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Test Booklet Series

TEST BOOKLET

C

GENERAL STUDIES (P) 2026 – Test – 6320

Time Allowed: Two Hours

Maximum Marks: 200

INSTRUCTIONS

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS BOOKLET DOES **NOT** HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TURN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS, ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.
 2. ENCODE CLEARLY THE TEST BOOKLET SERIES **A, B, C** OR **D** AS THE CASE MAY BE IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACE IN THE ANSWER SHEET.
 3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside. **Do NOT** write anything else on the Test Booklet.
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4. This Test Booklet contains **100** items (Questions). Each item is printed in **English & Hindi**. Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response with you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.
 5. You have to mark all your responses **ONLY** on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See direction in the answers sheet.
 6. All items carry equal marks. Attempt all items. Your total marks will depend only on the number of **correct responses** marked by you in the answer sheet. For **every incorrect** response **1/3rd of the allotted marks** will be deducted.
 7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer sheet the response to various items in the Test booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the answer sheets as per instruction sent to you with your Admission Certificate.
 8. After you have completed filling in all responses on the answer sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to Invigilator only the answer sheet. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.
 9. Sheet for rough work are appended in the Test Booklet at the end.

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO

1. Consider the following statements:
- Statement I: The Directorate of Enforcement is exempt from providing information under the RTI Act, 2005.
- Statement II: Section 8 of the RTI Act lists the specific organisations that are exempt from disclosure obligations.
- Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
 - (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
 - (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
 - (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.
2. Consider the following statements regarding e-FIR in India:
- 1. An e-FIR is used only for cybercrime and women-related offences.
 - 2. It can be filed for both cognizable and non-cognizable offences.
 - 3. An e-FIR, once registered, holds the same legal validity as a physically lodged FIR and can be used as evidence in court.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3

3. Consider the following statements:
- 1. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions is the nodal Ministry of the Government of India for administrative reforms in India.
 - 2. The first Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) was constituted in 1966 with Morarji Desai as its first Chairman.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
4. Golden Dome and Iron Dome, often mentioned in the news, are related to which of the following?
- (a) Types of traditional Indian architectural monuments
 - (b) Missile defense systems
 - (c) Ancient Indian metals used in temple construction
 - (d) Space-based solar power projects
5. Mission Karmayogi, recently launched by the Government of India, aims to:
- (a) promote privatization of core public sector undertakings.
 - (b) build a future-ready civil service with competency-based training.
 - (c) replace the existing cadre-based system in bureaucracy.
 - (d) provide legal status to civil service ethics and conduct.

1. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
 कथन I: प्रवर्तन निदेशालय को सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम, 2005 के अंतर्गत सूचना प्रदान करने से छूट प्राप्त है।
 कथन II: सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम की धारा 8 में उन विशिष्ट संगठनों को सूचीबद्ध किया गया है जिन्हें प्रकटीकरण दायित्वों से छूट प्राप्त है।
 उपर्युक्त कथनों के संबंध में, निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा सही है?
 (a) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या है।
 (b) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या नहीं है।
 (c) कथन-I सही है, किंतु कथन-II गलत है।
 (d) कथन-I गलत है, किंतु कथन-II सही है।

2. भारत में ई-एफ.आई.आर. (e-FIR) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
 1. ई-एफ.आई.आर. का उपयोग केवल साइबर अपराध और महिलाओं से संबंधित अपराधों के लिए किया जाता है।
 2. इसे संज्ञेय व असंज्ञेय दोनों प्रकार के अपराधों के लिए दर्ज किया जा सकता है।
 3. एक बार दर्ज होने के बाद, ई-एफ.आई.आर. की वही वैधानिक मान्यता होती है जो भौतिक रूप से दर्ज एफ.आई.आर. की होती है और इसे न्यायालय में साक्ष्य के रूप में प्रयोग किया जा सकता है।
 उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-से सही हैं?
 (a) केवल 1 और 2
 (b) केवल 2 और 3
 (c) केवल 1 और 3
 (d) 1, 2 और 3

3. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
 1. कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय भारत में प्रशासनिक सुधारों के लिए भारत सरकार का नोडल मंत्रालय है।
 2. प्रथम प्रशासनिक सुधार आयोग (ARC) का गठन 1966 में किया गया था और इसके प्रथम अध्यक्ष मोरारजी देसाई थे।
 उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?
 (a) केवल 1
 (b) केवल 2
 (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
 (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

4. प्रायः सुर्खियों में उल्लिखित पद 'गोल्डन डोम' और 'आयरन डोम' निम्नलिखित में से किससे संबंधित हैं?
 (a) परंपरागत भारतीय स्थापत्य स्मारकों के प्रकार
 (b) मिसाइल रक्षा प्रणालियाँ
 (c) मंदिर निर्माण में प्रयुक्त प्राचीन भारतीय धातुएँ
 (d) अंतरिक्ष-आधारित सौर ऊर्जा परियोजनाएँ

5. हाल ही में भारत सरकार द्वारा शुरू किए गए मिशन कर्मयोगी का उद्देश्य है:
 - (a) मुख्य सार्वजनिक क्षेत्रों के उपक्रमों के निजीकरण को बढ़ावा देना।
 - (b) योग्यता-आधारित प्रशिक्षण के माध्यम से भविष्य के लिए तैयार सिविल सेवा का निर्माण करना।
 - (c) नौकरशाही में विद्यमान कैडर-आधारित प्रणाली को प्रतिस्थापित करना।
 - (d) सिविल सेवा नैतिकता और आचरण को विधिक दर्जा प्रदान करना।

6. Consider the following pairs:

Island	Country/Region
---------------	-----------------------

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Alcatraz Island | : United States |
| 2. Chagos Archipelago | : Seychelles |
| 3. Bitra Island | : India |

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) All three pairs
- (d) None of the pairs

7. With reference to Diphtheria, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a viral infection that spreads through contaminated water.
- 2. Vaccination against diphtheria is part of India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8. Consider the following pairs:

Weapon systems	Country of origin
-----------------------	--------------------------

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Ice Breaker missile | : United States |
| 2. MQ-9B Predator drone | : Israel |
| 3. T-90 Main Battle Tank | : Russia |

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) All three pairs
- (d) None of the pair

9. With reference to the recent reassessment of India's coastline, consider the following statements:

- 1. India's coastline length increased from approximately 7,516 km to over 11,098 km.
- 2. The primary reason for the increase is the recent acquisition of new territories.
- 3. It will aid in improved coastal management, disaster response, and marine resource planning.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

10. "Black Hornet", "Switch", and "Trinetra", recently seen in the news in the context of:

- (a) Indigenous naval sonar systems
- (b) Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)
- (c) High-altitude balloons for communication
- (d) Space-based telescope systems

11. The "Global Drought Outlook" is released by:

- (a) World Bank
- (b) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- (c) United Nations Development Programme
- (d) World Meteorological Organization

6. निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार कीजिए:

द्वीप **देश/क्षेत्र**

1. अल्काट्राज द्वीप : संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका

2. चागोस द्वीपसमूह : सेशेल्स

3. विन्ना द्वीप : भारत

उपर्युक्त युग्मों में से कितने सही सुमेलित हैं?

- (a) केवल एक युग्म
- (b) केवल दो युग्म
- (c) सभी तीनों युग्म
- (d) कोई भी युग्म नहीं

7. डिप्थीरिया के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

- 1. यह एक वायरल संक्रमण है जो संदूषित जल से फैलता है।
- 2. डिप्थीरिया के विरुद्ध टीकाकरण भारत के सार्वभौमिक टीकाकरण कार्यक्रम (UIP) का भाग है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

8. निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार कीजिए:

हथियार प्रणालियाँ **उत्पत्ति वाला देश**

1. आइस ब्रेकर मिसाइल : संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका

2. MQ-9B प्रीडेटर ड्रोन : इजराइल

3. T-90 मुख्य युद्धक : रूस टैंक

उपर्युक्त युग्मों में से कितने सही सुमेलित हैं?

- (a) केवल एक युग्म
- (b) केवल दो युग्म
- (c) सभी तीनों युग्म
- (d) कोई भी युग्म नहीं

9. भारत की तटरेखा की हाल ही में की गई नई समीक्षा के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

- 1. भारत की तटरेखा की लंबाई लगभग 7,516 किलोमीटर से बढ़कर 11,098 किलोमीटर से अधिक हो गई है।
- 2. इस वृद्धि का मुख्य कारण हाल ही में नए क्षेत्रों का अधिग्रहण है।
- 3. इससे तटीय प्रबंधन, आपदा अनुक्रिया और समुद्री संसाधन नियोजन में सुधार करने में सहायता मिलेगी।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-से सही हैं?

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
- (b) केवल 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 3
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

10. “ब्लैक हॉर्नेट”, “स्विच” और “त्रिनेत्र”, हाल ही में किस संदर्भ में, सुर्खियों में रहे:

- (a) स्वदेशी नौसैनिक सोनार प्रणालियाँ
- (b) मानव-रहित हवाई वाहन (UAVs)
- (c) संचार हेतु उच्च-ऊँचाई वाले गुब्बारे
- (d) अंतरिक्ष-आधारित दूरबीन प्रणालियाँ

11. “ग्लोबल ड्रॉट आउटलुक” किसके द्वारा जारी की जाती है:

- (a) विश्व बैंक
- (b) आर्थिक सहयोग एवं विकास संगठन
- (c) संयुक्त राष्ट्र विकास कार्यक्रम
- (d) विश्व मौसम विज्ञान संगठन

12. With reference to black boxes used in aircraft, consider the following statements:
1. It is a black-coloured flight recorder system.
 2. In India, the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) is responsible for decoding black box data.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2
13. Semaglutide and Tirzepatide, recently in the news, are primarily related to:
- (a) Drugs used for the treatment of obesity and Type-2 diabetes
(b) Pesticides used for controlling agricultural pests in cash crops
(c) Antibiotics developed to fight multi-drug resistant bacterial infections
(d) Nutraceuticals derived from marine algae for enhancing immunity and metabolism
14. Consider the following statements regarding the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005:
1. All non-Government organisations, whether substantially financed, directly or indirectly, by the Government, are exempt from the RTI Act.
 2. Any institution of self-government established or constituted by any other law made by Parliament/State Legislature is covered under the RTI Act.
- Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?
- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

15. With reference to the Quality Council of India (QCI), consider the following statements:
1. It is a statutory body established under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade as its nodal ministry.
 2. The Prime Minister of India appoints the Chairman of QCI.
 3. QCI functions as an independent third-party body for quality assessment of products, services, and processes in India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
16. Consider the following statements regarding the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB):
1. It is a high-powered body under the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM).
 2. Its primary function includes advising the Government on appointments to the posts of Chairman, Managing Director, and Functional Directors in CPSEs.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

12. विमानों में प्रयुक्त ब्लैक बॉक्स के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह काले रंग की उड़ान रिकॉर्डर प्रणाली है।
2. भारत में, विमान दुर्घटना अन्वेषण ब्यूरो (AAIB) ब्लैक बॉक्स डेटा को डिकोड करने के लिए उत्तरदायी है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

13. हाल ही में सुर्खियों में रहे सेमाग्लूटाइड (Semaglutide) और टिर्जेपेटाइड (Tirzepatide) निम्नलिखित में से किससे संबंधित हैं?:

- (a) मोटापे और टाइप-2 मधुमेह के उपचार हेतु प्रयुक्त औषधियां
- (b) नकदी फसलों में कृषि कीटों को नियंत्रित करने हेतु प्रयुक्त कीटनाशक
- (c) बहु-औषधि प्रतिरोधी जीवाणु संक्रमण से लड़ने हेतु विकसित एंटीबायोटिक्स
- (d) प्रतिरक्षा और चयापचय को बढ़ाने के लिए समुद्री शैवाल से प्राप्त न्यूट्रास्यूटिकल्स

14. सूचना का अधिकार (आर.टी.आई.) अधिनियम, 2005 के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. सरकार द्वारा प्रत्यक्ष अथवा अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से वित्तपोषित सभी गैर-सरकारी संगठन आर.टी.आई. अधिनियम के प्रावधानों से मुक्त हैं।
2. संसद/राज्य विधानमंडल द्वारा बनाए गए किसी अन्य कानून द्वारा स्थापित या गठित कोई भी स्वशासन संस्था आर.टी.आई. अधिनियम के अंतर्गत आती है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही नहीं है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

15. भारतीय गुणवत्ता परिषद (QCI) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह एक सांविधिक निकाय है जिसे उद्योग संवर्धन और आंतरिक व्यापार विभाग के अंतर्गत स्थापित किया गया है जो इसका नोडल मंत्रालय भी है।
2. भारत के प्रधानमंत्री भारतीय गुणवत्ता परिषद के अध्यक्ष की नियुक्ति करते हैं।
3. भारत गुणवत्ता परिषद भारत में उत्पादों, सेवाओं और प्रक्रियाओं के गुणवत्ता मूल्यांकन के लिए एक स्वतंत्र तृतीय-पक्ष निकाय के रूप में कार्य करता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 3
- (b) केवल 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 3
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

16. लोक उद्यम चयन बोर्ड (PESB) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह निवेश और लोक परिसंपत्ति प्रबंधन विभाग (डी.आई.पी.ए.एम.) के अधीन एक उच्च-शक्ति प्राप्त निकाय है।
2. इसका प्राथमिक कार्य केंद्रीय सार्वजनिक क्षेत्रक उपक्रमों (CPSEs) में अध्यक्ष, प्रबंध निदेशक और कार्यकारी निदेशकों के पदों पर नियुक्तियों के संबंध में सरकार को परामर्श देना है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

17. Consider the following statements regarding the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA):

1. It was constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, to implement Article 39A of the Constitution.
2. The Chief Justice of India is the Executive Chairman of NALSA.
3. All women, irrespective of their income or financial status, are entitled to free legal aid.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

18. Consider the following statements regarding the Citizen's Charter in India:

1. It is a document that lists the commitments of a government agency towards citizens regarding services provided.
2. It is legally enforceable, enabling citizens to seek legal remedy for non-compliance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

19. Consider the following statements regarding the National Informatics Centre (NIC):

1. It is an executive authority under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
2. It manages the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) for handling public grievances.
3. It is the nodal agency for implementing the MyGov citizen engagement platform.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

20. Consider the following statements regarding the Lokpal of India:

1. The Chairperson of the Lokpal receives salary and service conditions equivalent to the Chief Justice of India.
2. The term of office of the Lokpal Chairperson is five years from the date of entering office.
3. All expenditures of the Lokpal are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

17. राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण (NALSA) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. इसका गठन संविधान के अनुच्छेद 39A को लागू करने के लिए विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण अधिनियम, 1987 के तहत किया गया था।
2. भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश, NALSA के कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष होते हैं।
3. सभी महिलाएं, चाहे उनकी आय या वित्तीय स्थिति कुछ भी हो, निःशुल्क विधिक सहायता प्राप्त करने की हकदार होती हैं।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
- (b) केवल 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 3
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

18. भारत में नागरिक घोषणा-पत्र (Citizen's Charter) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह एक दस्तावेज है जो किसी सरकारी एजेंसी द्वारा नागरिकों को प्रदत्त सेवाओं के संबंध में उसकी प्रतिबद्धताओं को सूचीबद्ध करता है।
2. यह विधिक रूप से प्रवर्तनीय है, जिससे नागरिक गैर-अनुपालन की स्थिति में कानूनी उपाय अपना सकते हैं।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

19. राष्ट्रीय सूचना-विज्ञान केंद्र (NIC) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत एक कार्यकारी प्राधिकरण है।
2. यह लोक शिकायतों से निपटने के लिए केंद्रीकृत लोक शिकायत निवारण और निगरानी प्रणाली (CPGRAMS) का प्रबंधन करता है।
3. यह MyGov नागरिक सहभागिता मंच को क्रियान्वित करने वाली नोडल एजेंसी है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
- (b) केवल 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 3
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

20. भारत के लोकपाल के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. लोकपाल के अध्यक्ष को भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश के समकक्ष वेतन और सेवा शर्तें प्राप्त होती हैं।
2. लोकपाल अध्यक्ष का कार्यकाल पदभार ग्रहण करने की तिथि से पांच वर्ष का होता है।
3. लोकपाल के सभी व्यय भारत की संचित निधि पर भारित होते हैं।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
- (b) केवल 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 3
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

21. Consider the following statements regarding Social Audit in India:

1. It is a process of evaluating a programme or scheme with active community participation by comparing official records with actual implementation on the ground.
2. The concept was given statutory backing for the first time under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005.
3. Mizoram was the first state to enact a law on social audit.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

22. Consider the following roles:

1. Acting as service providers in sectors like education, health, and livelihood
2. Advocacy and safeguarding of human rights for marginalised groups
3. Facilitating public participation and communication in governance processes
4. Mobilising community resources and initiatives for local development
5. Exclusive role in formulating government budgets

How many of the roles given above are associated with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in India?

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

23. Consider the following statements regarding the Right to Information Act, 2005:

1. It empowers the Central Government to determine the term of office and the service conditions of the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and Information Commissioners (ICs).
2. It provides that the salary of the CIC is equivalent to that of the Chief Election Commissioner.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

24. Consider the following statements regarding the Sevottam framework:

1. It is a service delivery excellence model developed by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG).
2. It mandates the use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) tools as a compulsory component for implementation.
3. Kerala was the first state to implement the model.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

21. भारत में सामाजिक अंकेक्षण के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह आधिकारिक अभिलेखों की तुलना जमीनी स्तर पर वास्तविक कार्यान्वयन से करके सक्रिय सामुदायिक भागीदारी वाले किसी कार्यक्रम अथवा योजना का मूल्यांकन करने की एक प्रक्रिया है।
2. इस अवधारणा को पहली बार महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी अधिनियम (मनरेगा), 2005 के तहत वैधानिक समर्थन दिया गया था।
3. मिजोरम सामाजिक अंकेक्षण पर कानून बनाने वाला पहला राज्य था।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-से सही हैं?

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
- (b) केवल 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 3
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

22. निम्नलिखित भूमिकाओं पर विचार कीजिए:

1. शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य और आजीविका जैसे क्षेत्रों में सेवा प्रदाता के रूप में कार्य करना
2. हाशिए पर पड़े समूहों के मानवाधिकारों की वकालत और सुरक्षा करना
3. शासन प्रक्रियाओं में जन भागीदारी और संचार को सुगम बनाना
4. स्थानीय विकास के लिए सामुदायिक संसाधन जुटाना और पहल करना
5. सरकारी बजट तैयार करने में विशेष भूमिका

उपर्युक्त भूमिकाओं में से कितनी भारत में नागरिक समाज संगठनों (CSOs) से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) केवल दो
- (b) केवल तीन
- (c) केवल चार
- (d) सभी पांचों

23. सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम, 2005 के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह केंद्र सरकार को मुख्य सूचना आयुक्त (CIC) और सूचना आयुक्तों (ICs) के कार्यकाल एवं सेवा शर्तों को निर्धारित करने का अधिकार देता है।
2. इसमें प्रावधान किया गया है कि CIC का वेतन मुख्य निर्वाचन आयुक्त के वेतन के बराबर होगा।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

24. सेवोत्तम फ्रेमवर्क के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह प्रशासनिक सुधार और लोक शिकायत विभाग (DARPG) द्वारा विकसित एक सेवा वितरण उत्कृष्टता मॉडल है।
2. यह कार्यान्वयन के लिए सूचना और संचार प्रौद्योगिकी (ICT) उपकरणों के उपयोग को आवश्यक घटक के रूप में अनिवार्य करता है।
3. केरल इस मॉडल को लागू करने वाला पहला राज्य था।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कितने सही हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) सभी तीनों
- (d) उपर्युक्त में से कोई नहीं

- 25.** Consider the following statements regarding the Central Information Commission (CIC):
1. It is a statutory body constituted under the Right to Information Act, 2005, with jurisdiction over all Central Public Authorities.
 2. It has the power to impose a monetary penalty on the Central Public Information Officer (CPIO) for malafide denial of information.
 3. It can order an enquiry on a matter of concern on a suo moto basis.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
- 26.** Consider the following:
1. Reduction in corruption in the administration
 2. Accountability in the Government
 3. More hierarchical organizational structure
 4. Improved relations between public authorities and civil society
 5. Expanded reach of governance
- How many of the above are considered advantages of e-Governance in India?
- (a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

- 27.** Consider the following pairs:
- | <i>e-Governance initiative</i> | <i>Objective</i> |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. CPGRAMS | : Facility to lodge grievances online from any location. |
| 2. MCA21 | : Automates processes related to the enforcement and compliance of the Companies Act. |
| 3. e-Samiksha | : Real-time online system for monitoring and follow-up on important government decisions. |
| 4. ITAT e-Dwar | : Online grievance redress mechanism for Central Armed Police Forces. |
- How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
- (a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four
- 28.** Consider the following statements regarding the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT):
1. Members of the CAT are drawn from both judicial and administrative backgrounds.
 2. Appeals against the orders of the CAT lie directly to the Supreme Court.
 3. The CAT is not bound by the procedure laid down in the Civil Procedure Code, 1908.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

25. केंद्रीय सूचना आयोग (CIC) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम, 2005 के तहत गठित एक वैधानिक निकाय है, जिसका क्षेत्राधिकार सभी केंद्रीय लोक प्राधिकरणों तक विस्तृत है।
2. यह सूचना देने से इनकार करने पर केंद्रीय लोक सूचना अधिकारी (CPIO) पर आर्थिक दंड आरोपित कर सकता है।
3. यह किसी चिंताजनक मामले पर स्वतः संज्ञान लेकर जांच का आदेश दे सकता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
- (b) केवल 1
- (c) केवल 2 और 3
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

26. निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिए:

1. प्रशासन में भ्रष्टाचार में कमी
2. सरकार में जवाबदेही
3. अधिक पदानुक्रमित संगठनात्मक संरचना
4. सार्वजनिक प्राधिकरणों और नागरिक समाज के बीच बेहतर संबंध
5. शासन की विस्तृत पहुँच

उपर्युक्त में से कितने भारत में ई-गवर्नेंस के लाभ हैं?

- (a) केवल दो
- (b) केवल तीन
- (c) केवल चार
- (d) सभी पाँचों

27. निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार कीजिए:

ई-गवर्नेंस पहल

उद्देश्य

1. सी.पी.जी.आर.ए.एम .एस. : किसी भी स्थान से ऑनलाइन शिकायत दर्ज करने की सुविधा।
2. एम.सी.ए.21 : कंपनी अधिनियम के प्रवर्तन और अनुपालन से संबंधित प्रक्रियाओं का स्वचालन।
3. ई-समीक्षा : महत्वपूर्ण सरकारी निर्णयों की निगरानी और अनुवर्ती कार्रवाई के लिए वास्तविक समय ऑनलाइन प्रणाली।
4. आई.टी.ए.टी. ई-द्वारा : केंद्रीय सशस्त्र पुलिस बलों के लिए ऑनलाइन शिकायत निवारण तंत्र।

उपर्युक्त युग्मों में से कितने सही सुमेलित हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) केवल तीन
- (d) सभी चारों

28. केंद्रीय प्रशासनिक अधिकरण (CAT) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. CAT के सदस्य न्यायिक और प्रशासनिक दोनों पृष्ठभूमि से आते हैं।
2. CAT के आदेशों के विरुद्ध सीधे उच्चतम न्यायालय में अपील की जा सकती है।
3. CAT सिविल प्रक्रिया संहिता, 1908 में निर्धारित प्रक्रिया से बाध्य नहीं है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
- (b) केवल 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 3
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

29. Consider the following committees/commissions:

1. Padmanabhaiah Committee
2. Ribeiro Committee
3. Dharma Vira Committee
4. Malimath Committee

Which of the above are associated with police reforms in India?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (c) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

30. Which of the following organisations releases the 'E-Government Development Index'?

- (a) World Bank
- (b) United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
- (c) World Economic Forum
- (d) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

31. Which of the above conditions are considered as eligibility criteria for granting 'Maharatna' status to a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE)?

1. The CPSE should have a Navratna status.
2. It should be listed on the Indian stock exchange with the minimum prescribed public shareholding as per SEBI regulations.
3. It should have an average annual turnover of more than ₹25,000 crore during the last three years.
4. It should have a significant global presence or international operations.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

32. Consider the following mechanisms

1. Right to Information for accessing government records
2. Institutionalised grievance redressal systems
3. Social audits and citizens' report cards
4. Decentralised planning through empowered Gram Sabhas

How many of the above mechanisms promote citizens' participation in governance?

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

33. Which of the following are included as "consumer rights" under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019?

1. Right to Safety
2. Right to be Heard
3. Right to Seek Redressal
4. Right to Product Liability

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (b) 1, 2, 3, and 4
- (c) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1 and 4 only

34. Consider the following statements:

1. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) is the nodal ministry for the implementation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006.
2. The Act provides for diversion of forest land for public utility facilities managed by the Government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

29. निम्नलिखित समितियों/आयोगों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. पद्मनाभैया समिति
2. रिबेरो समिति
3. धर्मवीर समिति
4. मलिमथ समिति

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सी, भारत में पुलिस सुधारों से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) केवल 1, 2 और 3
- (b) केवल 1, 2 और 4
- (c) केवल 2 और 4
- (d) 1, 2, 3 और 4

30. निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा संगठन, 'ई-गवर्नमेंट डेवलपमेंट इंडेक्स' जारी करता है?

- (a) विश्व बैंक
- (b) संयुक्त राष्ट्र आर्थिक और सामाजिक मामलों का विभाग (UN DESA)
- (c) विश्व आर्थिक मंच
- (d) आर्थिक सहयोग और विकास संगठन (OECD)

31. निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सी शर्तें, किसी केंद्रीय सार्वजनिक उपक्रम (CPSE) को 'महारत्न' का दर्जा देने हेतु पात्रता के रूप में निर्धारित की गई है?

1. केंद्रीय सार्वजनिक उपक्रम (CPSE) के पास 'नवरत्न' का दर्जा होना चाहिए।
2. इसे सेबी विनियमों के अनुसार न्यूनतम निर्धारित सार्वजनिक शेयरधारिता के साथ भारतीय स्टॉक एक्सचेंज में सूचीबद्ध होना चाहिए।
3. पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान इसका औसत वार्षिक कारोबार 25,000 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक होना चाहिए।
4. इसकी महत्वपूर्ण वैश्विक उपस्थिति या अंतर्राष्ट्रीय परिचालन होना चाहिए।

नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए।

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
- (b) केवल 2, 3 और 4
- (c) केवल 1, 3 और 4
- (d) 1, 2, 3 और 4

32. निम्नलिखित तंत्रों पर विचार कीजिए

1. सरकारी अभिलेखों तक पहुंच हेतु सूचना का अधिकार
2. संस्थागत शिकायत निवारण तंत्र
3. सामाजिक अंकेक्षण और नागरिक रिपोर्ट कार्ड
4. सशक्त ग्राम सभाओं के माध्यम से विकेन्द्रीकृत नियोजन

उपर्युक्त तंत्रों में से कितने, शासन में नागरिकों की भागीदारी को बढ़ावा देते हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) केवल तीन
- (d) सभी चारों

33. उपभोक्ता संरक्षण अधिनियम, 2019 के तहत, निम्नलिखित में से किसे "उपभोक्ता अधिकार" के रूप में शामिल किया गया है?

1. सुरक्षा का अधिकार
2. सुने जाने का अधिकार
3. निवारण पाने का अधिकार
4. उत्पाद दायित्व का अधिकार

नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए।

- (a) केवल 1, 2 और 3
- (b) 1, 2, 3 और 4
- (c) केवल 2 और 4
- (d) केवल 1 और 4

34. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय (MoEFCC) वन अधिकार अधिनियम (FRA), 2006 के कार्यान्वयन के लिए नोडल मंत्रालय है।
2. यह अधिनियम, सरकार द्वारा प्रबंधित सार्वजनिक उपयोगिता सुविधाओं के लिए वन भूमि के उपयोग का प्रावधान करता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

35. With reference to the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, consider the following statements:

1. The Act empowers the Central Consumer Protection Authority to order recall of unsafe goods and services.
2. The Authority can prohibit an endorser of a misleading advertisement from making any endorsement for up to 6 months.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

36. Which of the following is **NOT** classified as a minor forest produce under the Forest Rights Act, 2006?

- (a) Tendu leaves
- (b) Bamboo
- (c) Mahua flowers
- (d) Sandalwood

37. Regarding the anti-defection law in India, consider the following statements:

1. An independent member is disqualified if they join any political party after the election.
2. A nominated member is disqualified if they join a political party after six months from taking their seat.
3. A member is not disqualified if they leave their party due to a merger involving at least two-thirds of the party members.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

38. Regarding the rules for declaration by candidates contesting elections in India, consider the following statements:

1. Candidates must declare both movable and immovable assets.
2. Candidates must declare their educational qualifications.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

39. Regarding the electoral rolls of parliamentary constituencies in India, consider the following statements:

1. Aadhaar cards of electors have to be mandatorily linked to the electoral rolls.
2. A person can be registered in the electoral roll of more than one constituency if they have multiple residences.
3. Conviction for an offence automatically removes a person from the electoral rolls.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) None

40. Which of the following elections in India uses proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote (STV)?

1. Election of the President of India
2. Election of the Vice-President of India
3. Election of members of the Rajya Sabha
4. Election of members of the State Legislative Councils

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

35. उपभोक्ता संरक्षण अधिनियम, 2019 के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
1. यह अधिनियम केन्द्रीय उपभोक्ता संरक्षण प्राधिकरण को असुरक्षित वस्तुओं और सेवाओं को वापस मंगाने का आदेश देने का अधिकार प्रदान करता है।
 2. प्राधिकरण किसी भ्रामक विज्ञापन के प्रोत्साहक (endorser) को 6 माह तक किसी भी प्रकार का विज्ञापन देने से रोक सकता है।
- उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?
- (a) केवल 1
(b) केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों
(d) न तो 1, न ही 2
36. वन अधिकार अधिनियम, 2006 के तहत निम्नलिखित में से किसे लघु वनोपज के रूप में वर्गीकृत नहीं किया गया है?
- (a) तेंदू के पत्ते
(b) बांस
(c) महुआ के फूल
(d) चंदन
37. भारत में दल-बदल विरोधी कानून के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
1. यदि कोई निर्दलीय सदस्य चुनाव के बाद किसी राजनीतिक दल की सदस्यता ग्रहण कर लेता है, तो उसे निरर्थ घोषित कर दिया जाता है।
 2. यदि कोई नाम-निर्देशित सदस्य अपनी सदस्यता ग्रहण करने के छह माह बाद किसी राजनीतिक दल की सदस्यता ग्रहण कर लेता है, तो उसे निरर्थ घोषित कर दिया जाता है।
 3. यदि कोई सदस्य अपने दल के कम-से-कम दो-तिहाई सदस्यों के विलय के कारण अपना दल छोड़ देता है, तो उसे निरर्थ घोषित नहीं किया जाता है।
- उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कितने सही हैं?
- (a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) सभी तीनों
(d) कोई नहीं

38. भारत में चुनाव लड़ने वाले प्रत्याशियों द्वारा घोषणा के नियमों के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
1. प्रत्याशियों को चल और अचल दोनों परिसंपत्तियों की घोषणा करनी होगी।
 2. प्रत्याशियों को अपनी शैक्षणिक योग्यताओं की घोषणा करनी होगी।
- उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?
- (a) केवल 1
(b) केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों
(d) न तो 1, न ही 2
39. भारत में संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों की मतदाता सूचियों के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
1. मतदाताओं के आधार कार्ड अनिवार्य रूप से मतदाता सूचियों से जुड़े होने चाहिए।
 2. यदि किसी व्यक्ति के कई निवास स्थान हैं, तो वह एक से अधिक निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों की मतदाता सूची में पंजीकृत हो सकता है।
 3. किसी अपराध के लिए दोषसिद्धि होने पर व्यक्ति का नाम स्वतः ही मतदाता सूची से हट जाता है।
- उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?
- (a) केवल 1 और 3
(b) केवल 1 और 2
(c) केवल 2 और 3
(d) कोई नहीं
40. भारत में निम्नलिखित में से किस निर्वाचन में एकल संक्रमणीय मत (STV) के माध्यम से आनुपातिक प्रतिनिधित्व का उपयोग किया जाता है?
1. भारत के राष्ट्रपति का निर्वाचन
 2. भारत के उपराष्ट्रपति का निर्वाचन
 3. राज्यसभा के सदस्यों का निर्वाचन
 4. राज्य विधान परिषदों के सदस्यों का निर्वाचन
- नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए।
- (a) केवल 1, 3 और 4
(b) केवल 2, 3 और 4
(c) केवल 1 और 2
(d) 1, 2, 3 और 4

41. Consider the following statements regarding political party funding and election expenditure limits in India:

1. There is no cap on how much political parties can spend during elections.
2. Political parties have a cap of 7.5% on corporate contributions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

42. Consider the following statements about Indian states and their parliamentary or assembly seats:

1. Uttar Pradesh has the largest number of Rajya Sabha seats.
2. Jharkhand has the largest number of Lok Sabha seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes (STs).
3. Maharashtra has the second highest number of Assembly seats among Indian states.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

43. With reference to election deposits in Lok Sabha elections in India, consider the following statements:

1. The deposit amount for a candidate contesting a Lok Sabha election is the same as that for a candidate in a Legislative Assembly election.
2. A candidate forfeits their deposit if they fail to secure at least one-sixth of the valid votes polled in their constituency.
3. There is no deposit amount for SC/ST candidates.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

44. In the context of elections in India, which of the following persons can be appointed as a polling agent?

1. Gram Panchayat Sarpanch
2. Person in the service of the Government
3. Chairperson of Municipality

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

41. भारत में राजनीतिक दलों के वित्तपोषण और चुनाव व्यय सीमा के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. चुनावों के दौरान राजनीतिक दलों द्वारा व्यय की जाने वाली राशि की कोई सीमा नहीं है।
2. राजनीतिक दलों के लिए कॉर्पोरेट अंशदानों की सीमा 7.5% है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

42. भारतीय राज्यों और उनकी संसदीय या विधानसभा सीटों के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. उत्तर प्रदेश में राज्यसभा सीटों की संख्या सर्वाधिक है।
2. झारखंड में अनुसूचित जनजातियों (STs) के लिए आरक्षित लोकसभा सीटों की संख्या सर्वाधिक है।
3. विधानसभा सीटों की संख्या के मामले में, महाराष्ट्र भारतीय राज्यों में दूसरे स्थान पर है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कितने सही हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) सभी तीनों
- (d) कोई नहीं

43. भारत में लोकसभा निर्वाचनों में निर्वाचन जमानत राशि के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. लोकसभा चुनाव लड़ने वाले प्रत्याशी की जमानत राशि, विधानसभा चुनाव लड़ने वाले प्रत्याशी की जमानत राशि के समान होती है।
2. यदि कोई प्रत्याशी अपने निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में डाले गए वैध मतों का कम-से-कम छठा भाग प्राप्त करने में विफल रहता है, तो उसकी जमानत राशि जब्त हो जाती है।
3. अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के प्रत्याशियों के लिए कोई जमानत राशि नहीं है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कितने सही हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) सभी तीनों
- (d) कोई नहीं

44. भारत में निर्वाचनों के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित में से किसे मतदान एजेंट नियुक्त किया जा सकता है?

1. ग्राम पंचायत सरपंच
2. सरकार की सेवा में कार्यरत व्यक्ति
3. नगरपालिका का अध्यक्ष

नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए।

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 1 और 3
- (c) केवल 2
- (d) केवल 2 और 3

- 45.** Consider the following statements:
1. While an opinion poll is conducted before balloting to gauge the intentions of voters, an exit survey is conducted after elections to find out who they actually voted for.
 2. While opinion polls can not be conducted for constituencies that have already voted, exit polls can be telecast only after completion of the final phase of polling.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- 46.** Bye-election is conducted in a constituency under which of the following conditions?

1. If a candidate is elected from more than one constituency
2. If an elected candidate dies
3. If the winning candidate resigns
4. In case of a tie among the top two candidates

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 2 and 4 only

- 47.** Which of the following documents are accepted for casting the vote?

1. PAN Card
2. Driving License
3. Passbooks with a photograph
4. MGNREGA Job Card

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1 and 3 only

- 48.** Consider the following information with respect to the Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slip during elections in India:

1. Candidate's photograph
2. Candidate's name
3. Party symbol
4. Voter's identity details

How many of the above are present on the Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slip?

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

- 49.** Who among the following is the chairman of Central Hindi Committee?

- (a) Union Minister of Culture
- (b) Union Minister of Education
- (c) Prime Minister of India
- (d) Union Home Minister

- 50.** With reference to Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), consider the following statements:

1. Provisions for the use of EVMs are provided under the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
2. EVM data is continuously monitored through a centralized storage server.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

45. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
- जनमत सर्वेक्षण (ओपिनियन पोल) मतदान से पहले मतदाताओं की मंशा जानने के लिए किया जाता है, जबकि एग्जिट पोल चुनावों के बाद यह पता लगाने के लिए किया जाता है कि वास्तव में उन्होंने किसे वोट दिया।
 - जनमत सर्वेक्षण उन निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में नहीं किए जा सकते जहाँ मतदान हो चुका है, जबकि एग्जिट पोल का प्रसारण केवल मतदान के अंतिम चरण के पूरा होने के बाद ही किया जा सकता है।
- उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?
- केवल 1
 - केवल 2
 - 1 और 2 दोनों
 - न तो 1, न ही 2
46. किसी निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में उप-निर्वाचन निम्नलिखित में से किन परिस्थितियों में कराए जाते हैं?
- यदि कोई प्रत्याशी एक से अधिक निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों से निर्वाचित हो जाए
 - यदि किसी निर्वाचित प्रत्याशी का निधन हो जाए
 - यदि विजयी प्रत्याशी त्यागपत्र दे देता है
 - यदि शीर्ष दो प्रत्याशियों के बीच बराबरी की स्थिति हो जाए।
- नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए।
- केवल 1, 2 और 3
 - केवल 1, 3 और 4
 - केवल 2, 3 और 4
 - केवल 2 और 4
47. निम्नलिखित में से कौन-से दस्तावेज मतदान करने के लिए स्वीकार किए जाते हैं?
- पैन कार्ड
 - ड्राइविंग लाइसेंस
 - फोटोग्राफ सहित पासबुक
 - मनरेगा जॉब कार्ड
- नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए।
- 1, 2, 3 और 4
 - केवल 1, 2 और 3
 - केवल 2 और 4
 - केवल 1 और 3

48. भारत में निर्वाचनों के दौरान वोटर वेरिफाइड पेपर ऑडिट ट्रेल (VVPAT) पर्ची के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित जानकारी पर विचार कीजिए:
- प्रत्याशी का फोटो
 - प्रत्याशी का नाम
 - पार्टी का चुनाव चिह्न
 - मतदाता की पहचान संबंधी विवरण
- उपर्युक्त में से कितने विवरण वोटर वेरिफाइड पेपर ऑडिट ट्रेल (VVPAT) पर्ची पर मौजूद होते हैं?
- केवल एक
 - केवल दो
 - केवल तीन
 - सभी चारों
49. निम्नलिखित में से केंद्रीय हिंदी समिति के अध्यक्ष कौन हैं?
- केंद्रीय संस्कृति मंत्री
 - केंद्रीय शिक्षा मंत्री
 - भारत के प्रधानमंत्री
 - केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री
50. इलेक्ट्रॉनिक वोटिंग मशीन (EVMs) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
- EVMs के उपयोग के प्रावधान लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 के अंतर्गत प्रदान किए गए हैं।
 - EVMs डेटा की एक केंद्रीकृत स्टोरेज सर्वर के माध्यम से निरंतर निगरानी की जाती है।
- उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?
- केवल 1
 - केवल 2
 - 1 और 2 दोनों
 - न तो 1, न ही 2

51. The Representation of the People Act, 1950 provides for which of the following?

1. Disqualifications for membership of state legislature
2. Qualifications of voters
3. Procedures for delimitation of constituencies

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

52. The practice of tendered votes in Indian elections is meant to

- (a) Allow voters without ID to vote
- (b) Replace lost postal ballots
- (c) Allow a genuine voter to vote if someone has already voted in their name
- (d) Allow only the personnel of the Indian Armed Forces to vote

53. Consider the following statements related to Indian political history:

1. The first coalition government at the Centre after independence was formed in 1977.
2. The Mandal Commission recommendations were implemented during the tenure of P.V. Narasimha Rao.
3. The Swatantra Party was formed during the tenure of Indira Gandhi.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

54. Consider the following statements about the Representation of the People Act, 1950:

1. It lays down the maximum and minimum number of seats in the Legislative Council of a State.
2. It provides for the appointment of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

55. In the context of the political and electoral Reforms in India, arrange the following in chronological order.

1. Voting rights extended to Non-Resident Indians (NRIs).
2. Disclosure of criminal records along with nomination papers made compulsory.
3. Introduction of NOTA option in General Election to State Legislative Assemblies.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

56. Consider the following statements regarding the Delimitation Commission:

1. It demarcates the boundaries of both the Parliamentary Constituencies and Assembly constituencies.
2. It is chaired by the sitting or a retired Judge of the Supreme Court.
3. The orders of the Commission cannot be modified by the Parliament.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

51. लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1950 निम्नलिखित में से किसके लिए उपबंध करता है?

1. राज्य विधानमंडल की सदस्यता के लिए निरर्हताएं
 2. मतदाताओं की अर्हताएं
 3. निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों के परिसीमन की प्रक्रियाएं
- नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए।
- (a) केवल 1 और 2
(b) केवल 2 और 3
(c) केवल 1
(d) 1, 2 और 3

52. भारतीय निर्वाचनों में 'टेंडर्ड मत' देने की प्रथा का उद्देश्य है

- (a) बिना पहचान पत्र वाले मतदाताओं को मतदान करने की अनुमति देना
- (b) खोए हुए डाक मतपत्रों को बदलना
- (c) यदि किसी मतदाता के नाम पर पहले ही किसी अन्य ने मतदान कर दिया हो, तो वास्तविक मतदाता को मतदान करने की अनुमति देना
- (d) केवल भारतीय सशस्त्र बलों के कर्मियों को ही मतदान करने की अनुमति देना

53. भारतीय राजनीतिक इतिहास से संबंधित निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. स्वतंत्रता के बाद केंद्र में प्रथम गठबंधन सरकार 1977 में बनी थी।
2. मंडल आयोग की सिफारिशें पी.वी. नरसिम्हा राव के कार्यकाल में लागू की गई थीं।
3. स्वतंत्र पार्टी का गठन इंदिरा गांधी के कार्यकाल में हुआ था।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कितने सही हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) सभी तीनों
(d) कोई नहीं

54. लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1950 के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह किसी राज्य की विधान परिषद में सीटों की अधिकतम और न्यूनतम संख्या निर्धारित करता है।
2. यह मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी (CEO) की नियुक्ति का प्रावधान करता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
(b) केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों
(d) न तो 1, न ही 2

55. भारत में राजनीतिक और निर्वाचन सुधारों के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित को कालानुक्रमिक क्रम में व्यवस्थित कीजिए।

1. अनिवासी भारतीयों (NRIs) को मताधिकार प्रदान किया गया।
2. नामांकन पत्र के साथ आपराधिक पृष्ठभूमि का प्रकटीकरण अनिवार्य किया गया।
3. राज्य विधानसभाओं के आम चुनावों में नोटा विकल्प की शुरुआत।

नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए।

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

56. परिसीमन आयोग के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों और विधानसभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों, दोनों की सीमाओं का सीमांकन करता है।
2. इसकी अध्यक्षता उच्चतम न्यायालय के वर्तमान या सेवानिवृत्त न्यायाधीश करते हैं।
3. आयोग के आदेशों को संसद द्वारा संशोधित नहीं किया जा सकता।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-से सही हैं?

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
(b) केवल 2 और 3
(c) केवल 1 और 3
(d) 1, 2 और 3

57. Which of the following are the functions of the National Center for Good Governance?
1. To be a think tank for governance & policy reforms, cutting across administrative, social, economic, and financial spheres.
 2. To function as a national repository on information on best practices, initiatives, and methodologies that promote Good Governance.
 3. To promote sharing and replication of innovative ideas and best practices in Governance.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
58. Which of the following is/are barriers to good governance?
1. Excessive centralization
 2. Inadequate capacity building
 3. Weak institutional structure
 4. Citizens' unwillingness to abide to laws.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
59. The Prime Minister of India recently inaugurated the world's highest railway arch bridge, which is built over which river?
- (a) Jhelum
(b) Godavari
(c) Chenab
(d) Brahmaputra

60. With reference to India, consider the following pairs of military exercises and their partner countries:
- | Exercise | Partner Country |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Exercise Shakti | : France |
| 2. Exercise Ekuverin | : Maldives |
| 3. Passage Exercise (PASSEX) | : United Kingdom |
- How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?
- (a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None
61. The term "Bunny Hop", recently seen in the news, is associated with which of the following?
- (a) A space docking procedure involving two consecutive orbital transfers
(b) A wildlife conservation initiative for translocating endangered hares
(c) A catching technique in a sport where the player handles the ball mid-air outside the field
(d) A cyber-security vulnerability involving repeated jump protocol bypasses
62. Recently, Khichan and Menar wetlands of India were added to the Ramsar list as wetlands of international importance. These are located in which of the following states?
- (a) Gujarat
(b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Uttar Pradesh
(d) Rajasthan

57. राष्ट्रीय सुशासन केंद्र के निम्नलिखित में से कौन-से कार्य हैं?

1. प्रशासनिक, सामाजिक, आर्थिक एवं वित्तीय क्षेत्रों के मध्य एवं शासन एवं नीतिगत सुधारों के लिए विचार-मंडल होना।
2. सुशासन को बढ़ावा देने वाली श्रेष्ठ प्रथाओं, पहलों और कार्य-पद्धतियों के राष्ट्रीय सूचना कोष के रूप में कार्य करना।
3. शासन में नवाचारी विचारों और श्रेष्ठ प्रथाओं के साझाकरण और रेप्लिकेशन (अनुकरण) को प्रोत्साहित करना।

नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए।

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
- (b) केवल 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 3
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

58. निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा/से सुशासन में बाधा है/हैं?

1. अत्यधिक केंद्रीकरण
2. अपर्याप्त क्षमता निर्माण
3. कमजोर संस्थागत प्रणालियां
4. नागरिकों द्वारा कानूनों के अनुपालन के प्रति उदासीन दृष्टिकोण

नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए।

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
- (b) केवल 1, 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 3
- (d) 1, 2, 3 और 4

59. भारत के प्रधानमंत्री ने हाल ही में विश्व के सबसे ऊंचे रेलवे आर्च ब्रिज का उद्घाटन किया। यह पुल किस नदी पर बनाया गया है?

- (a) झेलम
- (b) गोदावरी
- (c) चिनाब
- (d) ब्रह्मपुत्र

60. भारत के संदर्भ में, सैन्य अभ्यासों और उनके साझेदार देशों के निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार कीजिए:

अभ्यास	साझेदार देश
1. शक्ति अभ्यास	: फ्रांस
2. एकुवेरिन अभ्यास	: मालदीव
3. पैसेज अभ्यास	: यूनाइटेड किंगडम (PASSEX)

उपर्युक्त युग्मों में से कितने सही सुमेलित हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) सभी तीनों
- (d) कोई नहीं

61. हाल ही में सुर्खियों में रहा पद “बनी हॉप” निम्नलिखित में से किससे संबंधित है?

- (a) एक अंतरिक्ष डॉकिंग प्रक्रिया जिसमें दो क्रमागत कक्षीय स्थानांतरण शामिल हैं
- (b) संकटग्रस्त खरगोशों के स्थानांतरण हेतु एक वन्यजीव संरक्षण पहल
- (c) खेल में एक कैचिंग तकनीक जिसमें खिलाड़ी बाउंड्री के बाहर जाकर हवा में गेंद को पकड़ता है
- (d) एक साइबर-सुरक्षा भेद्यता जिसमें बार-बार जंप प्रोटोकॉल बाईपास शामिल हैं

62. हाल ही में, भारत की खीचन तथा मेनार आर्द्रभूमियों को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय महत्व की आर्द्रभूमि के रूप में रामसर सूची में शामिल किया गया है। ये आर्द्रभूमियाँ निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य में अवस्थित हैं?

- (a) गुजरात
- (b) मध्य प्रदेश
- (c) उत्तर प्रदेश
- (d) राजस्थान

63. With reference to the Global Gender Gap Report 2025, consider the following statements:

1. The Global Gender Gap Report is published annually by the International Labour Organization.
2. India is ranked 131st out of 148 countries on the Global Gender Gap Index 2025.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

64. With reference to the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body constituted under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.
2. It advises the central and state governments on policy matters and reviews conservation efforts.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

65. Consider the following pairs:

Products (GI Tag)	States/UTs
1. Ozzo Feni	: Goa
2. Pilkhuwa Hand Block Print Textile	: Uttar Pradesh
3. Padauk Wood Craft	: Andaman & Nicobar Islands

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

66. National Statistics Day is celebrated annually in India to mark the birth anniversary of which eminent personality?

- (a) P. C. Mahalanobis
- (b) C. V. Raman
- (c) Abhijit Banerjee
- (d) Rabindranath Tagore

67. With reference to the Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4), consider the following statements:

1. The mission was launched on a Falcon 9 rocket.
2. Shubhanshu Shukla is India's first national astronaut to travel to space since Independence.
3. The mission seeks to enhance understanding of biological processes in space.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

68. The "Special 301 Report", often seen in the news, is related to:

- (a) Global climate change mitigation efforts under the UNFCCC framework
- (b) Intellectual property rights protection and enforcement in U.S. trading partner countries
- (c) Monitoring of human rights practices by the United Nations Human Rights Council
- (d) Review of global trade imbalances by the World Trade Organization

63. वैश्विक लैंगिक अंतराल रिपोर्ट 2025 के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. वैश्विक लैंगिक अंतराल रिपोर्ट अंतर्राष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन द्वारा प्रतिवर्ष प्रकाशित की जाती है।
2. वैश्विक लैंगिक अंतराल सूचकांक 2025 में भारत 148 देशों में से 131वें स्थान पर है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

64. राष्ट्रीय वन्यजीव बोर्ड (NBWL) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह जैव विविधता अधिनियम, 2002 के तहत गठित एक वैधानिक निकाय है।
2. यह केंद्र एवं राज्य सरकारों को नीतिगत मामलों पर परामर्श देता है और संरक्षण प्रयासों की समीक्षा करता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

65. निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार कीजिए:

उत्पाद (जीआई टैग) राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र

1. ओज़ो फेनी : गोवा
2. पिलखुवा हैंड ब्लॉक : उत्तर प्रदेश
3. पडौक काष्ठ शिल्प : अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह

उपर्युक्त युग्मों में से कितने सही सुमेलित हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) सभी तीनों
- (d) कोई नहीं

66. भारत में राष्ट्रीय सांख्यिकी दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस प्रख्यात व्यक्तित्व की जयंती के उपलक्ष्य में मनाया जाता है?

- (a) पी. सी. महालनोबिस
- (b) सी. वी. रमन
- (c) अभिजीत बनर्जी
- (d) रवींद्रनाथ टैगोर

67. एक्सओम मिशन 4 (Ax-4) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह मिशन फाल्कन 9 रॉकेट से प्रक्षेपित किया गया था।
2. शुभांशु शुक्ला स्वतंत्रता के पश्चात् अंतरिक्ष की यात्रा करने वाले भारत के पहले राष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष यात्री हैं।
3. यह मिशन अंतरिक्ष में जैव प्रक्रियाओं की समझ को बढ़ाएगा।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-से सही हैं?

- (a) केवल 1 और 2
- (b) केवल 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 3
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

68. प्रायः सुर्खियों में रहने वाली “स्पेशल 301 रिपोर्ट” संबंधित है:

- (a) यूएनएफसीसीसी संरचना के अंतर्गत वैश्विक जलवायु परिवर्तन शमन प्रयास से
- (b) अमेरिकी व्यापारिक साझेदार देशों में बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकारों के संरक्षण और प्रवर्तन से
- (c) संयुक्त राष्ट्र मानवाधिकार परिषद द्वारा मानवाधिकार प्रथाओं की निगरानी से
- (d) विश्व व्यापार संगठन द्वारा वैश्विक व्यापार असंतुलन की समीक्षा से

69. Consider the following pairs :

Festival	States
-----------------	---------------

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Ambubachi Mela | : Assam |
| 2. Shirui Lily Festival | : Kerala |
| 3. Thrissur Pooram | : Manipur |

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) All three pairs
- (d) None of the pairs

70. The term “Orange Economy”, sometimes mentioned in the news, primarily refers to:

- (a) Agro-processing and food technology industries
- (b) Creative and cultural industries including arts, design, and media
- (c) Artificial Intelligence and advanced digital technologies
- (d) Solar power and sustainable energy innovations

71. The Tankai method, recently seen in the news, is related to:

- (a) traditional rice cultivation in coastal areas
- (b) handloom weaving using natural dyes
- (c) ancient Indian boat-building technique using stitched planks
- (d) stone carving for temple architecture

72. The Banakacherla Project, recently seen in the news, is related to:

- (a) interlinking of rivers in Andhra Pradesh
- (b) construction of a new coastal port in Gujarat
- (c) expansion of an irrigation canal in Rajasthan
- (d) building a hydropower dam in Odisha

73. Amolops shillong, recently discovered in Meghalaya by the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), belongs to which group of organisms?

- (a) Reptiles
- (b) Fish
- (c) Bird
- (d) Frog

74. Project Kusha, being developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), is related to which of the following?

- (a) An Indigenous nuclear-powered submarine program
- (b) A Long-range air defence missile system
- (c) A Hypersonic glide vehicle program
- (d) An Anti-satellite weapon system

75. The World Press Freedom Index is published annually by which of the following organizations?

- (a) Amnesty International
- (b) Reporters Without Borders
- (c) International Press Institute
- (d) Committee to Protect Journalists

76. The salaries, allowances, and other terms and conditions of service of the State Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and State Information Commissioners (ICs) are determined by:

- (a) The Governor of the State
- (b) The President of India
- (c) The Central Government
- (d) The respective state governments

69. निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार कीजिए:
- | उत्सव | राज्य |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 1. अंबुबाची मेला | : असम |
| 2. शिरुई लिली महोत्सव | : केरल |
| 3. त्रिशूर पूरम | : मणिपुर |
- उपर्युक्त युग्मों में से कितने सही सुमेलित हैं?
- (a) केवल एक युग्म
(b) केवल दो युग्म
(c) सभी तीनों युग्म
(d) कोई नहीं
70. प्रायः सुर्खियों में रहने वाला "ऑरेंज इकोनॉमी" शब्द मुख्यतः संबंधित है;
- (a) कृषि-प्रसंस्करण और खाद्य प्रौद्योगिकी उद्योग से
(b) कला, डिज़ाइन और मीडिया सहित रचनात्मक एवं सांस्कृतिक उद्योग से
(c) कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता और उन्नत डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकियों से
(d) सौर ऊर्जा एवं सतत ऊर्जा नवाचार से
71. प्रायः सुर्खियों में रहने वाली टंकाई पद्धति संबंधित है;
- (a) तटीय क्षेत्रों में पारंपरिक चावल की खेती से
(b) प्राकृतिक रंगों का उपयोग करके की जाने वाली हथकरघा बुनाई से
(c) सिले हुए तख्तों से नाव-बनाने की प्राचीन भारतीय तकनीक से
(d) मंदिर वास्तुकला में प्रयोग की जाने वाली पत्थर की नक्काशी से
72. प्रायः सुर्खियों में रहने वाली बनकाचेरला परियोजना संबंधित है;
- (a) आंध्र प्रदेश में नदियों को आपस में जोड़ने से
(b) गुजरात में एक नए तटीय बंदरगाह के निर्माण से
(c) राजस्थान में एक सिंचाई नहर का विस्तार करने से
(d) ओडिशा में एक जलविद्युत बांध के निर्माण से

73. हाल ही में भारतीय प्राणी सर्वेक्षण (ZSI) द्वारा मेघालय में खोजा गया अमोलॉप्स शिलांग, निम्नलिखित में से जीवों के किस समूह से संबंधित है?
- (a) सरीसृप
(b) मछली
(c) पक्षी
(d) मेंढक
74. रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (DRDO) द्वारा विकसित किया जा रहा प्रोजेक्ट कुश, निम्नलिखित में से किससे संबंधित है?
- (a) एक स्वदेशी परमाणु ऊर्जा चालित पनडुब्बी कार्यक्रम से
(b) एक लंबी दूरी की वायु रक्षा मिसाइल प्रणाली से
(c) एक हाइपरसोनिक ग्लाइड वाहन कार्यक्रम से
(d) एक उपग्रह-रोधी हथियार प्रणाली से
75. प्रतिवर्ष विश्व प्रेस स्वतंत्रता सूचकांक निम्नलिखित में से किस संगठन द्वारा प्रकाशित किया जाता है?
- (a) एमनेस्टी इंटरनेशनल
(b) रिपोर्टर्स विदाउट बॉर्डर्स
(c) इंटरनेशनल प्रेस इंस्टीट्यूट
(d) कमिटी टू प्रोटेक्ट जर्नलिस्ट
76. राज्य के मुख्य सूचना आयुक्त (CIC) और राज्य सूचना आयुक्तों (ICs) के वेतन, भत्ते और सेवा की अन्य शर्तें निम्नलिखित में से किसके द्वारा निर्धारित की जाती हैं?
- (a) राज्य के राज्यपाल
(b) भारत के राष्ट्रपति
(c) केंद्र सरकार
(d) संबंधित राज्य सरकारें

- 77.** Consider the following statements regarding the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC):
1. The Committee on Prevention of Corruption, headed by Shri K. Santhanam had recommended formation of CVC.
 2. CVC is not controlled by any Ministry/Department of Government of India.
 3. It is not mandated to investigate on its own and gets it done by the Central Bureau of Investigation.
- How many statements given above are correct?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 78.** Consider the following statements regarding Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities:
1. The original constitution did not make any provision with respect to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.
 2. The Constitution of India contains detailed procedure for removal of Special Officers for Linguistic Minorities.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 79.** Consider the following organizations/bodies in India:
1. National Medical Commission
 2. National Statistical Commission
 3. National Commission for Women
 4. Bar Council of India
- How many of the above are statutory bodies?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) Only three
 - (d) All four

- 80.** Consider the following statement with respect to Tribunals:
1. Provision with respect to creation of tribunals was added through the 44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978.
 2. The Parliament is empowered to establish tribunals for the adjudication of disputes related to the public services of local bodies.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 81.** With reference to the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India (CAG), consider the following statements:
1. Article 148 of Indian Constitution deals with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
 2. As per the Constitution of India, CAG is eligible for further office under the Government of India after he has ceased to hold his office.
 3. CAG approves the withdrawal of money by the executive from the public exchequer.
- Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?
- (a) 3 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 2 only
 - (d) 1 and 3 only

77. केंद्रीय सतर्कता आयोग (CVC) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. श्री के. संथानम की अध्यक्षता वाली भ्रष्टाचार निवारण समिति ने CVC के गठन की सिफारिश की थी।
2. CVC भारत सरकार के किसी मंत्रालय/विभाग द्वारा नियंत्रित नहीं है।
3. इसे स्वयं जांच करने का अधिकार नहीं है और यह केंद्रीय जांच ब्यूरो से जांच करवाता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कितने सही हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) सभी तीनों
- (d) कोई नहीं

78. भाषाई अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए विशेष अधिकारी के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. मूल संविधान में भाषाई अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए विशेष अधिकारी के संबंध में कोई प्रावधान नहीं था।
2. भारत के संविधान में भाषाई अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए विशेष अधिकारियों को हटाने की विस्तृत प्रक्रिया का प्रावधान है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

79. भारत में निम्नलिखित संगठनों/निकायों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. राष्ट्रीय चिकित्सा आयोग
2. राष्ट्रीय सांख्यिकी आयोग
3. राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग
4. भारतीय विधिज्ञ परिषद

उपर्युक्त में से कितने वैधानिक निकाय हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) केवल तीन
- (d) सभी चारों

80. न्यायाधिकरणों के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. न्यायाधिकरणों की स्थापना से संबंधित प्रावधान 44वें संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम, 1978 के माध्यम से जोड़ा गया था।
2. संसद को स्थानीय निकायों की लोक सेवाओं से संबंधित विवादों के निपटान के लिए न्यायाधिकरण स्थापित करने का अधिकार प्राप्त है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

81. भारत के नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. भारतीय संविधान का अनुच्छेद 148 नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) से संबंधित है।
2. भारतीय संविधान के अनुसार, CAG के पद से मुक्त होने के बाद वह भारत सरकार के अधीन किसी अन्य पद के लिए पात्र होता है।
3. कार्यपालिका द्वारा सार्वजनिक कोष से धन आहरण की स्वीकृति नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) प्रदान करता है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही नहीं है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 3
- (b) केवल 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 2
- (d) केवल 1 और 3

82. Consider the following statements with respect to legal proceedings against government officials:

1. The judicial officers enjoy immunity from any liability in respect of their official acts.
2. The State must be liable for all tortuous acts of its employees, whether done in exercise of sovereign or non-sovereign powers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

83. Consider the following statements with respect to the NITI Aayog:

1. The Prime Minister of India is the Chairperson of the NITI Aayog Governing Council.
2. Governing Council comprises the Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Cabinet Ministers.
3. Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the President for a fixed tenure in the rank of Secretary to the Government of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

84. Which one of the following statements is *not* correct regarding the Official Languages Act, 1963?

- (a) It provided for setting up of a committee of Parliament to review progress on use of Hindi for the official purpose of the Union.
- (b) It provided that English should be used for purposes of communication between the Union and the non-Hindi states.
- (c) Every Bill introduced in the Parliament is accompanied by a Hindi translation.
- (d) It introduced Hindi, written in the Devanagari script, as the official language of the Union.

85. The National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution recommended the insertion of which among the following provisions into the Constitution of India?

1. A new Directive Principle on control of population should be added.
2. An independent National Education Commission should be set-up every five years
3. Fundamental Duty to pay taxes

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

82. सरकारी अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध कानूनी कार्यवाही के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. न्यायिक अधिकारियों को उनके आधिकारिक कार्यों के संबंध में किसी भी दायित्व से प्रतिरक्षा प्राप्त होती है।
2. राज्य अपने कर्मचारियों के सभी अपकृत्यों के लिए उत्तरदायी होगा, चाहे वे संप्रभु या गैर-संप्रभु शक्तियों के प्रयोग में किए गए हों।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

83. नीति आयोग के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. भारत के प्रधानमंत्री नीति आयोग की शासी परिषद (गवर्निंग काउंसिल) के अध्यक्ष होते हैं।
2. शासी परिषद में सभी राज्यों के मुख्यमंत्री और केंद्रीय कैबिनेट मंत्री शामिल होते हैं।
3. मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी को राष्ट्रपति द्वारा निर्धारित कार्यकाल के लिए भारत सरकार के सचिव के पद के समकक्ष रैंक में नियुक्त किया जाता है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 1 और 2
- (c) केवल 1 और 3
- (d) केवल 2 और 3

84. निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा कथन राजभाषा अधिनियम, 1963 के संदर्भ में, सही नहीं है?

- (a) इस अधिनियम ने संसद की एक समिति के गठन का प्रावधान किया ताकि संघ के आधिकारिक कार्यों में हिंदी के उपयोग की प्रगति की समीक्षा की जा सके।
- (b) अधिनियम ने प्रावधान किया कि संघ और गैर-हिंदी भाषी राज्यों के बीच संप्रेषण के लिए अंग्रेजी का उपयोग किया जाएगा।
- (c) संसद में प्रस्तुत प्रत्येक विधेयक के साथ हिंदी अनुवाद संलग्न होता है।
- (d) इस अधिनियम ने देवनागरी लिपि में लिखी गई हिंदी को संघ की राजभाषा के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया।

85. राष्ट्रीय संविधान कार्यकरण समीक्षा आयोग ने भारत के संविधान में निम्नलिखित में से किन प्रावधानों को जोड़ने की सिफारिश की थी?

1. जनसंख्या नियंत्रण पर एक नया निदेशक सिद्धांत जोड़ा जाए।
2. प्रत्येक पांच वर्षों में एक स्वतंत्र राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा आयोग का गठन किया जाए।
3. करों के भुगतान को मौलिक कर्तव्य में शामिल किया जाए।

नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए:

- (a) केवल 2 और 3
- (b) केवल 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 2
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

- 86.** Consider the following statements with reference to the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013:

Statement-I: Prime Minister comes under the jurisdiction of Lokpal.

Statement-II: Lokpal can suo-moto proceed against any public servant.

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

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

- 87.** Consider the following statements with respect to Cooperative societies:

- 1. The number of directors on the board of a cooperative society shall not exceed twenty-one.
- 2. Members of a cooperative society have equal voting rights regardless of their capital contribution.
- 3. There is no provision of reservation of seats for women in the cooperative society board.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- 88.** Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)?

- 1. The recommendations of NHRC to the concerned government or authority are advisory in nature.
- 2. There is no timeframe for NHRC for initiating an inquiry into a matter of violation of human rights.
- 3. It can not inquire into any violation of human rights by a public servant.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

- 89.** The Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) functions under which of the following Bodies/Ministries?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) National Statistical Commission
- (c) Ministry of Finance
- (d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

- 90.** Consider the following statements regarding Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC):

- 1. It is created by an act of parliament at the request of the concerned state legislatures.
- 2. The annual performance report of the Joint Public Service Commission is placed before the Houses of Parliament by the President.
- 3. The chairman and members of the commission may resign from their office by submitting their resignation letters to the concerned State Governors.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

86. लोकपाल और लोकायुक्त अधिनियम, 2013 के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

कथन-I: प्रधानमंत्री लोकपाल के क्षेत्राधिकार के अंतर्गत आते हैं।

कथन-II: लोकपाल किसी भी लोक सेवक के विरुद्ध स्वतः संज्ञान ले सकता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा विकल्प सही है?

- (a) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं और कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या है।
- (b) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं किंतु कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या नहीं है।
- (c) कथन-I सही है किंतु कथन-II गलत है।
- (d) कथन-I गलत है किंतु कथन-II सही है।

87. सहकारी समितियों के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. सहकारी समिति के निदेशक मंडल में सदस्यों की संख्या इक्कीस से अधिक नहीं हो सकती है।
2. सहकारी समिति के सदस्यों को समान मताधिकार प्राप्त है, चाहे उनका पूंजी अंशदान कुछ भी हो।
3. सहकारी समिति के मंडल (बोर्ड) में महिलाओं के लिए सीटों के आरक्षण का कोई प्रावधान नहीं है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) 1, 2 और 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 2
- (d) केवल 2 और 3

88. राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

1. NHRC की संबंधित सरकार या प्राधिकरण को दी गई सिफारिशें परामर्शात्मक प्रकृति की होती हैं।
2. मानवाधिकार उल्लंघन के मामले में NHRC द्वारा जांच शुरू करने के लिए कोई समय-सीमा निर्धारित नहीं है।
3. यह आयोग किसी लोक सेवक द्वारा मानवाधिकार के उल्लंघन की जांच नहीं कर सकता है।

नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए:

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2 और 3
- (c) 1, 2 और 3
- (d) केवल 1 और 2

89. विकास निगरानी और मूल्यांकन कार्यालय (DMEO) निम्नलिखित में से किस संस्था/मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत कार्य करता है?

- (a) नीति आयोग
- (b) राष्ट्रीय सांख्यिकी आयोग
- (c) वित्त मंत्रालय
- (d) सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय

90. संयुक्त राज्य लोक सेवा आयोग (JSPSC) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह संबंधित राज्य विधानमंडलों के अनुरोध पर संसद के अधिनियम द्वारा गठित किया जाता है।
2. संयुक्त लोक सेवा आयोग की वार्षिक प्रदर्शन रिपोर्ट राष्ट्रपति द्वारा संसद के सदनों के समक्ष प्रस्तुत की जाती है।
3. आयोग के अध्यक्ष और सदस्य संबंधित राज्य के राज्यपालों को अपना त्यागपत्र प्रस्तुत करके अपने पद से इस्तीफा दे सकते हैं।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) सभी तीनों
- (d) कोई नहीं

91. Consider the following statements with reference to the official language of the states:

1. In choosing the official language, a state is not bound to choose the languages enumerated in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.
2. As per the Constitution of India, the state legislature can declare only one language as an official language.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

92. Consider the following statements about the Foreigners Tribunals:

1. The district magistrates in all States and Union Territories are empowered to set up foreigners tribunals.
2. They have power equivalent to that of a Civil Court.
3. The power to declare a person as foreigner lies with these tribunals only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

93. Through which Constitutional Amendment Act was the Sindhi language added to the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution?

- (a) 42nd Amendment Act of 1976
- (b) 71st Amendment Act of 1992
- (c) 21st Amendment Act of 1967
- (d) 92nd Amendment Act of 2003

94. With reference to the Law Commission of India, consider the following statements:

1. The Law Commission of India is a statutory body.
2. It is responsible for setting standards of legal education in India.
3. It submits its report to the President of India.

How many of the statements given above are **not** correct?

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

95. Consider the following statements with respect to provisions related to cooperative societies:

1. The 97th Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2011 provided constitutional status to multi-state cooperative societies.
2. The subject 'cooperative societies' falls under the concurrent list of the Indian Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

96. Consider the following statement with respect to GST Council:

1. The voting weightage is divided equally between the Union government and all the State governments combined.
2. Its recommendations are binding on both the Union and States government.
3. A minimum of 75% of the weighted votes is required to pass a resolution.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

91. राज्यों की राजभाषा के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. राजभाषा के चयन में राज्य संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची में उल्लिखित भाषाओं को अपनाने के लिए बाध्य नहीं है।
2. भारतीय संविधान के अनुसार, राज्य विधानमंडल केवल एक भाषा को ही राजभाषा घोषित कर सकता है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

92. विदेशी न्यायाधिकरणों के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. सभी राज्यों और संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों में जिला मजिस्ट्रेटों को विदेशी न्यायाधिकरण स्थापित करने का अधिकार प्राप्त है।
2. विदेशी न्यायाधिकरणों के पास दीवानी (सिविल) न्यायालय के समकक्ष शक्तियां होती हैं।
3. किसी व्यक्ति को विदेशी घोषित करने का अधिकार केवल विदेशी न्यायाधिकरणों को प्राप्त है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 2 और 3
- (b) केवल 3
- (c) केवल 1 और 2
- (d) 1, 2 और 3

93. भारतीय संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची में सिंधी भाषा को किस संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम के माध्यम से जोड़ा गया था?

- (a) 1976 का 42वां संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम
- (b) 1992 का 71वां संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम
- (c) 1967 का 21वां संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम
- (d) 2003 का 92वां संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम

94. भारत के विधि आयोग के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. भारत का विधि आयोग एक सांविधिक निकाय है।
2. यह भारत में विधिक शिक्षा के मानक निर्धारित करने के लिए उत्तरदायी है।
3. यह अपनी रिपोर्ट भारत के राष्ट्रपति को प्रस्तुत करता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कितने सही **नहीं** हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) सभी तीनों
- (d) कोई नहीं

95. सहकारी समितियों से संबंधित प्रावधानों के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. 97वें संविधान (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2011 ने बहु-राज्य सहकारी समितियों को संवैधानिक दर्जा प्रदान किया।
2. 'सहकारी समितियां' विषय भारतीय संविधान की समवर्ती सूची के अंतर्गत शामिल है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2
- (c) 1 और 2 दोनों
- (d) न तो 1, न ही 2

96. जी.एस.टी. परिषद के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथन पर विचार कीजिए:

1. मतदान का भारांश केन्द्र सरकार और सभी राज्य सरकारों के मध्य समान रूप से विभाजित है।
2. इसकी अनुशंसाएं संघ और राज्यों दोनों पर बाध्यकारी होती हैं।
3. किसी प्रस्ताव को पारित करने के लिए न्यूनतम 75% भारित मतों की आवश्यकता होती है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कितने सही हैं?

- (a) केवल एक
- (b) केवल दो
- (c) सभी तीनों
- (d) कोई नहीं

- 97.** Which one of the following statements about National Green Tribunal (NGT) is correct?
- (a) The decisions of NGT are final and cannot be challenged in the Supreme Court.
 - (b) A judge of High court can be appointed as judicial member of the NGT.
 - (c) The NGT has jurisdiction over all civil and criminal cases involving a substantial question relating to environment.
 - (d) All members of NGT hold office till the age of seventy years.

- 98.** Consider the following statements regarding the Competition Commission of India (CCI):
- 1. It is a statutory body responsible for enforcing the Companies Act, 2013.
 - 2. Only a person who is qualified to be a judge of a High Court can be appointed as its Chairperson.
 - 3. It was established to replace the Competition Appellate Tribunal.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 3 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) 3 only
 - (d) None

- 99.** Consider the following statements regarding the functions of the National Commission for Women:
- 1. It can take suo moto notice of matters relating to the non-implementation of laws enacted to provide protection to women.
 - 2. It extends micro-credit to the women in the informal sector through a client-friendly, without collateral, and in a hassle-free manner
 - 3. It can fund litigation involving issues affecting a large number of women.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1 only

- 100.** With reference to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC), consider the following statements:
- 1. The 102nd Constitution Amendment Act added Article 338 B and changed NCBC from a statutory to a constitutional body.
 - 2. It presents an annual report to the President.
 - 3. The Commission, while investigating any matter or enquiring into any complaint, has all the powers of a civil court.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3

97. राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण (एन.जी.टी.) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों में से कौन-सा सही है?
- एन.जी.टी. के निर्णय अंतिम होते हैं और उन्हें उच्चतम न्यायालय में चुनौती नहीं दी जा सकती।
 - उच्च न्यायालय का एक न्यायाधीश एन.जी.टी. का न्यायिक सदस्य नियुक्त किया जा सकता है।
 - एन.जी.टी. को पर्यावरण से संबंधित किसी महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न से जुड़े सभी दीवानी और आपराधिक मामलों पर क्षेत्राधिकार प्राप्त है।
 - एन.जी.टी. के सभी सदस्य सत्तर वर्ष की आयु तक पद पर बने रहते हैं।

98. भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

- यह एक सांविधिक निकाय है जो कंपनी अधिनियम, 2013 को लागू करने के लिए उत्तरदायी है।
- इसका अध्यक्ष केवल उसी व्यक्ति को नियुक्त किया जा सकता है जो उच्च न्यायालय का न्यायाधीश बनने की योग्यता रखता हो।
- इसकी स्थापना प्रतिस्पर्धा अपीलीय अधिकरण को प्रतिस्थापित करने के लिए की गई थी।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- केवल 1 और 3
- केवल 2
- केवल 3
- कोई नहीं

99. राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग के कार्यों के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

- यह महिलाओं की सुरक्षा हेतु बनाए गए कानूनों के अनुपालन न होने से संबंधित मामलों पर स्वतः संज्ञान ले सकता है।
- यह अनौपचारिक क्षेत्र की महिलाओं को ग्राहक-अनुकूल, बिना किसी संपार्श्विक के, तथा परेशानी मुक्त तरीके से सूक्ष्म ऋण उपलब्ध कराता है।
- यह बड़ी संख्या में महिलाओं को प्रभावित करने वाले मुद्दों से संबंधित मुकदमों को वित्तपोषित कर सकता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

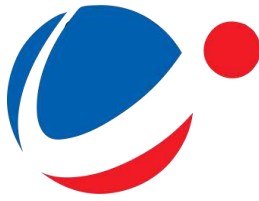
- केवल 1 और 2
- केवल 2
- केवल 1 और 3
- केवल 1

100. राष्ट्रीय पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग (एन.सी.बी.सी.) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

- 102वें संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम के माध्यम से अनुच्छेद 338B जोड़ा गया तथा एन.सी.बी.सी. को एक सांविधिक निकाय से एक संवैधानिक निकाय में परिवर्तित किया गया।
- यह राष्ट्रपति को वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत करता है।
- किसी भी मामले की जांच या किसी शिकायत की जांच करते समय आयोग को दीवानी न्यायालय की सभी शक्तियां प्राप्त होती हैं।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- केवल 1 और 2
- केवल 3
- केवल 1 और 3
- 1, 2 और 3



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ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

GENERAL STUDIES (P) TEST – 6320 (2026)

Q 1.C

- **Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005**
 - The Right to Information Act, 2005, is a landmark legislation aimed at promoting transparency and accountability in the functioning of public authorities. It empowers citizens to seek information from government bodies, thereby acting as a powerful tool to combat corruption and ensure good governance.
 - The Act covers all constitutional authorities, including the executive, legislature, and judiciary, and extends to any institution established by an Act of Parliament or state legislature, as well as government-controlled companies, societies, and trusts.
- **Exemptions under the RTI Act**
 - **Section 8 – Information-based exemptions**
 - > Section 8 specifies categories of information that cannot be disclosed, such as:
 - ✓ National security matters.
 - ✓ Commercial confidence and trade secrets.
 - ✓ Information that would endanger a person's life or physical safety.
 - ✓ Personal information unrelated to public interest.
 - ✓ These exemptions apply to specific information, not to entire organisations.
 - Section 24 – Organisation-based exemptions
 - > **Certain security and intelligence organisations of the Central Government are completely exempt from the RTI Act** (except in cases of allegations of corruption or human rights violations). **Hence, statement II is not correct.**
 - > This list is given in the Second Schedule of the Act and includes:
 - ✓ **Directorate of Enforcement (ED). Hence statement I is correct.**
 - ✓ Intelligence Bureau (IB)
 - ✓ Research & Analysis Wing (R&AW)
 - ✓ Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)
 - ✓ Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)
 - ✓ Aviation Research Centre (ARC)
 - ✓ Border Security Force (BSF)
 - ✓ Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
 - ✓ Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
 - ✓ National Security Guard (NSG)

Q 2.B

- **e-FIR:**
 - An e-FIR is an online version of the traditional First Information Report (FIR), introduced to simplify crime reporting and provide easy access for the public to register complaints without physically visiting a police station.
 - Contrary to the belief that it is only for cybercrime-related cases, an e-FIR can be used to report a wide range of offences, irrespective of whether the offender is known or unknown. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Scope of e-FIR:**
 - It is not limited to any single category of offence — **both cognizable and non-cognizable** offences can be reported through this mechanism. The e-FIR records detailed information about the offence, complainant, accused, and witnesses. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- Once filed online, it is forwarded to the appropriate police station for formal registration, after which investigation proceeds based on the gravity of the offence.
- **Legal Status:**
 - An e-FIR holds the same legal validity as a physically filed FIR. Under the law, the police are bound to take action on any FIR—digital or physical. Moreover, e-FIRs and online police complaints can be presented as admissible evidence in court. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 3.C

- **Nodal agency for administrative reforms**
 - The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) functions under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
 - It is the nodal agency of the Government of India for administrative reforms and for redressal of public grievances relating to the states in general and those pertaining to Central Government agencies in particular. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - The Department also documents and disseminates good governance practices through publications and audio-visual media, and undertakes activities in the field of international cooperation to promote public service reforms.
- **Administrative Reforms Commissions:**
 - First ARC was established on **5 January 1966 with Morarji Desai as its first Chairman**. When Desai became the Deputy Prime Minister of India, K. Hanumanthaiah took over as Chairman. **Hence, statement 2 is also correct.**
 - The Second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) was constituted in 2005 to recommend measures on governance-related issues and completed its term in 2009. It was initially chaired by Veerappa Moily, who resigned in April 2009, and was succeeded by V. Ramachandran.

Q 4.B

- **Recent Context:** Iron Dome has been prominently in the news due to an intense barrage of missile attacks launched by Iran targeting Israeli cities, including Tel Aviv and Haifa. This surge in attacks in mid-June 2025 escalated tensions in the Middle East and tested the system's capacity to defend civilian populations against saturation missile attacks. The Golden Dome is a proposed next-generation missile defense system by the United States, announced by President Donald Trump in May 2025, designed to provide a comprehensive shield against ballistic, hypersonic, and cruise missiles from adversaries like China and Russia
- Iron Dome is a mobile all-weather air defense system developed by Israel. It is designed to intercept and destroy short-range rockets and artillery shells aimed at populated areas. It uses radar and interceptor missiles to neutralize threats before they land.
- The Golden Dome is a proposed multi-layer defense system for the United States, intended to detect and destroy various foreign threats, including ballistic, hypersonic, and cruise missiles, before they launch or during their flight. The system would employ a global constellation of satellites equipped with both sensors and space-based interceptors. The architecture has been viewed as similar to the Brilliant Pebbles concept of the 1980s.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 5.B

- **Mission Karmayogi – National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB)**
 - Mission Karmayogi is the National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) launched by the Government of India to reform the civil services training ecosystem. It focuses on competency-based, role-oriented learning to create a future-ready civil service capable of meeting the demands of a rapidly changing governance environment.
- **Objectives**
 - Enhancing Governance – Improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability of civil servants through systematic capacity building.
 - Anytime-Anywhere Learning – Enable civil servants to learn using any device, at their own pace, with self-directed or guided learning paths.
 - Continuous Professional Development – Provide instant guidance and access to job-specific learning resources, including collaboration with experienced peers.
 - Empowerment & Accountability – Encourage officials to take charge of their own career growth and professional learning journey.

- **Salient Features**
 - Shift from Rule-based to Role-based HR Management
 - > Work allocation will be aligned with the competencies required for specific posts, using the Framework of Roles, Activities, and Competencies (FRAC).
 - On-site & Off-site Learning
 - > Emphasis on practical, on-the-job learning to complement classroom-based or virtual training.
 - Competency Building
 - > Focus on Behavioural, Functional, and Domain Competencies through both self-driven and mandatory learning paths.
 - Shared Training Infrastructure
 - > Development of a collaborative ecosystem for training, with shared materials, institutions, and trainers.
 - Partnership with Experts
 - > Engage public institutions, universities, start-ups, and individual experts to create high-quality learning content.
 - No Provision for Lateral Entry or Pay Revision
 - > Mission Karmayogi does not aim to alter recruitment methods or revise pay structures.
- **Key Differentiator**
 - The programme is not about privatization of PSUs or replacing the cadre system.
 - It focuses on capacity building and professional development of civil servants, ensuring a future-ready bureaucracy.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 6.B

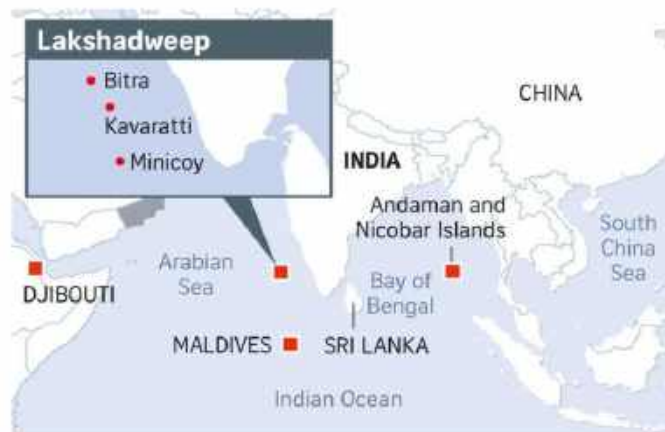
- **Alcatraz Island is located in San Francisco Bay, USA, it is famous as a former federal prison. In 2025, it has been in news due to the U.S. President's plan to reopen and convert it back into a high-security federal penitentiary, with significant media attention on the projected \$2 billion cost and challenges involved. Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- **Chagos Archipelago: This group of islands in the Indian Ocean is a British Overseas Territory but has been in recent international news due to legal, environmental, and geopolitical disputes involving the UK, Mauritius (which claims sovereignty), and the strategic military base on Diego Garcia. Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**



- **Bitra Island is one of the smaller islands in the Lakshadweep archipelago under Indian administration, Bitra has appeared in recent news related to environmental conservation, climate change impact on islands, and regional maritime security considerations in the Indian Ocean. Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

The growing battle for the Indian Ocean

The Lakshadweep administration has proposed to acquire Bitra Island in Lakshadweep, an archipelago off India's south-western coast, for defence and strategic purposes.



STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS

Q 7.B

- **Recent context:** Europe is witnessing its largest diphtheria outbreak in the last 70 years, with cases traced largely to migration routes and poor vaccination coverage. This has brought renewed focus on vaccination programmes worldwide, including India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP), which covers diphtheria through the DPT / Pentavalent vaccine.
- Diphtheria is bacterial, caused by *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*. It spreads mainly via respiratory droplets (coughing/sneezing) and by close contact or contact with skin lesions/contaminated items, not primarily through water. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Diphtheria vaccination is included under India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP).**
- It is administered as part of the Pentavalent vaccine (DPT + Hepatitis B + Hib) and through DPT/Td boosters at later ages. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Vaccines under India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP)**
- As per the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, UIP provides vaccination against 12 vaccine-preventable diseases nationwide:
 - Tuberculosis – BCG vaccine
 - Polio – OPV, IPV
 - Diphtheria – DPT / Pentavalent / Td boosters
 - Pertussis (Whooping cough) – DPT / Pentavalent
 - Tetanus – DPT / Td
 - Measles & Rubella – MR vaccine
 - Hepatitis B – HepB / Pentavalent
 - Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) – Pentavalent
 - Pneumococcal pneumonia & meningitis – PCV
 - Japanese Encephalitis (JE) – in endemic districts
 - Rotavirus diarrhoea – Rotavirus vaccine
 - Cervical cancer – HPV vaccine (phased introduction from 2023–24)

Q 8.A

- **Recent Context:** The Indian Air Force (IAF) is currently evaluating Israel's Ice Breaker, an advanced air-launched cruise missile developed by Rafael Advanced Defense Systems (Israel). Unveiled in 2022, this missile offers approximately 300 km standoff range, stealthy terrain-hugging flight, and advanced guidance via imaging infrared/electro-optical seekers enhanced with AI-based target recognition, rendering it resilient against GPS denial and electronic countermeasures. Concurrently, India has signed a deal with the United States to procure 31 MQ-9B Predator series drones, significantly boosting its tri-service long-endurance ISR/strike capabilities across maritime and terrestrial domains.

- **Ice Breaker is an Israeli system** developed by RAFAEL Advanced Defense Systems. It's an air-launched, high-subsonic cruise missile (~300 km) with IIR seeker/AI features, unveiled in 2022 and marketed for deliveries from 2025. **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- **MQ-9B Predator (SkyGuardian/SeaGuardian) is an American system** made by General Atomics Aeronautical Systems (GA-ASI). India has signed a government-to-government deal to acquire 31 MQ-9B UAVs for the three services. **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- **T-90 Main Battle Tank is of Russian origin** (Uralvagonzavod). India operates T-90S 'Bhishma', including large numbers produced/assembled under licence by HVF Avadi, with additional tranches cleared over the years. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

Q 9.C

- **Recent context:** India has revised its officially measured coastline length to ~11,098 km (up from ~7,516 km). The jump is because of high-resolution GIS mapping at 1:250,000 scale (earlier estimates used ~1:4,500,000), along with the inclusion of previously uncounted offshore islands. The review also standardised the island count (total 1,389: 1,298 offshore + 91 inshore) and is to be repeated every 10 years for accuracy. These updates have implications for CRZ delineation, coastal erosion control, climate resilience, tourism, and infrastructure planning.
- The reassessment places India's coastline at ~11,098 km, up from ~7,516 km measured using older, lower-resolution methods from the 1970s. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The increase does not reflect new territory. It stems from more precise, higher-resolution mapping that captures bends, inlets, and irregularities (the "coastline paradox") and the explicit inclusion of offshore islands that earlier methods missed. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Finer coastline and island baselines support better CRZ mapping, coastal erosion and climate-risk planning, disaster response, and marine resource management. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 10.B

- **Recent Context:** In July 2025, IAF emphasized that India must boost its air defence infrastructure to counter the rising threat of multiple drone incursions, citing lessons learned from Operation Sindoor. India is expanding the deployment of mini and micro UAVs like Trinetra for high-altitude operations and ISR, strengthening its tactical surveillance capacity along borders.
- **Black Hornet** is a nano-drone developed by Teledyne FLIR, used globally for close-range tactical surveillance. Recently, its latest version Black Hornet 4 was cleared for the U.S. Defense Innovation Unit's Blue UAS list, reaffirming its importance in modern battlefield surveillance.
- **Switch** is an indigenous fixed-wing VTOL UAV developed by IdeaForge in India. It has already been inducted by the Indian Army. In Aero India 2025, the upgraded Switch V2 with improved endurance, AI-based autonomy, and higher payload capacity was unveiled.
- **Trinetra** is an Indian mini-UAV system designed for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) missions. It has been in the news as part of India's growing focus on indigenous drone capabilities for border security and tactical operations.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 11.B

- **Recent Context:** The OECD's Global Drought Outlook, released in June 2025, warns that droughts are becoming costlier and more widespread. Economic losses from drought are rising at roughly around 3–4% annually (often quoted as ~3.75%), a drought in 2025 would cost at least twice what a similar event cost in 2000, and projected economic impacts by 2035 could rise by 35% to as much as 110% depending on scenarios. The report also highlights worsening hydrological indicators (large areas with soil-moisture decline and many aquifers showing falling groundwater levels) and stresses urgent investment in drought resilience and integrated water management.
- The Outlook combines economic modelling with climate and hydrological analysis to quantify present and future drought impacts and policy responses. **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 12.B

- **Recent Context:** A major Air India Boeing-787 crash in June 2025 drew attention to flight recorders: both recorders (CVR & FDR) were recovered from the site and flown to Delhi, and investigators successfully downloaded data from the memory module at India's AAIB laboratory, a milestone showing that India can decode black-box data domestically.

- The term “black box” is a historical/colloquial name; in practice the flight-recorder **units are painted bright orange (or yellow-orange)** with reflective tape so they are easier to spot after an accident. They are ruggedly built to survive fire, impact and deep-water immersion. The recorders consist of the Flight Data Recorder (FDR) and the Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR) that together preserve flight parameters and cockpit audio for investigations. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- In India the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) is the designated authority to investigate civil aircraft accidents (per ICAO Annex-13 implementation) and is responsible for collection, safe custody, decoding and analysis of black-box data as part of accident probes. The June 2025 Air India crash investigation provides a recent example: the recovered recorders were brought to the AAIB lab in Delhi and the memory module was accessed and downloaded there to begin analysis. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 13.A

- **Recent Context:** In June 2025, the Indian market witnessed the launch of two groundbreaking GLP-1 receptor agonist drugs, semaglutide (from Novo Nordisk) and tirzepatide (from Eli Lilly). Previously making waves in the United States, these injectable medications have been hailed as “miracle drugs” for obesity, helping users shed 15–20% of their body weight, rivaling the effects of bariatric surgery. Their therapeutic reach extends beyond weight loss, they are also approved for type-2 diabetes and are being studied for reducing the risk of heart disease, kidney disease, fatty liver disease, and obstructive sleep apnea. These developments mark a pivotal shift in India’s approach to metabolic health.
- Semaglutide and Tirzepatide mimic gut-derived incretin hormones (GLP-1), regulating blood sugar and reducing appetite.
- They are revolutionary in treating obesity and Type-2 diabetes, with added benefits of lowering cardiovascular and kidney risks.
- **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 14.A

- **Right to Information Act 2005:**
 - Right to Information Act 2005 mandates timely response to citizen requests for government information by various Public Authorities under the government of India as well as the State Governments. The law imposes a penalty for wilful default by government officials. Citizens can ask for anything that the government can disclose to Parliament.
 - RTI Act also mandates that “every public authority shall pro-actively disclose information pertaining to it, and maintain its documents and records to facilitate the right to information under the Act”.
 - Under the RTI Act 2005, "Public authority" means any authority or body or institution of self-government established or constituted—
 - > by or under the Constitution;
 - > **by any other law made by Parliament/State Legislature. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - > by notification issued or order made by the appropriate Government, and includes any—
 - > body owned, controlled or substantially financed;
 - > **non-Government organisations substantially financed, directly or indirectly by funds provided by the appropriate Government. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

Q 15.B

- **Quality Council of India (QCI)**
 - The Quality Council of India (QCI) is an apex body set up to establish and operate a national accreditation structure and promote quality across sectors. Contrary to the statement in the question, QCI is not a statutory body. It is a non-profit organization registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860, functioning independently with both government and industry representation.
- **Nature & Nodal Ministry**
 - Actual Status: QCI is not established under an Act of Parliament; rather, it is registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
 - Nodal Ministry: The nodal ministry for QCI is the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Appointment of Chairman**
 - Governing Structure: QCI is governed by a Council of 38 members with equal representation from government, industry, and consumers.

- Chairman's Appointment: The Prime Minister of India appoints the Chairman of QCI on the recommendation of the industry to the government. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Functional Role**
 - Objective: QCI was created to provide a mechanism for independent third-party assessment of products, services, and processes.
 - Scope of Work: It operates in multiple domains — education, healthcare, environmental protection, governance, social sectors, and infrastructure — all aimed at improving quality of life and well-being in India. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 16.B

- **About PESB**
 - The Public Enterprises Selection Board is a high-powered body under the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT). It is not under DIPAM. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Mandate & Core Function**
 - PESB's primary role is to recommend appointments to top management posts in CPSEs— Chairman/Managing Director/Chairman-cum-MD (Level-I) and Functional Directors (Level-II). It also advises on confirmations, extensions, termination, and broader managerial policies (board structure, performance appraisal, code of conduct, training). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Who heads PESB? (Composition)**
 - PESB consists of a Chairperson (full-time/part-time) and three full-time Members drawn from distinguished backgrounds (public/private sector leadership, senior civil service, or top-management selection). The Chairperson is not an ex officio Secretary of DIPAM; there is no such requirement.

Q 17.C

- **Constitutional & Statutory Basis**
 - Article 39A directs the State to ensure free legal aid and equal access to justice. To operationalise this, Parliament enacted the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, under which NALSA was constituted to frame policies, fund and supervise legal services and Lok Adalats. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Who is the Executive Chairman?**
 - Under the 1987 Act, the **Chief Justice of India is the Patron-in-Chief**, and the Executive Chairman is a Judge of the Supreme Court nominated by the CJI. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Eligibility of women for free legal aid**
 - Section 12 of the 1987 Act lists categories entitled to free legal services irrespective of income, which include women and children (along with SC/ST members, industrial workmen, persons in custody, the disabled, etc.). **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 18.A

- **Core Concept**
 - A Citizen's Charter is a public declaration by a government agency, outlining the commitments it makes to the public regarding the delivery of services. It aims to enhance transparency, accountability, and responsiveness in public service delivery. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - In India, the Citizens' Charter movement was inspired by the UK's initiative in 1991 and adopted to make governance more citizen-centric.
- **Objectives of a Citizen's Charter**
 - Informing citizens about services offered, standards, and access points.
 - Empowering citizens to demand committed service standards.
 - Improving accountability of public servants.
 - Streamlining administration to be more responsive to public needs.
- **Key Components**
 - A well-designed Citizen's Charter typically includes:
 - > Vision and Mission Statement – guiding principles of the organisation.
 - > Details of Business – services and operations handled by the organisation.
 - > List of Citizen/Client Groups – identifying beneficiaries.
 - > Service Standards – quality benchmarks, timelines, and delivery conditions.
 - > Grievance Redressal Mechanism – procedure to report and resolve issues.
 - > Expectations from Citizens – cooperation and compliance are expected from service users.
- **Legal Status**

- While the Citizen's Charter empowers people to demand quality and timely services, **it is not legally enforceable in India**. Non-compliance does not attract legal penalties, making it a non-justiciable instrument. Its strength lies in moral commitment and public accountability, not in statutory enforcement. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 19.D

- **National Informatics Centre (NIC)**
 - National Informatics Centre (NIC) was set up in 1976 and is a prime builder of e-Governance applications up to the grassroots, promoting digital opportunities across government.
- **NIC under MeitY**
 - NIC is an executive authority under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY). Its mandate is to build and run e-Gov systems for Union, States/UTs and District Administrations. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **CPGRAMS and e-Governance backbone**
 - NIC provides the network backbone and end-to-end e-Governance support to Central/State/UT bodies and districts, assisting implementation of IT projects across centrally sponsored, state, and district schemes.
 - The Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) is one such flagship grievance platform developed/maintained for government, aligning with NIC's role. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **NIC initiatives**
 - Among NIC's major initiatives are *data.gov.in, PFMS, Manav Sampada, e-Vidhaan, DARPAN, and MyGov—the Government of India's citizen-engagement platform that enables participatory governance. **Hence, statement 3 is also correct.**

Q 20.D

- **Composition and Appointment**
 - The Lokpal consists of a Chairperson and eight Members, of whom 50% are Judicial Members. Both the Chairperson and Members are appointed by the President of India by warrant under his hand and seal.
- **Salary and Service Conditions**
 - The salary, allowances, and other conditions of service of the Chairperson are the same as those of the Chief Justice of India. For Members, these are equivalent to a Judge of the Supreme Court. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Term of Office**
 - The Chairperson and Members hold office for a term of five years from the date they assume office or until they attain the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Financial Autonomy**
 - The administrative expenses of the Lokpal, including salaries, allowances, and pensions of its Chairperson, Members, Secretary, officers, and staff, are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India. Any fees or other money collected by the Lokpal also form part of that Fund. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 21.A

- **Definition and Nature of Social Audit**
 - Social Audit is a process that involves the active participation of people in examining and assessing the implementation of a programme or scheme. It compares official records with the actual situation on the ground to ensure transparency, accountability, and community oversight. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - This participatory approach helps in identifying gaps, improving service delivery, and empowering citizens to hold implementing agencies accountable.
- **Statutory Backing under MGNREGA**
 - The concept of Social Audit received statutory recognition for the first time under Section 17 of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005.
 - **This section mandates a Social Audit of all works executed under the Act. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- The process and responsibilities are further detailed in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Audit of Schemes Rules, 2011, prepared by the Ministry of Rural Development in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India.
- **First State to Enact Social Audit Law**
 - **In April 2017, Meghalaya became the first state in India to pass social audit legislation** — the Meghalaya Community Participation and Public Services Social Audit Act.
 - The Act mandated social audits across 21 schemes and 11 departments and integrated them with traditional tribal institutions to strengthen community engagement. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 22.C

- **Definition and Scope**
 - **According to the World Bank**, civil society includes community groups, NGOs, labour unions, indigenous groups, charitable organisations, faith-based organisations, professional associations, and foundations. These organisations function independently of government yet often collaborate with it to address developmental and governance challenges.
- **Service Provision and Advocacy**
 - CSOs act as **service providers** by running schools, delivering basic health services, and implementing local projects. **Hence, option 1 is correct.**
 - They also serve as **advocates and watchdogs, lobbying on issues such as human rights**, indigenous rights, and environmental protection, while monitoring compliance with treaties and laws. **Hence, option 2 is correct.**
- **Participation in Governance**
 - Civil society **strengthens public participation** by motivating civic engagement and facilitating communication between communities and policymakers. Their role ensures that governance reflects local needs and cultural contexts. **Hence, option 3 is correct.**
- **Resource Mobilisation and Capacity Building**
 - They **mobilise local resources for development**, particularly in post-disaster situations, and build capacity through training, technical assistance, and community-based economic initiatives. **Hence, option 4 is correct.**
- **Role in Budget Making:**
 - Although CSOs may contribute inputs for budgeting, **they do not have an exclusive role in government budget formulation. Hence, option 5 is not correct.**

Q 23.A

- **Changes Introduced by the RTI (Amendment) Act, 2019**
 - The Right to Information Act, 2005, originally provided that the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and Information Commissioners (ICs) at the central level would receive salaries equivalent to the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners, respectively. Similarly, at the state level, the CIC and ICs were to receive salaries equivalent to the Election Commissioners and the Chief Secretary to the state government. It also fixed their term of office at five years.
 - The RTI (Amendment) Act, 2019, removed these fixed provisions. It empowered the Central Government to determine the term of office, salaries, allowances, and other service conditions of the CIC and ICs at both the central and state levels. **Hence, statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Eligibility to File an RTI**
 - Section 3 of the RTI Act states that only citizens of India have the right to seek information under the Act. This excludes non-citizens from filing RTI applications. Therefore, the idea that “any person” can file an RTI is incorrect.

Q 24.A

- **The Sevottam framework:**
 - The Sevottam framework is a service delivery excellence model conceived by the **Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions in 2006. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - It was designed as an assessment–improvement framework to enhance the quality of public service delivery in India. The term “Sevottam” combines the Hindi words **Seva (service) and Uttam**

(**excellent**), symbolising a shift in the government's approach from mere administration and control to service and enablement.

- **Core modules:**
 - The model was developed through the study of international best practices, stakeholder consultations, and field validation. It consists of three core modules — **Citizen's Charter, Public Grievance Redress Mechanism, and Capability Building for Service Delivery**. These elements aim to define service standards, develop the capacity to meet them, monitor performance, and ensure continuous improvement.
 - The use of ICT tools can support the implementation of Sevottam, but **there is no provision making ICT a compulsory component of the framework. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Model was piloted in four states — Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha — each in different sectors such as water supply and sanitation, women and child development, food supplies, and public health. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 25.D

- **The Central Information Commission:**
 - **Nature and Jurisdiction**
 - > The Central Information Commission is a statutory body created under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (not a constitutional body). It was notified on 12-10-2005, and its jurisdiction extends over all Central Public Authorities. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - **Penalty Powers**
 - > Under the RTI Act, the Commission may impose a monetary penalty on the CPIO for unjustified refusal, delay, or malafide denial of information, or for giving incorrect/incomplete/misleading information, or obstructing access. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - **Suo Motu Inquiry**
 - > Where the Commission is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds, it may initiate an inquiry on its own (suo motu) regarding RTI matters. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 26.D

- **E-Governance:**
 - E-Governance refers to the reform of governance through the creative use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to make government functioning more transparent, efficient, and citizen-centric. According to the World Bank, it is the use of ICT tools such as Wide Area Networks, the internet, and mobile computing to transform relations between the government, citizens, businesses, and other arms of governance. It aligns with the vision of SMART governance — simple, moral, accountable, responsive, and transparent.
- **Reduction in Corruption**
 - Digitisation of services, automation of processes, and online delivery reduce human interface and discretion, creating audit trails and thereby limiting opportunities for rent-seeking behaviour. **Hence, option 1 is correct.**
- **Accountability in the Government**
 - E-Governance improves decision-making, ensures time-bound service delivery, and enhances transparency, which collectively strengthen accountability in government functioning. **Hence, option 2 is correct.**
- **More Hierarchical Organisational Structure**
 - ICT-enabled reforms aim to flatten structures, simplify processes, and reduce layers in decision-making, rather than making them more hierarchical. **Hence, option 3 is not correct.**
- **Improved Relations with Civil Society**
 - By enabling transparency, participatory decision-making, and timely information sharing, e-Governance fosters trust and collaboration between public authorities and civil society. **Hence, option 4 is correct.**
- **Expanded Reach of Governance**
 - With tools like Common Service Centres, mobile applications, internet connectivity, and other ICT infrastructure, governance services can be delivered directly to citizens' doorsteps, especially in remote areas. **Hence, option 5 is correct.**

Q 27.C

- **NeGP/Digital India:**
 - These are flagship e-Governance tools under NeGP/Digital India that digitise grievance redress, compliance, and monitoring for faster, transparent public service.
- **CPGRAMS — grievance lodging from anywhere**
 - Run by DARPG, CPGRAMS lets citizens file grievances online against Central Government organisations from any location and track disposal. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- **MCA21 — companies' compliance & enforcement**
 - A Mission Mode Project of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, MCA21 enables e-filing, registry automation, and compliance/enforcement workflows under the Companies Act. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- **e-Samiksha — real-time monitoring of decisions**
 - Developed for the Cabinet Secretariat/PMO, e-Samiksha is a real-time online system to monitor and follow up on key government programmes/decisions. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**
- **ITAT e-Dwar — not CAPF grievance portal**
 - "ITAT e-Dwar" is the e-filing portal of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal for electronic filing/processing of appeals—not an online grievance mechanism for Central Armed Police Forces. **Hence, pair 4 is not correctly matched.**

Q 28.C

- **About the Composition of CAT**
 - The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) is a multi-member body consisting of a Chairman and Members who have been given the status of High Court judges.
 - **Members are drawn from both judicial and administrative streams and are appointed by the President** on the recommendation of a high-powered selection committee chaired by a sitting Supreme Court judge nominated by the Chief Justice of India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Appellate Jurisdiction**
 - While originally appeals from CAT orders lay directly to the Supreme Court, **the L. Chandra Kumar vs Union of India (1997)** judgment changed this position.
 - It held that decisions of the CAT are subject to judicial review by the concerned High Court before any appeal can go to the Supreme Court. Therefore, there is no direct statutory appeal to the Supreme Court. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Procedure Followed by CAT**
 - The CAT is not bound by the Civil Procedure Code (CPC), 1908. Instead, it is guided by the principles of natural justice and can regulate its own procedure, while having powers similar to those of a civil court in matters like summoning witnesses and receiving evidence. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 29.B

- **Background**
 - Police reforms have been a continuous area of concern for successive governments since independence, aimed at improving efficiency, accountability, and public trust in the police system. Several expert committees and commissions have been constituted to recommend structural, functional, and legal changes.
- **Padmanabhaiah Committee**
 - Constituted in 2000 to recommend measures for restructuring the police force. It dealt with issues such as modernisation, training, and improving the image of the police. **Hence, option 1 is correctly associated with police reforms.**
- **Ribeiro Committee**
 - Set up in 1998 to review the recommendations of the earlier National Police Commission and suggest practical steps for implementation. It reaffirmed the need for insulating the police from political interference and improving accountability. **Hence, option 2 is correctly associated with police reforms.**
- **Dharma Vira Committee**
 - This was constituted in the pre-independence era (1971) to examine the structure of district administration. While it discussed aspects of law and order administration, it is not listed among the major post-independence committees specifically constituted for police reforms. **Hence, option 3 is not correctly associated with police reforms.**

- **Malimath Committee**
 - Constituted in 2002–03 on reforms in the Criminal Justice System. It recommended the enactment of a new Police Act, the creation of a central law enforcement agency for federal crimes, and the separation of investigation from law and order. **Hence, option 4 is correctly associated with police reforms.**

Q 30.B

- **E-Government Development Index (EGDI):**
 - **The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)** has been publishing the E-Government Development Index (EGDI) and survey report since 2001 biennially. **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**
 - The Survey is the only global report that assesses the e-government development status of all United Nations Member States. The assessment measures the e-government performance of countries relative to one another, as opposed to being an absolute measurement.
 - **Current Ranking and E-Participation Score (2024)**
 - > India ranked 97th in the E-Government Development Index in 2024.
 - > In the E-Participation Index, India maintained its rank at 61st (same as in 2022).
 - **Global Trends and Context**
 - > The global average EGDI rose from 0.6102 (2022) to 0.6382 (2024).
 - > Several Asian countries, including India and Bangladesh, contributed significantly to this upward movement.

Q 31.D

- **Core Concept**
 - The Maharatna scheme, introduced in 2010, aims to empower large and high-performing Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) to expand their operations and emerge as global giants. Maharatna CPSEs enjoy greater autonomy compared to Navratna and Miniratna companies, particularly in areas like capital expenditure, mergers and acquisitions, strategic alliances, and human resource management.
- **Eligibility Criteria for Maharatna Status**
 - To be granted Maharatna status, a CPSE must meet all of the following conditions:
 - > **Navratna Status** – The enterprise should already have Navratna status before applying for Maharatna status. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - > **Listing and Public Shareholding** – The CPSE must be listed on the Indian stock exchange with the minimum prescribed public shareholding as per SEBI regulations. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - > **High Financial Performance** –
 - ✓ An average annual turnover of more than ₹25,000 crore during the last three years. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ✓ An average annual net worth of more than ₹15,000 crore during the last three years.
 - ✓ An average annual net profit after tax of more than ₹5,000 crore during the last three years.
 - > **Global Presence** – The CPSE should have significant global presence or international operations. **Hence, statement 4 is correct.**

Q 32.D

- **Citizens' Participation in Governance**
 - The Second Administrative Reforms Commission (2nd ARC) identified multiple mechanisms to enhance citizens' participation in governance. These mechanisms aim to make governance more transparent, accountable, and responsive.
 - **Right to Information (RTI)**
 - > Access to information is considered a fundamental prerequisite for citizen participation. The Right to Information Act, 2005, provides citizens with the ability to obtain official records, thereby empowering them to question and monitor the functioning of public authorities. **Hence, option 1 is correct.**
 - **Grievance Redressal Systems**
 - > Institutionalised grievance redressal mechanisms allow citizens to voice dissatisfaction in an organised way. These may include complaint portals, facilitation centres, and ombudsman systems. **Hence, option 2 is correct.**

- **Social Audits and Citizens' Report Cards**
 - > Social audits compare official records with ground realities through community participation, while citizens' report cards provide structured feedback on public services. Both are recognised by the 2nd ARC as important participatory tools. **Hence, option 3 is correct.**
- **Decentralised Planning**
 - > Empowering Gram Sabhas to decide implementation issues in welfare schemes ensures local needs are addressed directly, increasing ownership and accountability. **Hence, option 4 is correct.**

Q 33.A

- Six consumer rights have been defined in the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, these includes: Right to Safety, Right to be Informed, Right to Choose, Right to be heard, Right to seek Redressal, Right to Consumer Education.
- **Right to Product Liability is a provision, not a consumer right.** Under this a manufacturer or product service provider or product seller will be held responsible to compensate for injury or damage caused by defective product or deficiency in services.
- **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 34.B

- The Forest Rights Act, 2006 not only recognises the rights to hold and live in the forest land under the individual or common occupation for habitation or for self-cultivation for livelihood but also grants several other rights to ensure their control over forest resources, including:
 - Right of ownership,
 - Access to collect,
 - Use and dispose of minor forest produce,
 - Community rights such as Nistar;
 - Habitat rights for primitive tribal groups and pre-agricultural communities;
 - Right to protect, regenerate, conserve or manage any community forest resource that they have been traditionally protecting and conserving for sustainable use.
- **The Act also provides for diversion of forest land for public utility facilities managed by the Government,** such as fair price shops, schools, dispensaries, electricity and telecommunication lines, water tanks, etc. with the recommendation of Gram Sabhas. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **The Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) is the nodal ministry for the implementation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

Q 35.A

- The Consumer Protection Act, 2019 is a comprehensive law aimed at safeguarding consumer rights and establishing efficient dispute redressal mechanisms. Its significance lies in empowering consumers with new rights, such as the ability to file complaints online and seek compensation for defective products and services.
- The Central Consumer Protection Authority was established to enforce consumer rights and address unfair trade practices and misleading advertisements.
- **Functions of CCPA**
- Investigate violations of consumer rights and prosecute offenders.
- Order the recall of hazardous goods, reimbursement, or discontinuation of unfair practices. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Regulate misleading advertisements and impose penalties. The Authority can prohibit an endorser of a misleading advertisement from making any endorsement for a period of up to 1 year for first contravention and up to 3 years for subsequent ones. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Issue safety notices to consumers
- **Product Liability**
- The Act introduces the concept of product liability, holding manufacturers, service providers, or sellers accountable for harm caused by defective goods or deficient services. **Hence, liability is on the manufacturer/service provider/seller, not on the consumer.**
- Consumers need to substantiate claims based on specified conditions in the Act.

Q 36.D

- **Minor Forest Produce (MFP)** is a term for non-timber forest products that come from plants. These include: **bamboo, brushwood, canes, honey, waxes, lac, tendu/kendu leaves, medicinal plants and herbs, roots, and tubers.**
- **Sandalwood is not typically classified as a minor forest produce (MFP) under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA).** While the FRA recognizes and protects the rights of forest dwelling communities to collect and utilize MFP, it specifically excludes timber and sandalwood from the definition of MFP. **The Act explicitly excludes timber and sandalwood from the definition of MFP.**
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 37.C

- The Anti-Defection Law, introduced through the Tenth Schedule of the Indian Constitution in 1985, aims to curb political defections that threaten the stability of governments.
- **An independent member is one who contests and wins an election without the support or nomination of any political party.**
 - Under the anti-defection law, such a member loses their seat if they join any political party after the election.
 - This prevents independents from switching loyalties after winning.
 - **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **Nominated members are appointed to the legislature by the President or Governor and are not elected through direct elections.**
 - They are allowed to join a political party within six months of taking their seat without risking disqualification.
 - However, if they join a party after this six-month period, they become liable for disqualification.
 - **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Under Tenth Schedule, a member is not disqualified for defection if their original political party merges with another party, provided at least two-thirds of the members of the legislature party agree to the merger.**
 - In such cases, the member is deemed to belong to the merged party, and their act of leaving the original party does not attract disqualification.
 - This exception ensures that large-scale mergers, reflecting a collective decision, are exempt from anti-defection penalties.
 - **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 38.C

- **As per the ECI's guidelines and the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, candidates contesting elections are required to file an affidavit (in Form 26) along with their nomination papers.**
 - This affidavit mandates the disclosure of:
 - **Details of pending criminal cases where charges have been framed or cognizance has been taken by a court.**
 - **Details of convictions for criminal offences, including whether the candidate has been convicted, acquitted, or discharged in any criminal case in the past.**
 - The Supreme Court's ruling in *Union of India v. Association for Democratic Reforms* (2002) and subsequent ECI orders (e.g., March 2003) made it mandatory for candidates to disclose their criminal antecedents, including convictions, acquittals, or discharges, to ensure transparency and inform voters.
 - **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **The ECI, following the Association for Democratic Reforms (2002) judgment, requires candidates to submit an affidavit (Form 26) disclosing their financial details, including:**
 - **Movable assets (e.g., cash, bank deposits, jewelry, vehicles).**
 - **Immovable assets (e.g., land, buildings, property).**
 - These disclosures must include the candidate's own assets, those of their spouse, and dependent children.
 - > The requirement is enforced under Section 33 of the RPA, 1951, read with Rule 4A of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, to promote transparency and prevent the use of unaccounted wealth in elections.
 - **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

- **The ECI mandates that candidates disclose their educational qualifications in the affidavit (Form 26) submitted with their nomination papers.**
 - This requirement was introduced following the Association for Democratic Reforms (2002) case to ensure voters have access to information about candidates' backgrounds.
 - Candidates must specify their highest educational qualification, including the degree, institution, and year of completion, or state if they have no formal education.
 - This disclosure enhances voter awareness and is a standard part of the affidavit.

Q 39.D

- The ECI has been working to link electoral rolls with Aadhaar to eliminate duplicate entries and ensure the accuracy of voter lists.
 - **The Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2021, amended the RPA, 1950, to allow the linkage of electoral roll data with the Aadhaar ecosystem on a voluntary basis.**
 - Section 23(4) was added to the RPA, 1950, permitting EROs to require electors to furnish their Aadhaar number for authentication, though it is not mandatory to ensure inclusivity.
 - **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Under Section 17 of the RPA, 1950, no person is entitled to be registered in the electoral roll for more than one constituency.**
 - **This rule ensures that a voter cannot cast multiple votes in different constituencies, maintaining the integrity of the electoral process.**
 - **Section 18 further clarifies that a person cannot be registered more than once in the same constituency.**
 - Even if a person has multiple residences, they must register in only one constituency where they are ordinarily resident (as defined under Section 20).
 - **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Conviction for an offence does not automatically remove a person from the electoral rolls under the RPA, 1950.**
 - Section 16 specifies disqualifications for registration, which include:
 - > Being a non-citizen of India.
 - > Being of unsound mind and declared so by a competent court.
 - > Being disqualified under any law relating to corrupt practices or election offences (e.g., under Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951).
 - > However, removal from the electoral roll is not automatic and requires specific action by the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) under Section 22 of the RPA, 1950, after due process (e.g., verification of disqualification).
 - > For instance, a conviction must lead to a disqualification under law, and the ERO must update the roll accordingly, which is not instantaneous.
 - > Additionally, minor offences or convictions not listed in Section 8 of the RPA, 1951, do not lead to disqualification from voting.
 - **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 40.D

- **The election of the President of India is governed by Article 55 of the Constitution. It uses proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote (STV).**
 - The electoral college comprises elected members of both Houses of Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) and elected members of State Legislative Assemblies (including Union Territories with legislatures).
 - Voters rank candidates, and votes are transferred based on a quota system to elect a single candidate, ensuring proportional representation.
- **The election of the Vice-President of India is governed by Article 66 of the Constitution. It also employs proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote (STV).**
 - The electoral college consists of elected and nominated members of both Houses of Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha). Voters rank candidates, and the STV system is used to determine the winner.
- **The election of members to the Rajya Sabha (Council of States) is governed by Article 80 of the Constitution and the Representation of the People Act, 1951.**
 - **Members are elected by the elected members of State Legislative Assemblies using proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote (STV), as specified in the Third Schedule of the RPA, 1951.**

- This system ensures that seats are allocated proportionally based on the strength of parties in the State Assemblies.
- **The election of members to State Legislative Councils (Vidhan Parishads), where they exist, is governed by Article 171 of the Constitution and the Representation of the People Act, 1951.**
 - **Members are elected by various constituencies (e.g., elected MLAs, local bodies, graduates, teachers) using proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote (STV).**
 - For example, elections by MLAs, graduates' constituencies, and teachers' constituencies all use the STV system to ensure proportional representation.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 41.A

- **As per the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (Section 77), there is no upper limit on the total expenditure incurred by political parties during elections.**
 - The Act regulates candidate spending but does not impose a ceiling on party-level expenses, such as campaigns, rallies, or advertisements.
 - **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **The Companies Act, 2013 (Section 182), previously capped corporate contributions to political parties at 7.5% of the average net profits over the preceding three years.**
 - **However, the Finance Act, 2017, removed this cap, allowing unlimited corporate donations without mandatory disclosure of recipient parties.**
 - The Supreme Court's 2024 ruling on electoral bonds further emphasized transparency but did not reinstate the 7.5% cap.
 - **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 42.A

- Under Article 80 and the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of India, Rajya Sabha seats are allocated based on state population.
 - **Uttar Pradesh, the most populous state, has 31 Rajya Sabha seats, the highest among all states.**
 - **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The Delimitation Commission of 2008 determines the reservation of Lok Sabha seats for Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST). There are 47 ST-reserved Lok Sabha seats across India.
 - **Jharkhand has 14 Lok Sabha seats, of which 5 are reserved for STs**
 - **Madhya Pradesh: with 29 Lok Sabha seats has 6 reserved for STs, which is the highest among all the states.**
 - **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Maharashtra (288 seats) has the third highest number of Assembly seats, not the second; West Bengal (294) is second. Uttar Pradesh has the largest legislative assembly in India, with 403 members**
 - **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 43.A

- According to Section 34(1)(a) of the RPA, 1951, the security deposit required for candidates contesting elections is:
 - **Lok Sabha election: ₹25,000 for general category candidates and ₹12,500 for Scheduled Caste (SC) or Scheduled Tribe (ST) candidates.**
 - **Legislative Assembly election: ₹10,000 for general category candidates and ₹5,000 for SC/ST candidates.**
 - **Hence statements 1 and 3 are not correct.**
- **As per Section 158 of the RPA, 1951, a candidate's security deposit is forfeited if they fail to secure more than one-sixth (16.67%) of the total valid votes polled in their constituency. This rule applies to both Lok Sabha and Legislative Assembly elections.**
- **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q 44.A

- A local person who is an elector and ordinary resident of the same or, at most, neighbouring Polling Station is appointed as Polling Agent.
 - In case of any difficulty to appoint Polling Agents as above, from amongst any elector of the same Assembly Constituency area can also be appointed.

- **There is no restriction on appointing Gram Panchayat Pradhan/Gram Panchayat Sarpanch/ Panchayat members, Councillors or Members of Municipal Corporation or Municipality and local persons, as Polling Agents.**
- **The following persons are not allowed to become Polling Agent**
 - Sitting Minister either of Union Government or of a State Government, Member of Parliament, Member of Legislative Assembly, Legislative Council.
 - **Mayor of a Corporation or Chairperson of Municipality/Zila Parishad/Panchayat Union, etc.**
 - Chairpersons and Members of Central PSUs/State PSUs, Govt. Bodies/Corporation.
 - Persons receiving any honorarium from Government or Persons working on part time in any Govt./ Govt. Aided Institutions.
 - Para Medical/Healthcare staff working in Govt./Govt. Aided institutions, Fair Price Shop dealers, Anganwadi Employees.
 - Person in the service of the Government
 - Any person having security cover will not be allowed to surrender his security cover to act as such Polling Agent
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 45.C

- **While an opinion poll is conducted before balloting to gauge the intentions of voters, an exit survey is conducted after elections to find out who they actually voted for. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Agencies conducting an exit poll follow a range of different procedures or methods. One of the most common methods is a sampling. These agencies might opt for random or systematic sampling. The random sampling at times can be of an entire electorate and not just of voters outside a booth — covering parameters such as age, sex, caste, region and more.
- Section 126A of the Representation of the People's Act, 1951 clearly states that "No person shall conduct any exit poll and publish or publicise by means of the print or electronic media or disseminate in any other manner, whatsoever, the result of an exit poll during such period as may be notified by the Election Commission in this regard."
- Election Commission had declared that **Exit polls can be telecast by agencies, including all websites, only after the final phase of polling. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The EC said the advisory would include the display of any opinion poll and of standard debates, analysis, visuals and sound-bytes, among other things.
- TV, radio channels, cable networks, websites and social media platforms should ensure that the contents of programmes telecast/broadcast/displayed by them during the 48-hour period before the end of polls in each phase "do not contain any material, including views or appeals by participants that may be construed as promoting or prejudicing the prospect" of any particular party or candidate.
- Moreover, some media agencies tried to conduct exit polls under the garb of opinion polls while voting in some of the constituencies is to be conducted. This dissemination of results of the opinion poll in effect becomes dissemination of results of exit polls in respect of the said constituencies
- EC has cleared that **no opinion polls could be conducted for constituencies that had already voted.**

Q 46.A

- Bye-elections are elections, which are held to fill previously elected offices that have fallen vacant, before the ceasure of such elected offices' tenure. The main motive behind conducting bye-elections in India is also for serving the above-said purpose. Bye-elections (also known as By-elections or Special elections) are commonly referred to in India by the name Bypolls.
- Provisions for Bye polls are provided under the Representation of Peoples Act, 1951 under Sections 147, 149, 150, 151 and 151(A).
- **ECI is empowered to conduct bye polls when** the seat of a member elected to Council of States or House of People or State Legislative Assembly or State Legislative Council becomes
 - vacant (or)
 - declared vacant (or)
 - the member's election to any of such bodies is in itself declared to be void
- **Vacancy can be created if an elected candidate dies, resigns or vacate one of the two seats won by him in the election.**
- **Tie between the top two candidates** is dealt with under section 102 of RPA 1951 as follows:
 - any decision made by the returning officer would be effective

- and if the question is not determined by such a decision, then High Court shall decide between them by lottery
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 47.A

- The Election Commission of India has directed that all electors in all constituencies who have been issued Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) have to produce the Electors Photo Identity Card for their identification at the polling station before casting their votes. Those electors who are not able to produce the EPIC shall produce one of the following alternative photo identity documents for establishing their identity. The list of eleven documents is:
 - Passport, **Driving License**, Service Identity Cards with photograph issued to employees by Central/State Govt./PSUs/Public Limited Companies, **Passbooks with photograph** issued by Bank/Post Office, **PAN Card**, Smart Card issued by RGI under NPR, MGNREGA Job Card, Health Insurance Smart Card issued under the scheme of Ministry of Labour, Pension document with photograph, Official identity cards issued to MPs/MLAs/MLCs, and Aadhaar Card.
 - Overseas electors shall have to produce their original passport only for identification.
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 48.B

- The Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) system was introduced in Indian elections to enhance transparency and voter confidence in the Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) process. When a voter casts their vote on the EVM, the VVPAT machine generates a paper slip that displays certain details related to the vote cast.
- **Candidate's Name: The slip clearly prints the name of the candidate for whom the vote has been cast, allowing the voter to verify that their choice has been recorded correctly.**
- **Party Symbol: Alongside the candidate's name, the symbol of the political party the candidate represents is also printed. This helps voters easily identify their selected candidate, especially in regions with low literacy.**
- **Serial Number: Each VVPAT slip carries a unique serial number for record-keeping and audit purposes.**
- **Candidate's Photograph: The slip does not display the candidate's photograph. Including photographs could clutter the slip and is unnecessary since the name and symbol sufficiently identify the candidate.**
- **Voter's Identity Details: To maintain the secrecy and confidentiality of the ballot, no information about the voter's identity (such as name or voter ID) appears on the VVPAT slip. This ensures the voting process remains anonymous.**
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 49.C

- **Central Hindi Committee/Kendriya Hindi Samiti** has been constituted to bring about co-ordination in the work and programmes relating to the development and propagation and progressive use of Hindi for the official purposes being implemented by the various Ministries/Departments of Government of India.
- It has power to appoint sub-committees and co-opt additional members in the discharge of its functions.
- The headquarter of the Committee is at New Delhi.
- The committee has been re-constituted on 23rd June 2017, for the period of 3 years.
- **The Prime Minister of India is the chairman of the committee.**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 50.A

- **Electronic Voting Machine was introduced in India to conduct free and fair elections. Hence, the Indian Parliament amended the Representation of the People Act, 1951 and introduced Section 61-A which lays down the provisions for the use of Electronic Voting Machine by the Election Commission of India to Conduct General and State election in India. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It is possible to use EVMs for simultaneous elections for Parliament and State Legislative Assembly and the existing EVMs have been designed keeping this requirement in view.
- An Electronic Voting Machine consists of two Units – a Control Unit and a Balloting Unit – joined by a five-meter cable. This is a **stand-alone setup, not connected to any network either through wired or wireless technology. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 51.B

- The holding of free and fair elections is the sine-qua-non of democracy. Besides the constitutional provisions, the Parliament has enacted the Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1950 and Representation of the People Act, 1951.
- The **Representation of the People Act, 1951** provides for:
 - the conduct of the election of the Houses of Parliament and to the House or Houses of the Legislature of each State
 - the qualifications and **disqualifications for membership** of those Houses
 - the corrupt practices and other offences at or in connection with such elections and the decision of doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with such elections
- **Salient features of Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1950:**
 - Lays down procedures for the **delimitation of constituencies**.
 - Provides for the allocation of seats in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils of States.
 - Lays procedure for the preparation of electoral rolls and the manner of filling seats.
 - **Lays down the qualification of voters.**
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 52.C

- **The practice of "tendered votes" in Indian elections is a mechanism to address cases of potential impersonation or fraudulent voting, ensuring that genuine voters are not disenfranchised. It is governed by Section 49P of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, under the Representation of the People Act, 1951.**
- Tendered votes are designed to allow a genuine voter to cast their vote when they arrive at the polling station and discover that someone else has already voted in their name (e.g., through impersonation or an error in the electoral roll marking).
- This provision protects the integrity of the electoral process by providing a way for the legitimate voter to record their choice, while marking the vote as "tendered" for potential later scrutiny. It acts as a safeguard against voter fraud, ensuring that the real voter is not denied their right to vote under Article 326 of the Constitution (adult suffrage).
- Tendered votes are not counted in the initial tally but are kept separate and can be considered during election petitions or disputes if the margin of victory is small or if there's a challenge to the results. They serve as evidence in cases of alleged impersonation.
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 53.A

- India gained independence in 1947, and the first coalition government at the Centre was formed in 1977 after the general elections following the Emergency (1975–77).
 - The Janata Party, a coalition of several non-Congress parties (including the Jana Sangh, Congress (O), Socialist Party, and others), won the 1977 Lok Sabha elections and formed the government under Morarji Desai as Prime Minister.
 - **This was the first non-Congress government at the Centre and the first coalition government, as it comprised multiple parties united under the Janata Party banner to defeat the Indian National Congress led by Indira Gandhi.**
 - **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The Mandal Commission, officially known as the Second Backward Classes Commission, was established in 1979 under Prime Minister Morarji Desai to identify socially and educationally backward classes and recommend reservations.
 - It submitted its report in 1980, recommending 27% reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in central government jobs and educational institutions.
 - **The recommendations were implemented in 1990 by the V.P. Singh government (National Front), not during the tenure of P.V. Narasimha Rao, who was Prime Minister from 1991 to 1996.**
 - **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Swatantra Party was founded in 1959 by C. Rajagopalachari (Rajaji), a former Congress leader, along with other leaders like N.G. Ranga, to promote free-market policies and oppose the Congress's socialist agenda during the tenure of Jawaharlal Nehru.

- Indira Gandhi became Prime Minister in January 1966, but she was an influential figure in the Congress party and held significant roles during the tenure of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru (1947–1964).
- **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 54.B

- The Representation of the People Act, 1950, primarily governs the preparation, maintenance, and revision of electoral rolls for elections to Parliament and State Legislatures.
 - **It does not specify the maximum and minimum number of seats in a State's Legislative Council (Vidhan Parishad).**
 - **The composition of State Legislative Councils is regulated by Article 171 of the Constitution of India, which stipulates:**
 - > **The total number of members in a Legislative Council shall not exceed one-third of the total number of members in the Legislative Assembly of that State.**
 - > **The total number of members shall not be less than 40, except as provided by Parliament for specific cases.**
 - > **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **The RPA, 1950, explicitly provides for the appointment of a Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) under Section 13A.** The CEO is appointed by the Election Commission of India (ECI) in consultation with the State Government for each State or Union Territory.
 - The CEO's role is to supervise the preparation, revision, and maintenance of electoral rolls and to oversee the conduct of elections in the state.
 - **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Brief list of its main features, based on the provisions of the Act:
 - Mandates the creation of electoral rolls for every constituency (Section 15).
 - Designates Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) for each constituency to prepare and revise rolls (Section 13B).
 - Specifies that voters must be Indian citizens, at least 18 years old on the qualifying date, and ordinarily resident in the constituency (Sections 16, 19).
 - Allows registration in only one constituency to prevent duplicate voting (Section 17).

Q 55.C

- Based on the recommendations made by various Committees and Commissions, various reforms have been introduced in our electoral system, election machinery and election process. Some of the important reforms include:
 - The 61st Constitutional Amendment Act of 1988 reduced the voting age from 21 years to 18 years for the Lok Sabha as well as the assembly elections.
 - The EVMs were used for the first time in 1998 on an experimental basis in selected constituencies in the elections to the Assemblies of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Delhi. The EVMs were used for the first time in the general elections (entire state) to the Assembly of Goa in 1999.
 - In 1999, a provision was made for voting by certain classes of persons through postal ballot. Thus, any class of persons can be notified by the Election Commission, in consultation with the government, and the persons belonging to such notified class can give their votes by postal ballot, and not in any other manner, at elections in their constituency or constituencies.
 - **In 2003, the election Commission issued an order directing every candidate seeking election to the Parliament or a State Legislature to furnish on his nomination paper the declaration of Criminal Antecedents, Assets, etc., by Candidates.**
 - **In 2010, a provision was made to confer voting rights to the citizens of India residing outside India due to various reasons.** Accordingly, every citizen of India – (a) whose name is not included in the electoral roll (b) who has not acquired the citizenship of any other country (c) who is absent from his place of ordinary residence in India owing to his employment, education or otherwise outside India (whether temporarily or not) – shall be entitled to have his name registered in the electoral roll in the Parliamentary / Assembly constituency in which his place of residence in India as mentioned in his passport is located.
 - The Supreme Court in September 2013 upheld the right of voters to reject all candidates contesting the elections, saying it would go a long way in cleansing the political system of the country. The top court directed the Election Commission to have an option of NOTA on EVMs and ballot papers in a major electoral reform. **The NOTA option was first used in the assembly elections held in five states in 2013.**
 - **Hence, option (c) is correct**

Q 56.D

- Delimitation literally means the act or process of fixing limits or boundaries of territorial constituencies in a country or a province having a legislative body.
- Article 82 of the Constitution provides for readjustment of allocation of seats in the House of the People to the States and the division of each State into territorial constituencies. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Delimitation Commission is empowered by the act to redraw the boundaries and decide upon the distribution of seats for state assembly and Lok Sabha election.**
- The population is the basis of the allocation of seats of the Lok Sabha. As far as possible, every State gets representation in the Lok Sabha in proportion to its population as per census figures.
- This readjustment is done by the Delimitation Commission which is set up afresh by the law made by the parliament.
- In India, such Delimitation Commissions have been constituted 4 times – in 1952 under the Delimitation Commission Act, 1952, in 1963 under Delimitation Commission Act, 1962, in 1973 under Delimitation Act, 1972 and in 2002 under Delimitation Act, 2002.
- Constitution of Delimitation Commission:
 - one member, who shall be a person who is or has been a Judge of the Supreme Court, to be appointed by the Central Government who shall be the Chairperson of the Commission; **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - the Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner nominated by the Chief Election Commissioner, ex officio;
 - the State Election Commissioner of concerned State, ex officio.
- The Delimitation Commission in India is a high power body whose orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court. These orders come into force on a date to be specified by the President of India in this behalf. The copies of its orders are laid before the House of the People and the State Legislative Assembly concerned, but no modifications are permissible therein by them. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 57.D

- The National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) is an autonomous institute under the aegis of Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Government of India. Its head office is at New Delhi and branch office at Mussoorie.
- The NCGG has been set up to assist in bringing about governance reforms through studies, training, knowledge sharing and promotion of good ideas. It seeks to carry out policy-relevant research and prepare case studies; curate training courses for civil servants from India and other developing countries; provide a platform for sharing of existing knowledge and pro-actively seek out and develop ideas for their implementation in the government, both at the National & International Level.
- Functions/ Objectives of National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) include:
 - **To be a think tank for governance & policy reforms, cutting across administrative, social, economic and financial spheres;**
 - **To function as a national repository on information on best practices, initiatives and methodologies that promote Good Governance, e-Governance, innovation & change management within the government;**
 - To initiate and participate in action research and capacity building on various aspects of regulatory and development administration, public policy, governance and public management at National/State & local levels;
 - To advise on key issues in governance and develop synergy across various Ministries/ Departments of GoI, and State Governments;
 - **To promote sharing and replication of innovative ideas and best practices in Governance;**
 - To interact with national and international organizations, in and outside government, engaged in research and capacity building in the above spheres;
 - To engage in the provision of consultancy services in and outside the country
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 58.D

- The reasons for Governments not being citizen centric can be attributed to-
 - the attitude and work of some government servants the **deficiencies in existing institutional structures**
 - **problems of excessive centralization**

- policies and action plans are far removed from the needs of the citizens
- **inadequate capacity building of personnel**
- lack of awareness about rights and duties
- **callous approach to compliance to laws on the part of some of the citizens**
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 59.C

- The **Chenab Bridge**, located in the Reasi district of Jammu & Kashmir, is the world's highest **railway arch bridge**, standing at a height of about 359 metres above the riverbed, even taller than the Eiffel Tower. It is part of the **Udhampur–Srinagar–Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project**, aimed at connecting the Kashmir Valley with the rest of India through an all-weather rail network. The bridge spans the Chenab River and is a major engineering marvel in India's railway infrastructure. **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 60.C

- **Recent Context: The 8th edition of Exercise Shakti, a joint military exercise between India and France, was held from June 18 to July 1, 2025**, at Camp Larzac, La Cavalerie, France. The exercise focused on enhancing interoperability and tactical coordination between the two armies in sub-conventional operations.
- Exercise Shakti – France
 - Exercise Shakti is a biennial army exercise between India and France, aimed at enhancing tactical cooperation on counter-insurgency and conventional warfare. The most recent edition (2025) took place in June–July in France. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- Exercise Ekuverin – Maldives
 - Exercise Ekuverin (“Friends” in Dhivehi) is an annual army exercise between India and the Maldives, focused on counter-insurgency, counter-terrorism, and humanitarian assistance/disaster relief (HADR). The 13th edition was recently conducted from February 2 to 15, 2025, in Maldives. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- PASSEX – United Kingdom
 - Passage Exercises (PASSEX) are routine naval drills conducted by the Indian Navy with friendly foreign navies to enhance interoperability.
 - In June 2025, India conducted a high-tempo PASSEX with the UK Carrier Strike Group (including HMS Prince of Wales and HMS Richmond) in the North Arabian Sea on June 9–10. These drills involved INS Tabar, a submarine, and P-8I aircraft in coordinated maneuvers. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

Q 61.C

- The term “Bunny Hop” refers to a catching technique where a player, while airborne outside the field of play, throws or deflects the ball back inside before completing the dismissal.
- The Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) has recently introduced a rule change to outlaw multiple mid-air touches outside the boundary in such catches.
- Under the new rule, only one mid-air touch outside the boundary is permitted before the player must return to the field of play.
- This change will be part of ICC playing conditions from June 2025.
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 62.D

- Khichan (in the Phalodi region) and Menar (near Udaipur) were officially designated as Ramsar Sites on the eve of World Environment Day 2025, raising India's tally of internationally recognized wetlands to 91, the highest in Asia
- Both wetlands are situated in the state of Rajasthan, bringing the total Ramsar sites in the state to four, alongside Sambhar Salt Lake and Keoladeo Ghana National Park. **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**
- Khichan is renowned for its congregation of migratory Demoiselle cranes, while Menar, known as the ‘Bird Village’, exemplifies community-led conservation as a habitat for numerous resident and migratory birds.

Q 63.B

- The Global Gender Gap Report is published by the World Economic Forum (WEF), not the International Labour Organization. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- In the latest Global Gender Gap Index, India is ranked 131st out of 148 countries. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The Global Gender Gap Report assesses countries based on economic participation, educational attainment, health and survival, and political empowerment.
- India's performance has been particularly low in economic participation and political empowerment compared to global averages.

Q 64.B

- **Recent Context:** The 7th meeting of the NBWL was chaired by the Prime Minister of India at Gir National Park, Gujarat. This was the first full-body meeting after more than a decade; the last such meeting took place in 2012.
- **Key announcements made:**
 - Release of the first-ever riverine dolphin estimation report, estimating 6,327 dolphins.
 - Initiation of the 16th lion population estimation, to be conducted in 2025.
 - The meeting highlighted the need for scientific wildlife conservation and balancing development with ecological sustainability.
- The National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) is a statutory body established under Section 5A of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, not under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. Its primary role is to promote the conservation and development of wildlife and forests. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- As per the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the Prime Minister of India serves as the Chairperson of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL).**
- The Union Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change is the Vice-Chairperson.
- The Board includes representatives from NGOs, wildlife experts, and officials. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 65.C

- **Recent Context: Ozzo Feni** officially received the GI tag in June 2025, recognizing its unique status as Goa's traditional cashew-apple spirit. This makes Ozzo Feni the first feni in India to receive a GI tag, boosting its protection, authenticity, and positioning it alongside celebrated regional spirits globally.
- Ozzo Feni (Goa)
 - Ozzo Feni is a traditional Goan spirit made from the fermentation and double distillation of either cashew apples or coconut sap. It holds cultural significance, first introduced by Portuguese missionaries in the 1600s. The GI tag (granted in June 2025) protects its unique Goan method and flavor, enhancing market value internationally. It's produced by local distillers, famously called 'Bhatikars'. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- Pilkhuwa Hand Block Print Textile (Uttar Pradesh)
 - Pilkhuwa Hand Block Print Textile refers to hand-block printed fabrics made in Pilkhuwa, Uttar Pradesh. The craft is known for intricate floral and geometric patterns stamped with hand-carved wooden blocks. These textiles are mainly used for garments and home furnishings and have a rich legacy tied to Pilkhuwa's artisan communities. Pilkhuwa Hand Block Print Textile was granted the GI Tag in 2024. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- Padauk Wood Craft (Andaman & Nicobar Islands)
 - Padauk Wood Craft consists of handicrafts and furniture made from the locally grown Padauk wood in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Notable for its vibrant color, stability, and resistance to pests, the craft includes traditional furniture and decorative articles created by indigenous communities. The GI tag recognizes the craftsmanship and sustainable practices of the region. Padauk Wood Craft was granted GI tag in 2024. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

Q 66.A

- P. C. Mahalanobis (Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis) is a pioneering statistician known for founding the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), initiating large-scale sample surveys including the National Sample Survey (NSS), and shaping India's Second Five-Year Plan through statistical modeling
- National Statistics Day is observed annually on 29 June, which is his birth anniversary, and was first celebrated in 2007 to commemorate his contributions to economic planning and statistical infrastructure in India.

- The day serves to raise awareness, particularly among the youth, about the importance of statistical methods and data-driven policy making in socio-economic development. **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 67.C

- Axiom Mission-4 (Ax-4) was launched on a SpaceX Falcon 9 Block-5 rocket with a Crew Dragon capsule (named Grace) from Kennedy Space Center on 25 June 2025. The mission docked with the ISS and later splashed down off the coast of California on 15 July 2025.
- **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Shubhanshu Shukla is not the first Indian national in space since Independence. He became the second Indian national to go to space, the first being Wing Commander Rakesh Sharma who flew aboard a Soviet Soyuz in 1984. (Shukla is, however, the first Indian to travel to and work on the International Space Station.) Reports and official summaries identify Shukla as the second Indian astronaut and note the historical precedence of Rakesh Sharma (1984). **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Ax-4 carried an extensive research programme, over ~60 experiments from multiple countries, focused on microgravity science, including biomedical/biological investigations (muscle regeneration, microbial and algal studies, plant growth, glucose/diabetes research, tardigrade biology, etc.). The mission explicitly aimed to advance understanding of biological processes in microgravity rather than being solely a tourism flight. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 68.B

- Recently it was reported that India has yet again been placed in the 'priority watch' list of the US Trade Representative (USTR) office's annual report on intellectual property rights. the report stated that New Delhi remained one of the world's most challenging major economies with respect to protection and enforcement of IP rights.
- About the Special 301 Report:
 - It is an annual review conducted by the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR).
 - Mandated under Section 182 of the U.S. Trade Act of 1974, as amended.
 - The report identifies countries that do not provide adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights (IPR) or fail to ensure fair market access for U.S. entities relying on IPR protection.
- Categories in the Report:
 - Priority Foreign Country – the most serious offenders.
 - Priority Watch List – significant problems requiring close monitoring.
 - Watch List – notable IP concerns, but less severe.
- Purpose:
 - To pressure trading partners into improving their IP protection regimes.
 - Can lead to bilateral negotiations or even trade sanctions if issues are not resolved.
- Recent in News:
- The 2025 Special 301 Report placed Mexico on the Priority Watch List for long-standing concerns about trademark counterfeiting and pharmaceutical IPR.
- India has often featured in the Priority Watch List due to concerns about patent protection for pharmaceuticals and enforcement of copyright laws.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 69.A

- Ambubachi Mela is celebrated at the Kamakhya Temple, Assam, marking the annual menstruation cycle of Goddess Kamakhya. **Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- Shirui Lily Festival is held in Manipur, not Kerala, to promote tourism and preserve the rare Shirui Lily flower. **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- Thrissur Pooram is famous temple festival in Kerala, not Manipur, featuring decorated elephants and percussion ensembles. **Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

Q 70.B

- Recently, the Prime Minister at the World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit quoted that "India is becoming an orange economy." The 'orange economy', also known as the creative economy, refers to economic activities that leverage creativity, culture, and intellectual property to generate wealth and jobs.
- Orange Economy refers to the creative economy — industries that rely on creativity, culture, and intellectual property as their primary input.

- This includes:
 - Performing arts, music, dance
 - Film and television
 - Publishing, literature
 - Architecture, design, fashion
 - Advertising and creative digital media
 - Origin of the term: Popularised by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to highlight the economic potential of creativity-driven sectors.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 71.C

- **Recent Context:** As a contemporary example of revival, a traditionally **built “stitched” vessel (INSV Kaundinya)**, constructed using these ancestral techniques, was launched/inducted and is planned to sail ancient trade routes, **illustrating the living heritage and practical robustness of the Tankai method.**
- The Tankai method (also called the stitched-shipbuilding method) is an ancient Indian technique for constructing wooden boats and ships by stitching wooden planks together with natural fibre ropes (eg. coir) and sealing the joints with natural resins, rather than using metal nails or modern fasteners. This gives the hull flexibility and resilience in shallow, shoal-prone waters.
- The method dates back around 2,000 years and was widespread in parts of the Indian Ocean littoral; it survived in a few coastal traditions and has been the subject of recent revival efforts. The Ministry of Culture signed an MoU with the Indian Navy to revive and document the Tankai (stitched-ship) technique as part of preserving maritime heritage.
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 72.A

- **Recent Context:** The Banakacherla Project, formally known as the Polavaram–Banakacherla Link Project, is an ambitious river interlinking initiative by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. It seeks to channel surplus floodwaters from the Godavari River (via Polavaram Dam) to the Rayalaseema region through a complex network of canals, reservoirs, tunnels, and lift systems.
- The estimated cost of the project is approximately ₹80,000–₹82,000 crore. It aims to:
 - Provide drinking water to around 8 million people,
 - Irrigate 7.5 lakh acres of new area, and stabilize existing agricultural lands in Rayalaseema, one of India’s most drought-prone regions.
- The project is vocally opposed by neighboring Telangana, which has raised concerns that diverting Godavari water may violate the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal (GWDT) Award. Objections include inter-state water-sharing violations and lack of proper environmental and legal clearances. Andhra Pradesh has responded by affirming use of surplus water and that no construction has yet begun, pending further approvals.
- **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**



Q 73.D

- Amolops shillong is a newly discovered species of cascade-dwelling frog found in Shillong, Meghalaya.
- It is unique as it inhabits cascading streams even within urban areas, demonstrating adaptation to environments that merge natural and built landscapes.
- The species serves as an indicator of clean, undisturbed freshwater ecosystems, making it ecologically significant.
- Discovery was made by the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), and it highlights the importance of urban biodiversity conservation.
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 74.B

- Context: Project Kusha is India's indigenous program to develop a long-range surface-to-air missile defence system, comparable to Russia's S-400 system.
- Key Features:
 - Designed to intercept and destroy hostile aircraft, drones, and missiles at long ranges (up to 350 km).
 - Multiple types of interceptor missiles for layered defence.
 - Integration with a multi-function radar and a command-and-control system.
- Significance: Enhances India's self-reliance in advanced air defence systems and reduces dependence on foreign platforms.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 75.B

- The World Press Freedom Index (also referred to as the World Press Freedom Index or WPFI) is compiled and released annually by Reporters Without Borders (RSF), a global non-profit NGO headquartered in Paris, dedicated to safeguarding freedom of information and upholding journalists' rights. RSF has published the Index since 2002.
- The index provides a comparative assessment of press freedom across 180 countries and territories, based on criteria like political context, legal environment, economic constraints, sociocultural pressures, and safety of journalists.
- According to the latest 2025 report, India ranks 151st, dropping from its previous positions, with economic fragility cited as a principal factor undermining press freedom globally.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 76.C

- **The Central Information Commission has been constituted with effect from 12-10-2005 under the Right to Information Act, 2005 under an official gazette notification. It is a statutory body.**
- The Original act states that the salary of the CIC and ICs (at the central level) will be equivalent to the salary paid to the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners, respectively. **The Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019 Act** seeks to amend these provisions to state that the **salaries, allowances, and other terms and conditions of service of the central and state CIC and ICs will be determined by the central government.** Hence option (c) is the correct answer.
- **The annual reports of CIC are submitted to the Central Government which places them before the Houses of Parliament.**
- **Central Information Commission or State Information Commission, as the case may be, is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds to inquire into the matter, it may initiate an inquiry suo moto in respect thereof.** While inquiring, the Commission has the powers of a civil court in respect of summoning, requiring documents etc.

Q 77.C

- **The Central Vigilance Commission was set up by the Government in February 1964 on the recommendations of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption, headed by Shri K. Santhanam, to advise and guide Central Government agencies in the field of vigilance. The CVC is not controlled by any Ministry/Department. It is an independent body that is only responsible for the Parliament.** The Commission shall consist of:
 - A Central Vigilance Commissioner - Chairperson;
 - Not more than two Vigilance Commissioners - Members. **Hence, statement 1 and 2 are correct.**
- **The CVC is not an investigating agency. The CVC either gets the investigation done through the CBI or through the Departmental Chief Vigilance Officers.** Secondly, the CVC orders investigation

into cases of officials of Central Government Departments/Companies/Organisations only. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

- The Central Vigilance Commissioner shall hold office for a term of four years from the date on which he enters upon his office or till he attains the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier.

Q 78.A

- **Originally, the Constitution of India did not make any provision with respect to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.** Later, the States Reorganisation Commission (1953–55) made a recommendation in this regard. **Accordingly, the Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 inserted a new Article 350-B in Part XVII of the Constitution. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- This article contains the following provisions:
 - **There should be a Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.** He is to be appointed by the President of India.
 - It would be the duty of the Special Officer to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under the Constitution. He would report to the President upon those matters at such intervals as the President may direct. The President should place all such reports before each House of Parliament and send to the governments of the states concerned.
- **The Constitution does not specify the qualifications, tenure, salaries and allowances, service conditions and procedure for removal of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **At the Central level, the Commissioner falls under the Ministry of Minority Affairs.** Hence, he submits the annual reports or other reports to the President through the Union Minority Affairs Minister.

Q 79.C

- **National Medical Commission (NMC), constituted under NMC Act, 2019 Act replaces the Medical Council of India (MCI) as the country's medical education regulator.** Some of the functions of National Medical Commission:
 - To lay down policies for maintaining high quality and high standards in medical education and make necessary regulations.
 - To lay down policies for regulating medical institutions, medical researchers, and medical professionals and make necessary regulations.
 - Framing guidelines for determination of fees for up to 50% of seats in private medical institutions and deemed universities which are regulated under the Bill.
- **The National Statistical Commission was set up in 2005 through a Notification on recommendations of Rangarajan Commission,** as an interim measure. However, in the absence of any legislative framework, the NSC has faced challenges in implementing its recommendations. **There is no legislative framework and therefore it is not a statutory body.** The NSC is the apex advisory body on statistical matters, but its suggestions are not binding on the government.
- **The Bar Council of India is a statutory body created by Parliament under the Advocates Act'1961 to regulate and represent the Indian bar.** The Council also sets standards for legal education and grants recognition to Universities whose degree in law will serve as a qualification for enrolment as an advocate.
- **The National Commission for Women was set up as a statutory body in January 1992 under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 to :**
 - review the Constitutional and Legal safeguards for women
 - advise the Government on all policy matters affecting women. Hence statement 1 is correct
 - facilitate redressal of grievances and
 - recommend remedial legislative measures. **Hence, option (c) is correct answer.**

Q 80.B

- **The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 added a new Part XIV-A to the Constitution.** This part is entitled as 'Tribunals' and consists of only two Articles—
 - Article 323 A dealing with administrative tribunals and
 - Article 323 B dealing with tribunals for other matters. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Article 323-A empowers the Parliament to provide for the establishment of administrative tribunals for the adjudication of disputes relating to recruitment and conditions of service of persons appointed to public services of the Centre, the states, local bodies, public corporations, and other public authorities.** In other words, Article 323-A enables the Parliament to take out the adjudication of

disputes relating to service matters from the civil courts and the high courts and place it before the administrative tribunals. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- **Under Article 323-B**, the Parliament and the state legislatures are authorised to provide for the establishment of tribunals for the adjudication of disputes relating to the following matters:
 - Taxation
 - Foreign exchange, import and export
 - Industrial and labour
 - Land reforms
 - Ceiling on urban property
 - Elections to Parliament and state legislatures
 - Food stuff
 - Rent and tenancy rights

Q 81.B

- **Article 148 states that there shall be a Comptroller and Auditor-General of India who shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.** Every person appointed to be the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India shall, before he enters upon his office, make and subscribe before the President or some person appointed in that behalf by him, an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- **The Comptroller and Auditor-General is not eligible for further office either under the Government of India or under the Government of any State after he has ceased to hold his office. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- **In practice, CAG is fulfilling the role of Auditor-General only as CAG has no control over the issue of money from the consolidated fund and many departments are authorized to draw money by issuing cheques without specific authority from the CAG.** Hence statement 2 is not correct. In India, the executive can withdraw the money from the public exchequer however, in Britain, it is only possible with the approval of CAG. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 82.C

- **Articles 294 to 300 in Part XII of the Constitution deal with the property, contracts, rights, liabilities, obligations and suits of the Union and the states.** In this regard, the Constitution makes the Union or the states as juristic (legal) persons.
- **No criminal proceedings can be started against the president and the governors in respect of their personal acts nor can they be arrested or imprisoned.** This immunity is limited to the period of the term of their office only and does not extend beyond that.
- **The judicial officers enjoy immunity from any liability in respect of their official acts and hence, cannot be sued.** The Judicial Officers Protection Act (1850) lays down that, 'no judge, magistrate, justice of peace, collector or other person acting judicially shall be liable to be sued in any civil court for any act done by him in the discharge of his official duty'. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- In Common Cause Case, the Supreme Court said that in modern times when the State activities have been considerably increased it is very difficult to draw a line between its sovereign and non-sovereign functions. The increased activities of the State have made a deep impression on all facets of citizens' life, and therefore, the liability of the State must be made coextensive with the modern concept of a welfare State. **The State must be liable for all tortuous acts of its employees, whether done in exercise of sovereign or non-sovereign powers. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 83.C

- **National Institution for Transforming India, also known as NITI Aayog, was formed via an executive resolution of the Union Cabinet on 1 January 2015.** It is a non-statutory and an extra constitutional body.
 - **The Governing Council of NITI Aayog is chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and comprises Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Territories with legislatures and Lt Governors of other Union Territories. Hence statements 1 and 2 are correct.**
 - The full-time organizational framework will include, in addition to the Prime Minister as the Chairperson: Vice-Chairperson (appointed by the Prime Minister)
 - Members: Full-time (They enjoy the rank of Ministers of State)
 - **Chief Executive Officer: The CEO will be appointed by the Prime Minister for a fixed tenure. He will be in the rank of Secretary to the Government of India. Hence statement 3 is not correct**

- Ex Officio members: Maximum of 4 members of the Council of Ministers which is to be nominated by the Prime Minister.
- Part-time members: Maximum of 2 members from foremost universities, leading research organizations, and other innovative organizations in an ex-officio capacity. Part-time members will be on a rotational basis.

Q 84.D

- **The Parliament enacted the Official Language Act in 1963.** Some of the provisions of the Act are listed below:
 - The act provides for the continued use of English (even after 1965), in addition to Hindi, for all official purposes of the Union and also for the transaction of business in Parliament. Notably, this act enables the use of English indefinitely (without any time-limit).
 - The Official Language Act of 1963 lays down that Hindi translation of acts, ordinances, orders, regulations and bye-laws published under the authority of the president are deemed to be authoritative texts. **Every bill introduced in the Parliament is to be accompanied by a Hindi translation.**
 - **The English should be used for purposes of communication between the Union and the non-Hindi states** (that is, the states that have not adopted Hindi as their official language).
 - **The act provided for the setting up of a Committee of Parliament on Official Language to review the progress made in the use of Hindi for the official purpose of the Union.** Under the Act, this Committee was to be constituted after ten years of the promulgation of the Act (i.e., 26th January, 1965). Accordingly, this Committee was set up in 1976.
- **However, The Constitution (Article 343) contains the following provisions in respect of the official language of the Union:**
 - **Hindi written in Devanagari script is to be the official language of the Union.** But, the form of numerals to be used for the official purposes of the Union has to be the international form of Indian numerals and not the Devanagari form of numerals. **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 85.D

- The National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution was set up by Government Resolution in 2000 under the Chairmanship of Justice M. N. Venkatachaliah. The few of the recommendations of the commission are mentioned below:
- **On Directive Principles of State Policy**
 - The heading of Part-IV of the Constitution should be amended to read as ‘Directive Principles of State Policy and Action’.
 - **A new Directive Principle on control of population should be added. Hence option 1 is correct.**
 - **An independent National Education Commission should be set-up every five years. Hence option 2 is correct.**
 - An Inter-Faith Commission should be established to promote inter-religious harmony and social solidarity.
 - There must be a body of high status to review the level of implementation of the Directive Principles.
- **On Fundamental Duties: The following new fundamental duties should be included in Article 51-A:**
 - **Duty to vote at elections, actively participate in the democratic process of governance and to pay taxes. Hence option 3 is correct.**
 - Duty of industrial organizations to provide education to children of their employees.
- **On Centre-State and Inter-State Relations:**
 - A statutory body called the Inter-State Trade and Commerce Commission should be established.
 - The president should appoint the governor of a state only after consultation with the chief minister of that state.

Q 86.C

- **The salient features of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act (2013):**
 - It seeks to establish the institution of the Lokpal at the Centre and the Lokayukta at the level of the State and thus seeks to provide a uniform vigilance and anti-corruption road map for the nation both at the Centre and at the States.
 - The selection of the Chairperson and the members of Lokpal shall be through a Selection Committee consisting of the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, the Chief Justice of India or a sitting Supreme Court Judge nominated

by the Chief Justice of India and an eminent jurist to be nominated by the President of India on the basis of recommendations of the first four members of the selection committee.

- > **The jurisdiction of Lokpal includes the Prime Minister, Ministers, Members of Parliament, and Groups A, B, C, and D officers and officials of the Central Government. Hence, statement-I is correct**
- > The Lokpal to consists of a Chairperson with a maximum of 8 members of which 50% shall be judicial members.
- > 50% of the members of the Lokpal shall come from amongst the SCs, the STs, the OBCs, minorities, and women.
- > **Lokpal cannot suo-moto proceed against any public servant. Hence, statement-II is not correct.**
- > The Lokpal will have the power of superintendence and direction over any investigating agency, including the CBI, for cases referred to them by the Lokpal.

Q 87.C

- A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled. The Co-operative Society is formed for the mutual benefit of all the members.
- Number and Term of members of the board and its office bearers of Co-operative Society: Article 243 ZJ
 - **Directors: Such number of directors may be provided by the state legislature but not more than 21. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - **Reservation of seats: The state legislature shall provide a reservation of 1 seat to SC/ST and 2 seats to women on the board of every cooperative society having members from such a category of persons. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
 - As cooperatives function under the mutual cooperation of all the members, all members are equal and free for their rights. Therefore the "one-person-one-vote" system prevails here. **Each cooperative member has equal voting rights, regardless of the number of shares they own or their role in the organization.** A cooperative is a separate legal entity from the members, directors, and employees. These parties are not liable for the entity's debts. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 88.A

- **The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India is a Statutory public body constituted on 12 October 1993 under the Protection of Human Rights Ordinance of 28 September 1993.** It was given a statutory basis by the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. The commission is a multi-member body consisting of a chairman and four members.
- **The Commission's decisions are only recommendatory.** The Governments are not bound to implement them. It is open for them to challenge NHRC recommendations in High Courts. But, it should be informed about the action taken on its recommendations within one month. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- NHRC can look into a matter within one year of its occurrence, i.e the **Commission is not empowered to inquire into any matter after the expiry of one year from the date on which the act constituting a violation of human rights is alleged to have been committed. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- **It can inquire into any violation of human rights 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. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 89.A

- **The Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) is an attached office of NITI Aayog.** Constituted in September 2015 by merging the erstwhile Program Evaluation Office (PEO) and the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO), **DMEO works to fulfill the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) mandate and to build the M&E ecosystem on India.**
- DMEO has been mandated to actively monitor and evaluate the implementation of schemes, programs and Initiatives of the Government of India (GoI) to strengthen their implementation and scope of delivery on an ongoing basis. Further, evidence-based policy making should be integral to the overall governance structure in New India. **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 90.A

- **The Constitution makes provision for the establishment of a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states.** JSPSC is a statutory body and not a constitutional body as it is **created by an act of the Parliament.**

- **Two or more States may agree that there shall be one Public Service Commission for that group of States, and if a resolution to that effect is passed by the House** or, where there are two Houses, by each House of the Legislature of each of those States, Parliament may by law provide for the appointment of a Joint State Public Service Commission. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **JSPSC presents its annual performance report to each of the concerned State Governors.** Each governor places the report before the state legislature. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- The chairman and members of the JSPSC are appointed by the President. They hold office for six years or until they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier. They can be suspended or removed by the President. **They can also resign from office by submitting their resignation letters to the President. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- The chairman and members of a Joint Public Service Commission JSPSC are appointed by the President. **They hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier.**

Q 91.A

- The Constitution does not specify the official language of different states. In this regard, it makes the following provisions:
- The legislature of a state may adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the state or Hindi as the official language of that state. **The choice of the state is not limited to the languages enumerated in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.** Under this provision, most of the states have adopted the major regional language as their official language. For example,
 - Andhra Pradesh has adopted Telugu, Kerala—Malayalam, Assam—Assamese, West Bengal—Bengali, Odisha—Odia. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Article 345** states that, subject to the provisions of Articles 346 and 347, **the legislature of a state may by law adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the State or Hindi as the language or languages to be used for all or any of the official purposes of that State** provided that, until the Legislature of the State otherwise provides by law, the English language shall continue to be used for those official purposes within the State for which it was being used immediately before the commencement of this Constitution. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 92.D

- **The Foreigners Tribunal is a quasi-judicial body** created through an executive order namely- Foreigners Tribunal Order, 1964 under Section 3 the Foreigners Act, 1946. When referred by the Central/ State Government /District Magistrate, foreigner tribunals decide on matters related to:
 - Whether a person is a foreigner within the meaning of Foreigners Act, 1946.
 - Whether a person of Indian origin complies with the requirements under Clause 6A (Assam Accord) of the Citizenship Act, 1955.
- Foreigners Tribunals can regulate their own procedure.
- **They have powers equivalent to that of a Civil Court.** They can summon and enforce the attendance of any person and can also examine them under oath. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **The power to declare a person as foreigner lies with these tribunals only.** Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- **The MHA has amended the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, and has empowered district magistrates in all States and Union Territories to set up tribunals to decide whether a person staying illegally in India is a foreigner or not.** Earlier, the powers to constitute tribunals were vested only with the Centre. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Amendment order also empowers individuals to approach the Tribunals. Earlier only the State administration could move the Tribunal against a suspect.

Q 93.C

- **The Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India lists the official languages of India.** Although there are hundreds of languages spoken across the country, the eighth schedule recognizes a total of 22 languages as the official languages.
- While 14 of these languages were included in the Constitution at first, these were: Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, **Sanskrit**, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu. **The rest of the languages were added to the Constitution through subsequent amendments.**
 - **Sindhi was added by the 21st Amendment Act of 1967. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**
 - Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali were added by the 71st Amendment Act of 1992;

- Bodo, Dongri, Maithili, and Santhali were added by the 92nd Amendment Act of 2003.
- The original Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, adopted in 1950, included 14 languages.

Q 94.C

- **The Law Commission of India is a non-statutory body constituted by the Government from time to time and not by the Parliament.** The Commission post-independence was originally constituted in 1955 and is reconstituted by the Union Government every three years. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - **The Law Commission of India submitted its report to the Ministry of Law and Justice. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
 - **Law Commissions were constituted by the Government from time to time** and were empowered to recommend legislative reforms with a view to clarifying, consolidate and codify particular branches of law where the Government felt the necessity for it.
- **To promote legal education and to lay down standards of legal education is the function of Bar Council of India (statutory body created by Parliament.).** This is done in consultation with the Universities in India imparting legal education and the State Bar Councils. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 95.A

- The 97th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2011 gave constitutional status and protection to co-operative societies. In this context, it made the following two major changes in the Constitution:
 - It made the right to form co-operative societies a Fundamental Right under Article 19(1)(c).
 - It inserted a new Directive Principle of State Policy (Article 43B) regarding the promotion of co-operative societies.
 - It also added a new Part IX-B (Articles 243ZH to 243ZT) entitled “The Co-operative Societies. However, in *Rajendra N. Shah v. Union of India* (2013), the Supreme Court struck down Part IX-B insofar as it applied to co-operative societies under the State List, holding it valid only for multi-state co-operative societies. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **The Cooperative Societies with objects not confined to one State are governed by Entry 44 of the List I - Union List** of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution and provisions of centrally administered Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002. **The Cooperative Societies with objects confined to one State are governed by Entry 32 of the List II - State List of the Seventh Schedule** to the Constitution and provisions of respective State Cooperative Societies Act. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 96.A

- **The GST Council, established under the Article 279A of the Indian Constitution, is the apex decision-making body for implementing and regulating the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India.** The voting weightage is not divided equally. **The Union Government has one-third of the total votes cast and the state governments collectively have two-thirds of the total votes cast. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Supreme Court in *Mohit Minerals Pvt Ltd vs UOI* case ,2022 has ruled that the recommendations of the GST council’s recommendations non-binding and simultaneously legislating power of the Union and State governments give only persuasive value to the Council’s recommendations. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- For any decision to be taken by the GST Council, a minimum of 75% of the weighted votes of the members present and voting is required. This ensures a broad consensus between the Central and the State. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 97.B

- National Green Tribunal (NGT) is a specialised judicial body equipped with expertise solely for the purpose of adjudicating environmental cases in the country. It is a statutory body established in 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act.
- It is tasked with providing an effective and expeditious remedy in cases relating to environmental protection, conservation of forests and other natural resources and enforcement of any legal right relating to the environment.
- **Composition**
 - Chairperson
 - Not less than ten but subject to a maximum of twenty full-time Judicial members
 - Not less than ten but subject to a maximum of twenty full-time Expert members

- **Qualification for an appointment for Chairperson, the Judicial member**
 - **Chairperson** – A person must be a Judge of the Supreme Court or Chief Justice of High Court
 - **Judicial member** - A person must be a Judge of the Supreme Court or Chief Justice of High Court or Judge of High court. Hence statement (b) is correct.
- **Term of Office**
 - The chairperson, Judicial Member and Expert Member of the Tribunal shall hold office for a term of five years from the date upon which they enter upon their office. They will not be eligible for re-appointment.
 - In case a person, who is or has been a Judge of Supreme Court, has been appointed as Chairperson or Judicial Member of NGT, he shall not hold office after he has attained the age of seventy years
 - In case a person, who is or has been a Chief Justice of High Court, has been appointed as Chairperson or Judicial Member of NGT, he shall not hold office after he has attained the age of sixty-seven years
 - In case a person, who is or has been a Judge of High Court, has been appointed as Judicial Member of NGT, he shall not hold office after he has attained the age of sixty-seven years.
 - No expert member shall hold office after he has attained the age of sixty-five years. **Hence statement (d) is not correct.**
- **The NGT has jurisdiction over all civil cases (and not criminal cases) where a substantial question relating to the environment is involved. Hence statement (c) is not correct.**
- The decisions of the Tribunal are binding. The Tribunal's orders are enforceable as the powers vested are the same as in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. The decisions of the tribunal can be challenged before the Supreme Court within ninety days. **Hence statement (a) is not correct.**

Q 98.D

- **The Competition Commission of India (CCI) is a statutory body of the Government of India responsible for enforcing the Competition Act, 2002. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
 - The Competition Act, 2002 prohibits anti-competitive agreements, and abuse of dominant position by enterprises and regulates combinations (acquisition, acquiring of control, and mergers & acquisitions), which cause or are likely to cause an appreciable adverse effect on competition within India.
- It is the duty of the Commission to eliminate practices having an adverse effect on competition, promote and sustain competition, protect the interests of consumers and ensure freedom of trade in the markets of India.
- The Commission is also required to give an opinion on competition issues on a reference received from a statutory authority established under any law and to undertake competition advocacy, create public awareness and impart training on competition issues.
- Under Section 8(2) of the Competition Act, 2002, the Chairperson and every other Member shall be a person of ability, integrity, and standing who, has been, or is qualified to be a judge of a High Court, or, has special knowledge of, and professional experience of not less than fifteen years in international trade, economics, business, commerce, law, finance, accountancy, management, industry, public affairs, administration or in any other matter which, in the opinion of the Central Government, may be useful to the Commission. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- Under Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013, and Section 53A(1) of the Competition Act, 2002, **the government replaced the Competition Appellate Tribunal (COMPAT) with the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) in 2017. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 99.C

- The National Commission for Women was set up as a **statutory body** in January 1992 under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990. It is a statutory body and not a constitutional body.
- The NCW investigates and examines all matters relating to the safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws, and **presents to the Central Government**, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of that safeguard.
- The NCW looks into complaints and takes **suo moto notice of matters** relating to
 - deprivation of women's rights,
 - non-implementation of laws enacted to provide protection to women and also to achieve the objective of equality and development. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines, or instructions aimed at mitigating hardships and ensuring the welfare and providing relief to women, and take up the issues arising out of such matters with appropriate authorities,
 - participate and advice on the planning process of socio-economic development of women,

- evaluate the progress of the development of women under the Union and any State,
- inspect or cause to be inspected a jail, remand home, women's institution, or other places of custody where women are kept as prisoners or otherwise and take up with the concerned authorities for remedial action if found necessary,
- **fund litigation involving issues affecting a large body of women, Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- **Rashtriya Mahila Kosh:** Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) was established by the Government of India in March 1993 as an autonomous body under the Ministry of Women & Child Development. It was registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860. As the National Commission for Women, the RMK is also an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- RMK extends micro-credit to the women in the informal sector through a client-friendly, without collateral, and in a hassle-free manner for income generation activities. RMK has taken a number of promotional measures to popularize the concept of micro-financing, enterprise development, thrift and credit, formation and strengthening of Women-SHG's through intermediary organizations. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 100.D

- **National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)**
 - The **Supreme Court ordered the government to establish a permanent commission** to consider, examine, and recommend the inclusion and exclusion of various Backward Classes for the purposes of benefits and protection **in the Indra Sawhney case of 1992.**
 - The **National Commission for Backward Classes Act of 1993** was passed in response to these directives, and the NCBC was established.
 - Later, **the 102nd Amendment Act of 2018 conferred a constitutional status on the Commission.**
 - **The amendment inserted a new Article 338-B in the constitution. Hence, the Commission ceased to be a statutory body and became a constitutional body. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **The functions of the Commission are the following:**
 - **To investigate and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards** for the socially and educationally backward classes.
 - **To inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards** of the socially and educationally backward classes.
 - To participate and advise on the socio-economic development of the socially and educationally backward classes and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union or a state.
 - **To present to the President, annually and at such other times as it may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **The Commission, while investigating any matter or enquiring 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. Hence statement 3 is correct.**
 - Requiring the discovery and production of any document and receiving evidence on affidavits.
 - **Requisitioning any public record from any court or office**
 - **Issuing summons for the examination of witnesses and documents and any other matter which the President may determine**