

Daily Mains Practice Answer 27-08-2026

Q. Judicial appointments in India suffer from the twin challenges of institutional opacity and executive-judiciary friction. Examine their impact on the administration of justice. (150 words, 10 marks)

Directions: Intro-----Impacts of institutional opacity & executive-judiciary friction-----Conclusion.

Introduction:

Brief about the judiciary - an independent and efficient judiciary - timely, transparent and merit-based appointment of judges.

Main Body

Impact of institutional opacity:

- Questions over merit and accountability - Selection criteria, appointments, etc. - create perceptions of favouritism or nepotism.
- Limited diversity in the judiciary - Under-representation of women, SCs, STs, OBCs, minorities and other marginalised sections.
- Weak public trust - Secrecy in appointments - suspicion regarding the independence and fairness of the institution.
- Difficulty in institutional self-correction.

Impact of executive-judiciary friction:

- Vacancies and judicial backlog
- Direct impact on access to justice - Prolonged litigation, increased legal costs and delayed remedies - "justice delayed is justice denied".
- Administrative disruption - Delays in appointments affects constitution & functioning of Benches, allocation of judicial work, disposal of important matters & overall court administration.
- Threat to institutional independence - Excessive executive influence or prolonged withholding of appointments - indirect pressure on the judiciary.

Conclusion:

Give a balanced conclusion and suggest some way forward measures.

Judicial independence cannot mean institutional opacity, just as executive accountability

cannot become executive control over the judiciary.

