Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine the constitutional procedure for altering the name of an Indian State. How does it balance the role of the Union and the concerned State Legislature?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 24/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

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Answer Hint

Article 3, Article 4, federal structure, President's recommendation, State Legislature's views, parliamentary sovereignty

Model Answer

Introduction

The Constitution provides Parliament with the power to reorganise India's internal political boundaries, including changing the name of a State. Articles 3 and 4 establish the relevant constitutional procedure.

Constitutional Procedure

1. **Introduction of Bill:** A Bill for changing a State's name can be introduced in either House of Parliament only on the President's recommendation.
2. **Consultation with State:** The President refers the proposal to the concerned State Legislature for its views within a specified period.
3. **Legislative Consideration:** Parliament may accept, reject or modify the State Legislature's views. These views are consultative and not binding.

4. **Passage of Bill:** The Bill must be passed by a simple majority in both Houses of Parliament.
5. **Constitutional Amendment:** Under Article 4, consequential amendments to the First and Fourth Schedules do not require the special procedure under Article 368.

Federal Balance

1. **Union's authority:** Parliament retains the final decision-making power, ensuring uniformity in territorial reorganisation.
2. **State participation:** Consultation gives the affected State an opportunity to present its historical, cultural and administrative concerns.
3. **Constitutional flexibility:** The procedure enables internal reorganisation without making every change dependent on a constitutional amendment.

Conclusion

The constitutional framework combines State-level consultation with parliamentary authority. It reflects India's federal structure while preserving the Union's capacity to undertake territorial and administrative reorganisation.

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