Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine the role of judicial accountability in ensuring that state governments fulfil their commitments regarding employee welfare and pension-related policies. How can disputes over pension frameworks be resolved through transparent and consultative governance?

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

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Judicial review, Article 14, Article 309, legitimate expectations, court undertakings, employee welfare, fiscal sustainability, stakeholder consultation, transparency, federal governance, administrative accountability.

Model Answer

Introduction

Pension policies are an important component of employee welfare and financial security. Disputes over draft rules and changes in retirement benefits highlight the need for administrative transparency and adherence to judicial directions.

Role of Judicial Accountability

Judicial review ensures that executive decisions comply with constitutional provisions and applicable legal obligations. Where governments give undertakings before courts, they are expected to honour them in accordance with their legal nature. Arbitrary changes in service-related benefits may also raise concerns under Article 14.

Need for Consultative Governance

Governments should involve employee associations and other stakeholders while framing pension and provident fund rules. Draft policies, financial implications and eligibility criteria should be clearly communicated. Changes in existing arrangements must follow applicable service rules and legal protections.

A transparent grievance-redressal mechanism, timely implementation of court directions and independent legal scrutiny can reduce institutional disputes.

Balancing Welfare and Fiscal Sustainability

Pension reforms should consider demographic changes, long-term liabilities and budgetary capacity without disregarding legitimate employee interests.

Conclusion

Accountable administration requires a balance between fiscal prudence, employee welfare and constitutional compliance. Transparent consultation and respect for judicial processes strengthen public trust.

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