

17-09-2022

Constitutional Monarchy

Why in Newspapers?

After the death of Queen Elizabeth II on 8 September, her eldest son Charles has become the new King of Britain. 72-year-old Charles is the oldest monarch to ever ascend the throne of Britain.

Quick Issue?

- Apart from the Kingship of Britain, he also has the responsibility of heads of state of more than a dozen countries. However, he could be officially crowned in 2023.

Historical Background?

- There are different types of governance systems in different countries around the world. These include countries with full presidential system, semi-presidential system, parliamentary republic, parliamentary republic with nominal head of state, constitutional monarchy, quasi-constitutional monarchy, absolute monarchy and one-party state etc.
- Apart from this, there are some countries where the status of the system of governance is a bit unclear, that is, there is a provisional government or a completely different system of governance. Here we will only talk about the constitutional monarchy which is the current system of Britain.
- Before knowing about constitutional monarchy, let us know what a monarchy is. Monarchy is a type of government, where the leader or ruler is chosen from a particular family from generation to generation.

Other Key Facts?

Indian Parliamentary System and British Parliamentary System

- It is often heard that the parliamentary system of India is a copy of the British parliamentary system. But there are some fundamental differences between the Indian parliamentary system and the British parliamentary system. For example, in the British parliamentary system, instead of the British monarchy, the republican system has been adopted in India i.e. in Britain the head of state is made on the basis of genetics, whereas in India the head of state is elected by the people who are the president. . The British parliamentary system is based on the principle of the sovereignty of the Parliament, whereas the Parliament in India is not supreme. Here provisions have been made for written constitution, federal system and judicial review etc. It is mandatory for the Prime Minister of Britain that he has to be a member of the lower house i.e. House of Commons whereas the Prime Minister of India can be a member of either of the two houses. Apart from this, usually in Britain only members of parliament are appointed ministers, whereas in India a person who is not a Member of Parliament can also become a minister. However, such a person can become a minister only for 6 months.



- In this it is not elected by the public. The head of the country, who sits on the throne, is known as the emperor or king and the manner in which the king is elected and governed is called monarchy. In this, the word of the king is the rule.
- Constitutional Monarchy is called that system of governance of a state in which the supreme ruler is the king but his powers are limited by any constitution or law. This means that that king cannot rule by his own arbitrariness. The king is bound by the written or unwritten law of that country.
- There is a similar constitutional monarchy system in Britain and Japan. In most such countries the real power of power or politics lies in the parliament elected by the people. That is why sometimes they are also called parliamentary monarchies.
- This monarchy of Britain has some constitutional duties, such as the King Queen here approves the government elected by the people.
- The King of Britain formally appoints the Prime Minister, elected through the constitutional system. For this the head of the party that wins the election is invited to form the government. Along with this, the King or Queen appoints certain officials or gives them state honours. In addition, King's address takes place at the State Opening or the beginning of the parliamentary year.
- When a law is passed through Parliament, it is also the job of the King or Queen to put a formal seal on it. However, in some unusual circumstances the king has some reserved powers, under which he can unilaterally dismiss the elected government. But after the Second World War, such a rare has been seen.

Likely Question Asked In Preliminary Exam

Que. Which of the following is/are the characteristics of a democratic government?

1. People have the right to choose their leaders.
2. The people ruled themselves by participating in the making of these rules.
3. Minority rule is one of the main features of democracy.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| (a) 1 and 2 only | (b) 1 and 3 only |
| (c) 2 and 3 only | (d) 1, 2 and 3 |

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Que. Select the correct option for the federal government from the following:

- I. The Central Government can give orders to the Provincial Governments.
- II. The Central Government cannot give orders to the State Government.
- III. The state government has its own powers; it is not answerable to the central government.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| (a) II only | (b) I and III only |
| (c) II and III only | (d) I and II only |

Answer: (c) II and III only

UNDP Human Development Index 2021-22

Why in Newspapers?

According to a report of the United Nations Development Program i.e. UNDP, the human development situation in India is not very good.

Quick Issue?

- The report says that in the year 2021, India ranked 132 out of the list of 191 countries, while in the year 2020, India was ranked 131 in the list of 189 countries. This means that India's position in the report has dropped by a notch.

Historical Background?

- The Human Development Index (HDI) was developed jointly by Pakistani economist Mehboob-ul-Haq and Indian economist Amartya Sen.
- It is an annual index published by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) based on parameters such as life expectancy, expected years of schooling, average years of schooling, and gross national income.
- In the year 2020, two new components carbon dioxide emissions and material footprint have also been added to it. So that the increasing human pressure on the earth can also be judged.
- This index was first released in 1990. Since then this index and its related report are being published every year. The latest report was released on September 8, 2022.
- ^ The theme of Human Development Report, 2021-22 is "Uncertain Times, Unsettled Lives: Shaping our Future in a World in Transformation: Shaping Our Future in a World in Transformation".
- Switzerland leads the HDI report. Norway and Iceland are in second and third place. South Asian countries include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan,

Other Key Facts?

What is the status of India?

- According to this report, India's position in the Human Development Index of 191 countries for the year 2021 is not good. India is ranked 132 in HDI, whereas earlier in 2020, India was one place ahead i.e. 131st in the list of 189 countries. India's ADI value in the current list is 0.6333 i.e. it is a country with medium human development category. The average age in the country has come down from 69.7 years to 67.2 years. One of the other parameters on which these reports are prepared is the issue of school education. The average years of schooling in India are 6.7 while it should be 11.9 years. The per capita Gross National Income was US\$ 6,590, while India is ranked 122 in the Gender Inequality Index. In this way, the Human Development Index on the basis of health, education and average income recorded a decline in 2020 and 2021. India lagged behind many neighbouring countries in this



Sri Lanka. Only Pakistan and Afghanistan (180th place) are in the low human development category.

- About 90 percent of the countries are such where there has been a decrease in Human Development Index values during the year 2020-21. This cannot be justified in terms of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
- The biggest reason for this decline in the index is the fall in life expectancy, which has come down from 72.8 years in 2019 to 71.4 years in 2021. According to the report, due to the Kovid-19 pandemic, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the climate crisis have affected the Human Development Index of 90 percent of the countries.
- It is one of the few multidimensional indices that include indicators like literacy rate, enrolment ratio, life expectancy rate and infant mortality rate. It can be considered as a de facto criterion to measure development in the real sense.
- While per capita income growth means economic growth, HDI also considers many other important social indicators and helps to measure the progress of a nation in terms of human welfare.

Likely Question Asked In Preliminary Exam

Que. Who among the following has been appointed as the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights recently?

- (a) Volker Turk
- (b) Alpesh Mistry
- (c) Chingum Dhola
- (d) Fumio Kishida

Answer - (a) Volker Turk

Que. Human development index includes literacy rate, life expectancy at birth and?

- (a) Per Capita Gross National Product in US Dollars
- (b) Per Capita National Income in US Dollars
- (c) GDP per capita at real purchasing power
- (d) GDP in US dollars

Answer - (b) Per capita national income in US dollars