Polity & Governance · GS - II

“The Preamble is not merely an introduction to the Constitution but a guiding framework for constitutional governance.” Explain its significance in achieving social, economic and political justice.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 25/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~ 250 words

Answer Hint

Constitutional philosophy, justice, liberty, equality, fraternity, welfare state, constitutional morality, inclusive development

Model Answer

The Preamble embodies the philosophy and objectives of the Indian Constitution. It establishes the vision of a sovereign, socialist, secular and democratic republic committed to justice, liberty, equality and fraternity.

Role in constitutional governance

1. **Social justice:** The commitment to social, economic and political justice guides affirmative action, protection of vulnerable groups and measures against discrimination.
2. **Economic justice:** The socialist objective supports welfare-oriented policies, equitable opportunities and reduction of socio-economic inequalities.
3. **Political justice:** Democratic principles ensure universal adult suffrage, representative institutions and equal political participation.
4. **Liberty and equality:** Fundamental Rights protect individual freedoms and equality before law, limiting arbitrary state action.
5. **Fraternity and dignity:** Fraternity promotes national unity, individual dignity and social harmony across diverse communities.

Constitutional and institutional significance

The Preamble serves as an interpretative guide for constitutional courts. In *Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala (1973)*, the Supreme Court recognised it as part of the Constitution and established that constitutional amendments cannot destroy its basic structure.

Its ideals also inform Directive Principles of State Policy, welfare legislation and public institutions.

Implementation concerns

Persistent caste and gender inequalities, regional disparities, poverty and unequal access to education and healthcare demonstrate the gap between constitutional ideals and social realities.

Conclusion: The Preamble provides the normative foundation for democratic governance. Its values acquire meaning when translated into accountable institutions, inclusive policies and equal opportunities for all citizens.

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