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UPSC CSE MAINS

Previous Year Questions

Separation of Powers — GS-II

Previous Year Questions (verbatim, official syllabus)

8 Questions

Year range: 2013–2023

Verbatim from official UPSC papers

"Master Mains with PYQs — consistency is key"

— Neil Sir, Founder, UnlockIAS

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8 Questions across 2 Sections

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Separation of powers between various organs

2023 GS-II 10M · 150W

Q8. "Constitutionally guaranteed judicial independence is a prerequisite of democracy". Comment.

2020 GS-II 15M · 150W

Q4. Judicial Legislation is antithetical to the doctrine of separation of powers as envisaged in the Indian Constitution. In this context justify the filing of large number of public interest petitions praying for issuing guidelines to executive authorities.

2019 GS-II 10M · 150W

Q3. Do you think that Constitution of India does not accept principle of strict separation of powers rather it is based on the principle of 'checks and balance'? Explain.

2015 GS-II 12.5M · 150W

Q5. Resorting to ordinances has always raised concern on violation of the spirit of separation of powers doctrine. While noting the rationales justifying the power to promulgate ordinances, analyze whether the decisions of the Supreme Court on the issue have further facilitated resorting to this power. Should the power to promulgate ordinances be repealed?

2014 GS-II 12.5M · 200W

Q3. Starting from inventing the 'basic structure' doctrine, the judiciary has played a highly proactive role in ensuring that India develops into a thriving democracy. In light of the statement, evaluate the role played by judicial activism in achieving the ideals of democracy.

Dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions

2018 GS-II 15M · 150W

Q5. How far do you agree with the view that tribunals curtail the jurisdiction of ordinary courts? In view of the above, discuss the constitutional validity and competency of the tribunals in India.

2015 GS-II 12.5M · 150W

Q8. What are the major changes brought in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 through the recent Ordinance promulgated by the President? How far will it improve India's dispute resolution mechanism? Discuss.

2013 GS-II 10M · 200W

Q6. Constitutional mechanisms to resolve the inter-state water disputes have failed to address and solve the problems. Is the failure due to structural or process inadequacy or both? Discuss.