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Q46

The main advantage of the parliamentary form of government is that (a) the executive and legislature work independently. (b) it provides continuity of policy and is more efficient. (c) the executive remains responsible to the legislature. (d) the head of the government cannot be changed without election. Official key: C.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2017 · General Studies · 2 marks · Polity and Governance

Indian Constitution, polity, rights, governance - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a)**

(a) Executive and legislature work independently. That is the presidential / separation-of-powers claim, the opposite of parliamentary fusion. Not the key.

(b)

(b) Continuity of policy and more efficiency. Presidential systems often claim continuity; parliamentary governments can fall mid-term. Not the distinctive advantage here.

(c) Official key

(c) The executive remains responsible to the legislature. Collective responsibility of the Council of Ministers to the Lok Sabha is the core advantage of the parliamentary form. This is the official key.

(d)

(d) The head of government cannot be changed without election. A Prime Minister can be replaced without a general election if the House majority shifts. Not the key.

Summary

Official key is (c) the executive remains responsible to the legislature. In a parliamentary system the government is born of the lower house and can be removed by it (confidence, **no-confidence**, money-bill defeat). Independence of executive and legislature is presidential. Continuity without mid-term change is not guaranteed. **Article 75(3)** states collective responsibility to the Lok Sabha. That is the main advantage asked.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Article 75(3)

Collective responsibility to Lok Sabha

Article 74

Council of Ministers to aid and advise

No-confidence

Rule 198, Lok Sabha

Presidential system

Fixed term; separation of powers

Westminster

British parliamentary model

Article 85

Sessions of Parliament

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