Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine how political interference in investigations into incidents of mass violence can undermine the rule of law. Suggest institutional safeguards to ensure impartial investigation and accountability in India.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 14/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Investigative independence, rule of law, separation of powers, political pressure, evidence preservation, witness protection, forensic investigation, judicial oversight, accountability, transparency, institutional reforms.

Model Answer

Introduction

Investigations into incidents of mass violence require impartiality, professional competence and public trust. Political interference can compromise evidence collection, influence investigative priorities and weaken confidence in justice delivery.

Impact on Rule of Law

Undue influence may result in selective investigations, delayed prosecution, intimidation of witnesses and destruction of evidence. It can undermine equality before law under Article 14 and the protection of life and personal liberty under Article 21. It also weakens institutional credibility and social reconciliation.

Institutional Safeguards

Investigative agencies must function with operational autonomy and transparent procedures. Fixed tenure, merit-based appointments and clear accountability mechanisms can reduce arbitrary interference. Independent forensic examination, digital documentation and effective witness-protection programmes should strengthen evidence-based investigations.

Judicial supervision, timely trials and transparent publication of inquiry findings can improve accountability. Parliamentary oversight and independent human-rights institutions can further monitor institutional performance without compromising ongoing investigations.

Conclusion

Impartial investigations are essential for constitutional governance. Institutional independence, procedural fairness and accountability must operate together to ensure justice irrespective of political considerations.

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