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Q13

Account for the legal and political factors responsible for the reduced frequency of using Article 356 by the Union Governments since mid 1990s.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · GS II · 15 marks · Indian Constitution

Indian Constitution - historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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S.R. Bommai v. Union of India (1994)

Nine-judge Bench: **Article 356** is subject to judicial review; majority is tested on the Assembly floor.

Constitution (44th Amendment) Act, 1978

Tightened **Article 356** by parliamentary control and limits on the life of the proclamation.

Sarkaria Commission

Recommended that **Article 356** be used sparingly, as a last resort, after other constitutional options.

Rameshwar Prasad v. Union of India (2006)

Struck down dissolution of the Bihar Assembly as a misuse of Governor and Union power related to floor arithmetic.

Punchhi Commission

Returned to Centre-State relations and again cautioned against routine President's Rule.

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