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**Q.1)** With reference to “Scheduled Areas” in India, consider the following statements:

1. Within a State, the notification of an area as Scheduled Area takes place through an Order of President.
2. The largest administrative unit forming the Scheduled Area is the district and the lowest is the cluster of villages in the Block.
3. The Chief Ministers of the Concerned States are required to submit annual reports to the Union Home Ministry on the administration of Scheduled Areas in the States.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is correct.** As per Article 244(1) of the Constitution’s Fifth Schedule, “**Scheduled Areas**” are areas that the President may declare to be such by order after consultation with the Governor of that State.

**Statement 2 is correct.** District is considered as the largest administrative unit which forms the Scheduled Area while the lowest administrative unit is the cluster of villages in the Block.

**Statement 3 is incorrect.** The Fifth Schedule to the Constitution of India states in para 3 that “**the Governor of each State having Scheduled Areas therein shall annually, or whenever so required by the President, make a report to the President regarding the administration of the Scheduled Areas in that State** and the executive power of the Union shall extend to the giving of directions to the State as to the Administration of the said areas.”

**Source: UPSC CSE Pre 2023**

**Q.2)** Consider the following statements about the Committee of Parliament on Official Language:

1. The Speaker of Lok Sabha is the ex-officio Chairperson of this Committee.
2. The members of the committee are from the Lok Sabha only.
3. It exclusively reviews the progress made in the use of English for official purposes.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) d**

**Exp) Option d is the correct answer.**

Section 4 of the Official Languages Act, 1963 says that a Committee on Official language shall be constituted on a resolution to that effect being moved in either House of Parliament with the previous sanction of the President and passed by both Houses.

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** The Parliamentary Committee on Official Language was established in 1976 under Section 4 of the Official Languages Act of 1963. **The Union Home Minister chairs the Committee**, which has been established in accordance with the requirements of the 1963 Act.

**Statement 2 is incorrect.** The Committee consists of **30 members - 20 members elected from Lok Sabha and 10 members elected from Rajya Sabha** in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

**Statement 3 is incorrect. The objective of Parliamentary Committee on Official Language is to assess progress in the use of Hindi for official purposes and to provide recommendations to enhance the use of Hindi (not English) in official communications.**

The Committee sends its findings to the President, who "shall [then] cause the report to be laid before each House of Parliament, and sent to all the State Governments," according to the 1963 Act.

Source: Laxmikanth (7th edition) Chapter 73 (Official Language)

**Q.3)** With reference to the Fifth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, the Governor of a State is empowered to establish regulations for the good governance of the Scheduled Areas of that State. These regulations can:

- a) modify or revoke both Central and State laws after obtaining the President's approval.
- b) modify or revoke any Central or State law without requiring the President's approval.
- c) modify or revoke only State laws but not Central laws.
- d) modify both Central and State laws but is not authorized to revoke any law.

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

**Option a is correct:** The Governor can exempt specific acts of Parliament or State legislature from applying to scheduled areas and he/she can set **regulations for good governance** in these areas after consulting the **Tribal Advisory Council (TAC)**. These regulations can repeal or amend any act of Parliament or the State legislature, which is applicable to a scheduled area. But all such regulations require the assent of the President. Therefore, **only with the President's assent Governor can modify as well as revoke both Central and State laws.**

**Option b, c and d are incorrect:** The **President's assent is mandatory** for the Governor to **modify or revoke any laws** applicable to Scheduled areas. Once the President's approval is granted, the Governor has the authority to amend or revoke both Central and State laws by issuing the regulations.

Source: Laxmikanth - Scheduled and Tribal Areas

**Q.4)** Consider the following statements regarding the administration of Tribal areas under the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution:

- 1. It has the authority to enact laws concerning property inheritance, marriage and divorce.
- 2. It possesses the capacity to adjudicate disputes among tribal communities.
- 3. It can establish rules for regulating money lending and trade involving non-tribal individuals.
- 4. It does not have the power to impose taxes and/or collect land revenue.

How many of the above statements regarding functions performed by the Autonomous District Council established in Tribal Areas are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is the correct answer.**

The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution provides for the administration of tribal areas in **Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram**. The **Governor** of the concerned State **establishes a 'District council'** in these States. Each of these autonomous districts is governed by a district council made up of 30 members.

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**Statement 1 is correct:** It is true that the **District Councils in Tribal areas**, under the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, can enact **laws related to property inheritance, marriage, and divorce**. The councils can also make laws on matters like land, forests, canal water, shifting cultivation, village administration etc. But all such laws require the assent of the Governor.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The **District Councils** (and regional councils) within their territorial jurisdictions can constitute **village councils or courts for trial of suits and cases between the tribes**. Hence the statement is correct.

**Statement 3 is correct:** The District Councils/Regional councils can create **rules and regulations for the control of money lending and trade involving non-tribal individuals** in the areas they govern. However, such laws require the assent of the Governor.

**Statement 4 is incorrect:** The **district/regional councils are empowered to assess and collect land revenue** and to impose certain specified taxes. They can also establish, construct or manage primary schools, dispensaries, markets, ferries, fisheries, roads and so on in the district.

Source: Laxmikanth – Scheduled and Tribal Areas

**Q.5)** Consider the following statements regarding the ‘Inner Line Permit’, often seen in the news:

1. It is an official travel document issued by the Government of India to allow inward travel of foreigners into a protected area for a limited period.
2. Presently, this permit is issued for the states of Nagaland, Manipur and Assam only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans) d**

**Exp) Option d is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** Inner Line Permit (ILP) is an official travel document issued by the Government of India to allow inward travel of an Indian citizen (not Foreigners) into a protected area for a limited period.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The system is in force today in three Northeastern states – Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram (not Assam and Manipur).

Source: <https://eastsiang.nic.in/service/inner-line-permit-eilp/>

**Q.6)** Consider the following statements regarding the provisions for Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi:

1. The strength of the Council of Ministers of the Government of NCT of Delhi is fixed at 15% of the total strength of the Legislative Assembly of Delhi.
2. The Chief Minister is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor.
3. The Ministers hold office during the pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) d**

**Exp) Option d is the correct answer.**

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The 69th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1991 granted the Union Territory of Delhi special status, renamed it the National Capital Territory of Delhi, and designated the administrator of Delhi as the lieutenant (Lt.) governor.

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** The strength of the council of **ministers of National Capital Territory of Delhi is set at 10% of the entire strength of the legislature**, which consists of chief minister and six additional ministers.

**Statement 2 is incorrect.** **The President of India appoints the Chief minister of National Capital Territory of Delhi**, not the Lieutenant Governor. The President appoints the other ministries on the suggestion of the chief minister.

**Statement 3 is incorrect.** The Council of Ministers of **NCT of Delhi serves at the pleasure of the President**. The ministerial council is collectively responsible to the assembly.

Source: : Laxmikanth (7th edition) Chapter 41

**Q.7)** Consider the following statements:

**Statement-I:** All pressure groups are interest groups, but all interest groups are not essentially pressure groups.

**Statement-II:** Pressure groups must exert pressure on the Government authorities to influence the decision in their favour.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
- Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

Pressure Groups and Interest Groups are terms often used interchangeably, but there are distinctions between them.

Interest Group	Pressure Group
Formally organized	Strictly structured
Interest-oriented	Pressure-focused
May or may not influence the policies of the government	Must influence the policies of the government
Softer in outlook	Harsher in attitude
More or less protective	Protective and promotive

**Statement-I is correct:** It is true that all pressure groups are interest groups, but all interest groups are not essentially pressure groups. **All pressure groups are interest groups because they share common interests.** Interest groups can take on a broader role, including research, public education, and policy advocacy, while **pressure groups** are more specifically focused on influencing government decisions through **direct pressure tactics**.

**Statement-II is correct:** The important distinction between Pressure Groups and Interest Groups lies in their approach to government authorities. **Pressure groups actively apply pressure** through methods like

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protests and campaigns to influence government decisions, as seen in cases like the Kisan Union advocating for Minimum Support Price for crops.

Therefore, **an interest group that employs pressure tactics to achieve its objectives is categorised as a pressure group.** This distinction clarifies why not all interest groups necessarily fall into the category of pressure groups, explaining the first statement.

Source: <https://www.nios.ac.in/media/documents/SecSocSciCour/English/Lesson-21.pdf> (Pg no 142)

**Q.8)** With reference to the National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH), consider the following statements:

1. It functions as an independent organisation under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
  2. It provides financial support to children affected by social violence.
- Which of the statement/s given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is the correct answer.**

The National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) plays an important role in efforts to reduce tensions and promote peace and understanding among various sections of society.

**Statement 1 is correct:** The National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) is an autonomous organisation in India that works **under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.** It was established in 1992 with the primary aim of promoting communal harmony and national integration.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The NFCH focuses on providing assistance and support to the victims of communal, caste, and ethnic violence in the country, particularly children, who have been affected by such conflicts. The organization provides **financial assistance to children affected by violence for their rehabilitation,** education, and overall well-being.

Source: Laxmikanth - National Integration

**Q.9)** Which one of the following regarding the tenure of the elected members of the Autonomous District Council is correct?

- a) Five years from the date of election
- b) Five years from the date appointed for the first meeting of the council after the election
- c) Six years from the date of administration of oath
- d) Six years from the date of election

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

The elected members of the Autonomous District Council shall hold office for a **term of five years from the date appointed for the first meeting of the Council** after the general elections to the Council.

Sixth schedule to the constitution of India provides for setting up of autonomous district council

The Constitution of India makes special provisions for the administration of the tribal dominated areas in four states viz Assam, Meghalaya Tripura and Mizoram.

As per Article 244 and sixth Schedule these areas are called "Tribal Areas

Source) CDS Pre.2018 II



**Q.10)** Consider the following statements with reference to the Union Territory of Lakshadweep:

1. A regulation made by the President of India can repeal or amend any Act made by the Parliament.
2. Lakshadweep Police is under the direct command of the Administrator of the Union Territory.
3. The provisions under Fifth Schedule of the Constitution do not apply to Lakshadweep.
4. A non-native person needs a permit to enter or reside in Lakshadweep.

How many statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

**Ans) d**

**Exp) Option d is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is correct.** The President may make regulations for the peace, progress and good government of the Union territory of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands; Lakshadweep; Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu; Pondicherry. Any regulation so made may repeal or amend any Act made by Parliament or any other law which is for the time being applicable to the Union territory and, when promulgated by the President, shall have the same force and effect as an Act of Parliament which applies to that territory.

**Statement 2 is correct.** Lakshadweep Police is under the command and control of Administrator of the Union Territory in his capacity as Inspector General of Lakshadweep Police.

**Statement 3 is correct.** The provisions under Fifth Schedule of the Constitution does not apply to Lakshadweep.

**Statement 4 is correct.** As per the Laccadive Minicoy Islands (Restrictions on Entry and Residence) Rule, 1967, no person who is not a native of the island shall enter or reside in or attempt to enter or reside in the islands except under and in accordance with a permit issued by the competent authority.

Source: M Laxmikanth

<https://lakshadweep.gov.in/>

**Q.11)** The provision under Article 350A of the Constitution of India relates to the

- a) right of any section of the citizens to preserve its distinct language and culture
- b) right of the Sikh community to carrying and wearing of kirpans
- c) provision for providing facilities for instruction in mother-tongue at primary stage to children.
- d) freedom of Minority-managed educational institutions from discrimination in the matter of receiving aid from the State

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is the correct answer.**

**Article 350A** of the Constitution of India states that it shall be the endeavor of every State and of every local authority within the **State to provide adequate facilities for instruction in the mother tongue at the primary stage of education to children** belonging to linguistic minority groups. This provision aims to protect and promote the linguistic rights of minority communities by ensuring that children have the opportunity to receive education in their mother tongue.

**Source) CAPF 2015**

**Q.12)** Consider the following developments with respect to the cooperative movement in India:

1. Establishment of the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD)
2. Establishment of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)
3. Establishment of the National Cooperative Development Cooperation

#### 4. Creation of the Union Ministry of Cooperation

Which of the sequences given in the options below correctly represents the chronology of the above developments?

- a) 3-2-1-4
- b) 3-2-4-1
- c) 2-3-1-4
- d) 2-3-4-1

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

**National Cooperative Development Cooperation (NCDC)** was established by an act of Parliament in 1963 as a statutory corporation.

**National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)** is an institute of national importance established by an act of the Indian Parliament in **1965**. It was founded by Dr Verghese Kurien, often called 'India's milkman'

**NABARD Act, 1981:** The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Act was passed in 1981 and NABARD was set up in 1982 to provide re-finance support to Cooperative Banks and to supplement the resources of Commercial Banks and Regional Rural Banks to enhance credit flow to the agriculture and rural sector.

**Ministry of Cooperation** was created in **2021** by transferring the existing entries related to cooperation and cooperative in the business of the erstwhile Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare.

Source: [https://www.ncdc.in/index.jsp?page=genesis-](https://www.ncdc.in/index.jsp?page=genesis-functions=en#:~:text=The%20National%20Cooperative%20Development%20Corporation,under%20the%20Ministry%20of%20Cooperation.)

[functions=en#:~:text=The%20National%20Cooperative%20Development%20Corporation,under%20the%20Ministry%20of%20Cooperation.](https://www.ncdc.in/index.jsp?page=genesis-functions=en#:~:text=The%20National%20Cooperative%20Development%20Corporation,under%20the%20Ministry%20of%20Cooperation.)

<https://www.nabard.org/content.aspx?id=2>

<https://www.nddb.coop/about/genesis>

**Q.13)** With reference to Multi-State Cooperative Societies, consider the following statements:

**Statement-I:** Part IX B of the Constitution, which includes provisions for the democratic functioning of Cooperatives in India, applies only to multi-state cooperative societies.

**Statement -II:** Cooperative societies are mentioned in the List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule of the constitution of India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

The 97th Amendment of 2012 introduced Part IXB into the Constitution, outlining the regulations for the operation of cooperative societies. Part IXB, encompassing Articles 243ZH to 243ZT, has had a significant impact on the State legislatures' control over their cooperative sectors.

**Statement-I is correct:** Supreme Court of India has held that **Part IX B of the Constitution applies only to multi-state cooperative societies**. This judgement came in the context of the Central Government's actions to prescribe the appropriate number of directors, their tenure, and the qualifications necessary for individuals to join a society.



**Statement-II is correct:** It is true that the “Co-operative societies” is a subject enumerated in **Entry 32 of the list II (state list)** of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, hence the state legislatures have the authority to enact legislations on co-operative societies.

The Supreme Court clarified that since cooperative societies fall within the realm of the “exclusive legislative authority” of State legislatures, the **provisions of Part IX B of the Constitution are applicable exclusively to multi-state cooperative societies**. This explains the first statement.

Source: Laxmikanth - Cooperative Societies

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/co-operative-societies-supreme-court-strikes-down-parts-of-a-constitutional-amendment/article35433660.ece>

**Q.14)** Consider the following statements with reference to the criteria for selection of a language as a Classical language in India:

1. The language should have a recorded history of at least 1,500-2,000 years.
  2. The language should have texts of significant historical and cultural importance.
  3. The language should have a distinct literary tradition and not be merely an offshoot of another language.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is the correct answer**

Part XVII of the India Constitution deals with official language matters within Articles 343 to 351. In 2004, the Government of India decided to create a new category of languages called “classical languages”.

**All Statements are correct:** In India, so far six languages in India namely **Tamil, Telugu, Sanskrit, Kannada, Malayalam and Odia** have been given the status of classical language. A language to be recognised as a classical language, it must fulfil the following criteria:

- 1) The language should have a recorded history of at least 1,500-2,000 years.
- 2) The language must have a collection of age-old literary works and texts, regarded as a cherished legacy by successive generations of speakers
- 3) The literary tradition of the language should be original and not be borrowed from another linguistic group.
- 4) The language should have a distinct, independent tradition and not be merely an offshoot of another language.

Source: Laxmikanth - Official Language

**Q.15)** Consider the following statements in respect of the National Flag of India according to the Flag Code of India, 2002:

**Statement-I:** One of the standard sizes of the National Flag of India is 600 mm x 400 mm.

**Statement-II:** The ratio of the length to the height (width) of the Flag shall be 3:2.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

The use, display and hoisting of the National Flag in the country is guided by an overarching set of instructions called the 'Flag Code of India 2002'. The code brings together all laws, conventions, practices, and instructions for the display of the National Flag.

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** As per the Flag code of India 2002, the National Flag cannot be in the dimension of 600mm\*400mm. The code states that the National flag can be of nine standard dimensions as follows:

Flag Size No.	Dimensions in mm
1.	6300 × 4200
2.	3600 × 2400
3.	2700 × 1800
4.	1800 × 1200
5.	1350 × 900
6.	900 × 600
7.	450 × 300
8.	225 × 150
9.	150 × 100

**Statement 2 is correct:** The National Flag shall be rectangular in shape and the ratio of the length to the height (width) of the Flag shall be 3:2. Hence Statement 2 is correct.

Source: UPSC CSE Pre 2023

Q.16) Consider the following statements:

1. Unlike in Union Territories, states in India share a distribution of power with the Centre.
2. President of India is the constitutional and executive head of both states and Union Territories.
3. There is no Union territory larger in size than any state of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Under Article 1 of the Constitution, the territory of India comprises three categories of territories: (a) territories of the states; (b) union territories; and (c) territories that may be acquired by the Government of India at any time.

**Statement 1 is correct: States relationship with Centre is federal.** They share a distribution of power with the Centre. **Union Territories relationship with Centre is unitary.** They are under the direct control and administration of the Centre. They do not have any autonomy.

**Statement 2 is incorrect: The executive head of state is the Governor.** Every Union Territory is administered by the President through an administrator appointed by him.

**Statement 3 is incorrect: Ladakh** is the largest Union Territory which is larger in size than many Indian states like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana and Kerala etc. So, the statement is incorrect.

Source: ch. 40 laxmikanth

**Q.17)** Consider the following statements with regard to the language of the judiciary and the text of laws in India:

1. According to the Constitution, the Governor of a state can authorize the use of Hindi in judgments, decrees, and orders of the concerned High Court of that state.
2. The Parliament has made provision for the use of Hindi in the Supreme Court.
3. A state legislature can use any language apart from English to draft bills and acts.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

English is the official language of India's Supreme Court and High Courts. All hearings in these courts must be conducted in English, according to Article 348 of the Indian Constitution. Unless Parliament passes legislation to the contrary, the authoritative text of all acts, orders, rules, and regulations must be in English.

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** Under the Constitution, the governor of a state, with the prior approval of the president, can permit the use of Hindi or any other official language of the state in high court proceedings. However, this authorization **does not extend to judgments, decrees, and orders issued by the high court**, which must remain in English until Parliament decides otherwise.

- 1) **The Official Languages Act of 1963 allows (not Constitution)** the governor, with the president's prior consent, to authorize the use of Hindi or the state's official language for high court judgments, decrees, and orders, provided that an English translation is also provided.

**Statement 2 is incorrect.** Article 348(1)(a) stipulates that unless Parliament authorizes otherwise by law, all proceedings before the Supreme Court and all High Courts must be conducted in English. As of now **the Parliament has not made any provision for the use of Hindi in the Supreme Court**. As a result, the Supreme Court hears only petitions and appeals filed in English.

**Statement 3 is correct.** Any language can be used by the state legislature in bills, acts, ordinances, orders, rules, regulations, or byelaws; however, an English translation must be made available.

Source: Laxmikanth (7th edition) Chapter 73 (Official Language)

**Q.18)** Consider the following languages of India:

1. Urdu
2. Telugu
3. Hindi
4. Marathi
5. Odia

How many of the above are identified as classical languages of India?

- a) Only two
- b) Only three
- c) Only four
- d) All five

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

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The Government of India decided to create a new category of languages known as "classical languages" in 2004. It established the criteria for granting classical language designation in 2006. Six languages have been designated as classical languages.

**Options 2 and 5 are correct.** Six Indian languages have been designated as classical: **Tamil, Telugu, Sanskrit, Kannada, Malayalam, and Odia**. Tamil is the first language to receive this honor. Tamil was designated a classical language in 2004.

**Options 1, 3, 4 are incorrect. Urdu, Hindi and Marathi are not classical languages.** They are official languages under the eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Knowledge Base:

- 1) The Constitution's Eighth Schedule specifies 22 languages (from 14 originally). Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri (Dongri), Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Mathili (Maithili), Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, **and Urdu** are among them. The 21st Amendment Act of 1967 included Sindhi; the 71st Amendment Act of 1992 included Konkani, Manipuri, and Nepali; and the 92nd Amendment Act of 2003 added Bodo, Dongri, Maithili, and Santhali.

Source: Laxmikanth (7th edition) Chapter 73 (Official Language)

**Q.19)** Consider the following statements:

1. While Pressure groups do not contest elections, Political Parties contest elections to form the Government.
2. Unlike Political parties, Pressure groups do not necessarily have political ideologies.
3. Generally, the interests of Pressure groups are wider than those of Political parties.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

Political parties and pressure groups have a significant role in democracy. Their interaction is evident, with trade unions (pressure groups) supporting political parties during elections, and political parties advocating for legislation that aligns with the interests of workers.

**Statement 1 is correct: Pressure groups typically do not participate in elections**, while **Political parties** are organised to **contest elections** with the aim of forming the government. Pressure groups do not aim to attain direct political power; instead, their focus is on influencing those in positions of authority to shape decisions in alignment with their interests. In contrast, political parties strive to secure power with the goal of forming a government.

**Statement 2 is correct:** While **Political parties often have distinct political ideologies** and platforms, **Pressure groups may not be ideologically driven**. For example, some political parties adhered to the ideologies of socialism, secularism and democracy, Pressure groups such as Trade Unions advocate for labour friendly laws.

**Statement 3 is incorrect: Pressure groups typically have specific and narrow interests**, while **Political parties have wider interests that** may have national and international implications.

Source: <https://www.nios.ac.in/media/documents/SecSocSciCour/English/Lesson-21.pdf> (Pg no 142)

**Q.20)** Consider the following statements:

1. NGOs in India can be registered under both the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and the Companies Act, 2013.
2. Any NGO in India seeking foreign funding must be registered under the Foreign Exchange Management Act.
3. NGOs in India can receive foreign funding only for social and educational objectives and not religious purposes.
4. Any organisation that wants to register itself for foreign funding must have existed for three years.

How many statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is correct.** Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) which aims to work in India can be registered under plethora of laws. It can be registered under any of the following laws: Trust under Indian Trusts Act, 1882, Society under Societies Registration Act, 1860, Section 8 Company under Companies Act, 2013.

**Statement 2 is incorrect.** It is mandatory for all such NGOs which are seeking foreign funding to register themselves under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), and not Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA). The registration is initially valid for five years. Further, it can be renewed subsequently if they comply with all norms.

**Statement 3 is incorrect.** Registered NGOs can receive foreign contributions for five purposes – social, educational, religious, economic, and cultural.

**Statement 4 is correct.** The new Foreign Contribution Regulation (Amendment) Rules 2020 require that any organization that wants to register itself under the FCRA to have existed for at least three years. Further, it should have spent a minimum of Rs. 15 lakh on its core activities during the last three financial years for the benefit of society. Any NGO or person making an application for obtaining prior permission to receive foreign funds shall have an FCRA Account.

Source: M Laxmikanth

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/everyday-explainers/what-is-fcra-ngo-funding-mha-explained-8026895/>

**Q.21)** If a Particular area is brought under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India, which one of the following statements best reflects the consequence of it?

- a) This would prevent the transfer of land from tribal people to non-tribal people.
- b) This would create a local self- governing body in that area.
- c) This would convert that area into a Union Territory.
- d) The State having such areas would be declared as a Special Category State.

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

**Option a is correct: The Fifth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the administration and control of Scheduled Areas as well as of Scheduled Tribes residing in any State other than the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.**

Governor can make regulations for the peace and good government of a scheduled area after consulting



the tribes advisory council. Such regulations may prohibit or **restrict the transfer of land by tribal to non-tribal members** or among members of the scheduled tribes, regulate the allotment of land to members of the scheduled tribes.

**Option b is incorrect.** According to the provisions of Paragraph 4, under Article 244(1) of Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India, the Tribes Advisory Councils (TAC) **shall be established in each State having Scheduled Areas therein and, if the President so directs, also in any State having Scheduled Tribes but not Scheduled Areas.** Tribal advisory council is an advisory body, not a governing body.

**Option c is incorrect.** Bringing any particular area under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India does not convert the area into a Union Territory.

**Option d is incorrect.** Bringing any particular area under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India does not get declared as a Special Category State.

**Source) UPSC CSE Pre. 2022**

**Q.22)** Consider the following statements with regard to the ordinance making powers of Lieutenant Governor of Delhi:

1. S/he cannot promulgate an ordinance when assembly is dissolved or suspended.
2. S/he is not permitted to withdraw any ordinance without the President's approval.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is the correct answer.**

The Lieutenant Governor is granted the authority to issue ordinances during periods when the legislative assembly is not in session. These ordinances carry the same legal weight as acts passed by the legislative assembly itself.

**Statement 1 is correct.** The **Lieutenant Governor cannot issue an ordinance when the legislative assembly is dissolved or suspended.** This limitation is in place to prevent the misuse of the ordinance-making power when there is no elected assembly in session to provide oversight.

**Statement 2 is correct.** Any ordinance promulgated by the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi **cannot be withdrawn without obtaining prior permission from the President.**

Source: Laxmikanth (7th edition) Chapter 41, Page 412

**Q.23)** Consider the following statements regarding the High Courts in India:

1. The Constitution of India empowers the President to establish a High Court for a Union Territory (UT).
2. Delhi is the only UT to have its own separate High Court.
3. The UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands comes under the jurisdiction of Calcutta High Court.

How many statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**



Article 214 of the Constitution of India provides for a High Court for each State. **The Constitution (Seventh) Amendment Act of 1956 added provisions regarding extension of the jurisdiction of the High Courts to Union Territories (UTs).**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** Under Article 241 of the Indian Constitution, **the Parliament** may by law constitute a High Court for a Union territory.

**Statement 2 is correct: Delhi is the only UT that has its own separate High Court.** The UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh have a common High Court. The other UTs come under the jurisdiction of different State High Courts. Hence, Delhi is the only UT that has its own separate High Court.

**Statement 3 is correct:** The UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands comes under the jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court. Hence, the given statement is correct.

UTs	Comes under the jurisdiction of the High Court
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.	Bombay High Court
Lakshadweep	Kerala High Court
Chandigarh	Punjab & Haryana High Court
Puducherry	Madras High Court

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition) (Chapter 41, Page 411)

**Q.24)** In the context of the administration of tribal areas, which of the following options includes all the States, in which specific areas have been notified under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India?

- Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura
- Assam, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland
- Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura
- Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is the correct answer.**

**Article 244 (Part X)** of the Indian Constitution provides for a special system of administration for certain areas, which are designated as 'Scheduled areas' and 'Tribal areas'. These are dealt with under the Fifth and Sixth Schedules, respectively.

**The Sixth Schedule deals with the administration of tribal areas in four Northeastern states- Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.** Hence, option c is the correct answer.

Knowledge Base:

About **Sixth Schedule** of the Constitution of India:

- The rationale behind special treatment to Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram is that the tribes in these States maintain their distinct culture and identity. These tribes have been less assimilated with the majority culture.
- These tribal areas have been constituted as autonomous districts. However, these continued to be governed by the executive authority of the States concerned.
- Governor is empowered to increase or decrease the area of these autonomous districts, change their names, define boundaries, and so on.
- The autonomous district can be divided into autonomous regions if there are different tribes residing in the district.
- There shall be a district council for an autonomous district. This shall comprise 30 members (26 members are elected and 4 are nominated by the Governor). The term of the Council is 5 years.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition) (Chapter 42, Page 415)

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**SFG 2024 | LEVEL 1 | Test #9 – Solutions | ForumIAS**


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**Q.25)** Which of the following statements regarding reservation for SCs/ STs in promotion in government services is/ are correct?

1. It is not a fundamental right as per the Constitution of India.
2. The 85<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act of 2001 provides for 'consequential seniority' in the case of promotion.

Select the correct option using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is correct:** Indra Sawhney Case, 1992 in which the Supreme Court (SC) ruled that reservations were not applicable in promotions in government service. In order to nullify the ruling with regard to reservation in promotions, the 77<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act was enacted in 1995. It added a new provision in Article 16 that empowers the State to provide for reservation in promotions of any services under the State in favour of the SCs and STs that are not adequately represented in the state services. However in February 2020, the SC made a judgement clarifying that Article 16 (4A) is an enabling provision - giving Parliament the power to make such reservations - at its discretion, and cannot be demanded as a fundamental right. So reservation for SC/ST in promotions in government jobs is not a fundamental right as per the constitution of India.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The 85th Amendment Act of 2001 provides for 'consequential seniority' in the case of promotion by virtue of rule of reservation for the government servants belonging to the SCs and STs with retrospective effect from June 1995.

Consequential Seniority means elevation to a senior position consequential to circumstances, and not through normal rules.

Source: M Laxmikanth

**Q.26)** Consider the following statements regarding the authoritative text of the Constitution of India:

1. The Original Constitution of India had provisions with respect to an authoritative text of the Constitution in the Hindi language.
2. The Constitution of India originally adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26th November 1949 was both in Hindi and English languages.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans) d**

**Exp) Option d is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** Originally, the Constitution of India did not make any provision with respect to an authoritative text of the Constitution in the Hindi language. Later, a provision in this regard was made by the 58th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1987 (Article 394-A).

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Constitution of India adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26 November, 1949, was in English language. A Hindi translation of the Constitution signed by the members of the Constituent Assembly was published in 1950.

Source: Laxmikant-Official Language

**Q.27)** The Constitution (Ninety-Seventh) Amendment Act of 2011 has amended certain parts of the Constitution. In this context, consider the following:

1. The Preamble
2. The Fundamental Rights
3. The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)
4. The Fundamental Duties

How many of the provisions listed above have been amended by the Constitution (Ninety-Seventh) Amendment Act of 2011?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

The 97th Amendment to the Constitution of India was enacted in 2011. It **primarily focused on amending Article 19(1)(c) and inserting Article 43B to the Indian Constitution**. Apart from this, it also **added a new part IX-B**, dealing with 'cooperative societies'

**Option 1 is incorrect:** No amendment was made in the Preamble by the Constitution (Ninety-Seventh) Amendment Act, 2011.

**Option 2 is correct:** Article 19(1)(c) dealing with Fundamental Rights was amended by the Constitution (Ninety-Seventh) Amendment Act, 2011 to add the word "cooperative societies". The Constitution (Ninety-Seventh) Amendment Act, 2011 **granted constitutional recognition to cooperatives and granted citizens the fundamental right to form cooperatives**.

**Option 3 is correct:** The Constitution (Ninety-Seventh) Amendment Act, 2011 **inserted Article 43B** as a new Directive Principle of State Policy (DPSP). This Article provides for the promotion of cooperative societies. It provides that the **state shall endeavour to promote voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control and professional management of the cooperative societies**.

**Option 4 is incorrect:** No amendment was made in the Fundamental Duties by the Constitution (Ninety-Seventh) Amendment Act, 2011.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition) (Chapter 72, Page 535)

**Q.28)** Consider the following statements regarding the 'Official Language' of a State:

1. A State can select a language as official language of the state, even if it is not listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution.
2. As per the Official Language Act of 1963, the Governor can authorize the High Court to pass judgments in the official language of the State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Constitution does not specify the official language of different states. The legislature of a state may adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the state as its official language.

Further, **States have the freedom to select their official language, even if it is not listed in the Eighth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution. Hence, the given statement is correct.

**Statement 2 is correct:** As per the Official Language Act of 1963, the Governor of a State can, with the President's approval, **authorize the use of Hindi or the state's official language** (along with English) in High Court judgments, decrees, or orders. However, if a judgment, decree, or order is in a language other than English, it must be translated into English.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition) (Chapter 73, Page 540)

<https://rajbhasha.gov.in/sites/default/files/olact1963eng.pdf>

**Q.29)** Which of the following has the authority to decide which groups in a state should be considered as Scheduled Castes (SCs)?

- President of India
- Governor of the respective state
- State legislature of the respective state
- National Commission for Scheduled Castes

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

To achieve the goals of **equality and justice** stated in the **Preamble**, the **Constitution** provides special measures for **Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), and Anglo-Indians**. These provisions are found in **Part XVI of the Constitution**, from **Articles 330 to 342A**.

**Option a is correct:** **The President of India has the authority to decide which castes or tribes in each state should be considered as Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)**. The President of India does so by public notification after **consultation with the Governor** of the concerned state. Any amendment to the Presidential notification regarding the lists of **SCs and STs** can only be done by **Parliament**. This is mentioned in **Article 341(2)** of the Constitution of India.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition)

Chapter 76, Page 556

**Q.30)** Consider the following statements with reference to the 'Control of the Union over the Administration of Scheduled Areas and the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes':

- According to the Constitution of India, the Parliament must appoint a Commission to submit a report on the administration of the Scheduled Areas.
- The Union has executive power to give directions to a State for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the State.
- First commission regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas and the Welfare of STs was appointed under DB Kalelkar.

How many of the above given statements are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

Article 339 of Indian constitution extends the Control of the Union over the administration of Scheduled Areas and the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** The President (not the Parliament) may at any time appoint a Commission to report on the administration of the Scheduled Areas and the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the States. He can appoint such a commission at any time but compulsorily after ten years of the commencement of the Constitution. The order may define the composition, powers and procedure of the Commission and may contain such incidental or ancillary provisions as the President may consider necessary or desirable.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The executive power of the Union shall extend to the giving of directions to a State as to the drawing up and execution of schemes specified in the direction to be essential for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the State.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** Two commissions were appointed by the President regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas and the welfare of Scheduled Tribes. First commission was appointed in 1960. It was headed by U.N. Dhebar (not DB Kalelkar) and submitted its report in 1961. The second commission was appointed in 2002 under the chairmanship of Dilip Singh Bhuria. It submitted its report in 2004. Under DB Kalelkar First Backward Class Commission was set up.

Source: M Laxmikanth

**Q.31)** With reference to Home Guards, consider the following statements:

1. Home Guards are raised under the Home Guards Act and Rules of the Central Government.
2. The role of the Home Guards is to serve as an auxiliary force to the police in maintenance of internal security.
3. To prevent infiltration on the international border/coastal areas, the Border Wing Home Guards Battalions have been raised in some States.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

'Home Guards' is a voluntary force, first raised in India in December 1946, to assist the police in controlling civil disturbance and communal riots.

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** Home Guards are raised under the Home Guards Act and Rules of the States/Union Territories (not central Government). They are recruited from amongst all classes of people and walks of life, who give their spare time to the organisation for betterment of the community.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The role of Home Guards is to serve as an auxiliary Force to the Police in maintenance of internal security situations, help the community in any kind of emergency such as an air-raid, fire, cyclone, earthquake, epidemic etc., help in maintenance of essential services, promote communal harmony and assist the administration in protecting weaker sections, participate in socio-economic and welfare activities and perform Civil Defence duties.

**Statement 3 is correct:** Fifteen Border Wing Home Guards (BWHG) Battalions have been raised in the border States viz. Punjab (6 Bns.), Rajasthan (4 Bns.), Gujarat (2 Bns.) and one each Battalion for Meghalaya, Tripura and West Bengal to serve as an auxiliary to Border Security Force for preventing infiltration on the international border/coastal areas, guarding of VA/VPs and lines of communication in vulnerable area at the time of external aggression.

**Therefore, only two statements are correct.**

Source: UPSC CSE Pre 2023



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**Q.32)** With reference to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities, consider the following statements:

1. S/he is appointed by the President of India.
2. S/he presents reports on the Constitutional safeguards of the Linguistic Minority to the President.
3. According to the Constitution, S/he can be removed only on the grounds of proved misbehaviour and incapacity.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is correct-** Article 350B of the Constitution of India provides for appointing a Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities (SOLM). The President should appoint a special officer for linguistic minorities to investigate and report on constitutional safeguards of the linguistic minority. The SOLM is responsible for investigating all matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under the Constitution and reporting to the President at such intervals as the President may direct.

**Statement 2 is correct-** The Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities submits the annual reports or other reports to the President through the Union Minority Affairs Minister. The President in turn lays those reports in Houses of Parliament and sent to the state governments concerned.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Constitution does not specify the qualifications, tenure, salaries and allowances, service conditions and procedure for removal of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition) Chapter 73, Page 542

**Q.33)** Consider the following categories:

1. Scheduled Castes
2. Scheduled Tribes
3. Other Backward Classes (OBC)
4. Anglo-Indians

How many of the above categories are currently provided with the reservation of seats in the Lok Sabha?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

**Article 330 of the Constitution** allows for the allocation of seats in the House of the People (Lok Sabha) to individuals from SCs and STs. On the other hand, **Article 332 of the Indian Constitution** allows for the allocation of seats in the Legislative Assembly to individuals from SCs and STs.

**Option 1 is correct-** Out of the 543 seats in the Lok Sabha, 84 seats are reserved for the scheduled caste. The 104th Amendment Act, of 2019 validated this reservation until 2030.

**Option 2 is correct-** Out of the 543 seats in the Lok Sabha, 47 seats are reserved for the scheduled tribes. The 104th Amendment Act, of 2019 validated this reservation until 2030.

**Option 3 is incorrect-** Other Backward Classes (or) Socially and Economically Backward Classes have no reservation of seats in the Lok Sabha.



**Option 4 is incorrect-** Anglo-Indians have **no reservation of seats in the Lok Sabha**. The **104th Amendment Act 2019, ended the representation of Anglo-Indians to the Lok Sabha**. Before this amendment, the President used to nominate two members of the Anglo-Indian Community to the Lok Sabha.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition)

Chapter 76, Page 557

**Q.34)** For the Assertions (A) and Reasons (R), choose the correct alternative from the following.

**Assertion (A):** The first Backward Classes Commission was appointed in 1979 under the Chairmanship of BP Mandal.

**Reason (R):** According to Indian Constitution, President may appoint a commission to investigate into the conditions of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
- c) A is true but R is false
- d) A is false but R is true.

**Ans) d**

**Exp) Option d is the correct answer.**

**Assertion (A) is false-** The **first Backward Classes Commission was appointed in 1953** under **Kaka Kalelkar**. It submitted its report in **1955** but **no action was taken** due to indifferences among the members. The **second backward commission** was the **Mandal Commission** which was appointed in **1979**. A **reservation of 27%** was awarded in **government jobs** for the **Other Backward Classes (OBCs)** post this commission's recommendation.

**Reason (R) is true-** **Article 340 of the Constitution of India** empowers the **President** to appoint a commission to investigate the **conditions of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs)** and to **make recommendations** on measures to improve their condition.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition)

Chapter 76, Page 558

**Q.35)** The Constitution of India provides for establishment of an Administrative Tribunal as a part of special provisions related to the state of Telangana. In this context, which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the tribunal?

- 1. The Governor of the State is empowered to establish such tribunal.
- 2. The state government has been given the power to modify or annul any order of the tribunal.
- 3. The power to abolish the Tribunal lies with the President.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 3 only

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** The President may provide for the establishment of an Administrative Tribunal in the state to deal with certain disputes and grievances relating to appointment, allotment or promotion to civil posts in the state.

**Statement 2 is correct.** The order of the Administrative Tribunal disposing of any case shall become effective upon its confirmation by the State Government or on the expiry of three months from the date on which the order is made, whichever is earlier.

Also the State Government may, by special order made in writing and for reasons to be **specified therein, modify or annul any order of the Administrative Tribunal** before it becomes effective and in such a case, the order of the Administrative Tribunal shall have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be.

**Statement 3 is correct.** The President may abolish the tribunal when he is satisfied that its continued existence is not necessary.

Source: <https://www.constitutionofindia.net/articles/article-371d-special-provisions-with-respect-to-the-state-of-andhra-pradesh-or-the-state-of-telangana/>

**Q.36)** With reference to the Pressure groups, consider the following statements:

1. It is mandatory for the pressure groups to register with the Government.
2. Trade Unions are often considered as examples of protective pressure groups.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

Pressure groups, also known as **interest groups or lobby groups**, are organizations that seek to **influence public policy**. They do this by a variety of means, such as **lobbying government officials, organizing protests and demonstrations, and raising public awareness** about issues they care about.

**Statement 1 is incorrect-** It is **not mandatory for the pressure groups to register with the Government**. There are a number of reasons why pressure groups in India are not mandatory to register with the government. One reason is that the government does not want to stifle dissent or give itself the power to control pressure groups. Another reason is that it would be difficult and expensive for the government to regulate all of the pressure groups in India.

**Statement 2 is correct-** **The protective groups try to protect the interests of their members like those of trade unions and associations of traders or professionals.** The promotional groups, on the other hand, have membership of large cross-sections of the community. The protective groups generally manage to have greater influence over policymaking process than the promotional groups.

Knowledge Base:

Some other types of Pressure groups:

- 1) Business pressure groups: These groups represent the interests of businesses and industries.
- 2) Professional pressure groups: These groups represent the interests of professionals, such as doctors, lawyers, and teachers.

Source: <https://www.nios.ac.in/media/documents/SecSocSciCour/English/Lesson-21.pdf>

Page: 142

**Q.37)** Consider the following statements:

1. National Integration Council is neither a constitutional nor a statutory body.
2. National Integration Council is chaired by the President of India.
3. Meetings of the national integration council are mandatorily convened biennially.

How many of the above-given statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

The objectives of the National Integration Council (NIC) are to achieve unity in diversity, freedom of religions, secularism, equality, justice-social-economic and political, and fraternity among all communities.

**Statement 1 is correct:** National Integration Council is neither a Constitutional body nor a Statutory body. It is an extra-constitutional body. The National Integration Council (NIC) was constituted in 1961 at a national conference on 'unity in diversity' convened by the Central government, at New Delhi.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** National integration council is chaired by the Prime minister of India (and not by the President of India).

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** Meetings of the national integration council are convened as per requirement from time to time. There is no regular or specified time interval for convening meetings of the national integration council.

Source: M Laxmikanth

**Q.38)** With reference to the landmark Supreme Court Judgements in the history of India, consider the following pairs:

Case	Verdict
1. Maneka Gandhi Case	Right to Personal Liberty is a Fundamental Right
2. A.K. Gopalan Case	Abolition of all privileges and titles of the princely states rulers.
3. Kihoto Hollohan Case	Judicial review of decision of the Speaker of the house under the Tenth Schedule.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

**Pair 1 is correctly matched-** The **Maneka Gandhi case (1978)** is a landmark Supreme Court decision in India that **expanded the interpretation of Article 21 of the Constitution**. It ruled that this article guarantees various rights, including the **right to travel freely**. The case established the **right to personal liberty as a fundamental right** and emphasized the need for a **fair hearing** before depriving someone of their personal liberty.

**Pair 2 is incorrectly matched-** The **A.K. Gopalan case (1950)** upheld the **Preventive Detention Act of 1950**, ruling that **Article 21 did not require due process**. The case involved the detention of A.K. Gopalan and his challenge against the Act, emphasizing that the **right to personal liberty was not absolute**, while also

validating the Act. **The Verdict delivered by the Supreme Court in A.K. Gopalan Case was overruled in the Maneka Gandhi Case.** On the other hand, in the **Madhav Jiwaji Rao Scandia case (1975)** the judgement **abolished of all privileges and titles** to princely ruler.

**Pair 3 is correctly matched-** The **Kihoto Hollohan case in India (1992)** is a landmark in interpreting the **Anti-Defection Law**. It clarified that **disqualification decisions under the Tenth Schedule can be reviewed by the judiciary**. However, **the Speaker's decision is final** unless it violates principles of natural justice or is made in bad faith.

Source: <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1939993/>

<https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1686885/#::~text=In%20the%20Indian%20constitutional%20dispensation,and%20not%20legislative%20in%20nature.>

<https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1766147/>

<https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1857950/>

**Q.39)** For the Assertions (A) and Reasons (R), choose the correct alternative from the following.

**Assertion (A):** Part XVI of the Indian Constitution provides special provisions for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in India.

**Reason (R):** One of the main objectives of the Constitution is to achieve equality and justice.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- c) A is true but R is false
- d) A is false but R is true.

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

**Assertion (A) is true-** Part XVI of the Indian Constitution under Article 330 to 342A does provide special provisions for **Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Backward Classes, and Anglo-Indians in India**. These provisions, among others, include **reservation of seats in Parliament and state legislatures, reservation of jobs in government and public sector undertakings.**

**Reason (R) is also true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)-** The Preamble of the Constitution does outline the aim of **achieving equality and justice**. The special provisions in Part XVI of the Constitution are designed to help achieve this aim by addressing the **historical and contemporary disadvantages faced by Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Backward Classes, and Anglo-Indians in India.**

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition)

Chapter 76, Page 556

**Q.40)** In which of the following cases is it mandatory for the central/state government to pay compensation for the acquisition of land?

Acquiring:

- 1. Lands allotted for religious purposes
- 2. Properties of minority educational institutions
- 3. Land held under statutory ceiling limit for personal cultivation

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

**Statements 2 and 3 are correct.** The 44th Constitutional Amendment Act (1978) had abolished the constitutional obligation of the Parliament as well as the state legislatures to pay compensation in case of compulsory acquisition of private property by the governments. However, there are two exceptions to it:

- 1) When the government acquires the property of a minority educational institution.
- 2) When the government acquires the land held by a person under his personal cultivation and the land is within the statutory ceiling limits.

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** Land for religious purpose is not covered under it. Therefore, it is not mandatory for the government to pay compensation in this regard.

Source: M Laxmikanth

**Q.41)** With reference to the Anglo-Indians in India, consider the following statements:

1. They are provided with the reservation of seats in the Legislative Assemblies of the States.
2. The National Commission for Scheduled Castes has the authority to investigate the Constitutional and legal safeguards for Anglo-Indians.

Which of the above given statements is/are **incorrect**?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Anglo-Indians are people with **British and Indian parentage**. The term is legally defined as Indian citizens who are of European descent on their father's side. Their paternal ancestors could be British, French, or Portuguese.

**Statement 1 is incorrect-** The 104th Amendment Act of 2019 ended the practice of providing special representation to the Anglo-Indian community in the legislatures (Lok Sabha and Assembly) through nomination. Before that, the President used to nominate 2 members from the Anglo-Indian Community to the Lok Sabha and the Governor used to nominate one member from the Anglo-Indian Community to the Legislative Assembly.

**Statement 2 is correct-** The National Commission for Scheduled Castes has the same duties for the Anglo-Indian community under Article 338 of the Indian Constitution as it does for the Scheduled Castes. This means the commission must look into all issues related to the constitutional and legal protections for the Anglo-Indian community and report their findings to the President.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition)

Chapter 76, Page 559

**Q.42)** Which of the following statements is **not correct** regarding the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)?

- a) The 102nd Amendment Act of 2018 granted Constitutional recognition to the NCBC.
- b) During the investigation or examination of any issue or complaint, the Commission possesses the same authority as a civil court.
- c) The Commission is composed of a Chairperson and five other members, with at least two members belonging to backward classes.
- d) The Commission examines and oversees constitutional and legal safeguards for socially and educationally backward classes.



Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In the 1992 Mandal case verdict, the Supreme Court mandated the establishment of a permanent statutory body by the central government to address complaints regarding the inclusion or exclusion of citizens in the list of backward classes. Consequently, **NCBC was constituted pursuant to the provisions of the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993.**

**Statement a is correct:** The 102nd Amendment Act of 2018 granted constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC). **It introduced Article 338B in the Indian Constitution, establishing the NCBC as a constitutional body for the socially and educationally backward classes.**

**Statement b is correct:** The Commission, during its investigations or complaint inquiries, is vested with the authority equivalent to that of a civil court. This includes **summoning individuals from any part of India, administering oaths, demanding documents, accepting evidence by affidavit, accessing public records, and issuing summons to examine witnesses and documents.**

**Statement c is incorrect:** The Commission is composed of a **Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, and three other members**, and they are appointed by the President through a warrant under his hand and seal. The conditions of their service and tenure of office are also determined by the President. **There is no provision mandating that at least two members must belong to backward classes.**

**Statement d is correct:** The National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) is responsible for examining and overseeing constitutional and legal safeguards for socially and educationally backward classes (SEBCs). **This includes monitoring the various safeguards under the Constitution or other laws, addressing complaints related to SEBCs' rights, and advising on their socio-economic development and progress under the Union and State governments.**

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition)

Chapter 76, Page 559

**Q.43)** The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of elections to a co-operative society shall vest in such a body, as may be provided by:

- a) High Court of a State
- b) State Legislature
- c) Governor of a State
- d) State Election Commission

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

**The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of elections to a co-operative society shall vest in such body, as may be provided by the state legislature.**

This body manages the preparation of electoral rolls and the execution of elections for cooperative societies, ensuring a smooth transition between the outgoing and incoming board members, and maintaining the cooperative's functional continuity as part of its supervisory and directive responsibilities.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition)

Chapter 72, Page 536

**Q.44)** Consider the following statements:

**Statement-I:** The Union Government is responsible for promoting and popularizing the use of Hindi.

**Statement-II:** The framers of the Constitution aimed to establish Hindi as a lingua franca of India's composite culture.



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Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

**Statement-I is correct: The government's role in promoting Hindi is rooted in Article 351 of the Indian Constitution.** This article mandates the Union to encourage the use and development of Hindi as a medium of expression for India's diverse cultural elements. It emphasizes enriching Hindi by drawing from various languages, primarily Sanskrit, to preserve its essence while enhancing its vocabulary to create a shared language reflective of India's composite culture.

**Statement-II is correct: The architects of India's constitution envisioned Hindi as a unifying language, bridging the diverse cultural and linguistic communities across the nation.** They aimed to make Hindi a common medium of communication, fostering unity among India's rich tapestry of cultures, and promoting a sense of shared identity and understanding.

**Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I:** The framers of the constitution aimed to establish Hindi as a lingua franca to unite India's diverse culture. This **objective is reflected in Article 351, which outlines the government's duty to develop Hindi as a means of expression for the composite culture of India.**

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition), Chapter 73, Page 542

**Q.45)** With reference to Union Territories, consider the following statements:

- Union territory is administered by the President acting through an administrator appointed by him.
- The President can make laws on any subject of the Seventh Schedule including the State List for all the union territories.
- Before the creation of a new Union Territory from an existing State, the President has to refer the matter to the concerned State Legislature (whose boundaries is being altered) for expressing its views.

How many of the above given statements are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

The Union Territories are also known as 'centrally administered territories. Articles 239 to 241 in Part VIII of the Constitution deal with the union territories.

**Statement 1 is correct:** Every union territory is administered by the President acting through an administrator appointed by him. An administrator of a union territory is an agent of the President and not head of state like a governor.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Parliament (not President) can make laws on any subject of the three lists of Seventh Schedule (including the State List) for the union territories. This power of Parliament also extends to Puducherry and Delhi, which have their own local legislatures.

**Statement 3 is correct:** Article 3 lays down two conditions with regard to creation of state/UT: one, a bill contemplating the above changes can be introduced in the Parliament only with the prior recommendation of the President; and two, before recommending the bill, the President has to refer the same to the state legislature concerned for expressing its views within a specified period. In case of a union territory, no reference need be made to the concerned legislature to ascertain its views and the Parliament can itself take any action as it deems fit. Since in this question the UT is formed from an existing state, so the views of the state legislature is taken.

Source: M Laxmikanth

**Q.46)** With respect to Part XVI of the Constitution of India, which contains special provisions for certain classes, consider the following statements:

1. All the provisions are of temporary nature.
2. Some of the provisions safeguard these classes from various forms of exploitation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

**The Constitution, to fulfill the goals of equality and justice outlined in the Preamble, includes specific provisions for the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Backward Classes (BCs), and Anglo-Indians.** These provisions are detailed in Part XVI, encompassing Articles 330 to 342A of the Constitution.

**Statement 1 is incorrect: Part XVI of the Constitution contains both permanent and temporary provisions.** While some provisions are a permanent feature, others have a specified period during which they operate. **Provisions like Article 331, which reserve seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the House of the People, are temporary and their validity is extended through constitutional amendments.** Provisions like Article 335 are of Permanent nature.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Part XVI of the Constitution incorporates provisions designed to safeguard specific classes from various forms of exploitation. **Article 338 establishes the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs), while Article 338-A establishes the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (STs).** These commissions are tasked with investigating and reporting on issues related to the constitutional safeguards for these respective groups, thereby contributing to their protection and well-being.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition)

Chapter 76, Page 556

**Q.47)** “In this case, the Supreme Court of India decriminalized homosexuality. It struck down select provisions of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code. The court asserted the LGBTQ community's fundamental rights, highlighting the principles of equality (Article 14) and inclusiveness.”

The above description refers to which of the following cases?

- a) K. S. Puttaswamy case
- b) Suresh Kumar Koushal case
- c) Navtej Singh Johar case
- d) National Legal Services Authority case

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

**Option a is incorrect:** In the 2017 case of Justice K. S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) & Anr. vs. Union of India & Ors., a unanimous nine-judge bench of the Supreme Court of India **declared the right to privacy a fundamental right protected by Articles 14, 19, and 21 of the Indian Constitution.**

**Option b is incorrect:** In the **Suresh Kumar Koushal vs. Naz Foundation judgement (2013)**, the Supreme Court **overturned the Delhi High Court's 2009 judgment that decriminalized homosexual acts, re-criminalizing homosexuality.** The Court argued that the low prosecution numbers under Section 377 over 150 years were insufficient to challenge the law's constitutionality. It asserted that the legislature should address the desirability of deleting Section 377 from the Indian Penal Code.

**Option c is correct:** In the **2018 Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India case**, the Supreme Court of India **decriminalized homosexuality**, striking down select provisions of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code. The court asserted the LGBTQ community's fundamental rights, highlighting **the principles of equality (Article 14) and inclusiveness.** Section 377 was found to **infringe on Article 15, discriminating against LGBTQ individuals based on sexual orientation, and Article 19, limiting their freedom of expression.** Additionally, it **violated Article 21 by criminalizing consensual same-sex activity, which the court deemed a component of the right to privacy and personal autonomy.**

**Option d is incorrect:** In the landmark judgment of **National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India (2014)**, the Indian Supreme Court **recognized transgender individuals as the 'third gender' and granted them equal fundamental rights under the Constitution.** It also mandated their right to self-identification of gender. Additionally, due to their social and economic backwardness, the court provided reservations for transgender people in educational institutions and employment.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth (7th edition)

Chapter 90, Page 642

**Q.48)** With reference to the Home Minister's Advisory Committees of the Union Territories, consider the following statements:

1. These are constituted only for those Union Territories that do not have legislature.
2. They consist of nominated members from civil society.
3. They are consulted for matters related to internal security.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules 1961, Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal ministry for all matters of Union Territories relating to legislation, finance and budget, services and appointment of Lt. Governors and Administrators.

**Statement 1 is correct:** The 5 UTs without legislature (Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep and Ladakh) have the forum of Home Minister's Advisory Committee (HMAC)/Administrator's Advisory Committee (AAC).

**Statement 2 is correct:** While Home Minister's Advisory Committee is chaired by the Union Home Minister, Administrator's Advisory Committee is chaired by the Administrator of the concerned UTs. The **Advisory Committees have the following members:**

- 1) **Administrator of the UT**
- 2) **Member of Parliament representing the UT**
- 3) **Representatives of the District Panchayats and Municipal Council of the respective UTs**
- 4) **Nominated members from the civil society.**

**Statement 3 is correct:** The Advisory Committee shall be consulted in the matters related to:

- 1) General issues relating to social and economic development of the UTs.
- 2) All legislative proposals concerning UT in regard to the matters in the State List.
- 3) **Internal security related matters.**
- 4) Such matters related to the Annual Financial Statement of the Union in so far as it concerns the UT.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant – 6<sup>th</sup> Edition – Chapter 40 – Union Territories.

[https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/Lakshadweep\\_16022018.PDF](https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/Lakshadweep_16022018.PDF)

**Q.49)** With reference to the Autonomous District Councils for Tribal Areas under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. All the members of the Autonomous District Council are nominated by the Governor.
2. Laws made on village administration by these Councils require the assent of the Governor.
3. Only the President is empowered to dissolve the district council.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the administration of the tribal areas in the four northeastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** Each Autonomous District Council consists of not more than thirty members. Of these, **not more than four persons shall be nominated by the Governor** and the rest shall be elected on the basis of adult suffrage.

The elected members hold office for a term of five years and nominated members hold office during the pleasure of the Governor. Each autonomous region also has a separate regional council.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The **district** and regional **councils** administer the areas under their jurisdiction. They **can make laws** on certain specified matters like land, forests, canal water, shifting cultivation, **village administration**, inheritance of property, marriage and divorce, social customs and so on. The district council can establish, construct or manage primary schools, dispensaries, markets, ferries, fisheries, roads and so on in the district. It can also make regulations for the control of money lending and trading by non-tribals. But all **such laws require the assent of the Governor**.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Governor can appoint a commission to examine and report on any matter relating to the administration of the autonomous districts or regions. **Governor may dissolve** a district or regional council on the **recommendation of the commission**.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant – 6<sup>th</sup> Edition – Chapter 41 – Scheduled and Tribal Areas.

**Q.50)** Under Section 10(26) of the Income Tax Act, which of the following category of people are exempted from income tax?

- a) Members of the Scheduled Tribes in all the states.
- b) Members of the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes in Special Category states.
- c) Members from the Economically Backward Class in all the states.
- d) Members of the Scheduled Tribes in states of Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura

**Ans) d**

**Exp) Option d is the correct answer.**

Section 10(26) of the Income Tax Act provides specific exemptions from income tax for certain categories of individuals. In this case, the exemption applies to members of the Scheduled Tribes in the states of Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura.

Source: <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/267150/>