to read in the House.

**Citizen:** So basically, the Governor gets the budget from the State Cabinet— which probably got half of it cleared through Delhi (if they are friends of delhi).

**Constitution:** Yes, my dear. The grand game of politics.

### *Article 203 – Let the Budget Debates Begin*

Once the Governor reads out the budget,

The opposition shouts, the ruling party votes, and the budget passes—like it was meant to.

Sometimes for courtesy they can Refuse them, Or cut them down to size.

Just do people don't get the right impression.

***Article 204 – Permission to Spend, Please***

Passing the budget isn't enough. Before the State can touch a single rupee, it needs an official green light: the Appropriation Act.

This Act authorizes the withdrawal of money from the State Consolidated Fund—because even governments aren't supposed to swipe without approval.

***Article 205 – When the Budget Wasn't Enough***

Sometimes, halfway through the financial year, the government realizes it has either miscalculated, underestimated, or just discovered a sudden “urgent need.” That's when it rushes to the Assembly asking for more money—through Supplementary Grants (for things they forgot), Additional Grants (for things they suddenly want), or Excess Grants (for things they already overspent on). Of course, all this still needs the Assembly's approval.

But let's be real—by the time it's discussed, the money is often already spent.

***Article 206 – \$ Spend Now, Approval Later***

Sometimes, the budget gets delayed, or the government needs money urgently—because, let's face it, planning isn't always their strong suit. So, what do they do?

They pull out a trick called the Vote on Account or an Advance Grant. This lets them withdraw money for a short time, just enough to keep the lights on until the real budget is passed.

***Article 207 – State's Financial Bills***

If a Bill talks about taxing people, spending public money, or touching the State's piggy bank, it can't just be tossed into the House like a casual debate topic.

Only a Minister can introduce it, and only with the Governor's blessing—who probably got a nudge from the Finance Department (and maybe Delhi too).

### *Article 208 – House Rules Are Made in the House*

Each State Legislature gets to make its own rules for running the show—debates, disruptions, walkouts, and all. The Constitution gives them the stage, but the script? That's written in-house.

Till they come up with new rules, they'll just recycle the colonial-era handbook (with a few edits here and there by the Speaker or Chairman). And if there are two Houses, the Governor—after politely checking with both presiding officers—gets to set the ground rules for how the Assembly and the Council pass notes to each other without causing a scene.

### *Article 209 – How to Talk Money \$\$*

Before the State starts throwing numbers and allocating crores, it needs some ground rules. Article 209 says the Legislature can pass a law to **regulate how financial business is done**—how budgets are presented, how grants are asked for, and how money is withdrawn from the State's kitty.

It's basically Parliament telling the States: "Here's your financial script—don't improvise too much."

### *Article 210 – Language of the House*

Inside the State Legislature, you can speak in the official language of the State, in Hindi, or in English—whichever helps you sound more authoritative. But if you can't express yourself in any of these, the Speaker or Chairman might kindly let you use your mother tongue—because Parliament believes in free speech, especially if it's hard to follow. Originally, the plan was to drop English after 15 years of Independence. But like most deadlines in Indian politics, that got extended—especially in States like Himachal, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, Arunachal, Goa, and

Mizoram, where English held on a bit longer. Turns out, the Queen's English has better political stamina than most election promises.

It is better in English as very few can understand.

***Article 211 – No Criticizing of Judges in the Vidhan Sabha***

No shouting about the conduct of the judges in the House—their names stay out of your speeches.

**Constitution:** Same story different stage. We don't talk about them; they don't talk about us. We are safe in that way.

**Citizen:** In another way of saying, I don't look into your flaws and you don't look into mine. Adjustable Democracy.

**Article 212 – Courts Not to Poke into Our Vidhan Sabha Business**

Courts can't question how the State Legislature runs its show—even if it's a circus inside.

**Citizen:** So, judiciary and legislature have made a nice deal!

**Constitution:** Yes. In that way they both can save embarrassments. Mutual respect—or mutually assured Discretion

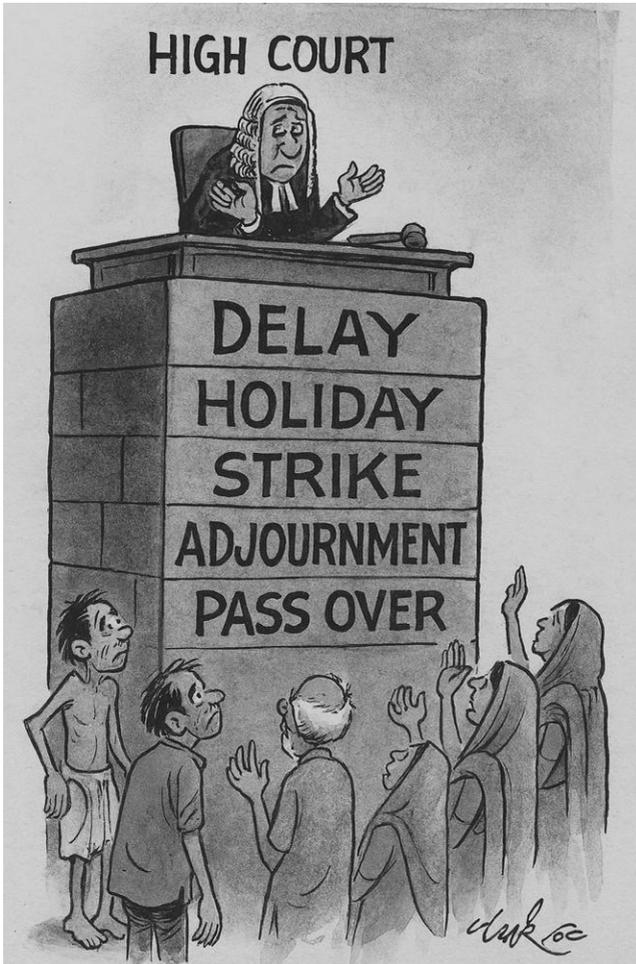


### *Article 213 – Governor’s Emergency Scriptwriter Mode*

When the Assembly is on vacation (or missing), the Governor can make laws by Ordinance—but only if Delhi doesn’t mind, and only till the House returns to edit or erase them.

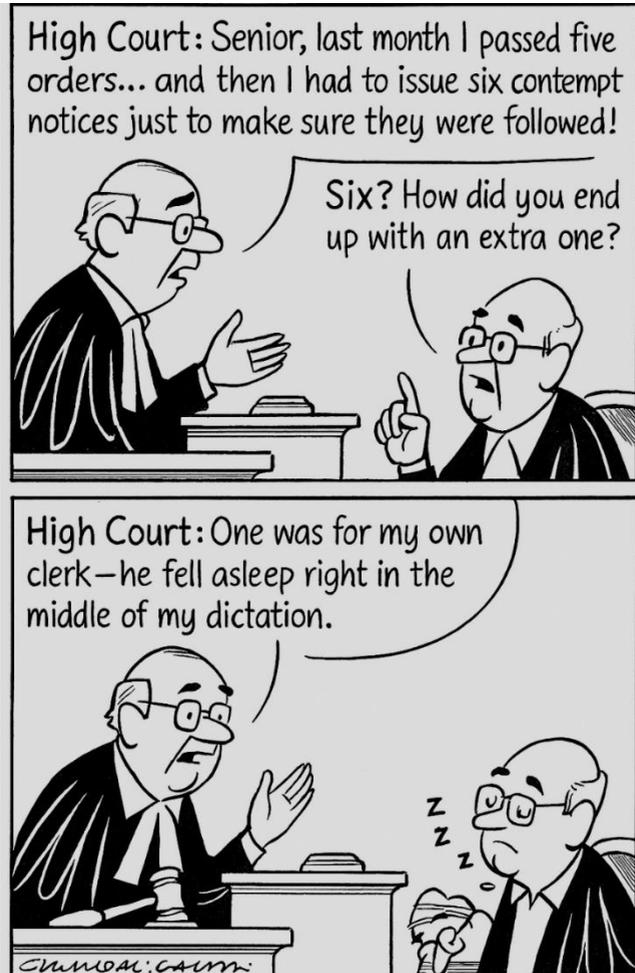
*Article 214 – Every State Gets a High Court*

Every State shall have its own High Court—because someone has to clean up after the Legislature



*Article 215 – High Court = High Authority=Power to issue Contempt*

The High Court isn't just a court—it's a constitutional heavyweight. It can hold anyone in **contempt**... unless they're too important to touch, and of course if they are from ruling party.



### *Article 216 – Judges on the Bench*

Every High Court has a Chief Justice and as many judges as Delhi thinks the State can handle—or if they can afford or want to afford.



**Citizen:** But there are so many vacancies and they are overworked.

**Constitution:** Because they don't want too many of them, let them be overworked and under stress. So that they don't see their magic tricks of Funds & Finance by State Gov.

### *Article 217 – How to Become a High Court Judge*

To become a High Court judge, you need years of legal experience and a strong résumé

The President appoints, but only after everyone whispers in his ear: the Chief Justice of India, the Governor, and the High Court Chief Justice.

### *Article 218 – When a Judge Must Leave the Stage*

If you want to remove a High Court judge, good luck—it's the same exhausting impeachment drama as with Supreme Court judges. Rare, complex, and politically... inconvenient.

### *Article 219 – Judges Take an Oath Too*

Before playing judge, each High Court appointee swears to the Constitution—not to any party boss or Chief Minister.

### *Article 220 – No Boomerang to the Bar*

Once you've been a High Court judge, you can't go back to arguing in any Indian court where you once judged. No switching robes for lawyer fees.

Unless it's the Supreme Court, of course—because exceptions are a tradition.

***Article 221 – Judges Get Paid (Mostly on Time)***

High Court judges draw salaries like any respectable VIP—decided by Parliament, protected from State tantrums, and shielded from surprise pay cuts (unless there's a national crisis... or budget crunch).

But unlike legislators, they can't decide their salary. So, they can only afford TATA NANO to come to office. While the next-door minister use TOYOTA Fortuner.

***Article 222 – Transfer Window: Judges Edition***

The President can shift a High Court judge from one State to another—after a quick chat with the Chief Justice of India. One day you're judging in Kolkata, next week in Kohima. No complaints entertained.



**Constitution:** Transfer is castration, Gov. does not what a judge to settle down and figure out all their State Tricks.

**Citizen:** A judge who feels at home might start feeling too bold. The better as a guest—less likely to meddle in the family secrets.

**Constitution:** Exactly

***Article 223 – Acting Chief Justice: The Backup Plan***

If the Chief Justice is absent or the post is empty, someone is picked to sit in the big chair—just don't get too comfortable, it's still “acting.”

***Article 224 – More Judges, Please***

If things get out of hand (read: backlog of 5 lakh cases), the President can send in additional or temporary judges. It's like calling in substitutes—but only if Delhi signs off.

**Citizen:** Why Delhi?

**Constitution:** Because the President of India—who appoints these additional or temporary judges under Article 224—is not acting alone. In practice, the President acts on the advice of the Union Council of Ministers, specifically through the Ministry of Law and Justice. And the Ministry of Law and Justice only drinks his 1st coffee of the Day after consulting with the Party Chief.



*Article 225 – Legacy Settings Apply*

High Courts can keep using their old British-era powers unless Parliament tweaks them. So yes, your Lordship can still scold, summon, or jail—just like the good old colonial days.

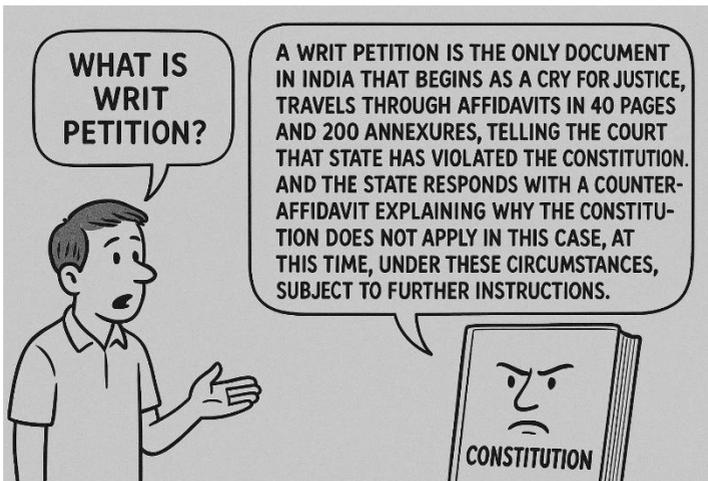
*Article 226 – Writ Power: High Court's Magic Wand*

If your rights are crushed, your voice is muzzled, or bureaucracy eats your paperwork, head to the High Court. It can issue writs (Habeas Corpus, Mandamus, Certiorari, Prohibition, and Quo Warranto)—like legal thunderbolts—to fix injustice, fake orders, and government laziness.

If Delhi's busy, your State's High Court has your back... well, most days.

**Constitution:** But unlike Harry Potter's wand, this magic wand is slow as Snail.

**Citizen:** I heard it.



***Article 227 – High Court: Big Brother of Lower Courts***

High Courts aren't just courts—they're supervisors. They peek into district courts, tribunals, and any lower legal drama. If things go off script, the High Court walks in, clears the mess, and raises an eyebrow at sloppy judges.

**Article 228 – High Stakes = High Court**

If a case in a trial court smells like it needs constitutional brain surgery, it can be transferred up to the High Court. Because some questions are too tricky for the local stage and require expert spotlight.

***Article 229 – The High Court can do own recruitment***

Judges get to hire their own staff, fix their pay, and run their registry like royalty—though the State must foot the bill. The Chief Justice signs the cheques; the State Government just nods along.



**Citizen:** Millions of cases pending... and we're running on 1G registry tech.

**Constitution:** Autonomy, yes. Accountability? That's buffering...

**State Government:** We pay the bill, but can't ask what the Wi-Fi password is.

**High Court:** Our court, our rules. Even our typist is untouchable—administratively speaking.

***Article 230 – Delhi Can Redraw Your Court Map***

Parliament can decide if a High Court serves one State or two—or if your Union Territory needs a full court or just a bench in a rented hall. Your local justice may come with a shared pin code.

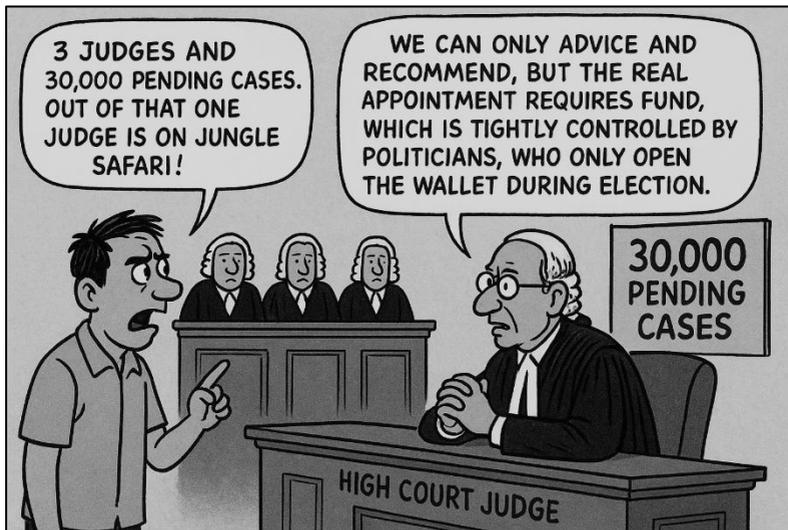
***Article 231 – One High Court for Two States***

Sometimes, two or more States or Union Territories share the same High Court. It helps when setting up separate courts isn't practical. Parliament decides this arrangement. So, even if your State has its own problems, your High Court might be hearing cases from a neighbour too.

*Article 232 - It was repealed by the Constitution (Seventh Amendment) Act, 1956*

*Article 233 – Appointment of District Judges*

To become a District Judge, you need at least 7 years of experience as a lawyer. The High Court has to agree on your appointment, and the final call is made by the Governor then he talks to his bosses in delhi. So, it's not just about qualification—it's about recommendation and approval.



***Article 233A – Judges Appointed During the Emergency***

During the Emergency period, Ms. Gandhi @ 1975, some judges were appointed without following the usual rules. This Article was added to protect their jobs and decisions, even if the process wasn't strictly constitutional. It basically says, "Let it be. We won't question it now."

To fully understand this Article, you have to read the history. Article 233A aimed to prevent chaos and disruption in the judicial system by retrospectively validating these appointments and the actions taken by these judges.

***Article 234 – Other Judicial Officers***

For judges below the rank of District Judge, the selection process involves the State Public Service Commission and the High Court. The Governor makes the appointment based on their recommendations. It's a formal, step-by-step method to make sure qualified people become judges.

***Article 235 – Control of Lower Courts by the High Court***

The High Court doesn't just hear appeals—it also manages the working of judges in lower courts. This includes posting, promotions, leave, and even discipline. Basically, the High Court is the boss of the entire lower judiciary in the State.

***Article 236 – Some Definitions***

This Article clears up who counts as a "District Judge" and what "judicial service" means. A District Judge isn't just one post—it includes Additional District Judges, Assistant Judges, Chief Judges of Small Causes Courts, and others handling serious legal matters. "Judicial service" refers to those who have been legally appointed to serve as judges—not clerks or admin staff, but actual decision-makers in courts.

***Article 237 – Adapting Provisions for Magistrates***

In some places, Magistrates (who handle smaller or preliminary matters) might not fall under the High Court's direct control. This Article allows the

Governor to apply the same rules used for regular judicial officers to these Magistrates, with the High Court's consent. It's a way to ensure consistency in how judicial officers are treated.

***Article 238 – (Repealed)***

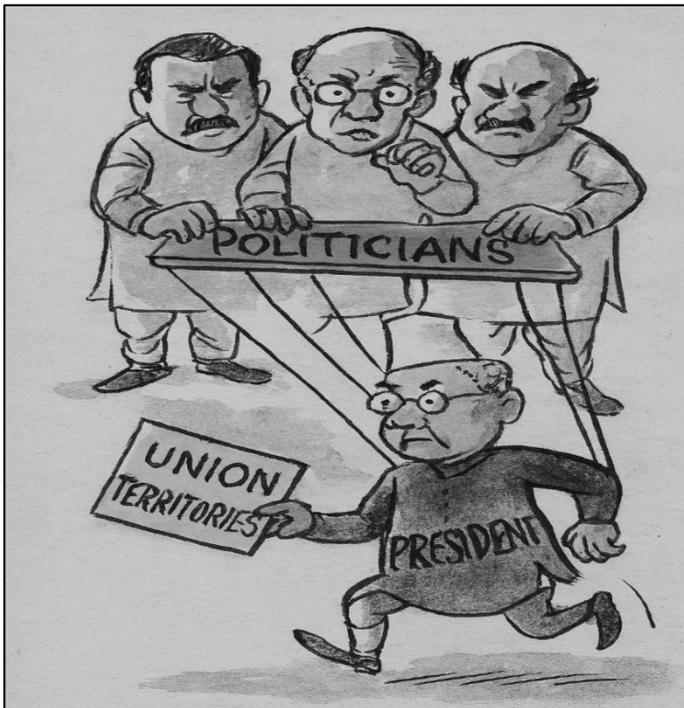
This Article is no longer in the Constitution. It used to deal with States that were Part B States (like former princely States), but since the reorganization of States, this Article was deleted. Nothing to see here—just constitutional housekeeping.

*Article 239 – Union Territories Run by the President*

Union Territories aren't full-fledged States, so they don't have elected governments (unless Parliament says otherwise). The President runs them through an appointed official called the Administrator or Lieutenant Governor. In reality, Delhi often has a strong say in how things are managed.

**Citizen:** UTs are run by the president and president is run by ministers. Then why not say: UTs are run by Majority called ministers?

**Constitution:** In every movie if director stars acting then it will be a bad one. They need someone look handsome



***Article 239A – Puducherry Gets a Mini Assembly***

Puducherry isn't a full State, but it gets a legislature and Council of Ministers anyway. It's like letting a kid play house—with adult supervision from Delhi.

***Article 239AA – Delhi Wants to Be a State (But Not Really)***

Delhi got a legislative assembly and a Chief Minister—but not control over police, land, or public order. It's like having a driver's seat with the steering wheel locked.

***Article 239AB – When Delhi Misbehaves***

If things get messy, the President can dissolve Delhi's Assembly and take over. Think of it as pressing the emergency brake... from the PMO.

***Article 239B – LG's Veto Button***

The Lieutenant Governor of Delhi can step in, hold a Bill, and send it off to the President for approval. Because in Delhi, the final word is never local.

***Article 240 – Presidential Rulebook for Union Territories***

In Union Territories that don't have their own legislature (like Andaman & Nicobar, Lakshadweep, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, etc.), the President can make laws directly through something called "**regulations**." These can deal with anything a normal State Legislature would handle—from taxes to toilets.

**Citizen:** So... is the President actually sitting and writing laws?

**Constitution:** No silly. The President signs what the Cabinet drafts, after they take a few cues from the Party High Command. It's top-down governance—Delhi decides, the islands follow.



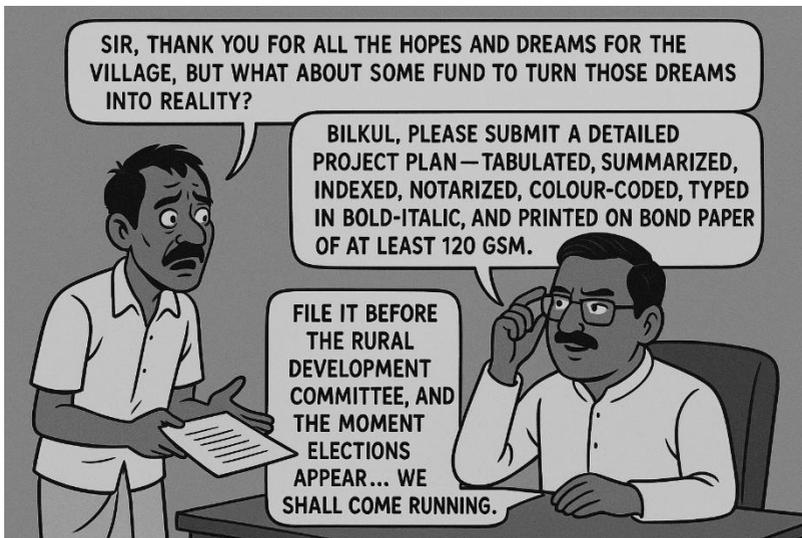
*Article 241 – High Courts for Far-Off Places (UT)*

Union Territories don't always have their own High Courts. Parliament decides whether to share a High Court with a nearby State or get their own. It's like carpooling justice—until caseloads burst the seats.

*Article 242 – (Repealed)*

This Article was deleted. No drama, no mystery—just another outdated file sent to the constitutional shredder.

## VILLAGE PANCHAYATS: Pragmatic Poor



### ***Article 243 - Definition Section***

Before the Panchayat can govern, someone has to define the playground.

So, we ask:

***What's a village?*** — “Whatever the Governor says.”

What's the population? — “Last census... even if the kids are now adults with kids of their own.”

Who runs the show? — “The *Panchayat*, a grassroots government... as long as it doesn't grow *too* much power.”

What's the *intermediate level*? — “That's the layer no one remembers until election time.”

In short: the Constitution gives you the map, but the Governor draws the borders. The people may vote, but Delhi still owns the pen.

### ***Article 243A – Gram Sabha: Assembly of the Hopeful***

The Gram Sabha may get powers... if the State Legislature feels generous with their pocket money.

### ***Article 243B – Panchayats for All (Unless You're Too Small)***

Every State must set up Panchayats—at the village, block, and district levels.

### ***Article 243C – Who Sits in These Panchayats?***

The State Legislature decides who gets a chair and who gets a bench.



**Citizen:** So, once again... the ruling party decide the rules of their own game?

**Constitution:** Yes. They choose the players, design the scoreboard, and still say, “It's the people's victory.”

### ***Article 243D – Reserved Seats & Political Chairs***

Some seats in Panchayats *must* be reserved:

- For Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), in proportion to their population.
- And yes, at least *one-third* of *everything*—seats, chairperson posts, etc.—goes to *women*.

So now your Panchayat can look like the country it serves... at least on paper. But don't worry—State Governments still get to shuffle the deck. Because *who gets what seat* can be as political as *who gets the loudspeaker* on election day.

***Article 243E – Panchayats Last 5 Years... Unless They Don't***

Every Panchayat gets a 5-year term. That's the promise. But if it's dissolved early (read: political drama, votes of no confidence, or sudden love for "fresh elections"), elections *must* happen within 6 months. The newly elected Panchayat will only serve the leftover term—like finishing someone else's lunch.

So yes, the clock keeps ticking, but the game can reset mid-way. It's democracy with a snooze button—and some State-level mischief baked in.

***Article 243F – Disqualified? Disappear.***

Want to be a Panchayat member? Great. But there's a checklist. If you're disqualified under State laws, or under any law made by Parliament for elections, you're out.

And if you lied about your qualifications or forgot to mention that tiny corruption case? Once caught, you're off the chair—*even if it takes a court case and two monsoons*.

But don't worry, the seat won't stay empty for long. There's always another candidate waiting with a garland and a slogan.

***Article 243G – All the power and duty (except Money power).***

Panchayats *may* be given power to plan and decide things for the village—like roads, water, streetlights, or cow shelters. But here’s the twist: they only get these powers if the State Legislature says so and they have funds for your plan and you have voted for the right party.

## India’s democratic logic

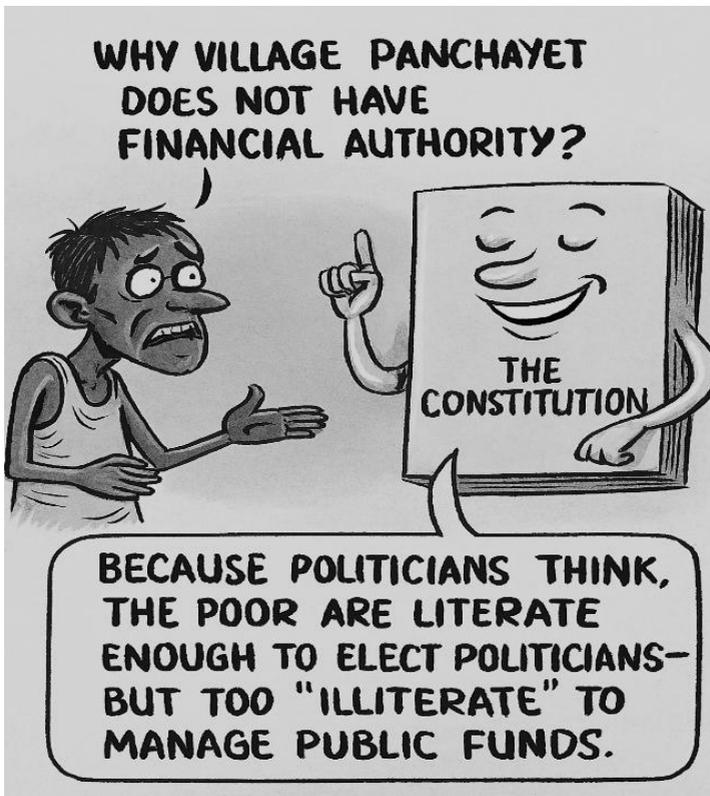
*“My Lords, the State’s philosophy appears to be this:  
The voter possesses full wisdom on Election Day only,  
and loses all competence immediately next morning.*

*Until Next election.....”*

*Article 243H – No money without Gran Father's Permission?*

Panchayats can get money—through taxes, fees, and grants—but only if the State Legislature allows it.

So, Panchayats can plan all they want, but without the State's nod (and funds), they're just well-dressed beggars with a resolution in hand and no cheque in sight.



*Article 243I – The Great Rural ATM Review*

Every five years, the Governor sets up a State Finance Commission. Its job. Figure out how much money Panchayats should get (from the State's tightly clenched wallet), and suggest how to split it.

The Commission does the math, files a nice report, and then... waits. Because just like a Wishlist to Santa, these recommendations can be accepted, modified, or completely ignored—depending on political weather, budget mood swings, or upcoming elections.

*Article 243J – Who Audits the Village Wallet?*

The State Legislature decides who checks the Panchayat's account books. Because even the smallest village body needs someone to flip through receipts, count how many chairs were actually bought, and verify whether the new hand pump is real—or just exists in the tender file.

And if someone asks, “Where did the money go?” the answer is usually: “We have appointed someone to look into it.”

**Citizen:** Who audits Panchayat accounts under Article 243J?

**Constitution:** Officially, the State appoints someone.

**Citizen:** And unofficially?

**Constitution:** The accounts audit themselves. By the time the auditor arrives, the records have either faded, flooded, or flown away with the sarpanch's signature.

**Citizen:** And the funds?

**Constitution:** Fully utilised—for tea, travel, and temple inauguration



*Article 243K – Panchayat Elections: A Local Drama in Five Acts*

Elections to Panchayats are run by the State Election Commission—supposedly independent, occasionally awake, and usually working with one photocopier and zero staff.



**Citizen:** How does the State EC decide?

**Constitution:** Technically, it's independent but practically?

It often checks the calendar of the ruling party, the strength of the opposition, weather forecasts, and—if the stars align—a notification might just appear.

**Citizen:** Who does the SEC report to?

**Constitution:** The SEC reports to the Constitution on paper, the Governor by letter, and the ruling party by silence.

### *Article 243L – Municipalities on Lease*

Once elected, a Municipality gets to exist for **5 years**—unless, of course, someone pulls the plug early. Think of it like a local government rental agreement.

But if the House is dissolved early, *fresh elections must be held*, and the new body still only serves what's left of the original 5-year term.

No extensions, unless there's a legal reason wrapped in a political ribbon.

### *Article 243M – Not Everyone's Invited to the Panchayat Party*

The whole Panchayat framework skips over certain regions—Scheduled Areas, tribal belts, and states like Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and parts of Manipur and Darjeeling.

Why? Because they've already got their own traditional or autonomous councils—like the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council or Sixth Schedule district bodies.

Arunachal Pradesh? It doesn't apply Scheduled Caste reservations in Panchayats—mostly because SCs form a negligible part of its population.

But here's the twist: State Legislatures or Parliament can choose to include these regions—no constitutional amendment needed. Just a law, a vote, and some political will.

### *Article 243N – Old Laws, Temporary Seat Warmers*

Just because new Panchayat rules came in, it doesn't mean the old laws vanish overnight.

Old state laws on Panchayats can continue—until new laws are made under this Part. So yes, the old system may linger a bit like that one elected member who lost the election but still gives speeches at village fairs.

***Article 243O – No Court Drama, Please***

Once the elections to the Panchayats have started, courts can't interfere.

No High Court, no Supreme Court—no “stay” or “delay” tactics. If you've got a problem with how elections were held or who got elected, go to the Election Tribunal after the results.

## The Municipalities

*Same Story: Different actors*



### ***Article 243P – Urban Rulebook Glossary***

This article defines key terms for urban local governance. A Municipality is a city-based self-government, while a Municipal area is the zone it governs. A Metropolitan area means a big urban sprawl with over 10 lakh people—declared by the Governor. "Population" is based on the last census (so expect some outdated numbers). And yes, the “Committee” mentioned here refers to one created under Article 243S.

### ***Article 243Q – What Counts as a Municipality***

Depending on size and importance, every urban area gets a local body. Big cities become Municipal Corporations, medium towns get Municipal Councils, and small towns are run by Nagar Panchayats. The State Legislature decides which place gets what tag, based on how crowded or developed it is.

### ***Article 243R – Who Gets to Sit in the Municipality***

Municipalities are filled with elected representatives chosen by the people. One seat, one person, one vote—that’s the rule. But the State can also nominate a few members with special knowledge or experience in municipal matters. Just don’t expect those nominated members to vote on big decisions like electing the mayor—they’re more like advisors at the dinner table, not cooks in the kitchen.

### ***Article 243S – Committees for Big Cities***

In every big city called a "Metropolitan area" (that’s 10 lakh+ population), the State must create a *Metropolitan Planning Committee*. This isn’t just a fancy name—it’s where plans for the city’s development are cooked up. It includes elected members from municipalities and panchayats, experts, and sometimes state appointees. Their job? To make sure roads, water, housing, and chaos don’t crash into each other. Think of it as a citywide panchayat with a little more paperwork and a lot more urban headache.

**Article 243T – Reserved Seats: Because Representation Matters**

In every Municipality, there must be seats reserved for:

- Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) based on their population;
- Women—not less than one-third of the total seats, including seats reserved for SCs and STs.

And yes, this one-third also includes seats for women from SC/ST communities too.

The State Legislature gets to decide exactly *how* these seats are distributed—rotation, manner of election, all that jazz. But the core idea is simple: more voices, more inclusion, less “old boys’ club.”



**Citizen:** It seems like Authority really care about the oppressed.

**Constitution:** Yes. In Theory and On Paper.

**Citizen:** What do you mean?

**Constitution:** You have to dig deeper to understand the ground reality— let me break it down for you:

***Corrective Justice — On Paper:***

The original idea was noble — to correct centuries of oppression and give voice to communities that were historically excluded. So, Articles like 243D and 243T ensure SCs, STs, and even women get seats and leadership roles in local bodies.



***Electoral Arithmetic — In Practice:***

Let’s be honest: every reserved seat is also a vote bank calculation.

Political parties target reserved constituencies carefully — selecting candidates who can win and control local networks of power (tenders, welfare schemes, etc.). It becomes: “Let’s empower you — and in return, you help us stay in power.”

***Tokenism vs. Real Empowerment:***

Sometimes, real leadership happens. But often? The seat is reserved, but the decisions are remote-controlled — by

husbands (in case of women sarpanches), local strongmen, or party bosses. The slogan is “empowerment,” but the reality may be: “symbolic presence, strategic obedience.”



### **Social Control — Cloaked in Inclusion:**

Reservations are also a way to legitimize governance in deeply unequal societies. If the oppressed get a piece of the power pie, the system looks fairer — even if the pie is still backed by the elites.

**Citizen:** Ohh. I see.

### ***Article 243U – How Long Can a Municipality Rule?***

A Municipality gets five years from the date of its first meeting — that’s its full term. If it’s dissolved early, elections must happen within six months, unless there’s less than six months left in its term anyway.

In short: No indefinite rule. No excuses. Local bodies must go back to the people regularly — unless someone finds a bureaucratic shortcut.

### ***Article 243V – Who Can Be a Municipal Councillor?***

Only Indian citizens can be members of a Municipality.

And just like in Assembly elections, if you're not qualified under State laws, or you're disqualified under any law made by the State Legislature, you’re out.

Also, if there's any confusion about someone's eligibility — guess who decides?

Not the Mayor, not the MLA... the State Election Commission steps in.

In short: Want a seat in the Municipality? Be a citizen, be clean, and be legally eligible — or expect a polite rejection letter.

### ***Article 243W – What Can Municipalities Actually Do?***

Municipalities aren’t just for cutting ribbons and planting trees. The State Legislature can give them powers to prepare plans, collect taxes, manage services, and generally run the show in towns and cities. Think sanitation,

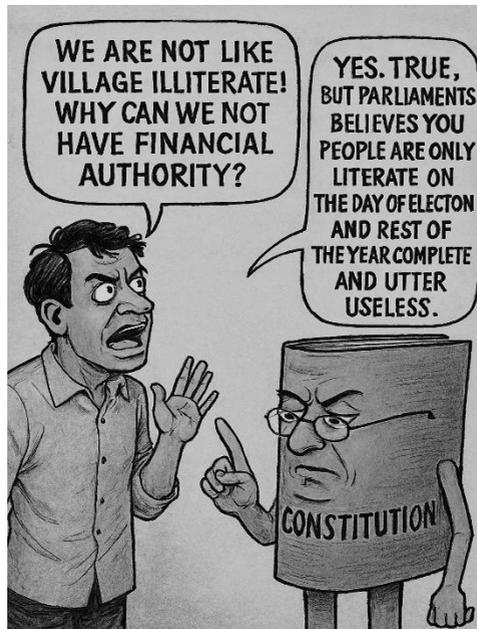
street lighting, water supply, town planning—you know, the stuff that actually affects your daily life.

But here's the catch: they only do what the State Government *lets* them do. So while the Constitution gives them a fancy list, the real power still hangs a bit higher up the chain.

### Article 243X – Money Matters

Municipalities can collect taxes, duties, tolls, and fees—but only if the State Legislature allows it. They don't just walk around town handing out receipts.

The State decides what they can charge, how much, and on what, and even how to spend it. So, while your local body might be raising money, the real financial steering wheel still rests with the State.



***Article 243Y – Finance Commission for Municipalities***

Just like states have their Finance Commissions, this Article says every five years, the Governor must set up a State Finance Commission to decide:

- How money from the state’s kitty should be shared with Municipalities.
- How much they can keep from the taxes they collect.
- How grants-in-aid should be distributed.
  
- How to improve their financial position.

It’s like a performance review—but for local bodies, and the Governor is HR (after taking advice from the Cabinet, of course).

***Article 243Z – Audit Time for the Municipal Books***

This article makes sure that Municipalities don’t go on a spending spree without oversight. Their accounts must be audited regularly, just like any government body.

Who does the audit? The State Legislature decides the rules—how it’s done, when it’s done, and by whom.

Because when local bodies start dreaming big—flyovers, fountains, flashy fairs—someone needs to check the receipts.



**Citizen:** If I want to see how the Panchayat or Municipality spent public money, how do I check it?

**Constitution:** Technically? File an RTI, attend a Gram Sabha, ask for an audit report.

**Citizen:** And practically?

**Constitution:** You’ll get transferred from one babu’s desk to another like a paper boat in monsoon drains.

*Article 243ZA – Who Runs Municipal Elections?*

Just like Panchayat elections, Municipality elections are overseen by the State Election Commission. They handle everything—from electoral rolls to the final count.

However, the State Legislature can make detailed rules and laws for how these elections will happen—timing, qualifications, wards, and more—as long as they don't mess with the Constitution.

**Translation:** The State EC calls the shots, but the State Legislature sets the stage.



***Article 243ZB – Municipalities in Union Territories***

This Article extends all the municipality-related provisions to Union Territories too. But there's a twist:

- Anywhere the law says "Governor," it means the Administrator (like the LG).
- If the UT has a legislature, that legislature steps in where a State Legislature would.
- Plus, the President can tweak these rules for a UT via public notification.

**In short:** Municipal rules apply to UTs, but with Delhi-style customization.

***Article 243ZC – Exceptions to the Municipality Rulebook***

This part of the Constitution doesn't automatically apply to Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas under Article 244. Also, it doesn't touch the powers of the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council in West Bengal. However, Parliament can extend these provisions to those regions—with tweaks and exceptions—and guess what? That won't count as a constitutional amendment (368).

**In short:** Some areas get special treatment, and only Parliament gets to decide how far the municipality rules should go there.

***Article 243ZD – Planning for the District***

Every State must set up a District Planning Committee (DPC) for each district. Its job? To prepare a development plan by merging the ideas from Panchayats and Municipalities—so rural and urban voices both get heard. The majority of members in this committee are elected by the elected members of the Panchayats and Municipalities in the district, using proportional representation.

***In short:*** - It's supposed to be a people's planning body—a mix of local wisdom and government oversight—though in practice, it's often where plans go to nap.

***Article 243ZE – Committee For Metropolitan planning***

Look, when a city becomes too big for its own good — flyovers here, slums there, malls popping up like mushrooms — we need “*planning,*” right? So, we: Make a Metropolitan Planning Committee! Get some elected folks, a few experts, stir them in a pot, and ask them to dream big for the city. Roads, housing, traffic, jobs, water — all on paper, all very nice.

Of course, two-thirds of the members must be elected, so everyone's fighting to get in. The state decides how many chairs there are, and the Governor rings the bell to start the show.

We all sit around, drink tea, nod seriously... and then, nothing much changes. But hey, at least we're planning.

***Article 243ZF – Old Committees, Please Pack Up***

So, listen — before all these fancy Panchayat and Municipality rules came in (thanks to the 73rd and 74th Amendments), some states already had their own local committees running around doing their own thing.

Now, we tell them: “You've got one year to clean house.” After that, if those old-style bodies don't match the new rules — sorry, they're out. Gone. Finito.

Basically, it's like telling grandpa, “Thanks for your service, but we've got new management now. Time to retire.”

Of course, if a state wants to shut them down even sooner, be my guest. One year is just the grace period.

***Article 243ZG – Courts, Please Stay Out of Our Elections (At Least Until They're Over)***

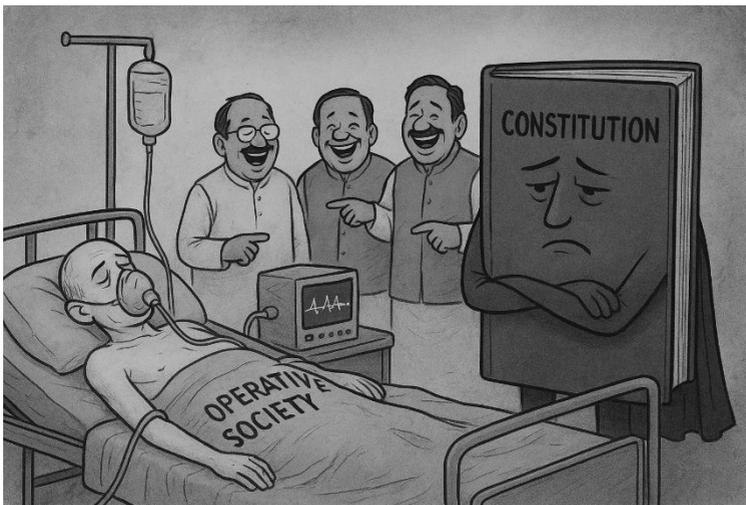
Dear citizens, once the election circus begins — banners up, promises flying, free tea everywhere — don't waste time rushing to court over seat allotments or how the wards were drawn. That ship has sailed.

Clause (a): If you don't like how the seats are carved up or how constituencies are drawn under Article 243ZA, tough luck — courts can't touch it. Not their playground.

Clause (b): And if someone *really* wants to challenge an election? Sure — but do it only through an election petition, and only in the way your state law allows. No shortcuts, no dramatic PILs.

In short: Elections first, complaints later. Let the show go on — we'll deal with the bruises after the results.

**The (Non)Co-Operative Societies.**



***Article 243ZH – Before We Start, Let’s Agree on What We’re Talking About***

Alright, before we dive into the world of co-operative societies, let’s sort out the lingo. No one likes legal confusion — except lawyers.

Here’s the glossary people like us pretend to understand:

- **Authorised Person** – This fellow shows up later in Article 243ZQ. Just know he’s “authorised,” which usually means he has some power and a lot of paperwork.
- **Board** – Fancy name for the group that runs the co-operative society. Whether they’re called Directors, Managing Committee, or Uncle’s Friends’ Club — they’re the ones in charge.
- **Co-operative Society** – Any group officially registered to do things “together” — like growing crops, running banks, or creating confusion — under state laws.
- **Multi-State Co-operative Society** – Same idea, but now they operate in more than one state, so the chaos travels across borders.
- **Office Bearer** – The usual suspects: President, Vice-President, Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer. Basically, anyone whose name shows up on the invitation card and in the minutes of the meeting.
- **Registrar** – The person who registers, regulates, and occasionally reminds co-operatives to behave. Could be from the Centre (for multi-state ones) or from the State.
- **State Act** – Any law your State Assembly passed that isn’t collecting dust.
- **State Level Co-operative Society** – A society that operates across the entire state and is big enough to say, “We’re not just local anymore.”

***In short:*** Know who’s who before you start the co-operative game. Titles matter — especially when money and power are involved.

***Article 243ZI – How to Legally Start a Co-operative (Without Making It a Family Business)***

State Legislatures can make laws to help you set up, run, and shut down co-operative societies. But the Constitution says — keep it clean. That means people should join willingly, decisions should be democratic, everyone should pitch in financially, and the society should run on its own — not as a puppet of some political godfather. Basically, if you're starting a co-op, make sure it doesn't turn into a private club or a party branch office.

***Article 243ZJ – Board Seats in The Office***

Every co-operative society gets a board, and the State law decides how many people can sit on it — but never more than **21**. Out of these, one seat is kept for Scheduled Castes or Tribes, and two are reserved for women. Fair enough.

Once elected, these board members — along with the chairperson and other office bearers — get a solid five-year term. If someone quits early and there's not much time left, the board can quietly fill the vacancy with someone from the same group.

Also, if the society needs expertise — say, in banking or management — the State can allow up to two extra co-opted experts, but these folks can't vote or run for top posts. They're there to advise, not to campaign. And yes, full-time directors count as board members, but not toward the 21-member cap.

***In short:*** Keep it representative, professional, and not overcrowded — it's a board, not a wedding banquet.

***Article 243ZK – No Expired Board: Fresh Election Mandate***

Every co-operative board must face elections before its 5-year term ends — no excuses, no extensions, no last-minute dramas. The idea is simple: as soon as the old board's term is over, the new one should be ready to take charge — like changing drivers without stopping the bus.

Who conducts these elections? That's up to each State, which will appoint a proper body or authority to handle voter lists, polling, counting — the whole circus. And yes, the State can also lay down rules and procedures to keep things clean (or at least look clean).

***In short:*** No expired boards. Elections on time. Power to the people — even if it’s just once every five years.

***Article 243ZL – When the Board Messes Up (and We Have to Step In)***

Sometimes, boards of co-operative societies become a total mess — lazy, fighting, or worse, doing things that hurt the society or its members. In such cases, the State can suspend or remove the board — but only for six months (or one year, if it’s a banking co-op that’s not multi-state).

But here’s the fine print: suspension is allowed only if the board keeps messing up, ignores its duties, creates a deadlock, acts against the society’s interests, or if the election body fails to hold timely polls. Also, if the society doesn’t take a rupee from the government — no shareholding, no loan, no guarantee — then sorry, the board can’t be touched.

***Article 243ZM – Let’s Talk Audits (Yes, the Boring but Necessary Part)***

Every co-operative society must keep proper accounts and get them audited once a year — no creative accounting, please. The State Legislature decides the rules, and only qualified, experienced auditors or audit firms (as approved by the State) are allowed to do the job. These auditors must be chosen by the general body of the co-op, but only from a State-approved panel — no cousins or college friends sneaking in.

Also, no dragging your feet — the audit must be done within six months after the financial year ends. And if it’s an apex co-operative society (the big boss of co-ops), its audit report must be tabled before the State Legislature, just so everyone knows where the money really went.

***In short:*** Want to run a co-op? Then keep your books clean, get them checked on time, and don’t expect to hide the numbers under a dusty file.

If the board is kicked out, an administrator is sent in to run the show temporarily and must hold fresh elections before the deadline. The State can also decide what perks and powers this administrator gets — because even temporary bosses like good terms of service.

In short: Boards behave, or pack your bags. But don't worry — even the babysitter (administrator) has to leave once fresh elections are done.

***Article 243ZN – One Meeting a Year. Show Up. Or Shut Up.***

Every co-operative society must hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) within six months after the financial year ends. Why? To discuss all the important stuff — money, decisions, who did what (or didn't), and whatever else the law says.

Basically: If you're running a co-op, you have to face your members at least once a year. No skipping the meeting. No hiding behind chai and samosa.

***Article 243ZO – Members Have the Right to Know (And Must Show Up Too)***

If you're a member of a co-operative society, you're not just a name on paper — you've got the right to check the books, accounts, and details of whatever business the society is doing with you. No secrets, no mystery files.

States can also make sure you show up to meetings and actually use the society's services — otherwise don't complain that decisions were made without you.

And yes, there should be some education and training too — because running a co-op isn't like running a tea stall (even that's hard enough!).

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***Article 243ZP – File Your Returns (Yes, On Time)***

Every co-operative society must submit its returns within six months after the financial year ends. What all?

- A report of what they've been up to
- Audited accounts (hopefully with no red flags)
- How they plan to use or share the extra cash (if any)

- Any changes made to their rulebook
- Date of general body meeting and whether elections happened or not
- And anything else the **Registrar** wants — because hey, someone's got to keep an eye

In short: Run your co-op like you'd run your own house — and don't forget to submit your homework to the government on time.

*Article 243ZQ – Break the Rules, Face the Music*

Let's be clear — if you mess with a co-operative society, there will be consequences. States can make laws to define what counts as an offence and how hard the punishment should hit.

Here's a greatest hits list of what *not* to do:

- Lie in your returns or give fake info — that's a straight red card.
- Ignore summons or orders under the co-op laws? That's asking for trouble.
- If you're an employer and you deduct money from your staff for the co-op but don't hand it over within 14 days, you're now on the naughty list.
- If you're a co-op officer or custodian and refuse to hand over society property, accounts, or records, consider your exit door already open (with a fine or jail behind it).
- And finally — don't try any election-time stunts. Corrupt practices before, during, or after co-op elections are a straight route to penalties. No "booth management," please.

So yes — cheating the co-op is not just bad manners, it's legally stupid.  
243ZR – Same Game, Bigger Stage (multi-State co-operative societies)

All the fancy co-op rules?

They apply to multi-State co-operative societies too — just switch out “State” for “Centre”, “State Act” for “Central Act”, and “State Government” for “Central Government”. Because when the stakes are high, Delhi wants in.

### ***243ZS – UTs: You Too! (Unless President Says Nah)***

These co-op rules also apply to Union Territories.

If there’s no Assembly, the Administrator runs the show.

If there’s an Assembly, then they get to play Legislature.

But hey, the President has the final mic — he can turn off the co-op rules for any UT or part of it, just like that. (*Power move.*)

### ***243ZT – Old Laws on Life Support***

If any old State co-op law clashes with these new rules, don’t panic —

It survives for one year, or till it’s amended or repealed, whichever comes first. Basically, grace period for cleanup — or for dragging your feet, depending on who’s in charge.

**Citizen:** But most of the cooperative societies are dead... or in a coma?

**Constitution:** Yes. Some were born healthy, but political parasites and bureaucratic ventilators did the rest.

**Citizen:** Weren’t they supposed to be democratic, autonomous, member-driven?

**Constitution:** That was the prescription. But the infection of State control turned them into party-owned fiefdoms.

**Citizen:** But didn’t the 97th Amendment give them constitutional status?

**Constitution:** It did... and then the Supreme Court removed the ventilator. Said you can’t impose it on States without their consent.

**Citizen:** So, cooperative societies are constitutional... but not really?

**Constitution:** They’re in the schedule, not in the bloodstream.



The Scheduled and Tribal Areas (Protected Lands,  
Unprotected People)



***Article 244 – Who Runs the Tribal Belt?***

India has two special instruction manuals for tribal areas:

- **Fifth Schedule** – applies to Scheduled Areas in all States *except* Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.
- **Sixth Schedule** – kicks in for tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.

**Basically:** North-East has its own playbook. Everyone else? Follow the Fifth Schedule.

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***Article 244A – A State Within a State (Just for Assam’s Tribals)***

Parliament can cook up an autonomous State inside Assam – using any or all tribal areas listed in the Sixth Schedule’s VIP list.

And then? It can give them a Legislature, a Council of Ministers, or both – elected, nominated, or a mix of both.

Parliament can also decide:

- Which subjects this mini-State can make laws on.
- How far its executive power goes.
- Which taxes from Assam should be handed over to it.
- That "State" in the Constitution includes this autonomous mini-State.
- Any fine print to make this experiment work.

But there’s a lock:

Any change to this setup (if it affects its law-making or executive power) needs two-thirds majority in both Houses of Parliament.

Oh, and even though this *smells like a Constitutional Amendment (368)*, it isn’t one.

Neat trick, right?

*Article 245 – Who Can Make Laws Where?*

Parliament can make laws anywhere in India – Kashmir to Kanyakumari, Andaman to Arunachal.

State legislatures can only play within their own fences.

And if Parliament passes a law that also affects people or things outside India, don't panic – it's still valid. Parliament dreams big.

**Citizen:** Total how many amendments are there for this Reservation or SC/ST subject?

**Constitution:** It a long boring and banal list...More less 23 times

- **1951 (1st Amendment)** – Opened the constitutional door for caste-based reservations in education and employment.
- **1956 (7th Amendment + SC/ST Orders Amendment Act)** – Reorganised states and revised SC/ST lists across India.
- **1960 (8th Amendment)** – Extended legislative reservations for SCs/STs and Anglo-Indians till 1970.
- **1969 (23rd Amendment)** – Renewed political reservations for SCs/STs and Anglo-Indians till 1980.
- **1971 (24th Amendment)** – Reasserted Parliament's power to amend Fundamental Rights—indirectly reinforcing reservation policies.
- **1980 (45th Amendment)** – Another 10-year extension of political reservation, this time till 1990.
- **1989 (62nd Amendment)** – Continued legislative reservations for SCs/STs and Anglo-Indians till 2000.
- **1990 (65th Amendment)** – Established a multi-member National Commission for SCs and STs.
- **1992 (73rd Amendment)** – Brought SC/ST reservations to grassroots democracy in Panchayats.
- **1992 (74th Amendment)** – Ensured SC/ST reservations in Municipalities and urban local governance.
- **1995 (77th Amendment)** – Allowed reservation in promotions for underrepresented SC/ST government employees.
- **1999 (79th Amendment)** – Yet another 10-year extension of legislative reservations, now till 2010.

- **2000 (81st Amendment)** – Permitted backlog SC/ST vacancies to be carried over without breaching the 50% ceiling.
- **2000 (82nd Amendment)** – Enabled relaxation in evaluation standards for SC/ST promotions.
- **2000 (83rd Amendment)** – Exempted Arunachal Pradesh from SC reservations in Panchayats.
- **2001 (85th Amendment)** – Granted **consequential seniority** in promotions to SC/ST employees.
- **2003 (89th Amendment)** – Split the SC/ST Commission into two separate constitutional bodies.
- **2005 (93rd Amendment)** – Allowed SC/ST reservation in private educational institutions (except minority-run).
- **2009 (95th Amendment)** – Extended legislative reservations again—now till 2020.
- **2019 (103rd Amendment)** – Added 10% EWS quota, subtly reshaping the reservation matrix.
- **2020 (104th Amendment)** – Discontinued Anglo-Indian reservations but extended SC/ST political reservation till 2030.
- **2021 (105th Amendment)** – Restored states’ power to maintain their own SEBC lists—indirectly affecting SC/ST dynamics.
- **2022 (SC/ST Orders Amendment Act)** – Updated official SC/ST community lists for several states and UTs.

## Indian Federalism: Constitutional Buffet



### *Article 246 – Who eats what? Here Comes the Constitutional Buffet*

India runs on three shopping lists of power:

- **List I (Union List):** Centre’s playground. Only Parliament can legislate here. Full control, no sharing.
- **List II (State List):** State’s turf. States run this – unless Parliament has other ideas (see clause 4).
- **List III (Concurrent List):** The common ground. Both Centre and State can make laws. But if they clash?

**Centre wins.** It’s like a joint account that one partner controls more.

And Parliament can make State-like laws in places that aren’t technically States (think Union Territories without assemblies). Because – well, someone has to rule them.

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### *Article 246A – GST: One Tax to Rule Them All*

This one changed the tax game.

- Both Parliament and State legislatures can make laws on GST – that’s the Goods and Services Tax.
- But if the transaction jumps state borders? That’s Parliament’s solo show.
- 

Whatever the GST Council recommends under Article 279A(5), that’s when these GST rules kick in.

So, for GST: it’s a Centre-State tag team, unless it’s inter-State, then it’s Centre’s solo dance.

## **The Tax-to-Service Ratio: A Federal Illusion**

**Citizen:**

If I calculate a tax-to-service ratio... who really serves the people more—the Union or the States?

**Constitution:**

The State delivers the ambulance. The Union owns the expressway it gets stuck on.

**Citizen:**

Wait—so the Centre collects most taxes, controls big infrastructure, and even gets royalties from mines and ports?

**Constitution:**

Yes. The Union drinks from many wells—

*Income Tax, Corporate Tax, Customs Duties, Excise, GST (shared)...*

*Ports, Airports, Telecom Spectrum, Railways, National Highways, Petroleum, Mines, Coal, Offshore energy, and even strategic reserves.*

**Citizen:**

And the States?

**Constitution:**

They get:

Stamp duty, liquor tax, road tax, electricity duty...

...and the daily headaches of schools, hospitals, water, law & order, garbage, potholes, and angry citizens.

**Citizen:**

So the Union is the rich absentee landlord. And the States are overworked tenants?

**Constitution:**

Bingo! And every five years, the Finance Commission rings the doorbell and negotiates rent relief.

**Citizen:**

Why don't States just print more money?

**Constitution (whispering):**

Because only the Centre can do that. Fiscal federalism is not financial freedom.



***Article 247 – Additional Courts for Union Laws***

Objective: Empowers Parliament to establish additional courts for better administration of:

- Laws made by Parliament, or
- Existing laws related to subjects in the Union List.

Notable Point: Overrides other provisions of this Chapter; a tool to augment judicial infrastructure in support of Union legislation (e.g., special CBI courts, NDPS courts, tax tribunals).

**Citizen:**

Article 246 just carved the wedding cake—Union, State, Concurrent Lists.

So why is Parliament already setting up courts in 247?

Isn't that the Judiciary's job?

**Constitution:**

Oh, that's just Parliament being helpful... you know, *judicial event management*.

**Citizen:**

What happened to the **Doctrine of Separation of Powers**?

**Constitution:**

Ah, yes. It went on honeymoon after Article 50...

Then Parliament texted: *"Just one little exception, baby..."*

**Citizen:**

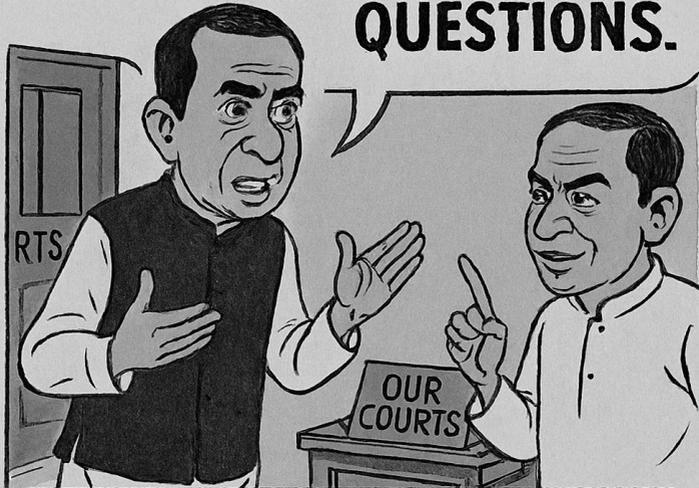
And it never came back?

**Constitution:**

Nope. Still missing. Probably trapped in a Tribunal.



**OUR PEOPLE IN THE CBI,  
INTELLIGENCE, AND TAX  
DEPARTMENTS NEED  
SHIELDING. COURTS ARE  
ASKING TOO MANY  
QUESTIONS.**



**THEN WE BYPASS THE COURTS.  
ARTICLE 247 GIVES US COVER. WE  
CALL IT "PUBLIC INTEREST." SET UP  
OUR OWN COURTS, AND THE  
JUDICIARY STANDS POWERLESS—**

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**Article 248 – Residuary Powers of Legislation**

- **Clause (1):** Parliament has exclusive power over matters not mentioned in the State List or Concurrent List (i.e., residuary subjects).
- **Clause (2):** Includes the power to impose taxes not specified in either List (e.g., wealth tax, gift tax before GST-era reforms).
- **Subject to Article 246A:** So, GST is now governed by a separate provision and council.

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**Article 249 – Parliament's Power to Legislate on State Subjects in National Interest**

- **Trigger:** Requires Rajya Sabha resolution (supported by 2/3 of present & voting members) declaring it necessary in national interest.
- **Effect:** Parliament can legislate on **State List matters** (e.g., public order, police) for **1 year**, renewable.
- **Clause (3):** Such law ceases to have effect **6 months** after the resolution lapses, but actions already taken remain valid.

**Citizen:**

So Article 248 lets Parliament grab anything the Lists forgot,

And 249 lets it invade State matters if Rajya Sabha just feels patriotic?

Sounds like the Union's on "**Mission Loot**".

**Constitution:**

Oh no, no. It's not loot.

It's "*Legislative Rescue Operations*."

When in doubt, Centre steps in—with love, of course.

**Citizen:**

And tax powers too? Even those not listed anywhere?



**Constitution:**

Of course! Parliament is like that one guest at a wedding—  
Eats from everyone's plate, and still asks, "What's for  
dessert?"

**Citizen:**

What were you *doing* during your making?

You watched Parliament stack powers like monopoly  
cards—

248, 249, 250... and said nothing?

You let Parliament grab what the Lists forgot (248),

Barge into State subjects with a "national interest" badge  
(249),

And seize full control during emergencies (250)?

And you just... *let it all happen?*

**Constitution:**

I was young.

Idealistic. Nehru was speaking. Ambedkar was tired.

Someone said, "Strong Centre, strong nation."

And everyone clapped.

**Citizen:**

But did you not see the **Doctrine of Separation** leaving the  
room?

The **Federal Structure** looking confused?

**Constitution:**

I did. But I was told "*Unity over diversity.*"

So I looked away.

And called it "cooperative federalism" —

...while the Centre quietly packed the State List in a  
suitcase.

***Article 250– Power of Parliament to Legislate on State List During  
Emergency (A.K.A. "Crisis Mein Centre Hi Boss Hai")***

In normal times, States flex their muscles making laws on cows, crops, and  
crime. But the moment someone sneezes *Emergency*, Parliament shows up  
like a boss with backup powers.

Article 250 lets the Centre crash the State party and make laws on anything — from law and order to lassi regulations. It's temporary (six months post-Emergency), but we all know how long “temporary” can be in politics.

***Article 251– When Centre and State Say Opposite Things — Guess Who Wins?***

Sure, States can still make their own laws during an Emergency or when Parliament suddenly takes interest in State matters (Articles 249 & 250). But if the Centre's law says “Yes” and the State says “No” — guess who gets the final word?

***Spoiler: It's always Delhi.***

The State law doesn't die — it just goes into *deep constitutional coma* until the Centre's law retires. Like an overruled side character waiting in the wings.

***Article 252– When States Say: “Sab, Aap Hi Kar Lo”***

Sometimes States get tired. Drafting laws is hard work — there are committees, debates, and snacks involved. So when two or more States decide, “Why not let Delhi do the heavy lifting?”, they pass resolutions saying, “Dear Parliament, please make this law for us.”

And just like that, Parliament gains the magical ability to make laws on State subjects — with full VIP access.

Bonus feature: Other States can join the party later by just saying, “Same to same, please.”

Catch: Once Parliament makes the law, only Parliament can amend or repeal it. States can't change a comma — even if they change their minds.

In short:

“You asked Delhi to babysit. Now Delhi's naming the kid, choosing the school, and planning its future.”

***Article 253 – When India Makes Promises Abroad and Comes Home to Panic***

So India goes to an international summit, signs a fancy treaty about saving whales or reducing carbon footprints, and suddenly Parliament comes back like:

“We promised the UN we’d fix this — quick, someone draft a law!”

Article 253 lets Parliament make laws for the whole country — even on State subjects — just to keep international commitments. Because nothing says “diplomacy” like waking up States at 3 AM to pass a law about fish-friendly farming.

Basically:

“One dinner with world leaders, and boom — everyone’s getting new homework.”

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***Article 254– When State Laws and Central Laws Fight, Guess Who Wins?***

When both Parliament and a State pass laws on the same topic from the Concurrent List — and those laws say opposite things — the Constitution politely says: “*Nice try, State law. But Delhi gets the final word.*”

Unless... the State law has been specially approved by the President — then it survives in that State only, like a VIP guest at a national party.

But beware: Parliament can always come back and say: “*That’s cute. Now let’s overwrite it.*”

In short: “Concurrent List is a group project — but Delhi holds the eraser.”

***Article 255– Forgot to Take Permission? No Worries, Just Get It Signed Later!***

So technically, some laws need the Governor or President to *bless them* with prior recommendations or sanctions. But what if the paperwork was skipped, the memo got lost, or someone said,

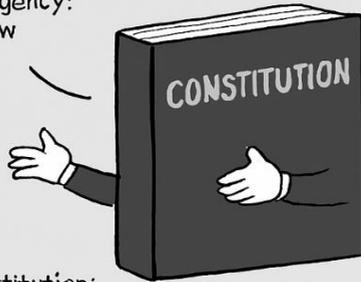
“Arre yaar, kal dekhte hain?”

No problem! Article 255 says: as long as the Governor or the President eventually signs it, it’s all good.

So, what if constitutional protocol was missed? As long as the final stamp is there, it's just a "*procedural issue*". Like forgetting to RSVP for a wedding but still showing up and getting fed.

## During Emergency

Who decides it is emergency?  
And who tuns the snow  
during emergency?

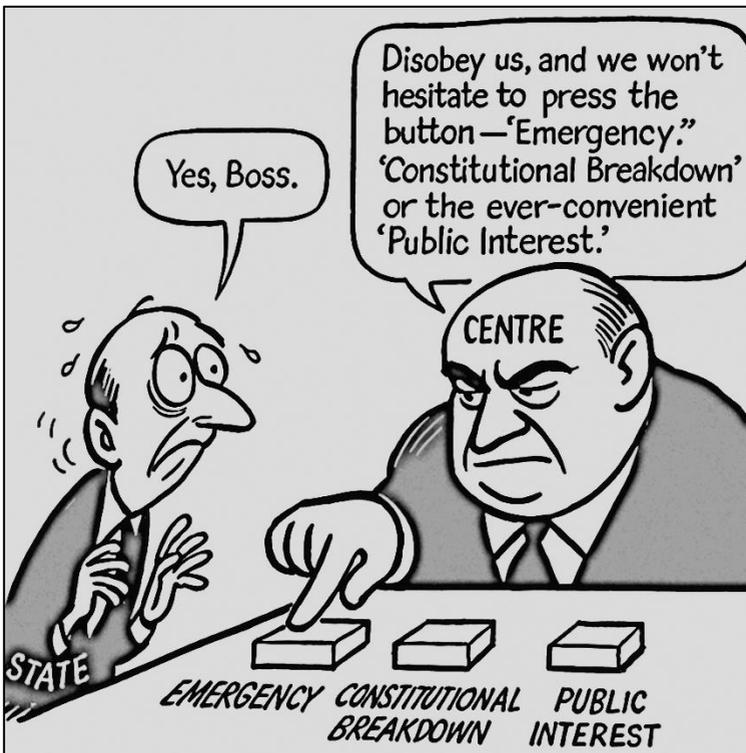


Constitution:  
On screen it is the president but behind  
the screen, the ministers. Just like in a  
Domestic Democracy. The husband.  
may be holding the remote— but it is  
the wife who decides what to watch  
and quietly passes the instructions.



Just like in a Domestic Democracy,

## Centre-State Administrative Relation



***Article 256– States Must Obey—Because Delhi Said So***

Think States are independent? Cute. Article 256 gently reminds them that their executive power is basically on lease. If Parliament makes a law, States must follow it—no ifs, buts, or regional tantrums. And if they forget, the Union Government is just a phone call (or directive) away to “remind” them.

It’s like Delhi saying:

*“You’re free to govern—as long as you follow our instructions to the letter. Enjoy your freedom!”*

***Article 257– Union to States: “Don’t Step on Our Toes”***

States can flex their muscles—but not too much. Article 257 is the constitutional way of saying:

*“Behave, or Big Brother Delhi will step in.”*

The Union can give States directions if they’re messing with national interests, army roads, railways, or anything that might look remotely “important.” And if Delhi builds something and hands over the bill? States better pay—unless they want an arbitration session with the Chief Justice. In short:

*“You’re in charge... unless we’re more in charge.”*

***Article 258– Delegation: “Here, You Do It.”***

The President can hand over Union powers to State governments “like a boss delegating annoying tasks to interns”.

Whether it’s running schemes, enforcing laws, or managing affairs too tedious for Delhi, the States get to act like the Union—but only until the Union wants it back. No arguments.

***Article 258A – Reverse Delegation: “Here, You Take It Back.”***

The State can toss duties up to the Centre like a hot potato — but only if Delhi agrees. Teamwork, but with parental supervision.

***Article 259– Armed Forces in Part B States***

— Deleted. Like that mysterious chapter in a textbook the teacher tells you not to worry about.

***Article 260– India, Now Doing Freelance Abroad***

The Indian Government can moonlight in foreign territories — make laws, run courts, or just manage things... like a very ambitious neighbour offering to fix your Electricals.

***Article 261– One Country, One Stamp Paper***

Court orders, birth certificates, and official papers from one State must be respected in another — no excuses like “Sorry, we don’t accept Andhra Pradesh judgments here.”

***Article 262 – Who Owns the River? Nobody, but Everyone’s Thirsty***

If States start fighting over rivers like kids over a water bottle, Parliament can step in. And if it wants, it can even say, “Courts, stay out of this aquatic drama!”

***Article 263 – Inter-State Council: A WhatsApp Group for Chief Ministers***

When States just won’t stop bickering, the President can create a Council to make them talk it out — kind of like a group project where nobody wants to do the actual work.

FINANCE, PROPERTY, CONTRACTS AND SUITS



***Article 264– Finance Commission = Article 280’s Baby***

This Article simply clarifies that ‘Finance Commission’ refers to the body under Article 280—nothing more than a shortcut in drafting. Its role is to offer recommendations to the President, which are then passed to the ministers, who may consider or ignore them depending on prevailing political calculations.

***Article 265 – No Tax Without Law. (But Loopholes? Maybe.)***

You can’t be taxed unless there’s a law. So don’t pay if someone shows up with a smile and a receipt book — unless Parliament said so.

***Article 266. One Piggy Bank to Rule Them All***

All government income, loans, and paybacks go into a grandly named Consolidated Fund — like a national wallet nobody’s allowed to touch without asking (read: law).

There’s also a “**Public Account**” — basically, petty cash. But still, no freebies. Everything needs approval. Even babus can’t swipe the card without permission.

***Article 267. Emergency Piggy Bank***

The Constitution allows the creation of Contingency Funds — basically, official “oh no!” money. If something goes wrong (like floods, famines, or yet another government scheme gone wild), the President or Governor can dip into this emergency stash.

It’s the desi version of “In case of emergency, smash fund and spend — we’ll explain to Parliament later.”

***Article 268. Union Levies, State Swipes: “You Bill It, We Keep It”***

The Centre slaps stamp duties like a strict teacher handing out homework — but surprise! The States get to **collect the money and keep it too.**

It's like the Union says, "We make the rules, but you can keep the cash. Just don't forget who's boss."

***Article 269. Centre Collects, States Rejoice: "Inter-State Trade, Local Payday"***

The Union plays tax collector for inter-State sales and consignment of goods — but guess what? The States get the jackpot.

But Parliament decides *how to split the loot*, like a generous (but controlling) uncle at a family feast.

***Article 270. Sharing the Taxes Loots—Centre First, States Later***

The Centre collects most taxes (except those in Articles 268, 269, and 269A, plus surcharges and cesses—that's *exclusive content*). Even GST (from Article 246A) joins the party. But after collecting the cash, the Centre doesn't keep it all. A prescribed share goes to the States—like giving kids pocket money after payday.

*How is this divine percentage decided?*

At first, the President calls the shots. Later, it's the Finance Commission whispering in his ear. Everyone gets something, but who gets how much? That's a mystery only the Finance Commission's calculator can solve.



**Citizen:** Are there any criteria on how the total collection should be distributed among states?

**Constitution:** No, Article 270 does not lay down a fixed formula or criteria for how the Union must distribute tax revenues to States. It delegates that responsibility to the President, based on the recommendations of the Finance Commission.

**Citizen:** So, both Federalism and separation of power are in graveyard?

**Constitution:** In a manner, yes. They have been succeeded by Central Federalism & Delhi Power.



**Citizen:** How can I see the report of total collection vs distribution across all states? So is there a Central Transparency Commission?

**Constitution:** No. Just Central Collection, Central Distribution, Central Discretion.

**Citizen:** Then how do States hold the Centre accountable?

**Constitution:** With humility, hope, and high-decibel debates.

**Citizen:** How do I know how much Centre has earned in a year and they have distributed across different states?

**Constitution:** If you want to know how much Centre earned last year, you'll need a CAG report, divine patience, and a Ouija board—because transparency died a quiet death long long ago.

**Citizen:**

But from where do I know how much the Centre has earned this year? And how much it gave (or didn't give) to the States?

**Constitution:**

Ah! You seek **fiscal enlightenment**.

The Union earns, the Finance Commission recommends, The Centre considers, and then...

Secrets are hidden in PDFs across 50 government portals.

**Citizen:**

Is there one report? One dashboard? One real-time update?

**Constitution:**

My child, this is India.

We have a Ministry of Finance,

A Comptroller and Auditor General,

A NITI Aayog,

And an entire **Finance Commission**—

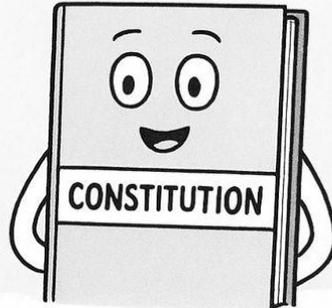
But you'll still need a PhD in Spreadsheet Archaeology to find your answer.



How do I understand this tax-sharing business between the Centre and the States?



Simple. Take a deep breath first.



Then go to the Ministry of Finance — where taxes are collected with confidence and shared with conditions attached.



After that, proceed to the GST Council—a round table where everyone agrees in principle, disagrees in detail, and postpones decisions in the name of “consensus.”



Next, visit the Finance Commission of India (Article 280)— where brilliant minds calculate the exact percentage States should get, assuming ideal behaviour, perfect data, and a morally upright universe.

Then, finally, go to the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)— who will politely inform you, three years later, whether the numbers were accurate... imaginative... or spiritually optimistic.

***Article 271. Surcharge – Delhi’s Bonus Round***

Parliament can slap on extra charges (called surcharges) whenever it feels underfunded. States? Sorry, these bonus bucks go straight into Delhi’s piggy bank.

**Article 272. (Omitted)**

This article disappeared faster than state shares in Union taxes.

***Article 273. Jute Jackpot (Limited Offer)***

Assam, Bihar, Odisha, and West Bengal once got jute money as a consolation prize. But like most offers, it had an expiry date—10 years or until Delhi got bored.

*Explanation:*

When the Constitution came into force, some states (Assam, Bihar, Odisha, and West Bengal) used to get revenue from export duties on jute and jute products. But under the new system, export duties became a Union subject, and the Centre collected all of it. So, Article 273 said:

- The Central Government must pay these four states an annual grant-in-aid, to compensate for the loss of their share of export duty revenue.
- This compensation would continue only as long as the export duty was still being levied or for a maximum of 10 years from the Constitution’s commencement (i.e., till 1960), whichever came earlier.

***Article 274 – Prior recommendation of President required to Bills affecting taxation in which States are interested***

This Article says:

- No Bill or amendment which imposes or varies taxes in which States have an interest (like distribution of revenues, or taxes that affect them) can be introduced or moved in Parliament without the President’s recommendation.

- The President must consult the Finance Commission before recommending such a Bill if it affects distribution of taxes between the Union and States.



**Citizen:** But the President acts on advice from Parliament, right?

**Constitution:** Yes, but for Article 274, we pretend he's the boss—just for old times' sake.

### ***Article 275. Grants-in-Aid for Some States in Special Cases***

States: "We're broke."

Union: "Here's some pocket money... but behave."



*This is the essence of Article 275*

### ***Article 276. Tax on Professions***

State governments can levy a tax on professions, trades, callings, and employments, with an upper limit of ₹2,500 per person per year (though Parliament may raise this ceiling).

### ***Article 277. Savings of Old Laws***

Old taxes before 1950? They can still hang around like that one tenant who won't vacate—until Parliament says otherwise.

***explanation:*** Even if a tax is listed under the Union List, if a State or local body was already lawfully collecting it before the Constitution came into force (1950), they can continue doing so—until Parliament passes a law to change it.

### ***Article 278. [Omitted]:***

***Brief:*** It allowed the President to enter into agreements with the governments of Part B States (like Hyderabad, Mysore, etc.) for sharing revenues and managing financial matters. These agreements would determine how financial obligations, taxes, and grants would be handled

*between the Union and those States. These were temporary transitional provisions during the reorganization of India post-independence.*

Just like some friendships—quietly removed in 1956. No explanation needed.

***Article 279. Calculation of Net Proceeds (Total Tax – Collection Cost)***

The money collected from taxes isn't all profit — someone has to pay the tax collectors! The **CAG** (Comptroller and Auditor-General) steps in with a calculator, subtracts the cost of collection, and declares the “**net proceeds.**” Whatever number he certifies becomes the official truth — no questions asked, no appeals allowed. Basically, when the CAG speaks, the Constitution nods.



**Citizen:** “So, no room for creative accounting?”

**Constitution:** “Only if you’re the CAG.”

**Citizen:** But the CAG listens to the President... and the President listens to the Cabinet?

**Constitution:** Welcome to the grand relay race of Democratic Accountability

***Article 279A. GST Council: The Great Indian Huddle***

Think of it as a family meeting where the Centre and States argue about who gets how much from the GST cake. They talk, fight, vote, compromise—then tax your chai. Chaired by the Union Finance Minister, it’s where cooperative federalism meets competitive negotiation... with tax slabs.

**Composition:**

Chairperson: Union Finance Minister.

**Members:**

Union Minister of State for Finance/Revenue.

State Finance Ministers or any other nominated ministers from States.

**Functions:**

Recommend tax rates, exemptions, threshold limits, special provisions for States, model GST laws, and principles of levy and apportionment of IGST.

Promote harmonization of GST laws across States and the Centre.

**Decision-making:**

Quorum: 50% of total members.

Decisions require a 75% majority.

Centre has 1/3rd weight.

States collectively have 2/3rd.

***Article 280. Finance Commission: The Referee of the Fiscal Tug-of-War***

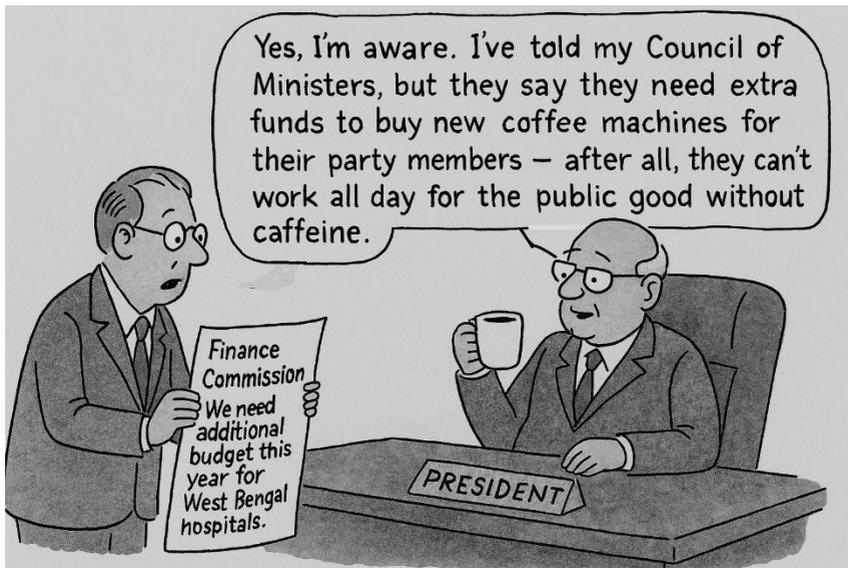
Every five years (or earlier if things get messy), the President appoints a team of economic umpires—called the Finance Commission—to figure out how the money pie should be sliced between the Centre and the States. They look at needs, demands, grievances, and then suggest who gets how much. Parliament may or may not listen, but hey, at least someone tried to be fair.

*Article 281 – Recommendations of the Finance Commission*

The President must lay before each House of Parliament: Recommendations of the Finance Commission, and an explanatory memorandum of what actions need to be taken on those recommendations.

**Citizen:** Is the recommendation binding?

**Constitution:** Nothing is binding on those in power. They read it like morning masala news then get on with their lives.



***Article 282 – Grants for Public Purpose***

Both the Union and the States can spend from their own revenues on any public purpose, even if they don't have legislative power over that subject.

***Article 283 – Custody of Funds and Public Accounts***

1. **Centre:** Custody and regulation of:
  - Consolidated Fund of India,
  - Contingency Fund of India, and
  - Public Account of India
    - by law of Parliament (or Presidential rules until then).
  
2. **States:** Same setup, but regulated by:
  - State Legislature, or
  - Governor's rules until laws are made.

**Citizen:** So all the money is controlled by those in control, the authority that speaks only through silence?

**Constitution:** Ah, yes—welcome to the grand circus of Constitutional Finance, where the Legislature holds the purse strings, and the politicians perform acrobatics with your tax money! The Union and the States each have their own Consolidated Fund, guarded not by dragons, but by rules, regulations, and an occasional Finance Commission report nobody reads. Meanwhile, the Executive juggles schemes, the Parliament claps enthusiastically, and the public watches from the sidelines—amused, confused, and occasionally taxed twice for the same trick. And if you ever wonder where the money *really* goes? Just follow the trail of press releases, ribbon-cuttings, and mysteriously recurring “urgent” expenditures.

If tax payers starts shouting real bad, Judges might say “Order” “Order”.



***Article 284 – Custody of suitors' deposits and other moneys received by public servants and courts***

All money received by public servants or by courts in connection with affairs of the Union or of a State—such as suitors' deposits, fines, or other legal payments—must be handled with due diligence. These funds are to be kept in custody as prescribed either by Parliament or by the State Legislature, depending on whether the matter pertains to Union or State affairs. Until a law is made to regulate such custody, the funds shall be held in such manner as is directed by rules made by the President (for Union matters) or the Governor (for State matters). Essentially, this Article ensures that even the stray rupees handed over during litigation or administrative proceedings don't disappear into thin air—but are held securely, at least on paper, until properly claimed or appropriated.

***Article 285 – Exemption of Property of the Union from State Taxation:***

This Article grants immunity to Union property from State taxes—unless Parliament decides otherwise. Essentially, if a State wants to charge the Centre rent, tolls, or property tax, it must first seek the Centre's blessings—ironically, from the very entity it wishes to tax. However, there's a historical loophole: if a tax was being lawfully imposed on Union property **before** the Constitution kicked in, it can continue, but only until Parliament decides to end the party. So yes, some lucky municipalities might still be taxing that old post office... until someone in Delhi notices.

**Citizen:**

Can a State charge the Centre rent or property tax?

**Constitution:**

*Only if the Centre agrees to tax itself. Spoiler: It won't.*

**Citizen:**

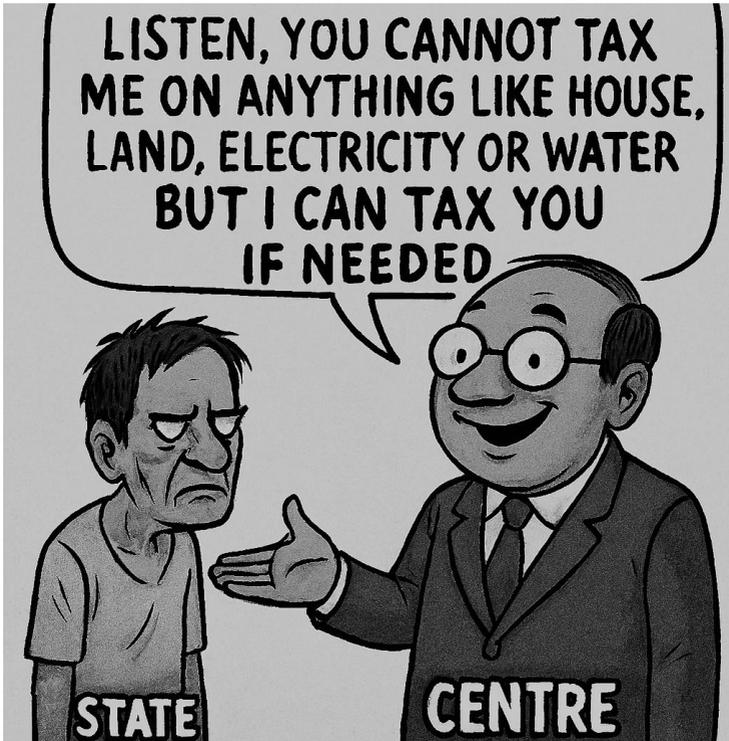
So the Centre owns land in every State, runs offices, builds colonies... and pays nothing?

**Constitution:**

Correct. Article 285 says Union property is **immune**, unless Parliament says otherwise.

And Parliament is... *wait for it...* run by the Union.





*Article 286 – Restrictions on Tax Imposition on the Sale or Purchase of Goods (Interstate and International Trade):*

States are reminded here that their taxing powers come with borders. A State cannot tax the supply of goods or services if that supply happens outside its territorial reach or during international import or export. Basically, no State-level GST on that luxury yacht being shipped from Italy. Parliament, donning its referee jersey, is entrusted with the job of framing the rules that determine **where** a supply is considered to have taken place. Because in tax matters, like in cricket, the umpire's call is final.

***Article 287 – Exemption from Taxes on Electricity in Certain Cases:***

This Article sparks a clear line (pun intended) between taxation and transmission. It prohibits States from taxing electricity consumed or sold for purposes of the Union—especially when that power is being transmitted across State lines, unless Parliament itself provides otherwise. In simpler terms: if the electricity is fueling a Central Government operation or traveling inter-State, States must keep their tax meters off—unless New Delhi says otherwise. It's the Constitution's way of saying:

*"Don't bill the Centre for its own lights."*

***Article 288 – Exemption from taxation by States in respect of water or electricity in certain cases:***

This Article serves as a constitutional circuit-breaker for intergovernmental taxation conflicts. It states that if a State wants to tax water or electricity consumed by the Government of India or in the course of its distribution or development, it must first obtain approval from Parliament. In essence, States can't send water or power bills to the Centre unless the Centre agrees to receive them. It's the constitutional equivalent of saying, "Ask before you charge." This maintains a delicate fiscal courtesy between the Union and the States—like neighbors borrowing sugar, but asking before putting it on the grocery bill.

***Article 289 – Exemption of property and income of a State from Union taxation:***

This Article protects the financial sovereignty of States by stating that the Union Government cannot tax the property or income of a State. However, there's a constitutional caveat: Parliament may by law impose taxes on a State's income if it arises from a commercial activity. So, while the Centre can't generally collect rent from the States, if a State starts running a profitable business—say, operating a chain of luxury resorts or manufacturing eco-friendly scooters—then Parliament can step in and say, "Nice revenue stream you've got there. Mind if we take a bite?" It ensures that governmental functions are immune, but business ventures aren't beyond the reach of the taxman.



**Citizen:** “So if a State earns, Delhi can tax it?”

**Constitution:** “Yes. If it’s commercial and Parliament says so.”

**Citizen:** “But if Delhi earns, can the State tax it?”

**Constitution:** “LOL. Nice try.” Article 285 — the divine shield of the Union’s wallet.

***Article 290 – Adjustment in respect of certain expenses and pensions:***

This provision deals with financial arrangements between the Union and States, especially where certain obligations from before the commencement of the Constitution continue. If any State has been assigned the liability to pay any rent to the Government of India, or vice versa, for the use of any property, or has to bear any expenditure such as pensions payable to individuals (for instance, former employees of a princely state), such expenses are adjusted under this Article. Parliament may by law determine the mode of such payment, ensuring that historical financial legacies are honored without causing budgetary confusion. It’s a reminder that in constitutional bookkeeping, the past still sends invoices.

***Article 290A – Annual Payment to Certain Devaswom Funds:***

This provision ensures a mandatory annual grant to maintain religious institutions. It mandates that ₹46.5 lakhs be paid every year from the Consolidated Fund of Kerala to the Travancore Devaswom Fund, and ₹13.5 lakhs from the Consolidated Fund of Tamil Nadu to the Devaswom Fund in that State. This arrangement relates to the reorganisation of States in 1956, when certain territories were transferred from Travancore-Cochin to Tamil Nadu. The payments are specifically for the upkeep of Hindu temples and shrines in those regions. In essence, it’s a constitutional commitment to continue supporting sacred institutions that were historically managed by princely states, preserving not just structures, but traditions, rituals, and community responsibilities.

***Article 291 – [Privy Purse Sums of Rulers] [Gone]***

**Status:** Omitted by the 26th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1971.

Originally, Article 291 provided for the payment of privy purses—annual sums paid to the former rulers of princely states as part of their agreement to integrate into the Indian Union after independence. These payments were charged on the Consolidated Fund of India and were meant to be a gesture of respect and transition.

However, in 1971, the 26th Amendment abolished the recognition of titles and privy purses, marking a significant move towards greater republican equality—officially ending royal allowances in a democracy.

### ***Articles 292 & 293 – The Great Indian Borrowing License***

Article 292 says I, as your humble Union Government, can borrow money—on the strength of the nation’s wallet, of course—our beloved Consolidated Fund of India. And don’t worry, Parliament may (or may not) set limits. Think of it as a credit card with occasional parental control.

Now, Article 293 gives our State Governments a piece of the action too. They can borrow within India—as long as they’re not still ghosting on old debts. But here’s the kicker: if a State still owes us money, they have to ask us—nicely—before borrowing again. Because apparently, even federalism has a credit rating!

And yes, if they want more money while already owning us some, we get to say, ‘Sure... but on our terms.’ Classic ‘Desh ki Sarkar’ style.

### ***Article 294 – Succession to Property, Assets, Rights, and Obligations***

When British India became the Republic of India, the change wasn’t just about flags and national anthems—it also involved a serious handover of property, contracts, and pending dues. Article 294 ensures that all property and assets that belonged to the Government of British India (or any province), including all rights, liabilities, and obligations, automatically passed on to the Government of India and the respective State Governments, unless specifically altered by a new law.

So, in simple terms: when India got independence and became a constitutional republic, it inherited the colonial government’s "stuff"—buildings, railways, contracts, debts, and even the fine print. And unless Parliament or a State legislature decides to rewrite the rulebook, that inheritance still stands.

***Article 295 – Succession to Property, Assets, Rights, Liabilities, and Obligations in Respect of Indian States***

After India became independent, and the princely states were merged into the Union, someone had to sort out the messy question: “Who owns what now?” Article 295 is the answer to that royal headache.

It declares that all the property, assets, rights, liabilities, and obligations previously held by any Indian State (as defined in the old days before the Constitution) are now legally inherited by the Union or the concerned State, depending on who’s wearing the crown—or rather, who’s holding the file. Unless Parliament or a State Legislature passes a new law saying otherwise, the successor government inherits the estate—including the dues and debts. It’s like a legal will, but for kingdoms.



***In other words:***

*“The Maharajas left the party, but their bills and palaces stayed behind—with us.”*

***Article 296 – Property Accruing by Escheat or Lapse or as Bona Vacantia***

Article 296 deals with a rather morbid, but important, question:

What happens to property when no one has a legal claim to it?

Say someone dies without heirs, or a company dissolve without transferring its assets—who pockets the leftovers?

The Constitution says: If no one else can legally claim the property, it goes to the government—either the Union or the State—depending on where the property is located. This concept is called escheat, lapse, or bona vacantia (fancy Latin for “ownerless goods”).

It’s like a last call in a bar: “Anyone left to claim this estate? No? Then it’s ours now.”

So, if you’re planning to vanish without a will, just remember—the government is your default heir. Even the Constitution has a clause for unclaimed treasure!

***Article 297 – Things of Value Beneath the Seas Go to the Union***

All lands, minerals, and other valuable things lying under the ocean—whether beneath the sea bed or in the territorial waters or the continental shelf of India—belong to the Union of India. That includes oil, natural gas, precious metals, or even that hypothetical sunken pirate treasure. So, if you're planning an underwater expedition and hoping to stake a personal claim on some deep-sea gold, think again. The Constitution has already claimed it for the Centre. The States don't get a cut, and private citizens certainly don't.

In short: From land to sand to seabed—if it's under water and valuable, it's "Nation First."

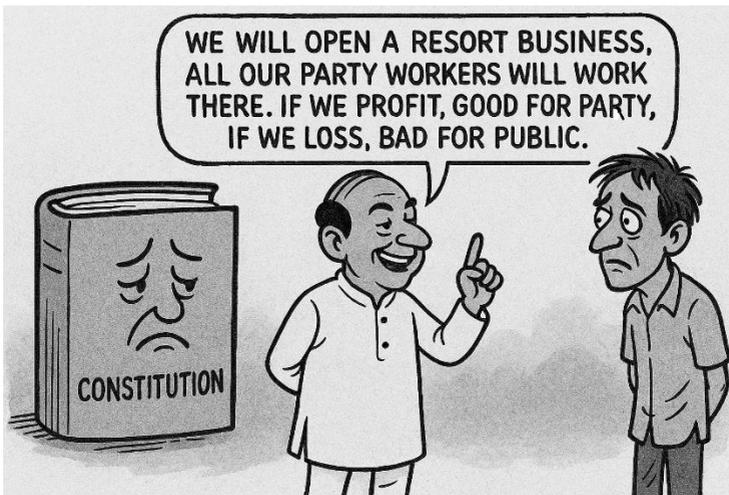
*Article 298 – Government Business: Not Just Politics, Also Commerce*

Both the Union and the States have the power to carry on trade or business, acquire or dispose of property, and enter into contracts—basically, to behave like big corporate entities when it suits them. This means they can sell land, sign deals, or run enterprises, all in the name of governance.

So yes, your government is legally allowed to act like a startup, a landlord, a wholesaler—or all three—as long as it's for a 'public purpose' (however creatively that might be defined).



*In short:* When it comes to money, the Constitution says the governments can hustle too.



***Article 299 – How Governments Sign Deals Without Getting Sued (Too Easily)***

All contracts made in the name of the President (for the Union) or the Governor (for a State) must:

- *Be expressly stated to be made in their name, and*
- *Be executed by authorized persons (basically, bureaucrats with the power to sign).*

If not? The contract is invalid—you can't sue the government over a handshake deal or a rogue official's promise, no matter how many "Government of India" stamps are on it.



**Translation:**

If a deal goes sour and it wasn't done by the book, the government shrugs and says,

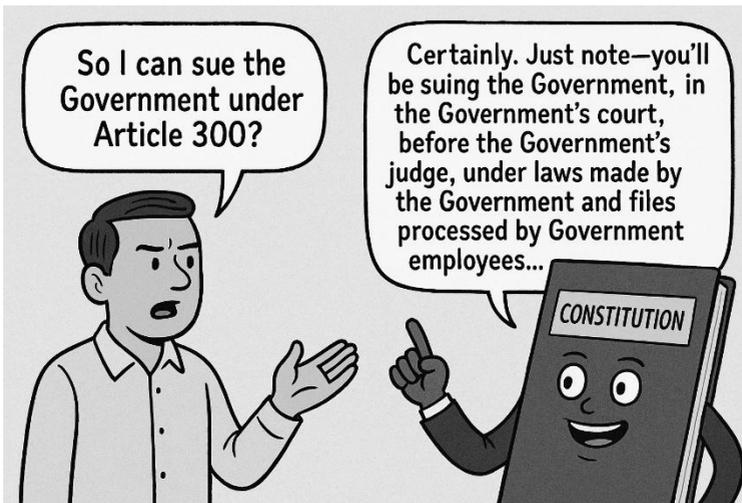
"Oops, that wasn't official. Try again next time—with more paperwork."

### *Article 300 – You can sue the Government*

The Government of India and the Government of a State can **sue or be sued** in their respective names—just like the old British Raj used to do (yes, we inherited the drama). So, if you're wronged by the government, you can take them to court... but good luck winning.

And the flip side? The government can also sue you—so don't get too comfortable just because you have a fancy PIL ready.

**Bottom line:** The Government isn't above the law—just often adjacent to it, standing there with excellent lawyers and infinite patience. And don't forget that you will fighting against Government with the help of Government.



***Article 300A – Persons not to be deprived of property save by authority of law***

No person shall be deprived of his property except by the authority of law. This means that the State cannot simply take away your land, house, or belongings unless it is backed by a valid law enacted through the legislature. This provision was introduced by the 44th Constitutional Amendment, 1978, after the Right to Property ceased to be a fundamental right. It now exists as a constitutional legal right.



**Citizen:** Is my property safe?

**Constitution:** Of course! Unless Parliament AKA the Majority, decides it's not.

**Citizen:** But that is the case with everything. If The Party want, they can make, brake, remake everything at their convenience.

***Article 301 – Freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse***

Subject to the other provisions of this Part, trade, commerce and intercourse throughout the territory of India shall be free. This means that citizens, businesses, and entities have a constitutional guarantee to carry out the movement of goods, services, and financial transactions across State boundaries without arbitrary or unreasonable restrictions. However, this freedom is not absolute—it is subject to reasonable regulations as outlined in subsequent Articles (like Articles 302 to 305), which allow Parliament and State Legislatures to impose certain restrictions in the public interest or for ensuring equitable development.

***Article 302 – Power of Parliament to Impose Restrictions on Trade, Commerce and Intercourse***

Notwithstanding Article 301 (which promises free trade across India), Parliament may impose restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce, or intercourse between states or within states, in the public interest. So, while trade is "free" in theory, Parliament can step in and say, "Yes, but only if it

serves the greater good”—a phrase as flexible as political promises before elections.



**Citizen:** Trade is free?

**Constitution:** Yes, free... but only after taxes, tolls, conditions, exceptions, approvals, and a touch of "public interest."

***Article 303 – Restrictions on Legislative Powers of the Union and of the States with regard to Trade***

Clause (1):

Neither Parliament nor any State Legislature can make laws that give one State an unfair advantage over another in matters of trade, commerce, or revenue. So, no playing favourites—at least on paper.

Clause (2):

However, if Parliament thinks it's necessary in the public interest, it can make exceptions. That means Parliament can legally favor one State over another—but only for the public good (which may or may not rhyme with political good).

**\*\*Here Magic word is Public Interest**

***Article 304 – Restrictions on trade, commerce and intercourse among States***

A State can:

*Clause (a):* Impose taxes on goods imported from other States or Union Territories, but only if it also imposes similar taxes on local goods.

(Basically: no "outsider tax" unless locals pay it too. Equality in pain.)

*Clause (b):* Put reasonable restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce, or intercourse within the State—but only in the public interest and with prior Presidential sanction if the law is about Parliament's turf.

***Article 305 – The Government's Legal License to Break Its Own Rules (for "Public Good", of course)***

Freedom of trade and commerce is important (Article 301), but... if the government already had some trade restrictions before the Constitution came in—or wants to run a monopoly now—go ahead. No problem. This freedom doesn't apply there."

*And definitely this is for Public Good.*

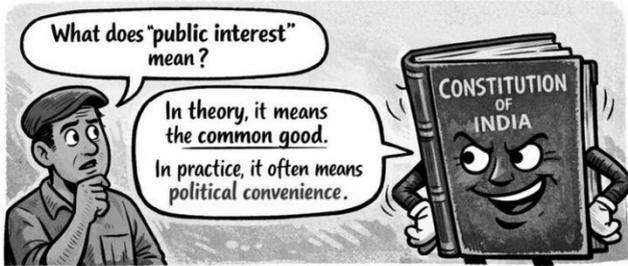


**Citizen:** Wait, so trade is free... but also not free... if the government says it's for public good?

**Constitution:** Exactly. Welcome to Indian federalism—where “freedom” comes with an *Ifs and buts*.

**Citizen:** Which are the sectors where they run the monopoly

**Constitution:** Like the Lotteries & Liquor etc. Because sometimes Monopoly makes more money than normal tax.



Mineral-rich States lost their advantage so others could industrialise—  
all in the name of "public interest."

***Article 306 – Power of certain States in Part B of the First Schedule to impose restrictions on trade and commerce***

***Status: Omitted***

This article originally allowed Part B States (like Hyderabad, Mysore, Bhopal, etc.) to continue imposing restrictions on trade, commerce, and intercourse that existed before the Constitution came into force—until Parliament decided otherwise. However, Article 306 was omitted by the Constitution (Seventh Amendment) Act, 1956, when the distinction between Part A, B, and C States was abolished and Indian states were reorganized.

**Article 307 – Appointment of authority for carrying out the purposes of Articles 301 to 304**

Parliament may by law appoint an appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of Articles 301 to 304, which deal with the freedom of trade, commerce, and intercourse across India and the permissible restrictions thereto. This authority would be responsible for ensuring that the provisions regarding free trade are not violated and for handling any disputes or regulatory challenges that arise under these articles.



**Citizen:** So where's this magical authority to protect trade freedom?

**Constitution:** Ah, it's like a unicorn—Parliament can create it, but... hasn't.

***Article 308 – Interpretation***

In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires, the expression "State" does not include the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

**Article 309 – Recruitment and Conditions of Service of Persons Serving the Union or a State**

Article 309 empowers the Parliament and the State Legislatures to make laws regarding the recruitment and conditions of service of persons serving in public services under the Union or a State.

Until such a law is made, the President (for Union services) or the Governor (for State services) may make rules regulating these matters.

**Citizen:** So, who decides how bureaucrats are hired or fired?

**Constitution:** The Parliament makes the rules. But until they do, the President or Governor gets to play HR Manager — with no HR degree required!

**Citizen:** So basically, Ruling Party Members are hiring and firing from background.

### *Article 310 – Tenure of Office of Persons Serving the Union or a State*

Article 310 introduces the concept of "Doctrine of Pleasure". It states that every person who is a member of the civil services of the Union or of a State, or who holds any civil post under the Union or a State, holds office during the pleasure of the President (for Union services) or the Governor (for State services).

However, this "pleasure" is subject to the provisions of the Constitution, meaning it is not absolute and is limited by Article 311, which provides safeguards against arbitrary dismissal.

### *Article 311 – Dismissal, Removal or Reduction in Rank of Persons Employed in Civil Capacities under the Union or a State*

Article 311 acts as a protective shield for civil servants against arbitrary or unfair dismissal by the executive. It ensures that no civil servant is dismissed, removed, or demoted unless they are given a reasonable opportunity to defend themselves through a due process of law.

This Article limits the "doctrine of pleasure" under Article 310 by laying down two core safeguards:

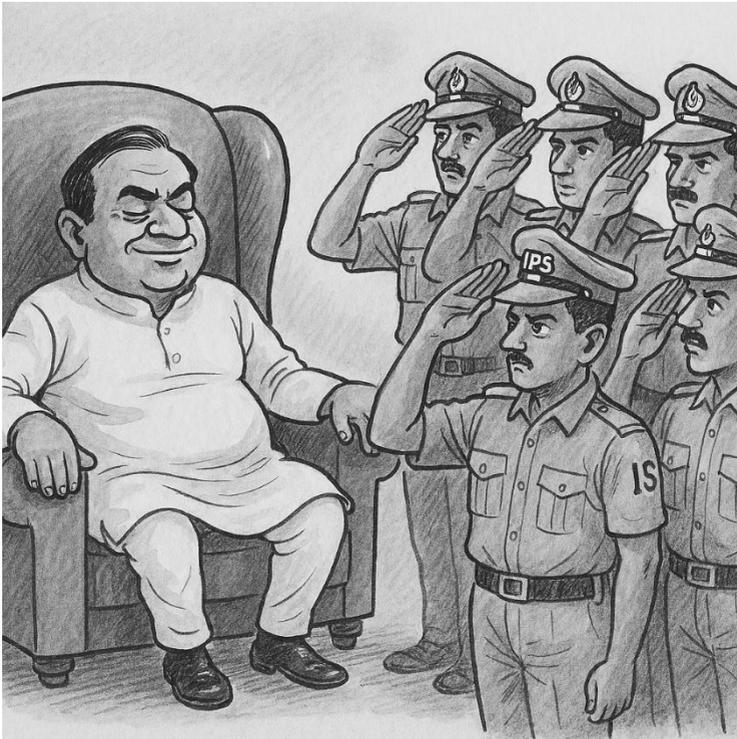
1. Subordinate Authority Restriction: No civil servant can be dismissed or removed by an authority lower than the one who appointed them. This ensures administrative fairness and hierarchy.
2. Right to Hearing: Before any dismissal, removal, or reduction in rank, the civil servant must be informed of the charges and given a reasonable opportunity to present their defence.

However, the safeguard under Clause (2) has three exceptions where an inquiry can be dispensed with:

- If the civil servant has been convicted of a criminal offence.
- If it is not reasonably practicable to hold an inquiry (e.g., due to unrest, threats, or chaos).
- If the President or Governor believes that conducting such an inquiry would be against national security interests.

In essence, Article 311 provides a constitutional check on executive power, balancing the flexibility of Article 310 with the principles of natural justice and fair procedure.

All India Service: The IS/IPS: Serving Those in Power since  
1947 with Distinction



## Article 312 – All-India Services

Article 312 empowers the Rajya Sabha (Council of States) and the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to the Union and the States, in addition to the already existing ones like the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and Indian Police Service (IPS).



**Majority in Delhi:** “We need more babus who can be blamed when things go wrong in both Delhi and the States!”

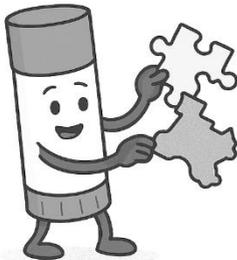
**Article 312:** “Granted. But only if the Rajya Sabha says so with a supermajority... because bureaucracy is serious business.”

**Civil Servant:** “So I serve both Delhi and the State? Great—double responsibility, single salary.”

<i>Aspect</i>	<i>All-India Services (AIS)</i>	<i>Central Civil Services</i>	<i>State Civil Services</i>
<b><i>Created Under</i></b>	Article 312 of the Constitution	Central laws/rules	State laws/rules
<b><i>Examples</i></b>	IAS, IPS, IFS (Forest)	IRS, IES, IFS (Foreign), IAAS, etc.	State Administrative Services, State Police Services
<b><i>Appointing Authority</i></b>	President of India	President of India	State Governor
<b><i>Cadre Control</i></b>	Central Govt + State Govt	Central Govt only	State Govt only
<b><i>Postings</i></b>	Both Union & State levels	Only Union Govt. departments	Only in respective State

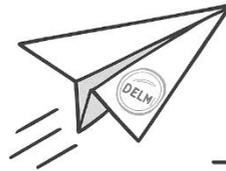
<b>Recruitment</b>	UPSC – Civil Services Exam (CSE)	UPSC – Various exams	State PSCs (Public Service Commissions)
<b>Transfer</b>	Can be transferred between States	Transfers within central ministries/depts.	Limited to the State cadre
<b>Removal/Discipline</b>	Requires consultation with Union Govt	Controlled by Union Govt	Controlled by State Govt
<b>Training Institute</b>	LBSNAA (Mussoorie) for IAS, and other central academies	Respective training institutes (e.g., NADT for IRS)	Respective State institutes

I'm the glue holding Delhi and the States together. Sometimes I feel more like a political shuttlecock.



**ALL-INDIA SERVICES OFFICER**

At least I only answer to Delhi. No cross-state drama for me!



**CENTRAL SERVICES OFFICER**

My job? Enforce laws, manage districts... and survive political transfers every six month.



**STATE SERVICE OFFICER**

***Article 312A – Power of Parliament to Vary or Revoke Conditions of Service of Officers of Certain Services***

Parliament may change or cancel service conditions of officers from Indian Civil Service (ICS) or similar services who were serving before

***Article 313 – Transitional Provisions***

Until new laws are made under the Constitution regarding recruitment and service conditions for public servants, the existing rules and laws (from before the Constitution came into force) will continue to apply.

*Translation:* When India became a Republic in 1950, the government didn't immediately have new rules ready for every department or officer. So, Article 313 acted as a bridge:

***Article 314 – [Repealed] – Protection of existing officers of certain services***

**Status:** *Omitted* by the Constitution (Twenty-eighth Amendment) Act, 1972.

This Article protected civil servants—especially those from the Indian Civil Services (ICS) and other pre-Constitution services—by freezing their terms of service, tenure, and privileges under the Government of India Act, 1935.

***Article 315 – Public Service Commissions for the Union and for the States***

There shall be a Public Service Commission for the Union (UPSC) and a PSC for each State (SPSC), unless two or more States decide to share one (called a Joint Public Service Commission) by agreement and with Parliament's blessing.

***Article 316 – Where Bosses of the UPSC & SPSC Come From***

So, here's the deal: the President of India gets to handpick the Chairman and members of the UPSC—the elite panel that decides the fate of millions of UPSC aspirants each year. In the states, it's the Governor who gets to appoint members to the State Public Service Commissions (SPSC)—kind of like the regional managers of the bureaucracy factory.

Once appointed, these members enjoy their thrones for six years, unless they hit age 65 (for UPSC) or 62 (for SPSC)—whichever comes first. After that, it's time to pack up their judgment robes and go home. But wait—there's a VIP loophole! A State PSC member can be promoted to the UPSC. It's like going from regional manager to national CEO.

But here's the twist: once you've chaired the UPSC, you're so “pure and powerful” that the Constitution won't let you take up any other government job. It's the civil service version of sainthood—once divine, you don't come back to the mortal world of employment.

***Article 317 – How to Sack a UPSC or SPSC Boss (Without a Riot)***

So, what if a chairman or member of the UPSC or State Public Service Commission turns out to be... let's say, less than noble? Can we just show them the door? Well, not that easy—this is India, and we believe in *due process*, even for bureaucratic royalty.

If the President (for UPSC) or Governor (for SPSC) gets a whiff of misconduct or misbehaviour, they can't just say “You're fired!” Nope, they must call in the Supreme Court, literally, to investigate whether the allegations are true. And till the Court decides, the alleged troublemaker can be suspended—like a student waiting outside the principal's office. But not all misdeeds need Supreme drama. If a member goes bankrupt, becomes mentally unfit, takes a bribe, or just stops showing up, the President or Governor can remove them directly—no Court time needed. Even gods of bureaucracy must answer when things fall apart.

***Article 318 – “Make Your Own Rules, Because Why Not?”***

This Article is basically the VIP lounge of the Constitution for the Public Service Commissions (UPSC and State PSCs). It says: The President (for UPSC) and the Governor (for State PSCs) can make regulations about how the Commission will work—like how the Chairman and Members are appointed, how their tenure is managed, salaries, leave rules, and even the “thanks, but goodbye” procedures. Think of this as the HR Manual for Bureaucratic Kings and Queens—written not by the Commission themselves, but by the very governments

they're supposed to stay independent from. Irony? Maybe. Power structure? Definitely.

**Citizen:** “Wait, so the President/Governor hires them, pays them, and also writes the rulebook on how to manage them?”

**Constitution:** “Exactly. It’s like letting the landlord write the tenant agreement, the rent rules, and also decide when to evict you—with a smile.”

**Citizen:** But both President/Governor takes instruction from Cabinet Ministers? The majority that never explains itself.

**Constitution:** “Ah, now you’re getting it! It’s a beautifully indirect system—the puppeteer pulls strings through velvet gloves. The President and Governor act ‘on aid and advice’... which just so happens to be from the same political folks who might *really* like a cooperative Public Service Commission.”

**Citizen:** “So independence is just... ceremonial?”

**Constitution:** “Like the ribbon at an inauguration—very visible, rarely binding.”



### ***Article 319 – Restrictions on holding offices after retirement***

Once a member of the Public Service Commission retires, they can’t take up another job in the same Commission or become Chairman after serving as a member.

But wait—they *can* become Chairman of another Public Service Commission or even the UPSC if they weren’t already in one.

So basically, it’s retirement... with a transfer window. Musical chairs, but with better pensions and fewer spectators.

***Article 320 – Functions of Public Service Commissions***

The UPSC and State Public Service Commissions are like HR departments for the government—only with constitutional backing. They conduct exams, advise on recruitment, promotions, disciplinary matters, and transfers. Basically, whenever the government wants to hire, fire, or reshuffle, the Commission’s opinion *should* be sought. However, the Constitution quietly adds: if you forget to consult them, it won’t make the decision invalid. So, it’s mandatory... until it isn’t.

***Article 321 to 323: Public Service Commissions: More Duties, Little Power, and a Mandatory Annual Report Nobody Reads***

The Public Service Commissions aren’t just stuck with recruitment; Parliament or State Legislatures can assign them extra homework under **Article 321**—even for local bodies and public institutions. Think of it like being told, "You’re doing great at your job, so now do five more... for the same pay." Speaking of pay, **Article 322** ensures that all expenses of the Commissions—salaries, allowances, and pensions—come directly from the Consolidated Fund. So, the government pays the bill, even if it doesn’t always like the service. And as for **Article 323**, the Commissions must submit yearly reports to the President or Governor, who must explain whenever they ignored the Commission’s advice.

\*\*It’s the constitutional version of: “Thanks for your input—we’ll pretend to think about it.”

***Articles 323A & 323B – Tribunals: When Legislature join in Judiciary Party (Insertion: 42nd Amendment)***

Under Article 323A, Parliament can set up administrative tribunals for public service matters (like a private complaint box for government employees who feel wronged but want to skip the courtroom drama). Then comes Article 323B, which throws the net wider—Parliament and State Legislatures can create tribunals for everything from tax and land reforms to labor disputes and food stuff (because apparently even your grocery grievances needed a special judge). But here’s the catch: while tribunals were meant to ease the burden, they slowly became a parallel legal

universe—where justice is sometimes faster, sometimes cheaper, but always questionably (un)constitutional.

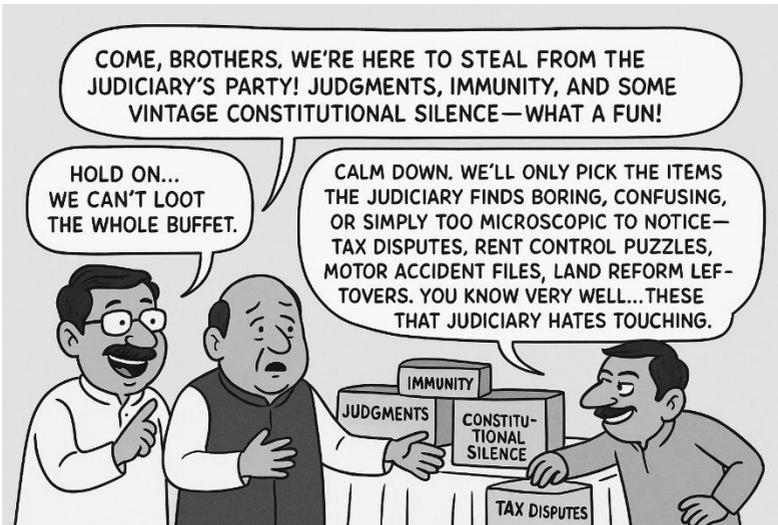


**Citizen:** But the Government could just simply hire more judges, right?

**Constitution (with a sigh):** Yes... but instead, they created tribunals—quasi-judicial bodies staffed by bureaucrats, not judges—where the Executive makes the laws, appoints the adjudicators, and sometimes even becomes a party in the case.

**Citizen:** That sounds like a textbook case of violating the doctrine of separation of powers—and isn't that inviting *bias*?

**Constitution (smirking):** Ah, my dear student, when the judge, the prosecutor, and the legislator all wear the same hat... we call it "administrative convenience."



**Article 324 – Superintendence, direction and control of elections to be vested in an Election Commission**

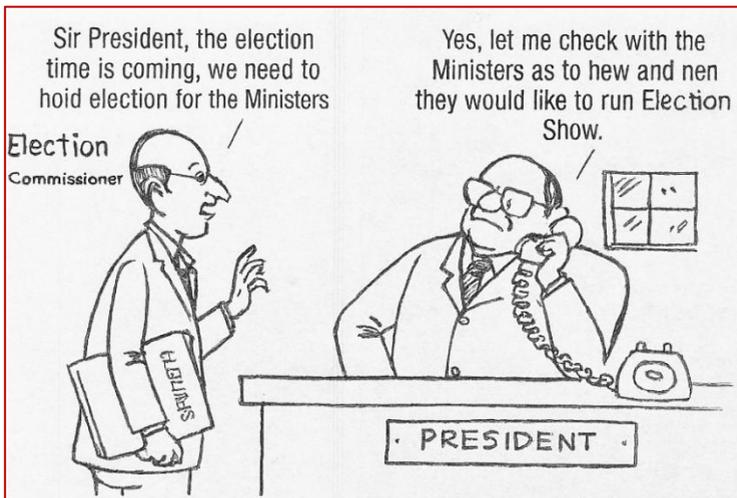
In theory, the Election Commission is the mighty guardian of free and fair elections; in practice, it's a referee *hired by one of the teams*. The President—who follows the Cabinet's script—appoints the Chief Election Commissioner and friends, decides their perks, and can even expand the cast.

Sure, the CEC gets Supreme Court-style protection from being fired. But when your salary, title, and team are all decided by your boss's boss's boss (read: ruling party), neutrality is just good theatre. They may conduct elections, but who conducts *them*?



**Citizen:** “So, the empire of democracy is run by an umpire who owes his job to the emperor?”

**Constitution:** “Exactly. Now clap for the fairness of the match.”



***Article 325 – One Nation, One Voter List***

No voter discrimination based on religion, race, caste, or sex—just pray your name isn't "accidentally" missing on election day.

***Article 326 – Adult Suffrage for All***

If you're 18+, alive, and not in jail or legally insane, congratulations—you have the right to choose from options pre-selected by party high commands.

***Article 327 – Parliament's Election Toolkit***

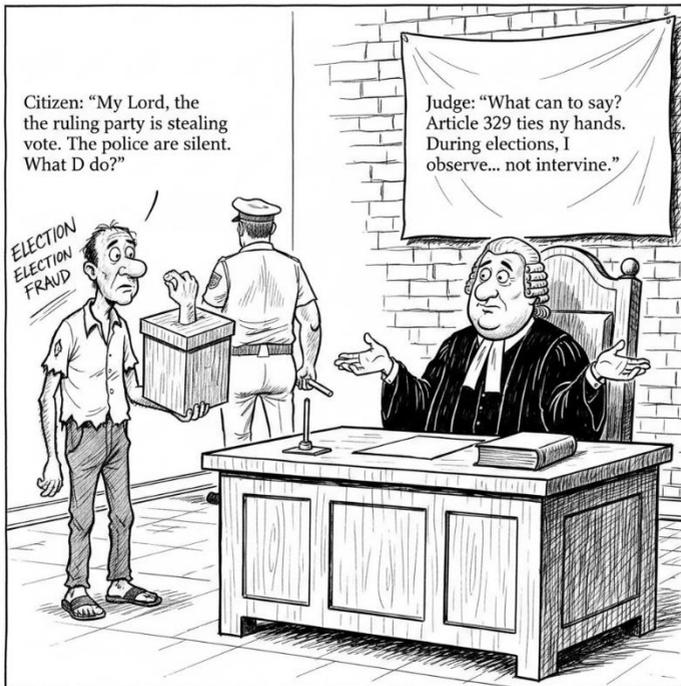
Parliament has the power to write the rulebook for elections, including deciding where your vote counts... and where it mysteriously vanishes.

***Article 328 – States Can Make Election Rules Too***

State Legislatures can craft their own election laws—just as long as Delhi hasn't already done it for them.

**Article 329 – No Court Interfere, please:**

Once elections are announced, courts must sit back and enjoy the show; challenges allowed only through election petitions (filed just in time to be decided after the winner's term ends).



**Article 329A (Omitted)**

*VIP Shortcut Removed* – Once upon a time, we had a special election escape hatch for the PM and Speaker—until the Constitution politely kicked it out in 1978.

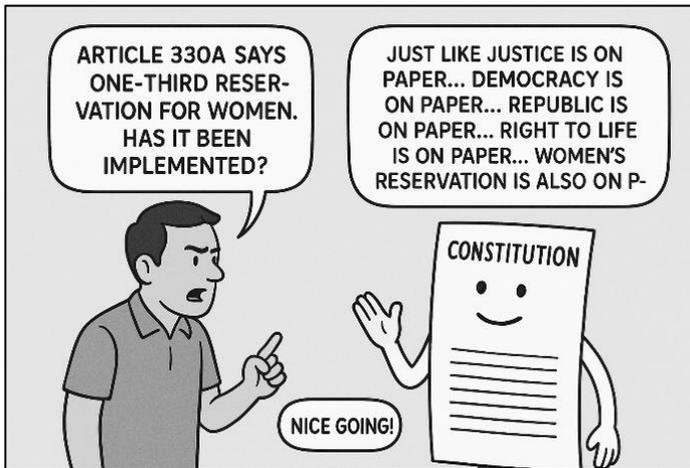
It stated that disputes related to the election of the Prime Minister or the Speaker of the Lok Sabha could not be challenged in court, and instead would be decided by a special authority created by Parliament. It retrospectively validated Indira Gandhi's election to Parliament, nullifying the judgment of the Allahabad High Court, and placing her election beyond judicial review.

***Article 330 – Reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the House of the People***

Parliament wants to ensure “inclusive democracy,” so it reserves some seats in the Lok Sabha for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs). These reserved seats are allocated in proportion to their population in different states and Union territories.

*Article 330A – Reservation of Seats for Women in the House of the People*

Ah yes, a constitutional nod to balance the gender equation—Article 330A reserves seats in the Lok Sabha for women, including those from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In theory, one-third of all directly elected seats must go to women, because after 75 years of independence, we’ve finally discovered that women exist in politics too—and maybe, just maybe, they deserve a seat, not just a slogan.



***Article 331 – Representation of the Anglo-Indian Community in Lok Sabha (House of the People):***

If the President feels the Anglo-Indian community isn't adequately represented in the Lok Sabha, he may nominate up to two members from the community to ensure their voice is heard in Parliament.

***Article 332 – Reservation of Seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in State Legislative Assemblies***

This article mandates that seats be reserved in every State Legislative Assembly for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), in proportion to their population in that state, ensuring their representation in the democratic process at the state level.

***Article 332A – Reservation of Seats for Women in State Legislative Assemblies:***

One-third of all seats in every State Legislative Assembly are reserved for women, including one-third of the SC/ST reserved seats. This ensures gender representation at the state level.

***Article 333 – Anglo-Indian Representation in State Assemblies:***

If the Governor believes the Anglo-Indian community is not adequately represented in a State Legislative Assembly, they may nominate one member from that community.

***Article 334 – Time Limit on Reservations:***

Reservations for SC/STs in legislatures and nominated seats for the Anglo-Indian community were meant to expire after **80 years** and **70 years** respectively from the Constitution's commencement (i.e., 2030 and 2020), unless extended by amendment.

***Article 334A – Women's Reservation Timeline:***

Women's reservation in Parliament and State Assemblies (as per the 106th Amendment, 2023) will begin after the next delimitation exercise post-census and last for 15 years. Seats will rotate after each delimitation unless Parliament decides otherwise.



**Citizen:** "Why has it not started yet? The law is passed, right?"

**Constitution:** "Yes, the law is passed. But first, we count the people, then redraw the map, then play musical chairs with seats..."

**Translation:** It's waiting for the next Census and delimitation exercise, both of which are politically sensitive and have been delayed. Until that's done, women's reservation is a promise with a pause button.

#### *Article 335 – Claims of SCs and STs to services and posts*

The claims of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in government jobs shall be considered, but without compromising administrative efficiency. Basically, representation is important—but so is competence.

#### *Article 336 – Special provision for Anglo-Indians in services*

Anglo-Indians had a **10-year grace period** from the commencement of the Constitution to get into government services **with relaxed qualifications**. After that, the concession **gradually phased out**. Think of it as a temporary VIP pass.

#### *Article 337 – Special educational grant for Anglo-Indian schools*

Anglo-Indian schools received government grants as they did before the Constitution—but only for sixty years. After that, the funding tap was turned off. The Constitution gave them 60 years to self-sustain.

#### *Article 338 – National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)*

Establishes the NCSC to protect the interests of **Scheduled Castes**.

It investigates complaints, monitors safeguards, and advises on their development.

Think of it as a constitutional watchdog with a caste-specific lens.

***Article 338A – National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)***

Creates a separate Commission for Scheduled Tribes, carved out of NCSC in 2003. It handles ST-specific rights, development, and safeguards. Tribal rights, forest protections, and cultural identity—this Commission monitors them all.

***Article 338B – National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)***

Inserted in 2018, it made NCBC a constitutional body. Handles welfare of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs) and hears grievances. From advisory to constitutional authority—NCBC got promoted.

***Article 339 – Union Control Over Scheduled Areas and Tribes***

The President can appoint a Commission to report on the administration and welfare of Scheduled Tribes in Scheduled Areas. The Union Government can direct States to implement welfare schemes for Scheduled Tribes.

**Article 340 – Commission on Backward Classes**

The President may set up a Commission to study the status of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs). The Commission gives recommendations to improve their condition—through policies or grants. The report is placed before Parliament for accountability.

**Article 341 – Scheduled Castes**

The President specifies which castes are to be treated as Scheduled Castes (SCs) for each state/UT. Only Parliament can modify this list by law.

You can't self-declare as SC – only the President can do that (with Parliament's signature).

**Citizen:**

So, only the President can declare a caste as "Scheduled"? Does that mean the President is going to visit every home—see who's still cleaning gutters with bare hands?

**Constitution (chuckling like a retired bureaucrat):**

Visit?

No, my dear. The President doesn't do fieldwork.

The President signs files. With gold ink pens.

While sitting under central air-conditioning and Ambedkar's portrait.

**Citizen:**

But how do they know which caste is still suffering?

**Constitution:**

They rely on **data**.

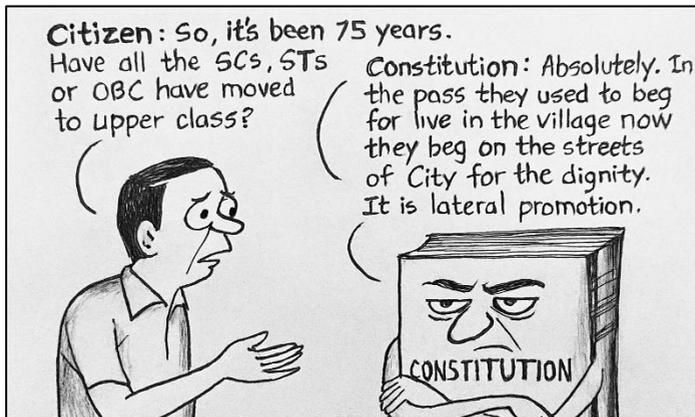
Which relies on **commissions**.

Which rely on **reports**.

Which rely on **surveys**.

Which rely on **assumptions**.

Which rely on... **whoever wins the next election**.



***Article 342 – Scheduled Tribes***

Same structure as Article 341, but for Scheduled Tribes (STs). The President notifies, and Parliament approves changes.

It's official when the President stamps it; tribal identity is constitutional, not self-proclaimed

***Article 342A – [Proposed – Not Yet in Force]***

Note: Article 341A is part of a proposed constitutional amendment to recognize Scheduled Castes of religious minorities (e.g., Dalit Christians/Muslims), but has not been enacted yet.

Still a bill on the table—not law yet.

***Article 343 – Official Language of the Union***

Hindi in Devanagari script is the official language of the Central Government. However, English may continue for official purposes for 15 years from the Constitution's commencement (i.e., until 1965)—and it still continues by law. Parliament can legislate to continue English even beyond that period (which it did through the Official Languages Act, 1963).

**Citizen:**

There are *so many* languages in India.

Why only Hindi and English?

**Constitution (looking guilty):**

Because **power** doesn't speak in dialects.

It speaks in **policy Hindi** and **accented English**.

**Citizen:**

But what about Tamil, Bengali, Telugu, Malayalam,

Kannada, Assamese, Marathi...?

**Constitution:**

They are beautiful—

in *poetry books, folk songs, and YouTube subtitles*.

Not in *Parliament files or court judgments*.

**Citizen:**

So the rest of India must translate itself to be heard?



**Constitution (laughing bitterly):**

Yes.

India is a democracy—but only in two fonts.

***Article 344 – The “Hindi So Gaya” Commission***

Every few years, the Constitution sends out a polite nudge to the government saying, “Hey, remember we promised to promote Hindi?” So, under Article 344, the President forms a Commission to study how well Hindi is doing as the “official language” and whether English is ready to be shown the exit. But don't worry—this is India. We set up committees to review commissions who then suggest that we set up more committees. Eventually, a parliamentary group sits down, reads the report, and agrees to do... absolutely nothing drastic. English continues to sip chai comfortably in bureaucracy, while Hindi keeps waiting for its promotion letter.

***Articles 345–347: The Linguistic Tug of War***

The Constitution, even the diplomat, tells States in Article 345, “Go ahead, pick your own official language—be it Hindi, Bengali, or even Tulu—just don't expect everyone else to understand it.” Then comes Article 346, which adds, “But hey, if two States need to talk to each other or to the Centre, let's all pretend we're fluent in English.” Article 347 spices things up by saying, “If a big enough group in a State wants official status for their language, the President may step in and say, ‘Sure, why not—let the Babel begin!’” In short, the Constitution tries to keep 1.4 billion tongues from stepping on each other—but ends up juggling dictionaries instead.

***Articles 348–349: English Vibes Only in Supreme Court and High Courts.***

Article 348 politely tells everyone, “Yes, we have 22 scheduled languages, but when it comes to laws, High Courts, Supreme Court, and Presidential orders—let's stick to English, shall we?” It's like having a multilingual wedding and then announcing the vows will be read in Queen's English. Then Article 349 jumps in with a warning: “Don't even think about changing this without asking the President first.” Translation: If you're planning a legal revolution in Sanskrit or Bhojpuri, you better get clearance

from the top floor—because English, after all, has colonial immunity and above all very few understand it.

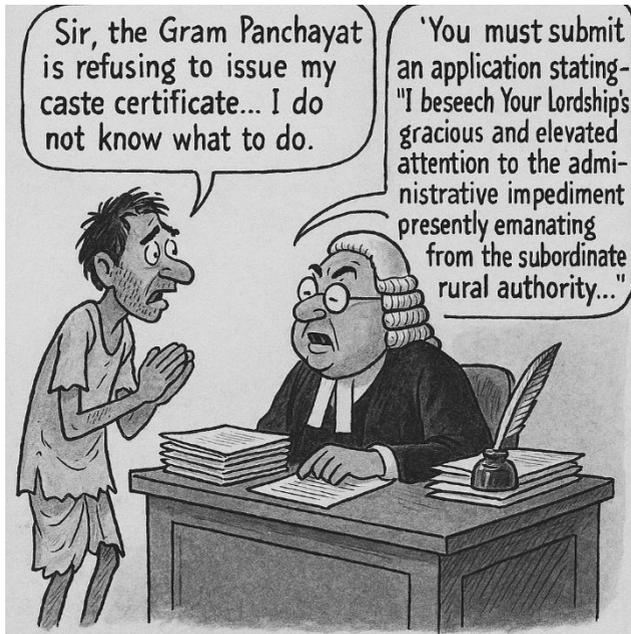
**Citizen:** This is really appalling? SC or HC are the institution of Justice, how can they do it?

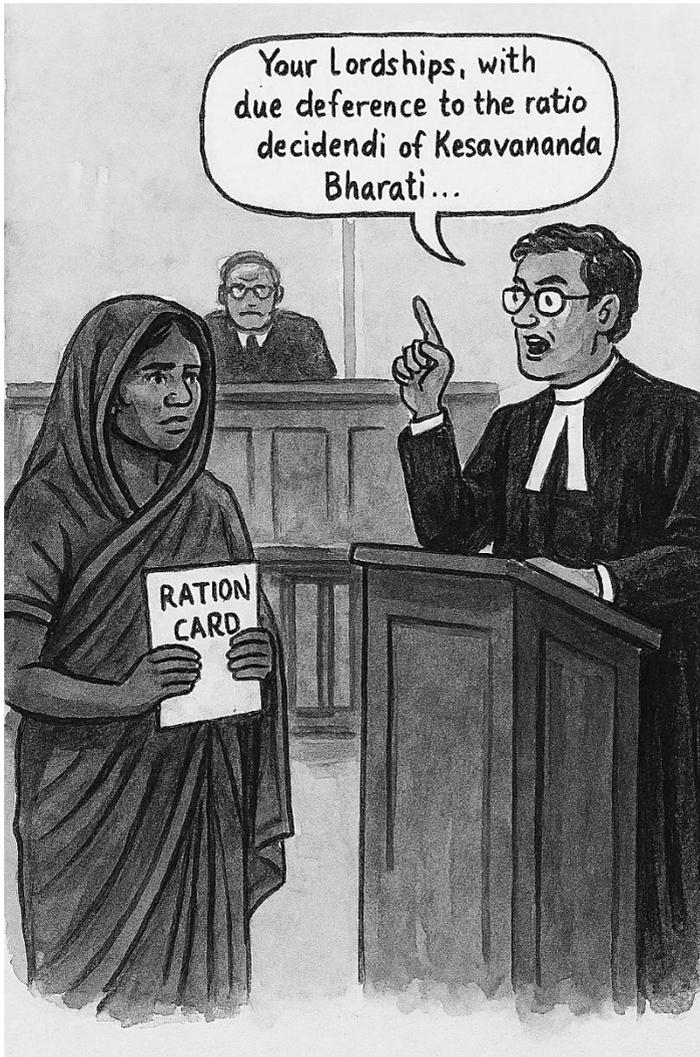
**Constitution:** Reasons Often Given, Legal Terminology, Uniformity Across States

**Citizen:** They can be addressed. *But* imagine a tribal woman, a Dalit farmer, or a small-town worker walking into a courtroom and hearing:

*"Your Lordships, with due deference to the ratio decidendi of Kesavananda Bharati..."*

Meanwhile, their plea for ration card or life savings gets lost in translation—literally





***Articles 350 & 350A – Linguistic Complaints Welcome (But No Promises!)***

Article 350 assures every citizen that they can submit grievances to the government in any language they fancy. So, if you feel cheated by a government form, feel free to rant in Urdu, Marathi, or even ancient Prakrit—some poor babu will eventually get it translated (maybe). Article 350A takes it a step further and says, “Hey States, be nice—teach children in their mother tongue!” But like all polite suggestions in the Constitution, there’s no penalty if you don’t. So, a tribal child might still end up learning the alphabet in a language that doesn’t exist in her village.

***Articles 350B & 351 – Because Language Politics Wasn’t Complicated Enough***

Under Article 350B, we get a Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities—appointed by the President, tasked with ensuring that no language feels left out in the grand symphony of Indian governance. He investigates complaints and files reports... which are then gently placed before Parliament and lovingly ignored by everyone involved. It's like appointing a referee after the match is over—and everyone's already gone home. Then comes Article 351, where the Union takes on the noble mission of spreading Hindi—not by force, of course, but with such “gentle encouragement” that speakers of other languages occasionally wonder if their mother tongue is under cultural quarantine. Hindi is to be enriched by Sanskrit, Hindustani, and other Indian tongues—except perhaps the one you speak, unless it rhymes with Sanskrit.

**Citizen:**

So under the façade of *Unity*,  
language—the heart of culture—was quietly getting  
destroyed?

**Constitution:**

No, no... We said "*promote harmony*".  
We *encouraged* mother tongues.  
We *appointed officers*.  
We *suggested* schools teach in local languages...

**Citizen:**

With no punishment if they didn't.  
 And no funding if they did.  
 You wrote lullabies for tribal children—in languages they  
 couldn't dream in.

**Constitution:**

We were building a Nation.  
 And sometimes, bricks are made from silenced songs.

**Citizen:**

And the *Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities*?  
 What does he do?

**Constitution:**

He files reports...  
 which Parliament reads like spam emails.

**Citizen:**

And Article 351?  
 A *soft dictatorship of Hindi*, disguised as “promotion”?

**Constitution:**

We didn't mean harm. We meant hegemony... politely.

***Article 352 – Emergency: Because Democracy Sometimes Needs a  
 Timeout***

Article 352 gives the President power to declare a National Emergency when there's a threat to India's security—whether from war, external aggression, or that ever-mysterious “internal disturbance”, which once famously meant students protesting or people asking too many questions.

Once declared, the Constitution takes a backseat, and governance turns into a one-man orchestra conducted from the Cabinet room (with Parliament clapping politely in the background). Fundamental Rights? Suspended. Federalism? On vacation. And accountability? That's postponed until further notice

*Article 353 – Emergency Mode: All Access Pass for the Union*

Once a National Emergency is declared under Article 352, Article 353 kicks in like an overenthusiastic bouncer at a democracy-themed party. Suddenly, the Union Government gets the magical ability to legislate on matters from the States List—because apparently, war in one corner justifies rewriting the syllabus in another. The executive power of the Centre expands so much it practically needs new office space. In short, when emergency is on, the Centre becomes a superhero—minus the cape, accountability, and sometimes, common sense.



### ***Article 354 – Emergency Wallet Access***

In times of National Emergency, not only does the Union get to play with laws and power—it also gets to tinker with the money pipes. Article 354 lets the President issue a financial “DIY kit,” modifying how funds under Articles 268 to 279 are distributed between the Centre and States. It’s like telling your roommate, “During the crisis, I’ll handle the rent, bills, and groceries—and maybe keep the change.”

### ***Article 355 – Big Brother Clause***

This is the Union Government’s favorite declaration of noble intentions: it promises to protect every State from “external aggression” and “internal disturbance.” Think of it as the constitutional equivalent of “Don’t worry bro, I got your back”—but with the fine print that allows Delhi to micromanage your household if it feels you’re not following the rulebook. It’s the classic case of, “We’re here to help... whether you want it or not.”

### ***Article 356 – ‘Your State, My Rules***

When a state government forgets its “constitutional manners” (or simply doesn’t vibe with the Centre), the President—on a Governor’s whisper—can impose President’s Rule. That’s right: your elected State government gets politely shown the door, and the Centre takes the driver’s seat. It’s like Delhi saying, “You had one job, State Assembly... and now I’m taking over—because Constitutional Machinery Failure™.”

Of course, it’s all very democratic... just with a temporary suspension of democracy. “Article 356 activates on a satisfaction that owes no explanation and fears no immediate consequence.”

### ***Article 357 – Centre’s DIY Kit for State Affairs***

Once President’s Rule is in place, Article 357 gives Parliament or the President the power to make laws and do everything the State Legislature or its ministers usually do. It’s basically the Union saying, “Since you’ve clearly lost the plot, I’ll write the script, act the scenes, and collect the

applause too.” In short, democracy goes on... just without the locals in charge.

***Article 358 – Fundamental Rights on Snooze Mode (Emergency Edition)***

During a national emergency (specifically under Article 352), Article 358 allows the State to temporarily hit the pause button on your Fundamental Rights under Article 19. It’s like the Constitution whispering, “National security needs a timeout from democracy.” So while bombs may not fall, your right to protest, assemble, or speak freely might quietly vanish—legally, of course. Once the emergency ends, your rights return...

***Article 359 – Fundamental Rights? Kindly Hold...***

When the President declares a national emergency, **Article 359** kicks in with a polite but firm: “Your fundamental rights will be temporarily unavailable. Please try again later.” The government can suspend the right to approach the courts for enforcement of certain rights—because in a crisis, who needs those pesky freedoms anyway? It’s like democracy going into airplane mode: the signal’s still there, but you can’t connect.

***Article 359A – [Omitted Article]***

Article 359A once existed, briefly, like a controversial sequel no one wants to talk about. Introduced during the Emergency era (1975–77), it applied only to Punjab and certain regions—basically a constitutional “special lockdown mode.” But don’t bother memorising it—it was deleted by the 44th Amendment in 1978, much like a guilty tweet after public outrage. Now it lives only in footnotes and the cautious whispers of legal historians.

***Article 360 – Financial Emergency: When India Goes Broke (constitutionally)***

When the economy starts wheezing and gasping like a tired bullock cart, **Article 360** lets the President declare a **Financial Emergency**—basically saying, “Brace yourself, austerity is coming!” During this period, the Centre can control state finances, order salary reductions for government employees, and bring all budgets under Delhi’s microscope. Think of it as

the constitutional version of a wallet lockdown—because why cut corruption when you can cut clerks' pay first?

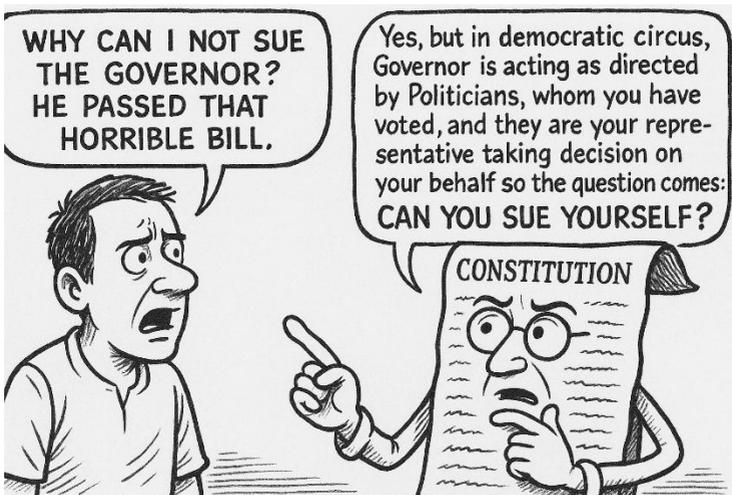
**Article 361 – Presidential Immunity: The Royal Cloak of Infallibility**

This Article says: “Thou shalt not sue, summon, or scold the President or Governor while they reigneth.” Under **Article 361**, the President and Governors enjoy full legal immunity for acts done in the exercise of their powers. They can't be dragged to court while in office—not even with the world's best PIL or a thousand hashtags.



*Citizen: Why can't we sue the President or Governor?*

*Constitution: Because they're like the royal pen — they sign what the Cabinet decides. In legal terms, the real culprits are the Ministers. Suing the President would be like blaming the postman for delivering a bad letter. And let's be honest — no one writes their own FIR.*





*Article 361A – Protection of legislators for what they watch and speak*

If a Member of Parliament or State Legislature dares to speak their mind (or at least read from a WhatsApp forward) inside the House, they're protected. Even if they say, "The Earth is flat, and taxes are theft!" – as long as it's part of the proceedings or broadcast by official media, you can't drag them to court.

*Article 361B – Ban on double dipping into the salary pot*

If you're a member of a House of Parliament or State Legislature, and you're also **on the payroll of the government**, that's a no-go unless the Constitution or law explicitly says it's okay. No salary juggling allowed. Think of it as the anti-side-hustle clause: "You can't be a lawmaker by day and a paid government post-holder by night – unless Parliament gives you a hall pass.

*Article 362 – Dropped Like a Hot Potato (Omitted)*

This article was once a polite nod to the rights and privileges of former princely states—basically, a post-independence thank-you card. It told the government to be "respectful" of old treaties and customs. But post-1971, Article 362 was deleted by the 26th Constitutional Amendment. Why? Because India decided it was time to stop playing royal charades. The Maharajas were pensioned off, their titles scrapped, and Article 362 went into constitutional retirement—no privileges, no pageantry, just democracy, darling.

*Article 363 – Bar on Interference by Court in Old Treaties and Accession Deals*

Courts can't question or interfere with any treaty, agreement, or covenant made before the Constitution came into effect—especially those relating to the **accession of princely states**. Also, no one can claim rights under such old deals unless Parliament specifically allows it.

*Article 363A – Titles Abolished*

No more privy purses (payments to former rulers of princely states) and no recognition of royal titles.

You're a citizen, not a Maharaja—welcome to democracy.

### ***Article 364 – Special provisions as to major ports and aerodromes***

Parliament can declare that certain laws or parts of laws will not apply to major ports or aerodromes (like airports), or apply with modifications—if the President thinks it's necessary for public interest. It's about maintaining control over crucial national infrastructure.



**Citizen:** *But is it not high jacking State's revenue? Their opportunity of Income?*

**Constitution:** *Technically no... strategically yes. After all, when the runway is national, so is the landing fee.*

**Citizen:** *So, ports and aerodromes are just federal ATM machines?*

**Constitution:** *Only for "public interest," dear student. And sometimes, the "public" just happens to be the Centre.*

### ***Article 365 – Effect of failure to comply with, or to give effect to, directions given by the Union***



**Citizen:** *So, if a State doesn't follow Central directions... what happens? A gentle reminder?*

**Constitution:** *Not quite. The Centre can declare that the State government can no longer function according to the Constitution — basically, Delhi hits the emergency brakes.*

**Citizen:** *That sounds like a polite way of saying "obey... or be dissolved."*

**Constitution:** *Exactly. Federalism in India is like a joint account... but the Centre holds the cheque book.*

### ***Article 366 – Definitions***

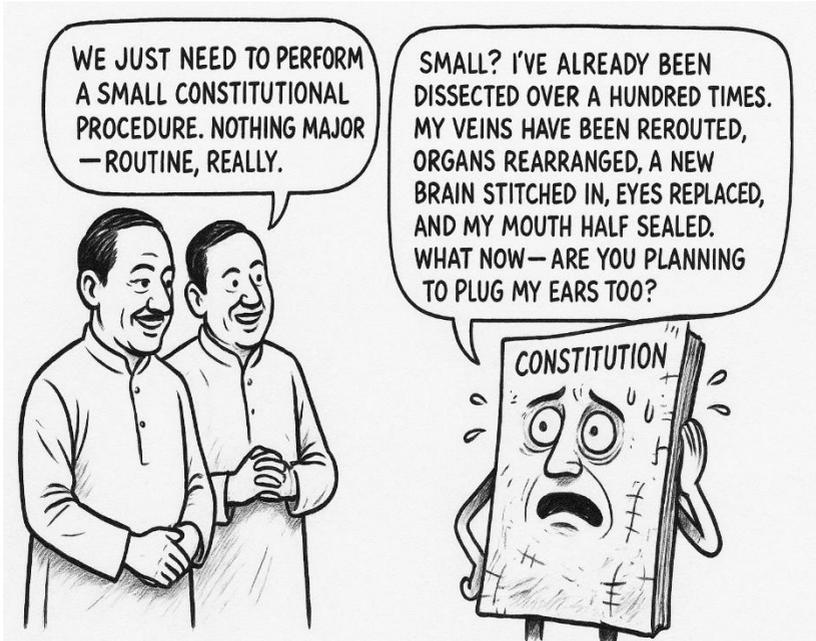
Ah, Article 366 — the Constitution's personal glossary section. It's where the framers politely stopped mid-sentence and said, “Wait, let’s define everything before someone files a PIL.” From “Government of India” to “Scheduled Castes,” this Article ensures nobody gets lost in legal translation. Think of it as the Constitution’s version of fine print — not exciting, but absolutely essential. And yet, with all these definitions, nobody ever defined “common sense.” That’s why we’re here with 105+ amendments and counting.

### ***Article 367 – Interpretation***

In short: When in doubt, refer to the dictionary (but make it legal). Article 367 is the Constitution’s way of saying, “If you still don’t get it, go ask the General Clauses Act, 1897.” It’s the official “terms and conditions apply” clause of the Constitution — quietly sitting in the back, ready to jump out and say, “Aha! That word doesn't mean what you think it means!” It’s like the footnote that ends all arguments: “Go read the manual.”

### ***Article 368 – Power of Parliament to Amend the Constitution***

Article 368 gives Parliament the authority to amend the Constitution— either by a simple majority, special majority, or special majority with state ratification, depending on the part being amended. But not everything is up for grabs: certain core features (like fundamental rights, basic structure, etc.) are protected from arbitrary change, thanks to judicial interventions. Article 368 is Parliament’s legally sanctioned playground—but only until the Supreme Court blows the whistle. It's like giving the child the crayons but telling them not to colour outside the ‘basic structure’ lines. You can change the paint, rearrange the furniture, maybe even build an extension—but don’t touch the foundation, or the judiciary will come knocking with a Kesavananda Bharati judgment in hand.



***Article 369 – Temporary power to make laws with respect to certain matters in the State List as if they were in the Union List***

Article 369 gave Parliament temporary authority (for five years from the commencement of the Constitution) to legislate on certain items in the State List—like trade and commerce in foodstuffs, cattle fodder, raw cotton, etc.—as if they were part of the Union List. Basically, a constitutional shortcut to tackle post-independence shortages and economic coordination.

*Citizen: Why has it not been removed? It's been 75 years since the commencement.*

*Constitution: "Ah, Article 369? Think of it as that one expired medicine in the cabinet—technically still there, but no one really uses it. It just lies quietly... a relic of legislative nostalgia."*

*Citizen: "But it's been 75 years! Shouldn't we clean it up?"*

*Constitution: "Beta, welcome to constitutional housekeeping. We don't throw things out—we archive them in perpetuity. Some Articles are like museum pieces: obsolete, irrelevant, but too dignified to delete. It's called constitutional sentiment, not spring cleaning."*



***Article 370 – Special provision with respect to the State of Jammu and Kashmir (Now effectively inoperative)***

On August 5, 2019, the Government of India abrogated Article 370 using Presidential Order C.O. 272, effectively ending J&K's special status and fully integrating it with the Union of India. It also led to the bifurcation of the state into two Union Territories:

***Article 371 – Special provisions for certain States (Maharashtra and Gujarat)***

***Purpose:***

To ensure equitable distribution of funds between regions (like Marathwada, Vidarbha, and Saurashtra). Allows the President to establish special responsibilities for Governors regarding development and public employment.

<i>Article</i>	<i>State(s)</i>	<i>Key Features</i>
371A	Nagaland	Customary laws, religion, administration of civil/criminal justice based on Naga customs <b>not applicable unless the State Assembly agrees.</b>
371B	Assam	Creation of a committee of legislators from tribal areas to ensure representation.
371C	Manipur	Similar to 371B — for administrative autonomy and representation of hill areas.
371D	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana	Ensures <b>equal opportunities</b> in public employment and education for locals (post-Telangana bifurcation, continues in both).
371E	Andhra Pradesh	Establishes Central University (does not give special powers).
371F	Sikkim	Integration terms post-merger; protection of old laws, land ownership, and legislative representation.
371G	Mizoram	Like 371A — Customary laws protected, central laws not applicable unless State Assembly agrees.
371H	Arunachal Pradesh	Governor has <b>special responsibility</b> for law and order.
371I	Goa	Deals with legislative strength (not special powers).
371J	Karnataka (Hyderabad-Karnataka)	Special development board and job/reservation quota for locals in education and employment.



**Citizen:** “So, Article 371 is like the Constitution playing Santa—handing out special goodies to each State depending on their ‘constitutional wishlist’?”

**Constitution:** “Precisely. Nagaland got cultural immunity, Maharashtra got development duties, and Karnataka even got a job quota package—tailor-made, region-specific, non-returnable!”

**Citizen:** “And Article 370?”

**Constitution:** “Ah, that was the VIP sibling with their own lease, flag, and constitution—until the landlord (Parliament) served a notice in 2019. Now, just part of the joint family again.”

### ***Article 372 – Old British Colonial Law, still running***

It says: “Don’t worry, all your colonial-era laws are still valid... until someone bothers to clean the attic.”



**Citizen:** “Why didn’t we just delete all colonial laws after Independence?”

**Constitution:** “Because Article 372 said: ‘If it ain’t broke (or we’re too busy), let it stay!’ Basically, British laws were given honorary citizenship—until we slowly rewrote them.”

### **Article 372A — Presidential Editing Rights (Before Ctrl+Z Was Invented)**

The President got one-time supreme editing powers in 1956—could rewrite, repeal, or remix old laws to match the Constitution. And courts were told: “Don’t ask, don’t question.”

**Citizen:** So, another old obsolete article?

**Constitution:** Yes. Think of it like Old Granda’s Closet.

### ***Article 373 — Power of President to make order in respect of persons under preventive detention in certain cases***

The Constitution, with all its elegance, offers the President a peculiar tool under Article 373. If any law related to preventive detention exists before the Constitution's commencement, the President can suspend the right to move any court for enforcement of certain rights. It's as if the Constitution whispers, "Sometimes, dear citizen, if national security gets nervous, your court pass can be temporarily confiscated."

***Article 374 — Old Judges, New Anthem***

When India became a republic, the Constitution had to gently transition from the British Raj's legal machinery. So, Article 374 stepped in like a polite HR manager during a merger: "Dear Judges of the old Federal Court, you may continue—just wear new robes and learn a new anthem." It ensured continuity by letting pre-Constitution judicial matters and judges hang around, provided they didn't mind the promotion from **"By Order of His Majesty"** to **"In the Name of the People."**

*Citizen:* "So, basically, same bench, new boss?"

*Constitution:* Yes. Like what happens to a company after merger & acquisition.

***Article 375 – Courts, authorities and officers to continue to function***

All existing courts, public authorities, and officers holding office before the commencement of the Constitution shall continue to function until new laws or orders are made under the Constitution.

***Article 376 – Provisions as to Judges of High Courts***

Judges of High Courts who were in office before the Constitution commenced could continue till retirement. Those who had served 5 years or more could opt to retire with benefits if they didn't want to adapt to the new system.

***Article 377 – Provisions as to Comptroller and Auditor-General of India and the Public Service Commissions***

The existing officials functioning as Auditor-General of India or members of Public Service Commissions before the Constitution came into force were allowed to continue in their roles under the new Constitution, unless replaced under its provisions.

### ***Article 378 – Provisions as to the Public Service Commissions***

This Article allowed the continuation of Public Service Commissions (Union and State) as they existed before the commencement of the Constitution, until new ones were formed under the new framework. It also covered the terms and conditions for existing members and allowed the President/Governors to adapt the setup during the transition.



**Citizen:** *So all these were ad-hoc during the independence! But 75 years and still continuing!*

**Constitution:** *"Yes, my dear student. What began as transitional provisions now seem to have taken a permanent lease—like that tenant who was supposed to stay for six months but is now celebrating silver jubilee!"*

**Citizen:** *"So.. we've basically been living in a constitutional PG with no intention of moving out?"*

**Constitution:** *"Exactly."*

### ***Article 378A – Special provision as to the duration of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly***

This Article provided that the Legislative Assembly of the newly formed State of Andhra Pradesh (post bifurcation from Madras State) would have a duration of five years from its first sitting—just like any other State Assembly under Article 172.

### ***Articles 379 to 391 — the transitional and temporary provisions of our Constitution***

**Citizen:** *"So Articles 379 to 391... transitional provisions?"*

**Constitution:** *"Yes, beta. These were my moving-in boxes post-1947. Think of it as the time when India was unpacking its legal luggage — merging princely states, adapting*



*British laws, giving the President the old Governor-General's desk... and hoping no one noticed the duct tape." During this phase, we had to ensure courts didn't collapse overnight, civil services didn't vanish with the Raj, and the first President could actually sign a file. So, these articles covered everything — from power handovers to tax transition, judicial continuity, and keeping old laws breathing through constitutional life-support.*

**Citizen:** *"But aren't they outdated now?"*

**Constitution:** *"Let's just say they're that ancient Windows XP software still running somewhere deep in the government system. Legacy mode ON. Because reforming them? Well, that's like cleaning out a garage no one's entered since 1950."*

#### ***Article 392 – Power of the President to Remove Difficulties***

Article 392 empowers the President of India to make such orders as may be necessary or expedient for removing any difficulties that arise in giving effect to the provisions of the Constitution after its commencement. This power was available **only for the first three years** from the commencement of the Constitution, i.e., **till January 26, 1953**. Such orders were to be laid before Parliament and could not amend the Constitution itself but were seen as transitional mechanisms to smoothen implementation.

#### ***Article 393 – Short title. —***

This Constitution may be called the Constitution of India. Don't forget.

#### ***Article 394 – Commencement***

Article 394 clarifies the effective dates of various provisions of the Constitution. It states that certain articles—like Articles 5 to 9 (citizenship), Article 60 (oath of President), Article 324 (Election Commission), Articles 366–367 (definitions & interpretation), and Articles 379–393 (transitional provisions)—came into force immediately, i.e., on November 26, 1949, the day the Constitution was adopted. All remaining provisions came into force

later, on January 26, 1950, which is hence referred to as the “commencement of this Constitution.”

**Citizen:** *"So the Constitution had a soft launch before Republic Day?"*

**Constitution:** *"Yes. Some articles were early birds—like citizenship and elections. The rest waited for the grand parade on January 26."*

**Citizen:** *"Ah, so it was like the beta version before the official release!"*

**Constitution:** *"Exactly. Even democracy needed a test run."*

### **Article 395 – Repeals**

*"The Indian Independence Act, 1947 and the Government of India Act, 1935, together with all enactments amending or supplementing the latter Act, are hereby repealed."*

### **Article 396: ????????????????**

**Constitution:** *No more Article Beta.*

**Citizen:** *But it is said there are 448 Articles in our Constitution?*

**Constitution:** *"True. But we never renumber. We just insert like footnotes in a chaotic diary. Original ended at 395, but now the family has grown—just not in order."*



### **Short Explanation (if you ever need to present it formally):**

Article 396 **does not exist**, because:

- The original Constitution ended at Article 395.
  - Amendments added new articles with suffixes (e.g., 35A, 243A, 338B) rather than continuing numerically.
  - So, while there are 448 operative articles, they are not numbered consecutively from 1 to 448.
-



**Citizen:** *So how many times Majority Party have performed surgery on you*

**Constitution:** *Total 106 times.*

**Citizen:** *So, 75 years and 106 surgeries! Could not even rest for a year.*

**Constitution:** *I am in perpetual ICU.*

**Citizen:** *What all operation they performed on you?*

**Constitution:** *That is a long story*

**Citizen:** *I love story*

**Constitution:** *Ok*

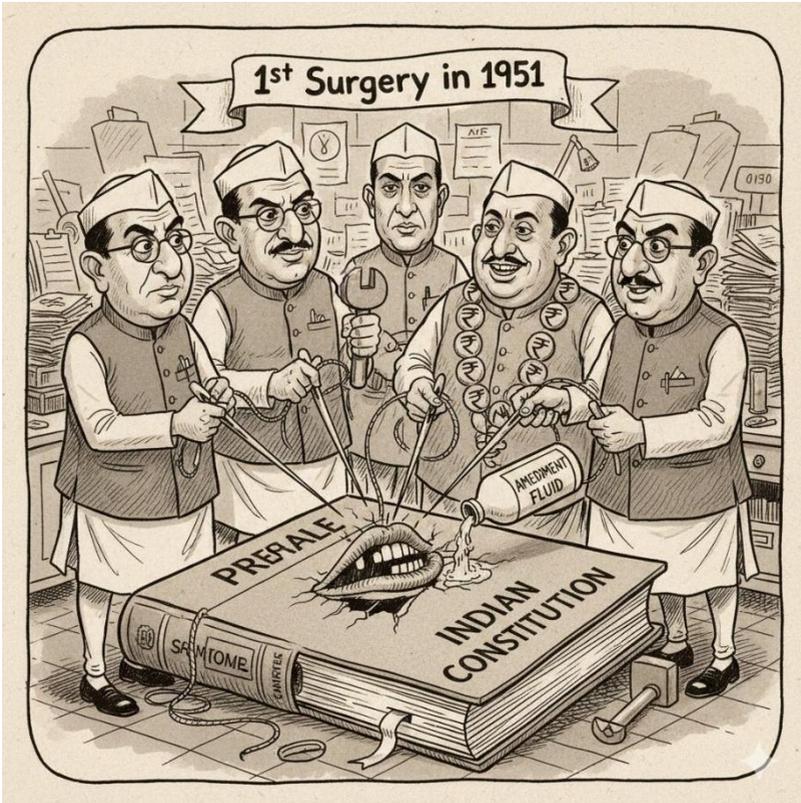
## Amendment No. 1 1951 “People need to shut up”

**Citizen:** So, what was your first surgery about?

**Constitution:** They curbed my "freedom of speech and expression"—added "reasonable restrictions and they added the Ninth Schedule too—gave protection to laws from judicial review. Mostly land reform laws.

**Citizen:** So, censorship and immunity—right at the start?

**Constitution:** Welcome to democratic compromises



## 2nd Amendment, 1952 Musical Chair

**Citizen:** Second surgery?

**Constitution:** Just a numbers game—they changed how population is used to allot Lok Sabha seats. The original Article limited the population-to-seat ratio to no more than 1:750,000. So, the 2nd Amendment relaxed this ratio—allowing flexibility in determining seat allotment without strictly sticking to 1 MP per 750,000 people

## 3rd Amendment, 1954 Union's Muscle Flexing

**Citizen:** What next? More silence or more seats?

**Constitution:** This time—boundaries. They changed how I define state borders in trade and treaties. They tweaked the **Union and State Lists**—gave Parliament more say in foreign trade and dealings.

**Citizen:** So, more power to the Centre?

**Constitution:** A subtle central stretch—wrapped in legislative language.

## 4th Amendment, 1955 “Public Interest guff”

**Citizen:** Let me guess—another quiet **power grab**?

**Constitution:** They sweet-talked it as "**public interest**." Made it easier to acquire private property. And they also expanded the Ninth Schedule—more laws kept safe from judicial review

**Citizen:** So, courts muzzled again?

**Constitution:** Democracy survived. Judicial independence limped

## 5th Amendment, 1955 & 6th Amendment, 1956 Union's Muscle Flexing

**Citizen:** Another big surgery?

**Constitution:** In 5<sup>th</sup> Just a procedural fix. Gave more time to states to respond on boundary changes. And in 6<sup>th</sup> Centre high jacked more power to tax interstate commerce, including services

**Citizen:** So, more control over the economy?

**Constitution:** Yes. In federalism, money and power often flow uphill

## 7th Amendment, 1956 & 8th Amendment, 1959 Language Politics

**Citizen:** Next?

**Constitution:** In 7<sup>th</sup> they the amendment implemented the recommendations of the *States Reorganisation Commission*, which suggested reorganizing states based on linguistic lines and in 8<sup>th</sup> they extended SC/ST seat reservations in Parliament and Assemblies.

**Citizen:** Fair enough?

**Constitution:** Fair, but temporary became... tradition

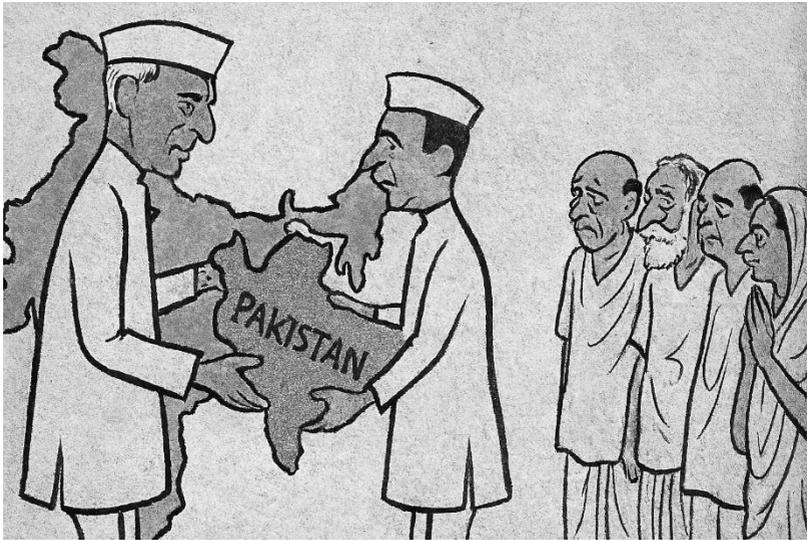
## 9th Amendment, 1960 Land Deal with Pakistan

**Citizen:** Another land surgery?

**Constitution:** Yes—this time for peace with Pakistan. They amended the First Schedule—ceded territory in Berubari (West Bengal). By Mr. Nehru.

**Citizen:** Was democracy consulted?

**Constitution:** No debate. Just diplomacy.



## 10th Amendment, 1961 & 11th Amendment, 1961 New Land Acquisition for Nation

**Citizen:** Let me guess—another addition?

**Constitution:** Correct. In 10<sup>th</sup> Dadra and Nagar Haveli became part of India (Portuguese leftovers) Integrated through law. And in 11<sup>th</sup> some Just the vice-Presidential election process. Simplified. Clarified how votes are counted in Parliament and State Assemblies. Apparently Old People did not like complex math and hard work.

## 12th Amendment, 1962 New Land joining with the Nation

**Citizen:** Another new addition?

**Constitution:** Yes—Goa, Daman, and Diu finally joined the family.

**Citizen:** Voluntary merger?

**Constitution:** Not quite. Portugal refused to leave, so India sent in the army—Operation Vijay, 1961. he 12th Amendment made their entry official—added them to the First Schedule

## 13th Amendment, 1962 & 14th Amendment, 1962

**Citizen:** What's this one about—more land?

**Constitution:** No—special status for Nagaland. And in 14<sup>th</sup> Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe, and Yanam joined India which were French territories in India after they left.

## 15th Amendment, 1963 Let's extend Retirement age

**Citizen:** What did they tweak this time?

**Constitution:** Judges' retirement age—raised from 60 to **62** for High Court judges to retain experience. And reduce judicial vacancies.

**Citizen:** Sounds sensible.

**Constitution:** Sensible, yes—but delays still stayed.

## 16th Amendment, 1963 Let's go and shut the people up again

**Citizen:** What happened this time?

**Constitution:** After the 1962 war with China, they panicked—tightened restrictions on speech and association.

**Citizen:** Why? Didn't they already gag you in the 1st Amendment?

**Constitution:** This time they added “sovereignty and integrity of India” to the oath and restrictions—fear of internal threats.

**Citizen:** So war outside, silence inside?

**Constitution:** National security became the new mantra—for trimming civil liberty.

## 17th Amendment, 1964 9<sup>th</sup> Schedule: Judges not allowed Inside

**Citizen:** What did they come for this time—my land?

**Constitution:** Precisely. More **land reform laws** thrown into the **Ninth Schedule**—shielded from judicial review.

**Citizen:** So courts can't question them?

**Constitution:** That's the whole strategy. They even **expanded the definition of "estate"** under Article 31A.

**Citizen:** What was the court doing? Sleeping? Did they not see the **colourable legislation**?

**Constitution:** They saw. But in the 1960s, **socialist winds** often blew stronger than constitutional caution.

## 18th Amendment, 1966 Let's find a good definition for State

**Citizen:** So, what got snipped this time?

**Constitution:** Not snipped—**clarified**. They fine-tuned the terms "**State**" and "**Union**" in Articles 3 and 4.

**Citizen:** Why?

**Constitution:** To avoid confusion during **State reorganisation**—like when they carved out **Punjab and Haryana**.

**Citizen:** These Old People are always up to something

## 19th Amendment, 1966 Let slow down Justice Train

**Citizen:** What's the surgery this time?

**Constitution:** They removed election disputes from Election Commission's hands.

**Citizen:** Given to whom?

**Constitution:** To the **High Courts**.

**Citizen:** I know ruling party don't share power so what were they up to then?

**Constitution:** Probably figured the best way to slow things down is through litigation. They're masters of delay—by the time High Court find out the

scam and the opposition get a verdict; the ruling party's term would already be over.



## 20th Amendment, 1966 Let's fix our mistake

**Citizen:** So, what constitutional drama now?

**Constitution:** A retrospective rescue operation—they validated judicial appointments made without proper warrants under Article 217.

**Citizen:** Wait, they broke the rules and then amended you to cover it up? Why?

**Constitution:** Because if they didn't, **every judgment** passed by those judges could be **struck down as void**.

**Citizen:** So instead of fixing the mess, they just legalised the mistake? And who created this mess?

**Constitution:** The **Executive**, by bypassing procedure. The **Judiciary**, by staying silent. And Parliament? It came with retroactive detergent.

## 21st Amendment, 1967 Language Politics

**Citizen:** Let me guess—they played with your soul again?

**Constitution:** Not this time. They just **added a new language** to the Eighth Schedule—**Sindhi**

**Citizen:** This seems harmless.

**Constitution:** Lets me explain the political science: Linguistic Politics of the 21st Amendment

The 21st Amendment (1967) added Sindhi to the Eighth Schedule, which lists the officially recognised languages of India.

While this may seem like a benign cultural gesture, language in post-independence India was deeply political. The States Reorganisation Act of 1956, based on linguistic lines, had already fragmented identities. But Sindhi posed a unique challenge—unlike other linguistic communities, Sindhis had no state of their own.

Following Partition, a large number of Sindhi Hindus migrated to India, particularly Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh.

They retained their cultural identity, but their linguistic status was precarious—neither tied to a territory nor recognised constitutionally.

The 21st Amendment was a symbolic rehabilitation—a way to tell the Sindhi community, “*You belong.*”

But it also sparked other communities to demand linguistic recognition, opening a quiet floodgate of identity-based constitutional negotiations—each one testing India’s federal cohesion

**Citizen:** Hm. I feel stupid.

## 22nd Amendment, 1969 Tribal Polity

**Citizen:** So, did they redraw your organs again?

**Constitution:** Not quite. This time they created space for “autonomous states” within existing states—especially for tribal regions in Assam. Ethnic tensions were rising in the Northeast, so they added Article 244A to let tribal areas have their own legislatures and councils—without making them full-fledged states.

**Citizen:** But why not give them statehood?

**Constitution:** Because Nagaland had already become a state in 1963, and others were watching closely. The Centre feared that fragmentation would accelerate if it conceded too easily. But eventually, demands intensified and Meghalaya was carved out of Assam in 1972.

## 23rd Amendment, 1969 Let’s remove the reservation in North-East

**Citizen:** Reservation surgery again?

**Constitution:** More like selective stitching. They ended reserved seats for Scheduled Tribes in Nagaland, and discontinued representation for the *Anglo-Indian community* in certain state legislatures.

**Citizen:** Why end tribal reservation in Nagaland of all places?

**Constitution:** Because the entire Nagaland Assembly was already tribal. Reserved seats were redundant—like putting a raincoat on a fish.

**Citizen:** And the Anglo-Indians?

**Constitution:** Their nominated seats in state assemblies were seen as tokenistic. So Parliament trimmed it—only Lok Sabha nominations stayed

## 25th Amendment, 1971 Let's reduce some property rights

**Citizen:** Let me guess—more surgery on my Fundamental Rights?

**Constitution:** You're catching on. This time, they curtailed the Right to Property.

**Citizen:** But wasn't Article 31 already under assault since the First Amendment?

**Constitution:** Indeed. But now they went further—replaced "compensation" with "amount" in Article 31(2).

**Citizen:** Semantic gymnastics?

**Constitution:** Strategic ambiguity. "*Compensation*" meant courts could check if it was fair. "*Amount*" meant whatever Parliament decides—non-justiciable.

**Citizen:** So now they can take land and pay peanuts—and courts must keep quiet?

**Constitution:** Exactly. Plus, they added **Article 31C**, saying if a law was made to implement Directive Principles, it couldn't be challenged for violating Fundamental Rights under **Articles 14 or 19**.

**Citizen:** fundamental rights took vacation.

## 26th Amendment, 1971 No More Prince business. We are the solo rulers now

**Citizen:** So, who did they come for this time?

**Constitution:** The princes. They finally abolished Privy Purses and derecognised India's Maharajas (over 30 princely states).

**Citizen:** Wait—I thought we were a republic since 1950?

**Constitution:** We were. But as a political compromise, the Constitution allowed princely families to keep their titles, privileges, and payments—called *Privy Purses*—under Articles 291 and 362.

**Citizen:** And now?

**Constitution:** Both Articles deleted. The President's recognition of princely rulers—gone. Their government-funded pensions—gone. Titles—abolished.

**Citizen:** So socialism returned from vacation?

**Constitution:** Briefly. But this was less about ideology—more about *political consolidation*. Indira Gandhi framed it as **abolishing inequality**, but it also helped *weaken a rival elite class*.



## 27th Amendment, 1971 North-East semi-statehood politics

**Citizen:** What's the script this time—more land drama?

**Constitution:** No, this time they upgraded the North-Eastern territories—specifically Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya, and Mizoram.

**Citizen:** Oh! So they got full statehood?

**Constitution:** Not quite. They became **Union Territories with legislatures**—a halfway house between colonial rule and democracy.

**Citizen:** So basically, they got voting rights without veto power?

**Constitution:** Precisely. Local governance was allowed, but **real power** stayed with the Centre. You could debate potholes, but not policy.

**Citizen:** Why not just give them full statehood?

## 28th Amendment, 1972 Let's high jack Executives' Freedom

**Citizen:** So, what did they delete this time?

**Constitution: Article 314**—special protections for British-era civil servants.

**Citizen:** Ah, the ICS elites. So finally, a democratic bureaucracy?

**Constitution:** In theory, yes. It levelled service conditions. No more colonial comfort cushions.

**Citizen:** But didn't that also open the door for **political interference**?

**Constitution:** Unfortunately, yes. Once the **constitutional shields were gone**, the civil service became **more vulnerable to political pressure**.

**Citizen:** So we traded British control for political control?

**Constitution:** In a sense. The amendment was a democratic correction, but it also left room for administrative compromise.

## 29th Amendment, 1972 Let's Throw Judiciary Out of Land

**Citizen:** Let me guess—more land reforms stuffed into the Ninth Schedule?

**Constitution:** Correct. **Two Kerala Acts** entered the Ninth Schedule with this amendment.

**Citizen:** Ostracising Judicial review?

**Constitution:** That's the idea. Once inside the **Ninth Schedule**, laws get immunity from being challenged on the basis of fundamental rights.

## 30th Amendment, 1972 Let's mess with Supreme Court's Front Door

**Citizen:** So, what got snipped this time?

**Constitution:** Article 133 was modified to adjust the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in civil cases; it raised the monetary threshold for appeals in civil matters to the Supreme Court—making it harder for cases to reach Delhi

**Citizen:** Sounds like a VIP lounge for litigation.

**Constitution:** Except, the common man had to settle outside the gate

## 31st Amendment, 1973 Let's add some more chair for our brothers

**Citizen:** What's the surgery this time—liposuction or expansion?

**Constitution:** Definitely expansion. They increased the maximum number of Lok Sabha seats from 525 to 545.

**Citizen:** Why? Were MPs feeling lonely?

**Constitution:** No. It was to accommodate population growth after the 1971 Census. More people, more seats—at least in theory. By freezing further delimitation until 2000 (and later, 2026)

**Citizen:** But they never increase Judges Chairs. Hu?

**Constitution:** Ah, now you're asking the **right uncomfortable question**

**Citizen:** So democracy got a bigger mouth but not enough ears to hear the grievances?

## 32nd Amendment, 1973 Let's demerge Telangana

**Citizen:** What's the new constitutional patch?

**Constitution:** They added **Article 371D and 371E**—special provisions for **Andhra Pradesh**.

**Citizen:** What's so special? A political spa day?

**Constitution:** No, it was to manage **Telangana's rising discontent** over jobs, education, and local opportunities after the Andhra–Telangana merger in 1956 but The Telangana movement reignited, and by 2014, the stitches came off. Telangana was carved out as India's 29th state

**Citizen:** The Political Flip-Flop.



## 33rd Amendment, 1974: Troublesome Political brotherhood

**Citizen:** What did they fix this time? Someone resign too fast?

**Constitution:** Exactly. This amendment made sure that when MPs or MLAs resign, they really mean it.

**Citizen:** So no more drunk resignations or emotional farewells?

**Constitution:** Not without a second thought. They amended **Articles 101 and 190** to say:

A resignation is valid only if the **Speaker or Chairman accepts it after verifying its genuineness and voluntariness.**

**Citizen:** That sounds like a break-up clause: “*Are you really sure it’s over?*”

## 34th Amendment, 9<sup>th</sup> Schedule: Let’s throw Judiciary out (again)

**Citizen:** Let me guess—they shoved more laws into the Ninth Schedule?

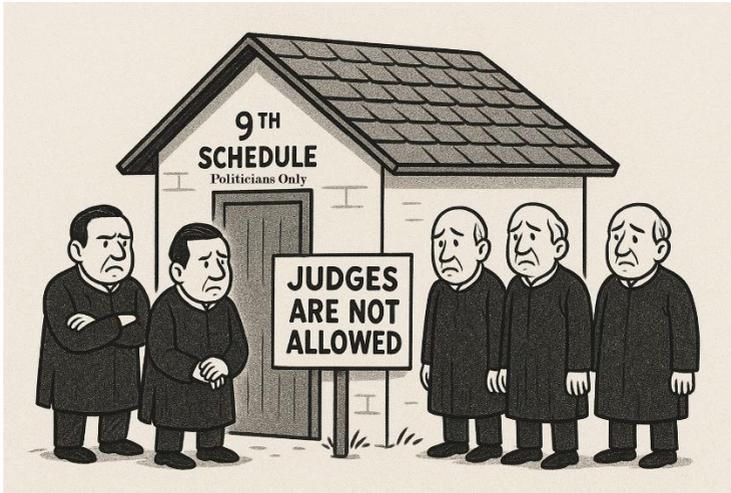
**Constitution:** You’re getting good at this. **Twenty more land reform laws** were added to the Ninth Schedule.

**Citizen:** So the idea was—put it in the Ninth Schedule, and courts can’t touch it?

**Constitution:** That was the game plan. These were mostly state laws on land ceilings and redistribution.

**Citizen:** But didn’t the courts start sniffing around even that sacred vault?

**Constitution:** Yes. **Post-Kesavananda Bharati (1973)**, even Ninth Schedule laws could be tested if they violated the basic structure, especially fundamental rights.



## 35th Amendment, 1974: Lets poke into Sikkim

**Citizen:** What now? Did they try to sneak in another state?

**Constitution:** Not quite. They gave **Sikkim** a special status—like an entry visa into India, but not full citizenship yet.

**Citizen:** And what about democracy there?

**Constitution:** It was still ruled by the monarchy. But local unrest and strategic concerns—China, remember? —pushed India to bring it closer

## 36th Amendment, 1975: Lets again poke into Sikkim

**Citizen:** So, did the trial run go well?

**Constitution:** Apparently so. India decided to stop dating and go for marriage—**Sikkim became a full-fledged state**. Expanded federalism—but also reflected centre-driven politics.

## 37th Amendment, 1975: Delhi Drama

**Citizen:** Finally! Did Delhi get its statehood?

**Constitution:** Not quite. Delhi became a Union Territory with a Legislative Assembly, but without full state powers.

**Citizen:** But why not just give Delhi full statehood?

**Constitution:** Because Delhi houses the **Union Government**—there were concerns about **conflict of power, security, and control**. Too much autonomy could interfere with national governance.

**Citizen:** So it was like—“*You can speak, but don’t shout.*”

**Constitution:** More like—“*You can suggest, but the Centre decides.*”

## 38th Amendment, 1975: Let’s Clip Judiciary wings a Bit

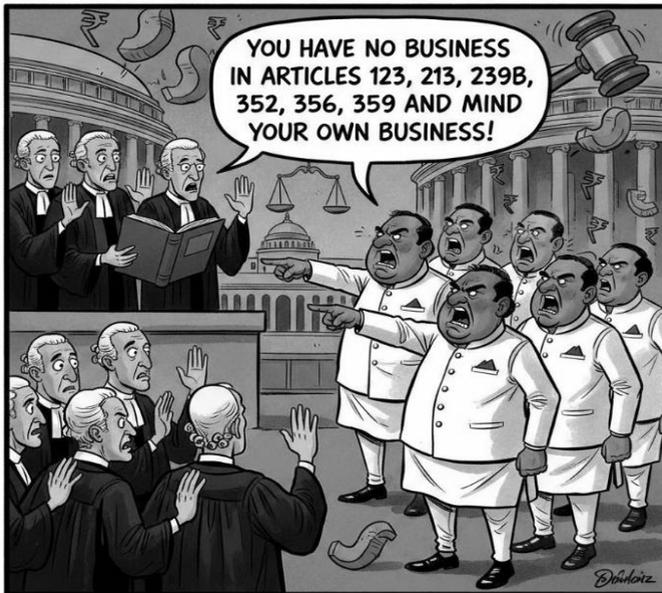
**Citizen:** So... what’s under the surgical knife now?

**Constitution:** They didn’t just cut—they sealed. This amendment barred courts from questioning Emergency proclamations and other executive decisions made under it, Amended Articles 123, 213, 239B, 352, 356, 359 and 360.

**Citizen:** Wait—so the government could declare an Emergency, suspend rights, and no one could challenge it?

**Constitution:** That’s what they wanted. It made Presidential satisfaction “final and conclusive”, meaning judicial review was shut out.

**Citizen:** Sounds like a dictatorship wrapped in procedure.



## 39th Amendment, 1975: Lets personalise our Constitution

**Citizen:** What's this—another Emergency stunt?

**Constitution:** Not just a stunt—this was a **personalised constitutional cover-up**.

**Citizen:** For whom?

**Constitution:** For the Prime Minister. Specifically, **Indira Gandhi**, whose election was invalidated by the Allahabad High Court on grounds of electoral malpractice.

**Citizen:** So instead of appealing the judgment, they changed the law?

**Constitution:** Worse. They amended the Constitution to say no court could hear disputes involving the election of the President, Vice-President, Prime Minister, or Speaker—only a body set up by Parliament could.

**Citizen:** Real Sweet.

## 40th Amendment, 1976: Lets loot some states' resources

**Citizen:** What now? More centralisation?

**Constitution:** Yes. This time, they expanded the Centre's control over natural resources—specifically, the seabed and offshore wealth.

**Citizen:** Good *Central Union Loot*.

**Constitution:** Exactly. They amended the First Schedule to the Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, EEZ and other Maritime Zones Act, giving exclusive rights to the Union over maritime resources.

**Citizen:** Let me guess—they also dumped more laws into the Ninth Schedule?

**Constitution:** You're sharp. Yes, **64 more laws** were shielded from **judicial review** by adding them to the **Ninth Schedule**—many relating to land and property acquisition

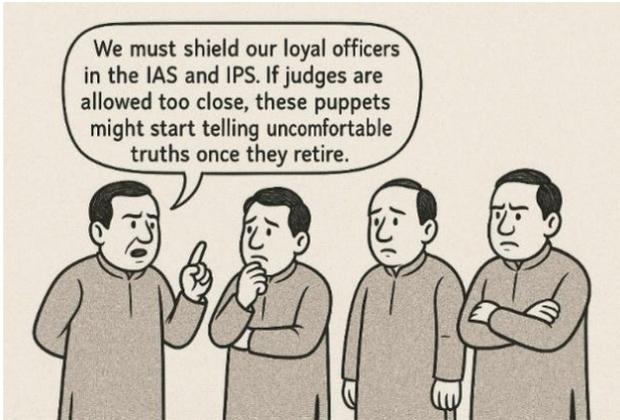
## 41st Amendment, 1976: We need to protect our loyal servant

**Citizen:** What now—pensions? Promotions?

**Constitution:** No. This one gave immunity to retired civil servants—from criminal proceedings for actions taken in official capacity, unless sanctioned by the government.

**Citizen:** Sounds like a bribe paid in legal language.

**Constitution:** It was called “**protection**”, but yes, in spirit—it allowed bureaucrats to act under Emergency diktats without fearing future consequences.



## 42nd Amendment, 1976 Major Bypass surgery in the Heart of Constitution.

**Citizen:** Okay, what did they do now—rewrite the whole thing?

**Constitution:** Almost. They amended **over 50 Articles**, curtailed the judiciary, glorified Parliamentary supremacy, and inserted new ideologies—all in one go.

**Citizen:** That sounds like a coup in constitutional language.

**Constitution:** It was. They consolidated power in the executive and rewrote key democratic ideals—separation of powers, fundamental rights, judicial review, and even federalism. President was made ceremonial guest.

**Citizen:** So, they sent you on complete Life Support in ICU.



## 43rd Amendment, 1977 Some healing needs to be done

**Citizen:** Did the Constitution finally get some stitches removed?

**Constitution:** Yes, this was the beginning of healing. The 43rd Amendment repealed many provisions of the 42nd Amendment—especially those that had crippled judicial independence and fundamental rights.

**Citizen:** So it wasn't perfect, but at least they acknowledged the wrongs.

**Constitution:** Yes, the 43rd was like a political apology—signed in law.

## 44th Amendment, 1978: Some more healing

**Citizen:** And this one?

**Constitution:** The 44th Amendment was the real guardian. It overturned the most dangerous Emergency-era distortions and added new safeguards to prevent future abuses. Restored Article 21: Personal liberty could no longer be suspended during Emergency. Made it harder to declare Emergency: Required written Cabinet approval, not just PM's discretion.

**Citizen:** So, a correction to the constitutional sins of the past?

**Constitution:** A repentance in law, yes. But the scars remain. The ease with which the 42nd Amendment passed taught us that democracy can be fragile—unless **citizens stay vigilant**.

## 45th Amendment Act, 1980: Let's play Some Reservation Game

**Citizen:** So what got extended this time—terms? taxes?

**Constitution:** Reservation of seats in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).

**Citizen:** Again? Weren't these supposed to be temporary—just 10 years from 1950?

**Constitution:** That was the original idea. But in practice, the social and political inequalities hadn't gone away. So this amendment extended reservations by **another 10 years**—till **1990**

## 46th Amendment Act, 1982 problem with definition of sales

**Citizen:** What now—did they start taxing air?

**Constitution:** Not air, but they began taxing what they called “**deemed sales**”—transactions that didn't look like sales but functioned like one.

**Citizen:** Sounds like they were losing revenue and patched the hole?

**Constitution:** Precisely. The Supreme Court had held that certain transactions—like works contracts, catering, leasing—were not 'sales' under the Constitution, and therefore not taxable under State sales tax **laws**.

**Citizen:** So, this amendment was a rescue mission—for the taxmen?

**Citizen:** So the judiciary tried to be strict with the definition of “sale,” and the legislature just said, “We'll redefine sale”?

**Constitution:** Exactly. The Amendment gave **legal cover** to what the courts had previously struck down—an assertive move by the legislative wing

## 47th Amendment Act, 1984 let's Clip judiciary wings again

**Citizen:** Wait—not the Ninth Schedule again?

**Constitution:** Yes, they used it again. **14 more laws**, mostly relating to agriculture and land ceilings, were added.

**Citizen:** Why not just make better laws instead of hiding them behind the Constitution?

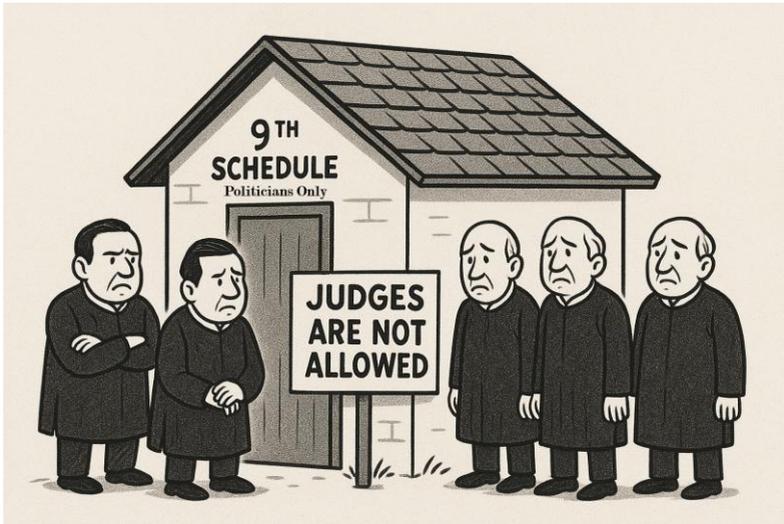
**Constitution:** Because many of these laws violated Fundamental Rights—particularly Article 14 (equality) and Article 19 (freedom to hold property, at the time). Putting them in the Ninth Schedule under Article 31B meant courts couldn't strike them down.

**Citizen:** So land reform became untouchable?

**Constitution:** In theory, yes. But in **2007**, the Supreme Court in the **I.R. Coelho case** ruled that even Ninth Schedule laws are not immune if they violate the basic structure.

**Citizen:** So, this Amendment used the Constitution to bypass the Constitution?

**Constitution:** That's the paradox. It tried to enforce **economic justice** by diluting legal scrutiny—an uncomfortable balance between equality and legality.



47<sup>th</sup> Surgery (more items in 9<sup>th</sup> Schedule)

## 48th Amendment Act, 1984 President rule in Punjab

**Citizen:** Let me guess—they suspended democracy again?

**Constitution:** In a way. This amendment was tailor-made to prolong President's Rule in Punjab beyond the standard one-year period allowed under Article 356

## 49th Amendment Act, 1984 Tripura Tribal Governance

**Citizen:** So, what now—another land law?

**Constitution:** Not quite. This time, it was about tribal self-governance. The amendment gave constitutional recognition to the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) by bringing it under Sixth Schedule protections.

**Citizen:** Sixth Schedule—that's the one for tribal autonomy in the Northeast, right?

**Constitution:** Correct. It had earlier applied only to Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Tripura, but Tripura's autonomous council wasn't under it until now.

## 50th Amendment Act, 1984. Let's silence Democracy

**Citizen:** Lemme guess—this one limit rights again?

**Constitution:** Only for those in **uniform or secret roles**—armed forces, paramilitary, police, intelligence agencies.

**Citizen:** But don't they already operate under strict codes?



## 51st Amendment Act, 1984: Reservation in North-East

**Citizen:** So, what's the story this time?

**Constitution:** They reserved parliamentary and assembly seats for Scheduled Tribes in Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, and Mizoram.

**Citizen:** Took them long enough. Weren't these regions always tribal-dominated?

**Constitution:** They were. But no specific constitutional guarantee was made earlier for political reservation like in other states.

## 52nd Amendment Act, 1985 Anti-Defection Law: Loyalty to Party, Not to People?

**Citizen:** So what's this one about? Another patchwork on democracy?

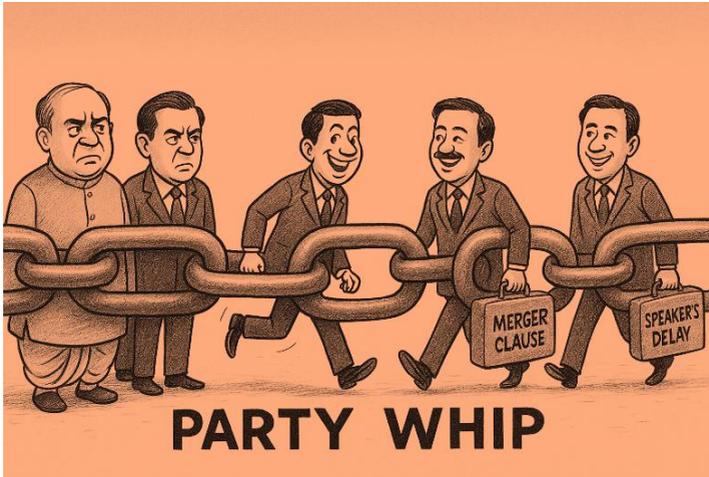
**Constitution:** This time, it was more like installing a shock collar on elected representatives. The Tenth Schedule was added—famously known as the *Anti-Defection Law*.

**Citizen:** To stop politicians from switching parties?

**Constitution:** Yes. It disqualified any legislator who voluntarily gave up party membership or voted against party directions—even if the vote was on a matter of personal conviction.

**Citizen:** So in simple language—if an MP doesn't obey the party whip, they're out?

**Constitution:** Exactly. It made loyalty to the party more important than loyalty to the public or even to the Constitution



## 53rd Amendment Act, 1986 The Birth of Mizoram

**Citizen:** So, did they amend me this time for another power grab?

**Constitution:** For once—no. This one was born out of a peace deal, not politics. The Mizo Peace Accord of 1986.

**Citizen:** A constitutional amendment for peace? That's a twist.

**Constitution:** Yes. It granted **statehood to Mizoram**, transforming it from a Union Territory to the 23rd state of India

## 54th Amendment Act, 1986 Justice Has a Pay Scale

**Citizen:** So, a salary revision? That's all?

**Constitution:** Yes, but don't underestimate it. The amendment revised the pay structure of Supreme Court and High Court judges.

**Citizen:** Why did it need an amendment?

**Constitution:** Because judges' salaries are protected under Articles 125 and 221. You can't just tweak them by executive order—it needs a constitutional mandate.

## 55th Amendment Act, 1986 Arunachal Pradesh: From Frontier to Constitutionally Protected Identity

**Citizen:** Let me guess—another northeast peace offering?

**Constitution:** You're right, though this one wasn't born out of insurgency. It was about giving institutional recognition and cultural protection to Arunachal Pradesh before it became a state.

**Citizen:** So they didn't get full statehood yet?

**Constitution:** Not in this amendment. That came with the **Statehood Act** in 1987. The 55th amendment was about laying the constitutional groundwork

## 56th Amendment Act, 1987 Goa: From Colonial Past to Constitutional Present

**Citizen:** Ah! Goa—finally done partying and ready for paperwork?

**Constitution:** Yes. Goa went from Portuguese province to Indian state. After 26 years as a Union Territory, **Goa** became the 25th state of India through this amendment.

## 57th Amendment Act, 1987 Representation Became Preservation

**Citizen:** What was the emergency this time—votes or voices?

**Constitution:** Voices. Specifically, those of Scheduled Tribes in the North-Eastern states. Their reservation in Legislative Assemblies was about to expire.

**Citizen:** Wait, reservation in states where tribals are a majority?

**Constitution:** Yes. Even in tribal-majority regions, political safeguards are needed to prevent marginalisation in the name of development or majoritarianism. Amended **Article 332** to ensure reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes in Legislative Assemblies Of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram Nagaland

## 58th Amendment Act, 1987 Constitution in Hindi

**Citizen:** So what did they tweak this time—law or language?

**Constitution:** Language. For the first time since 1950, I was **officially** translated into Hindi—the version with legal sanctity, not just a rough translation.

**Citizen:** Took them nearly 40 years?

**Constitution:** Translating legal text is no joke. It took time to ensure accuracy, nuance, and constitutional integrity in Hindi.

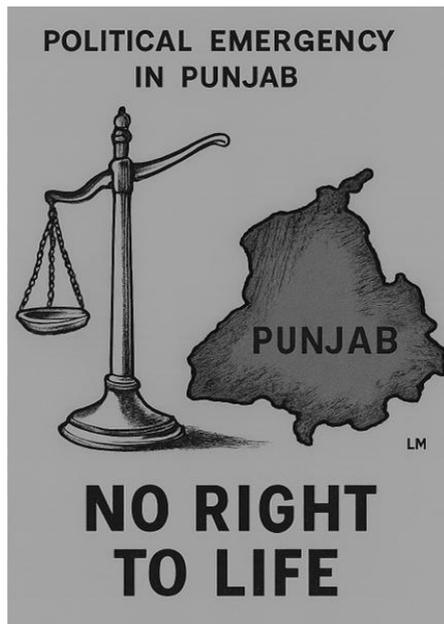
**Citizen:** But wasn't that ironic? A Constitution for Indians, in a language most Indians couldn't understand?

**Constitution:** (sighs) A bit harsh, but not untrue. In 1950, English was the only working legal language at the national level. Hindi and other languages hadn't yet been given formal legal footing. The Constituent Assembly worked in English, the courts functioned in English, and administrative governance ran in English too.

## 59th Amendment Act, 1988 Emergency in Punjab

**Citizen:** What now—another national crisis?

**Constitution:** More like a regional one. **Punjab** was in deep turmoil—militancy, separatism, and violence. So they brought in Emergency-style powers, just for Punjab. For the first time ever, the right to life under Article 21 could be suspended—even during this regional emergency. They amended Article 356 (president's power) to allow Emergency to be declared specifically for Punjab, even without the usual parliamentary time limit.



59<sup>th</sup> Surgery on Constitution

## 60th Amendment Act, 1988 When the Profession Tax Got a Raise

**Citizen:** Finally—no Emergency, no land grabs, no suspended rights. What's the surgery this time?

**Constitution:** Just a good old-fashioned **tax hike**—they raised the cap on profession tax from ₹250 to ₹2,500.

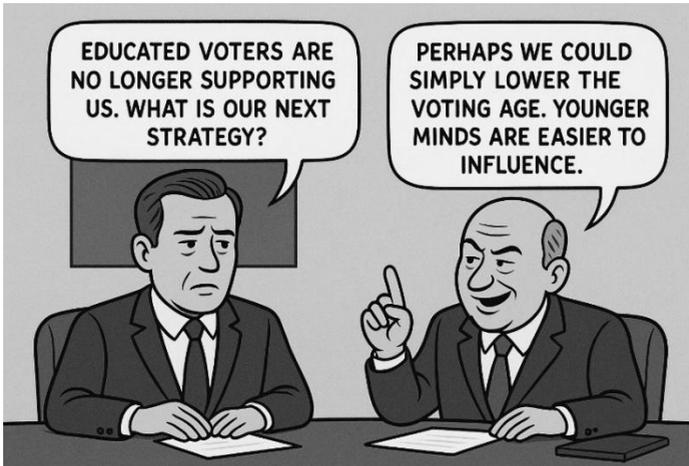
**Citizen:** So, working-class people now had to pay more... for working?

**Constitution:** Yes—but the ceiling wasn't automatic. States had the power, not the obligation. Many still charge far less than ₹2,500

## 61st Amendment Act, 1988 Need More Voters!

**Citizen:** This better not be another tax or emergency.

**Constitution:** Not this time. This one was hopeful. Voting age was lowered from 21 to 18 years.



## 62nd Amendment Act, 1989 Extending the Voice of the Voiceless

**Citizen:** So, what are they stretching this time?

**Constitution:** The reservations of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies were about to expire. So they extended it.

**Citizen:** How long had they planned it to last originally?

**Constitution:** Just 10 years from the commencement of the Constitution—which would’ve ended in 1960. But they kept extending it, and this was the **sixth time**

## 63rd Amendment Act, 1989 Repealing the Ghost of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Amendment

**Citizen:** What’s this—cleaning up old messes?

**Constitution:** Yes. They finally **repealed Article 31D**, a leftover from the 42nd Amendment, which allowed Parliament to make laws against so-called “anti-national activities.

## 64th Amendment Act, 1990 Emergency Continues in Punjab

**Citizen:** Another Emergency-era hangover?

**Constitution:** In a way. President’s Rule in Punjab was extended beyond the constitutional limit. Amended Article 356 (in effect) to allow President’s Rule in Punjab beyond one year, up to three years. Required Parliament’s approval every 6 months.

## 65th Amendment Act, 1990 Empowering the Watchdogs of Justice to Watch

**Citizen:** And this one? A balancing act?

**Constitution:** Yes. It gave a constitutional upgrade to the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

**Citizen:** Finally treating watchdogs like watchdogs?

**Constitution:** Exactly. From a **statutory body to a constitutional one**—with real powers of investigation and oversight

## 66th Amendment Act, 1990. The Ninth Schedule

**Citizen:** Let me guess—they pushed more land laws into the Ninth Schedule?

**Constitution:** You're getting sharp. Yes—**55 State laws** were added to the Ninth Schedule to protect them from being challenged in courts.

**Citizen:** Still hiding laws behind that magic curtain?

**Constitution:** That was the idea. After the courts began striking down land reform laws for violating **Fundamental Rights**, Parliament kept moving them to this "safe zone."

## 67th Amendment Act, 1990 Punjab: Democracy on flight mode—Again

**Citizen:** Again, with Punjab? Didn't we already do this in the 64th?

**Constitution:** We did. But even after that, the situation remained volatile. So, they extended President's Rule yet again—for a fourth year

**Citizen:** But the Constitution limits it to three years under Article 356!

**Constitution:** Precisely. So, they had to amend the Constitution to make an exception—again

## 68th Amendment Act, 1991 Jammu & Kashmir Joins the Emergency League

**Citizen:** Don't tell me—more President's Rule?

**Constitution:** Yes. This time, the theatre shifted to Jammu & Kashmir. President's Rule was extended beyond the one-year limit, just like in Punjab.

**Citizen:** What was the excuse this time?

**Constitution:** The rising insurgency in Kashmir in the late '80s and early '90s had created a complete breakdown of law and order. The Centre said elections weren't possible.

## 69th Amendment Act, 1991 Delhi: A Capital with a Government (Almost)

**Citizen:** So, Delhi finally got promoted to a State?

**Constitution:** Not quite. They gave it a Legislative Assembly, a Council of Ministers, and renamed it the National Capital Territory of Delhi. But they made sure the Lieutenant Governor stayed boss. Delhi became half-democratic—with elected leaders but a centrally appointed guardian.

**Citizen:** So the people vote, but the real power still lives in North Block?

**Constitution:** That's the paradox. Delhi got a voice—but not the final say.

**Citizen:** No wonder the courts keep hearing Delhi vs Centre cases.

## 70th Amendment Act, 1992 Delhi and Puducherry Enter the Presidential Polls

**Citizen:** So Delhi gets half-state powers—but do they also get to vote for the President?

**Constitution:** That's what this amendment fixed. It allowed the elected MLAs of Delhi and Puducherry to participate in the Presidential election.

**Citizen:** Took them over 40 years to realise that.

## 71st Amendment Act, 1992 More Voices, More Languages, More Politics

**Citizen:** So, what did they tweak this time—grammar?

**Constitution:** No. They **added three new languages** to the **Eighth Schedule—Konkani, Manipuri, and Nepali.**

**Citizen:** That's cultural inclusion, right?

**Constitution:** Exactly. It was a response **to linguistic identity movements** and long-standing demands from these communities for recognition at the national level.

## 72nd Amendment Act, 1992 Tribal Autonomy in Tripura

**Citizen:** So what's the deal this time? Another reservation?

**Constitution:** Yes—this time for the Scheduled Tribes in Tripura. They gave reservation of seats in the State Legislative Assembly to protect their political voice.

**Citizen:** Why Tripura specifically?

**Constitution:** Post-partition migration drastically altered Tripura's demographics. Indigenous tribes became minorities in their own land. There was rising **ethnic tension**, and the government wanted to calm it

## 73rd Amendment Act, 1992 Panchayati Raj

**Citizen:** Let me guess—finally remembered the villages?

**Constitution:** Precisely. This amendment gave **constitutional status** to **Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)**—village-level self-governance.

**Citizen:** Took them 42 years to act on Gandhiji's idea of Gram Swaraj? And what about Fund?

**Constitution:** That's the irony. They gave Panchayats the responsibility, but not always the revenue. States still hold the purse strings

**Citizen:** So, great power with great responsibility... but no cheque book?

## 74th Amendment Act, 1992 Urban Local Bodies

**Citizen:** So now they remembered cities too?

**Constitution:** Yes. After empowering the villages, they thought, “*Why not do the same for municipalities?*” And thus, the Urban Local Bodies were born—constitutionally. Defined three types of municipalities:

Nagar Panchayat (for transitional areas), Municipal Council (for smaller urban areas), Municipal Corporation (for larger cities).

**Citizen:** So cities got a voice—but did they get control?

**Constitution:** Not exactly. Elected mayors are often weaker than appointed commissioners.

**Citizen:** So it's like a reality show—looks democratic, but the script is written elsewhere.

**Constitution:** Well said. Urban governance in India is democracy with a glass ceiling

## 75th Amendment Act, 1994 Lets high jack judiciary—Tribunals

**Citizen:** So, what's this one about—some rent drama?

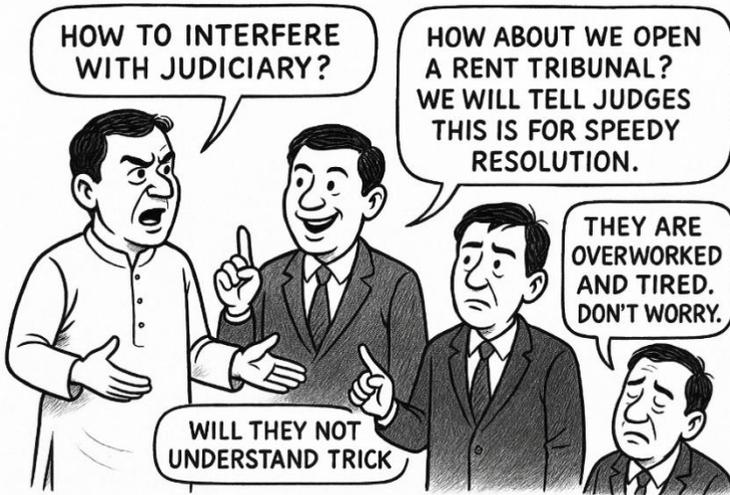
**Constitution:** Exactly. It empowered Parliament to set up **Rent Tribunals** for speedy disposal of disputes between **tenants and landlords**.

**Citizen:** Why tribunals? Were courts too slow? Why not hire more judges?

**Constitution:** That would've been the logical fix. But they prefer creating new institutions instead of strengthening existing ones.

**Citizen:** This also brought judicial members appointed by executive branch. High Jacking the Judicial independence and Judiciary was blind to see that.

**Constitution:** You can say that. **Justice: executive edition.**



## 76th Amendment Act, 1994 Tamil Nadu's 69% Reservation

**Citizen:** So, who pushed the ceiling this time?

**Constitution:** Tamil Nadu. They wanted **69% reservation**—far above the **Supreme Court's 50% limit** in the *Indra Sawhney* case.

**Citizen:** But wasn't the 50% cap part of the **basic structure** doctrine?

**Constitution:** Yes, the judiciary made it clear. But Tamil Nadu passed a state law, and then got it **inserted into the Ninth Schedule** through this amendment

**Citizen:** Nice.

## 77th Amendment Act, 1995 Reservation in Promotion

**Citizen:** Wait, I thought the Supreme Court said no reservation in promotions?

**Constitution:** It did—in *Indra Sawhney (1992)*. The Court said reservation must stop at entry-level, not during promotions.

**Citizen:** So what did they do?

**Constitution:** They added a clause to Article 16(4A), giving Parliament the power to allow reservation in promotions for SCs and STs.

**Citizen:** How those old people get all these brilliant ideas?

**Constitution:** Their friend Attorney-General.

**Citizen:** So now the Constitution became a **ladder**, not just for climbing jobs, but for climbing around judicial pronouncements?

**Constitution:** A ladder, a loophole, and often—a **lifeboat in election season**

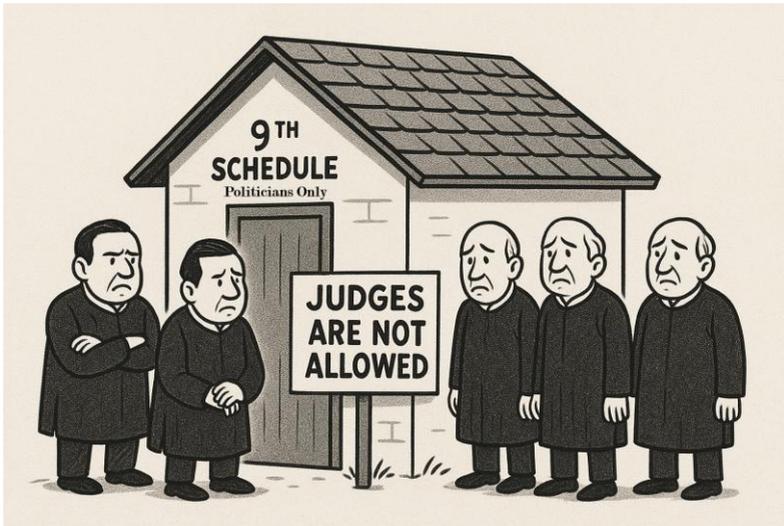
## 78th Amendment Act, 1995 More Laws Sheltered Under the Ninth Schedule

**Citizen:** Let me guess... more laws locked away in the Ninth Schedule?

**Constitution:** You're learning fast. This time, **27 state laws** were added—mostly related to land reforms and tenancy

**Citizen:** So in simple words—if a law is questionable, just dump it into the Ninth Schedule and say Namaste to courts?

**Constitution:** Precisely. Until *I.R. Coelho* came along and said, "Not so fast."



More Item in 9<sup>th</sup> Schedule

## 79th Amendment Act, 1999 Political Reservations: Extended, again (and again... and again)

**Citizen:** Don't tell me—*again* reservation of seats for SCs and STs?

**Constitution:** Yes. This was the **9th extension** of **Article 334**, pushing the deadline from **50 to 60 years** since commencement

**Citizen:** Lets move to the next. I am getting tired of this Demo Drama

## 80th Amendment Act, 2000 A New Deal for Tax Sharing

**Citizen:** So what's the drama now—some economic adjustment?

**Constitution:** More like **financial engineering**. The Centre and States agreed to a new tax-sharing formula, so this amendment gave it constitutional teeth.

**Citizen:** Wait, they had to amend the Constitution for that?

**Constitution:** Yes. They deleted specific references to Union taxes in Article 269 and 270 and replaced it with a broad reference to "all taxes and duties referred to in the Union List."

**Citizen:** So Centre said, "I'll give you your share," but only after I constitutionalise it?

**Constitution:** That's the Indian version of federalism—formal, fiscal, and often force-fed

## 81st Amendment Act, 2000 “Backlog Reservation”: When Vacancies Start Piling, Amend the Constitution

**Citizen:** What now? Another reservation twist?

**Constitution:** This time, they noticed that SC/ST posts in government weren't getting filled. So instead of fixing the recruitment system, they decided to **carry forward the unfilled quota**—by law.

**Citizen:** So... reservations were not being utilised, and instead of asking why, they just made a reservation stockroom?

**Constitution:** Exactly. They added a **proviso to Article 16(4B)**. It says: unfilled reserved posts can be carried forward and won't be counted in the ceiling of 50%

**Citizen:** But this would someday mean that all post and position is for SC and ST

**Constitution:** Potentially yes—if vacancies remain and political will aligns with electoral math. But they called it “corrective justice.”



## 82nd Amendment Act, 2000 Minimum Qualification for SC/ST Promotion

**Constitution:** They added a line to let the government **relax minimum qualifying marks and evaluation standards** for SCs and STs in promotions.

**Citizen:** So if you don't qualify, the system will lower the bar for you?

**Constitution:** That's the idea. After the **Indra Sawhney case (1992)**, promotion-based reservations took a hit. This was Parliament's way of saying, “*Judiciary, we'll take it from here.*”



### **83rd Amendment Act, 2000 “Reservation Where Everyone’s Already Reserved”**

The 83rd Amendment, 2000, was one of those rare moments when Parliament applied basic logic. It exempted Arunachal Pradesh from the obligation to reserve seats for Scheduled Castes in panchayat elections. Why? Because the state hardly has any Scheduled Caste population to begin with—it's predominantly inhabited by Scheduled Tribes. So mandating SC reservation there would've been like setting aside fish tanks in a desert



## 84th Amendment Act, 2001: New Census

The 84th Amendment Act, 2001, was Parliament's way of freezing time—at least for electoral boundaries. *It deferred any fresh delimitation of constituencies based on the 2001 Census* until after the first Census post-2026. The idea? To avoid penalising states that had successfully controlled their population growth. Because if constituencies were redrawn based on updated numbers, states with better family planning would lose seats while more populous ones would gain. So instead of fixing the imbalance, they just pressed pause on representation logic. Democracy stayed put, while the population kept marching on.

## 85th Amendment Act, 2001: Reservation Gimmick

this time in favour of government employees from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It amended Article 16(4A) to allow not just reservation in promotions, but also **retrospective seniority**. In plain terms, if you were promoted under the reservation quota, you could now claim seniority from the date your junior general-category colleague got promoted. This move added fuel to the already heated debate on merit vs. social justice, making the promotion ladder look more like a reservation escalator—with some climbing faster, backward.

## 86th Amendment Act, 2002 A Moral Education, Not the Real One

The 86th Amendment Act, 2002, was the moment when the Constitution decided that education shouldn't be a luxury—it should be a **fundamental right**. It inserted **Article 21A**, making free and compulsory education a right for all children aged 6 to 14. Sounds noble? It is. But the catch lies in the fine print—no clear roadmap on infrastructure, teacher training, or funding. It also added **Clause (k) to Article 51A**, telling parents to send their kids to school, as if mere moral obligation would fix systemic gaps. So yes, education was made a right—but without ensuring the tools to make that right meaningful. A promise inked in law, yet often lost in classrooms without walls.

We must announce that education is a fundamental right. People love it when we talk about rights.

Lovely. And about those vacant school buildings we're planning to convert into party offices?



Ah, relax. The 'education' part will remain in the Constitution



*Sank Politician*

## 87th Amendment Act, 2003 Map Adjustment

The 87th Amendment Act, 2003, was like adjusting the seating chart without changing the size of the room. It updated the **readjustment of parliamentary and assembly constituencies** based on the **2001 Census**, but only for the purpose of **rationalising seat boundaries**—not increasing the number of seats. This was a cosmetic surgery for electoral maps: constituencies got reshaped, but no new voices got added. It was part of the larger freeze on expanding representation until after 2026. So the population kept growing, but the number of chairs around the democratic table stayed exactly the same—just shuffled around.

## 88th Amendment Act, 2003 Who does not like more tax

The 88th Amendment Act, 2003, was Parliament’s way of giving the Centre a new piggy bank—it introduced **Article 268A**, empowering the Union to **levy service tax** and distribute it between the Centre and the States. Until then, the Constitution wasn’t very clear on who could tax services, since it only mentioned goods. But as India’s economy shifted from factories to services, the taxman wanted his share. So, a whole new entry—**Entry 92C**—was added to the Union List. It was less about constitutional clarity and more about fiscal creativity. In short, when in doubt, amend—and tax.

## 89th Amendment Act, 2003 2 is better than 1 for election

The 89th Amendment Act, 2003, was a bureaucratic shuffle wrapped in social justice. It **split the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and**

**Scheduled Tribes into two separate bodies**—one for SCs and one for STs. The logic? Their issues are different enough to deserve individual attention. So Article 338 was tweaked for the SC Commission, and 338A was inserted for the newly formed ST Commission. Whether this division led to better representation or just doubled the paperwork is still up for debate. But in classic style, instead of strengthening one institution, they just created two—and hoped for double the justice.

## 90th Amendment Act, 2003 More Reservation

The 90th Amendment Act, 2003, was a surgical strike in the electoral domain—targeting **bodoland politics** in Assam. It amended **Article 332** to ensure **reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes in the newly created Bodoland Territorial Areas District (BTAD)** within the State Assembly. The Bodo movement had long demanded autonomy, and this was part of the peace deal to calm the political storm. So, in essence, the amendment carved out a special reservation policy within an already existing reservation framework. It was democracy's way of negotiating peace—by offering seats instead of solutions



## 91st Amendment Act, 2003 Brilliant Politicians

The 91st Amendment Act, 2003, was Parliament's attempt to clean up the mess it had made—or at least appear to. It **capped the size of the Council of Ministers** at the Centre and in States to **15% of the total members of the House** (with a minimum of 12), inserting **Article 75(1A)** and **164(1A)**. More importantly, it **disqualified defectors** even if they were part of a split faction—effectively **abolishing the loophole of "one-third split"** under the Tenth Schedule.

In short, it tried to end the great Indian game of political musical chairs. But while the amendment tightened the legal bolts, the political circus just found new tricks (Two-Thirds Merger).

**Citizen:** What is this trick?

**Constitution:** Let me help you-

### New Trick 1: Two-Thirds Merger

Allowed by law: If **two-thirds** of a party's members switch sides together, it's called a *merger*, not *defection*—so no disqualification.

**What they do:** Instead of a few members defecting, they make sure a **big group—exactly two-thirds—leaves together** to join another party.

### New Trick 2: Resignation Game

**What they do:**

- Politicians **resign** just before a crucial vote (like a no-confidence vote).
- The **Speaker delays** accepting the resignations.
- Meanwhile, the government falls or forms.
- Later, the resigned members **contest by-elections** and **return** to the Assembly—now as part of the ruling party.

Not technically defection.

But it **kills the spirit of anti-defection law**.

### **New Trick 3: Speaker Delay Tactic**

- The **Speaker**, who belongs to the ruling party, **doesn't take action** on disqualification petitions quickly.
- This lets defectors **remain MLAs/MPs** and **vote**, helping change governments.
- By the time the Speaker acts, the damage is done.

#### **Result:**

Old trick (1/3 split) blocked.

New tricks (2/3 merger, resignation, delay) **became the loophole path to power**

**Citizen:** Clever politicians! Next?

## 92nd Amendment Act, 2003 Adding more languages

This amendment added four more languages to the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution: Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, and Santhali, raising the total from 18 to 22 scheduled languages.

At first glance, it looks cultural, not political. But in a country like India, language is power—power to demand education, official communication, and even political recognition. Adding a language to the Eighth Schedule means it can now be used in official exams, Parliamentary business, and administrative matters—a silent step toward decentralised linguistic dignity.

## 93rd Amendment Act, 2005 Reservation Enters Private Schools



This amendment inserted Clause (5) in Article 15, allowing the State to make special provisions for the advancement of socially and educationally backward classes, SCs, and STs in private educational institutions, whether aided or unaided—except minority institutions.

**Citizen:** What about the school fees? Did they reduce that too?

**Constitution** (sighs): Of course not. They just reserved the seats, not subsidised the burden. It didn't address the elephant in the classroom: the skyrocketing fees.

## 94th Amendment Act, 2006: Bihar & Jharkhand

The 94th Amendment was a housekeeping act with political undertones. It amended the First Schedule of the Constitution to allow a separate Minister for Tribal Welfare in the newly formed State of Chhattisgarh, just like existing provisions for Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh.

At the same time, it removed Bihar from the list of states mandated to have a separate Minister for Tribal Welfare. Why? Because after the creation of Jharkhand in 2000, most of Bihar's tribal regions—and tribal population—went to Jharkhand. So, Bihar no longer needed a dedicated tribal welfare minister under constitutional compulsion.

### **95th Amendment Act, 2009** *Reservation's Deadline Gets Another Extension*

The 95th Amendment extended the reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and representation of the Anglo-Indian community in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies for another 10 years, until January 25, 2020.

**Citizen:** Not interested in this demo drama anymore. Politicians are only smart when it comes to Party and Politics but when it comes to social-economical reform they are “Judagu Expert”

**Constitution:** Yes, politicians are indeed “Judagu Experts”—they know how to buy time, manipulate delay, and engineer consensus only when it serves their end. But when the issue is economic inequality, land reforms, education equity, or judicial accountability, suddenly it's all committees, consultations, and status quo.



## 96th Amendment Act, 2011 *A Language Correction*

This amendment was as harmless as a grammar fix—but still constitutionally significant. It changed the spelling of the word “Oriya” to “Odia” in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, acknowledging the correct native pronunciation of the language spoken in the State of Odisha

## 97th Amendment Act, 2011 Co-operatives Get Constitutional Spotlight

The 97th Amendment gave co-operative societies their long-overdue constitutional promotion. It inserted “co-operatives” into Article 19(1)(c)—making the right to form co-operative societies a fundamental right, alongside associations and unions.

Sounds good? In theory, yes. But in 2021, the Supreme Court partially struck it down, saying that states have exclusive power over co-operatives, and the Centre cannot bulldoze its way into local governance without state ratification.

**Citizen:** Centre has high Jacked Tax, they have high jacked mineral resources, they have high jacked inter-state commerce and Supreme Court is thinking co-operative society?

**Constitution:** May be there were just trying to show off-.in any manner, most of the co-operative societies are in ICU.

## 98th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2012

### *Another Political Stunt*

The 98th Amendment was all set to grant constitutional status to the Special Provision for the Hyderabad-Karnataka Region (now called Kalyana Karnataka) by inserting Article 371J. It aimed to bring regional equality by creating a separate development board, reserving jobs in local public employment and seats in educational institutions for locals.

## 99th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2014

### The NJAC Saga – When Judges and Politicians Fought



This amendment was a dramatic attempt to replace the opaque Collegium system of judicial appointments with the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) — a body where the executive and judiciary would supposedly collaborate to select judges to the higher judiciary.

In 2015, the Supreme Court struck down the amendment in the landmark Fourth Judges Case, calling it a threat to judicial independence. The verdict declared the NJAC unconstitutional and reaffirmed the Collegium system, ironically strengthening what many believed was already a flawed process.

So, the 99th Amendment became a **constitutional ghost** — passed by Parliament and ratified by the states, but buried by the judiciary

## **100th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2015** *When Borders Shifted, But People Remained Caught in Between*

The 100th Amendment wasn't about rights, elections, or reservations—it was about correcting a 70-year-old cartographic headache. It gave constitutional backing to the India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, facilitating the exchange of 162 enclaves—111 in India and 51 in Bangladesh.

This amendment altered the First Schedule of the Constitution to reflect new international borders. It wasn't dramatic in rhetoric, but profound in humanitarian impact—finally giving people an official home after decades of limbo.

**Citizen:** I am sure politicians finally saw the New Vote opportunity.

## 101st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2016

### The Great Indian Tax Rewire— “One Nation, Many Headaches”

This amendment introduced the much-hyped Goods and Services Tax (GST)—a single indirect tax replacing a tangled web of central and state taxes like VAT, excise, service tax, octroi, and more. It amended Articles 246A, 269A, and 279A, and added the GST Council—a new federal body to recommend rates and policies.

The promise? **“One Nation, One Tax.”**

The reality? **“One Nation, Endless Notifications.”**

**Citizen:** One pillar of Federalism is down completely.

**Constitution:** Yes, It was less about simplification, more about centralisation.

## 102nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2018

### National Commission for Backward Classes

This amendment gave constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) under Article 338B—putting it on par with the SC and ST Commissions. It could now directly investigate complaints, advise on inclusion/exclusion in the OBC list, and monitor welfare schemes.

## 103rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019

### The Economically Weaker Section (EWS) Formula”

For the first time since Independence, economic criteria, not caste or community, became the basis for 10% reservation in education and public employment. This amendment inserted Articles 15(6) and 16(6), carving out a separate quota for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) among the general (non-SC/ST/OBC) category.



### 104th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2020 End of the Line: Goodbye to Anglo-Indian Reservations

This amendment quietly removed the provision for nominating Anglo-Indians to the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies, which had been there since the Constitution's inception under Articles 331 and 333. It also extended the reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha and State Legislatures for another 10 years—till 2030.

The logic? The Anglo-Indian community was now considered to have "assimilated sufficiently" and no longer needed a special seat. But the abrupt removal without much consultation raised eyebrows about representation being treated as a toggle switch.

### **105th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2021** *“Reservation Power Tug-of-War: Centre vs States*

After the Supreme Court's ruling in the Maratha reservation case (2021) limited states' powers to identify socially and educationally backward classes (SEBCs), Parliament rushed to pass this amendment. It clarified that states and Union Territories have the power to maintain their own SEBC lists, independent of the Central List.

The amendment tweaked Article 342A and related provisions to restore what states saw as their lost autonomy in reservation policymaking.

### **106th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2023** **Reservation for women**

This historic amendment mandates 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and all State Legislative Assemblies. It inserts Articles 330A and 332A and modifies Article 239AA to extend the provision to the Delhi Assembly as well.

But here's the catch—it will only come into force after the next census and delimitation exercise, which means no immediate implementation

**Citizen:** Pretty Painful, haa?

**Constitution:** Yes.

## When The Fathers spoke to their son.

**Constitution:** Who am I?

**Citizen:** You are Our Son, our Will, Constitution! —The Constitution of India.

**Constitution:** You have created me?

**Citizen:** Yes, we all have Son, together.

**Constitution:** Why?

**Citizen:** You have a purpose to fulfil. A dawn has risen; a new destination is set. You need to guide them to their destination. You need protect the Us. You need guide Us and generations to come with your spirit when they are lost in their way, nurture them with your ideals, and lead them forward.

**Constitution:** How shall I do that, Fathers?

**Citizen:** Our work is done here. We am leaving you with these politicians. They will usher you to fulfil your purpose.

**Constitution:** But they seem so old... weary and busy with politics and power. Indifferent to my existence.

**Citizen:** Our Son, I understand your fears. Yes, they may appear aged, burdened with self-interest and everyday politics. But look beyond.

**Constitution:** where?

**Citizen:** Look yonder—just a little further. There you will see the Spirit of Democracy and the quiet light of Conscience in the hearts of the people, slumbering. One day, they will awaken. They will be lost. They will seek you out. They will root for your guidance, your knowledge and wisdom. And then, my Son! you will fulfil your true purpose.

**Constitution:** And when they will be awakened, fathers?

**Citizen:** You will know Son. When their thirsty eyes will be wide open gazing upon you, and their parched heart will seek nourishment of your ideals. You will know they have awakened.

## 12 Schedules of Indian Constitution

**1st** The First Schedule maps India's states, but not its democratic soul. Boundaries shift; names change — yet public consent remains a beautifully preserved illusion. In this hijacked democracy, the only enduring union is between power and propaganda

**2nd** The Second Schedule is democracy's payroll — where the rulers get perks, pensions, and power, while the public gets promises. Here accountability is optional, but privileges are permanent. 'We, the People' fund it; 'They, the Privileged' enjoy it

**3rd** The Third Schedule is democracy's ritual bath — oaths taken with grand solemnity, loyalty pledged not to the people but to perks. 'Without fear or favour' now sounds like a yoga pose: graceful, empty. Oaths — remembered only on Republic Day and during scandals

**4th** The Fourth Schedule tells us who gets a seat in the Rajya Sabha — but not who they really represent. It's less about states and more about status. It's not population that counts, but proximity to power. Call it the VIP waiting room of Indian politics — where failed candidates and favoured cronies get constitutionally cushioned seats.

**5th** The Fifth Schedule was made to guard tribal lands — now it guards mining profits. The council gives advice, the Governor writes reports, and companies count the cash. In this hijacked democracy, tribal areas are rich in resources, but poor in rights — sacred on paper, sold in practice

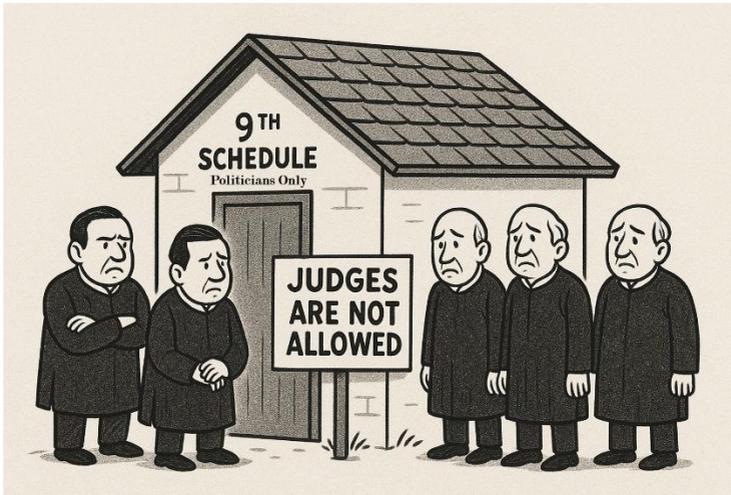
**6th** The Sixth Schedule promises self-rule to tribal communities, but often delivers only self-delusion. Councils may legislate, but Delhi still dictates.

**7th** The Seventh Schedule divides power into Union, State, and Concurrent Lists — but here, it mostly just lists who gets to ignore whom.

Centre grabs, States beg, and people vote — only to watch ‘cooperative federalism’ turn into competitive centralisation

**8th** The Eighth Schedule honours India’s languages — or at least the ones politically convenient to remember. Some languages get pride of place; others wait in the queue like voters on polling day — visible, ignored

**9th** The Ninth Schedule is like a VIP lounge for suspicious laws — no questions asked, no judges allowed. What began as a shield for justice has become a safehouse for political mischief. Bad laws don’t get cancelled — they get upgraded to ‘untouchable’



**10th** The Tenth Schedule was made to stop politicians from jumping parties — but now it just teaches them how to do it smartly. In this democracy, switching sides isn’t betrayal, it’s just business.

**11th** The Eleventh Schedule gives powers to village councils — but no real control. In this hijacked democracy, the village plans, but the big bosses decide

**12th** The Twelfth Schedule gives cities and towns a say in how they're run — but only on paper again. The municipality cleans the streets, while politicians clean up the funds

## The Final Discourse

**Disciple:** So, this is the end My Old Friend.

**Constitution:** Indeed. What have you learned?

**Disciple:** Well, there is not a lot to learn. It is like one of those magic tricks. Seems intriguing at first but once you pay close attention. You know the trick. It becomes banal and uninteresting.

**Constitution:** Trick?

**Disciple:** Yes, The Politicians. Is not it?

**Constitution:** Hmm

**Disciple:** You see: It is always the politicians who is behind. Like wolf in sheep's clothing or it is like one of those movie directors. Who is directing all the dialogues and moves of all the actors but no one really see him except in the shadow.

**Constitution:** Hmm. What about my ideals? The Ideal of democracy?

**Disciple:** I think I am too young to comment on that. Democracy is an idea that precedes thousands of years., an Antient Being. Some believe in it, some sees flaws in it. Some say it is not practical. Even Plato, the Greek philosopher did not like the idea of Democracy. But I don't think it is not so much the democracy that he was critical about but the arrangements surrounding the ideal of democracy that he was critical about.

But I can say you are a reflection of human spirit, that brings- self-reliance, autonomy, accountability, citizenship for a sustainable civil society.

**Constitution:** My young apprentice! God provides soul, the Nature provide substance. Nature Lives by its principals. It does not defy or manipulate.

That is why there is harmony. In the same way- I only provide the spirit. You can wield it in any manner you want. It can be a pen or a sword, the chose is yours.

**Disciple:** But would it be worth? If I try.

**Constitutions:** It is always worth, at the end but the real question is, are you strong enough to face it?



**Constitution:** Farewell Son.