Polity & Governance · GS - II

“Public confidence in the judiciary is essential for the legitimacy of constitutional democracy.” Discuss the role of judicial independence, access to justice and accountability in strengthening public trust in India’s judicial system. (150 words, 10 marks)

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
Daily Practice 11/10/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Discuss judicial independence, constitutional remedies, affordable and timely justice, transparency, accountability, legal aid, judicial vacancies and reforms to strengthen public confidence in the judiciary.

Model Answer

Public confidence in the judiciary is fundamental to constitutional democracy because courts protect rights, resolve disputes and ensure that government authorities act within the law.

Role of the judiciary: Judicial independence enables courts to decide cases without improper external influence. Articles 32 and 226 provide constitutional remedies for enforcing rights, while judicial review safeguards constitutional supremacy. Fair hearings and reasoned judgments strengthen public confidence.

Challenges: Judicial delays, case backlogs, litigation costs, vacancies and unequal access to legal representation can weaken public trust. Repeated litigation and uncertainty over remedies may also create frustration among citizens and litigants.

Way Forward: Filling judicial vacancies, improving court infrastructure, strengthening legal aid, using technology responsibly and simplifying procedures can improve access to justice. Transparent judicial administration and appropriate accountability mechanisms should complement judicial independence.

Conclusion: An independent judiciary must also be accessible, efficient and responsive. Strengthening these attributes is essential for protecting fundamental rights, upholding the rule of law and maintaining public faith in democratic institutions.

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