Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine the significance of democratic accountability, due process and the rule of law in addressing allegations of serious criminal offences against public figures.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 03/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Rule of law; equality before law; presumption of innocence; due process; accountability of public officials; independent investigation; protection of children; fair trial

Model Answer

Introduction

The rule of law requires that all individuals, including political leaders and former public officials, remain subject to the law. Allegations of serious criminal offences must be addressed through impartial investigation and established legal procedures.

Importance of Accountability

Public accountability reinforces confidence in institutions and prevents public office from becoming a shield against legal scrutiny. In cases involving alleged offences against children, timely investigation and victim-sensitive procedures are particularly important.

Need for Due Process

An allegation or arrest does not establish guilt. Investigating authorities must collect admissible evidence, respect the rights of the accused and alleged victim, and follow applicable criminal procedure. The presumption of

innocence and the right to a fair trial remain essential safeguards against arbitrary action.

Way Forward

Authorities should ensure independent investigation, protection of minors' identities, access to legal remedies and timely judicial proceedings. Public communication should avoid prejudicial claims before the court determines the facts.

Conclusion

Accountability and due process are complementary principles. Impartial enforcement of the law, protection of vulnerable individuals and fair judicial proceedings strengthen public trust and democratic institutions.