CONSTITUTION OF INDIA · PART I · ARTICLES 1–4 · REVISION SHEET

The Union and its Territory

Everything for the test on one page. Watch the video, read this, then take the 32-question practice test.

ARTICLE 1(1) · THE EXACT WORDS

“India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States.”

Two official names for one country. “Union” was chosen on purpose.

Why “Union”, not “Federation”?

In a federation, separate states **agree** to join, so they could leave. India’s States made no deal to join, so there is **no deal to walk out of**. Dr. Ambedkar: a Union “because it is indestructible”. **No State has a right of secession.** States still have elected governments and real powers.

1 Name and territory of the Union

- Names and areas of States + UTs are listed in the **First Schedule**.
- Territory of India = **(a)** States + **(b)** Union Territories + **(c)** territory acquired later.

Real: 2019, J&K reorganised into two UTs (J&K, Ladakh) · S. R. Bommai (1994): use of Art. 356 is open to judicial review; federalism is basic structure.

2 Admitting or establishing NEW States

- **Parliament** by an **ordinary law**, “on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit”.
- Brings land **in**. Never gives land away.
- Terms cannot go against the Constitution’s basic features (R. C. Poudyal, 1993).

Real: Sikkim became a State in 1975 by the **36th Amendment**, not by an Art. 2 law.

3 Changing EXISTING States

- Parliament can: (a) form a new State · (b) increase · (c) diminish area · (d) alter boundaries · (e) alter name.
- Two safety steps: **President recommends** the Bill; the President **refers it to the affected State Legislature** for its views, within a time limit.
- **Consult, not consent:** the State is heard, but cannot stop the law.
- UTs can be reshaped too, but are **not** consulted first.

Real: States Reorganisation Act 1956 · Telangana 2014 · J&K and Ladakh 2019.

4 The helper Article

- A law under Art. 2 or 3 also updates the **First Schedule** (States & UTs) and **Fourth Schedule** (Rajya Sabha seats).
- It can settle “consequential” matters too, like seats in Parliament and the Assembly.
- Art. 4(2): it is **not** an amendment under **Art. 368**, so a **simple majority** is enough.

Real: Punjab Reorganisation 1966 gave Haryana a 54-member Assembly, below the usual minimum; upheld in Mangal Singh.

Words to know

Union	One whole country, not a club States can join or leave
Federation	Formed when separate states agree to come together
Secession	A part of a country breaking away to become independent
Union Territory	Governed directly by the Union, or in a special way set by law
Schedule	A list or table attached to the Constitution
Bill · Proviso	A proposed law · a condition added to a rule
Consequential	Following as a result of something else
Bifurcate	To divide into two (Andhra Pradesh, 2014)

Exam traps

- The affected State is **consulted**, but its **consent** is not needed.
- Giving land to another country needs a **constitutional amendment** (Berubari, 1960 → 9th Amendment).
- Sikkim joined by the **36th Amendment** (1975), not an ordinary Art. 2 law. Art. 2A was added in 1974, then removed.
- Art. 2 = **new** land in · Art. 3 = **existing** States changed.
- Art. 2/3 laws change the Schedules but are **not** Art. 368 amendments.

Dates to remember

1956	1960	1966	1975	2014	2019
States Reorganisation Act; 7th Amendment	Berubari Reference; 9th Amendment	Punjab split; Haryana created	Sikkim a full State (36th Amdt.)	Telangana formed from Andhra Pradesh	J&K and Ladakh become UTs

Imaginary comparisons in the video (league of schools, one school with houses, class seating plan, notice board) are illustrations, not history.