

**ICSE 2025 EXAMINATION**  
**Sample Question Paper – 2**  
**History & Civics**

**Time: 2 Hours**

**Max. Marks: 80**

**General Instructions:**

1. Answer to this Paper must be written on the answer sheet provided separately.
2. You will not be allowed to write during first 15 minutes.
3. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
4. The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.
5. Attempt all questions from Part I (Compulsory).
6. A total of five questions are to be attempted from Part II, two out of three questions from Section A and three out of five questions from Section B.
7. The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].

**PART - I**

(Attempt all questions from this part)

**QUESTION 1.**

**Choose the correct answers to the questions from the given options.**

**(i) On January 26, 2024, the President of India exercised his executive power to appoint the new Prime Minister after a general election, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.**

**Source :** The Indian Express, January 27, 2024 What information about the appointment of the Prime Minister can be derived from the passage?

- (a) The President appoints the Prime Minister based on the recommendation of the Vice-President.
- (b) The President must appoint the leader of the largest political party in the Parliament as the Prime Minister.
- (c) The President appoints the Prime Minister who enjoys the majority support in the Lok Sabha.
- (d) The President has the discretion to appoint any member of Parliament as the Prime Minister.

**Answer:** (c) The President appoints the Prime Minister who enjoys the majority support in the Lok Sabha.

**(ii) Given below are details of a few candidates for the position of the Prime Minister:**

Person	Age (in years)	Description
A	45	A member of the Rajya Sabha
B	40	A member of the Lok Sabha and leader of the majority party
C	38	A member of the Legislative Assembly
D	50	A non-member of Parliament

**Select the person who fulfills the eligibility criteria to become the Prime Minister of India.**

- (a) A (b) B  
(c) C (d) D

**Answer:** (b) B

**(iii) Who was appointed as the first Governor General of independent India, as mentioned in the image?**



- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru (b) Mahatma Gandhi  
(c) Dr. Rajendra Prasad (d) Lord Mountbatten

**Answer:** (d) Lord Mountbatten

**(iv) During a discussion in the Rajya Sabha, members debated the introduction of a Money Bill, which was already passed by the Lok Sabha. Despite various**

**suggestions and objections, the Rajya Sabha passed the bill without any amendments, as it could not alter a Money Bill.**

**Which exclusive power of the Lok Sabha is highlighted in the above case?**

- (a) Power to pass financial bills
- (b) Power to pass a Money Bill
- (c) Power to elect the President of India
- (d) Power to impeach the President

**Answer:** (b) Power to pass a Money Bill

**(v) Triple Alliance : Britain, France, Russia : Triple Entente : .....**

- (a) Belgium, Norway, United States
- (b) Germany, India, United States
- (c) Italy, United States, Austria-Hungary
- (d) Germany, Italy, Austria-Hungary

**Answer:** (d) Germany, Italy, Austria-Hungary

**(vi) Identify the officials who form the Electoral College for the election of Vice-President.**

- P.** Members of Lok Sabha
- Q.** Members of Rajya Sabha
- R.** Members of State Legislative Councils
- S.** Nominated members of Vidhan Sabha

- (a) R and S
- (b) P and Q
- (c) P and R
- (d) P and S

**Answer:** (b) P and Q

**(vii) Assertion (A) :** The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) was created to keep newly independent countries out of Cold War conflicts.

**Reason (R) :** NAM encouraged countries to join military alliances with either the USA or the USSR.

- (a) Reason contradicts Assertion.
- (b) Reason is the reason for Assertion.
- (c) Assertion is true but Reason is false.
- (d) Assertion and Reason are independent of each other.

**Answer:** (c) Assertion is true but Reason is false.

**(viii) Country Z has experienced an event similar to Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. What might be the most immediate outcome?**

- (a) A peace treaty is signed between the nations.
- (b) Country Z remains neutral in the conflict.
- (c) Country Z enters the ongoing war.
- (d) The United Nations is formed.

**Answer:** (c) Country Z enters the ongoing war.

**(ix) The UN General Assembly is holding a session to discuss global climate change. An environmental activist is participating in the discussion. Which of the following methods is the activist NOT LIKELY to support?**

- (a) Proposing a non-binding resolution for climate action
- (b) Encouraging countries to adopt green technologies
- (c) Seeking judicial intervention from the International Court of Justice
- (d) Asking for economic sanctions against countries contributing to climate change

**Answer:** (d) Asking for economic sanctions against countries contributing to climate change

**(x) The image shows UNICEF represented as a bowling ball knocking down pins labeled with various global issues. Which of the following is NOT a primary focus area of UNICEF?**



- (a) Education
- (b) Child protection
- (c) Poverty alleviation
- (d) Wildlife conservation

**Answer:** (d) Wildlife conservation

**(xi) Identify the ODD ONE out of the following objectives of Nazi ideology:**

- (a) Racial superiority of the Aryan race
- (b) Expansion of Germany's territory

- (c) Promotion of communism to unite workers
- (d) Elimination of political opposition

**Answer:** (c) Promotion of communism to unite workers

**(xii) Your class is discussing territorial changes after World War I. Which of the following changes would MOST LIKELY be highlighted in the discussion ?**

- (a) Formation of the United Nations
- (b) Creation of the European Union
- (c) Dissolution of the Austro-Hungarian Empire
- (d) Colonization of Africa

**Answer:** (c) Dissolution of the Austro-Hungarian Empire

**(xiii) Read the description and identify the plan:**

**This plan resulted in the partition of British India into two independent dominions, India and Pakistan, based on religious lines.**

- (a) Cripps Mission Plan
- (b) Cabinet Mission Plan
- (c) August Offer
- (d) Mountbatten Plan

**Answer:** (d) Mountbatten Plan

**(xiv) Which of the following was NOT a reason for the collapse of the League of Nations?**



- (a) The absence of the United States as a member
- (b) The inability of the League to prevent World War II
- (c) The failure to enforce economic sanctions effectively
- (d) The League's success in resolving disputes in the 1920

**Answer:** (d) The League's success in resolving disputes in the 1920

**(xv) Identify the leaders most associated with the founding of the Indian National Congress.**

- (a) Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- (b) Dadabhai Naoroji, Allan Octavian Hume
- (c) Bhagat Singh, Subhas Chandra Bose
- (d) Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru

**Answer:** (b) Dadabhai Naoroji, Allan Octavian Hume

**(xvi) Which of the following scenarios describes the philosophy behind the Non-Cooperation Movement?**

- (a) Refusing to participate in British-run institutions and boycotting foreign goods.
- (b) Forming alliances with the British to gain political power.
- (c) Accepting British reforms and collaborating with the colonial government.
- (d) Supporting violent uprisings to overthrow British rule.

**Answer:** (a) Refusing to participate in British-run institutions and boycotting foreign goods.

## QUESTION 2.

**2. Headline :** Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Union Budget 2023-24 in the Parliament Hon'ble Speaker, I present the budget for 2023-24. This is the first budget in Amrit Kaal.

This budget hopes to build on the foundation laid in the previous budget, and the blueprint drawn for India 100.

**(i) With reference to above news, discuss the financial powers of Parliament.**

**Answer:** Parliament holds the ultimate authority over India's finances. It has the power to:

- **Pass the Union Budget:** This includes approving the government's annual estimates of revenue and expenditure.
- **Impose Taxes:** Parliament can levy and modify taxes, ensuring the government has the necessary funds.
- **Grant Supplementary Grants:** If additional funds are needed during the fiscal year, Parliament can authorize supplementary grants.
- **Control Expenditure:** It oversees government spending to prevent misuse of public funds.

- **Constitute the Finance Commission:** This body recommends the distribution of central taxes among states.

**(ii) Which category of power is being exercised by the Prime Minister in the following situations:**

- (a) Leading the Council of Ministers
- (b) Representing India at international forums

**Answer:** (a) Executive power  
(b) Diplomatic power

**(iii) What is meant by the British policy of expansion?**

**Answer:** The British policy of expansion in India involved various tactics and strategies. They used the Subsidiary Alliance, where Indian rulers were forced to disband their armies and accept British protection in exchange for a subsidy, leading to their dependence and eventual annexation. The Doctrine of Lapse, implemented by Lord Dalhousie, allowed the British to annex territories if a ruler died without a natural heir. Additionally, the British exploited political rivalries among Indian states and used military force to expand their control. These policies, along with economic exploitation and cultural domination, resulted in the establishment of British colonial rule in India.

**(iv) What changes the British government made in Indian Civil Services and why?**

**Answer:** The British government made significant changes to the Indian Civil Service (ICS) to consolidate their colonial rule in India. Key changes included:

- **Indianization:** Initially, the ICS was exclusively for British citizens. However, to quell growing Indian nationalism, limited Indianization was introduced. This allowed a small number of Indians to join the service, but they were often marginalized and faced discrimination.
- **Recruitment and Training:** The recruitment process was centralized and competitive examinations were introduced. Training institutions like the Indian Civil Service College in Haileybury were established to instill British values and loyalty in the recruits.
- **Administrative Structure:** The ICS was restructured to strengthen British control over India. District officers were given extensive powers, and the service was divided into provincial and central cadres to maintain a hierarchical structure.

**(v) Who founded Home Rule League in India? What was its objective?**

**Answer:** The Home Rule League in India was founded by Bal Gangadhar Tilak in 1916. Its primary objective was to demand self-rule for India within the British Empire. Tilak, along with Annie Besant, advocated for greater Indian participation in governance and reforms. The League aimed to increase political awareness and mobilize the Indian masses against British colonial rule. It sought to achieve constitutional reforms, including a greater representation of Indians in legislative bodies and the administration, and ultimately self-governance for India, paving the way for the national struggle for independence.

**(vi) What are the two important ideals of the Brahmo Samaj?**

**Answer:** The Brahmo Samaj, founded by Raja Ram Mohan Roy in 1828, was a reformist religious and social movement in India. Its two important ideals were:

1. **Monotheism:** The Brahmo Samaj advocated the worship of one formless God, rejecting idol worship and the polytheistic practices prevalent in Hinduism at the time. This emphasis on monotheism sought to promote spiritual unity and a rational approach to religion.
2. **Social Reform:** The movement focused on social issues such as the abolition of caste discrimination, child marriage, and the promotion of women's rights, including advocating for women's education and their right to inherit property.

**(vii) Mention two important consequences of the First World War.**

**Answer:** The consequences of First World War are as follows

1. **Signing of Treaty of Versailles** On 28th June, 1919, the treaty was signed by Germany in which the country was to pay huge war indemnity and to deprive of its territories that it has conquered during the First World War.
2. **Formation of the League of Nation** A League of Nations was formed by 42 nations on 10th January, 1920 at Geneva in Switzerland. It was the first international organisation to be formed.

**PART – II**

**SECTION – A**

(Attempt any three questions from this section)

**3. The Second World War (1939-1945) was a global conflict triggered by various political, economic, and military factors. It involved most of the world's nations, including the major powers. With reference to the factors or causes that led to the Second World War, answer the following questions:**

**(i) The Japanese invasion of China was a significant prelude to the Second World War. Discuss the reasons behind this invasion.**

**Answer:** The Japanese invasion of China in 1937, marked by the Marco Polo Bridge Incident, was driven by multiple factors. Japan sought to expand its empire to secure resources, particularly oil and minerals, to fuel its growing industrial economy. Japan's militaristic leadership aimed to assert dominance in East Asia and challenge Western powers' influence. The invasion also stemmed from Japan's desire to establish a "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperty Sphere," promoting regional hegemony. Additionally, political instability in China made it an attractive target. The invasion contributed to rising tensions in Asia, setting the stage for the broader conflict of World War II.

**(ii) The League of Nations failed to maintain peace and prevent the Second World War. Discuss the reasons for its failure.**

**Answer:** The League of Nations failed to maintain peace and prevent World War II due to several key reasons. First, it lacked the authority and military power to enforce its decisions, relying on voluntary cooperation from member states. Second, major powers like the U.S. never joined, weakening its influence. Third, the League's decision-making process was slow and ineffective, often undermined by vetoes from powerful members. Additionally, aggressive actions by nations like Germany, Italy, and Japan went unopposed, as the League failed to take decisive action. Lastly, the rise of nationalism and militarism contributed to its inability to prevent global conflict.

**(iii) Give a brief idea about the Second World War. How did the rise of Fascism become a contributing cause to the outbreak of the Second World War?**

**Answer:** The Second World War (1939-1945) was a global conflict primarily involving the Allies (including the U.S., UK, and Soviet Union) against the Axis powers (mainly Nazi Germany, Italy, and Japan). The war was triggered by Germany's invasion of Poland. The rise of Fascism, especially under Adolf Hitler in Germany and Benito Mussolini in Italy, played a key role in the war's outbreak. Fascist leaders promoted aggressive nationalism, militarism, and expansionism, leading to invasions of neighboring countries. Their desire for territorial expansion

and domination destabilized Europe, leading to alliances, militarization, and eventually war.

**4. The United Nations is an international organization established in 1945, aiming to promote peace, security, and cooperation among countries. With reference to the United Nations as an organization, answer the following questions:**

**(i) How international organisations like United Nations are helpful to Nations?**

**Answer:** International organizations like the United Nations (UN) help nations by fostering global cooperation, peace, and security. They provide a platform for dialogue, enabling countries to address conflicts diplomatically and resolve disputes peacefully. The UN promotes human rights, social and economic development, and environmental sustainability, offering assistance through specialized agencies like WHO and UNESCO. Additionally, the UN coordinates humanitarian aid in crises and supports international law and norms. By working together in these forums, nations can tackle shared challenges such as poverty, climate change, and terrorism, strengthening global stability and promoting collective well-being.

**(ii) The United Nations played a significant role in promoting global peace and security. Thus, it provides special privileges to its permanent members. Mention any three differences in the privileges given to permanent and non-permanent members by the UN Charter.**

**Answer:**

Point of Difference	Permanent Members	Non-Permanent Members
Veto Power	Have the power to veto any substantive resolution.	Do not have the right to veto any resolution.

Term Length	Hold their positions indefinitely.	Elected for a two-year term by the General Assembly.
Decision-Making Power	Greater influence due to veto power and permanent status.	Participate in decision-making but lack veto power and permanent status.

**(iii) When was UNESCO formed and for what purpose? Write down any four functions of UNICEF as an agency of UN.**

**Answer:** UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) was formed on November 16, 1945, with the goal of promoting international collaboration in the fields of education, science, and culture. Its mission is to contribute to peace and security by fostering intellectual cooperation and respect for human rights.

UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) was established in 1946 to provide humanitarian assistance to children. Four key functions of UNICEF are:

1. Promoting children's rights and welfare.
2. Providing emergency relief in crises.
3. Supporting education and healthcare.
4. Advocating for policy changes to improve children's lives globally.

**5. Read the excerpt given below and answer the questions that follow.**

India criticizes further delay over UNSC reforms, says process could go on for another 75 years.

As the UN General Assembly decided to roll over the Inter-Governmental Negotiations on Security Council reform to its next session, India has termed it as "yet another wasted opportunity" and said the process could well go on for another 75 years.

**(i) Discuss the composition of the Security Council. How is the selection of members carried out.**

**Answer:** The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) consists of 15 members: five permanent members (P5) and ten non-permanent members. The five permanent members are China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, each holding veto power. The ten non-permanent members are elected for two-year terms by the General Assembly, with the distribution based on geographical representation: five from Africa and Asia, one from Eastern Europe, two from Latin America and the Caribbean, and two from Western Europe and other countries. Elections for non-permanent members are conducted by a two-thirds majority vote in the General Assembly.

**(ii) What are the key powers and functions of the Security Council? Explain how it helps maintain international peace and security.**

**Answer:** The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is responsible for maintaining international peace and security. Its key powers include the ability to impose sanctions, authorize the use of force, establish peacekeeping missions, and take diplomatic measures to prevent conflicts. The Council consists of 15 members, including 5 permanent members (with veto power) and 10 rotating members. It helps maintain peace by addressing threats, mediating disputes, and taking action against aggressions, such as military intervention or sanctions. The UNSC's role is vital in preventing the escalation of conflicts and ensuring global stability through collective action and decision-making.

**(iii) What is the significance of its veto power.**

**Answer:** The veto power held by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) – the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China – is significant because it allows any one of these countries to block the adoption of any substantive resolution, regardless of the majority vote. This power ensures that decisions critical to international peace and security cannot be made without the consent of these key powers. It grants them immense influence in shaping global governance and decision-making, often sidelining the interests of non-permanent members and reducing the representativeness and efficiency of the UNSC.

**6. Study the picture given below and answer the questions that follow.**



**(i) Identify the leader in the picture. What was his policy against the jews?**

**Answer:** The leader in the picture is Adolf Hitler, the leader of Nazi Germany. His policies against Jews were based on a racist ideology that viewed Jews as an inferior race responsible for Germany's problems. These policies included:

- Exclusion and discrimination: Jews were stripped of their citizenship, barred from government jobs, and prohibited from attending public schools and universities.
- Economic persecution: Jewish-owned businesses were boycotted and eventually closed down, and Jews were prevented from owning land or practicing many professions.
- Violence and persecution: Jews were subjected to violence and intimidation, culminating in the Kristallnacht pogrom in 1938, where synagogues were burned and Jewish businesses destroyed.
- Concentration camps and genocide: The ultimate goal of Hitler's policies was the extermination of the Jewish people through the Holocaust, in which millions of Jews were systematically murdered in concentration and extermination camps.

Hitler's policies against Jews were a horrific crime against humanity and a dark chapter in human history.

**(ii) Why did he invade Poland and how it became an immediate cause of Second World War?**

**Answer:** Hitler's invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939, marked the beginning of World War II. He aimed to expand Germany's territory and establish control over central Europe. The invasion violated the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, a non-aggression agreement between Germany and the Soviet Union. Britain and France, honoring their treaties with Poland, declared war on Germany, leading to a global conflict.

**(iii) State any two factors of each that led to the rise of dictatorship in Germany and Italy respectively.**

**Answer:** The rise of dictatorship in Germany and Italy was influenced by several factors:

**Germany:**

1. Treaty of Versailles (1919): The harsh terms of the Treaty, which ended World War I, caused severe economic hardships and resentment among Germans. The treaty's humiliating conditions, such as heavy reparations and territorial losses, fueled nationalist and extremist movements, paving the way for Adolf Hitler's rise to power.
2. Economic instability: The Great Depression of 1929 hit Germany hard, leading to mass unemployment and widespread poverty. This economic crisis created disillusionment with the Weimar Republic, enabling Hitler and the Nazi Party to exploit public frustration and present themselves as the solution.

**Italy:**

1. Post-WWI dissatisfaction: Italy, despite being on the winning side in World War I, was disappointed by the lack of territorial gains from the peace treaties, leading to widespread dissatisfaction and instability.
2. Weak democratic government: Italy's democratic system was fragile, and the political fragmentation and inefficiency of its government created a power vacuum that Benito Mussolini exploited to establish his fascist regime.

**7. The United Nations Organization was established to maintain peace and promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom. With reference to this, explain the following.**

**(i) The composition of the Security Council.**

**Answer:** The Security Council is one of the six main organs of the United Nations, responsible for maintaining international peace and security. It is composed of 15 members: 5 permanent members (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) and 10 non-permanent members, which are elected for two-year terms by the General Assembly. The 10 non-permanent members are selected based on geographical representation, with seats allocated to different regions of the world. The permanent members, often referred to as the "P5," hold veto power, meaning any of them can block substantive resolutions, while non-permanent members do not have this privilege. The Security Council's decisions are binding on all UN member states.

**(ii) The functions of Security Council related to maintaining world peace.**

**Answer:** The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) plays a central role in maintaining world peace by addressing threats to international security. Its primary functions include:

1. **Peacekeeping and conflict resolution:** The UNSC can deploy peacekeeping forces to conflict zones and mediate between conflicting parties.
2. **Sanctions:** It can impose sanctions on states or entities threatening peace, such as economic or military restrictions.
3. **Military action:** In extreme cases, the UNSC can authorize the use of force to maintain or restore peace.
4. **Peace treaties and settlements:** It facilitates negotiations and enforces peace agreements between nations.

**(iii) India criticizes further delay over UNSC reforms, saying the process could extend for another 75 years. Discuss the role of the Security Council in international affairs, specifically highlighting the veto power.**

**Answer:** India has expressed concern over the prolonged delay in United Nations Security Council (UNSC) reforms, warning that it could extend for another 75 years. The UNSC plays a crucial role in maintaining international peace and security, handling issues such as conflicts, sanctions, and peacekeeping operations. Its decisions are binding on member states, which gives the Council significant influence in global affairs. A key aspect of the UNSC is the veto power held by its five permanent members—China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. This power allows any one of them to block substantive resolutions, often leading to stagnation and frustration, particularly for nations like India that seek greater representation in the UNSC.

**PART – II**  
**SECTION – B**

(Attempt any two questions from this section)

**8. The Parliament of India is a House where Ministers discuss public matters and orders. In this regard answer the following questions.**

- (i) How does the Constitution of India deal with the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha?
- (ii) Mention three powers which are common to both houses of the Parliament?
- (iii) Under what conditions a person cannot be chosen as a Member of Parliament?

**Answer:** (i) The Constitution of India allocates seats in the Rajya Sabha (Council of States) based on the population of each state and union territory. Article 80 specifies that the maximum number of members in the Rajya Sabha shall not exceed 250. Seats are distributed among states and union territories in proportion to their population, with each state electing representatives through a system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote. The President can also nominate 12 members for their expertise.

**(ii) Three powers common to both houses of the Parliament are:**

1. **Legislative Power:** Both houses can propose, debate, amend, and pass laws, which are essential to the functioning of the country.
2. **Financial Power:** Both houses are involved in the approval of the budget and other financial matters, although the Lok Sabha has a greater role in money bills.
3. **Oversight Power:** Both houses have committees and sessions to scrutinize the executive's actions and hold it accountable through questions, discussions, and debates.

**(iii) A person cannot be chosen as a Member of Parliament (MP) under the following conditions:**

1. If they are not a citizen of the country.
2. If they are declared insolvent or undischarged bankrupt.
3. If they are of unsound mind or mentally incapacitated.

4. If they are convicted of certain criminal offenses (e.g., corruption or imprisonment for over two years).
5. If they hold an office of profit under the government.
6. If they are disqualified by law due to conflicting interests or allegiance to another state.

**9. The Cabinet holds a pivotal position in the working of the Indian Parliamentary Government. In this context, answer the following questions :**

(i) The Cabinet plays a crucial role in the functioning of the Indian Parliamentary Government. Mention any three functions of the Cabinet which highlight its pivotal position.

(ii) Mention any three administrative powers of the Cabinet.

(iii) Distinguish between the Cabinet and Council of Ministers.

**Answer:** (i) The Cabinet plays a crucial role in the Indian Parliamentary Government in various ways:

1. **Policy Formulation:** The Cabinet formulates and implements major policies of the government, setting the direction for governance.
2. **Decision Making:** It makes decisions on critical national issues, ensuring coordination between different ministries.
3. **Executive Authority:** The Cabinet is responsible for the execution of laws passed by the Parliament, overseeing the work of various departments and ministries, and ensuring their proper functioning.

**(ii) The Cabinet holds several key administrative powers, including:**

1. **Policy Formulation:** The Cabinet plays a central role in formulating and implementing government policies on various issues such as economy, defense, and foreign relations.
2. **Decision-making in Emergencies:** It has the authority to take critical decisions during national emergencies, such as war or natural disasters.
3. **Appointments:** The Cabinet has the power to appoint high-ranking officials, including judges, military leaders, and heads of government agencies, ensuring the effective functioning of the government.

(iii) The Cabinet and the Council of Ministers are both key components of the executive branch of government, but they differ in composition and function. The **Council of Ministers** includes all ministers appointed by the President, comprising the Cabinet, Ministers of State, and Deputy Ministers. It is responsible for assisting the President in decision-making and implementing government policies.

The **Cabinet**, on the other hand, is a smaller, more selective group, usually consisting of the **Prime Minister** and senior ministers. It holds primary decision-making power, shaping major policies and strategies. Thus, the Cabinet is the core body within the broader Council of Ministers.

**10. Under the Single integrated Judicial system, there are no separate sets of law and Supreme Court stands at the apex of the system. In this context answer the following questions**

(i) Mention any three cases, where the Original Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court does not extend.

(ii) How does the Supreme Court maintain the sanctity of the Constitution of India?

(iii) Explain the following terms:

(a) Original Jurisdiction

(b) Advisory Jurisdiction

**Answer: (i) The Original Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India does not extend to the following cases:**

1. Disputes between private parties: The Supreme Court does not have original jurisdiction in cases involving private individuals or entities.
2. Disputes under local laws: The Court's original jurisdiction does not cover matters governed by specific state or local laws.
3. Matters under executive powers: Disputes related to the executive powers of the President or Governors do not fall under the Court's original jurisdiction.

(ii) The Supreme Court of India upholds the sanctity of the Constitution by acting as the ultimate interpreter and guardian of its provisions. It ensures that laws and government actions align with constitutional principles, striking down any legislation or executive actions deemed unconstitutional. Through judicial review, the Court safeguards fundamental rights and protects the rule of law. Additionally, it resolves constitutional disputes, reinforces democracy, and prevents any encroachment on the separation of powers, thus maintaining the integrity and supremacy of the Constitution.

**(iii) (a) Original Jurisdiction**

Original jurisdiction refers to the authority of a court to hear a case for the first time, rather than on appeal. In this type of jurisdiction, the court examines the facts, applies the law, and delivers a ruling without any prior decision or review from a lower court. For example, in India, the Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in cases involving disputes between states or between a state and the central government, as well as in cases concerning fundamental rights.

**(b) Advisory Jurisdiction**

Advisory jurisdiction allows a court to offer legal opinions or advice, typically at the request of the executive or legislative branches. These opinions are not binding but provide guidance on constitutional matters. In India, the President may refer questions of law or public importance to the Supreme Court under Article 143 of the Constitution. This helps in clarifying legal issues before they result in disputes or litigation.