Polity & Governance · GS - II

How can the use of regional languages in administrative tribunals improve access to justice? Discuss the constitutional and administrative challenges involved.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 02/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Access to justice; linguistic accessibility; constitutional language provisions; administrative tribunals; legal translation; procedural consistency

Model Answer

Introduction

Access to justice requires that citizens can understand legal procedures and effectively present their grievances. Permitting regional languages in appropriate administrative tribunal proceedings can reduce linguistic barriers and improve participation.

Benefits

1. Greater accessibility: Litigants who are more comfortable in their regional language can explain facts and understand proceedings more effectively.

2. Reduced procedural barriers: Language flexibility may reduce dependence on translation and interpretation, particularly in routine applications and supporting documents.

3. Inclusive governance: Regional-language access can strengthen citizens' confidence in administrative justice and make institutions more responsive.

Constitutional and Administrative Challenges

Language arrangements must comply with constitutional provisions, applicable laws and tribunal rules. Inconsistent terminology, translation errors, availability of trained personnel and difficulties in maintaining uniform legal records may complicate implementation.

Way Forward

Tribunals should establish clear language rules, develop standardised legal terminology, provide reliable translation facilities and train staff. Digital filing systems should support regional-language documents while preserving accurate official records and procedural fairness.

Conclusion

Regional-language access can make administrative justice more inclusive, provided it is supported by clear procedures, reliable translation and consistent legal standards.

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