



60 Steps To Prelims (2021) (Date : 23-04-2021)

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Question 1:

Uranium is the major mineral for the production of atomic energy, consider the following statements regarding it:

1. Uranium is found in the slate rocks of the Precambrian and Dharwar periods in India.
2. Uranium is obtained from monazite and ilmenite.
3. It is mainly found in Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Meghalaya.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer : 3

Explanation

- **Atomic Minerals In India:**
 - Atomic minerals are the most important among non-fossil energy resources.
 - They are found in the slate rocks of the Pre-Cambrian and Dharwar periods in India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - Uranium is mined directly whereas thorium is obtained from monazite and ilmenite. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

- **Distribution of Uranium** are as follows:
 - Jharkhand: Singhbhum district (Jadugoda mining centre)
 - Rajasthan: Jhunjhunu, Visundih (Ajmer), Umra (Udaipur)
 - Andhra Pradesh: Sakra Pahar (Nellore)
 - Meghalaya: Domiatas, Jaintia Hills
 - Chhattisgarh: Durg
 - Maharashtra: Bhandara
 - Himachal Pradesh: Kullu
 - **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
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Question 2:

Consider the following statements regarding Co-operative Societies:

1. The state legislature shall provide for the reservation of one seat for the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes and two seats for women on the board of every co-operative society.
2. The term of office of elected members of the board of Co-operative Societies shall be ten years.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : 1

Explanation

- The state legislature shall provide for the reservation of one seat for the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes and two seats for women on the board of every co-operative society having members from such a category of persons. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - The term of office of elected members of the board and its office bearers shall be five years from the date of election. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
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Question 3:

Consider the following statements:

1. India is a Consultative Member of the Antarctic Treaty System.
2. Dakshin Gangotri and Maitri are Indian stations in Antarctica whereas Bharati is an Indian station in the Arctic.

Which of the statements given above **NOT** is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : 2

Explanation

- India officially acceded to the Antarctic Treaty System on 1st August 1983. On 12 September 1983, India became the fifteenth Consultative Member of the Antarctic Treaty. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - India is expanding its infrastructure development in Antarctica. The newest base commissioned in 2015 is Bharati. India is rebuilding its station, Maitri to make it bigger and last for at least 30 more years. Dakshin Gangotri is the first Indian base established at Antarctica in 1984. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
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Question 4:

With reference to “Departmentally Related Standing Committees” (DRSCs), consider the following statements:

1. They assist the Parliament in examining the topic more effectively.
2. Each standing committee has 21 members from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha.
3. They are temporary in nature.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer : 1

Explanation

- On the recommendation of the Rules Committee of the Lok Sabha, 17 Departmentally-Related Standing Committees (DRSCs) were set up in the Parliament in 1993. In 2004, seven more such committees were setup, thus increasing their number from 17 to 24.
 - They are also known as India's Mini Parliaments and assist the Parliament in examining the topic more effectively. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - They perform three important functions:
 - examine Bills referred to them;
 - select specific topics related to the ministries and examine implementation by the Government; and
 - examine the budgetary outlays of the departments.
 - The 24 standing committees cover under their jurisdiction all the ministries/departments of the Central Government.
 - Each standing committee consists of 31 members (21 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha). The members of the Lok Sabha are nominated by the Speaker from amongst its own members, just as the members of the Rajya Sabha are nominated by the Chairman from amongst its members. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - A minister is not eligible to be nominated as a member of any of the standing committees. In case a member, after his nomination to any of the standing committees, is appointed a minister, he then ceases to be a member of the committee.
 - The term of office of each standing committee is one year from the date of its constitution.
 - Out of the 24 standing committees, 8 work under the Rajya Sabha and 16 under the Lok Sabha.
 - In contrast to ad-hoc committees, Standing Committees are permanent in nature. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
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Question 5:

What will follow if a Money Bill is substantially amended by the Rajya Sabha?

1. The Lok Sabha may still proceed with the Bill, accepting or not accepting the recommendations of the Rajya Sabha
2. The Lok Sabha cannot consider the Bill further
3. The Lok Sabha may send the Bill to the Rajya Sabha for reconsideration
4. The President may call a joint sitting for passing the Bill

Correct Answer : 1

Explanation

- Money Bill is defined under **Article 110 of the Indian Constitution**. A Bill is said to be a Money Bill if it contains provisions related to taxations, regulations of the borrowing of money by the Government and expenditure from or receipt to the Consolidated Fund of India.
 - **Features of Money Bill**
 - It can be introduced only in the Lower House of the Parliament (Lok Sabha).
 - If any question arises whether a Bill is a Money Bill or not, the decision of the Speaker of the House of the People, thereon, shall be final and it cannot be questioned in any Court.
 - Thereafter, the Bill is placed in Rajya Sabha and Rajya Sabha can return the Bill with or without its recommendations.
 - **Lok Sabha, under Article 109 of the Constitution, has the option to accept or reject all or any of the recommendations made by Rajya Sabha.**
 - The Bill has to be returned within a period of 14 days from the date of its receipt by Rajya Sabha. Otherwise, it is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses. **The amendments suggested by the Rajya Sabha may or may not be accepted by the Lok Sabha.**
 - **Hence, option A is correct.**
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Question 6:

Consider the following statements:

1. The office of Whip, in India, is mentioned in the rules of the House.
2. The members of the House are supposed to follow the directives given by the Whip.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : 2

Explanation

- Every Political Party has its own whip, who is appointed by the party to serve as an assistant floor leader.

- The **office of whip is mentioned neither in the Constitution of India nor in the Rules of the House nor in a Parliamentary Statute.** It is based on the conventions of the parliamentary government. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - He has the responsibility of ensuring the attendance of his party members in large numbers and securing their support in favour of or against a particular issue.
 - He regulates and monitors their behaviour in the Parliament.
 - He communicates the decision of the party leader to the members and the opinion of the party members to the party leader.
 - The members are supposed to follow the directives given by the Whip. Failing to do so can invite disciplinary actions like disqualification from party membership or expulsion under the Anti-Defection Law. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
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Question 7:

Consider the following statements about intercropping:

1. It is growing of two or more crops simultaneously intermingled without row arrangement.
2. There is no competition between main and intercrop (subsidiary crop).
3. The sowing time of component crops is the same.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 1 and 2 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 2 only

Correct Answer : 4

Explanation

- **Intercropping:** Growing two or more crops simultaneously with distinct row arrangement on the same field at the same time. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Base crop:** primary crop which is planted/ sown at its optimum sole crop population in an intercropping situation.
- **Intercrop:** This is a second crop planted in between rows of base crop with a view to obtain extra yields with intercrop without compromise in the main crop yields. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Difference between inter cropping and mixed cropping

Inter cropping	Mixed cropping
The main objective of inter cropping is to utilise the space between rows of main crop and to produce more grain per unit area	The main objective of mixed cropping is insurance against crop failure
There is no competition between main and inter crop (subsidiary crop)	There is competition between component crops. Here all crops are given equal importance and care. Hence, there is no difference between component crops
In inter cropping, the main crop may be a long duration one and the inter crop may be a short duration/early maturing one	Crops may or may not be of same duration.
Main and inter crops are sown in definite row arrangement	There is no specific row arrangement. Generally crop seeds are mixed and broadcasted
The sowing time of both the crops may or may not be the same. Sometimes the main crops is sown earlier than the inter crop. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.	The sowing time of component crops are the same.

Question 8:

What is Gram Sabha?

1. It is a village assembly consisting of all the registered voters.
2. An organised public meeting of only elderly male population.
3. It is a group of people who are already designated in the state legislature.
4. It is a village assembly consisting of only elected members of Panchayat.

Correct Answer : 1

Explanation

- **Gram Sabha: The 73rd Amendment Act, 1992** provides for a Gram Sabha as the foundation of the panchayati raj system. It is a body consisting of persons registered in the electoral rolls of a village within the area of Panchayat at the village level.

- Thus, it is a village assembly **consisting of all the registered voters** in the area of a panchayat. It may exercise such powers and perform such functions at the village level as the legislature of a state determines. **Hence, option (a) is correct.**
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Question 9:

With reference to the Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFCs), consider the following statements:

1. The Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) runs from Dankuni in West Bengal to Rewari in Haryana.
2. Dedicated Freight Corridors are being developed under the aegis of the Ministry of Railways.
3. The majority of the funding for the project is coming from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the UNDP.

Which of the statement (s) given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer : 2

Explanation

- The Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) with a route length of 1856 km runs from Dankuni in West Bengal to Ludhiana (Punjab). **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - Dedicated Freight Corridors are being developed by the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd (DFCCIL), which is a Special Purpose Vehicle, under the Ministry of Railways, tasked with planning and completion of 3,306 kms of Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs), consisting of Western Freight Corridor and Eastern Freight Corridor. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - The majority of the funding for the project is coming in the form of loans from the World Bank and Japan International Cooperation Agency. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
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Question 10:

Consider the following statements regarding Karewa soils:

1. Karewas are lacustrine deposits (deposits in lakes) in the Valley of Kashmir and in Bhaderwah Valley of the Jammu Division.
2. The karewas are mainly devoted to the cultivation of saffron.
3. It comprises unconsolidated gravel and mud and does not contain any organic content.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2 only
4. 3 only

Correct Answer : 1

Explanation

- **Karewas:** The word Karewa in Kashmiri dialect means “elevated table-land.” These sediments occur as terraces, plateaus and mounds and rest over the Paleozoic-Mesozoic sediments of the Kashmir ‘basin’.
 - It is an intermountain valley fill, consisting of unconsolidated gravel and mud. A succession of plateaus is present above the Plains of Jhelum and its tributaries. These plateau-like terraces are called ‘Karewas’ or ‘Vudr’ in the local language.
 - Despite continuous erosion for millions of years, more than half of the valley is still occupied by the Karewa.
 - Thus, Karewas are lacustrine deposits (deposits in lake) in the Valley of Kashmir and in Bhaderwah Valley of the Jammu Division. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - These are the flat topped mounds that border the Kashmir Valley on all sides. They are characterized by fossils of mammals and at places by peat. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
 - The Kashmir Himalayas are also famous for Karewa formations, which are useful for the cultivation of Zafran, a local variety of saffron. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
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Question 11:

What is the difference between “vote-on-account” and “Interim Budget”?

1. The provision of a “vote-on-account” is used by a regular Government while an “interim budget” is a provision used by a caretaker Government.
2. A “vote-on-account” only deals with the expenditure in Government’s budget, while an “interim budget” includes both expenditure and receipts.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : 2

Explanation

- To keep the administration functioning, the **vote-on-account is passed after the general discussion on the budget**, as the **Appropriation Bill** and the **Finance Bill** take time to become an Act.
 - **Vote-on-account** is a permission to withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India usually for two months, equivalent to 1/6 th of the total budget. It involves only the expenditure side of the government. **It can be presented by a regular government or a caretaker government.**
 - When elections are scheduled a few months into a new financial year, the government seeks a vote-on-account usually for four months. The government presents an interim budget if it does not have the time to present a full budget or because the elections may be near. In the latter situation, propriety demands, i.e., the task of framing the full budget is left to the newly elected government.
The newly elected government has full freedom to change the estimates completely when the final Budget is presented. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - **The interim budget has a complete set of accounts, containing the receipt as well as expenditure.** The interim budget may be presented by a regular or caretaker government. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
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Question 12:

Consider the following statements regarding Anti-Defection Law:

1. The 25th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1958 provided for the disqualification of the members of Parliament and the state legislatures on the ground of defection from one political party to another.
2. A nominated member may join any political party within six months of taking his seat in the House without inviting this disqualification.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only

2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : 2

Explanation

Anti-Defection Law: The **52nd Amendment Act of 1985** provided for the disqualification of the members of Parliament and the state legislatures on the ground of defection from one political party to another. For this purpose, it made changes in four Articles of the Constitution and added a new Schedule (the Tenth Schedule) to the Constitution. This act is often referred to as the 'anti-defection law'. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

Disqualification:

- **Nominated Members:** A nominated member of a House becomes disqualified for being a member of the House if he joins any political party after the expiry of six months from the date on which he takes his seat in the House. This means that he may join any political party within six months of taking his seat in the House without inviting this disqualification. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - **Members of Political Parties:** A member of a House belonging to any political party becomes disqualified for being a member of the House, (a) if he voluntarily gives up his membership of such political party; or (b) if he votes or abstains from voting in such House contrary to any direction issued by his political party without obtaining prior permission of such party and such act has not been condoned by the party within 15 days.
 - **Independent Members:** An independent member of a House (elected without being set up as a candidate by any political party) becomes disqualified to remain a member of the House if he joins any political party after such election.
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Question 13:

Consider the following statements:

1. State legislatures can not initiate the bill related to the creation and abolition of the legislative council of the state.
2. The constitution prescribes a time frame within which the state legislatures should ratify or reject an amendment of the Constitution submitted to them.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : 4

Explanation

Critics have criticised the amendment procedure of the Constitution on the following grounds:

- There is no provision for a special body like Constitutional Convention (as in USA) or Constitutional Assembly for amending the Constitution. The constituent power is vested in the Parliament and only in few cases, in the state legislatures.
- The power to initiate an amendment to the Constitution lies with the Parliament. Except in one case, that is, passing a resolution requesting the Parliament for the creation or abolition of Legislative Councils in the states. Here also, the Parliament can either approve or disapprove such a resolution or may not take any action on it.
Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- Major part of the Constitution can be amended by the Parliament alone either by a special majority or by a simple majority. Only in few cases, the consent of the state legislatures is required and that too, only half of them, while in USA, it is three-fourths of the states.
- The Constitution does not prescribe the time frame within which the state legislatures should ratify or reject an amendment submitted to them. Also, it is silent on the issue whether the states can withdraw their approval after the same. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- There is no provision for holding a joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament if there is a deadlock over the passage of a constitutional amendment bill. On the other hand, a provision for a joint sitting is made in the case of an ordinary bill.
- The process of amendment is similar to that of a legislative process. Except for the special majority, the constitutional amendment bills are to be passed by the Parliament in the same way as ordinary bills.
- The provisions relating to the amendment procedure are too sketchy. Hence, they leave a wide scope for taking the matter to the judiciary.

Question 14:

Consider the following pairs:

Tiger Reserve	State
1. Pakhui	– West Bengal
2. Nameri	– Arunachal Pradesh
3. Anshi-Dandeli	– Tamil Nadu
4. Kawal	– Telangana

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 4 only
3. 1, 2 and 4 only
4. 2, 3 and 4 only

Correct Answer : 2

Explanation

- Pakke Tiger Reserve also known as Pakhui Tiger Reserve lies in the East Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh.
 - Nameri Tiger Reserve is located in the foothills of the eastern Himalayas in the Sonitpur district of the state of Assam.
 - Anshi-Dandeli Tiger Reserve is located in Karnataka.
 - Kawal Tiger Reserve is located at Adilabad district in the Telangana state of India.
- Hence, option B is the correct answer.**

Question 15:

Consider the following statements:

1. Parliament may delegate any of the executive functions of the Centre to a State without the consent of that State.
2. President may entrust any of the executive functions of the Centre to a State with the consent of that State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only

3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : 3

Explanation

- The Constitution provides for inter-government delegation of executive functions in order to mitigate rigidity and avoid a situation of deadlock.
 - Accordingly, the President may, with the consent of the state government, entrust to that government any of the executive functions of the Centre. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - Conversely, the governor of a state may, with the consent of the Central government, entrust to that government any of the executive functions of the state. This mutual delegation of administrative functions may be conditional or unconditional.
 - The Constitution also makes a provision for the entrustment of the executive functions of the Centre to a state without the consent of that state. But, in this case, the delegation is by the Parliament and not by the President. Notably, the same thing cannot be done by the State legislature. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - Thus, the mutual delegation of functions between the Centre and the state can take place either under an agreement or by a legislation. While the Centre can use both the methods, a state can use only the first method.
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Question 16:

With reference to Parliamentary Privileges, consider the following statements:

1. It is also extended to those persons who are entitled to speak and take part in the proceedings of a House of Parliament or any of its committees.
2. It does not extend to the President who is an integral part of the Parliament.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : 3

Explanation

Parliamentary Privileges:

- Parliamentary privileges are special rights, immunities and exemptions enjoyed by the two Houses of Parliament, their committees and their members. The Constitution also extends the parliamentary privileges to those persons who are entitled to speak and take part in the proceedings of a House of Parliament or any of its committees. These include the Attorney General of India and Union ministers. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The parliamentary privileges do not extend to the President who is also an integral part of the Parliament. Article 361 of the Constitution provides for privileges for the President. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Article 105 of the Constitution expressly mentions two privileges, that is, freedom of speech in Parliament and right of publication of its proceedings. Apart from the privileges as specified in the Constitution, the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, provides for freedom from arrest and detention of members under civil process during the continuance of the meeting of the House or a committee thereof and forty days before its commencement and forty days after its conclusion. It needs to be noted that the Parliament, till now, has not made any special law to exhaustively codify all the privileges.

Why In News:

- The breach of privilege motion was recently moved against a private Hindi news channel and its Editor for reporting that members' first speech in the Lok Sabha was plagiarised. Plagiarism is a practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own.
- Parliamentary privileges are certain rights and immunities enjoyed by members of Parliament, individually and collectively, so that they can effectively discharge their functions. The Constitution (Article 105) mentions two privileges, i.e. freedom of speech in Parliament and right of publication of its proceedings.
- Rule No 222 in Chapter 20 of the Lok Sabha Rule Book and correspondingly Rule 187 in Chapter 16 of the Rajya Sabha rulebook governs privilege. The Speaker of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Chairperson is the first level of scrutiny of a privilege motion.
 - The Speaker/Chairperson can decide on the privilege motion himself or herself or refer it to the privileges committee of Parliament.
 - If the Speaker/Chairperson gives consent under respective rules, the member concerned is given an opportunity to make a short statement.

Privilege Committee:

- **Lok Sabha:** The Speaker nominates a committee of privileges consisting of 15 members as per respective party strengths.
- **Rajya Sabha:** The deputy chairperson heads the committee of privileges, that consists of 10 members.

Question 17:

With reference to the thorium, which of the following statements is not correct?

1. India holds one of the largest reserves of thorium.
2. The rate of decay of thorium is very slow.
3. The radiation emitted during the decay of thorium has been found to be very dangerous to human beings.
4. It needs to be combined with a fissile material like plutonium to turn it into nuclear fuel

Correct Answer : 3

Explanation

- Sands of the tropical beaches of India are rich in thorium – often hailed as a cleaner, safer alternative to conventional nuclear fuels.
 - The country has estimated 300,000 to 850,000 tonnes of thorium – quite probably the world’s largest reserves.
 - It promises carbon-free power with less dangerous waste, lower risk of meltdowns and a much harder route to weaponization than conventional nuclear power.
 - Thorium doesn’t spontaneously undergo fission – when an atom’s nucleus splits and releases energy that can generate electricity.
 - To turn it into nuclear fuel, it needs to be combined with a fissile material like plutonium, which releases neutrons as it undergoes fission.
 - Left to its own devices it decays very slowly, giving off **alpha radiation that can’t even penetrate human skin**, so holidaymakers don’t need to worry about sunbathing on thorium-rich beaches. **Hence, option (c) is correct.**
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Question 18:

Consider the following statements:

1. The Legislative Council of a State in India can be larger in size than half of the Legislative Assembly of that particular State.
2. The Governor of a State nominates the Chairman of the Legislative Council of that particular State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only

3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : 4

Explanation

- According to **Article 171 of the Indian Constitution**, the total number of members **in the Legislative Council of a State having such a Council cannot exceed one-third of the total number of members in the Legislative Assembly of that State**. However, it should not be less than 40. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - **Article 182** of the Constitution **mandates the Legislative Council of the State** to choose two members from among themselves as Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Council. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - **Article 169 of the Constitution** deals with the **creation and abolition of legislative councils in the states**.
 - For the abolition of the Legislative Council of a State having such a Council or the creation of such a Council in a State, the Legislative Assembly of the State passes a resolution to that effect by a majority of the total membership of the Assembly and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Assembly present and voting.
 - At present, 7 states-Uttar Pradesh, J&K, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Bihar are having a bicameral legislature consisting of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly.
 - **Hence, option D is correct.**
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Question 19:

Which of the following special powers have been conferred on the Rajya Sabha by the Constitution of India?

1. To change the existing territory of a State and to change the name of a State.
2. To pass a resolution empowering the Parliament to make laws in the State List and to create one or more All India services.
3. To amend the election procedure of the President and to determine the pension of the President after his/her retirement.
4. To determine the functions of the Election Commission and to determine the number of Election Commissioners.

Correct Answer : 2

Explanation

- Rajya Sabha has been conceived as another chamber, the federal chamber, to cater to the needs and aspirations of units of the federation in Indian Union.
 - The Rajya Sabha has been given two exclusive or special powers that are not enjoyed by the Lok Sabha:
 - **It can authorise the Parliament to make a law on a subject enumerated in the State List (Article 249).**
 - **It can authorise the Parliament to create new All- India Services common to both the Centre and States (Article 312).**
 - **Hence, option B is correct.**
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Question 20:

Consider the following statements:

1. The inscriptions issued by the Kushan rulers included texts only in Prakrit written in Br̥hm̥ or Kharoṣṭhī script.
2. The fourth Buddhist Council took place under the patronage of Kushan Ruler, Kanishka.
3. Ashvaghosha, who was part of the fourth Buddhist Council, had written Buddhacharita.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 2 only
2. 3 only
3. 1 and 2 only
4. 2 and 3 only

Correct Answer : 4

Explanation

- The inscriptions issued by the Kushan rulers included texts in Bactrian, written in Greek script and in Prakrit written in Br̥hm̥ or Kharoṣṭhī script. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - The fourth Buddhist Council took place under the patronage of Kushan Ruler, Kanishka in 72 AD at Kundalvana, Kashmir. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - Ashvaghosha, who was part of the fourth Buddhist Council, had written Buddhacharita and Mahalankara. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
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