

# Discuss the powers and functions of China's National People's Congress

## 01. INTRODUCTION

The National People's Congress (NPC) is the highest legislative body and supreme organ of state power in the People's Republic of China, established under the 1954 Constitution. It operates within the framework of democratic centralism, reflecting the political dominance of the Communist Party of China (CPC). As the largest parliamentary body in the world, the NPC exercises legislative, supervisory, and electoral powers, playing a central role in shaping China's legal, economic, and political systems. It serves as a key institution for policy formulation and governance, ensuring stability and alignment with the CPC's

vision for national development

## 02. Powers And Functions Of The NPC

- Legislative Powers
- Supervisory and oversight powers
- Elective Powers
- Decision Making Powers on Major Policies
- Amendment of the Constitution
- Declaration of war and emergency Powers.

### 2.1 Legislative Powers

The NPC has the authority to enact, amend, and repeal laws related to critical matters such as civil rights, economic policies, and criminal codes. It formulates and revises the

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Constitution of the People's Republic of China, ensuring alignment with evolving national goals. Major frameworks like the Civil Code (2020) and Foreign Investment Law (2019) highlight its legislative influence.

## (2.2) Supervisory And Oversight Powers

The NPC exercises control over state organs such as the State Council, the Supreme People's Court, and Supreme People's Procuratorate. It reviews work reports submitted by these bodies, ensuring accountability and performance evaluation. The NPC monitors the enforcement of laws and implementation of policies, maintaining checks and balances.

Use more specific and self explanatory headings

### (2.3) Elective Powers

It elects and removes key state officials, including the President and Vice President of China, The Premier of the State Council upon nomination by the President, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme People's Court. Such powers establish the NPC as a central authority in leadership transitions and appointments

### (2.4) Decision-Making Powers On Major Policies

The NPC deliberates and approves plans concerning economic and social development, including five-year plans that define growth strategies. It ratifies national budgets and oversees fiscal management, ensuring resource allocation aligns with policy priorities. Matters related to national defense, foreign relations, and treaties are reviewed

Leave a line space between headings for neatness

and approved by the NPC, strengthening China's sovereignty.

### (2.5) Amendment Of the Constitution

The NPC has exclusive authority to amend the constitution by a two-third majority vote. This function enable the NPC to adapt constitutional provisions in response to social and political transformations.

### (2.6) Declaration Of War And Emergency Powers

The NPC has the power to decide on matters related to war and peace. It can authorize the imposition of martial law or emergency measures during national crises.

Add more arguments. A 20 marks answer should have around 15 subheadings and be on 7-9 pages

## 03. Criticism And Limitations

While the NPC is portrayed as the supreme legislative authority,

critics argue that it largely functions as a rubber stamp for decisions already made by Communist Party of China (CPC). The CPC maintains strict control over nominations, ensuring decisions align with party interests. Despite this criticism, the NPC serves as a vital institutional framework in China's political system.

#### 04. Conclusion

The National People's Congress is a key institution in China's governance, exercising legislative, supervisory, and decision-making powers. While operating under the influence of the Communist Party, it plays a vital role in maintaining political stability, enacting laws, and guiding national development within a centralized framework.