

Test No.

02

— IAS 2022 —

Prelims/Mains TEST SERIES

Test Answer sheet

GENERAL STUDIES TEST - 02

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATION

Maximum Marks: 200

Q 1.D

- All statements are correct. Supplementary notes:
President's discretion

As per Article 74 President is bound by the advice of the council of ministers headed by the Prime Minister. Though he has no constitutional discretion, he has some situational discretion. In other words, the President can act on his discretion (that is, without the advice of the ministers) under the following situations:

- Appointment of Prime Minister when no party has a clear majority in the Lok Sabha or when the Prime Minister in office dies suddenly and there is no obvious successor.
- Dismissal of the council of ministers when it cannot prove the confidence in the Lok Sabha.
- Dissolution of the Lok Sabha if the council of ministers has lost its majority.
- After the **44th constitutional Amendment Act of 1978** the President may return a matter once for reconsideration of his ministers, but the reconsidered advice shall be binding. **Since the same parliamentary majority that passed the law in the first place can overrule this veto, it is considered to be solely suspensive and might only cause a temporary delay.**
- **Pocket Veto:** The President can exercise this veto power as the Constitution does not prescribe any time-limit within which he has to take the decision with respect to a bill presented to him for his assent.

Q 2.A

- The preamble of the Indian Constitution-
- WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and to secure to all its citizens:
 - JUSTICE, social, economic, and political; Hence statement 1 is correct.
 - LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith, and worship; Hence statement 2 is not correct.
 - EQUALITY of status and of opportunity; and to promote among them all, Hence statement 3 is correct.
 - FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation; Hence statement 4 is correct.

Q 3.A

- On 29th August 1947, the Constituent Assembly through a resolution appointed a Drafting Committee to scrutinise the draft of the text of the Constitution of India prepared by Constitutional Adviser and to submit to the Assembly for consideration the text of the draft constitution as revised by the committee.

- The Drafting Committee had seven members:
 - **Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar;**
 - N. Gopalaswami;
 - **B.R. Ambedkar;**
 - **K.M Munshi;**
 - Mohammad Saadulla;
 - B.L. Mitter and
 - D.P. Khaitan.
- At its first meeting on 30th August 1947, the Drafting Committee elected B.R Ambedkar as its Chairman.
- **Towards the end of October 1947, the Drafting Committee began to scrutinise the Draft Constitution prepared by the B.N Rau, the Constitutional Advisor .** It made various changes and submitted the Draft Constitution to the President of the Constituent Assembly on 21st of February 1948.
- Majority of the debates in Constituent Assembly revolved around the Draft Constitution(s) prepared by the Drafting Committee. Out of 165 sitting of the Constituent Assembly, 114 were spent debating the Draft Constitution(s).
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 4.B

- E9 is a forum of nine countries, namely Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan that aims at achieving the goals of UNESCO's Education For All (EFA) initiative.
- E9 Partnership was first established in 1993, formed to achieve the goals of UNESCO's Education For All (EFA). E9 Partnership is working for the achievement of SDG4 – Education 2030.
- Recently, Minister of State for Education attended a consultation meeting of Education Ministers of E9 countries on the theme 'E9 initiative: Scaling up digital learning to accelerate progress towards SDG4'.
- **Hence, option (b) is correct answer.**

Q 5.A

- Second Schedule contains the provisions relating to the emoluments, allowances, privileges etc. of the following:
 - The President of India
 - The Governors of States
 - The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha
 - The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha
 - The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in the states
 - The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council in the states
 - The Judges of the Supreme Court
 - **The Judges of the High Courts**
 - **The Comptroller and Auditor General of India.**
- The provisions in the Second Schedule can be amended by a simple majority of the two Houses of Parliament outside the scope of Article 368.
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 6.C

- When a person renounces his Indian Citizenship, every minor Child of that person also loses Indian citizenship. However, when such a child attains the age of 18, he may resume Indian Citizenship.
 - In this case, the Child will also stand to lose its citizenship because of being a minor. He will continue to be a minor even as of today. Thus, he won't be considered as an Indian Citizen. Hence, he will be able to enjoy only those fundamental rights which are available to both citizens and foreigners:
 - Equality before law and equal protection of laws (Article 14) ○ Protection in respect of conviction for offences (Article 20)
 - **Protection of life and personal liberty (Article 21). Right to Privacy has been declared as a fundamental right by Supreme Court under Article 21. Hence option 1 is correct.**
 - Right to education (Article 21A)
 - **Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases (Article 22). Hence option 2 is correct.**
 - Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour (Article 23).
 - Prohibition of employment of children in factories etc., (Article 24).
 - Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion (Article 25).
 - Freedom to manage religious affairs (Article 26).
 - Freedom from payment of taxes for promotion of any religion (Article 27).
 - Freedom from attending religious instruction or worship in certain educational institutions (Article 28).

A proclamation imposing President's Rule must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within two months from the date of its issue.

- However, if the proclamation of President's Rule is issued at a time when the Lok Sabha has been dissolved or the dissolution of the Lok Sabha takes place during the period of two months without approving the proclamation, then the proclamation survives until 30 days from the first sitting of the Lok Sabha after its reconstitution, provided the Rajya Sabha approves it in the meantime. **If approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the President's Rule continues for six months. It can be extended for a maximum period of three years with the approval of the Parliament, every six months. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- President may by Proclamation:
 - **assume to himself all or any of the functions of the Government of the State and all or any of the powers vested in or exercisable by the Governor or anybody or authority in the State other than the Legislature of the State; Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - declare that the powers of the Legislature of the State shall be exercisable by or under the authority of Parliament;
 - make such incidental and consequential provisions as appear to the president to be necessary or desirable for giving effect to the objects of the Proclamation

Q 7.D

- Recently, for the first time in 144 years, the Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) administration has decided to halt the bi-annual shifting of the capital, called ‘Durbar move’ due to the ongoing Covid-19 crisis.
- Darbar Move is a century-old practice in which the government functions for six months each in the two capitals of the State, Srinagar and Jammu i.e, bi-annual shifting of the capital.
- The government will function in Srinagar, the summer capital of the State, till late October and then move to **Jammu, the winter capital**, in the first week of November.
- **Hence, option (d) is correct.**

Q 8.D

- Following are some of the features of the parliamentary form of government in India:
 - **Nominal and Real Executives:** The President is the nominal executive (de jure executive or titular executive) while the Prime Minister is the real executive (de facto executive). Thus, the President is head of the State, while the Prime Minister is head of the government. Article 74 provides for a council of ministers headed by the Prime Minister to aid and advise the President in the exercise of his functions. The advice so tendered is binding on the President.
 - **Majority Party Rule:** The political party which secures majority seats in the Lok Sabha forms the government. The leader of that party is appointed as the Prime Minister by the President; other ministers are appointed by the President on the advice of the prime minister. However, when no single party gets the majority, a coalition of parties may be invited by the President to form the government.
 - **Collective Responsibility:** This is the bedrock principle of parliamentary government. The ministers are collectively responsible to the Parliament in general and to the Lok Sabha in particular (Article 75). They act as a team, and swim and sink together. The principle of collective responsibility implies that the Lok Sabha can remove the ministry (i.e., the council of ministers headed by the prime minister) from office by passing a vote of no confidence.
 - **Political Homogeneity:** Usually members of the council of ministers belong to the same political party, and hence they share the same political ideology. In the case of the coalition government, the ministers are bound by consensus.
 - **Double Membership:** **The ministers are members of both the legislature and the executive.** This means that a person cannot be a minister without being a member of Parliament. The Constitution stipulates that a minister who is not a member of the Parliament for a period of six consecutive months ceases to be a minister. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - **The leadership of the Prime Minister:** The Prime Minister plays a leadership role in this system of government. **He is the leader of the council of ministers, the leader of the Parliament, and the leader of the party in power.** In these capacities, he plays a significant and highly crucial role in the functioning of the government. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - **Dissolution of the Lower House:** The lower house of the Parliament (Lok Sabha) can be dissolved by the President on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. In other words, the prime minister can advise the President to dissolve the Lok Sabha before the expiry of its term and hold fresh elections. This means that the executive enjoys the right to get the legislature dissolved in a parliamentary system.
 - **Secrecy:** **The ministers operate on the principle of secrecy of procedure** and cannot divulge information about their proceedings, policies, and decisions. **They take the oath of secrecy before entering their office. The oath of secrecy to the ministers is administered by the President.** **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

Q 9.B

- Articles 358 and 359 describe the effect of a National Emergency on Fundamental Rights. Article 358 deals with the suspension of the Fundamental Rights guaranteed by Article 19, while Article 359 deals with the suspension of other Fundamental Rights (except those guaranteed by Articles 20 and 21).
- **Article 19 containing six rights can be suspended only when the National Emergency is declared on the grounds of war or external aggression and not on the ground of armed rebellion.**
- **Article 19 is automatically suspended only when the grounds for the proclamation of emergency is either war or external aggression. This provision was not there initially and was added by the 44th constitutional amendment. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Article 359 authorizes the president to suspend the right to move any court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights during a National Emergency. This means that under Article 359, the Fundamental Rights as such are not suspended, but only their enforcement.

- The suspension of enforcement relates to only those Fundamental Rights that are specified in the Presidential Order.
- Further, the suspension could be for the period during the operation of emergency or for a shorter period as mentioned in the order, and the suspension order may extend to the whole or any part of the country. **Such presidential order should be laid before each House of Parliament for approval . Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 restricted the scope of Article 359 in two ways. Firstly, the President cannot suspend the right to move the Court for the enforcement of fundamental rights guaranteed by Articles 20 to 21. In other words, the right to protection in respect of conviction for offences (Article 20) and the right to life and personal liberty (Article 21) remain enforceable even during an emergency.
- Secondly, only those laws which are related to the emergency are protected from being challenged and not other laws, and the executive action taken only under such a law, is protected.

Q 10.B

- A proclamation imposing President's Rule must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within two months from the date of its issue.
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- President may by Proclamation:
 - **assume to himself all or any of the functions of the Government of the State and all or any of the powers vested in or exercisable by the Governor or anybody or authority in the State other than the Legislature of the State; Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - declare that the powers of the Legislature of the State shall be exercisable by or under the authority of Parliament;
 - make such incidental and consequential provisions as appear to the president to be necessary or desirable for giving effect to the objects of the Proclamation

Q 11.D

- The Constituent Assembly was constituted in November 1946 under the scheme formulated by the Cabinet Mission Plan.
- **The Assembly was made a fully sovereign body, which could frame any Constitution it pleased.** The Assembly was empowered to abrogate or alter any law made by the British Parliament in relation to India. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- It worked as a legislative body i.e. two separate functions were assigned to the Assembly - making of a constitution for free India and enacting of ordinary laws for the country. Thus, the **Assembly became the first Parliament of free India (Dominion Legislature).** **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Whenever the Assembly met as the Constituent body it was chaired by Dr. Rajendra Prasad and when it met as the legislative body , it was chaired by G V Mavlankar . These two functions continued till November 26, 1949, when the task of making the Constitution was over.
- **Although the Constituent Assembly was not directly elected by the people of India on the basis of adult franchise, the Assembly comprised representatives of all sections of Indian society—Hindus, Muslims , Sikhs, Parsis, Anglo-Indians, Indian Christians , SCs, STs including women of all these sections.** **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 12.D

- Article 25 says that all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess , practice, and propagate religion.
- The implications of these are:
 - Freedom of conscience: Inner freedom of an individual to mold his relation with God or Creatures in whatever way he desires.
 - Right to profess: Declaration of one's religious beliefs and faith openly and freely.
 - **Right to practice: Performance of religious worship, rituals, ceremonies, and exhibition of beliefs and ideas.**

- Right to propagate: Transmission and dissemination of one's religious beliefs to others or exposition of the tenets of one's religion. But, it does not include a right to convert another person to one's own religion.
- **From the above, it is clear that Article 25 covers not only religious beliefs but also religious practices (rituals).** Moreover, these rights are available to all persons—citizens as well as non-citizens. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- However, these rights are subject to public order, morality, health, and other provisions relating to fundamental rights. Further, the State is permitted to:
 - regulate or restrict any economic, financial, political, or other secular activity associated with religious practice
 - provide for social welfare and reform or throw open Hindu religious institutions of a public character to all classes and sections of Hindus.
- **Under Article 28, no religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution wholly maintained out of State funds.**
- **However, this provision shall not apply to an educational institution administered by the State but established under any endowment or trust, requiring imparting of religious instruction in such institution.** Hence statement 2 is not correct.
- Further, no person attending any educational institution recognized by the State or receiving aid out of State funds shall be required to attend any religious instruction or worship in that institution without his consent.
- Thus, Article 28 distinguishes between four types of educational institutions:
 - Institutions wholly maintained by the State.
 - Institutions administered by the State but established under any endowment or trust.
 - Institutions recognized by the State.
 - Institutions receiving aid from the State.
- In (1) religious instruction is completely prohibited while in (2), religious instruction is permitted. In (3) & (4) religious instruction is permitted on a voluntary basis.

Q 13.A

- **Dual citizenship is not an essential feature of a federal polity. In some federal countries like India, there is single citizenship.** Essential features of a federal polity:
 - Two set of polities- at the national level and at the regional level
 - Written constitution
 - **Rigid constitution**
 - **Supremacy of Constitution**
 - **Independent judiciary**
 - Bicameral legislature
 - Division of powers between the national and regional governments.
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 14.A

- **Initiative** is a method by means of which the people can propose a bill to the legislature for enactment. A referendum is a procedure whereby proposed legislation is referred to the electorate for settlement by their direct votes. Any proposed law can, with sufficient backing, be put on the ballot in an election. Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.
- **Recall** is a method by means of which the voters can remove a representative or an officer before the expiry of his term when he fails to discharge his duties properly. Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.
- **A plebiscite** is a method of obtaining the opinion of people on any issue of public importance. It is a direct vote of the qualified electors of a state in regard to some important public question. Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched.

Q 15.D

- The eleven Fundamental Duties enshrined in Part IVA under Article 51A of the constitution are -
- **To oblige with the Indian Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions such as the National Anthem and Flag.** Hence statement 1 is correct.
- To cherish and follow the noble ideas that inspired the national struggle for freedom.
- To protect the integrity, sovereignty, and unity of India.
- To defend the country and perform national services if and when the country requires.
- **To promote the spirit of harmony and brotherhood amongst all the people of India and renounce any practices that are derogatory to women.** Hence statement 4 is correct.

- To cherish and preserve the rich national heritage of our composite culture.
- **To protect and improve the natural environment including lakes, wildlife, rivers, forests, etc. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- To develop scientific temper, humanism, and spirit of inquiry.
- To safeguard all public property and to abjure violence.
- To strive towards excellence in all genres of individual and collective activities.
- **To promote equal justice and welfare of the people comes under Article 39A and Article 38 respectively. It forms the part of the Directive Principles of State Policy enumerated in Part IV of the constitution. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 16.D

- Article 39 (b) provides for the equitable distribution of material resources of the community for the common good and Article 39 (c) provides for the prevention of concentration of wealth and means of production.
- Article 39 (b) says that the State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing: that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good.
- Article 39 (c) says that the State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing: that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment.
- In the Golaknath Case (1967), the Supreme court had pronounced that the parliament cannot amend the Fundamental Rights to give effect to the Directive Principles of State Policy. The parliament responded again by bringing the 25th Amendment Act of the constitution which inserted Article 31C in Part III. Article 31 C contained two provisions:
 - If a law is made to give effect to DPSPs in Article 39(b) and Article 39(c) and in the process, the law violates Article 14, Article 19, or Article 31, then the law should not be declared unconstitutional and void merely on this ground.
 - Any such law which contains the declaration that it is to give effect to DPSPs in Article 39(b) & Article(c) shall not be questioned in a court of law.
- Later parliament brought the 42nd Amendment Act in 1976, which extended the scope of the above first provision of Article 31C by including within its purview any law to implement any of the DPSPs specified in Part IV of the constitutional and not merely Article 39(b) or (c). However, this extension was declared unconstitutional and void by the SC in the Minerva Mills Case(1980).
- These two Directive Principles (under Article 39 (b) and Article 39 (c)) thus have been given precedence over Fundamental Right 14 (Right to Equality) and Fundamental Right 19 (Freedom of Speech and Expression). **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 17.C

- The Constitution does not contain any classification of Directive Principles. However, on the basis of their content and direction, they can be classified into three broad categories as socialistic, Gandhian, and liberal-intellectual.
- Gandhian Principles are based on Gandhian ideology. They represent the program of reconstruction enunciated by Gandhi during the national movement. In order to fulfill the dreams of Gandhi, some of his ideas were included as Directive Principles.
 - To organize village panchayats and endow them with necessary powers and authority to enable them to function as units of self-government (Article 40).
 - **To promote cottage industries on an individual or cooperation basis in rural areas (Article 43).**
 - **To promote voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control, and professional management of cooperative societies (Article 43B).**
 - **To promote the educational and economic interests of SCs, STs, and other weaker sections of the society and to protect them from social injustice and exploitation (Article 46).**
 - To prohibit the consumption of intoxicating drinks and drugs which are injurious to health (Article 47).
 - To prohibit the slaughter of cows, calves, and other milch and draught cattle and to improve their breeds (Article 48).
- **To secure the right to work, to education, and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness, and disablement (Article 41). This is a socialistic directive principle**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 18.B

- Article 33 empowers the Parliament to restrict or 'abrogate' the fundamental rights of the members of armed forces, para-military forces, police forces, intelligence agencies, and analogous forces. Hence statement 1 is not correct.
- The objective of this provision is to ensure the proper discharge of their duties and the maintenance of discipline among them.
- The power to make laws under Article 33 is conferred only on Parliament and not on state legislatures. Any such law made by Parliament cannot be challenged in any court on the ground of contravention of any of the fundamental rights.
- Accordingly, the Parliament has enacted the Army Act (1950), the Navy Act (1950), the Air Force Act (1950), the Police Forces (Restriction of Rights) Act, 1966, the Border Security Force Act, etc.
- These impose restrictions on their freedom of speech, right to form associations, right to be members of trade unions or political associations, right to communicate with the press, right to attend public meetings or demonstrations, etc.
- **The expression members of the armed forces' also covers such employees of the armed forces as barbers, carpenters, mechanics, cooks, chowkidars, bootmakers, tailors who are non-combatants. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- A parliamentary law enacted under Article 33 can also exclude the court-martial (tribunals established under the military law) from the writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and the high courts, so far as the enforcement of Fundamental Rights is concerned

Q 19.D

- The 1858 Act is also known as the Act for the Good Government of India; it abolished the East India Company, and transferred the powers of government, territories and revenues to the British Crown. Features of the Act:
 - **It created a new office, Secretary of State for India, vested with complete authority and control over Indian administration. Hence, statement 1 is correct.** The secretary of state was a member of the British cabinet and was responsible ultimately to the British Parliament.
 - It ended the system of double government by **abolishing the Board of Control and Court of Directors. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - It provided that India henceforth was to be governed by, and in the name of, Her Majesty. It **changed the designation of the Governor-General of India to that of Viceroy of India. He (Viceroy) was the direct representative of the British Crown in India. Lord Canning thus became the first Viceroy of India.** Hence, statement 3 is correct.
 - It established a 15-member Council of India to assist the secretary of state for India. The council was an advisory body. The secretary of state was made the chairman of the council.
 - It constituted the secretary of state-in-council as a body corporate, capable of suing and being sued in India and in England.

Q 20.B

- Democracy is a form of government in which the people have the authority to choose their governing legislators. Democracies and dictatorships, for the fifty years between 1950 and 2000, dictatorships have a slightly higher rate of economic growth. Economic development depends on several factors: the country's population size, global situation. **Overall, we cannot say that democracy is a guarantee of economic development. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- Non-democratic regimes often turn a blind eye to or suppress internal social differences. **Democracies usually develop procedures to accommodate various social divisions leading to greater chances of producing a harmonious social life. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Democracy stands much superior to any other form of government in promoting dignity and freedom of the individual.** Democracy in India has strengthened the claims of the disadvantaged and discriminated castes for equal status and equal opportunity. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

Q 21.D

- Major Committees of Constituent Assembly:
 - **Union Powers Committee – Jawaharlal Nehru. Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched.**
 - **Union Constitution Committee – Jawaharlal Nehru. Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
 - Provincial Constitution Committee – Sardar Patel
 - Drafting Committee – Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

- Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas – Sardar Patel. This committee had the following sub-committees:
 - Fundamental Rights Sub-Committee – J.B. Kripalani
 - Minorities Sub-Committee – H.C. Mukherjee
 - North-East Frontier Tribal Areas and Assam Excluded & Partially Excluded Areas Sub-Committee – Gopinath Bardoloi
 - Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas (Other than those in Assam) Sub-Committee – A.V. Thakkar
- Rules of Procedure Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- States Committee (Committee for Negotiating with States) – Jawaharlal Nehru
- **Steering Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad.** Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.

Q 22.D

- Supreme Court in the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973), laid down a new doctrine of the ‘basic structure’ (or ‘basic features’) of the Constitution. However, the Supreme Court is yet to define or clarify what constitutes the ‘basic structure’ of the Constitution.
- From the various judgments, the following have emerged as ‘basic features of the Constitution or elements of the ‘basic structure’ of the constitution:
 - Supremacy of the Constitution
 - Sovereign, democratic and republican nature of the Indian polity
 - **Secular character of the Constitution**
 - Separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary
 - Federal character of the Constitution
 - Judicial review
 - **Freedom and dignity of the individual**
 - Harmony and balance between
 - Free and fair elections
 - **Limited power of Parliament to amend the Constitution, etc**
- Hence all the statements are correct.

Q 23.A

- Government is one of the major litigants in courts and to provide them legal assistance there are various Law officers which include the Attorney General, Solicitor General, and the Additional Solicitor general.
- Statement 1 is correct: Article 76 of the constitution provides for the office of Attorney General of India and he is the highest law officer in the country. The Solicitor General of India assists Attorney General to fulfil his official duties and responsibilities.
- Statement 2 is not correct: The Solicitor General of India is subordinate to the Attorney General for India. They are the second law officer of the country, assists the Attorney General, and is assisted by Additional Solicitors General for India.
- The Solicitor general of India is not debarred from private legal practice. However, some limitations are placed on the Solicitor general to avoid any complication and conflict of duty.
 - He should not advise or hold brief against the government of India
 - He should not advise or hold brief in cases in which he is called upon to advise or appear for the government of India.
 - He should not defend an accused person in criminal prosecutions without permission of the government of India.
 - He should not accept an appointment as director in any company or corporation without the permission of the government of India.

Q 24.C

- Surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy or surface-enhanced Raman scattering (SERS) is a surface-sensitive technique that enhances Raman scattering by molecules adsorbed on rough metal surfaces.
- **SERS is a technique for molecular detection and characterization that relies on the enhanced Raman scattering of molecules that are adsorbed on, or near, SERS-active surfaces, such as nanostructured gold or silver.** The SERS (Surface Enhanced Raman Scattering) technique is known to be a powerful method for chemical and biological sensing applications. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi have developed a handheld Surface Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy (SERS)-based platform for early diagnosis of dengue and also gives dengue test results within one hour (rapid diagnosis). Hence, statement 2 is correct.

- Conventional diagnostic tools like nucleic acid detection using Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) is a time-taking process and it also requires expensive equipment and reagents for the diagnosis of dengue.
- Early diagnosis of dengue is the key to prevent deterioration of a patient's health. This ultrasensitive and handy device has wide range of applications in the early stage onsite detection of viral diseases and can produce the final report of investigation within an hour.
- The research work was funded by IMPRINT India programme of the Ministry of Education with New Age Instruments and Materials Pvt Ltd as the industry partner.

Q 25.C

- National Commission for Scheduled castes (NCSC) is a Constitutional Body established by article 338 of the Constitution. The separate NCSC came into existence in 2004. 89th Constitutional amendment act of 2003 bifurcated it from National Commission for Scheduled Tribes. It consists of Chairperson, vice-chairperson and three other members. they are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand.
- Statement 1 is correct: It provides safeguards against the exploitation of Scheduled Castes and Anglo Indian communities.** It aims to promote and protect their social, educational, economic and cultural interests provided in the Constitution. It also participates in the planning process of the socio-economic development of SCs and Anglo Indians.
- Statement 2 is not correct: The President specifies what castes in each state and union territory are to be treated as the SCs.** But any inclusion or exclusion of any caste from presidential notification can be done by parliament only. NCSC has an advisory role only in this regard.
- Statement 3 is correct: It presents to the President, annually and at such other times as it may deem fit, reports upon safeguards of SCs and Anglo Indians.** It also discharges such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare and development of SCs as the President may specify.

Q 26.D

- The 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002 added the eleventh Fundamental duty to Part IV-A of the constitution under article 51-A. It says "To provide opportunities for education to his child or ward between the age of six and fourteen years". Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The 86th Constitutional Amendment Act also added the 'Right to Education as a fundamental right to Part III of the constitution under Article 21A. It says "The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine." Hence statement 2 is correct.
- It also added new article 45 to the constitution under Directive Principles of State Policy. It says "The state shall endeavor to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years.". Hence statement 3 is correct.

Q 27.A

- The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons(OPCW) is an independent, autonomous international organization with a working relationship with the United Nations. The OPCW is the implementing body of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), which entered into force in 1997. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The OPCW, with its 193 Member States, oversees the global endeavour to permanently and verifiably eliminate chemical weapons. 98% of the global population live under the protection of the Convention. 98% of the chemical weapons stockpiles declared by possessor States have been verifiably destroyed.
- The OPCW is authorized to perform inspections to verify that signatory states are complying with the convention.** By the 2001 Relationship Agreement between the OPCW and the United Nations, the OPCW reports on its inspections and other activities to the UN through the office of the Secretary-General. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- India is a member of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. Recently, India's Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has been chosen as the external auditor by a prestigious intergovernmental organisation working for the elimination of chemical weapons.** Hence, **statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 28.B

- Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) is the apex agency that prevents corruption in the central government. It works independently of any executive authority. It monitors all vigilance activity of various authorities under the Central Government. It also advises various Central organizations in planning, executing, reforming and reviewing their vigilance work.

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** It was established in 1964 by the executive resolution of the central government. Thus, originally it was neither a constitutional body nor a statutory body. In 2003, Parliament gives it a statutory status by enacting Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) Act, 2003.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** It was established on the recommendation of the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Its Jurisdiction extends to members of All India Services serving in connection with the affairs of the Union, Group A officers of the Central government, Officers of the rank of Scale V and above in Public Sector Banks, etc.

Q 29.A

- **Recent context:** The United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) flagship State of World Population Report 2021 titled 'My Body is My Own' was launched. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.
- As per the report, bodily autonomy is defined as the power and agency to make choices about your body without the fear of violence or having someone else decide for you.
- United Nations Population Fund is a subsidiary organ of the UN General Assembly and works as a sexual and reproductive health agency. It began operations in 1969.
- Its mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

Q 30.B

- The Constitution of India provides for its amendment in order to adjust itself to the changing conditions and needs. However, the procedure laid down for its amendment is neither as easy as in Britain nor as difficult as in the USA.
- The procedure for the amendment of the Constitution as laid down in Article 368 is as follows:
 - An amendment of the Constitution can be initiated only by the introduction of a bill for the purpose in either House of Parliament and not in the state legislatures.
 - The bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member and does not require prior permission from the President. Hence statement 1 is not correct.
 - The bill must be passed in each House by a special majority, that is, a majority of the total membership of the House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of the House present and voting. Hence statement 2 is not correct.
 - Each House must pass the bill separately. In case of a disagreement between the two Houses, there is no provision for holding a joint sitting of the two Houses for the purpose of deliberation and passage of the bill. Hence statement 3 is correct.
 - If the bill seeks to amend the federal provisions of the Constitution, it must also be ratified by the legislatures of half of the states by a simple majority, that is, a majority of the members of the House present and voting.

Q 31.A

- Made in America Tax Plan brings in corporate tax reforms to address profit shifting and offshoring incentives.
- US President Joe Biden's plan is expected to rake in \$2.5 trillion over 15 years
- One of the most important proposals put forward by the US is with respect to the adoption of the Global Minimum Corporate tax.
- It is an attempt to reverse a "30-year race to the bottom" in which countries have resorted to slashing corporate tax rates to attract multinational corporations (MNCs)
- The US proposal envisages a global 21% minimum corporate tax rate, coupled with canceling exemptions on income from countries that do not legislate a minimum tax to discourage the shifting of multinational operations and profits overseas.
- **What is Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS)?**
 - It refers to a tax avoidance strategy wherein the companies take undue advantage of the tax exemptions in order to pay less tax.
 - As part of tax avoidance strategy, Multinational companies shift their profits from high tax jurisdictions to low tax jurisdictions (tax havens) in order to pay less tax.
 - This leads to erosion of the tax base of the high tax jurisdictions. This causes significant revenue losses for the high tax jurisdictions.
 - A report published by OECD in 2017 has stated that BEPS is responsible for tax losses of around \$200bn globally. Some of the tools of the BEPS are misuse of DTAAs, Round Tripping, Treaty Shopping.

Q 32.B

- **Recent Context: NATO to exit Afghanistan along with the U.S.**
- NATO is a **Military alliance** of countries from Europe and North America. It provides a link between the ‘Western countries’ of the two continents. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- NATO membership is open to any other European country which adheres to the principles of NATO and contributes to the security of the North Atlantic area.
- A NATO decision is the expression of the collective will of all 30 member countries since all decisions are taken by **consensus**.
- NATO's core tasks are **Collective defense, Crisis-management & Cooperative security**.
 - Principle of ‘Collective Defense’ under which an attack against one or several of NATO members is considered as an attack against all. The principle of collective defense been invoked once - in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks in the United States in 2001. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q 33.D

- The Indian Councils Act of 1861 was an important landmark in the constitutional and political history of India. Features of the Act of 1861 were:
 - **It made a beginning of representative institutions by associating Indians with the law-making process.** It thus provided that the viceroy should nominate some Indians as non-official members of his expanded council. In 1862, Lord Canning, the then viceroy, nominated three Indians to his legislative council—the Raja of Benaras, the Maharaja of Patiala and Sir Dinkar Rao. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - **It initiated the process of decentralisation by restoring the legislative powers to the Bombay and Madras Presidencies.** It thus reversed the centralising tendency that started from the Regulating Act of 1773 and reached its climax under the Charter Act of 1833. This policy of legislative devolution resulted in the grant of almost complete internal autonomy to the provinces in 1937. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
 - It also provided for the establishment of new legislative councils for Bengal, North-Western Frontier Province (NWFP) and Punjab, which were established in 1862, 1866 and 1897 respectively.
 - It empowered the Viceroy to make rules and orders for the more convenient transaction of business in the council. It also gave recognition to the ‘portfolio’ system, introduced by Lord Canning in 1859. Under this, a member of the Viceroy’s council was made in-charge of one or more departments of the government and was authorised to issue final orders on behalf of the council on matters of his department(s).
 - **It empowered the Viceroy to issue ordinances, without the concurrence of the legislative council, during an emergency. The life of such an ordinance was six months.** **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

Q 34.C

- **Fundamental Duties are enforceable by law. The Parliament can provide for the imposition of appropriate punishment for noncompliance with any of the Fundamental Duty. Justice Verma Committee in 1999 identified legal provisions for the implementation of some of the Fundamental Duties.**
- **Fundamental Duties help the court in determining and examining the constitutional validity of a law.** In 1992, Supreme Court observed that in determining constitutionality of any law, if that law gives effect to any of the fundamental Duty then it would be considered reasonable in relation to Article 14 (equality before law) and Article 19 (Six freedoms) and such law would not be termed unconstitutional.
- **Fundamental Duties are confined to citizens only and not extended to foreigners.** However, some of the Fundamental Rights (except Article 15, Article 16, Article 19, Article 29, Article 30) are also extended to foreigners.
- **To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India is a fundamental duty.**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer**

Q 35.D

- **USA President has invited 40 world leaders to the Leaders Summit on Climate summit to galvanize efforts by the major economies to tackle the climate crisis.**
- The Leaders Summit on Climate will underscore the urgency – and the economic benefits – of stronger climate action. It will be a key milestone on the road to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) this November in Glasgow.

- A key goal of both the Leaders Summit and COP26 will be to catalyze efforts that keep that 1.5-degree goal within reach. The Summit will also highlight examples of how enhanced climate ambition will create good paying jobs, advance innovative technologies, and help vulnerable countries adapt to climate impacts.
- The Summit will reconvene the U.S.-led Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate, which brings together 17 countries responsible for approximately 80 percent of global emissions and global GDP.
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 36.D

- **Recent Context:** Need for Boosting Agri-Exports The Government has come up with the vision of Doubling Farmers' income by the end of 2022.
- To help realize this vision, we need to provide expanded Market access to our farmers. In this regard, the **agriculture exports policy, 2018** had emphasized "**Bake in India**" i.e. a renewed focus on value addition and on processed agricultural products.
- Since LPG reforms in 1991, India has remained consistently a net exporter of Agri-products, touching almost Rs 2.7 lakh crore exports in 2018-19. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- In spite of being one of the largest producers of Foodgrains and Fruits and vegetables, India's share in global export of Agri-commodities stands at merely **2% (9th Rank)**. The exports are much lower than countries such as Thailand and Indonesia which have much smaller agricultural land. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- India's export basket is basically dominated by **Basmati Rice and Marine Products**. **Hence statement 3 is correct**
- **Agricultural Exports Policy 2018**, Broad Objectives and Targets of this Policy Include:
 - Double agricultural exports from present ~US\$ 30+ Billion to ~US\$ 60+ Billion by 2022 and reach US\$ 100 Billion in the next few years
 - Diversify our export basket, destinations and boost high-value and value-added agricultural exports including a focus on perishables.
 - Strive to double India's share in world Agri-exports by integrating with the global value chain at the earliest.

Q 37.B

- **Imposition of President's Rule in a state would be proper in the following situations:**
 - Where after general elections to the assembly, no party secures a majority, that is, '**Hung Assembly**'. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
 - Where the party having a majority in the assembly declines to form a ministry and the governor cannot find a coalition ministry commanding a majority in the assembly.
 - **Where a ministry resigns after its defeat in the assembly and no other party is willing or able to form a ministry commanding a majority in the assembly. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
 - Where a constitutional direction of the Central government is disregarded by the state government.
 - Internal subversion where, for example, a government is deliberately acting against the Constitution and the law or is fomenting a violent revolt.
 - Physical breakdown where the government wilfully refuses to discharge its constitutional obligations endangering the security of the state.
- **The imposition of President's Rule in a state would be improper under the following situations:**
 - Where a ministry resigns or is dismissed on losing majority support in the assembly and the governor recommends imposition of President's Rule without probing the possibility of forming an alternative ministry.
 - Where the governor makes his own assessment of the support of a ministry in the assembly and recommends imposition of President's Rule without allowing the ministry to prove its majority on the floor of the Assembly.
 - Where the ruling party enjoying majority support in the assembly has suffered a massive defeat in the general elections to the Lok Sabha such as in 1977 and 1980.
 - Internal disturbances not amounting to internal subversion or physical breakdown.
 - **Maladministration in the state or allegations of corruption against the ministry or stringent financial exigencies of the state. Hence statement 3 is correct.**
 - Where the state government is not given prior warning to rectify itself except in case of extreme urgency leading to disastrous consequences.
 - Where the power is used to sort out intra-party problems of the ruling party, or for a purpose extraneous or irrelevant to the one for which it has been conferred by the Constitution.

Q 38.D

- The Interim Government of India was formed in 1946. It also included the Viceroy and Commander-in-Chief of Britain and other members from All-India Muslim League. The government was formed to assist the switch of British India to India and Pakistan. Its members included:
 - Jawaharlal Nehru as Vice President
 - **Sardar Patel**
 - **Dr. Rajendra Prasad**
 - Dr. John Mathai
 - Jagivan Ram
 - Sardar Baldev Singh
 - C. Rajagopalachari
 - **Liaquat Ali Khan**
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 39.D

- Constitution as Means of Democratic Transformation: It is widely agreed that one reason for having constitutions is the need to restrict the exercise of power. Experience of state power the world over shows that most states are prone to harming the interests of at least some individuals and groups. If so, we need to draw the rules of the game in such a way that this tendency of states is continuously checked. **Constitutions provide these basic rules and therefore, prevent states from turning tyrannical. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Constitutions also provide peaceful, democratic means to bring about social transformation. Hence **statement 3 is correct.**
- Moreover, **for a hitherto colonized people, constitutions announce and embody the first real exercise of political self-determination. Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q 40.B

- **Government of India Act 1935:** This was the longest act passed by British Parliament provided for the establishment of a Federation of India to be made up of provinces of British India and some or all of the Princely states. Its main provisions were:
 - **Abolition of provincial dyarchy and introduction of dyarchy at the centre. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - Abolition of Indian Council and introduction of an advisory body in its place.
 - Provision for an All India Federation with British Indian territories and princely states.
 - Elaborate safeguards and protective instruments for minorities.
 - The supremacy of the British Parliament.
 - Increase in size of legislatures, an extension of the franchise, division of subjects into three lists and retention of the communal electorate.
 - Separation of Burma from India
 - Joint sittings of both Chambers in certain cases.
 - Introduced provincial autonomy and the ministers of the provincial governments were to be responsible to the provincial legislature.
- **Government of India Act 1919:** Dyarchy, a system of double government was introduced for the provinces of British India. It marked the first introduction of the democratic principle into the executive branch of the British administration of India. Thus, for the first time, responsible government was seen at the provincial level.
 - The size of the provincial legislative assemblies was increased. Now about 70% of the members were elected.
 - The communal representation was extended and Sikhs, Europeans, and Anglo Indians were included. Some women could also vote. In 1921, Bombay (now Mumbai) and Madras (now Chennai) became the first provinces to give the limited vote to women. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
 - This act made the central legislature bicameral.
- **Indian Council Act of 1892:** It increased the number of additional (non-official) members in the Central and provincial legislative councils but maintained the official majority in them.
 - **It gave the legislature, the power of discussing the budget for the first time and addressing questions to the executive. Hence statement 3 is correct.**
 - The act made a limited and indirect provision for the use of election in filling up some of the non-official seats both in the Central and provincial legislative councils. The word “election” was, however, not used in the act.

Q 41.C

- **Fundamental Duties** are **non-justiciable in nature** as there is no legal sanction against their violation. Moreover, the constitution does not provide for their direct enforcement by the courts. **However, Parliament is free to enforce them by suitable legislation. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Directive Principles of State Policy** are also **nonjusticiable in nature**. They are not legally enforceable by the courts for their violation. This means that the government cannot be compelled to implement them. However, Article 37 says that these principles are fundamental in the governance of the country and the State shall apply these while making laws. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- **Fundamental Rights** are **justiciable** and the aggrieved person can move to the courts for the violation of his/her rights. **They are defended by Supreme Court and the aggrieved person can move directly to Supreme Court. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**

Q 42.B

- **Benegal Narsing Rau (B.N Rau)** observed that " Directive Principles are in the nature of moral precepts for the state authorities and are open to facile criticism that the constitution is not the place for moral precepts. But they have an educative value and most modern constitutions lay down general principles of this kind." Hence option (b) is the correct answer.
- **Benegal Narsing Rau was the Constitutional Advisor to Constituent Assembly**
- L.M. Singhvi, an eminent jurist, and diplomat said that the Directive Principles are the life-giving provisions of the Constitution.
- T.T. Krishnamachari described the Directive Principles as 'a veritable dustbin of sentiments.'
- K Santhanam has pointed out that the Directives lead to a constitutional conflict
 - between the Centre and the states,
 - between the President and the Prime Minister, and
 - between the governor and the chief minister.
- According to him, the Centre can give directions to the states with regard to the implementation of these principles, and in case of non-compliance, can dismiss the state government.

Q 43.A

- The Central Government may, on an application, grant a certificate of naturalisation to any person (not being an illegal migrant) if he possesses the following qualifications:
 - that he is not a subject or citizen of any country where citizens of India are prevented from becoming subjects or citizens of that country by naturalisation.
 - **that, if he is a citizen of any country, he undertakes to renounce the citizenship of that country in the event of his application for Indian citizenship being accepted. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - that he has either resided in India or been in the service of a Government in India or partly the one and partly the other, throughout the period of twelve months immediately preceding the date of the application.
 - **that during the fourteen years immediately preceding the said period of twelve months, he has either resided in India or been in the service of a Government in India, or partly the one and partly the other, for periods amounting in the aggregate to not less than eleven years. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
 - that he is of good character.
 - **that he has an adequate knowledge of a language specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - that in the event of a certificate of naturalisation being granted to him, he intends to reside in India or to enter into or continue in, service under a Government in India or under an international organisation of which India is a member or under a society, company or body of persons established in India.

Q 44.B

- The Constitution of India under Article 148 provides for the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India. He controls the financial system of both at the centre and state levels that is why it is known as Guardian of Public Purse.
- **Option 1 is correct:** CAG conducts various types of Audits such as legal and regulatory audit which is obligatory on the CAG whereas propriety audit is discretionary. Under Propriety audit CAG can look into wisdom, faithfulness and economy of the government expenditure. The observations arising from the audit of the Ministries are included in separate Reports.

- **Option 2 is correct:** The role of CAG in auditing public corporations falls into the following three categories
 - Some corporations like Air India, Oil and Natural Gas are audit totally and directly by CAG.
 - Some corporations like Central Warehousing are audited by Private firms and CAG can conduct the supplementary audit.
 - Some corporations like the State Bank of India are totally subjected to private audit.
- **Option 3 is not correct: CAG does not audit accounts of State Cooperative societies.** The state legislatures may make provisions for the auditing of accounts of cooperative societies. Every cooperative shall be audited by an auditor appointed by the general body of the cooperative society.

Q 45.C

- National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is an independent statutory body established under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. It is the watchdog of human rights in India i.e. the rights related to life, liberty, equality and dignity of the individual which are guaranteed by the Constitution as well as international conventions.
- **Composition of NHRC:**
 - **Chairperson-** Who has been Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, or a Judge of the Supreme Court
 - **Two members** having knowledge of human rights to be appointed as members of the NHRC.
 - **Chairpersons of various commissions such as**
 - The National Commission for Scheduled Castes
 - The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
 - The National Commission for Women
 - The National Commission for Backward Classes
 - The National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights
 - The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.
- **Statement 1 is correct: The NHRC either suo moto or after receiving a petition may seek a report from the central government with regards to violations of Human Rights by the Armed Forces.** After the receipt of the report, it may either not proceed with the case or as the case may be makes its recommendation to that government.
- **Statement 2 is correct: The government shall inform the commission of the action taken on the recommendations within the period of three months or such further time as the commission may allow.** After that commission shall publish the report on recommendations given to the government and action taken by the government on the recommendations.

Q 46.B

- The constitution of India under articles 5 to 8 only prescribe the class of persons who can be the citizens at the time of the commencement of the constitution. **The modes of acquiring the citizenship after the commencement was left to the Parliament to legislate. Accordingly, the Citizenship Act 1955 was enacted. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Under article 8 of the Constitution, a person who, or any of whose parents or grandparents, was born in undivided India but who is ordinarily residing outside India shall become an Indian citizen through registration.
- The constitutional provisions under articles 5 to 8 deal with the citizenship of:
 - persons domiciled in India;
 - **persons migrated from Pakistan; hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - persons migrated to Pakistan but later returned, and
 - **persons of Indian origin residing outside India. Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 47.A

- The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 added four new Directive Principles to the original list. They are
 - To secure opportunities for the healthy development of children (Article 39).
 - **To promote equal justice and to provide free legal aid to the poor (Article 39 A).**
 - To take steps to secure the participation of workers in the management of industries (Article 43 A).
 - **To protect and improve the environment and to safeguard forests and wildlife (Article 48 A).**
- **The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 added one more Directive Principle, which requires the State to minimize inequalities in income, status, facilities, and opportunities (Article 38).**
- The 86th Amendment Act of 2002 changed the subject matter of Article 45 and made elementary education a fundamental right under Article 21A. The amended directive requires the State to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years.

- The 97th Amendment Act of 2011 added a new Directive Principle relating to cooperative societies. It requires the state to promote voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control, and professional management of cooperative societies (Article 43B).
- **Raising the level of nutrition and the standard of living of people and improving public health under Article 47 has been there since the adoption of the constitution and not added by way of amendment.**
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 48.B

- **The Constituent Assembly was constituted in November 1946 under the scheme formulated by the Cabinet Mission Plan.** The total strength of the Constituent Assembly was to be 389. Of these, 296 seats were to be allotted to British India and 93 seats to the Princely States.
- The Constituent Assembly was to be a partly elected and partly nominated body. Moreover, the members were to be indirectly elected by the members of the provincial assemblies.
- In addition to the making of the Constitution and enacting of ordinary laws, the Constituent Assembly also performed the following functions:
 - **It adopted the national flag on July 22, 1947.**
 - **It ratified India's membership of the Commonwealth in May 1949.**
 - **It adopted the national anthem on January 24, 1950.**
 - It adopted the national song on January 24, 1950.
 - It elected Dr Rajendra Prasad as the first President of India on January 24, 1950
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 49.A

- Part three of our constitution guarantees six fundamental rights to all the citizens:
 - Right to Equality (Articles 14–18)
 - Right to Freedom (Articles 19–22)
 - Right against Exploitation (Articles 23–24)
 - Right to Freedom of Religion (Articles 25–28)
 - Cultural and Educational Rights (Articles 29–30)
 - Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32)
- Some of these fundamental rights are available exclusively to citizens of India and not available to foreigners. They are
 - **Article 15: Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth**
 - Article 16: Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment
 - Article 19: Protection of six rights regarding freedom of (i) speech and expression, (ii) assembly, (iii) association, (iv) movement, (v) residence, and (vi) profession
 - Article 29: Protection of Interests of Minorities
 - **Article 30: Rights of Minorities to Establish and Administer Educational Institutions**
- **Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour is available to both foreigners and Indian citizens.**
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 50.B

- Article 1 deals with the name and territory of the Union:
 - Article 1(1) states that India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States.
 - Article 1(2) states that the States and the territories thereof shall be as specified in the First Schedule.
 - Article 1(3) states that the **territory of India** shall comprise
 - **the territories of the States;**
 - **the Union territories specified in the First Schedule; and**
 - **such other territories as may be acquired.**
 - The ‘Territory of India’ is thus a wider expression than the ‘Union of States’ because the latter includes only states while the former includes not only the states but also union territories and territories that may be acquired by the Government of India at any future time. Hence, only **option 1 is correct.** The states are the members of the federal system and share a distribution of powers with the Centre. The union territories and the acquired territories, on the other hand, are directly administered by the Central government.

Q 51.A

- A Uniform Civil Code is one that would provide for one law for the entire country, applicable to all religious communities in their personal matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption, etc. Article 44 of the Constitution lays down that the state shall endeavor to secure a Uniform Civil Code for the citizens throughout the territory of India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Article 44 is one of the Directive Principles of State Policy. These, as defined in Article 37, are not justiciable (not enforceable by any court) but the principles laid down therein are fundamental in governance.
- Goa is the only state in India that has a uniform civil code regardless of religion, gender, caste. Goa has a common family law. Recently, the Chief Justice of India (CJI) lauded Goa's Uniform Civil Code. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 52.B

- **The Preamble to the Indian Constitution is based on the 'objective Resolution' drafted and moved by Jawaharlal Nehru on 13 December 1946.** It was adopted unanimously by Constituent Assembly on 22 January 1947. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- After adopting the Preamble, it stands as part of the Constitution. Therefore, the current opinion on the preamble held by the Supreme Court is in consonance with the opinion of the founding fathers.
- **The preamble was enacted only after the rest of the constitution was enacted by the Constituent Assembly.** **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The reason for enacting the preamble at the end was to ensure that it was **in conformity with the Constitution** as adopted by the Constituent Assembly.

Q 53.B

- National Policy for Rare Diseases 2021 has been finalized by the Ministry of H&FW after multiple consultations with different stakeholders and experts in the area.
- Salient features of Rare Diseases Policy:
 - **'Rare diseases' have not been defined in the policy but classified into three groups based on expert opinion.** **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - The Rare Diseases Policy aims to lower the high cost of treatment for rare diseases with increased focus on indigenous research with the help of a National Consortium to be set up with Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare as convenor. Increased focus of research and development and local production of medicines will lower the cost of treatment for rare diseases.
 - The policy also envisage creation of a national hospital based registry of rare diseases so that adequate data is available for definition of rare diseases and for research and development related to rare diseases within the country.
 - The Policy also focuses on early screening and prevention through primary and secondary health care infrastructure such as Health and Wellness Centres and District Early Intervention Centres (DEICs) and through counselling for the high-risk parents.
 - A provision for financial support up to Rs. 20 lakhs under the Umbrella Scheme of Rastriya Arogya Nidhi is proposed for treatment, of those rare diseases that require a one-time treatment.
 - **The Policy also envisages a crowd funding mechanism in which corporates and individuals will be encouraged to extend financial support through a robust IT platform for treatment of rare diseases.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **The financial support for the treatment of rare diseases is proposed under the Umbrella Scheme of Rastriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) and not under Ayushman Bharat PMJAY.** **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 54.B

- Directive Principles were initially ignored by the Supreme Court while interpreting various socio-economic rights. It was only after the landmark verdict in the Keshavananda Bharati's case in 1973 that the top court said that directive principles must be viewed as the guidelines by which the fundamental rights are realized.
- **Justice PN Bhagwati in the 1980 Minerva Mills case described that "The Indian Constitution is founded on the bedrock of the balance between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy. To give absolute primacy to one over the other is to disturb the harmony of the Constitution. This harmony and balance is an essential feature of the basic structure of the Constitution."**

- In the Champakam Dorairajan case (1951), the Supreme Court ruled that in case of any conflict between the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles, the former would prevail.
- Maneka Gandhi's case is a landmark case for the implementation of Article 21. In this case, the court said that expression 'personal liberty' in Article 21 is of the widest amplitude and it covers a variety of rights which go to constitute the personal liberty of man and some of them have been raised to the status of distinct fundamental rights and given additional protection under Article 19.
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 55.B

- Reiterating the RBI's commitment to maintaining the current accommodative policy stance until the economy is back on track, the Governor enthused the markets with a new programme — **Government Securities Acquisition Programme (G-SAP)** — through which the RBI will undertake open market purchases (not directly from the government) of government securities worth Rs 1 lakh crore in the first quarter of FY22. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The central bank said the endeavour through the programme will be to ensure congenial financial conditions for the economic recovery to gain traction.
- Through the announcement on GSAP, the RBI has provided market participants with the Open Market Operations (OMO) purchase calendar which the market participants have always wanted to know. A report by Edelweiss Mutual Fund states that it will provide certainty to the bond market participants with regard to RBI's commitment of support to the bond market in FY22.
- A structured purchase program of similar size such as this would help market participants to bid better in scheduled auctions and reduce volatility in bond prices.
- The announcement of this structured programme will help reduce the spread between the repo rate and the 10-year government bond yield. **That, in turn, will help to reduce the aggregate cost of borrowing for the Centre and states in FY22. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 56.C

- The Constitution of India provides for State Public Service Commission (SPSC) at the state level like Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) at the centre level. Articles 315 to 323 of the Constitution deal with the composition, appointment and removal of members, functions and powers, independence of a SPSC.
- **Option (a) is correct: The Chairman and members of the State Public Service Commission are appointed by the Governor of the state.** Although they are appointed by the governor they can be removed by the President only. The President can remove them on the same grounds and in the same manners as he can remove the Chairman or member of UPSC.
- **Option (b) is correct: A member of SPSC on ceasing to hold office is eligible for Chairman and member of UPSC, or as a Chairman of that SPSC or any other SPSC but not for any other employment under the government of India or State.** Also, the Chairman of a SPSC on ceasing to hold office is eligible for appointment as the chairman or member of UPSC or chairman of any other SPSC but not for any other employment under the Government of India or a state.
- **Option (c) is not correct: The expense of SPSC including the Salaries, Allowances and Pensions of the Chairman and Members of SPSC are charged on the Consolidated Fund of State (and not on the Consolidated Fund of India).** They are not subject to the vote of the state legislature. Also, the conditions of service of Chairman and members cannot be varied to their disadvantages.
- **Option (d) is correct: The role of SPSC is limited and recommendations made by it are only advisory in nature and hence, non-binding on the government.** It is up to the state government to accept or reject the advice. however, the government have to answer to the concerned state legislature for not accepting the recommendations of the commission.

Q 57.C

- **Option 1 is not correct:** A number of provisions in the Constitution can be amended by a simple majority of the two Houses of Parliament outside the scope of Article 368. These provisions include:
 - Quorum in Parliament
 - Salaries and allowances of the members of Parliament
 - **Rules of procedure in Parliament**
 - Privileges of the Parliament, its members, and its committees
 - Use of English language in Parliament

- **Option 4 is not correct:** Those provisions of the Constitution which are related to the federal structure of the polity can be amended by a special majority of the Parliament and also with the consent of half of the state legislatures by a simple majority. The following provisions can be amended in this way:
 - Election of the President and its manner.
 - The extent of the executive power of the Union and the states.
 - Supreme Court and high courts.
 - Distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the state.
- **Options 2 and 3 are correct:** The majority of the provisions in the Constitution need to be amended by a special majority of the Parliament, that is, a majority of the total membership of each House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of each House present and voting. The provisions which can be amended this way include:
 - **Fundamental Rights**
 - **Directive Principles of State Policy**

Q 58.B

- The Supreme Court in 1969 ruled that settlement of a boundary dispute between India and another country does not require a constitutional amendment. It can be done by executive action as it does not involve cession of Indian territory to a foreign country. Hence option (b) is the correct answer.
- While the decision of the Central Government to cede part of a territory known as Berubari Union (West Bengal) to Pakistan led to political agitation and controversy and thereby necessitated the Presidential reference.
- The Supreme Court held that the power of Parliament to diminish the area of a state (under Article 3) does not cover cession of Indian territory to a foreign country. Hence, Indian territory can be ceded to a foreign state only by amending the Constitution under Article 368. Consequently, the 9th Constitutional Amendment Act (1960) was enacted to transfer the said territory to Pakistan.

Q 59.D

- All the fundamental rights in part three of the constitution provide protection against the actions of the state but some are also available against the actions of private individuals. These are
 - Article 15(2): It states that no citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth, or any of them, be subject to any disability, liability, restriction, or condition with regard to
 - access to shops, public restaurants, hotels, and palaces of public entertainment or
 - the use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads, and places of public resort maintained wholly or partly out of State funds or dedicated to the use of the general public
 - Article 17: It abolishes ‘untouchability and forbids its practice in any form.
 - Article 23: It prohibits traffic in human beings, begar (forced labor), and other similar forms of forced labor
 - Article 24: It prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in any factory, mine, or other hazardous activities like construction work or railways.
- For the violation of rights under the above articles, remedies are available against private individuals too and the state must ensure that proper action is taken.
- Hence option (d) is the correct answer.

Q 60.C

- Article 19 guarantees to all citizens the six rights. These are:
 - Right to freedom of speech and expression.
 - Right to assemble peaceably and without arms.
 - Right to form associations or unions or co-operative societies.
 - Right to move freely throughout the territory of India.
 - Right to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India.
 - Right to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade, or business.
- The 97th amendment to the Constitution inserts Cooperative Societies into Article 19(1)(c) by recognizing the right of the people to form cooperative societies as a fundamental right. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- These six rights are protected against only state action and not private individuals. Moreover, these rights are available only to the citizens and to shareholders of a company but not to foreigners or legal persons like companies or corporations, etc. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Q 61.A

- **Statement 1 correct:** Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council is a constitutional body established under Article 279A for making recommendations to the Union and State Government on issues related to Goods and Service Tax. The (One Hundred and First Constitution Amendment) Act, 2016 introduced GST Council. It is a joint forum of Centre and states and chaired by the Union Finance Minister. The Quorum of the council is fixed at half of its membership i.e. 50% of the total membership of the council
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** Every decision of the council is to be taken by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the weighted votes of the members present and voting at the meeting (and not half of the total strength).
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** The Voting share of each state in the Council does not depend upon its population. The vote share of each state is the same and combined votes of all states shall have the weightage of two-thirds of the total votes cast. The vote of the Central Government shall have one-third of the total votes cast.

Q 62.B

The parliamentary system of government in India is largely based on the British parliamentary system. However, it never became a replica of the British system and differs in the following respects:

- **India has a republican system in place of the British monarchical system.** In other words, the Head of the State in India (that is, President) is elected, while the Head of the State in Britain (that is, King or Queen) enjoys a hereditary position.
- **The British system is based on the doctrine of the sovereignty of Parliament, while the Parliament is not supreme in India** and enjoys limited and restricted powers due to a written Constitution, the federal system, judicial review, and fundamental rights. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- In Britain, the prime minister should be a member of the Lower House (House of Commons) of the Parliament. In India, the prime minister may be a member of any of the two Houses of Parliament.
- Usually, the members of Parliament alone are appointed as ministers in Britain. In India, a person who is not a member of Parliament can also be appointed as minister, but for a maximum period of six months.
- **Britain has the system of legal responsibility of the minister while India has no such system.** Unlike in Britain, the ministers in India are not required to countersign the official acts of the Head of the State. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- ‘Shadow cabinet’ is an unique institution of the British cabinet system. It is formed by the opposition party to balance the ruling cabinet and to prepare its members for future ministerial office. There is no such institution in India.

Q 63.B

- **Article 359 authorises the President to suspend the right to move any court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights during a National Emergency. This means that under Article 359, the Fundamental Rights as such are not suspended, but only their enforcement.** The said rights are theoretically alive but the right to seek remedy is suspended. The suspension of enforcement relates to only those Fundamental Rights that are specified in the Presidential Order. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 restricted the scope of Article 359 in two ways.
 - **Firstly, the President cannot suspend the right to move the Court for the enforcement of fundamental rights guaranteed by Articles 20 to 21.** In other words, the right to protection in respect of conviction for offences (Article 20) and the right to life and personal liberty (Article 21) remain enforceable even during emergency.
 - **Secondly, only those laws which are related with the emergency are protected from being challenged and not other laws and the executive action taken only under such a law, is protected.**
- Article 359 operates in case of both when National Emergency is declared on grounds of war or external aggression as well as on the ground of armed rebellion.
- **Article 359 may extend to the entire country or a part of it. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- **Article 359 does not empower the President to promulgate ordinance in a state. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**

Q 64.C

- Article 29 deals with the protection of the interests of minorities. It provides that any section of the citizens residing in any part of India having a distinct language, script, or culture of its own, shall have the right to conserve the same.

- It also provides that no citizen shall be denied admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds on grounds only of religion, race, caste, or language.
- Article 29 grants protection to both religious minorities as well as linguistic minorities.
- However, the Supreme Court held that the scope of this article is not necessarily restricted to minorities only, as it is commonly assumed to be. **This is because of the use of the words ‘section of citizens’ in Article 29 that includes minorities as well as the majority. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Article 30 grants the following rights to minorities, whether religious or linguistic:
 - All minorities shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.
 - The compensation amount fixed by the State for the compulsory acquisition of any property of a minority educational institution shall not restrict or abrogate the right guaranteed to them.
 - In granting aid, the State shall not discriminate against any educational institution managed by a minority.
- Thus, the protection under Article 30 is confined only to minorities (religious or linguistic) and does not extend to any section of citizens (as under Article 29). However, the term ‘minority’ has not been defined anywhere in the Constitution. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Minority educational institutions are of three types:
 - institutions that seek recognition as well as aid from the State
 - institutions that seek only recognition from the State and not aid
 - **institutions that neither seek recognition nor aid from the State**
- The institutions of the first and second type are subject to the regulatory power of the state with regard to syllabus prescription, academic standards, discipline, sanitation, employment of teaching staff, etc.
- **The institutions of the third type are free to administer their affairs but subject to the operation of general laws like contract law, labor law, industrial law, tax law, economic regulations, etc.**

Q 65.C

- **Recent Context:** The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) Chairman, said the National Pension System (NPS) will no longer compel investors to convert 40% of their accumulated retirement corpus into an annuity, as poor yields on annuities and high inflation are translating into negative returns. The regulator will issue fresh rules to soon allow those saving up to ₹5 lakh in the NPS to take the whole amount at retirement, up from ₹2 lakh at present.
- The National Pension Scheme is a **social security initiative by the Central Government**. Earlier, the NPS scheme covered only the Central Government employees. Now, however, the PFRDA has made it open to all Indian citizens on a voluntary basis. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- NPS scheme holds immense value for anyone who works in the private sector and requires a **regular pension** after retirement.
- **NRI can open an NPS account.** Contributions made by NRI are subject to regulatory requirements as prescribed by RBI and FEMA from time to time. However, OCI (Overseas Citizens of India) and PIO (Person of Indian Origin) cardholders and HUFs are **not eligible** for the opening of an NPS account. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- NPS account can be opened only in an individual capacity and cannot be opened or operated jointly or for and on behalf of HUF.

Q 66.C

- The Preamble of the Indian Constitution can be amended provided that **no amendment is done to the basic features of the Constitution enshrined in the Preamble**.
- The Preamble has been amended **only once** by the **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1976**. By this amendment, three words were added to the Preamble which is **Socialist, Secular, and Integrity**.
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 67.C

- **Recent Context:** Recently the Supreme Court said in a judgment the State has an “affirmative obligation to facilitate access to education at all levels”.
The court referred to the vision envisaged by the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. “As an empowerment right, education is the primary vehicle by which economically and socially marginalized adults and children can lift themselves out of poverty and obtain the means to participate fully in their communities,” the court said, referring to one of the Committee’s clauses. The court noted that India was a signatory to the United Nations International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.
- The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) together with its sister Covenant, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and the Universal

Declaration, form the **International Bill of Human Rights** which is the pillar for human rights protection within the United Nations.

- Universal Declaration on Human Rights (a non-legally binding document) was adopted in 1948.
- In 1966, two separate treaties, covering almost entirely all the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights were adopted after approximately 20 years of negotiations ICESCR is an international human rights treaty, it creates legally binding international obligations to those States that have agreed to be bound by the standards contained in it. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights is the supervisory body of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. It was established under United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q 68.B

- **In India both a citizen by birth as well as a naturalised citizen are eligible for the office of President** while in USA, only a citizen by birth and not a naturalised citizen is eligible for the office of President. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **All Indian citizens have the right to contest for the membership of the Parliament and the state legislature.** Hence statement 2 is correct.
 - In order to be chosen a member of Parliament, a person must be a citizen of India and not less than 30 years of age in the case of Rajya Sabha and not less than 25 years of age in the case of Lok Sabha. Additional qualifications may be prescribed by Parliament by law.
 - To become a member of a State Legislative Assembly (MLA), a person must be a citizen of India, not less than 25 years of age, should be mentally sound, should not be bankrupt, and must be enrolled on the voters' list of the state for which he or she is contesting an election.

Q 69.B

- Though the Directive Principles are non-justiciable, the Constitution (Article 37) makes it clear that these principles are fundamental in the governance of the country and it shall be the duty of the state to apply these principles in making laws.
- The framers of the Constitution made the Directive Principles non-justiciable and legally non-enforceable because:
 - The country did not possess sufficient financial resources to implement them. To implement all the directive principles the newly formed independent state would require an enormous amount of financial resources and this would be a challenge to the country. Keeping in this regard they were made non-justiciable. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - **The presence of vast diversity and backwardness in the country would stand in the way of their implementation.** The directive principles are so diverse in character and constitutional makers felt that making them justiciable may create obstacles for the newly independent country as some of the directive principles like the Uniform Civil Code were opposed by some communities. **They wanted to give the state sufficient time and a place of choosing to India's future leaders implement them.** Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Fundamental rights already have been made justiciable and making Directive principles justiciable will be meaningless. **Hence statement 3 is not correct as making Directive Principles justiciable will not be meaningless and in fact making them justiciable can create a socially just and egalitarian society. They were not made justiciable for the above two reasons.**
- The Constitution makers, therefore, taking a pragmatic view, refrained from giving teeth to these principles. They believed more in an awakened public opinion rather than in court procedures as the ultimate sanction for the fulfillment of these principles.

Q 70.B

- Article 14 which is 'Equality before Law and Equal Protection of Laws' says that the State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws **within the territory of India.** **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The concept of 'equality before the law' is of British origin while the concept of 'equal protection of laws' has been taken from the American Constitution.
- The first concept implies:
 - the absence of any special privileges in favor of any person
 - the equal subjection of all persons to the ordinary law of the land administered by ordinary law courts
 - no person (whether rich or poor, high or low, official or non-official) is above the law
- The second concept, on the other hand, implies:

- the equality of treatment under equal circumstances, both in the privileges conferred and liabilities imposed by the laws,
- the similar application of the same laws to all persons who are similarly situated,
- the like should be treated alike without any discrimination.
- Article 14 forbids class legislation but the not reasonable classification for the purposes of policy etc. For example, a rich person and a poor person cannot be treated similarly for a particular scheme. Hence the Supreme Court held that where equals and unequals are treated differently, Article 14 does not apply. Hence, statement 2 is correct
- Article 31-C is an exception to Article 14. It provides that the laws made by the state for implementing the Directive Principles contained in clause (b) or clause (c) of Article 39 cannot be challenged on the ground that they are violative of Article 14. It applies only in the case of clauses b and c of Article 39, not all the clauses in article 39.

Q 71.D

- A number of provisions in the Constitution can be amended by a simple majority of the two Houses of Parliament outside the scope of Article 368. These provisions include:
 - Admission or establishment of new states. Hence option 1 is correct.**
 - Formation of new states and alteration of areas, boundaries, or names of existing states.
 - Abolition or creation of legislative councils in states.
 - Second Schedule—emoluments, allowances, privileges, and so on of the president, the governors, the Speakers, judges, etc.
 - Quorum in Parliament.
 - Salaries and allowances of the members of Parliament.
 - Rules of procedure in Parliament.
 - Privileges of the Parliament, its members, and its committees.
 - Use of English language in Parliament.
 - Number of puisne judges in the Supreme Court.
 - Conferment of more jurisdiction on the Supreme Court. Hence option 4 is correct.**
 - Use of official language. Hence option 2 is correct.**
 - Citizenship—acquisition and termination.
 - Elections to Parliament and state legislatures. Hence option 3 is correct.**
 - Delimitation of constituencies.
 - Union territories.
 - Fifth Schedule—administration of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes.
 - Sixth Schedule—administration of tribal areas.

Q 72.D

- In India, all citizens irrespective of the state in which they are born or reside enjoy the same political and civil rights of citizenship all over the country and no discrimination is made between them.
- However, this general rule of absence of discrimination is subject to some exceptions, viz,
 - The Parliament (under Article 16) can prescribe residence within a state or union territory as a condition for certain employments or appointments in that state or union territory.** Accordingly, the Parliament enacted the Public Employment (Requirement as to Residence) Act, 1957. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - The Constitution (under Article 15) prohibits discrimination against any citizen on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth and not on the ground of residence.** This means that the state can provide special benefits or give preference to its residents in matters that do not come within the purview of the rights given by the Constitution to the Indian citizens. For example, a state may offer concession in fees for education to its residents. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - The freedom of movement and residence (under Article 19) is subjected to the protection of interests of any schedule tribe. In other words, the right of outsiders to enter, reside and settle in tribal areas is restricted.** Hence, statement 3 is correct.
 - In the case of Jammu and Kashmir, the state legislature is empowered to define the persons who are permanent residents of the state and confer any special rights and privileges in matters of employment under the state government, acquisition of immovable property in the state etc

Q 73.A

- **Recent context: The population of dolphins in Chilika, India's largest brackish water lake, and along the Odisha coast has doubled this year compared**
with last year. The wildlife wing of the State Forest and Environment Department released the final data on the dolphin census conducted in January and February this year, indicating a spectacular growth in numbers.

- **Chilika is Asia's largest brackish water lagoon with an estuarine character**, and one of India's first Ramsar Convention sites (wetlands of international importance). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Straddling three Odisha districts, Chilika, the part marine, part brackish and part freshwater lagoon, dotted with islands, is bordered by hills and hillocks of the Eastern Ghats.
- Infused with fresh water from inland rivers and injected with saline water from Bay of Bengal, the lagoon supports rich biodiversity, including some rare, endangered and vulnerable species such as the Irrawaddy dolphin. **Chilika Lake has emerged as the “single largest habitat of Irrawaddy dolphins in the world. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **The lagoon is located on the east coast of India, at the mouth of the Daya River.** Chilika was once part of the Bay of Bengal, a study by the marine archaeology department of the National Institute of Oceanography.

Q 74.D

- A proclamation of emergency may be revoked by the President at any time by a subsequent proclamation. Such a proclamation does not require parliamentary approval. **Hence Statement 1 is not correct.**
- If approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the emergency continues for six months and can be extended to an indefinite period with an approval of the Parliament for every six months. **Hence Statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Additional Information :**
- **National Emergency**
- National emergency can be declared on the basis of war, external aggression or armed rebellion. The Constitution employs the expression ‘proclamation of emergency’ to denote an emergency of this type.
- **Grounds of declaration:**
 - Under Article 352, the president can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.
 - The President can declare a national emergency even before the actual occurrence of war or armed rebellion or external aggression
- **Parliamentary approval and duration**
 - The proclamation of emergency must be approved by both the houses of parliament within one month from the date of its issue. If approved by both the houses, the Emergency continues for 6 months and can be extended to an indefinite period with an approval of the Parliament for every six months.
 - Every resolution approving the proclamation of emergency or its continuance must be passed by either House of Parliament by a special majority.
- **Effects of national emergency**
 - A proclamation of Emergency has drastic and wide-ranging effects on the political system. These consequences can be grouped into 3 categories:
 - Effects on the centre-state relations: While a proclamation of Emergency is in force, the normal fabric of the Centre-State relations undergoes a basic change. this can be studied under three heads:
 - **Executive:** Centre becomes entitled to give executive directions to a state on ‘any’ matter
 - **Legislative:** The parliament becomes empowered to make laws on any subject mentioned in the state list, the president can issue ordinances on State subjects also, if the parliament is not in session. The laws made on state subjects by the parliament become inoperative six months after the emergency has ceased to be in operation.
 - **Financial:** the president can modify the constitutional distribution of revenues between the centre and the states
- **Effect on the life of the Lok Sabha and State Assembly:**
 - While a proclamation of National Emergency is in operation, the life of the Lok Sabha may be extended beyond the normal term for one year at a time. However, this extension cannot continue beyond a period of six months after the emergency has ceased to operate.
 - Similarly, the Parliament may extend the normal tenure of a state Legislative Assembly by one year each time during a national emergency, subject to a maximum period of six months after the emergency has ceased to operate.
- **Effect on fundamental rights:** Articles 358 and 359 describes the effect of a National Emergency on the Fundamental Rights. These two provisions are explained below:
 - **Suspension of Fundamental rights under Article 19:** According to Article 358, when a proclamation of National Emergency is made, the six fundamental rights under article 19 are automatically suspended. Article 19 is automatically revived after the expiry of the emergency.
 - The 44th Amendment Act laid out that Article 19 can only be suspended when the National Emergency is laid on the grounds of war or external aggression and not in the case of armed rebellion.

- **Suspension of other Fundamental Rights:** Under Article 359, the President is authorised to suspend, by order, the right to move any court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights during a National Emergency. Thus, remedial measures are suspended and not the Fundamental Rights.
- The suspension of enforcement relates to only those Fundamental Rights that are specified in the Presidential Order.
- The suspension could be for the period during the operation of emergency or for a shorter period.
- The Order should be laid before each House of Parliament for approval.
- The 44 Amendment Act mandates that the President cannot suspend the right to move the court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights guaranteed by Article 20 and 21.

Q 75.C

- The Preamble of the Constitution of India reveals four components.
- It states that the constitution **derives its authority from the people of India**. Therefore it **reveals the source of authority of the constitution**.
- It declares India to be of a **sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic, and republican polity**. Therefore, **it reveals the nature of the Indian State**.
- **It specifies justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity as the objectives of the constitution**
- It stipulates November 26, 1949, as the date of adoption of the constitution.
- **The preamble is neither a source of power to legislature nor a prohibition upon the powers of legislation.**
- **Like Fundamental Duties and Directive Principle of State Policy, Preamble is also non-justiciable, that is, its provisions are not enforceable in courts of law.**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 76.A

- While the Prime Minister is the head of the government, the President is the head of the State. In our political system, the head of the State exercises only nominal powers. The President supervises the overall functioning of all the political institutions in the country so that they operate in harmony to achieve the objectives of the State.
- Presidents all over the world are not always nominal executives like the President of India. In many countries of the world, the President is both the head of the state and the head of the government. The President of the United States of America is the most well-known example of this kind of President. The US President is directly elected by the people. He personally chooses and appoints all Ministers. The law-making is still done by the legislature (called the Congress in the US), but the president can veto any law. Most importantly, the president does not need the support of the majority of members in Congress and neither is he answerable to them. He has a fixed tenure of four years and completes it even if his party does not have a majority in the Congress
- Merits of Presidential System:
 - **Stable government. Hence option 2 is correct.**
 - Definiteness in policies.
 - **Based on separation of powers. Hence option 3 is correct.**
 - **Government by experts.**
- Demerits of Presidential System:
 - The conflict between legislature and executive.
 - **Non-responsible government. Hence option 4 is not correct.**
 - May lead to autocracy.
 - **Narrow representation. Hence option 1 is not correct.**

Q 77.A

- Cyberspace provides major opportunities for innovation, economic progress, cultural development and access to information. While its quick development has proved hugely useful for many human activities, it also brings new threats.
- The Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace of 12 November 2018 is a call to come together to face the new threats endangering citizens and infrastructure. It is based around nine common principles to secure cyberspace, which act as as many areas for discussion and action.
- **The Paris Call invites all cyberspace actors to work together and encourage States to cooperate with private sector partners, the world of research and civil society.** The supporters of the Paris Call commit to working together to adopt responsible behaviour and implement within cyberspace the fundamental principles which apply in the physical world. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- The Paris Call was sent in 2018 by the President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron, during the Internet Governance Forum held at UNESCO and the Paris Peace Forum.
- India is not a party to the declaration and recently Microsoft urged India to join the Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace that now has 75 countries on board to deal with new cybersecurity threats facing the world. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 78.D

- Article 22 grants protection to persons who are arrested or detained. Detention is of two types, namely, punitive and preventive. Punitive detention is to punish a person for an offense committed by him after trial and conviction in a court.
- Preventive detention, on the other hand, means the detention of a person without trial and conviction by a court. Its purpose is not to punish a person for a past offense but to prevent him from committing an offense in the near future.
- Article 22 has two parts—the first part (clauses 1 & 2) deals with the cases of ordinary law and the second part (4, 5, 6, and 7) deals with the cases of preventive detention law.
- The second part of Article 22 grants protection to persons who are arrested or detained under a preventive detention law. This protection is available to both citizens as well as aliens and includes the following:
 - The detention of a person cannot exceed three months unless the advisory board reports sufficient cause for extended detention. The board is to consist of judges of a high court.
 - **The grounds of detention should be communicated as soon as possible to the detained or arrested person. However, the facts considered to be against the public interest need not be disclosed. There is no time limit of 24 hours to disclose the reason for his arrest. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - The detained person should be afforded an opportunity to make representation against the detention order.
- Article 22 also authorizes the Parliament to prescribe
 - the circumstances and the classes of cases in which a person can be detained for more than three months under a preventive detention law without obtaining the opinion of an advisory board
 - the maximum period for which a person can be detained in any classes of cases under a preventive detention law
 - the procedure to be followed by an advisory board in an inquiry.
- The Constitution has divided the legislative power with regard to preventive detention between the Parliament and the state legislatures.
- **The Parliament has exclusive authority to make a law of preventive detention for reasons connected with defense, foreign affairs, and the security of India.**
- **Both the Parliament as well as the state legislatures can concurrently make a law of preventive detention for reasons connected with the security of a state, the maintenance of public order, and the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the community. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 79.A

- Under the provisions of the Right to Information Act (2005), The Central Information Commission (CIC) was established by the Central Government as a non Constitutional body in 2005. It is an independent body that looks into complaints and appeals pertaining to various offices under the central government and the union territories.
- **Statement 1 is correct: It consists of a Chief Information Commissioner and not more than ten Information Commissioners.** They are appointed by the President on the recommendations of a committee consisting of the Prime Minister as a Chairman, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Union Cabinet Minister appointed by the Prime Minister.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** Recently enacted RTI amendment Act, 2019 provided that the **Chief Information Commissioner and an Information Commissioner shall hold office for such term as prescribed by the Central Government.** Earlier they held the office for a term of 5 years.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** As per **RTI amendment Act, 2019 the salary and allowances of the Chief Information Commissioner and an Information Commissioner Shall be such as prescribed by the Central Government.** It removes the earlier provision i.e. Salaries and allowances of the Chief Information Commissioner is the same as that of the Chief Election Commissioner.

Q 80.B

- The procedure for the amendment of the Constitution as laid down in Article 368 is as follows:
- **An amendment of the Constitution can be initiated only by the introduction of a bill for the purpose in either House of Parliament and not in the state legislatures. Hence options 1 and 2 are correct and option 3 is not correct.**
- The bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member and does not require prior permission of the President.

Q 81.A

- **Article 360 (1) empowers the President to proclaim a Financial Emergency if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen due to which the financial stability or credit of India or any part of its territory is threatened.**
- A proclamation declaring financial emergency must be **approved by both the Houses of the Parliament within two months from the date of its issue.**
- Further, the resolution approving the proclamation of financial emergency can be **passed by either house of Parliament only by a simple majority. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Once approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the Financial Emergency continues indefinitely till it is revoked.
- **A proclamation of Financial Emergency may be revoked by the President at any time by a subsequent proclamation. Such a proclamation does not require parliamentary approval. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- **No Financial Emergency has been declared so far, though there was a financial crisis in 1991. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 82.D

- The Constitution of India under Article 324 establishes The Election Commission as a permanent and independent body to ensure free and fair elections in the country. It is vested with the power of superintendence, direction and control of elections to parliament, state legislatures, the office of President and Vice President of India.
- **Statement 1 is not correct: The constitution has not prescribed the qualifications (legal, educational, administrative or judicial) of members of the Election Commission.** Clause (5) of Article 324 provides that the Parliament may prescribe the conditions of service of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners(ECs).
- **Statement 2 is not correct: As per Article 324, Election Commission shall consist of the CEC and such number of ECs as the President may from time to time fix.** The Parliament has enacted the Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act,1991. As per the act CEC and ECs can hold the office upto 6 years or till they attain the age of 65. However, they can resign at any time or can be removed from office before the expiry of their term.
- **Statement 3 is not correct: The Constitution has not debarred the retiring members of the Election commission from further appointment under the government.** Even the Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act,1991 does not prohibit the further appointment of CEC and ECs under the government. It is also silent on whether Election Commissioners can join any political party after retirement or not.

Q 83.D

- To provide equal status for all citizens constitution under article 18 has abolished titles and made the following provisions in this regard.
 - It prohibits the state from conferring any title (except military or academic distinction) on anybody, whether a citizen or a foreigner.
 - It prohibits a citizen of India from accepting any title from any foreign state
 - **A foreigner holding any office of profit or trust under the state cannot accept any title from any foreign state without the consent of the president.**
 - **No citizen or a foreigner holding any office of profit or trust under the State is to accept any present, emolument, or office from or under any foreign State without the consent of the president.**
- **With prior permission of the president, a foreigner holding an office of profit under the Indian state can accept a title as well as emoluments conferred by a foreign state. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

- Article 18 also bans hereditary titles of nobility like Maharaja, Raj Bahadur, Rai Bahadur, Rai Saheb, Dewan Bahadur, etc, which were conferred by colonial States.
- However, it does not prevent an individual from adopting a "name" like Maharaja. For example, one can choose a name like Maharaja Ravi, etc. It only prevents the state from conferring such hereditary titles. Hence, statement 1 is not correct
- Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of the National Awards—Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Sri. It ruled that these awards do not amount to 'titles' within the meaning of Article 18 that prohibits only hereditary titles of nobility. Therefore, they are not violative of Article 18 as the theory of equality does not mandate that merit should not be recognized
- It also ruled that these awards should not be used as suffixes or prefixes to the names of awardees. Otherwise, they should forfeit the awards.

Q 84.C

- Pitt's India Act of 1784 distinguished between the commercial and political functions of the Company. It allowed the Court of Directors to manage the commercial affairs but created a new body called Board of Control to manage the political affairs. Thus, it established a system of double government, that is, separate body for commercial and administrative functions of the East India Company. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- Features of the Charter Act of 1833:
 - It made the Governor-General of Bengal as the Governor-General of India and vested in him all civil and military powers. Lord William Bentick was the first governor-general of India.
 - It deprived the governor of Bombay and Madras of their legislative powers. The Governor-General of India was given exclusive legislative powers for the entire British India. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - It ended the activities of the East India Company as a commercial body, which became a purely administrative body. It provided that the company's territories in India were held by it 'in trust for His Majesty, His heirs and successors'.
 - The Charter Act of 1833 attempted to introduce a system of open competition for selection of civil servants. However, this provision was negated after opposition from the Court of Directors. Finally, the Charter Act of 1853 introduced an open competition system of selection and recruitment of civil servants. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

Q 85.D

- In the Maneka Gandhi case (1978), the Supreme Court took a wider interpretation of Article 21 and held that the 'right to life' as embodied in Article 21 is not merely confined to animal existence or survival but it includes within its ambit the right to live with human dignity and all those aspects of life which go to make a man's life meaningful, complete and worth living.
- It also ruled that the expression 'Personal Liberty' in Article 21 is of the widest amplitude and it covers a variety of rights that go to constitute the personal liberties of a man.
- Regarding the issue of the right to travel abroad in the case of Satwant Singh Sawhney vs D. Ramarathnam, the Supreme Court established the "expression" personal liberty takes the right of locomotion and to travel abroad.
- Supreme Court in the case of Satish Chandra Verma vs. Union of India 2019, reiterated that the right to travel abroad is a genuine and basic human right like marriage and family
 - The right to travel abroad is an important basic human right for it nourishes the independent and self-determining creative character of the individual, not only by extending his freedoms of action but also by extending the scope of his experience
- Right to reputation has been an integral part of Article 21 of the Constitution. Every individual has a right to live a dignified life. Reputation and honor are connected with dignity and thus, constitute an inalienable part of human life.
- In the recent judgment of Subramanian Swamy v. Union of India, the apex court held that the reputation of an individual is a basic element under Article 21 of the Constitution
- Supreme Court in Attorney General of India v. Lachma Devi held that the direction for the public execution of the death sentence by Rajasthan High Court was unconstitutional and violative of Article 21.
- It was further made clear that death by public hanging would be a barbaric practice. Even if the crime for which the accused has been found guilty is barbaric it would be a shame on the civilized society to reciprocate the same.

- In the case of **Prem Shankar v. Delhi Administration** 1980, the Supreme Court struck down the rules which stated that every person who is under trial for a non-bailable offense punishable with more than three years imprisonment has to be routinely handcuffed.
- Hence option (d) is the correct answer.

Q 86.C

- Quo Warranto means ‘by what authority or warrant’. It is issued by the court to enquire into the legality of the claim of a person to a public office. Hence, it prevents illegal usurpation of public office by a person.
- The writ can be issued only in case of a substantive public office of a permanent character created by a statute or by the Constitution. It cannot be issued in cases of ministerial office or private office.
- **Any interested person and not necessarily the aggrieved person can seek Quo Warranto writ. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Mandamus literally means ‘we command’. It is a command issued by the court to a public official asking him to perform the official duties that he has failed or refused to perform.
- It can also be issued against any public body, a corporation, an inferior court, a tribunal, or government for the same purpose.
- The writ of mandamus cannot be issued
 - **against a private individual or body. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - to enforce departmental instruction that does not possess statutory force
 - when the duty is discretionary and not mandatory
 - to enforce a contractual obligation
 - against the president of India or the state governors
 - against the chief justice of a high court acting in a judicial capacity
- Certiorari means ‘to be certified’ or ‘to be informed’. It is issued by a higher court to a lower court or tribunal either to transfer a case pending with the latter to itself or to squash the order of the latter in a case.
- It is issued on the grounds of excess of jurisdiction or lack of jurisdiction or error of law. Thus, unlike prohibition, which is only preventive, certiorari is both preventive as well as curative.
- **Previously, the writ of certiorari could be issued only against judicial and quasi-judicial authorities and not against administrative authorities. However, in 1991, the Supreme Court ruled that the certiorari can be issued even against administrative authorities affecting the rights of individuals. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 87.C

- A bill contemplating the changes under Article 3 has to satisfy two conditions:
 - such a bill can be introduced in the Parliament only with the prior recommendation of the President;
 - before recommending the bill, the President has to refer the same to the state legislature concerned for expressing its views within a specified period.
- The President is not bound by the views of the state legislature and may either accept or reject them, even if the views are received in time.
- Moreover, the Constitution (Article 4) itself declares that laws made for admission or establishment of new states (under Article 2) and formation of new states and **alteration of areas, boundaries or names of existing states (under Articles 3) are not to be considered as amendments of the Constitution under Article 368. This means that such laws can be passed by a simple majority and by the ordinary legislative process.**
- Hence option (c) is the correct answer.

Q 88.D

- The Lokpal is a statutory body established under the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013. It acts as an “ombudsman” and inquires into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries and for related matters. Its jurisdiction includes the Prime Minister, Ministers, Members of Parliament, Groups A, B, C, and D officers and officials of Central Government.
- **Option 1 is not correct: Though the jurisdiction of Lokpal extends to Ministers, it cannot inquire into anything said by Ministers and Members of parliament in the matter of anything said in Parliament or a vote given there.**
- **Option 2 is not correct:** Institutions aided by the government are excluded from the jurisdiction of Lokpal. however, Institutions that are financed fully and partly by the government are under the jurisdiction of the Lokpal.

- Option 3 is not correct: According to Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013 those entities receiving donations from foreign sources in the context of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) in excess of Rs 10 lakhs per year (and not all entities) are brought under the jurisdiction of Lokpal.

Q 89.C

- In 1976, Sardar Swaran Singh Committee was set up to make recommendations about Fundamental Duties. The committee suggested the incorporation of eight Fundamental Duties in the constitution but ten fundamental duties were added to it by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976.
- Some of the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee were not accepted by the government. These include:
- The parliament may provide for the imposition of penalty for non-compliance with any of the Fundamental Duties. Hence statement 2 is correct.
- No law imposing such penalty shall be challengeable in the court on grounds of infringement of Fundamental Rights or any other grounds of incompatibility with any other provision of the constitution.
- Duty to pay taxes should also be a Fundamental Duty of the citizens. Hence statement 1 is correct.

Q 90.B

- There were eight schedules enshrined in Indian constitution during its commencement. The ninth schedule became a part of the Constitution in 1951, when the document was amended for the first time.
- It was created by the First Constitutional (Amendment) Act, 1951 which added new Article 31B, along with 31A in order to protect laws related to agrarian reform and for abolishing the Zamindari system. Hence statements 1 and 2 are correct.
- Though the 1st Amendment (1951) to protect the laws included in it from judicial scrutiny on the ground of violation of fundamental rights.
- However, in January 2007, the Supreme Court ruled that there could not be any blanket immunity from judicial review of laws included in the Ninth Schedule. The court held that judicial review is a 'basic feature' of the constitution and it could not be taken away by putting a law under the Ninth Schedule. It said that the laws placed under the Ninth Schedule after April 24, 1973, are open to challenge in court if they violated fundamental rights guaranteed under Articles 14, 15, 19 and 21 or the 'basic structure' of the constitution. (As on April 24, 1973, that the Supreme Court first propounded the doctrine of 'basic structure' or 'basic features' of the constitution in its landmark verdict in the Kesavananda Bharati Case). Hence statement 3 is not correct.

Q 91.C

- The fundamental duties were not part of the original constitution. It was added in 1976 through the 42nd amendment act. Originally, ten duties were added as fundamental duties as part IV-A of the constitution which consists of article 51-A. However, in 2002, another duty was added through the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act.
- The fundamental duties were added to the constitution based on the recommendations of the Sardar Swaran Singh Committee. These are inspired by the constitution of the erstwhile USSR. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- Swaran Singh committee also recommended the provisions of the punishment for non-compliance with duties. However, it was not added to the constitution. Constitution says nothing about enforcing these duties. Hence statement 2 is correct. The Fundamental Duties could be used by the courts in examining the constitutional validity of a law. Parliament can also enforce it through law.
- Constitution does not make the enjoyment of rights dependent or conditional upon the fulfillment of duties. Hence statement 3 is not correct. This represents that the inclusion of fundamental duties has not changed the status of our fundamental rights.

Q 92.C

- Antarctica's Thwaites Glacier called the "Doomsday Glacier", is 120 km wide at its broadest, fast-moving, and melting fast over the years. Because of its size (1.9 lakh square km), it contains enough water to raise the world sea level by more than half a metre.
- It has long been a cause of concern because of its high potential of speeding up the global sea level rise happening due to climate change. Studies have found the amount of ice flowing out of it has nearly doubled over the past 30 years.
- Today, Thwaites's melting already contributes 4% to global sea level rise each year. It is estimated that it would collapse into the sea in 200-900 years. Thwaites is important for Antarctica as it slows the ice

behind it from freely flowing into the ocean. Because of the risk it faces and poses, Thwaites is often called the Doomsday Glacier.

- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 93.A

- A proclamation of national emergency may be applicable to the entire country or only a part of it. The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 enabled the President to limit the operation of a National Emergency to a specified part of India. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The President, however, can proclaim a national emergency only after receiving a written recommendation from the cabinet. This means that the emergency can be declared only on the concurrence of the cabinet and not merely on the advice of the prime minister. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- In 1975, the then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi advised the president to proclaim an emergency without consulting her cabinet. The cabinet was informed of the proclamation after it was made, as a *fait accompli*. The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 introduced this safeguard to eliminate any possibility of the prime minister alone taking a decision in this regard.

Q 94.D

- Article 280 of the Constitution provides for the Finance Commission as a balancing wheel of Fiscal Federalism in India. It is a quasi-judicial body constituted by the President every fifth year or such earlier time as he considers necessary.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** Article 280 of the Constitution fixes the composition of the commission. It provides that the Finance Commission consists of a chairman and four other members to be appointed by the President. They hold the office under the pleasure of the President and are eligible for reappointment.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Parliament under the Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951 specifies the qualifications of the Chairman and members of the Commission. As per the act, the Chairperson should be a person having experience in public affairs. So persons under the three organs of state whether Executive, Legislative or Judiciary are eligible for appointment. P. V. Rajamannar who was Chief Justice of Madras High court was Chairman of the 4th Finance Commission.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Though Finance Commission is a Quasi-Judicial body but its recommendations are not binding on the government. recommendations are only advisory in nature and it is up to the government whether to implement recommendations or not.

Q 95.C

- **Recent Context:** The government has simplified the process of maintaining Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) cards. Now, the (OCI) cardholders will be required to get their document **re-issued only once at the age of 20 instead of multiple times needed currently**. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- The Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) cards provide long-term visa-free travel and stay in India and gives the cardholders a host of privileges normally not given to a foreign national. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- With the **new notification**, an OCI cardholder will now have to take special permission to undertake research work. The Notification also permits OCI cardholders eligible for appearing in all-India entrance tests such as NEET for medical courses, JEE — both Main and Advanced — for engineering or any other tests. However, this will only be against any **NRI or supernumerary seat** that is over and above the sanctioned intake approved by the appropriate authority and government, from time to time. **Hence statement 2 is correct**

Q 96.C

- **Recent context:** USA President Joe Biden's officially recognized the mass killings of Armenians by Ottoman Turks as an 'act of genocide'.
- **Background:** Up to 1.5 million Armenians are estimated to have been killed in the early stage of the First world war within the territories of the Ottoman Empire. In 2019, the US congress (Parliament of US) passed resolutions calling the slaughter a genocide, but the Donald Trump administration stopped short of officially calling it so.
- The Black Sea is a marginal sea of the Atlantic Ocean lying between Europe and Asia;
- The Black Sea is bordered by **Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russia, Turkey, and Ukraine**.



Q 97.A

- The RBI has recently announced that the Retail Investors would be able to directly invest in the Government Securities (G-Secs).
- Until now, direct access to G-Secs was limited to institutional players such as Banks, Primary dealers, Insurance companies, Mutual funds, Foreign portfolio investors, etc. Hence, the decision of the RBI to provide direct access to the retail investors to the G-Secs Market is a major structural reform.
- The RBI would launch a new platform known as "Retail Direct" to allow retail investors to buy G-Secs directly from the RBI. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.
- In order to buy G-Secs, the Retail investors would be required to open their gilt accounts with the RBI. (Similar to DEMAT Account for buying shares/Bonds etc.)

Q 98.A

- Article 355 imposes a duty on the Centre to ensure that the government of every state is carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. It is this duty in the performance of which the Centre takes over the government of a state under Article 356 in case of failure of constitutional machinery in the state. This is popularly known as 'President's Rule. It is also known as 'State Emergency' or 'Constitutional Emergency'.
- The President's Rule can be proclaimed under Article 356 on two grounds —one mentioned in Article 356 itself and another in Article 365.
 - Article 356 empowers the President to issue a proclamation if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the government of a state cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. Notably, the President can act either on a report of the governor of the state or otherwise too (ie, even without the governor's report).
 - Article 365 says that whenever a state fails to comply with or to give effect to any direction from the Centre, it will be lawful for the president to hold that a situation has arisen in which the government of the state cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.
- During the operation of the President's rule, the state executive is dismissed and the state legislature is either suspended or dissolved. The President administers the state through the Governor. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- When the President's rule is imposed in a state, the Parliament becomes empowered to make laws with respect to any matter in the State List in relation to that state. A law made so by the Parliament continues to be operative even after the President's rule. Hence statement 2 is not correct.

Q 99.A

- **The Zonal Councils are Statutory bodies established by the act of the Parliament.** Each Zonal Council is headed by the Union Home Minister, Chief Ministers of all States in the zone, Administrator of each Union territory in the zone and two other ministers from each state in the zone.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under Article 263 President can establish Interstate Council for smooth coordination between centre and states. **The Zonal Councils as mentioned above are statutory bodies created by the act of the parliament.**
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** The State Reorganisation Act, 1956 divides the Country into five zones-Northern, Western, Central, Eastern and Southern zones. North Eastern Council Act, 1971 created a separate North-Eastern Zonal Council. **As per the act, there is no provision of a separate zone for the Union Territories. For example UTs like Chandigarh, Delhi belongs to Northern Zone along with states like Harayana, Punjab.**

Q 100.C

- **In the Berubari Union case (1960), Supreme Court recognized the significance of the Preamble.** Supreme Court mentioned that assistance from Preamble could be taken in the interpretation of articles that are ambiguous or capable of more than one meaning. Hence **statement 1 is correct.**
- It also mentioned that Preamble shows general purposes behind several provisions in the constitution and is thus a key to the minds of the makers of the constitution. **However, Supreme Court specifically mentioned that the Preamble is not a part of the constitution.**
- **In Kesavananda Bharati Case (1973), Supreme Court rejected the earlier opinion and held that Preamble is a part of the Constitution.** It observed that Constitution should be read and interpreted in the light of the grand and noble vision expressed in the Preamble. The Supreme Court also held that the Preamble could be amended as long as basic features of the Constitution enshrined in the Preamble are not amended.
- **In the LIC of India Case (1995) also, Supreme Court again held that the Preamble is an integral part of the constitution.** Hence statement 2 is correct.