

ANSWERS

SECTIONS

1. polity grand test - 100 Questions

Section 1 : polity grand test - 100 Questions

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | D | 42 | 1 and 3 |
| 2 | A | 43 | 2 only |
| 3 | A | 44 | 5 years or up to 70 years of age |
| 4 | C | 45 | 2 only |
| 5 | D | 46 | Only 1 |
| 6 | A is correct, R is incorrect | 47 | 2 only |
| 7 | 1 only | 48 | Both 1 and 2 |
| 8 | Both 1&2 | 49 | Only 2, 3 and 4 |
| 9 | None | 50 | 1 and 3 only |
| 10 | 2 and 3 | 51 | 2 only |
| 11 | Article 280 Article 350 | 52 | None |
| 12 | 2 only | 53 | 2 only |
| 13 | 1 and 3 | 54 | 1 only |
| 14 | None | 55 | 1 only |
| 15 | 2 only | 56 | 1 only |
| 16 | 1 only | 57 | 1 only |
| 17 | 2 only | 58 | 1, 2, 3 |
| 18 | Both 1 and 2 | 59 | None |
| 19 | 1 only | 60 | 1 and 2 and 3 |
| 20 | Both 1 and 2 | 61 | 2 only |
| 21 | It is an autonomous body and operate under any Ministry of Central government | 62 | K. Santhanam |
| 22 | All of the above | 63 | A Resolution of the Home Ministry |
| 23 | 1 only | 64 | Administrative Reforms Commission |
| 24 | 2 only | 65 | 2 only |
| 25 | All of the above | 66 | 1 only |
| 26 | 1 and 2 | 67 | Both 1 and 2 |
| 27 | Both 1 and 2 | 68 | 2 only |
| 28 | 1 only | 69 | None |
| 29 | Both 1 and 2 | 70 | Both 1 and 2 |
| 30 | Neither 1 and 2 | 71 | 1 and 2 |
| 31 | Right to work | 72 | None |
| 32 | 73rd Constitutional Amendment | 73 | 2 only |
| 33 | Right to Constitutional Remedies | 74 | 2 only |
| 34 | Speaker of the House of People | 75 | All of the above |
| 35 | Any of the above | 76 | 1 and 2 |
| 36 | All of the above | 77 | Both 1 and 2 |
| 37 | All of the above | 78 | 1 only |
| 38 | 1 and 2 | 79 | Both 1 and 2 |
| 39 | 1 only | 80 | 1 only |
| 40 | 2 and 3 | 81 | B |
| 41 | 1, 2 and 3 | 82 | A |
| | | 83 | B |
| | | 84 | D |
| | | 85 | A |
| | | 86 | C |
| | | 87 | C |
| | | 88 | A |
| | | 89 | D |
| | | 90 | C |
| | | 91 | C |
| | | 92 | C |
| | | 93 | A |

- 94 A
95 C
96 A
97 A
98 C
99 A
100 A

SOLUTIONS

SECTIONS

1. polity grand test - 100 Questions

Section 1 : polity grand test - 100 Questions

1 Solution **Ans: D**

Explanation:

□ Fundamental rights provides for the overall development of an individual. It is not above law as some of the fundamental laws are restricted by the law. All fundamental rights are not absolute. Some rights are absolute and some are restricted. Constitution provides and guarantees the fundamental rights which can be amended by amending the constitution which is done by the Parliament. The courts can interpret the Constitution and through this some rights can be interpreted widely.

2 Solution **Ans: A**

Explanation:

□ The Governor is the constitutional head of a tribal council that falls under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.
□ If at any time the Governor is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the administration of an autonomous district or region cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Schedule, he may, by public notification, assume to himself all

or any of the functions or powers vested in or exercisable by the District Council or, as the case may be, the Regional Council and declare that such functions or powers shall be exercisable by such person or authority as he may specify in this behalf, for a period not exceeding six months:

□ Provided that the Governor may by a further order or orders extend the operation of the initial order by a period not exceeding six months on each occasion.

3 Solution **Ans: A**

Explanation:

□ The cooperative banks are regulated by the States Cooperative Societies Act under which they are registered. They also come under the regulatory ambit of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) under two laws, namely,
□ The Banking Regulations Act, 1949
□ The Banking Laws (Co-operative Societies) Act, 1955. recently the five-judge bench of SC states that cooperative banks established under a State law or multi-State level societies come under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act of 2002. As per the ruling of the bench, Parliament can enact a law as the activity of banking done by cooperative banks is within the purview of Entry 45 (Banking) of List I of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Since collecting the dues is a part of Banking SARFAESI act will be applicable to the Cooperative societies

4 Solution **Ans: C**

Explanation:

□ Article 81 of India's Constitution : Composition of the House of the People

(1) Subject to the provisions of Article 331 the House of the People shall consist of
a. not more than five hundred and thirty members chosen by direct

election from territorial constituencies in the States, and

b. not more than twenty members to represent the Union territories, chosen in such manner as parliament may by law provide. The Constitution (31st Amendment) Act, 1973. 1.

Increased the elective strength of the Lok Sabha from 525 to 545. Under the Act, the upper limit of representatives of the States goes up from 500 to 525 and that of the Union Territories decreases from 25 to 20.

□ But in the last 40 years, seats have remained unchanged despite the increase in population. Today, based on 2016 mid .year population, the average MP from Rajasthan represents over 30 lakh people while the one in Tamil Nadu or Kerala less than 18 lakh.

□ The Constitution (31st Amendment) Act, 1973. 1. Increased the elective strength of the Lok Sabha from 525 to 545. Under the Act, the upper limit of representatives of the States goes up from 500 to 525 and that of the Union Territories decreases from 25 to 20

5 Solution **Ans: D**

Explanation:

□ Consultative Committees for various Ministries/ Departments are normally constituted after general election to the Lok Sabha and as and when necessary, thereafter. The constitution of these committees is generally timed with the summoning of the Budget Session of Parliament. The membership of these committees is voluntary and is left to the choice of the Members/Leaders of their parties/groups in the respective Houses. A Member of Parliament can be nominated on only one Consultative Committee. Members of Parliament belonging to both Houses are nominated on these committees by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

□ Functioning of the Consultative Committees of Members of Parliament for various Ministries is one of the functions allocated to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs under the

Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961. In discharge of this function, the Ministry constitutes these committees and arranges their meetings.

□ The current Consultative Committees of Members of Parliament in their broad features owe their origin to a suggestion made by the late Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, in a Note circulated to the members of the Cabinet in 1954. The late Prime Minister felt

that there should be some kind of Standing Advisory Consultative Committees of

Parliament to provide opportunities to Members to have some glimpse into the working of the Government. It was felt that this might also help in reducing the number of questions asked by Members. With this in view,

□ informal Consultative Committees were constituted for the various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India in the year 1954.

□ In 1969, discussions were held with Leaders of Opposition Parties/Groups in Parliament and as per decisions taken during these discussions, detailed guidelines were drawn up for constitution and functioning of these committees. It was also then decided that these committees would be known as "Consultative Committees" retaining, however, the informal nature of deliberations in these committees. These guidelines were also subsequently approved by the Cabinet. These committees have since been functioning under these guidelines (Annex VII-A).

□ The main objective of these committees is to provide a forum for informal discussion between Members of Parliament, on the one hand, and Ministers and senior officers of the Government, on the other, hand on the policies, principles and programmes of the Government and the manner of their implementation.

□ Discussions at the meetings of these committees are held in a free and frank manner, cutting across party lines.

6 Articles 324 to 329 of Part XV provides for the country's electoral system. Constitution confers upon the Parliament the power to enact laws for all matters connected with elections to the Parliament and the State Legislature.

The government introduced the first RPA in 1950 in order to regulate elections in the country.

The Representation of the People Act, 1950 did not contain all the provisions relating to elections but merely provided for the allocation of seats in and the delimitation of constituencies. Hence RPA, 1951 enacted

Act contains provisions relating to the following electoral matters:

Qualifications and disqualifications for membership of Parliament and State Legislatures

Notification of general elections

Administrative machinery for the conduct of elections

Registration of political parties

Conduct of elections

Free supply of certain material to candidates of recognized political parties

Disputes regarding elections

Corrupt practices and electoral offence.

Powers of Election Commission in connection with inquiries as to disqualifications of members.

Bye-elections and time limit for filling vacancies.

Miscellaneous provisions relating to elections.

Barring the jurisdiction of civil courts.

7 DELIMITATION ACT, 2002

Art. 82 and 170 provide for readjustment and the division of each State into territorial constituencies (Parliamentary constituencies and Assembly constituencies) on the basis of the 2001 census by such authority and in such manner as Parliament may, by law, determine.

Further, Articles 330 and 332 provide for re-fixing the number of seats reserved for SC and ST in the House of the People and Legislative Assemblies of the States on the basis of the 2001 census.

The present delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies is based on the 1971 census.

Therefore, the Delimitation Act, 2002, was enacted to set up a Delimitation Commission for the purpose of effecting delimitation on the basis of the 2001 census

8 State Public Service Commission

Parallel to UPSC at the Centre, there is a State Public Service Commission (SPSC) in a state.

The same set of Articles(i.e., 315 to 323 in Part XIV) also deal with the composition, appointment and removal of members, power and functions and independence of a SPSC.

COMPOSITION

SPSC consists of a chairman and other members appointed by governor of state.

By constitution, Strength of Commission has been left to the discretion of the Governor.

Further, no qualifications are prescribed for the commission's membership except that one-half of the members of the commission should be such persons who have held office for at least 10 years either under the government of India or under the Government of a state.

Constitution also authorizes the governor to determine the conditions of service of the chairman and members of the Commission.

Chairman and members of the Commission hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier

However, they can resign at any time by addressing their resignation to governor

Governor can appoint one of the members of the SPSC as an acting chairman:

(a) When the office of the chairman falls vacant;

(b) When the chairman is unable to perform his functions due to absence or some other reason.

Acting chairman functions till the person appointed as chairman enters on the duties of the office or till the chairman is able to resume his duties.

9 REMOVAL

Although the chairman and members of a SPSC are appointed by the governor, they can be removed only by the president.

President can remove them on the same grounds and in the same manner as he can remove a chairman or a member of the UPSC.

Thus, he can remove him under the following circumstances:

If he is adjudged an insolvent (i.e., has gone bankrupt); or

If he engages, during his term of office, in any paid employment outside the duties of his office; or

If he is, in the opinion of the president, unfit to continue in office by reason of infirmity of mind or body

President can also remove the chairman or any other member of SPSC for misbehavior.

However, in this case, the president has to refer the matter to the Supreme Court for an enquiry.

If the Supreme Court, after the enquiry, upholds the cause of removal and advises so, the president can remove the chairman or a member.

Under the provisions of the Constitution, the advice tendered by the Supreme Court in this regard is binding on the president.

However, during the course of enquiry by the SC, governor can suspend the concerned chairman or member, pending the final removal order of the president on receipt of the report of the Supreme Court.

10 SPSC is not consulted on the following matters:

While making reservations of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens.

While taking into consideration the claims of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in making appointments to services and posts.

Governor can exclude posts, services and matters from the purview of the SPSC.

Constitution states that the governor, in respect to the state services and posts may make regulations specifying the matters in

which, it shall not be necessary for SPSC to be consulted.

But all such regulations made by the governor shall be laid before each House of the state legislature for at least 14 days.

The state legislature can amend or repeal them.

- 11 Art. 280 provides for a Finance Commission as a quasi judicial body. It is constituted by the president of India every 5th year or at such earlier time as he considers necessary.

Art 350 is Languages to be used in representation for address of grievances

Art 260 is Jurisdiction of the Union in relation to territories outside India.

12 COMPOSITION

Finance Commission □ chairman + four other members to be appointed by the president.

They hold office for such period as specified by president in his order.

They are eligible for reappointment.

Constitution authorizes the Parliament to determine the qualifications of members of the commission and the manner in which they should be selected.

The chairman should be a person having experience in public affairs and the four other members should be selected from amongst the following:

A judge of high court or one qualified to be appointed as one.

A person who has specialized knowledge of finance and accounts of the government.

A person who has wide experience in financial matters and in administration.

A person who has special knowledge of economics.

- 13 Article 148 - provides for an independent office of CAG.

CAG □ head of Indian Audit and Accounts Department.

Guardian of public purse and controls the entire financial system of the country at both the levels—the Centre and the state.

APPOINTMENT AND TERM

CAG is appointed by the president of India by a warrant under his hand and seal.

CAG, before taking over his office, makes and subscribes before the president an oath or affirmation:

to bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India;

to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India;

to duly and faithfully and to the best of his ability, knowledge and judgement perform the duties of his office without fear or favour, affection or ill-will; and

to uphold the Constitution and the laws.

Tenure: six years or upto the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

He can resign any time by addressing the resignation letter to president.

He can also be removed by the president on same grounds and in the same manner as a SC judge.

INDEPENDENCE

Security of tenure

Not eligible for further office, either under GOI or of any state

His salary and other service conditions are determined by the Parliament. His salary is equal to that of a SC judge.

Neither his salary nor his rights in respect of leave of absence, pension or age of retirement can be altered to his disadvantage after his appointment.

The conditions of service of persons serving in the Indian Audit and Accounts Department and the administrative powers of the CAG are prescribed by the president after consultation with the CAG.

Administrative expenses of the office of CAG, including all salaries, allowances and pensions of persons serving in that office are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India. [not subject to vote of Parliament]

Further, no minister can represent the CAG in Parliament (both Houses) and no minister can be called upon to take any responsibility for any actions done by him.

14 Duties and functions of CAG as by the Parliament and the Constitution:

He audits the accounts related to all expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India, consolidated fund of each state and consolidated fund of each union territory having a Legislative Assembly.

He audits all expenditure from the Contingency Fund of India and the Public Account of India & the contingency fund of each state and the public account of each state.

He audits all trading, manufacturing, profit and loss accounts, balance sheets and other subsidiary accounts kept by any department of the Central Government and state governments.

He audits the receipts and expenditure of Centre and each state to satisfy himself that the rules and procedures in that behalf are designed to secure an effective check on the assessment, collection and proper allocation of revenue.

He audits the receipts and expenditure of the following:

All bodies and authorities substantially financed from the Central or state revenues;

Government companies; and

Other corporations and bodies, when so required by related laws.

He audits all transactions of Central and state govt. related to debt, sinking funds, deposits, advances, suspense accounts and remittance business. He also audits receipts, stock accounts and others, with approval of the President, or when required by the President.

He audits the accounts of any other authority when requested by the President or Governor. For example, the audit of local bodies.

He advises the President regarding prescription of the form in which the accounts of the Centre and the states shall be kept (Article 150).

He submits his audit reports relating to accounts of Centre to President, who shall, in turn, place them before both the Houses of Parliament (Article 151).

He submits his audit reports relating to the accounts of a state to governor, who shall, in turn, place them before the state legislature (Article 151).

He ascertains and certifies the net proceeds of any tax or duty (Article 279). His certificate is final. The 'net proceeds' means the proceeds of a tax or a duty minus the cost of collection. He acts as a guide, friend and philosopher of Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament.

He compiles and maintains the accounts of state governments. [1976 - he was relieved of his responsibilities regarding compilation and maintenance of accounts of the Central Govt. due to the separation of accounts from audit, i.e., departmentalization of accounts.

- 15 Art. 76 has provided for the office of the Attorney General for India. He is the highest law officer in the country. APPOINTMENT AND TERM

Attorney General (AG) is appointed by president.

He must be a person who is qualified to be appointed a judge of SC.

The term of office of the AG is not fixed by the Constitution.

Constitution doesn't contain the procedure and grounds for his removal.

He holds office during the pleasure of president which means that he may be removed by the president at any time.

He may also quit his office by submitting his resignation to the president.

Conventionally, he resigns when the government (council of ministers) resigns or is replaced, as he is appointed on its advice.

Remuneration of the AG is not fixed by Constitution. He receives such remuneration as the president may determine.

16 RIGHTS

In the performance of his official duties, AG has the right of audience in all courts in the territory of India. Further, he has the right to speak and to take part in proceedings of both Houses or their joint sitting and any committee of the Parliament of which he may be named a member, but without a right to vote.

He enjoys all the privileges and immunities that are available to a member of Parliament.

However, AG is not a fulltime counsel for Govt. He does not fall in the category of government servants. Further, he is not debarred from private legal practice

17 CAG AND CORPORATIONS

CAG's role in the auditing of public corporations is limited.

Broadly speaking, his relationship with the public corporations falls into the following three categories:

Some corporations are audited totally and directly by CAG, for example, Damodar Valley Corporation, Oil and Natural Gas Commission, Air India, Indian Airlines Corporation, and others.

Some other corporations are audited by private professional auditors who are appointed by Central Govt. in consultation with the CAG. If necessary, the CAG can conduct supplementary audit. The examples are, Central Warehousing Corporation, Industrial Finance Corporation, and others.

Some other corporations are totally subjected to private audit. Eg. LIC, RBI, SBI.

CAG's role in the auditing of Govt. companies is also limited.

They are audited by private auditors who are appointed by Govt. on the advise of CAG.

CAG can also undertake supplementary audit or test audit of such companies.

1968 - an Audit Board was established as a part of the office of CAG to associate outside specialists and experts to handle the technical aspects of audit of specialized enterprises like engineering, iron and steel, chemicals and so on.

This board was established on the recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission of India. It consists of a Chairman and two members appointed by the CAG.

18 ROLE

SPSC - 'watchdog of merit system' in the state.

It is concerned with the recruitment to the state services and advises the govt., when consulted, on promotion and disciplinary matters.

It is not concerned with the classification of services, pay and service conditions, cadre management, training and so on.

These matters are handled by the Department of Personnel or the General Administration Department. Recommendations made by it are only of advisory nature & the only safeguard is the answerability of govt. to the state legislature for departing from the recommendation of Commission.

Also, the emergence of SVC in 1964 affected the role of SPSC in disciplinary matters as both are consulted while taking disciplinary action against a civil servant.

The problem arises when the two bodies tender conflicting advice.

However, the SPSC, being an independent constitutional body, has an edge over the SVC.

Finally, SPSC is consulted by the governor while framing rules for appointment to judicial service of the state other than the posts of district judges. In this regard, the concerned state HC is also consulted

- 19 Constitution visualizes the UPSC to be the 'watch-dog of merit system' in India.

It is concerned with the recruitment to the all-India services and Central services-group A and group B and advises the government, when consulted, on promotion and disciplinary matters.

It is not concerned with the classification of services, pay and service conditions, cadre management, training, and so on. These matters are handled by the Department of Personnel and Training—one of the three departments of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

Therefore, UPSC is only a central recruiting agency while the Department of Personnel and Training is the central personnel agency in India.

The role of UPSC is limited & also recommendations made by it are advisory nature and not binding on govt.

The only safeguard is the answerability of govt. to the Parliament for departing from recommendation of the Commission. Further, govt. can also make rules which regulate the scope of advisory functions of UPSC.

The emergence of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) in 1964 affected the role of UPSC in disciplinary matters as both are consulted by govt. while taking disciplinary action against a civil servant.

The problem arises when the two bodies tender conflicting advice.

However, the UPSC, being an independent constitutional body, has an edge over the CVC, which is created by an executive resolution of GOI and conferred a statutory status in October 2003.

- 20 SC has held that if the government fails to consult UPSC in the matters (mentioned above), the aggrieved public servant has no remedy in a court.

Similarly, court held that a selection by the UPSC doesn't confer any right to the post upon the candidate.

However, the government is to act fairly and without arbitrariness or malafides.

The additional functions relating to services of Union can be conferred on UPSC by Parliament.

It can also place the personnel system of any authority, corporate body or public institution within the jurisdiction of UPSC. Hence the jurisdiction of UPSC can be extended by an act made by Parliament.

UPSC presents, annually, to the president a report on its performance.

President places this report before both Houses, along with a memorandum explaining the cases where the advice of the Commission was not accepted and the reasons for such non-acceptance.

All such cases of non-acceptance must be approved by the

Appointments Committee of the Union cabinet. An individual ministry or department has no power to reject the advice of the UPSC.

- 21 It is an autonomous body and doesn't operate under any Ministry of Central government

7th CAA 1956 inserted a new Art. 350-B in Part XVII of Constitution providing for office

Constitution doesn't specify the qualifications, tenure, salaries and allowances, service conditions and procedure for removal of the special officer for linguistic minorities

At the central level, the commissioner falls under the Ministry of Minority Affairs. Hence, he submits the annual reports or other reports to President through the Union Minority Affairs Minister. The President should place all such reports before each house of Parliament and send to the government of the states concerned.

- 22 Commission presents an annual report to the President

It can also submit a report as and when it thinks necessary

President places all such reports before the Parliament, along with a memorandum explaining the action taken on the recommendations made by the commission

The memorandum should also contain the reasons for the non-acceptance of any such recommendations

President also forwards any report of the commission pertaining to a state govt. to the state governor

The governor places it before the state legislature, along with a memorandum explaining the action taken on recommendations of the commission.

The memorandum should also contain the reasons for the non-acceptance of any such recommendations

- 23 COMMISSIONER FOR LINGUISTIC MINORITIES

By Article 350-B, the office of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities was created in 1957

He is designated as the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities with headquarters at Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh) and 3 regional offices at Belgaum (Karnataka), Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Kolkata (West Bengal).

Each is headed by an Assistant Commissioner.

Commissioner is assisted at headquarters by Deputy Commissioner and an Assistant Commissioner.

He maintains liaison with State Govt. and UT through nodal officers appointed by them.

At the Central level, the Commissioner falls under the Ministry of Minority Affairs and so submits the annual/other reports to President through the Union Minority Affairs Minister

- 24 National Commission for BC

In Mandal case judgment (1992), SC directed the central govt. to constitute a permanent statutory body to examine the complaints of under inclusion, over inclusion or non-inclusion of any class of citizens in the list of backward classes.

1993 - National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) was set up.

102nd CAA 2018 □ conferred a constitutional status on the Commission inserting a new Article 338 - B.

Hence, Commission ceased to be a statutory body and became a constitutional body.

Further, the scope of functions assigned to the Commission is also enlarged under the new dispensation in order to safeguard the interests of socially & educationally backward classes more effectively.

The Commission consists of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and three other members.

They are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal. Their conditions of service and tenure of office are also determined by the President.

25 National Commission for BC
REPORT OF THE COMMISSION
Commission presents an annual report to the President. Also can submit a report when it thinks necessary.

President places all such reports before the Parliament, along with a memo explaining the action taken on recommendations made by the Commission.

Memorandum should also contain the reasons for the non-acceptance of any of such recommendations.

President also forwards any report of the Commission pertaining to a state govt. to the state Governor.

Govt. places it before the state legislature, along with a memo explaining the action taken on recommendations of the Commission.

Memorandum should also contain the reasons for the non-acceptance of any of such recommendations.

26 National Commission for SC

A constitutional body, i.e. directly established by Art. 338 of the Constitution.

EVOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION
Originally, Art. 338 provided for appointing Special Officer for SCs and STs to investigate all matters relating to the constitutional safeguards for the SCs and STs and to report to President on their working.

He was designated as the Commissioner for SCs and STs.

1978 – Govt. (through a Resolution) set up a non-statutory multimember Commission for SCs and STs; Office of Commissioner for SCs and STs also continued to exist.

1987 – Govt. (through another Resolution) modified the functions of the Commission and renamed it as the National Commission for SCs and STs

65th CAA 1990 It provided for establishment of a high level multi-member National Commission for SCs and STs in the place of a single Special Officer for SCs and STs. This replaced the Commissioner for SCs and STs & the Commission set up under the Resolution of 1987.

89th CAA 2003 It bifurcated the combined National Commission for SCs and STs into National Commission for Scheduled Castes (under Article 338) and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (under Article 338-A).

The separate National Commission for SCs came into existence in 2004. It consists of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and three other members.

They are appointed by President by warrant under his hand and seal. Their conditions of service and tenure of office are also determined by the President.

27 FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

To investigate and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the SCs and to evaluate their working;

To inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the SCs;

To participate and advise on the planning process of socioeconomic development of SCs and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union or a state;

To present reports upon working of those safeguards to President, annually and at such other times as it may deem fit.

To make recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or a state for effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the SCs;

To discharge such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare and development and advancement of SCs as the president may specify.

28 POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

Commission is vested with the power to regulate its own procedure.

Commission, while investigating any matter or inquiring into any complaint, has all the powers of a civil court trying a suit and in particular in respect of the following matters:

summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath;

requiring the discovery and production of any document;

receiving evidence on affidavits;

requisitioning any public record from any court or office;

issuing summons for the examination of witnesses and documents;

any other matter which the President may determine

Central govt. and state govt. are required to consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting the SCs.

The Commission is also required to discharge similar functions with regard to the Anglo-Indian Community as it does with respect to the SCs.

Till 2018, the commission was also required to discharge similar functions with regard to the other backward classes (OBCs). It was relieved from this responsibility by 102nd CAA 2018.

29 SEPARATE COMMISSION FOR STs

65th CAA 1990 □ National Commission for SCs and STs came into being.

Commission was established under Art. 338 with the objective of monitoring all the safeguards provided for the SCs and STs under the Constitution or other laws.

Geographically and culturally, the STs are different from the SCs and their problems are also different from those of SCs.

1999 □ a new Ministry of Tribal Affairs was created to provide a sharp focus to the welfare and development of the STs.

It was felt necessary that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs should coordinate all activities relating to the STs as it would not be administratively feasible for the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to perform this role

Hence, it was proposed to set up a separate National Commission for STs by bifurcating the existing

combined National Commission for SCs and STs.

89th CAA 2003 – Established National Commission for STs. This Act further amended Art. 338 and inserted a new Article 338-A.

2004 □ National Commission for STs came into existence which consists of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and three other members.

They are appointed by President by warrant under his hand and seal. Their conditions of service and tenure of office are also determined by the President

30 OTHER FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

In 2005, President specified the following other functions of the Commission in relation to the protection, welfare and development and advancement of STs:

Measures to be taken over conferring ownership rights in respect of minor forest produce to STs living in forest areas

Measures to be taken to safeguard rights of the tribal communities over mineral resources, water resources etc., as per law

Measures to be taken for the development of tribals and to work for more viable livelihood strategies

Measures to be taken to improve the efficacy of relief and rehabilitation measures for tribal groups displaced by development projects

Measures to be taken to prevent alienation of tribal people from land and to effectively rehabilitate such people in whose case alienation has already taken place

Measures to be taken to elicit maximum cooperation and involvement of tribal communities for protecting forests and undertaking social afforestation

Measures to be taken to ensure full implementation of the Provisions of Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996

Measures to be taken to reduce and ultimately eliminate the practice of shifting cultivation by tribals that lead to their continuous disempowerment and degradation of land and the environment

31 The Fundamental Rights are dealt under part III, Article 12-35 of Indian Constitution.

In the original Constitution there are 7 fundamental Rights. But as per the 44th constitutional amendment of 1978, the Right to property was made only as a legal right and deleted from the list of Fundamental Rights.

The Fundamental Rights guaranteed by the Constitution

- 1) Right to Equality (Article 14-18)
- 2) Right to Freedom (Article 19-22)
- 3) Right against exploitation (Article 23-24)
- 4) Right to Freedom of Religion (Article 25-28)
- 5) Cultural and Educational Right (Article 29-30)
- 6) Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32-35)

32 The 73rd amendment of 1992 of Indian Constitution made provisions for the creation of Panchayathi Raj system.

The 74th amendment Act of 1992 (came in existence on 1993) of Indian Constitution made provisions for the creation of Urban local bodies (Nagarapalika Bill).

In 1976 as per the 42nd amendment, the words Socialism, Secularism, Unity and Integrity were added to the preamble of the constitution.

The Fundamental Duties were also incorporated as per the 42nd amendment.

In consideration of the quantum of amendments, the 42nd amendment is also known as the 'Mini Constitution'.

33 Right to Constitutional Remedies is included as a Fundamental Right in Article 32-35.

As per the provision of the right, the Supreme Court has the power to issue orders/Writs to safeguard the Fundamental Rights.

There are 5 types of writs:
1) Habeas Corpus- literally means 'to have the body'

2) Mandamus - literally means 'we command' - It is command of the Court to an official to perform official duties.

- 3) Prohibition
- 4) Certiorari
- 5) Qua-Waranto

Dr. B.R Ambedkar, the father of Indian constitution considers Article 32 as 'the heart and soul of Indian Constitution'.

34 Speaker of the House of People/Lok Sabha have the power to decide whether a bill is money bill or not.

Article 110 of the Indian constitution describes about money bill.

Money bill can be introduced only in Loksabha.

The Vice President of India is the Ex-Officio Chairman of the Council of States/Rajya Sabha.

35 The matters of citizenship are dealt in the Article 5-11 in Part II of the constitution.

As per the Indian Citizenship Act of 1955, by 5 ways can acquire Indian Citizenship- By birth, by descent, by registration, by naturalization and by incorporation of territory.

36 Fundamental rights for only citizens and not to foreigners are -
1.

Article 15 - Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.

2.

Article 16 - Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment.

3.

Article 19 - Right to freedom (six rights of speech and expression, assembly, association, movement, residence, and profession).

4.

Article 29 - Protection of language, script and culture of minorities.

5.

Article 30 - Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions.

Fundamental rights for both citizens and friendly aliens are -

1. Article 14 - Equality before law and equal protection of laws.

2. Article 17 - Abolition of untouchability and its practice.

3. Article 18 - Abolition of titles (to foreigners if they hold office of profit under the state).

4. Article 20 - Protection in respect of conviction for offences.

5. Article 21 - Protection of life and personal liberty.

6. Article 21A - Right to elementary education.

7. Article 22 - Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases.

8. Article 23 - Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour.

9. Article 24 - Prohibition of employment of children in factories etc.

10. Article 25 - Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion.

11. Article 26 - Freedom to manage religious affairs.

12. Article 27 - Freedom from payment of taxes for promotion of any religion.

13. Article 28 - Freedom from attending religious instruction or worship in certain educational institutions.

Enemy Aliens do not enjoy rights under Article 22.

37 Article 12 has defined the term 'state' for the purposes of Fundamental Rights i.e., Part III.

According to it, the State includes the -

(a) Government and Parliament of India, that is, executive and

legislative organs of the Union government.

(b) Government and legislature of states, that is, executive and legislative organs of state government.

(c) All local authorities, that is, municipalities, panchayats, district boards, improvement trusts, etc.

(d) All other authorities, that is, statutory or non-statutory authorities like LIC, ONGC, SAIL, etc.

State has been defined in a wider sense so as to include all its agencies. It is the actions of these agencies that can be challenged in the courts as violating the Fundamental Rights.

According to the Supreme Court, even a private body or an agency working as an instrument of the State falls within the meaning of the 'State' under Article 12.

Article 13 declares that all laws that are inconsistent with or in derogation of any of the fundamental rights shall be void.

Thus, it expressively provides for the doctrine of judicial review.

The term 'law' in Article 13 has been given a wide connotation so as to include -

(a) Permanent laws enacted by the Parliament or the state legislatures;

(b) Temporary laws like ordinances issued by the president or the state governors;

(c) Statutory instruments in the nature of delegated legislation (executive legislation) like order, bye-law, rule, regulation or notification; and

(d) Non-legislative sources of law, that is, custom or usage having the force of law.

Thus, not only a legislation but any of the above can be challenged in the courts as violating a Fundamental

Right and hence, can be declared as void.

Also, Article 13 says that a constitutional amendment is not a law and hence cannot be challenged. But, the Supreme Court said in the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973) that a Constitutional amendment can be challenged on the ground that it violates a fundamental right that forms a part of the 'basic structure' of the Constitution and hence, can be declared as void.

38 Some of them are available only to the citizens. Others are available to all including foreigners or legal persons like corporations or companies, etc.

They are not absolute but qualified. The state can impose reasonable restrictions on them (balance between individual liberty and social control).

The courts can decide whether such restrictions are reasonable or not.

Most of them are available against the arbitrary action of the State, with a few exceptions like those against the State's action and against the action of private individuals.

When the rights that are available against the State's action only are violated by the private individuals, there are no constitutional remedies but only ordinary legal remedies.

Some of them are negative in character, as they place limitations on the authority of the State, while others are positive as they confer certain privileges on the persons.

They are justifiable, allowing persons to move the courts for their enforcement on violation.

They are defended and guaranteed by the Supreme Court.

They are not permanent and so the Parliament can curtail or repeal them but only by a constitutional amendment act without affecting the 'basic structure' of the Constitution.

They can be suspended during the operation of a National Emergency except the rights guaranteed by Articles 20 and 21.

The six rights guaranteed by Article 19 can be suspended only when emergency is declared on the

grounds of war or external aggression (i.e., external emergency) and not on the ground of armed rebellion (i.e., internal emergency).

Their scope of operation is limited by Article 31A (saving of laws providing for acquisition of estates, etc.), Article 31B (validation of certain acts and regulations included in the 9th Schedule) and Article 31C (saving of laws giving effect to certain directive principles).

Their application to the members of armed forces, Para-military forces, police forces, intelligence agencies and analogous services can be restricted or abrogated by the Parliament (Article 33).

Their application can be restricted while martial law is in force in any area (Article 34).

Most of them are directly enforceable (self-executory) while a few of them can be enforced on the basis of a law made for giving effect to them.

Such a law can be made only by the Parliament and not by state legislatures so that uniformity throughout the country is maintained.

39 'Magna Carta' is the Charter of Rights issued by King John of England in 1215 under pressure from the barons.

This is the first written document relating to the Fundamental Rights of citizens.

The Fundamental Rights are enshrined in Part III of the Constitution from Articles 12 to 35.

Constitution of USA (i.e., Bill of Rights) has been inspiration for this. Part III of the Constitution contains a very long and comprehensive list of 'justiciable' Fundamental Rights.

They are more elaborate than those found in the Constitution of any other country in the world, including the USA.

The Fundamental Rights are guaranteed by the Constitution to all persons without any discrimination. They uphold the equality of all individuals, the dignity of the individual, the larger public interest and unity of the nation.

The Fundamental Rights are meant for promoting the ideal of political democracy.

They prevent the establishment of an authoritarian and despotic rule in the country, and protect the liberties and freedoms of the people against the invasion by the State.

The Fundamental Rights are named so because they are guaranteed and protected by the Constitution, which is the fundamental law of the land.

They are 'fundamental' also in the sense that they are most essential for the all-round development (material, moral, intellectual and spiritual) of the individuals.

Originally, the Constitution provided for seven Fundamental Rights viz,

1. Right to equality (Articles 14-18)

2. Right to freedom (Articles 19-22)

3. Right against exploitation (Articles 23-24)

4. Right to freedom of religion (Articles 25-28)

5. Cultural and educational rights (Articles 29-30)

6. Right to property (Article 31)

7. Right to constitutional remedies (Article 32)

But, the right to property was deleted from the list of Fundamental Rights by the 44th Amendment Act, 1978.

It is made a legal right under Article 300-A in Part XII of the Constitution. At present, there are only six Fundamental Rights.

- 40 There are constitutional and other exceptions to the rule of equality before law. Thus, it is not absolute. The President of India and the Governor of States enjoy the following immunities (Article 361) -
1. The President or the Governor is not answerable to any court for the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of his office.
 2. No criminal proceedings shall be

instituted or continued against the President or the Governor in any court during his term of office.

3. No process for the arrest or imprisonment of the President or the Governor shall be issued from any court during his term of office.

4. No civil proceedings against the President or the Governor shall be instituted during his term of office in any court in respect of any act done by him in his personal capacity, whether before or after he entered upon his office, until the expiration of two months next after notice has been delivered to him.

No person shall be liable to any civil or criminal proceedings in any court in respect of the publication in a newspaper (or by radio or television) of a substantially true report of any proceedings of either House of Parliament or either House of the Legislature of a State (Article 361-A). No member of Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or any committee thereof (Article 105).

No member of the Legislature of a state shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in the Legislature or any committee thereof (Article 194).

Article 31-C provides that the laws made by the state for implementing the Directive Principles contained in clause (b) or (c) of Article 39 cannot be challenged on the ground that they are in violation of Article 14.

The Supreme Court held that "where Article 31-C comes in, Article 14 goes out".

The foreign sovereigns (rulers), ambassadors and diplomats enjoy immunity from criminal and civil proceedings.

UNO and its agencies enjoy the diplomatic immunity.

41 NITI Aayog houses a number of specialised wings, including:

1. Research Wing:

It develops in-house sectoral expertise as a dedicated think tank of top notch domain experts, specialists and scholars.

2. Consultancy Wing:

It provides a marketplace of whetted panels of expertise and funding, for the Central and State Governments to tap into matching their requirements with solution providers, public and private, national and international. By playing match-maker instead of providing the entire service itself, NITI Aayog is able to focus its resources on priority matters, providing guidance and an overall quality check to the rest.

3. Team India Wing:

It comprises of the representatives from every State and Ministry and serves as a permanent platform for national collaboration. Each representative:

(a) Ensures that every State/Ministry has a continuous voice and stake in the NITI Aayog.

(b) Establishes a direct communication channel between the State/Ministry and NITI Aayog for all development related matters, as the dedicated liaison interface.

42 Article 21 declares that no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.

This right is available to both citizens and non-citizens.

In Gopalan case (1950), the Supreme Court took a narrow interpretation of the Article 21.

It held that the protection under Article 21 is available only against arbitrary executive action and not from arbitrary legislative action.

It means that the State can deprive the right to life and personal liberty of a person based on a law.

This is because of the expression 'procedure established by law' in Article 21, which is different from the expression 'due process of law' contained in the American Constitution.

Hence, the validity of a law that has prescribed a procedure cannot be questioned on the ground that the law is unreasonable, unfair or unjust.

Secondly, the Supreme Court held that the 'personal liberty' means only liberty relating to the person or body of the individual.

In Menaka case (1978), the Supreme Court overruled its judgement in the Gopalan case by taking a wider interpretation of the Article 21.

Therefore, it ruled that the right to life and personal liberty of a person can be deprived by a law provided the procedure prescribed by that law is reasonable, fair and just.

In other words, it has introduced the American expression 'due process of law'.

Also, the court 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.

43 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Antyodaya

Inclusion

Village

Demographic dividend

People's Participation

Governance

Sustainability

44 The tenure of the chairman of the National Human Rights Commission for five years or until he is 70 years old (whichever is earlier).

45 Article 21 A declares that the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such a manner as the State may determine. This provision makes only elementary education a Fundamental Right and not higher or professional education.

This was added by the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2002.

Even before this, the Constitution had a provision for free and compulsory education for children under Article 45 in Part IV.

But being a directive principle, it was not enforceable by the courts.

Now, there is scope for judicial intervention in this regard.

It also changed subject matter of Article 45 which now reads - 'The state shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years.'

It also added a new fundamental duty under Article 51A that reads - 'It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to provide opportunities for

education to his child or ward between the age of six and fourteen years'.

In 1993 itself, the Supreme Court recognized a Fundamental Right to primary education in the right to life under Article 21.

It held that every child or citizen of this country has a right to free education until he completes the age of 14 years.

After that, his right to education is subject to the limits of economic capacity and development of the state.

Thus, the Court overruled its earlier judgement (1992) which declared that there was a fundamental right to education up to any level including professional education like medicine and engineering.

In pursuance of Article 21A, the Parliament enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

This Act says that every child has a right to be provided full time elementary education of satisfactory and equitable quality in a formal school which satisfies certain essential norms and standards.

The 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002 and the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 have come into force w.e.f. 1 April 2010.

46 Article 20 grants protection against arbitrary and excessive punishment to an accused person, whether citizen or foreigner or legal person like a company or a corporation.

It contains 3 provisions -
(a)

No ex-post-facto law : No person shall be

(i) convicted of any offence except for violation of a law in force at the time of the commission of the act; nor

(ii) subjected to a penalty greater than that prescribed by the law in force at the time of the commission of the act.

(b)

No double jeopardy : No person shall be prosecuted and punished for the same offence more than once.

(c)

No self-incrimination : No person accused of any offence shall be compelled to be a witness against himself.

An ex-post-facto law is one that imposes penalties retrospectively (retroactively), that is, upon acts already done or which increases the penalties for such acts

The enactment of such a law is prohibited by the first provision of Article 20.

But this is only for criminal laws.

A civil law/liability or a tax can be imposed retrospectively.

Also, this provision prohibits only conviction or sentence under an ex-post-facto criminal law and not the trial thereof.

Finally, the protection (immunity) under this provision cannot be claimed in case of preventive detention or demanding security from a person.

The protection against double jeopardy is available only in proceedings before a court of law or a judicial tribunal.

It is not available in proceedings before departmental or

administrative authorities as they are not judicial in nature.

The protection against self-incrimination extends to both oral evidence and documentary evidence.

But, it does not extend to -

(i) compulsory production of material objects;

(ii) compulsion to give thumb impression, specimen signature, blood specimens; and

(iii) compulsory exhibition of the body.

It extends only to criminal proceedings and not to civil proceedings or proceedings that are not criminal in nature.

47 Article 18 abolishes titles.

It also makes 4 provisions -

(a) It prohibits the state from conferring any title (except a military or academic distinction) on anybody, whether a citizen or a foreigner.

(b) It prohibits a citizen of India from accepting any title from any foreign state.

(c) 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.

(d) No citizen or 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.

Hereditary titles of nobility like Maharaja, Rai Bahadur, Rai Saheb, Dewan Bahadur etc.. which were conferred by colonial States are banned as these are against the principle of equal status of all.

In 1996, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of the National Awards-Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Sri.

It said that these awards do not amount to 'titles' within the meaning of Article 18 that prohibits only hereditary titles of nobility.

They do not violate Article 18 as the theory of equality does not mandate that merit should not be recognized.

But, they should not be used as suffixes or prefixes to the names of awardees. Otherwise, the awardees should forfeit the awards.

These National Awards were instituted in 1954.

The Janata Party government headed by Morarji Desai discontinued them in 1977. But they were again revived in 1980 by the Indira Gandhi government.

48 Article 17 abolishes 'untouchability' and forbids its practice in any form.

The enforcement of any disability arising out of untouchability shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law.

In 1976, the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 was amended and renamed as the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 to enlarge the scope and make penal provisions more stringent.

The act defines civil right as any right accruing to a person by reason of the abolition of untouchability by Article 17 of the Constitution.

The term 'untouchability' has not been defined either in the Constitution or in the Act.

Mysore High Court held that the subject matter of Article 17 is not untouchability in its literal but the 'practice as it had developed historically in the country'.

It refers to the social disabilities imposed on certain classes of persons by reason of their birth in certain castes.

Hence, it does not cover social boycott of a few individuals or their exclusion from religious services, etc.

Under the Protection of Civil Rights Act (1955), the offences committed on the ground of untouchability are punishable either by imprisonment up to six months or by fine up to `500 or both.

A person convicted of the offence of 'untouchability' is disqualified for election to the Parliament or state legislature.

The act declares the following acts as offences :

(a) preventing any person from entering any place of public worship or from worshipping therein;

(b) justifying untouchability on traditional, religious, philosophical or other grounds;

(c) denying access to any shop, hotel or places of public entertainment;

(d) insulting a person belonging to scheduled caste on the ground of untouchability;

(e) refusing to admit persons in hospitals, educational institutions or hostels established for public benefit;

(f) preaching untouchability directly or indirectly; and

(g) refusing to sell goods or render services to any person.

The Supreme Court held that the right under Article 17 is available against private individuals.

It is the constitutional obligation of the State to take necessary action to ensure that this right is not violated.

49 The criticisms are -

(a)

Excessive Limitations - They are subjected to innumerable exceptions, restrictions, qualified and not absolute, etc. Thus, the critics remarked that the Constitution grants Fundamental Rights with one hand and takes them away with the other.

(b) No Social and Economic Rights in the list like right to social security, right to work, right to employment, right to rest and leisure, etc. which are made available to the citizens of advanced democratic countries. Also, the socialistic constitutions of erstwhile USSR or China provided for such rights.

(c)

No Clarity - They are stated in a vague, unclear and ambiguous manner.

(d) The language used is very complicated and beyond the comprehension of the common man. It is alleged that the Constitution was made by the lawyers for the lawyers.

(e)

No Permanency - They are not sacrosanct as Parliament can curtail or abolish them. For example, the abolition of the fundamental right to property in 1978.

(f) Thus, they can become a tool in the hands of politicians having majority support in the Parliament.

(g)

Suspension During Emergency - The suspension of their enforcement during the operation of National Emergency (except Articles 20 and 21) cuts at the roots of democratic system in India by placing the rights of the innocent in continuous jeopardy.

(h) According to the critics, the Fundamental Rights should be enjoyable in all situations - Emergency or no Emergency.

(i)

Expensive Remedy - The judiciary has been made responsible for defending and protecting these rights.

(j) However, the judicial process is too expensive and time consuming benefitting the rich.

(k) Preventive Detention (Article 22) takes away the spirit of the fundamental rights conferring arbitrary powers on the State and negates individual liberty.

(l) It justifies the criticism that the Constitution of India deals more with the rights of the State against the individual than with the rights of the individual against the State.

(m) Notably, no democratic country in the world has made preventive detention as an integral part of their Constitutions as has been made in India.

(n)

No Consistent Philosophy - According to some critics, FRs are not product of any philosophical principle, which creates difficulty for the Supreme Court and the high courts in interpreting the fundamental rights.

The significance are -

- (a) They form bedrock of democratic system in India
- (b) Provide necessary conditions for the material and moral protection of man.
- (c) Serve as a formidable bulwark of

individual liberty.

(d) Facilitate the establishment of rule of law

(e) Protect the interests of minorities and weaker sections of society.

(f) They strengthen the secular fabric of India.

(g) Check absoluteness of the authority of government.

(h) Lay down the foundation stone of social equality and social justice.

(i) They ensure the dignity and respect of individuals.

(j) Facilitate participation of people in the political and administrative process.

50 Besides the Fundamental Rights, there are certain other rights contained in other parts of the Constitution.

These rights are known as constitutional rights or legal rights or non-fundamental rights.

They are :

1. No tax shall be levied or collected except by authority of law (Article 265 in Part XII).

2. No person shall be deprived of his property save by authority of law (Article 300-A in Part XII).

3. Trade, commerce and intercourse throughout the territory of India shall be free (Article 301 in Part XIII).

4. The elections to the Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assembly shall be on the basis of adult suffrage (Article 326 in Part XV).

These rights are also equally justiciable.

In case of violation of a Fundamental Right, the aggrieved person can directly move the Supreme Court for its enforcement under Article 32, which is in itself a fundamental right.

However, in case of violation of the above rights, the aggrieved person cannot avail this constitutional remedy but can move the High Court by an ordinary suit or under Article 226 (writ jurisdiction of high court).

51 Chairperson: PM

Governing Council: CM of all States, Uts with Legislatures and Lt. Governors of other UTs.

Regional Councils: Formed to address specific issues & contingencies impacting more than one state or a region. These are formed for a specified tenure. These are convened by PM & comprises of CMs & Lt. Governors in the region. These are chaired by the Chairperson of the NITI Aayog or his nominee.

Special Invitees: Experts, specialists and practitioners with relevant domain knowledge nominated by PM.

Full-time Organisational Framework: It comprises, in addition to PM as the Chairperson:

Vice-Chairperson: He is appointed by the Prime Minister. He enjoys the rank of a Cabinet Minister.

Members: Full-time. Enjoy the rank of a Minister of State.

Part-time Members: Maximum of 2, from leading universities, research organisations and other relevant institutions. Part-time members would be on a rotation.

Ex-Officio Members: Maximum of 4 members of the Union Council of Ministers to be nominated by PM.

Chief Executive Officer: Appointed by PM for a fixed tenure, in the rank of Secretary to GOI.

Secretariat: As deemed necessary.

52 Functions

The various functions performed by the NITI Aayog can be divided into four main heads:

Design policy and programme framework.

Foster co-operative federalism.

Monitoring and evaluation.

Think-tank, and Knowledge and Innovation Hub.

NITI Aayog is functionally divided into various Verticals which are responsible for examining and looking into sectoral issues and priorities for national development and economic growth.

By dividing the entire gamut of activities in NITI Aayog, the Team India and Knowledge and Innovation Hubs were constituted, and accordingly Verticals and Core Divisions were created.

The two hubs are at the core of NITI's efficient functioning. The Team India Hub carries out the mandate of fostering 'Cooperative Federalism' and 'Designing Policy and Programme Frameworks'.

It provides requisite coordination and support framework to NITI Aayog in its engagement with the States.

On the other hand, the Knowledge & Innovation Hub ensures fulfilling the mandate of maintaining a State of-the-Art Resource Centre; to be a repository of research of good governance and best practices and their dissemination to stakeholders; and to provide advice and encourage partnerships across key areas.

The NITI Aayog uniquely focus thematic policy interventions which encourages convergence across central ministries, state governments, development partners, sector experts and professionals.

This convergence approach to governance is applied to achieve the objectives of NITI Aayog.

On the other hand, the Knowledge & Innovation Hub ensures fulfilling the

mandate of maintaining a State of-the-Art Resource Centre; to be a repository of research of good governance and best practices and their dissemination to stakeholders; and to provide advice and encourage partnerships across key areas.

53 NHRC

The National Human Rights Commission is a Statutory body.

It was established in 1993 under a legislation enacted by the Parliament, namely, the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

NHRC - Watchdog of human rights in country

54 UDHR

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris on 10 December 1948.

Human Rights Day is observed every year on 10 December, which is the anniversary of the UDHR.

In pursuant to the principles of UDHR, India has enacted the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, with a view to bring about greater accountability and strengthening of the human rights in the country.

This act also authorized State Govt. to establish State Human Right Commission.

55 Structure of the Commission

NHRC is a multi-member body which consists of a Chairman and seven other members.

3/7 are ex-officio member.

President appoints the Chairman and members of NHRC on recommendation of high-powered committee headed by PM.

Chairperson and the members of NHRC are appointed for 5 years or till the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.

Removal: On the charges of proved misbehavior or incapacity, if proved by an inquiry conducted by a SC Judge.

Commission also has five Specialized Divisions i.e. Law Division, Investigation Division, Policy Research & Programmes Division, Training Division and Administration Division.

56 FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

To inquire into any violation of HR or negligence in the prevention of such violation by a public servant, either suo motu or on a petition presented to it or on an order of a court.

To intervene in any proceeding involving allegation of violation of HR

To visit jails and detention places to study the living conditions of inmates and make recommendation thereon.

To review the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the protection of HR and recommend measures for their effective implementation.

To review the factors including acts of terrorism that inhibit the enjoyment of HR and recommend remedial measures.

To study treaties and other international instruments on HR and make recommendations for their effective implementation.

To undertake and promote research in the field of HR.

To spread HR literacy among the people and promote awareness of the safeguards available for the protection of these rights.

To encourage the efforts of NGOs working in the field of HR.

To undertake such other functions as it may consider necessary for the promotion of HR.

57 STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Protection of Human Rights Act of 1993 provides for the creation of not only the National Human Rights Commission but also a State Human Rights Commission at the state level.

Accordingly, 26 states have constituted the State Human Rights Commissions through Official Gazette Notifications

Composition

It has chairman and two members.

Chairman should be retired chief justice of HC and members should be a serving or retired judge of HC or district judge with 7 years experience and a person of knowledge or practical experience in field of HR.

58 Appointment:

The Chairperson and members of the SHRC are appointed by the Governor, on the recommendation of a committee consisting of:

The Chief Minister (chairperson)

The Home Minister

The Leader of the Opposition in the legislative council

The Leader of the Opposition in the legislative assembly

The Speaker of the legislative assembly

The Chairman of the legislative council

59 PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (AMENDMENT) ACT 2019

News

President gave assent to the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2019 in order to make NHRC more inclusive and efficient in its functioning.

Significance of the recent amendment

The proposed amendments will enable both the National Commission & State Commissions to be more compliant with the Paris Principles concerning its autonomy, independence, pluralism and wideranging functions in order to effectively protect and promote human rights.

Filling up the Vacancies

The age limit for appointment to the panel has been reduced to fill the vacancies.

The amendment has ensured transparency in the appointment of Chairman and members of the Commission.

Enabling conditions to incorporate Civil Society:

Effort is to also to increase the presence of civil Society in the composition of the Commission.

Ease of accessibility:

The applicants in Union Territories can now appeal in the human Rights Commission of nearby states instead of coming all the way to Delhi.

60 Amended Act of 2019

Composition

A person who has been Chief Justice of SC, or a Judge of SC will be the chairperson of the NHRC.

Three members to be appointed, of which at least one will be a woman.

The Bill provides for including the chairpersons of the National Commission for Backward Classes, the National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights, and the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities as members of the NHRC.

Chairperson

A person who has been Chief Justice or Judge of a High Court will be chairperson of a SHRC.

Term of office

The Bill reduces the term of office to three years or till the age of seventy years, whichever is earlier.

The Bill removes the five-year limit for reappointment.

Union Territories

The Bill provides that the central govt. may confer on a SHRC human rights functions being discharged by UT.

Functions relating to human rights in the case of Delhi will be dealt with by the NHRC.

61 It was established in 1964 by an executive resolution of the Central government.

Its establishment was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962-64).

62 It was established in 1964 by an executive resolution of the Central government. Its establishment was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962-64).

63 The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was set up in 1963 by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Later, it was transferred to the Ministry of Personnel and now it enjoys the status of an attached office

64 Administrative Reforms Commission
The Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) headed by Morarji Desai submitted an interim report on "Problems of Redressal of Citizen's Grievances" in 1966.

In this report, ARC recommended the creation of two special authorities designated as 'Lokpal' and

'Lokayukta' for redress of citizens' grievances.

65 CIC

Central Information Commission (CIC) was established by Central Govt. in 2005 through an Official Gazette Notification under the provisions of RTI Act 2005. Hence, it is not a constitutional body.

CIC is a high-powered independent body which inter alia looks into the complaints made to it and decides the appeals.

It entertains complaints and appeals pertaining to offices, financial institutions, public sector undertakings, etc., under the Central Govt. and UTs.

SIC

Right to Information Act of 2005 provides for the creation of State Information Commission at the state level.

Accordingly, all the states have constituted the SIC through Official Gazette Notifications.

66 They should be persons of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media or administration and governance.

They should not be an MLA or MP of any State or UT.

67 The CIC and an IC shall hold office for such term as prescribed by the Central Govt. or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. They are not eligible for reappointment.

The State Chief Information Commissioner and a State Information Commissioner shall hold office for such term as prescribed by the Central Government or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

68 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS – Both CIC & SIC

1. It is the duty of the Commission to receive and inquire into a complaint from any person:

who has not been able to submit an information request because of non-

appointment of a Public Information Officer;

who has been refused information that was requested;

who has not received response to his information request within the specified time limits;

who thinks the fees charged are unreasonable;

who thinks information given is incomplete, misleading or false; and any other matter relating to obtaining information.

2. The Commission can order inquiry into any matter if there are reasonable grounds (suo-moto power).

3. While inquiring, the Commission has the powers of a civil court in respect of the following matters:

summoning and enforcing attendance of persons and compelling them to give oral or written evidence on oath and to produce documents or things;

requiring the discovery and inspection of documents;

receiving evidence on affidavit;

requisitioning any public record from any court or office;

issuing summons for examination of witnesses or documents; and

any other matter which may be prescribed.

During the inquiry of a complaint, the Commission may examine any record which is under the control of the public authority and no such record may be withheld from it on any grounds.

5. The Commission has the power to secure compliance of its decisions from the public authority. This includes:

providing access to information in a particular form;

directing the public authority to appoint a Public Information Officer where none exists;

publishing information or categories of information;

making necessary changes to the practices relating to management, maintenance and destruction of records;

enhancing training provision for officials on the right to information;

seeking an annual report from the public authority on compliance with this Act;
requiring the public authority to compensate for any loss or other detriment suffered by the applicant;
imposing penalties under this Act;
rejecting the application.

- 69 The Commission submits an annual report to the Central Government on the implementation of the provisions of this Act. The Central Government places this report before each House of Parliament.

When a public authority does not conform to the provisions of this Act, the Commission may recommend (to the authority) steps which ought to be taken for promoting such conformity.

- 70 RTI AMENDMENT ACT, 2019

The various features Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019 are as follows:

1. It provided that CIC and an IC shall hold office for such term as prescribed by the Central Govt. Before this amendment, their term was fixed for 5 years.

2. It provided that the salary, allowances and other service conditions of the CIC and an IC shall be such as prescribed by Central Govt. Before this amendment, the salary, allowances and other service conditions of CIC were similar to those of the Chief Election Commissioner and that of an IC were similar to those of an Election Commissioner.

- 71 It provided that the State Chief Information Commissioner and a State Information Commissioner shall hold office for such term as prescribed by the Central government. Before this amendment, their term was fixed for 5 years.

It provided that the salary, allowances and other service conditions of the State Chief Information Commissioner and a State Information Commissioner shall be such as prescribed by the Central Govt. Before this amendment, the salary, allowances and other service conditions of the

State Chief Information Commissioner were similar to those of an Election Commissioner and that of a State Information Commissioner were similar to those of the Chief Secretary of state govt.

It removed the provisions regarding deductions in salary of the Chief Information Commissioner, an Information Commissioner, the State Chief Information Commissioner and a State Information Commissioner due to pension or any other retirement benefits received by them for their previous government service.

- 72 NCPCR Constitution

NCPCR is a statutory body established in 2007 under an act of Parliament, the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.

NCPCR – National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

Works towards achieving a child rights-centric approach in all the laws, programmes, policies and administrative mechanisms in India. Ministry: under Ministry of Women & Child Development

It strives to ensure that all laws and policies in the country are in consonance with the rights of children as emphasised by the Indian Constitution as well as with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

A child is defined as any person between the ages of 0 and 18 years.

The Commission acknowledges the universality and inviolability of child rights.

It focuses on children that form a part of the most vulnerable sections of society.

The Commission sees every right of the child as equally important.

- 73 Composition

Chairperson – Person of eminence and who has an exemplary record of work in child welfare.

Six members:

A minimum of two women members. Should have experience in the following fields:

Education

Child health, care, welfare or child development

Juvenile justice or care of neglected or marginalized children or children with disabilities

Elimination of child labour or children in distress

Child psychology or sociology

Laws relating to children

Functions

Assess and review the safeguards that are provided for child rights protection in India under existing laws and also suggest measures for implementing them effectively.

Present reports on the workings of the laws in this domain to the central government as and when necessary.

Inquire cases of child rights violations and initiate proceedings.

Study the factors that prevent the enjoyment of rights of children impacted by terrorism, riots, natural calamities, communal violence, trafficking, HIV/AIDS, torture and exploitation, maltreatment, prostitution and pornography, and suggest remedial measures for them.

Ministers, MPs and Groups A, B, C and D officers and officials of the Central Govt.

Lokpal to consist of a Chairperson with a maximum of 8 members of which 50% shall be judicial members.

50% of Lokpal members shall come from amongst the SCs, the STs, the OBCs, minorities and women.

The selection of the Chairperson and the members of Lokpal shall be through a Selection Committee consisting of PM, the Speaker of LS, Opposition Leader in LS, the CJI or a sitting SC Judge nominated by CJI and an eminent jurist to be nominated by the President of India on the basis of recommendations of the first 4 members of the selection committee.

A Search Committee will assist the Selection Committee in the process of selection. 50% members of the Search Committee shall also be from amongst the SCs, the STs, the OBCs, minorities and women.

PM has been brought under the purview of the Lokpal with subject matter exclusions and specific process for handling complaints against PM.

Lokpal's jurisdiction covers all public servants, including Group A, B, C, & D officers and employees of Govt. On complaints referred to the CVC by Lokpal, the CVC will send its report of preliminary enquiry in respect of Group A and Group B Officers back to Lokpal for further decision. For Group C and Group D employees, CVC will proceed further with its own powers under the CVC Act subject to reporting and review by the Lokpal.

Lokpal will have the power of superintendence & direction over any investigating agency, including CBI.

A High-Powered Committee chaired by PM will recommend the selection of Director of CBI.

1). It incorporates provisions for attachment and confiscation of property of public servants acquired by corrupt means, even while the prosecution is pending.

2). It lays down clear timelines. For preliminary enquiry, it is 3

74 Lokpal

The ARC of India (1966-1970) recommended the setting up of two special authorities designated as 'Lokpal' and 'lokeyukta' for the redressal of citizens' grievances.

These institutions were to be set up on the pattern of the institution of Ombudsman in Scandinavian countries and the parliamentary commissioner for investigation in New Zealand.

The Lokpal would deal with complaints against ministers and secretaries at Central and state levels, and the lokeyukta (one at the Centre and one in every state) would deal with complaints against other specified higher officials.

The ARC kept the judiciary outside the purview of Lokpal and lokeyukta as in New Zealand.

75 The salient features of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act (2013):

To establish Lokpal at the Centre and the Lokayukta at State level. The jurisdiction of Lokpal includes PM,

months extendable by 3 months. For investigation, it is 6 months which may be extended by 6 months at a time. For trial, it is 1 year extendable by 1 year and to achieve this, special courts to be set up.

76 LOKAYUKTA

Institution of lokayukta was established first in Maharashtra in 1971.

Although Odisha passed the Act in 1970, it came into force only in 1983. Till 2013, 21 states and 1 Union Territory (Delhi) have established the institution of Lokyuktas.

Structural Variations

Some States like Rajasthan, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have created the lokayukta as well as upalo-kayukta, while some others like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh have created only the lokayukta.

There are still other states like Punjab and Orissa that have designated officials as Lokpal.

This pattern was not suggested by the ARC in the states.

77 Investigations

In most states, lokayukta can initiate investigations either on the basis of a complaint received from the citizen against unfair administrative action or suo moto. But he can't start suo moto investigations in UP, HP and Assam.

Scope of Cases Covered

The lokayukta can consider the cases of 'grievances' as well as 'allegations' in Maharashtra, UP, Assam, Bihar and Karnataka.

But, in Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat, the job of lokayuktas is confined to investigating allegations (corruption) and not grievances (maladministration).

Other Features

Lokayukta presents, annually, to the governor of the state a consolidated report on his performance. The governor places this report along with an explanatory memorandum before the state legislature. The

lookayukta is responsible to the state legislature.

He takes the help of the state investigating agencies for conducting inquiries.

He can call for relevant files and documents from the state government departments.

The recommendations made by the loka-yukta are only advisory and not binding on the state government.

78 It is the apex vigilance institution. It was created via executive resolution (based on the recommendations of Santhanam committee) in 1964 but was conferred with statutory status in 2003.

It submits its report to the President of India.

Composition: Presently, the body consists of central vigilance commissioner along with 2 vigilance commissioners.

Appointment

They are appointed by President on the recommendations of a committee consisting of PM, Union Home Minister and Leader of the Opposition in LS (if no then leader of the single largest Opposition party LS).

Term - Their term is 4 years or 65 years, whichever is earlier.

Removal - The Central Vigilance Commissioner or any Vigilance Commissioner can be removed from his office only by order of the President on the ground of proved misbehavior or incapacity after the SC, on a reference made to it by the President, has, on inquiry, reported that the Central Vigilance Commissioner or any Vigilance Commissioner, as the case may be, ought to be removed.

79 CBI

CBI was set up in 1963 by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Later, it was transferred to the Ministry of Personnel and now it enjoys the status of an attached office. It is not a statutory body. It was appointed by the executive resolution of union home ministry. It derives its powers from Delhi special police establishment act. 1946

Director of CBI is appointed by the committee consisting of PM, leader of opposition in LS and Chief Justice of India. Tenure – 2years.

Central govt can appoint the officers above the rank of SP on recommendations of committee headed by CVC, Vigilance commissioners, secretary of home and Personnel.

Director of prosecution is appointed on the recommendation of CVC. Tenure is 2 years. He is equivalent to the rank of joint secretary of GOI.

80 Divisions

At present (2019), the CBI has the following seven divisions:

Anti-Corruption Division

Economic Offences Division

Special Crimes Division

Policy and Coordination Division

Administration Division

Directorate of Prosecution

Central Forensic Science Laboratory

FUNCTIONS OF CBI

Investigating cases of corruption, bribery and misconduct of Central government employees.

Investigating cases relating to infringement of fiscal and economic laws, that is, breach of laws concerning export and import control, customs and central excise, income tax, foreign exchange regulations and so on. However, such cases are taken up either in consultation with or at the request of the department concerned.

Investigating serious crimes, having national and international ramifications, committed by organised gangs of professional criminals.

Coordinating the activities of the anticorruption agencies and the various state police forces

Taking up, on the request of a state government, any case of public importance for investigation.

Maintaining crime statistics and disseminating criminal information.

81 Answer: b

Explanation:

Special 301 Report:

□ It is prepared annually by the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) that identifies

trade barriers to United States companies and products due to the intellectual property laws, such as copyright, patents and trademarks, in other countries.

□ The Special 301 Report is published pursuant to Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974.

□ By statute, the annual Special 301 Report includes a list of “Priority Foreign Countries”, that are judged to have inadequate intellectual property laws; these countries may be subject to sanctions.

□ In addition, the report contains a “Priority Watch List” and a “Watch List”, containing countries whose intellectual property regimes are deemed of concern.

□ India continues to be on the ‘Priority Watch List’ of the USTR for lack of adequate intellectual property (IP) rights protection and enforcement.

□ Algeria, Argentina, Chile, China, Indonesia, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine and Venezuela are also on the Priority Watch List.

82 Answer: a

Explanation:

Brahmaputra < Yellow River < Mekong < Yangtze

83. Consider the following statements:

1. Article 30 is called a Charter of Education Rights.

2. While all religious minorities have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice, linguistic minorities do not enjoy such a right.

83.

Answer: b

Explanation:

□ Article 30 is called a Charter of Education Rights. This right is given to minorities to form and govern their own educational institutions.

□ The term “Minorities” has not been defined in the Constitution.

□ Article 30(1): All religious and linguistic minorities have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

□ Article 30(2): The State should not, when granting aid to educational institutions, discriminate against any educational institution on the ground that it is under the management of a minority, whether based on religion or language.

IAS BRAINS

84.

Answer: d

Explanation:

- ☐ Indian gazelles, *Gazella bennettii*, are primarily found in the northwestern region of India in the state of Rajasthan.
- ☐ Their distribution extends from south of the Krishna River, as far east as central India, and into the north-central region of Iran (east of the Zagros Range and south of the Alborz).
- ☐ They are found in grasslands and desert areas in India, parts of Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- ☐ IUCN Red List Classification: Least Concerned.
- ☐ Chinkara and Camel are both official state animals of Rajasthan.

85.

Answer: a

Explanation:

Biological Oxygen Demand is the amount of dissolved oxygen needed by bacteria in decomposing the organic wastes present in water. A high value of dissolved oxygen (DO) is an indicator of good river health. BOD (Biological Oxygen Demand) and COD (Chemical Oxygen Demand) are both indicators of the amount of oxygen necessary to break down organic and inorganic pollution. The lower these numbers are, the better is the river health. A higher value of Biological Oxygen Demand indicates low Dissolved Oxygen content of water.

86.

Answer: c

Explanation:

- ☐ Asian Development Bank is a regional development bank established on 19 December 1966.
- ☐ Headquarters — Manila, Philippines.
- ☐ Japan holds the largest share in ADB with 15.677%, followed by U.S.A (15.567%), China (6.473%), and India (5.812%).
- ☐ India is a founding member of the ADB.

87.

87.

Answer: c

Explanation:

- ☐ Iran is the largest producer of saffron.
- ☐ Saffron in India is mainly cultivated in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.
- ☐ Kashmir saffron, which is cultivated and harvested in the Karewa (highlands) of Jammu and Kashmir is the only saffron in the world grown at an altitude of 1,600 m to 1,800 m AMSL (above mean sea level).
- ☐ Kashmir saffron is grown in some regions of Kashmir, including Pulwama, Budgam, Kishtwar and Srinagar.

88.

• McMahon Line:

It is a boundary line between India and China more specifically It is between the Tibetan region of China and the North-east region of India. Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.

This boundary line was demarcated by Henry McMahon at the 1914 Simla Convention. But China does not approve the Simla Accord and the McMahon Line. Because according to China Tibet was not an Independent State and for that reason, it had no power to Sign a treaty.

• Hindenberg Line:

It is a demarcation line between Germany and Poland. Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched. During World War- I in March 1917 German soldiers retreated towards this line. And this retreat operation is known as Alberich.

• 17th Parallel: It was the boundary line between North Vietnam and South Vietnam. They reunified on July 2, 1976. Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.

89. Answer: d

Explanation:

☐ The one nation one ration card scheme comes under the Ministry of Consumer affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

☐ Only 17 states and UT's have joined the national cluster under the Food Ministry's One Nation One Ration Card scheme.

☐ Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.

90. Answer: c

Explanation:

☐ The MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee for 100 days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work at the statutory minimum wage.

☐ The Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), Govt of India is monitoring the entire implementation of this scheme in association with state governments

☐ The employment will be provided within a radius of 5 km: if it is above 5 km extra wage will be paid.

☐ Within 15 days of submitting the application or from the day work is demanded, wage employment will be provided to the applicant. Right to get unemployment allowance in case employment is not provided within fifteen days of submitting the application or from the date when work is sought.

☐ Receipt of wages within fifteen days of work done.

☐ Social Audit of MGNREGA works is mandatory, which lends to accountability and transparency.

91. Answer: c

Explanation:

☐ Nearly five million people were displaced in India in 2019 — the highest in the world so far — according to a recent report from the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), titled 'The Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2020)'.

- The centre is a part of the Norwegian Refugee Council. Globally, around 33.4 million people faced new internal displacements because of conflicts and disasters in about 145 countries in 2019.
- The displacements in India were prompted by increased hazard intensity, high population and social and economic vulnerability, the report stated.

93. Answer: c

Explanation:

- The famous Kovilpatti kadalai mittai has been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Kovilpatti kadalai mittai is manufactured in Kovilpatti and adjacent towns and villages in Thoothukudi district, Tamil Nadu.
- Kovilpatti kadalai mittai is a candy made of peanuts held together with glistening syrup, and topped with wisps of grated coconut dyed pink, green and yellow.
- Kovilpatti kadalai mittai is produced by using both groundnuts and jaggery (organic jaggery), in carefully selected quantities from selected specific locations in Tamil Nadu.
- The groundnuts are grown in the native black soil in and around Kovilpatti.
- After sourcing, the groundnuts are shelled and roasted, this gives it an unique traditional flavour.
- In Kovilpatti, it is sold as single rectangular chunks, or rather cuboids, sealed in packets.
- This product has a long shelf life and has a huge export potential.
- The tag will now help this brand reach an international audience.

94. Answer: a

Explanation:

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Office of International Religious Freedom (IRF) in the State Department and the US Commission of International Religious Freedom were created by the

□ The U.S. State department hasn't always followed the USCIRF's recommendations and has followed its own procedure to designate states. The USCIRF's recommendations are non-binding on the State Department.

Answer: c

Explanation:

□ According to the UN's International Migrant Stock 2019 compiled by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Division, the count of the Indian diaspora currently stands at around 17.5 million making it the largest in the world. It now comprises 6.4% of the total global migrant population.

□ The United Arab Emirates was the top destination for Indian migrants followed by the US and Saudi Arabia.

□ India tops the list of countries with the largest inward remittances as per a new World Bank report.

Answer: a
Explanation:

Answer: a
Explanation:

Manipur Black rice Chak-Hao gets GI tag
☐ Incredible India Chak-Hao, scented glutinous rice popularly known as Black Rice which is cultivated in Manipur since centuries and popular to people apart from the State has got GI (Geographical Indications) registration after almost a yearlong battle for registration competing with other States of India.

GI Tag

☐ GI status is an indication that identifies goods as produced from a particular area, which has special quality or reputation attributable to its geographical origin and GI branded goods possess a recall value amongst consumers.

☐ Also GIs are covered as an element of IPRs under Paris Convention for Protection of Industrial Property.

☐ Geographical Indications Registry of Ministry of Commerce and Industries will grant the GI tag for a product.

Answer: c
Explanation:

☐ Ministry of MSME has recently launched the Bank of Schemes, Ideas, Innovation and Research portal on MSMEs.

☐ The Portal gives access to all Schemes of Union, State and UT Governments.

☐ It has the provision for uploading Ideas, Innovations & Researches in the sector.

☐ The portal has unique features of not only crowd sourcing of Ideas, but also evaluation and rating the ideas by crowd sourcing.

☐ It can also facilitate inflow of venture capital, foreign collaboration etc.

☐ The portal has the facility to indicate the stage of Idea (Concept, Prototype or Commercialized) to make more user friendly.

☐ The portal will benefit the potential entrepreneurs as one stop compendium

of Ideas, innovation and research ready for commercialization.

☐ The Rating of Ideas can be seen publicly which will help in decision making.

□ Similarly options are available for adding Banks, Government Labs, Incubators, Accelerators, Foreign collaboration in future.

Answer: a

Explanation:

□ In present situation of COVID 19, farmers are looking for help in their harvest reaching the market, seed/fertilizer procurement, etc.

□ Kisan Sabha App was developed by CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CSIR-CRRI), New Delhi.

□ It aims to connect farmers to supply chain and freight transportation management system was remotely launched recently.

□ This portal acts as a one stop solution for farmers, transporters and other entities engaged in the agriculture Industry and offered that ICAR can work together with CSIR and use the Krishi Vigyan Kendra's (KVK) networks for implementation.

IAS BRAINS