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Test Booklet Series

TEST BOOKLET

C

GENERAL STUDIES (P) 2026 – Test – 6319

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.
4. This Test Booklet contains **100** items (Questions). Each item is printed in **English**. 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.** With reference to the financial provisions of the Constitution, consider the following statements:
1. Salaries of Supreme Court judges
 2. Expenditure of the Election Commission
 3. Emoluments and allowances of the Governor
 4. Salaries and allowances of Judges of any High Court
 5. Comptroller and Auditor General's office expenses
- How many of the following are the charged expenditures upon the Consolidated Fund of India?
- (a) Only two
 - (b) Only three
 - (c) Only four
 - (d) All five
- 2.** Consider the following statements about the Prime Minister of India:
1. The oath of office and secrecy for the Prime Minister is the same as that for any Union Minister.
 2. The salary and allowances of the Prime Minister are determined by the President from time to time.
 3. The death of the Prime Minister leads to the automatic dissolution of the Council of Ministers.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 3.** With reference to the powers and privileges of Members of Parliament, consider the following statements:
1. The Constitution of India provides the members of Parliament freedom of speech in the Indian Parliament.
 2. They are exempted from arrest in civil and criminal cases during sessions, as well as 40 days before and after the session.
- 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.** With reference to the Abel Prize, consider the following statements:
1. It is often referred to as the Nobel Prize of Mathematics and is awarded annually for outstanding achievements in mathematics.
 2. S.R. Srinivasa Varadhan is the only person of Indian origin to have received the Abel Prize.
- 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
- 5.** With reference to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:
1. He continues in office even after the dissolution of Lok Sabha.
 2. He may be removed by a resolution passed by a simple majority.
- 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

- 6.** How many of the following motions can be admissible only in the Lok Sabha?
- No Confidence Motion
 - Adjournment Motion
 - Censure Motion
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- Only one
 - Only two
 - All three
 - None
- 7.** Which of the following bills lapse on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha?
- A Bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha.
 - A Bill pending in the Lok Sabha which originated in the Lok Sabha.
 - A Bill passed by both Houses but pending assent of the President.
 - A Bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- 1 and 4 only
 - 2 and 4 only
 - 2, 3 and 4 only
 - 1, 2, 3 and 4
- 8.** With reference to the Joint Sitting of the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:
- A joint sitting is summoned by the President under the provisions of the Constitution.
 - Joint sitting is not applicable to Constitutional Amendment Bills.
 - No Joint sitting has been convened since the commencement of the Constitution.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - All three
 - None
- 9.** What is the primary purpose of a 'Policy Cut' motion during the budget process
- To express disapproval of a specific government policy by proposing to reduce the grant to ₹1
 - To register a specific grievance against the government by reducing the grant by ₹100
 - To demand a detailed discussion on a policy before the grant is voted upon
 - To call for a substantial reduction in the grant to promote economy in expenditure
- 10.** Consider the following statements regarding the powers of the President:
- The President can summon and prorogue either House of Parliament and dissolve the Lok Sabha at his discretion.
 - Currently, he can nominate two members to the Lok Sabha from the Anglo-Indian community.
 - When the offices of both the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker are vacant, the President may appoint any member of the Lok Sabha to preside over its sittings.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - All three
 - None

- 11.** With reference to parliamentary proceedings in India, consider the following statements about Zero Hour:
1. It is an informal parliamentary device through which Members of Parliament can raise urgent matters of public importance without prior notice.
 2. It starts immediately after the Question Hour in both houses.
- 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.** In the context of the election process of the President, consider the following statements about the Electoral College:
1. It includes all members of both Houses of Parliament and State Assemblies.
 2. The value of the votes of MPs is fixed for all the presidential elections.
- 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.** In the context of the Deputy Speaker, consider the following statements:
1. S/he can be removed by a resolution passed by an absolute majority.
 2. Whenever s/he is appointed as a member of a parliamentary committee, s/he automatically becomes its 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
- 14.** With reference to the nomination of members to the Rajya Sabha, consider the following statements:
1. The President of India can nominate upto twenty members to the Rajya Sabha.
 2. Nominated members are not allowed to vote in the election of the President.
 3. They are not eligible to be appointed as ministers in the Union Cabinet.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 15.** With reference to Money Bills in the Indian Parliamentary system, consider the following statements:
1. The definition of a Money Bill is provided in the Constitution.
 2. Rajya Sabha can amend the money bill.
- 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
- 16.** Consider the following qualifications:
1. Citizen of India
 2. Not less than 25 years of age
 3. Registered as an elector for a parliamentary constituency
- How many of the above qualifications are mentioned under the Constitution to become a member of the Lok Sabha?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None

17. In the context of parliamentary proceedings in India, which of the following types of questions during the 'Question Hour' requires an oral answer from the ministers?

1. Starred questions
2. Unstarred questions
3. Short Notice Questions

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

18. With reference to the resolutions in the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:

1. A member who has moved a resolution or amendment to a resolution can withdraw it without the permission of the House.
2. All resolutions are subject to voting and may be adopted or rejected.

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 Calling Attention Motion:

1. It is moved to seek the disapproval of certain policies of the government.
2. It is an Indian innovation in the parliamentary procedure.

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

20. Consider the following statements regarding the No-Confidence Motion in India:

1. It can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha.
2. It need not state the reasons for its adoption in the Lok Sabha.
3. There is no mention of the No-Confidence Motion in the Constitution.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

21. With reference to the appointment and removal authority of key parliamentary authorities in India, consider the following pairs:

<i>Authority</i>	<i>Appointed by</i>	<i>Removed By</i>
1. Attorney General of India	President	Parliament
2. Speaker	President	Lok Sabha
3. Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)	President	Council of Ministers

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

- 22.** With reference to the key parliamentary offices in India, consider the following statements:
1. The office of the Leader of the House in the Lok Sabha is recognised under the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business.
 2. The office of the Leader of the Opposition has been accorded constitutional recognition.
- 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
- 23.** With reference to Lantana camara, consider the following statements:
1. It was introduced in India by the British in the 19th century as an ornamental plant.
 2. Its allelopathic properties make it difficult for native plants to grow in its vicinity.
- 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.** With reference to Nano Sulphur in agriculture, consider the following statements:
1. Nano sulphur enhances the oil content in oilseed crops like mustard.
 2. Nano sulphur leads to higher nutrient leaching compared to conventional sulphur fertilizers.
 3. Nano sulphur provides higher bioavailability to plants than conventional sulphur.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 25.** With reference to Jumping Spiders, consider the following statements:
1. They belong to the phylum Arthropoda.
 2. They are capable of jumping up to 30 times their body length.
 3. They are found in dense tropical rainforests only.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 26.** Which of the following rivers are classified as "Western Rivers" under the Indus Waters Treaty?
1. Indus
 2. Sutlej
 3. Chenab
 4. Jhelum
- Select the correct answer using the code below.
- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
 - (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
 - (c) 2, 3 and 4 only
 - (d) 1 and 4 only

- 27.** The joint military exercise ‘Dustlik’ is conducted between India and which of the following countries?
- Kazakhstan
 - Kyrgyzstan
 - Uzbekistan
 - Tajikistan
- 28.** Consider the following manuscripts related to India's cultural heritage:
- Bhagavad Gita
 - Natyashastra
 - Arthashastra
 - Panchatantra
- How many of the above were inscribed in the UNESCO's Memory of the World Register in 2025?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - Only three
 - All four
- 29.** Recently, the PM-YUVA 3.0 scheme was launched by the Government of India. Its primary objective is:
- Promotion of artificial intelligence and robotics in higher education
 - Skill development for unemployed youth in rural areas
 - Mentoring young authors to promote reading, writing, and literary culture
 - Establishing smart classrooms in aspirational districts
- 30.** With reference to Exercise VARUNA 2025, consider the following statements:
- It is a trilateral exercise involving India, France, and the United Kingdom.
 - It aims to enhance maritime cooperation and interoperability through joint operations.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2
- 31.** With reference to the Tobacco Board of India, consider the following statements:
- It was established under the Tobacco Board Act, 1975 to regulate the production and quality of tobacco in India
 - The Tobacco Board functions under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2
- 32.** With reference to the Harit Nauka initiative, consider the following statements:
- The initiative aims to achieve 100% green-fuel powered inland vessels in India by the year 2047.
 - It is launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways to facilitate the transition of inland waterway vessels to environmentally sustainable fuels like hydrogen.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2

- 33.** Consider the following statements regarding the Accommodative Monetary Policy stance of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI):
1. It generally aims to support economic growth by reducing interest rates and ensuring adequate liquidity in the system.
 2. It is typically adopted when inflationary pressures are high and demand needs to be curtailed.
- 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
- 34.** Consider the following:
1. Production of green ammonia for use as a carbon-free fertilizer in agriculture.
 2. Powering internal combustion engines in two-wheelers and auto-rickshaws.
 3. Reducing agent in steel production to replace coal in blast furnaces.
- How many of the above are applications of green hydrogen?
- (a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None
- 35.** With reference to the Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in India, consider the following statements:
1. It refers to the percentage of the working-age population that is either employed or actively seeking employment.
 2. Female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in rural areas continues to remain significantly lower than in urban areas.
- 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.** ISRO's SpaDeX Mission, recently in the news, primarily aims to:
- (a) test robotic arm technology for capturing space debris in Low Earth Orbit.
 - (b) demonstrate autonomous docking between two orbiting spacecraft.
 - (c) establish satellite-to-satellite laser communication for high-speed data transfer.
 - (d) conduct trials for autonomous landing of reusable space vehicles.
- 37.** With reference to the PM Internship Scheme, consider the following statements:
1. The scheme targets providing practical exposure to 1 crore young individuals across India over a span of five years.
 2. Internship opportunities are available in sectors such as manufacturing, agriculture, and healthcare.
 3. The entire stipend provided under the scheme is borne by private sector companies hosting the interns.
- 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
- 38.** The Mission Amrit Sarovar, recently implemented by the Government of India, primarily seeks to:
- (a) restore ancient water tanks in heritage towns for urban beautification and tourism.
 - (b) build community-level rainwater harvesting structures in drought-prone villages.
 - (c) rejuvenate and develop water bodies across India to strengthen water security and conservation.
 - (d) establish large-scale reservoirs for flood control in riverine plains.

- 39.** With reference to Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs) in India, consider the following statements:
1. They are declared around protected areas such as national parks and wildlife sanctuaries to regulate certain human activities.
 2. Eco-Sensitive Zone areas are declared under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- 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
- 40.** Consider the following statements about Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary:
1. It has been identified as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) by BirdLife International.
 2. It spans across parts of the Chambal basin and Malwa Plateau regions.
- 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
- 41.** Which of the following best describes the primary working mechanism of the Kavach railway safety system?
- (a) Satellite imagery-based surveillance for collision prevention
 - (b) Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) and radio-based communication between locomotives and trackside units
 - (c) Optical fiber network-based signaling for decentralised control
 - (d) Blockchain-integrated signaling for tamper-proof control of railway routes
- 42.** The terms 'Cry1Ac', 'Cry2Ab', and 'Vip3A' are talked about in the context of:
- (a) Development of India's own satellite navigation system
 - (b) Proteins introduced in cotton crops for insect resistance
 - (c) Enzymes used in the fermentation industry for ethanol production
 - (d) Sensors embedded in soil for precision agriculture
- 43.** Consider the following statements regarding the Ethics Committee of the Parliament:
1. Lok Sabha does not have ethics Committee.
 2. Any person may make a complaint relating to unethical conduct of a member to the committee.
 3. It takes up cases of misconduct by any person.
- Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 44.** Consider the following statements regarding the NAG anti-tank guided missile:
1. It is a third-generation fire-and-forget missile.
 2. It can be launched from land-based platforms only.
 3. It has been developed by DRDO.
- 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

- 45.** Consider the following statements regarding the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA):
1. It determines the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for certain agricultural exports.
 2. It is the primary agency responsible for registration and certification of exporters dealing with scheduled agricultural products.
- 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.** Consider the following statements regarding Vikramashila University:
1. It was established by a Pala ruler in present-day Bihar.
 2. It was a renowned centre of Buddhist learning, particularly in Vajrayana Buddhism.
- 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
- 47.** Consider the following:
1. Optimisation of complex logistics and supply chain networks
 2. Accelerated drug discovery through molecular simulation
 3. Weather forecasting
 4. Financial modeling and risk analysis
 5. Improving precision agriculture
- How many of the above are applications of quantum computing?
- (a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five
- 48.** The Ottawa Convention primarily aims to:
- (a) Prohibit the deployment of automated drone weapon systems in warfare.
 - (b) Eliminate anti-personnel landmines worldwide.
 - (c) Ban the use of incendiary weapons in civilian areas.
 - (d) Regulate the export of dual-use chemical substances in armed conflicts.
- 49.** With reference to the Parliament of India, 'Rule of Lapse' refers to
- (a) adjournment of the house by the presiding officer due to lack of quorum.
 - (b) a condition when a bill pending in Lok Sabha lapses due to dissolution of the Lok Sabha.
 - (c) dissolution of Lok Sabha due to passage of No-Confidence Motion.
 - (d) returning of unspent granted money to the Consolidated Fund of India at the end of financial year.
- 50.** Under the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, the Gram Sabha has mandatory functions to:
1. Approve plans, programmes and projects for social and economic development
 2. Identify persons as beneficiaries under the poverty alleviation and other programmes
 3. Issue a certificate of utilisation of funds by the Panchayat for the plans
- How many of the above are correct?
- (a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

- 51.** Consider the following statements about the Panchayat elections:
1. The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of all elections to the panchayats is vested in the state election commission.
 2. The state legislature is authorized to make provision with respect to all matters relating to elections to the panchayats, subject to constitutional provisions.
- 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
- 52.** Consider the following pairs:
- | National Park | State |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Similipal National Park | : Odisha |
| 2. Sikhna Jhwchlao National Park | : Kerala |
| 3. Eravikulam National Park | : Assam |
- How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 53.** Consider the following:
1. Municipal Corporation
 2. Nagar Panchayat
 3. Municipal Council
 4. Industrial Township
- Which of the above are the types of municipalities mentioned under the Constitution of India?
- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
 - (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
 - (c) 2 and 4 only
 - (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- 54.** Consider the following pairs:
- | Urban Local Body | Created through/under |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Municipal Corporation | : Act of State Government |
| 2. Notified Area Committee | : Notification in government Gazette |
| 3. Cantonment Board | : Act of Central Government |
- How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 55.** Consider the following statements regarding Consultative committees:
1. They are a forum for informal discussions between the ministers and the members of Parliament on policies and programmes of the government.
 2. They are constituted by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
- Which one of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 56.** Which committee of the Indian Parliament considers the matters of procedure and conduct of business in the house and recommends necessary amendments or additions to the rules of the house?
- (a) Business Advisory Committee
 - (b) General Purposes Committee
 - (c) House Committee
 - (d) Rules Committee

- 57.** Consider the following statements regarding the organs of Municipal Corporations:
1. The Council of Municipal Corporation is headed by a Mayor who is its executive head.
 2. The standing committees are created to facilitate the working of the council, which is too large in size.
 3. The Municipal Commissioner is appointed by the state government and is a member of the IAS.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) 1, 2 and 3
 - (b) 1 and 2 only
 - (c) 2 and 3 only
 - (d) 1 and 3 only
- 58.** Consider the following committees of Parliament:
1. Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions
 2. Committee on Government Assurances
 3. Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House
- Which of the above committees exist only in Lok Sabha?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 59.** Which of the following operations was recently conducted by the Indian Army to provide medical assistance to earthquake victims in Myanmar?
- (a) Operation Maitri
 - (b) Operation Brahma
 - (c) Operation Dost
 - (d) Operation Karuna
- 60.** Consider the following statements regarding the Committee on Public Undertakings:
1. It was created on the recommendations of the Sathanam Committee in 1964.
 2. Though members are drawn from both the houses of Parliament, its chairman can be from Lok Sabha only.
 3. It examines the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General on Public Undertakings.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) 1, 2 and 3
 - (b) 1 and 2 only
 - (c) 2 and 3 only
 - (d) 1 and 3 only
- 61.** Consider the following statements regarding the membership of the urban local government:
1. All the members of the municipality are directly elected by the people of the municipal area.
 2. A member of the Rajya Sabha elected from a particular state can be a member of any municipality within the state.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 62.** With reference to local self governance in India, which of the following happened earliest?
- (a) Lord Ripon's Resolution
 - (b) The Royal Commission on decentralisation
 - (c) Establishment of first municipal corporation in India
 - (d) Passing of the Cantonments Act

63. Consider the following statements regarding the District Planning Committee:

1. It consolidates the plans prepared by the Panchayats and the Municipalities in the district.
2. The finalized draft development plan is then sent to the governor, who in turn submits it to the state legislature.

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. Consider the following:

1. Fifth Schedule States
2. Sixth Schedule States
3. Special Category States

The provisions of Part IX of the constitution can be extended to how many of the above-mentioned areas?

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

65. In the context of the State Finance Commission, consider the following statements:

1. The governor of a state shall, after every five years, constitute a finance commission to review the financial position of both the panchayats and urban local bodies.
2. The Constitution of India has provided the composition of the commission, the required qualifications of its members and the manner of their selection.

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

66. Consider the following statements:

1. The term Gram Sabha has been defined in the Constitution.
2. It consists of all the adult population of a panchayat

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

67. Consider the following statements:

1. Balwantrai Mehta Committee recommended a constitutional status to the Panchayati Raj Institutions.
2. The first Panchayati Raj Institution in Independent India was inaugurated during the Prime Ministership of Lal Bahadur Shastri.
3. The GVK Rao Committee had highlighted the bureaucratization of development and alienation of Panchayati Raj Institutions from it.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

- 68.** Consider the following statements:
1. The constitution provides for the reservation of not more than one-third of the total number of seats for women.
 2. Not less than one-third of the total number of offices of chairpersons in the panchayats at each level shall be reserved for women.
 3. Currently, 21 States and 2 Union Territories have made provisions, in their respective State Panchayati Raj Acts/Rules, for 50% reservation for women in Panchayats.

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

- 69.** Consider the following:
1. Direct elections to the post of chairperson of panchayats at all levels
 2. Giving representation to the chairpersons of the village panchayats in the intermediate panchayats
 3. Granting financial powers to the panchayats
 4. Fixing tenure of five years for panchayats at all levels

How many of the above are the compulsory provisions under the 73rd Constitution Amendment Act, 1992?

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

- 70.** Consider the following:
1. Maharashtra
 2. Goa
 3. Arunachal Pradesh
 4. Sikkim
 5. Kerala
- How many of the above have three-tier Panchayati Raj System?
- (a) Only two
 - (b) Only three
 - (c) Only four
 - (d) All five

- 71.** Consider the following statements about the appointment of the Prime Minister of India:
1. A person must prove majority in the Lok Sabha before being appointed as Prime Minister.
 2. A person who is not a member of either House of Parliament can be appointed Prime Minister for six 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

- 72.** Consider the following bodies:
1. National Integration Council
 2. Defence Acquisition Council
 3. National Board for Wildlife
 4. National Disaster Management Authority

The Prime Minister of India serves as the chairman of how many of the above bodies?

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

- 73.** Consider the following statements:
1. The Solicitor General of India does not have the right to cast a vote in the parliamentary proceedings.
 2. The Solicitor General of India works independently of the Attorney general of India.
- 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
- 74.** Consider the following statements about the Vice-President of India:
1. The Vice-President can continue in office beyond five years until the successor assumes charge.
 2. The Vice-President can act as President for a maximum of six months, within which a new President must be elected.
 3. Dr. S. Radhakrishnan is the only person to have been elected as the Vice-President of India for two consecutive terms.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 1 and 2 only
 - (c) 2 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 75.** Consider the following statements about the election of the Vice-President of India:
1. The original Constitution provided that the Vice-President would be elected by the two Houses of Parliament assembled at a joint meeting.
 2. The Anti-Defection Law is not applicable to Vice-Presidential elections.
 3. In Vice-Presidential elections, every vote has equal value.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 76.** Consider the following pairs :
- | <i>Pardoning</i> | <i>Nature</i> |
|------------------|--|
| Power | |
| 1. Commutation | : changes the nature of punishment to a lesser form. |
| 2. Remission | : reduces the duration but not the nature of punishment. |
| 3. Respite | : implies temporary postponement of execution. |
- How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None

- 77.** Which of the following bills require prior permission of the President before being introduced in the legislature?
1. A Union Bill involving expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India.
 2. A State Bill restricting trade, commerce, or intercourse within the state.
 3. A Union Bill for alteration of state boundaries or creation of a new state.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
- 78.** Consider the following statements about the Presidential elections in India:
1. Disputes related to the President's election are decided by the Supreme Court, and its decision is final.
 2. If the President's election is declared void, actions taken before the verdict by the President remain valid.
- 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.** The Office of Principal Scientific Adviser was placed administratively under:
- (a) Prime Minister's Office (PMO)
 - (b) Ministry of Home Affairs
 - (c) Ministry of Science and Technology
 - (d) Cabinet Secretariat
- 80.** Which of the following statements is *not* correct about the Attorney General of India?
- (a) He/she has the 'Right of Audience' in all courts in the territory of India in the performance of his/her official duties.
 - (b) He/she does not enjoy the privileges and immunities that are available to a Member of Parliament.
 - (c) The Attorney General is not a full-time counsel for the Government of India.
 - (d) He/she is not debarred from the private legal practice.
- 81.** Which one of the following amendments to the Indian Constitution empowers the President to send back any matter for reconsideration by the Union Council of Ministers?
- (a) 39th Amendment
(b) 40th Amendment
(c) 42nd Amendment
(d) 44th Amendment
- 82.** Consider the following statements:
1. The Cabinet Secretariat functions directly under the Prime Minister.
 2. The administrative head of the Secretariat is the Cabinet Secretary who is also the ex-officio Chairman of the Civil Services Board.
- 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:
1. When the Lok Sabha passes a motion of no confidence against the Council of Ministers (CoM), all members of the council must resign, including those from the Rajya Sabha.
 2. The total strength of CoM can not exceed 15% of the strength of the Parliament.
- 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
- 84.** The Padma Awards Committee is constituted and chaired
- (a) by the President and the Prime Minister respectively.
 - (b) both by the President of India.
 - (c) by the Prime Minister and the Cabinet Secretary respectively.
 - (d) by the Prime Minister and the Home Minister respectively.
- 85.** Consider the following statements about the Deputy Prime Ministers in India:
1. The post of Deputy Prime Minister is not mentioned in the Constitution.
 2. Shri Morarji Desai was the first Deputy Prime Minister of India.
- 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
- 86.** Which of the following functionaries is also known as the 'Chief Whip of the Government'?
- (a) Prime Minister
 - (b) Leader of the political party in majority
 - (c) Minister of Parliamentary Affairs
 - (d) Speaker of Lok Sabha
- 87.** Consider the following statements:
- Statement-I: The governor has discretion to recommend the imposition of President's rule.
- Statement-II: As per the Constitution of India, in certain cases the Governor of the state, may act independently from the consultation of the state council of ministers. 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-II
 - (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
 - (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct
- 88.** Consider the following Departments of Government of India:
1. Department of Investment and Public Asset Management
 2. Department of Heavy Industries
 3. Department of Economic Affairs
 4. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- How many of the above Departments of Government of India come under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) Only three
 - (d) All four

- 89.** Consider the following statements:
1. The Constitution of India does not prescribe a time limit for the Governor to assent to a bill passed by the State Legislative Assembly.
 2. Article 368 of the Indian Constitution, Constitutional amendment bill can not be introduced in state legislature.
- 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
- 90.** Consider the following statements in context of Directorate General of Hydrocarbons:
1. The Directorate General of Hydrocarbons is functioning under the administrative control of the Ministry of Coal.
 2. It is a nodal agency for implementation of Coal Bed Methane policy.
- 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
- 91.** The Chief Minister of the state gives advice to the Governor on which of the following matters?
1. To prorogue or summon the session of the state legislature
 2. On decision of dismissal of State minister
 3. On disqualification of a Member of the Legislative Assembly under the Tenth Schedule
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1, 2 and 3
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 2 only
 - (d) 1 only
- 92.** Consider the following statements :
1. The same person is appointed as Governor of two or more States.
 2. Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15 percent of the total number of the Legislative Assembly in the States.
 3. The Governor to address the state legislature at the commencement of the first session after each general election.
- How many provisions were added through the Constitutional amendments?
- (a) Only one
 - (b) Only two
 - (c) All three
 - (d) None
- 93.** With respect to the Governor of the state, consider the following statements:
1. He/She can be removed by the President at any time.
 2. He/She can not continue in office beyond the expiration of a period of 5 years.
 3. The Constitution does not lay down any ground on which the Governor can be removed by the President.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1, 2 and 3
 - (d) 1 and 3 only

- 94.** Consider the following statements:
- Statement-I : Advocate-General for the State is removed in the same manner as a judge of the High Court.
- Statement-II: The Governor of each State shall appoint a person who is qualified to be appointed a Judge of a High Court to be Advocate-General for the State.
- Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 - Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct but Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
 - Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
 - Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct
- 95.** Consider the following statements:
- Each House of the Legislature of a State shall have a separate secretarial staff.
 - The recruitment and conditions of service of persons appointed to the secretarial staff of the Legislative Assembly is regulated by the Speaker.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2
- 96.** In which of the following cases it becomes Constitutionally obligatory for the Governor to reserve the Bill for the consideration of the President?
- When a Bill violates the equal pay for equal work provision.
 - When a Bill is against the provisions of Fundamental Rights provisions.
 - When a Bill deals with compulsory acquisition of property under Article 31A of the Constitution.
 - When a Bill endangers the position of the State High Court.
- 97.** Consider the following statements:
- Article 77 of the Constitution of India deals with the allocation of business of the Government of India.
 - Ministries/Departments are created by the Prime Minister of India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2
- 98.** Consider the following functions:
- Implementation of Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016
 - Regulation of Packaged Commodities
 - Implementation of Standards of Weights and Measures - The Legal Metrology Act, 2009
 - Monitoring of prices and availability of essential commodities
- How many of the above functions are performed by the Department of Consumer Affairs?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - Only three
 - All four

99. Consider the following with regard to Governor of a State:

1. Courts are empowered to enquire into the advice tendered by the Ministers to the Governor.
2. Neither criminal nor civil proceedings can be instituted against the Governor of state in any court during his term of office.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

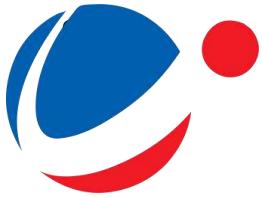
- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

100. Who holds the position of Chancellor in State Public Universities in India?

- (a) Chief Minister of the State
- (b) Governor of the State
- (c) Chief Secretary of the State
- (d) President of India

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ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS GENERAL STUDIES (P) TEST – 6319 (2026)

Q 1.B

- **Charged expenditures upon the Consolidated Fund of India are specific government expenses that are not subject to parliamentary vote.** The following expenditure shall be expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India--
 - the emoluments and allowances of the President and other expenditure relating to his office;
 - the salaries and allowances of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Council of States and the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the House of the People;
 - debt charges for which the Government of India is liable including interest, sinking fund charges and redemption charges, and other expenditure relating to the raising of loans and the service and redemption of debt;
 - **the salaries, allowances and pensions payable to or in respect of Judges of the Supreme Court, Hence, option 1 is correct.**
 - the pensions payable to or in respect of Judges of the Federal Court,
 - the pensions payable to or in respect of Judges of any High Court which exercises jurisdiction in relation to any area included in the territory of India or which at any time before the commencement of this Constitution exercises jurisdiction in relation to any area included in a Governor's Province of the Dominion of India;
 - **the salary, allowances and pension payable to or in respect of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India; Hence option 5 is correct.**
 - any sums required to satisfy any judgment, decree or award of any court or arbitral tribunal;
 - any other expenditure declared by this Constitution or by Parliament by law to be so charged.
- **Expenditure of the Election Commission, Hence option 2 is correct.**
- The following expenditure shall be expenditure charged on the **Consolidated Fund of each State**--
 - **the emoluments and allowances of the Governor and other expenditure relating to his office; Hence, option 3 is not correct.**
 - the salaries and allowances of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and, in the case of State having a Legislative Council, also of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council;
 - debt charges for which the State is liable, including interest, sinking fund charges and redemption charges, and other expenditure relating to the raising of loans and the service and redemption of debt;
 - **expenditure in respect of the salaries and allowances of Judges of any High Court; Hence, option 4 is not correct.**
 - any sums required to satisfy any judgment, decree or award of any court or arbitral tribunal;
 - any other expenditure declared by this Constitution, or by the Legislature of the State by law, to be so charged.

Q 2.B

- The Prime Minister is the head of the Council of Ministers and the real executive authority in the Indian parliamentary system.
- **Article 75(4) of the Constitution states that the Prime Minister and other Ministers shall take the oath of office and secrecy before entering office, administered by the President. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - **The form of the oath is the same for all Union Ministers, including the Prime Minister, as prescribed in the Third Schedule.**

- **The salary and allowances of the Prime Minister are determined by the Parliament from time to time.**
 - He/she gets the salary and allowances that are payable to a member of Parliament. Additionally, he/she gets a sumptuary allowance, free accommodation, travelling allowance, medical facilities, etc.
 - In 2001, the Parliament increased the sumptuary allowance from 21,500 to 73,000 per month.
 - **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- Since the Prime Minister stands at the head of the council of ministers, the other ministers cannot function when the Prime Minister resigns or dies.
 - **In other words, the resignation or death of an incumbent Prime Minister automatically dissolves the Council of Ministers and thereby generates a vacuum.**
 - The resignation or death of any other minister, on the other hand, merely creates a vacancy which the Prime Minister may or may not like to fill.
 - **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 3.A

- **Parliamentary privileges and immunities refer to the special rights, freedoms, and exemptions granted to members of Parliament (MPs) and members of state legislatures in India to enable them to perform their duties efficiently and without interference.**
- As per Article 105 (1) of the Constitution, **Members of Parliament have freedom of speech in Parliament. However, this freedom is subject to the provisions of the Constitution and Rules of Procedure of the House.** Under Article 105(2), no MP shall be liable to any proceedings in any court for anything said or any vote given inside Parliament or any committee thereof. This means absolute immunity from both civil and criminal proceedings for their speech and actions within Parliament. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Members of Parliament enjoy immunity from arrest in civil cases during the session of Parliament and 40 days before and after the session.** This immunity ensures that members can attend parliamentary sessions without any hindrance. However, this immunity does not extend to criminal cases or preventive detention cases. (Section 135A, Code of Civil Procedure, 1908). **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 4.C

- **Recent Context: The Abel Prize 2025, often referred to as the Nobel Prize of Mathematics, was recently awarded to Masaki Kashiwara for his groundbreaking contributions to algebraic analysis and representation theory.** This award continues to highlight the global recognition of mathematical excellence. Importantly, an Indian-origin mathematician, S.R. Srinivasa Varadhan, remains the only person of Indian origin to have received the Abel Prize, awarded in 2007 for his pioneering work in probability theory.
- The Abel Prize was established by the Government of Norway in 2001, and the first prize was awarded in 2003. It is awarded annually by the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters. The prize is named after the Norwegian mathematician Niels Henrik Abel. **It is widely considered the closest equivalent to a Nobel Prize in Mathematics, since mathematics is not a category in the actual Nobel Prizes.** Hence, **statement 1 is correct.**
- **S.R. Srinivasa Varadhan**, an Indian-American mathematician, received the Abel Prize in 2007. He was awarded for his “fundamental contributions to probability theory, and in particular for creating a unified theory of large deviations.” As of 2025, he remains the only person of Indian origin to receive the Abel Prize. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- 2025 Abel Prize Winner: Masaki Kashiwara, from Japan, was awarded for his contributions to algebraic analysis and representation theory.
- The monetary value of the Abel Prize is 7.5 million Norwegian kroner (around \$700,000 USD).
- The prize is typically presented by the King of Norway in a formal ceremony in Oslo.

Q 5.A

- As per Article 94 of the Constitution, **the Speaker does not vacate office upon the dissolution of Lok Sabha.** The Speaker **continues until a new Speaker is elected in the new Lok Sabha.** This ensures continuity and functioning of the office during the transition. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Speaker is the presiding officer and maintains order, discipline, and decorum in the Lok Sabha. Under the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, the Speaker’s rulings on matters of discipline, disorder, or unruly conduct are final.

- The Speaker remains a member of the political party on whose ticket he was elected to the Lok Sabha. However, by convention, once elected Speaker, he/she is expected to be impartial and does not take part in active party politics. Tenth Schedule (Anti-Defection Law) also exempts the Speaker from disqualification due to party affiliation when performing Speaker's duties.
- As per Article 94, a resolution to remove the Speaker requires a majority of all the then members of the House, which is a higher threshold than a simple majority. This is often referred to as an "effective majority". However, 14 days' prior notice is required for such a resolution. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

Q 6.C

- Lok Sabha enjoys special powers in regard to the 'collective responsibility' of the Government and in financial matters. The Constitution provides that the Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the House of People (Lok Sabha). Therefore, Motions such as No Confidence Motion, Adjournment Motion and Censure Motion are admissible only in Lok Sabha. The power to control the purse also lies with Lok Sabha.
- No Confidence Motion is used to test whether the Council of Ministers enjoys the confidence of the House. Article 75(3) stated that The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible only to the Lok Sabha, not the Rajya Sabha. Hence, the No-Confidence Motion is admissible only in the Lok Sabha. Hence option 1 is correct.
- An Adjournment Motion is an extraordinary procedure to draw the attention of the House to a matter of urgent public importance, leading to suspension of normal business. It has serious implications, including censure of the government if passed. It is not permitted in Rajya Sabha. Hence option 2 is correct.
- Censure Motion: Though not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution, a Censure Motion is a parliamentary motion to criticise specific policies or actions of the government. Like the No-Confidence Motion, it is also relevant only in Lok Sabha because only the Lok Sabha can hold the executive accountable through such motions. Hence option 3 is correct.

Q 7.B

- Cases in which Bill lapse on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha
 - A Bill that originates in the Lok Sabha and remains pending in the Lower House itself is considered lapsed with the dissolution of the House. Hence option 2 is correct.
 - A Bill that originates and is passed by the Rajya Sabha, but is pending in the Lok Sabha also lapses with the dissolution of the Lower House.
 - Bills that originate and are passed in the Lok Sabha but are pending in the Rajya Sabha are also considered lapsed. Hence option 4 is correct.
 - Bill that originates and is passed in the Rajya Sabha but is returned with amendments to the Upper House by the Lok Sabha and then does not get the clearance of the Rajya Sabha is considered to have lapsed on the date of dissolution of the Lower House.
- There are instances when certain Bills, despite the dissolution of the Lower House, are not considered to have lapsed.
 - A Bill that is pending in the Rajya Sabha but is not passed by the Lok Sabha. Hence option 1 is not correct.
 - Bills that have cleared both the Houses but are pending assent from the President. Hence, option 3 is not correct.
 - If the president has notified the holding of a joint sitting before the dissolution of Lok Sabha.
 - A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the president for reconsideration of Rajya Sabha.
 - Pending bills and all pending assurances that are to be examined by the Committee on Government Assurances

Q 8.B

- Article 108 of the Constitution empowers the President to summon a joint sitting of both Houses (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) on the recommendation of the Council of Ministers when: Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - A Bill is rejected by one House, or
 - Houses have finally disagreed on amendments, or
 - More than 6 months have elapsed without agreement on the Bill.
- Constitutional Amendment Bills are governed by Article 368, not Article 108. These bills must be passed separately by each House with a special majority. Hence, no provision for joint sitting exists in the case of Constitutional Amendments. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

- **Joint sittings have been held in Indian parliamentary history. Three joint sittings have been convened so far: Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
 - Dowry Prohibition Bill, 1961
 - Banking Service Commission Repeal Bill, 1977
 - Prevention of Terrorism Bill (POTA), 2002

Q 9.A

- There are three types of Cut Motions that can be moved in the Indian Parliament during the discussion of Demands for Grants:
 - **Policy Cut:** A "Policy Cut" motion in parliamentary proceedings indicates the disapproval of the policy underlying a proposed expenditure, and it aims to reduce the requested amount by a symbolic one rupee (Re. 1). This signals a formal objection to the government's policy related to that specific expenditure. **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**
 - **Economy Cut:** An economy cut motion is a parliamentary procedure in India, specifically in the Lok Sabha (lower house), where a member can propose a reduction in the amount of money demanded by the government for a specific expenditure.
 - **Token Cut:** A Token Cut Motion is a parliamentary procedure in India where a member proposes a symbolic reduction of ₹100 in a specific budget allocation to highlight a particular grievance or dissatisfaction with government policy.

Q 10.A

- The President summons, prorogues, and dissolves the Lok Sabha under Articles 85 and 83. But these powers are not discretionary. The President exercises these powers on the advice of the Council of Ministers, as per Article 74 and established constitutional convention (reinforced in the 42nd and 44th Amendments and SC judgments like Shamsher Singh vs State of Punjab. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- This provision existed earlier under Article 331, which allowed the President to nominate two members from the Anglo-Indian community if he/she believed that the community was not adequately represented. However, this provision was abolished by the 104th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019, which came into effect in January 2020. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Under Article 95(1) of the Constitution, when the office of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker is vacant, the President may appoint any member of the Lok Sabha to perform the duties of the Speaker. This ensures that the proceedings of the House continue without interruption. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 11.A

- Zero Hour is an informal parliamentary innovation in India, starting around the 1960s. During this time, MPs can raise urgent public issues without giving a prior formal notice. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It refers to a scheduled period that starts immediately after the Question Hour in Lok Sabha and lasts until the agenda or the regular business for the day is taken up. In the Rajya Sabha it is observed in the first hour of the sitting of the day. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Zero Hour is not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of either Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha. It is an Indian innovation in the field of parliamentary proceedings and it came into practice in early sixties. It evolved as a convention, but is now recognized and routinely followed in practice.

Q 12.D

- The Electoral College for the Presidential election includes:
 - Elected members of both Houses of Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha)
 - Elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of States (including Delhi & Puducherry)
- It does not include:
 - **Nominated members of either House. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - Members of Legislative Councils (MLCs) in states having bicameral legislatures
 - The value of each MP's vote is the same, regardless of which House or state they belong to.
- It is calculated by a uniform formula, based on the total value of all MLA votes and the number of elected MPs.
- As of the 2017 election, the value of an MP's vote was 708, but this is subject to change. The value of the vote of a Member of Parliament has gone down to 700 in the 2022 election. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct**

- In the Indian presidential elections, the total value of votes cast by all Members of Parliament (MPs) is designed to be equal to the total value of votes cast by all Members of the Legislative Assemblies (MLAs). This equality is achieved by assigning different vote values to MPs and MLAs based on the population they represent.

Q 13.B

- **There has been no appointment to the office of Deputy Speaker since 2019.**
- **Article 93 of the Constitution provides for the election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha.** However, it does not prescribe any specific time frame within which the Deputy Speaker must be elected. In practice, the election is expected soon after the Speaker's election, but delay is not unconstitutional.
- Article 94: Vacant and resignation of, and removal from, the offices of Speaker and Deputy Speaker. A member holding office as Speaker or Deputy Speaker of the House of the People—
 - (a) shall vacate his office if he ceases to be a member of the House of the People;
 - (b) may at any time, by writing under his hand addressed, if such member is the Speaker, to the Deputy Speaker, and if such member is the Deputy Speaker, to the Speaker, resign his office; and
 - (c) **may be removed from his office by a resolution of the House of the People passed by a majority of all the then members of the House, Provided that no resolution for the purpose of clause (c) shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution:** Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- **Deputy Speaker is not subordinate to the Speaker and directly responsible to the House.**
- He has a special privilege that whenever he is appointed as a member of a parliamentary committee, he automatically becomes its chairman. Hence statement 2 is correct.

Q 14.A

- Article 80 of the Constitution provides that the President can nominate 12 members to the Rajya Sabha. These members are chosen for their expertise in literature, science, art, and social service. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The nominated members of the Rajya Sabha have a right to vote in the election of the Vice-President of India, but they are not entitled to vote in the election of the President of India. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Nominated members of the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of the Indian Parliament, can be appointed as ministers. While they are not directly elected by the people, their expertise and experience in specific fields like literature, science, art, or social service are considered valuable. The President of India, on the advice of the Prime Minister, can appoint any member of the Rajya Sabha, including nominated members, to the Council of Ministers. There is no constitutional bar on their appointment. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 15.A

- **Article 110 of the Indian Constitution defines a Money Bill.** A Bill is a Money Bill if it contains only provisions dealing with matters like taxation, borrowing, Consolidated Fund, contingency fund, audit, etc. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha certifies whether a Bill is a Money Bill, and the Speaker's decision is final. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- A Money Bill can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha, and once passed, it is sent to the Rajya Sabha for recommendations. **Rajya Sabha cannot amend or reject a Money Bill.** It must return the Bill within 14 days, with or without recommendations. The Lok Sabha may accept or reject those recommendations. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Article 111 of the Constitution gives the President power to withhold or give assent to ordinary bills. But in the case of a Money Bill, once it is passed by Lok Sabha and sent to the President, the President has no option but to give assent. This is because the President cannot return a Money Bill for reconsideration.

Q 16.B

- **Article 84 of the Indian constitution provides for the qualification for membership of Parliament -** A person shall not be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in Parliament unless he—
 - **is a citizen of India,** and makes and subscribes before some person authorized in that behalf by the Election Commission an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule; **Hence option 1 is correct.**
 - in the case of a seat in the Council of States, not less than thirty years of age and, in the case of a seat in the House of the People, not less than twenty-five years of age; **Hence option 2 is correct.**

- possesses such other qualifications as may be prescribed in that behalf by or under any law made by Parliament.
- **Sections 3 to 10A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 provides for the qualifications for membership of the House of the People as -** a person shall not be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in the House of the People, unless—
 - in the case of a seat reserved for the Scheduled Castes in any State, he is a member of any of the Scheduled Castes, whether of that State or of any other State, and is an elector for any Parliamentary constituency;
 - in the case of a seat reserved for the Scheduled Tribes in any State (other than those in the autonomous districts of Assam), he is a member of any of the Scheduled Tribes, whether of that State or of any other State (excluding the tribal areas of Assam), and is an elector for any Parliamentary constituency;
 - in the case of a seat reserved for the Scheduled Tribes in the autonomous districts of Assam, he is a member of any of those Scheduled Tribes and is an elector for the Parliamentary constituency in which such seat is reserved or for any other Parliamentary constituency comprising any such autonomous district;
 - in the case of the seat reserved for the Scheduled Tribes in the Union territory of Lakshadweep, he is a member of any of those Scheduled Tribes and is an elector for the Parliamentary constituency of that Union territory;
 - in the case of the seat allotted to the State of Sikkim, he is an elector for the Parliamentary constituency for Sikkim;
 - In the case of any other seat, he is an elector for any Parliamentary constituency. Hence option 3 is not correct.**

Q 17.B

- The different types of questions asked to ministers during the Question Hour are as follows:
 - Starred Questions: These questions require oral answers from the ministers.** These questions are distinguished by an asterisk. MPs who submit starred questions are allowed to ask supplementary questions with the permission of Chair for the purpose of further elucidating any matter of fact regarding which an answer has been given. Number of Questions Listed to be answered daily are 20 in Lok Sabha and 15 in Rajya Sabha. **Hence option 1 is correct.**
 - Unstarred Questions: These questions require written answers from the ministers.** These questions are not distinguished by an asterisk. MPs who submit unstarred questions do not have the opportunity to ask supplementary questions. Number of Questions Listed to be answered daily are 230 in Lok Sabha and 160 in Rajya Sabha. **Hence option 2 is not correct.**
 - Short Notice Questions:** Notice of less than 10 days in Lok Sabha and 15 days in Rajya Sabha. These questions must be relating to a matter of public importance and is of urgent character. **They are answered orally. Hence option 3 is correct.**

Q 18.B

- **A resolution is one of the most important procedural devices to raise discussion in the House on a matter of general interest.**
 - It is a **self contained independent proposal submitted for the approval of the House** and drafted in such a way as to be capable of expressing a decision of the House.
 - The discussion on a Resolution is strictly relevant to and within the scope of the Resolution.
 - A member who has moved a resolution or amendment to a resolution cannot withdraw it except by the leave or permission of the House. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **All resolutions come in the category of substantive motions whereas all motions need not necessarily be substantive. So, all motions are not necessarily put to vote of the House, whereas all the resolutions are required to be voted upon. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- A member or a Minister can move a resolution. **Resolutions moved by private members are termed as Private Members' Resolutions and those moved by the Government are called Government Resolutions.**
 - Under **Rule 89** a private member has to give notice of his resolution at least twelve days in advance to the house Secretary.
 - In the cases of Government resolutions the notice period is seven days. However, the Speaker can allow shorter notice (**Rule 90**).

Q 19.B

- Calling Attention Motion is used by a member to call the attention of a minister to a matter of urgent public importance and seek an authoritative statement from him thereupon. After making the Statement by the Minister, clarificatory questions may be asked by Member and Minister Replies at the end to all such questions. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is an **Indian innovation in the parliamentary procedure**. It was first introduced in the Indian Parliament and later adopted by some State Legislatures. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The Calling Attention Motion is formal and is regulated by the procedures and rules of Rajya Sabha (under Rule 180) and Lok Sabha (it's accepted by convention).

Q 20.C

- A No-confidence Motion is a tool to test whether the Council of Ministers enjoys the confidence of the Lok Sabha (the Lower House). It can only be introduced and passed in the Lok Sabha, because only the Lok Sabha has the power to remove the government through such a motion. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- No-confidence Motion need not state the reasons for its adoption in the Lok Sabha. The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha, not to the Rajya Sabha (Article 75(3)). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- A No-Confidence motion is a parliamentary procedure in the Lok Sabha. It is not applicable in the Rajya Sabha. This motion is a formal way for members of the Lok Sabha to express their lack of confidence in the Council of Ministers. The Rajya Sabha (Upper House) cannot move or vote on a No-confidence Motion.
- The No-confidence Motion is not mentioned in the Constitution of India. It is governed by the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of the Lok Sabha (specifically, Rule 198). It is a parliamentary convention and procedural device, not a constitutional provision. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 21.D

- The Attorney General is appointed by the President of India at the instance of the Union Cabinet under Article 76(1) of the Constitution. The Attorney General must meet the qualifications necessary for an appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court. The Attorney General of India can be removed from office by the President of India. The Constitution does not specify a fixed term or grounds for removal, and the Attorney General holds office "during the pleasure of the President". **Hence, Pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- In the Lok Sabha, the speaker and the deputy speaker are elected from among its members by a simple majority of members present and voting in the house. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha can be removed by a resolution passed by the Lok Sabha itself. This resolution must be passed by a majority of all the then members of the Lok Sabha. **Hence, Pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India is appointed by the President of India. This appointment is made by warrant under the President's hand and seal. The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India can only be removed by the President of India, but this can only happen after both Houses of Parliament pass a resolution with a special majority, citing proven misbehavior or incapacity. The process is similar to how a Supreme Court judge is removed. **Hence, Pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

Q 22.A

- The Leader of the House in Lok Sabha is officially recognised under Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. This position is usually held by the Prime Minister or a senior minister appointed by the Prime Minister. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Leader of the Opposition is not mentioned in the Constitution. It is a statutory office created under the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977, not a constitutional office. So, it has legal recognition, but not constitutional. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 23.C

- About Lantana camara:
 - **Lantana camara is a flowering shrub native to Central and South America.**
 - **It was introduced in India by the British in the early 19th century as an ornamental plant due to its bright, colorful flowers.** Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- However, it soon escaped cultivation and turned invasive, spreading uncontrollably across forests, grasslands, and agricultural lands.
- Why is Lantana camara problematic?
 - Rapid Spread & Invasiveness: It now occupies over 40% of India's forests (about 154,800 sq km) and most pasture lands (~132,000 sq km), as per ecological studies (Journal of Applied Ecology, 2023). It is considered one of the top 10 worst invasive species in the world.
 - **Allelopathic Properties:** Lantana releases allelopathic chemicals into the soil, which inhibit the germination and growth of native plant species, severely affecting local biodiversity. This reduces forest regeneration, disrupts ecosystems, and leads to monoculture thickets that dominate landscapes. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - Ecological and Livelihood Impacts: In tribal districts like Mandla (Madhya Pradesh), Lantana has: Choked farmlands, rendering them fallow for decades.
- Blocked access to Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) like mahua, amla, tendu leaves.
- Reduced fodder availability, impacting livestock grazing.
- Sheltered wild animals like wild boar and deer, increasing crop raids and farmer distress.
- **Restoration Efforts:**
 - NGOs like the Foundation for Ecological Security (FES) have helped remove Lantana from over 7,000 hectares in Mandla district since 2012.
 - Strategies include root extraction, drying, fencing using stems, and regular monitoring to prevent regrowth.
 - Post-eradication, cultivation has resumed, NTFP collection revived, and biodiversity (e.g., jamun, palash trees) is recovering.

Q 24.C

- **Recent Context:** TERI scientists have developed nano sulphur which reportedly increases mustard yield by 30-40%, from 1,156 kg per acre to 1,559 kg per acre (approximately 3.7 tonnes per hectare).
- Nano sulphur has been shown to significantly enhance oil content in crops like mustard by 28–30%, according to a recent report involving TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute). This contributes directly to India's goal of improving oilseed productivity and reducing edible oil imports. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- One of the main advantages of nano sulphur is its reduced nutrient leaching. Unlike conventional sulphur (where only 10–15% is absorbed), nano sulphur has a plant availability of 90–100%, minimizing waste and environmental impact. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- Nano sulphur's ultra-small particle size increases its bioavailability, meaning plants can absorb and utilize it more efficiently. This makes it more cost-effective and ecologically sustainable, as less quantity is needed to achieve the same or better yield outcomes. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

Q 25.A

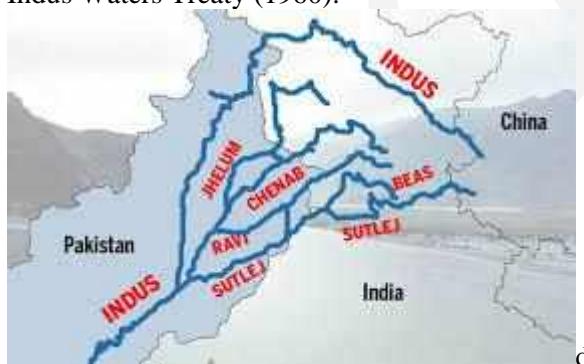
- **Recent context:** A collaborative research has reported the discovery of two new species of jumping spiders from the Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary (Kerala) in Western Ghats.
- They belong to the phylum Arthropoda. Spiders, including jumping spiders, belong to the phylum Arthropoda. More specifically, they are arachnids (class Arachnida) within Arthropoda. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Jumping spiders are known for their extraordinary jumping ability. They can leap up to 30 times the length of their body to capture prey or escape threats. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- While they are common in tropical rainforests (like the Western Ghats), Jumping spiders are not exclusive to those regions. Some species are found even in northern and Arctic regions. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

Spiders vs. Insects

	Spiders 	Insects 
Classification	> Class Arachnida	> Class Insecta
Body Structure	> Two body segments. (cephalothorax, abdomen) Eight legs	> Three body segments (head, thorax, abdomen) Six legs
Key Features	> No antennae > No wings > No metamorphosis	> Have antennae > Often have wings > Undergo metamorphosis
Similarities	Both are in phylum Arthropoda Both have exoskeletons and jointed legs	

Q 26.B

- **Recent context:** India has suspended the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) with Pakistan following the Pahalgam terror attack in April 2025.
- Indus Waters Treaty (1960):



- Signed between India and Pakistan with the World Bank as facilitator.
- Purpose: To resolve water-sharing of the Indus River System after partition.
- It governs the six major rivers flowing from India to Pakistan:
- Western Rivers: Indus, Jhelum, Chenab
- Eastern Rivers: Ravi, Beas, Sutlej
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 27.C

- **Recent Context:** Exercise Dustlik is a bilateral military exercise conducted between the Indian Army and the Uzbekistan Army in April 2025. It primarily focuses on counter-terrorism operations in semi-urban terrain under a United Nations mandate.
- The Indian Army contingent participated alongside the Uzbekistan Army's South-West Military District troops.
- The exercise aimed to strengthen interoperability, sharing of best practices, and combat readiness between the two forces.

- It involved training modules such as:
 - Room intervention and hostage rescue
 - Close-quarter battle (CQB) drills
 - Terrorist neutralisation in populated areas
- Strategic Importance:
 - Uzbekistan is a key Central Asian partner of India, and Exercise Dustlik forms part of India's strategic outreach to Central Asia.
 - It contributes to regional peace and enhances defence diplomacy.
 - The name 'Dustlik' means 'friendship' in Uzbek, symbolizing the growing cooperation between the two nations. **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 28.B

- **Recent Context:** In July 2025, UNESCO inscribed two iconic Indian texts into its prestigious Memory of the World Register, Bhagavad Gita and Natyashastra, as part of efforts to highlight its civilizational and literary legacy. This move was widely covered in national and international media and celebrated during the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav cultural initiatives.
 - Bhagavad Gita
 - > A part of the Indian epic Mahabharata, it is one of the most important spiritual classics in Hindu philosophy.
 - > It offers insights into dharma (duty), ethics, and liberation, and is globally respected.
 - > Recognized for its civilizational significance and influence on world thought.
 - Natyashastra
 - > An ancient Sanskrit text attributed to Bharata Muni, believed to be written around 200 BCE - 200 CE.
 - > It is considered the foundational treatise on Indian performing arts, including theatre, dance, and music.
 - > Its inscription recognizes India's rich tradition in performing arts. **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**
 - Arthashastra
 - > Written by Kautilya (Chanakya), this ancient Indian treatise on statecraft, economics, and military strategy is indeed culturally significant.
 - > However, it was not part of the 2025 UNESCO inscription list.
 - Panchatantra
 - > A renowned collection of animal fables and moral stories, attributed to Vishnu Sharma.
 - > Despite its historical value and influence on world literature, Panchatantra was not included in the 2025 list.
 - The Memory of the World Programme by UNESCO aims to preserve and promote access to documentary heritage of world significance.

Other Important entries from India in UNESCO Memory of the World Register	
• First Summit Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement Archives	2023
• Abhinavagupta (940-1015 CE): Collection of Manuscripts of his works	
• Maitreyayvarakarana & Gilgit Manuscript	2017
• Shāntinātha Charitra	2013
• Laghukālacakratantrājatikā (Vimalaprabhā)	2011
• Tarikh-E-Khandan-E-Timuriyah	
• Rigveda	2007
• Saiva Manuscript in Pondicherry	2005
• Archives of the Dutch East India Company	2003
• The I.A.S. Tamil Medical Manuscript Collection	1997

Q 29.C

- **Recent Context:** The PM-YUVA 3.0 (Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors) scheme was launched by the Ministry of Education on 11th March 2025, under the Department of Higher Education. It is the third edition of the Prime Minister's flagship mentorship programme aimed at fostering a vibrant literary culture in India.
- **Objective:** To mentor young and budding authors (below 30 years of age) by training them in writing skills and promoting reading, writing, and book culture across the country. **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

- Implementing Agency: National Book Trust (NBT), India, which will oversee the scheme's execution and publication of books in multiple Indian languages.
- Core Themes for PM-YUVA 3.0 (2025 Edition):
 - Contribution of Indian Diaspora in Nation Building
 - Indian Knowledge System
 - Makers of Modern India (1950–2025)
- Selection Process:
 - A total of 50 authors will be selected through a nationwide contest via MyGov.in (from 11 March to 10 April 2025).
 - Selected authors will undergo a structured six-month mentorship from June to December 2025.
 - A National Camp for these authors will also be conducted during the New Delhi World Book Fair 2026.
- Vision Alignment: The scheme aligns with NEP 2020, which emphasizes the development of creative and leadership skills among youth, and promotes Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat by encouraging writing in regional languages.

Q 30.B

- **Recent Context:** As per the official PIB release dated 18 March 2025, the 23rd edition of Exercise VARUNA is being held from 19 to 22 March 2025.
- It is a bilateral naval exercise between India and France, initiated in 2001, and has since evolved into a key strategic engagement to bolster naval cooperation.
- The 2025 edition features participation by aircraft carriers INS Vikrant and Charles de Gaulle, fighter aircraft like MiG-29K and Rafale-M, Scorpene-class submarines, and advanced air defence and anti-submarine warfare drills.
- VARUNA is a bilateral exercise, involving only India and France. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- This aligns perfectly with the stated objectives of VARUNA 2025:
 - Enhancing combat readiness,
 - Strengthening tactical coordination, and
 - Deepening maritime security cooperation.
 - These goals are achieved through joint air defence drills, anti-submarine warfare training, replenishment-at-sea, and synchronized surface operations. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 31.A

- **Recent Context:** In April 2025, Yaswanth Kumar Chidipothu, who took over as the chairman of the Tobacco Board of India, said that tobacco farmers are getting a good price for their produce for the second consecutive year.
- The Tobacco Board of India was established under the Tobacco Board Act, 1975 to regulate the production and quality of tobacco in India. This statutory body, headquartered in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, is responsible for the overall development of the tobacco industry. The Act came into force on January 1, 1976. It regulates the production, distribution, export, and quality of tobacco, particularly Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **The Tobacco Board's key functions include:**
 - Regulation: Implementing measures to control and regulate tobacco production and trade.
 - Development: Promoting the development of the tobacco industry in India.
 - Quality Control: Ensuring the production of tobacco that meets the quality standards of importing countries.
 - Support for Farmers: Providing support and guidance to tobacco farmers to improve their yields and quality.
- The **Board operates under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry** and is headed by a Chairman. It also has an Executive Director and a Secretary to assist in its functions. The Tobacco Board Act, 1975, provides the legal framework for the Board's operations and empowers it to take necessary measures for the development and regulation of the tobacco industry. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 32.C

- **Recent Context:** As a major breakthrough in shipping transport and inland waterway transport, Vice President CSIR and Minister Dr Jitendra Singh hail India's first indigenously developed hydrogen fuel sea vessel under Harit Nauka Initiative.

- The Harit Nauka initiative is aligned with the Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, which aims to achieve 100% green-fuel-powered inland vessels by 2047. The timeline has been set in accordance with India's broader Net-Zero goals and the objectives under the National Green Hydrogen Mission. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The initiative has been launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW). It specifically targets inland waterway vessels, encouraging the use of alternative green fuels such as hydrogen fuel cells to minimize the carbon footprint of India's inland transport system. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Harit Nauka, which means "Green Boat", is part of a broader effort to decarbonize India's shipping and inland navigation sector. As part of this initiative, India's first hydrogen fuel cell-powered inland waterway vessel was launched in February 2024 at V.O. Chidambaranar Port, Tamil Nadu.
- **The initiative includes:**
 - Transition to green hydrogen and biofuels,
 - Infrastructure development for refueling and maintenance,
 - Encouragement for private sector participation in green maritime solutions.

Q 33.A

- **Recent Context:** In April 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reduced its key repo rate for the second consecutive time, signalling potential for further cuts, the central bank shifted its monetary policy stance from 'neutral' to 'accommodative' to stimulate the sluggish economy amidst U.S. tariff pressures.
- An accommodative monetary policy (also known as an expansionary policy) is adopted to stimulate economic growth, particularly in times of economic slowdown, recession, or low demand.
- It involves reducing interest rates, thereby making credit cheaper, and injecting liquidity into the banking system so that consumption and investment increase.
- Tools like Long-Term Repo Operations (LTROs), Open Market Operations (OMOs), and reducing the repo rate are frequently used to implement this stance. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- High inflation typically demands a tightening (hawkish) monetary policy, not an accommodative one.
- The accommodative stance is maintained when inflation is moderate or within the RBI's tolerance band, and growth revival is prioritized.
- If inflationary pressures are already high, further liquidity and rate cuts would worsen the situation. Hence, the RBI would then raise rates or reduce liquidity to control inflation, not accommodate it. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 34.C

- **Recent Context:** The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) organized on 29th April 2025 a one-day National Workshop on opportunities for "Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the Green Hydrogen Supply Chain", at New Delhi. The workshop was aimed to explore opportunities and discuss key role of MSMEs in development of green hydrogen ecosystem in India.
- Green hydrogen refers to hydrogen produced using renewable energy sources, such as solar or wind power, through a process called electrolysis of water (H_2O). It is considered one of the most promising clean energy carriers to support decarbonization in sectors like agriculture, transport, industry, and energy storage.
- India has launched the National Green Hydrogen Mission (2023) with the aim of making the country a global hub for the production and export of green hydrogen and its derivatives like green ammonia.
- Green hydrogen can be combined with nitrogen from the air to form green ammonia (NH_3), which is a key ingredient in fertilizers. Unlike traditional ammonia (made using natural gas), green ammonia production is carbon-free, helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the fertilizer sector. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- While battery electric vehicles (BEVs) dominate the light vehicle segment, research and pilot projects are exploring the use of hydrogen internal combustion engines or fuel cells in small vehicles like two-wheelers and auto-rickshaws. Though not widespread yet, this is a valid application. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Steel industry: Hydrogen can replace coke/coal in blast furnaces as a reducing agent. Known as Green Steel. Already being implemented by companies in Europe and pilot trials in India. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 35.A

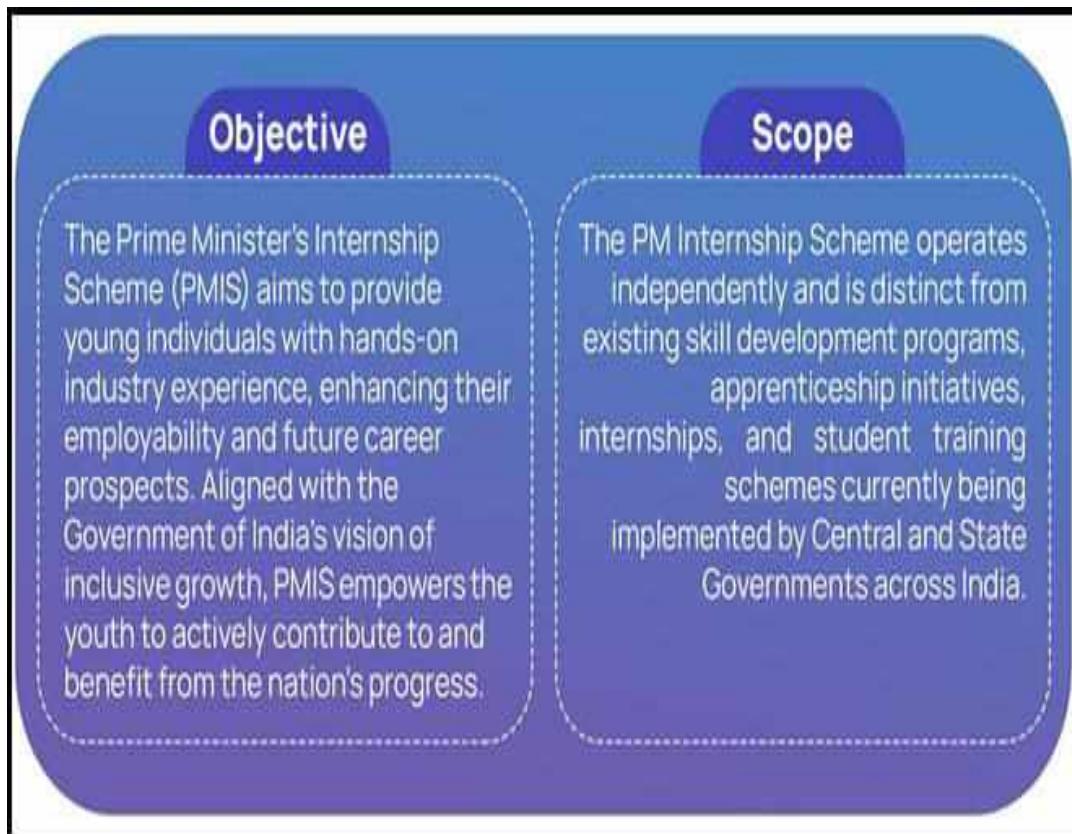
- **Recent Context:** The Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation released the PLFS Bulletin in March 2025.
- The Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) is defined as the proportion of the working-age population (15 years and above) that is either:
 - Employed, or
 - Unemployed but actively looking for work.
 - It is a key indicator used to understand the supply side of the labour market. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- In rural areas, the Female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) is significantly higher than in urban areas. For example, in May 2025, the rural female LFPR was 36.9%, while the urban female LFPR was 25.3%. Overall, the LFPR for females in rural areas tends to be higher than in urban areas.
- This is largely due to:
 - Higher participation in informal/agricultural labour,
 - Family-based unpaid work,
 - Cultural norms that make formal urban jobs less accessible to women. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 36.B

- **Recent Context:** Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) successfully undocked the SpaDeX satellite in March 2025.
- SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment) is an upcoming ISRO mission designed to test autonomous docking and undocking of two spacecraft in orbit.
- This technology is critical for future missions involving:
 - On-orbit servicing (e.g., refueling or repairing satellites)
 - Modular space station assembly
 - Deep space human missions, where docking is required for crew transfers or refueling.
- The experiment will test:
 - Relative navigation systems
 - Proximity operations
 - Soft capture and hard capture mechanisms
- It will lay the foundation for India's ambitions in building a modular space station and participating in international missions involving spacecraft cooperation in orbit.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 37.A

- **Recent Context:** Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman officially launched the dedicated mobile app for PMIS on 17th March 2025, allowing users to easily filter opportunities by district, state, sector, and location radius. Strengthening its outreach and accessibility.
- The objective of the scheme is to provide 1 crore youth with work-based learning opportunities over five years, enabling them to gain hands-on experience. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The internships span across key sectors such as agriculture, pharmaceuticals, automobiles, and manufacturing, helping align youth skills with market demand. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The stipend is not fully paid by companies. Instead, the government pays ₹4,500 per month, while the hosting company contributes ₹500, making up the total ₹5,000 monthly stipend. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**



Q 38.C

- **Recent Context:** As per a recent report in PIB, over 68,000 Sarovars have been completed in March 2025, enhancing surface and groundwater availability across various regions.
- India's water challenges have long demanded both structural and participatory interventions. Against this backdrop, the Government of India launched the Mission Amrit Sarovar in 2022 as a flagship initiative under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The mission aims to construct and rejuvenate 75 water bodies in each district across the country, thereby fostering water conservation, ensuring sustainability, and reviving traditional community water bodies through public participation.
- Launched with the vision of building 50,000 Amrit Sarovars by August 15, 2023, the initiative has now been extended and has become a nationwide movement converging rural development, environmental stewardship, and community empowerment. It is not merely a reservoir creation initiative, it represents the fusion of national pride, ecological restoration, and grassroots governance. In the backdrop of growing concerns regarding groundwater depletion and rural water scarcity, Mission Amrit Sarovar has emerged as a strategic response, blending tradition with modernity and institutional alignment with public mobilization.
- It promotes community participation, and convergence of various central and state government schemes (e.g., MGNREGS, PMKSY, XV Finance Commission grants).
- The goals include:
 - Water conservation
 - Groundwater recharge
 - Sustaining rural livelihoods
 - Improving ecological balance
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 39.A

- **Recent Context:** Sukhna sanctuary: Supreme Court directs green ministry to finalise Punjab's ESZ draft in 3 months.
- Eco-sensitive zones serve as buffer zones around national parks and wildlife sanctuaries. These zones are meant to minimize the negative impact of human activities and help in conserving the fragile ecosystems around core protected areas. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Although ESZs are meant to protect wildlife-rich areas, they are not declared under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Instead, they are notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC). **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 40.C

- **Recent Context:** Two cheetahs Prabhas and Pawak were relocated from the Kuno National Park to Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary in April 2025.
- Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary is listed as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) due to its rich avifauna and ecological significance. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The sanctuary is mainly covered with dry deciduous forests. Common tree species include teak, kardhai, tendu, and salai.
- The sanctuary is located in Mandsaur and Nimach districts of Madhya Pradesh, and lies within the transitional zone of the Vindhyan ranges and Malwa Plateau and Chambal basin. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 41.B

- **Recent Context:** Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on April 11, 2025 spoke about the upcoming launch of the automatic train protection system 'Kavach 5.0' for Mumbai's suburban trains. Indian Railways will start a major initiative in the name of 'Kavach 5.0'. It will work for metro and suburban trains and will be ready by December 2025. Kavach 5.0 is the next-generation version of the 'Kavach' technology, due to which the capacity in suburban areas will increase by almost 1.5 times. All major cities including Mumbai, will benefit from this initiative.
- Kavach is India's indigenous Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system developed by the Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) under the Ministry of Railways. It is also known as the Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS).
- Core Principle and Technology Used:
 - **RFID (Radio Frequency Identification):** RFID tags are installed at regular intervals on the tracks. These tags provide real-time information about signal status, location, and train speed to the onboard system.
 - **Radio Communication:** Radio links enable communication between:
 - > Onboard train systems,
 - > Station master units,
 - > Trackside equipment (signal towers, control systems).
 - This ensures synchronization of data and communication between different trains operating on the same track.
- **Automatic Braking System:**
 - If the system detects danger such as a train overshooting a red signal or coming too close to another train, it automatically applies emergency brakes to prevent collision.
- **Failsafe Design:**
 - Kavach is designed with redundant systems and fallback protocols to ensure safety even during hardware or software malfunctions.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 42.B

- **Recent Context:** Ahead of the cotton sowing season in Punjab, there has been an increasing demand for Bollgard-3, a pest-resistant cotton variety which is yet to become available in India.
- These are Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) proteins engineered into cotton plants to provide resistance against insect pests, particularly lepidopteran species like pink bollworm.
- Cry1Ac and Cry2Ab were used in earlier Bollgard varieties, while Vip3A was added in Bollgard-3 for broader pest protection.
- This allows for reduced pesticide use and potentially higher crop yields.
- **Details of proteins**
 - **Cry1Ac:**
 - > **Targets:** Lepidopteran pests like *Helicoverpa armigera* (cotton bollworm).
 - > **Used in:** Bt cotton (single-gene varieties).
 - > **Mode of Action:** Once ingested, the Cry1Ac protein is activated in the insect gut, where it binds to gut receptors, forms pores, and causes the insect's death.
 - **Cry2Ab:**
 - > **Targets:** A broader range of Lepidopteran pests.
 - > Often stacked with Cry1Ac for greater and more durable pest resistance.
 - > **Used in:** Bt cotton (BG-II) varieties in India.
 - **Vip3A (Vegetative insecticidal protein 3A):**

- > A newer class of Bt protein, different in structure and mode of action from Cry proteins.
- > Targets: Caterpillars from the Lepidoptera family.
- > Used in: Bt cotton hybrids with multi-gene pyramiding to delay pest resistance buildup.
- Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

Q 43.C

- Ethics Committee in Parliament:
 - The genesis of formation of the Ethics Committee in Parliament can be traced to a resolution adopted at the Presiding Officers Conference held in New Delhi in October, 1996.
 - **Each house of the parliament has its own ethics committee. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
 - Ethics Committee in Lok Sabha:
 - > It was first constituted in 2000.
 - > It consists of not more than fifteen members and nominated by the Speaker.
 - > They shall hold office for a term not exceeding one year.
 - Ethics Committee in Rajya Sabha:
 - > It was constituted in 1997.
 - > It consists of 10 members nominated by the Chairman of Rajya Sabha.
 - > They shall hold office for a term not exceeding one year.
 - Functions:
 - > To oversee the moral and ethical conduct of the Members;
 - > To examine the cases referred to it with reference to ethical and other misconduct of the Members.
 - **Any person or member may make a complaint relating to unethical conduct of a member to the committee through another MP, along with evidence of the alleged misconduct, and an affidavit stating that the complaint is not “false, frivolous, or vexatious”. Hence statement 2 is correct**
 - Ethics Committee v/s Privileges Committee: An MP can be examined for Breach of Privilege; a non-MP too can be accused of breach of privilege for actions that attack the authority and dignity of the House. **In the case of the Ethics Committee only an MP can be examined for misconduct. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 44.C

- **Recent context:** In March 2025, the defence ministry signed contracts worth ₹2,500 crore for a new anti-tank weapon called Nag missile system (NAMIS) and light vehicles to boost the military's capabilities.
- The NAG missile is an indigenously developed **3rd-generation fire-and-forget anti-tank guided missile developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).**
- Once launched, the missile autonomously homes in on the target using its imaging infrared (IIR) seeker, requiring no further guidance from the operator. **Hence, statement 1 and statement 3 are correct.**
- The NAG missile is equipped with a tandem-charge HEAT (High-Explosive Anti-Tank) warhead, designed specifically to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour (ERA), a type of armor used on modern tanks to neutralize the impact of anti-tank weapons.
- The NAG missile system has multiple variants designed to be launched from **both land-based and aerial platforms. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Land-based Variant:**
 - Launcher: The NAMICA (Nag Missile Carrier), which is a modified BMP-2 Infantry Fighting Vehicle.
 - Role: Primarily used by the Indian Army for anti-tank operations in battlefield conditions.
 - Range: Around 4–5 km.
- **Air-launched Variant (Helina):**
 - HELINA (Helicopter-launched NAG) is the air-launched version of the NAG missile.
 - Platform: Specifically designed to be launched from Indian Army helicopters like:
 - HAL Rudra (armed version of the Dhruv ALH)
 - Light Combat Helicopter (LCH)
 - Guidance: Uses an imaging infrared (IIR) seeker, enabling lock-on before launch (LOBL) capability.
 - Range: Up to 7 km.
- **Features:**
 - **Can engage targets in high-altitude environments like Ladakh and the Siachen sector.**
 - **All-weather, day-and-night operation capable.**

Q 45.B

- **Recent Context:** The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) showcased India's agricultural and processed food excellence at the 39th edition of AAHAR 2025, organized by the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) from 4th to 8th March 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The event marked a significant milestone in highlighting India's prowess in the agriculture and food processing sector.
- APEDA does not fix or determine MSPs. MSPs are declared by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) and approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). APEDA's role is not related to domestic pricing mechanisms. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **In accordance with the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985, (2 of 1986) the following functions have been assigned to the Authority.**
 - Development of industries relating to the scheduled products for export by way of providing financial assistance or otherwise for undertaking surveys and feasibility studies, participation in enquiry capital through joint ventures and other reliefs and subsidy schemes;
 - **Registration of persons as exporters of the scheduled products on payment of such fees as may be prescribed;**
 - Fixing of standards and specifications for the scheduled products for the purpose of exports;
 - Carrying out inspection of meat and meat products in slaughter houses, processing plants, storage premises, conveyances or other places where such products are kept or handled for the purpose of ensuring the quality of such products;
 - Improving of packaging of the Scheduled products;
 - Improving of marketing of the Scheduled products outside India;
 - Promotion of export oriented production and development of the Scheduled products;
 - Collection of statistics from the owners of factories or establishments engaged in the production, processing, packaging, marketing or export of the scheduled products or from such other persons as may be prescribed on any matter relating to the scheduled products and publication of the statistics so collected or of any portions thereof or extracts there from;
 - Training in various aspects of the industries connected with the scheduled products;
 - Such other matters as may be prescribed.
- **Hence, APEDA is the primary agency responsible for registration and certification of exporters dealing with scheduled agricultural and processed food products as per the APEDA Act, 1985.**
- **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 46.C

- **Recent Context:** Work is on to revive the ancient centre of learning in Bihar i.e, Vikramshila. The Bihar government has identified 202.14 acres of land in Antichak village, Bhagalpur district, for the establishment of the Central University. This land was offered to the Ministry of Education and accepted for the proposed university.
- Vikramashila Mahavihara was founded in the late 8th or early 9th century by Dharampala, a Pala dynasty ruler. It is located near Bhagalpur in present-day Bihar, India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Vikramashila became an important centre for Tantric or Vajrayana Buddhism. It was one of the largest Buddhist universities of ancient India, alongside Nalanda and Odantapuri. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Eminent scholars like Atisha Dipankara, who later helped revive Buddhism in Tibet, were associated with Vikramashila.
- Like Nalanda, Vikramashila was destroyed during the Turkic invasions led by Bakhtiyar Khilji around 1193 CE. This marked a significant decline in Buddhist monastic education in India.

Q 47.D

- **Recent Context:** Under the National Quantum Mission, four Thematic Hubs have been established in key technology verticals of quantum computing, quantum communication, quantum sensing & metrology and quantum materials & devices.
- Quantum computers, especially with quantum annealing and other optimization algorithms, are well-suited for solving complex optimization problems like routing, scheduling, and resource allocation. Companies such as Volkswagen and DHL have already explored using quantum computing to improve traffic flow and logistics. **Hence, option 1 is correct.**
- Quantum computers can simulate quantum mechanical systems more accurately than classical computers, which is essential in drug discovery. They can model the behavior of molecules and reactions at the

atomic level, helping in the faster development of new drugs and personalized medicine. **Hence, option 2 is correct.**

- While still in a nascent stage, quantum computing is expected to revolutionize weather modeling. Weather systems involve solving vast, complex differential equations and working with massive datasets. Quantum computers could process and simulate these systems far more efficiently, enabling more accurate and faster forecasting. **Hence, option 3 is correct.**
- Financial markets involve stochastic processes, option pricing models, and portfolio optimization; these are the areas well-suited for quantum algorithms. Quantum Monte Carlo simulations and quantum machine learning can model risk with more precision and speed. **Hence, option 4 is correct.**
- Quantum data analytics could optimise soil condition analysis, climate modeling for crop cycles, and resource allocation (e.g., water, fertilizer).

This development is still in nascent stage, but being explored in agri-tech innovation zones. **Hence, option 5 is correct.**

Q 48.B

- **Recent Context:** NATO members Poland, Finland and all three Baltic states have queued up over the past few weeks to withdraw from the Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel landmines, in the face of what they say are growing military threats from Russia.
- The Ottawa Convention, also known as the Mine Ban Treaty, is an international agreement that aims to eliminate the use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of anti-personnel landmines.
- Adopted in 1997 and entered into force in 1999, the treaty reflects a strong humanitarian concern for the long-lasting impacts of landmines, especially on civilians in post-conflict regions. **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**
- Key Provisions of the Ottawa Convention:
 - Ban on Use: Parties are prohibited from using anti-personnel landmines under any circumstances.
 - Stockpile Destruction: Countries must destroy their landmine stockpiles within four years of joining the treaty.
 - Clearance of Mined Areas: Affected states must identify and clear all known mined areas within ten years.
 - Assistance to Victims: The treaty obliges states to assist victims in terms of medical care, rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration.
- Global Adoption:
- Over 160 countries are parties to the convention.
- Major non-signatories include the United States, Russia, China, India, and Pakistan — countries that have cited security and defense concerns

Q 49.D

- The budget is based on the principle of annuality, that is, the Parliament grants money to the government for one financial year. **If the granted money is not spent by the end of the financial year, then the balance expires and returns to the Consolidated Fund of India. This practice is known as the ‘rule of lapse’.** It facilitates effective financial control by the Parliament as no reserve funds can be built without its authorisation. However, the observance of this rule leads to heavy rush of expenditure towards the close of the financial year. This is popularly called as ‘March Rush’.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 50.C

- **Role of Gram Sabha under the PESA Act 1996:**
 - Every village shall have its own Gram Sabha. A village shall consist of one or more habitations or hamlets comprising a community and managing its affairs in accordance with traditions and customs. [Sections 4(b) and 4(c) of PESA Act]
 - Gram Sabha has mandatory executive functions to
 - > **approve plans, programmes, and projects for social and economic development. [Section 4(e)(i) of PESA Act]**
 - > **identify persons as beneficiaries under the poverty alleviation and other programmes. [Section 4(e)(ii) of PESA Act]**
 - > **issue a certificate of utilisation of funds by the Panchayat for the plans, programmes and projects referred to in section 4(e) of PESA Act. [Section 4(f) of PESA Act]. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

- Powers exclusive to Gram Sabha/Panchayat at appropriate level-
 - > right to mandatory consultation in land acquisition, resettlement, and rehabilitation of displaced persons. [Section 4(i) of PESA Act]
 - > Panchayat at an appropriate level is entrusted with planning and management of minor water bodies. [Section 4(j) of PESA Act]
 - > Mandatory recommendations by Gram Sabha or Panchayat at appropriate level prior to grant of prospecting licenses, mining leases, concessions for minor minerals. [Sections 4(k) and 4(l) of PESA Act]

Q 51.C

- According to Article 243K of the Indian Constitution, the superintendence, direction, and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to the Panchayats shall be vested in a State Election Commission consisting of a State Election Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- His conditions of service and tenure of office shall also be determined by the governor. He shall not be removed from the office except in the manner and on the grounds prescribed for the removal of a judge of the state high court. His conditions of service shall not be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.
- The state legislature may make provision with respect to all matters relating to elections to the panchayats subject to constitutional provisions. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Q 52.A

- **Recent Context:** Sikhna Jwhwlao National Park was officially notified as a national park by the Governor of Assam on 5 March 2025.
- Similipal is located in Mayurbhanj district, Odisha. It was already a tiger reserve and biosphere reserve, but in April 2025, the Odisha government formally notified it as a national park, making it India's 107th. Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.
- Sikhna Jwhwlao National Park
 - This park is not in Kerala, but in Assam. It was declared a national park in March 2025 by the Assam government.
 - Location: Bodoland Territorial Region, Assam
 - Significance: It spans 316 sq km and is part of the Manas Biosphere Reserve. Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.
- Eravikulam National Park is located in Munnar, Kerala, not Assam. It is known for its Nilgiri tahr population and Neelakurinji flowers. The park reopened in April 2025 after seasonal closure for tahr calving. Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.

Q 53.A

- Constitution provides for the following three types of municipalities in every state:
 - A nagar panchayat (by whatever name called) for a transitional area.
 - A municipal council for a smaller urban area.
 - A municipal corporation for a larger urban area. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
- But, there is one exception. If there is an urban area where municipal services are being provided by an industrial establishment, then the governor may specify that area to be an industrial township. In such a case, a municipality may not be constituted

Q 54.C

- Municipal corporations are created for the administration of big cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Bangalore and others. They are established in the states by the acts of the concerned state legislatures, and in the union territories by the acts of the Parliament of India. There may be one common act for all the municipal corporations in a state or a separate act for each municipal corporation. Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.
- A notified area committee is created for the administration of two types of areas—a fast developing town due to industrialisation, and a town which does not yet fulfil all the conditions necessary for the constitution of a municipality, but which otherwise is considered important by the state government. Since it is established by a notification in the government gazette, it is called as notified area committee. Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.
- A cantonment board is established for municipal administration for civilian population in the cantonment area. It is set up under the provisions of the Cantonments Act of 2006—a legislation enacted by the

Central government. It works under the administrative control of the defence ministry of the Central government. Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.

Q 55.A

- Consultative committees are attached to various ministries/departments of the Central Government. They consist of members of both the Houses of Parliament. The Minister / Minister of State in charge of the Ministry concerned acts as the chairman of the consultative committee of that ministry. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- These committees provide a forum for informal discussions between the ministers and the members of Parliament on policies and programmes of the government and the manner of their implementation.
- **These committees are constituted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.** The guidelines regarding the composition, functions and procedures of these committees are formulated by this Ministry. The Ministry also makes arrangements for holding their meetings both during the session and the inter-session period of Parliament. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct**

Q 56.D

- **Rules Committee:** This committee considers the matters of procedure and conduct of business in the House and recommends necessary amendments or additions to the rules of the House. The Lok Sabha committee consists of 15 members including the Speaker as its ex-officio chairman. In the Rajya Sabha, it consists of 16 members including the Chairman as its exofficio chairman. **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**
- General Purposes Committee: This committee considers and advises on matters concerning affairs of the House, which do not fall within the jurisdiction of any other parliamentary committee.
- House Committee: This committee deals with residential accommodation of members and other amenities like food, medical aid, etc., accorded to them in their houses and hostels in Delhi. Both the Houses have their respective House Committees.
- Business Advisory Committee: This committee regulates the programme and time table of the House. It allocates time for the transaction of legislative and other business brought before the House by the government.

Q 57.C

- **A municipal corporation has three authorities, namely, the council, the standing committees and the commissioner.**
- The Council is the deliberative and legislative wing of the corporation. It consists of the Councillors directly elected by the people, as well as a few nominated persons having knowledge or experience of municipal administration. In brief, the composition of the Council including the reservation of seats for SCs, STs and women is governed by the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act.
- **The Council is headed by a Mayor. He is assisted by a Deputy Mayor. He is elected in a majority of the states for a one-year renewable term. He is basically an ornamental figure and a formal head of the corporation. His main function is to preside over the meetings of the Council.** **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **The standing committees are created to facilitate the working of the council, which is too large in size.** They deal with public works, education, health, taxation, finance and so on. They take decisions in their fields. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **The municipal commissioner is responsible for the implementation of the decisions taken by the council and its standing committees. Thus, he is the chief executive authority of the corporation.** He is appointed by the state government and is generally a member of the IAS. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 58.C

- **Committee on Government Assurances:**
 - This committee examines the assurances, promises and undertakings given by ministers from time to time on the floor of the House and reports on the extent to which they have been carried through.
 - **In the Lok Sabha, it consists of 15 members and in the Rajya Sabha, it consists of 10 members.**
 - It was constituted in 1953.
- **Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions:**
 - This committee classifies bills and allocates time for the discussion on bills and resolutions introduced by private members (other than ministers).

- This is a special committee of the Lok Sabha and consists of 15 members including the Deputy Speaker as its chairman.
- The Rajya Sabha does not have any such committee. The same function in the Rajya Sabha is performed by the Business Advisory Committee of that House.**
- **Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House:**
 - The "Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House" is a parliamentary committee responsible for examining leave applications from Members of Parliament (MPs) and investigating cases where an MP has been absent from the House for an extended period without permission, typically for more than 60 days; this committee is constituted by the Speaker and consists of 15 members.
 - There is no such committee in Rajya sabha and all matters are dealt by the House itself.**
- **Thus, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 59.B

- **Recent Context:** In a swift response to the devastating earthquake that struck Myanmar on 28th March 2025, the Indian Army, under 'Operation Brahma', is deploying a specialised medical task force to provide urgent humanitarian assistance.
- A medical team from Spear Corps (under Eastern Command) of the Indian Army was deployed across the border, in close coordination with local authorities and the Indian Embassy in Myanmar. **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**
- The operation exemplifies India's neighbourhood-first policy and its commitment to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR).
- Operation Maitri : India's relief operation in Nepal after the 2015 earthquake
- Operation Dost: Relief sent to Turkey and Syria after 2023 earthquake
- Operation Karuna : India's medical and relief assistance to cyclone-hit Myanmar (May 2023)

Q 60.C

- **Committee on Public Undertakings:**
 - This committee was created in 1964 on the recommendation of the Krishna Menon Committee. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - Originally, it had 15 members (10 from the Lok Sabha and 5 from the Rajya Sabha). However, in 1974, its membership was raised to 22 (15 from the Lok Sabha and 7 from the Rajya Sabha).
 - The members of this committee are elected by the Parliament every year from amongst its own members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote. Thus, all parties get due representation in it.
 - The term of office of the members is one year.
 - A minister cannot be elected as a member of the committee.
 - The chairman of the committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst its members who are drawn from the Lok Sabha only. Thus, the members of the committee who are from the Rajya Sabha cannot be appointed as the chairman. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - It examines the reports and accounts of public undertakings and the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General on public undertakings. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 61.D

- **Only a majority of the members are directly elected. As per Article 243R(1): All seats in a municipality shall be filled by direct election from territorial constituencies in the municipal area. However, Clause (2) allows for representation of MLAs, MPs (nominated), and experts through indirect election or nomination by the state legislature. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The State legislature by law may provide for the representation of the following persons in a municipality:
 - Persons having special knowledge or experience in municipal administration without the right to vote in the meetings of the municipality.**
 - The members of the Lok Sabha and the state legislative assembly representing constituencies that comprise wholly or partly the municipal area.
 - The members of the Rajya Sabha and the state legislative council registered as electors within the municipal area. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - The chairpersons of committees (other than wards committees).

Q 62.C

- The institutions of urban local government originated and developed in modern India during the period of British rule. The major events in this context are as follows:
 - **In 1688, the first municipal corporation in India was set up at Madras. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**
 - In 1726, the municipal corporations were set up in Bombay and Calcutta.
 - Lord Mayo's Resolution of 1870 on financial decentralisation visualised the development of local self-government institutions.
 - Lord Ripon's Resolution of 1882 has been hailed as the 'Magna Carta' of local self-government. He is called the father of local self-government in India.
 - The Royal Commission on decentralisation was appointed in 1907, and it submitted its report in 1909. Its chairman was Hobhouse.
 - Under the dyarchical scheme introduced in Provinces by the Government of India Act of 1919, local self-government became a transferred subject under the charge of a responsible Indian minister.
 - In 1924, the Cantonments Act was passed by the Central legislature.
 - Under the provincial autonomy scheme introduced by the Government of India Act of 1935, local self-government was declared a provincial subject

Q 63.A

- Article 243ZD of the constitution states that there shall be constituted in every State at the district level a District Planning Committee to consolidate the plans prepared by the Panchayats and the Municipalities in the district and to prepare a draft development plan for the district as a whole. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The Legislature of a State may, by law, make provision with respect to
 - the composition of the District Planning Committees.
 - the manner in which the seats in such Committees shall be filled:
 - > Provided that not less than four-fifths of the total number of members of such Committee shall be elected by, and from amongst, the elected members of the Panchayat at the district level and of the Municipalities in the district in proportion to the ratio between the population of the rural areas and of the urban areas in the district.
 - The functions relating to district planning which may be assigned to such Committees.
 - The manner in which the Chairpersons of such Committees shall be chosen.
- The Chairperson of every District Planning Committee shall forward the development plan, as recommended by such Committee, to the Government of the State. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

Q 64.A

- To bring the people residing in Fifth Schedule Areas in the mainstream, the Parliament, in terms of Article 243M(4)(b) of the Constitution, has enacted "the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996" (PESA) to extend Part IX of the Constitution, relating to Panchayats, to the Fifth Schedule areas, with certain modifications and exceptions. States, having Fifth Schedule Areas, have been empowered to make Panchayat Laws for these areas. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
- Under "The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas), Act 1996" (PESA), State Legislatures have been empowered to frame all laws concerning the extension of the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution relating to the Panchayats in Fifth Scheduled Areas, subject to such exceptions and modifications as are provided in section 4 of the Act.
- PESA is an Act to provide for the extension of the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution relating to the Panchayats to the Scheduled Areas. In terms of section 2 of this Act, "Scheduled Areas" means the Scheduled Areas as referred to in clause (1) of article 244 of the Constitution. Presently, 10 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Telangana have Fifth Schedule Areas in their respective States. Out of the ten PESA States, eight States, namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Telangana, have framed and notified their State PESA Rules under their respective State Panchayati Raj Acts. Two States (Jharkhand & Odisha) have also framed their draft PESA Rules, but they have not notified these Rules.

Q 65.A

- **The governor of a state shall, after every five years, constitute a finance commission to review the financial position of the panchayats.** It shall make the following recommendations to the Governor:
 - The principles that should govern:
 - > The distribution between the state and the panchayats of the net proceeds of the taxes, duties, tolls and fees levied by the state and allocation of shares amongst the panchayats at all levels.
 - > **The determination of taxes, duties, tolls and fees that may be assigned to the panchayats.**
 - > The grants-in-aid to the panchayats from the consolidated fund of the state.
 - The measures needed to improve the financial position of the panchayats.
 - Any other matter referred to it by the governor in the interests of sound finance of the panchayats. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **The Constitution does not explicitly provide for its composition. It states that the state legislature may provide for the composition of the commission, the required qualifications of its members and the manner of their selection.** Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

Q 66.D

- The Gram Sabha is the fulcrum of the Panchayati Raj and village development. People use the forum of the Gram Sabha to discuss local governance and development, and make need-based plans for the village.
- The Panchayat implements development programs under the overarching mandate, supervision and monitoring of the Gram Sabha. All decisions of the Panchayat are taken through the Gram Sabha, and no decision is official and valid without the consent of the Gram Sabha.
- **The Gram Sabha is defined under Article 243(b) of the Indian Constitution, and its powers and functions are outlined in Article 243A.** Specifically, Article 243(b) defines the Gram Sabha as a body consisting of persons registered in the electoral rolls of a village within a Panchayat's area. Hence, statements 1 and 2 are not correct.
- **Article 243A further states that a Gram Sabha can exercise powers and perform functions at the village level as provided by the state legislature and not the state legislature.**

Q 67.A

- The first initiative to introduce the Panchayati Raj Institute in post-Independence India was taken in January 1957. At that time, the Planning Commission appointed a Committee on Plan Projects. The Committee was known as the Mehta Committee, which was named after its chairman, Balwant Rai G. Mehta.
- Balwant Rai Mehta Committee recommended the establishment of democratic institutions in villages - the village panchayats. It recommended the establishment of a three-tier panchayati raj system—gram panchayat at the village level, panchayat samiti at the block level, and zila parishad at the district level. These tiers should be organically linked through a device of indirect elections.
- **The Balwant Rai Mehta Committee Report had also recommended that the village panchayats should have been vested with adequate power and financial allocation. It suggested that the power for development should be located in the intermediate level- the Panchayat Samiti. But It did not recommend a constitutional status to PRIs.** This recommendation came from the L M Singhvi Committee (1986). Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- **Rajasthan was the first state to establish Panchayati Raj. The scheme was inaugurated by the prime minister on October 2, 1959, in Nagaur district. The Prime Minister during this initiative was Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.** Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- **The GVK Rao Committee was set up in 1985.** It was asked to look into the administrative arrangements for rural development and the role of panchayat bodies and their relationships with the administrative setup. **The Committee concluded that the developmental process was gradually bureaucratised and divorced from the Panchayati Raj.** This phenomenon of bureaucratisation of development administration as against democratisation weakened the Panchayati Raj institutions, resulting in what is aptly called ‘grass without roots’. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

Q 68.B

- **The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act provides for the reservation of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in every panchayat (i.e., at all three levels) in proportion to their population to the total population in the panchayat area. Further, the state legislature shall provide for the reservation of offices of chairperson in the panchayat at the village or any other level for the SCs and STs.**

- The act provides for the reservation of not less than one-third of the total number of seats for women (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the SCs and STs). Further, not less than one-third of the total number of offices of chairpersons in the panchayats at each level shall be reserved for women. Hence, statement 1 is not correct and statement 2 is correct.
- “Panchayat”, being “Local Government”, is a State subject in terms of the State list of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Mandate for reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions is provided by Article 243D of the Constitution of India. Reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions is provided through the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts. Accordingly, making provisions for reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions comes within the purview of concerned State Governments.
- Currently, 21 States and 2 Union Territories have made provisions, in their respective State Panchayati Raj Acts/Rules, for 50% reservation for women in Panchayats. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

Q 69.A

- Compulsory Provisions Under 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (1992):
 - Organisation of Gram Sabha in a village or group of villages.
 - Establishment of panchayats at the village, intermediate, and district levels.
 - **Direct elections to all seats in panchayats at the village, intermediate, and district levels.**
 - **Indirect elections to the post of chairperson of panchayats at the intermediate and district levels.**
 - Voting rights of the chairperson and other members of a panchayat elected directly or indirectly.
 - 21 years to be the minimum age for contesting elections to panchayats.
 - Reservation of seats (both members and chairpersons) for SCs and STs in panchayats at all three levels.
 - Reservation of one-third seats (both members and chairpersons) for women in panchayats at all three levels.
 - **Fixing tenure of five years for panchayats at all levels and holding fresh elections within six months in the event of supersession of any panchayat.**
 - Establishment of a State Election Commission for conducting elections to the panchayats.
 - Constitution of a State Finance Commission after every five years to review the financial position of the panchayats
- Important Voluntary Provisions Under 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act:
 - Endowing the Gram Sabha with powers and functions at the village level.
 - Determining the manner of election of the chairperson of the village panchayat.
 - Giving representation to the chairpersons of the village panchayats in the intermediate panchayats, or in the case of a state not having intermediate panchayats, in the district panchayats.
 - Giving representation to the chairpersons of the intermediate panchayats in the district panchayats.
 - Giving representation to members of the Parliament (both the Houses) and the state legislature (both the Houses) in the panchayats at different levels falling within their constituencies.
 - Providing reservation of seats (both members and chairpersons) for backward classes in panchayats at any level.
 - Devolution of powers and responsibilities upon panchayats to prepare plans for economic development and social justice; and to perform some or all of the 29 functions listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution.
 - **Granting financial powers to the panchayats, that is, authorizing them to levy, collect, and appropriate taxes, duties, tolls, and fees. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 70.A

- Three-tier Panchayati Raj System has been established with the insertion of Part IX in the Constitution of India by way of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992. Article 243B under Part-IX of the Constitution of India provides that Panchayats at the village, intermediate, and district levels shall be constituted in every State.
- **Panchayats at the intermediate level may not be constituted in a State having a population not exceeding twenty lakhs. At present, States of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Sikkim, and Union Territories of Lakshadweep, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, and Daman & Diu have a two-tier Panchayati Raj System, while the remaining States & Union Territories have a three-tier Panchayati Raj System.**
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 71.B

- The appointment of the Prime Minister of India is governed primarily by Article 75 of the Constitution, which outlines both the procedure and conditions under which an individual can hold this high constitutional office.
- It is commonly assumed that only an individual who can prove majority support in the Lok Sabha can be appointed Prime Minister. However, this is not a constitutional requirement.
 - **Article 75(1) empowers the President of India to appoint the Prime Minister, but it does not mandate that majority support be proven beforehand.**
 - In 1980, the Delhi High Court held that the Constitution does not require that a person must prove his/her majority in the Lok Sabha before he/she is appointed as the Prime Minister.
 - **The President may first appoint him as the Prime Minister and then ask him/her to prove his majority in the Lok Sabha within a reasonable period. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- Article 75(5) of the Constitution states that a Minister who for any period of six consecutive months is not a member of either House of Parliament shall at the expiration of that period cease to be a Minister.
 - **Thus a person who is not a Member of Parliament (MP) — that is, not a member of either the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha — can be appointed Prime Minister, but only for a maximum period of six months.**
 - **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q 72.C

- **The National Integration Council is a non-statutory body set up to address issues related to communalism, casteism, and regionalism. It is chaired by the Prime Minister of India by convention.**
 - The council comprises Union Ministers, leaders of political parties, and eminent public figures.
- **The Defence Acquisition Council was constituted in 2001 to ensure expeditious procurement of approved requirements of the armed forces. It is chaired by the Defence Minister, not the Prime Minister.**
- **The National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) is a statutory body constituted under Section 5A of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. According to this section, the NBWL is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.**
- **The NDMA is a statutory body established under the Disaster Management Act, 2005. As per Section 3(2)(a) of the Act, the Prime Minister is the ex-officio Chairperson of the Authority.**
 - It plays a crucial role in formulating policies, plans, and guidelines for disaster management in India.
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer**

Q 73.A

- The Solicitor General is the ‘second highest law officer’ in the country after the Attorney General of India.
- The Attorney General is assisted by the Solicitor General of India and several Additional Solicitors General of India for the fulfillment of his official responsibilities.
- **The Solicitor General of India does not work independently of the Attorney General.** The Solicitor General is subordinate to the Attorney General and assists them in fulfilling their duties. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Solicitor General and the Additional Solicitors General of India also advise the Union Government and appear on behalf of the Union of India in the Supreme Court and High Courts.
- The Attorney General has the right to participate in parliamentary proceedings but cannot cast a vote. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

Q 74.B

- The office of the Vice-President of India, established under Article 63 of the Constitution, is a unique constitutional position that serves both legislative and executive functions.
- **According to the Constitution, the Vice-President is elected for a term of five years. However, Article 67(b) allows the Vice-President to continue in office beyond the five-year term until a successor assumes charge. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - This ensures continuity and avoids a vacancy in the high constitutional office.
- **When the office of the President falls vacant due to death, resignation, removal, or otherwise, the Vice-President steps in as the Acting President.**

- Article 65 of the Constitution mandates that the Vice-President can discharge the duties of the President for a maximum period of six months, within which a new President must be elected and assume office.
 - **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (1952-1962) and Shri Hamid Ansari (2007-2017) both hold the distinction of being elected twice consecutively as the Vice-President of India.**
 - **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 75.C

- The Vice-President is elected by an Electoral College, which consists of the members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha (both elected and nominated members).
- **Under Article 66(1) of the original Constitution, the Vice-President was to be elected by members of both Houses of Parliament in a joint meeting.**
 - However, this joint meeting procedure was cumbersome, and therefore the 11th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1961, amended the process.
 - After the amendment, the Vice-President is now elected by the members of both Houses voting in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote — but without a joint meeting. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **The Tenth Schedule (Anti-Defection Law) applies only to voting inside the House on matters like confidence motions, bills, etc.**
 - It does not apply to elections to the office of the President or Vice-President, which are held via secret ballot.
 - So, members are not disqualified if they vote contrary to party lines in such elections.
 - **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Unlike Presidential elections, where the value of each vote varies (based on proportional population for MLAs and equality for MPs), in Vice-Presidential elections, only MPs vote, and each MP's vote has equal value — 1.**
 - **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 76.B

- Article 72 of the Constitution empowers the President to grant pardons to persons who have been tried and convicted of any offence in all cases where the:
 - Punishment or sentence is for an offence against a Union Law
 - Punishment or sentence is by a court martial (military court)
 - Sentence is a sentence of death
- The pardoning power of the President is independent of the Judiciary. The President while exercising this power, does not sit as a court of appeal.
- The pardoning power of the President includes the following:
- **Pardon**
 - **It removes both the sentence and the conviction and completely absolves the convict from all sentences, punishments and disqualifications.**
- **Commutation**
 - **It denotes the substitution of one form of punishment for a lighter form. For example, a death sentence may be commuted to rigorous imprisonment, which in turn may be commuted to a simple imprisonment.**
 - **Hence pair 1 is correctly matched**
- **Remission**
 - **It implies reducing the period of sentence without changing its character.**
 - For example, a sentence of rigorous imprisonment for two years may be remitted to rigorous imprisonment for one year.
 - **Hence pair 2 is correctly matched**
- **Respite**
 - **It denotes awarding a lesser sentence in place of one originally awarded due to some special fact, such as the physical disability of a convict or the pregnancy of a woman offender.**
 - **Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched**

- **Rerieve**
 - It implies a stay of the execution of a sentence (especially that of death) for a temporary period. Its purpose is to enable the convict to have time to seek pardon or commutation from the President.
- Under Article 161 of the Constitution, the governor of a state also possesses the pardoning power.
 - The President can pardon sentences inflicted by court martial (military courts) while the governor cannot.

Q 77.D

- In the Indian constitutional framework, certain types of bills—due to their financial or federal implications—cannot be introduced in the legislature without the prior approval or recommendation of the President of India.
- **Under Article 117(1) of the Constitution, a Bill which involves expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India cannot be introduced in the Lok Sabha without the President's recommendation.**
 - Such a bill may not be a Money Bill in itself, but any bill that involves a charge on or withdrawal from the Consolidated Fund—whether revenue or capital expenditure—must get the prior assent of the executive (i.e., the President, acting on the advice of the Council of Ministers).
- **As per Article 304(b), a State Legislature may enact laws that impose reasonable restrictions on trade, commerce, or intercourse within that state in the public interest.**
 - However, such a bill cannot be introduced without the previous sanction of the President.
 - This provision balances the freedom of trade under Article 301 with the autonomy of states to regulate economic activity in certain cases.
- **Under Article 3, any bill for the creation of a new state, alteration of state boundaries, or renaming of a state must be introduced only with the prior recommendation of the President.**
 - The President is also required to refer such a bill to the legislature of the affected state(s) for expressing their views within a specified period, although those views are not binding on Parliament.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 78.C

- The election of the President of India, governed primarily by Articles 54 and 71 of the Constitution, is a critical constitutional process involving both the Parliament and State Legislatures.
- **The Constitution of India under Article 71(1) provides that any dispute relating to the election of the President (or Vice-President) is to be decided exclusively by the Supreme Court of India. Once the court gives its decision, it is final and binding. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
 - This means no other authority or tribunal can entertain such a dispute.
- The Constitution anticipates situations where a person may discharge presidential functions before their election is declared invalid.
 - **Article 71(2) states that such decisions or actions taken by the person elected as President shall not be invalid merely because the election is later declared void by the Supreme Court. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - This principle is essential to maintain administrative continuity and uphold the de facto doctrine, preventing retrospective disruption of governance.

Q 79.D

- **Exploration of Wings and Units in India's Cabinet Secretariat:**
- **Civil Wing:** Providing assistance to cabinet and cabinet committees.
- **Military Wing:** Providing assistance to the National Defence Council and other bodies dealing with defence.
- **Intelligence Wing:** Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), 1967 sits in Cabinet Secretariat.
- Directorate of public grievances
- Cabinet Secretary
- National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention
- Performance Management Division (Group): Manages Performance Management and Evaluation System (PMES)
- **The Office of Principal Scientific Adviser was placed administratively under the Cabinet Secretariat in August, 2018.**
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 80.B

- **Rights of Attorney General of India (AGI)**
- He/she has the '**Right of Audience**' in all courts in the territory of India in the performance of his/her official duties.
- He/she has the 'Right to Speak' and to 'Take part in the Proceedings' of both the Houses of Parliament or their joint sitting and any committee of the Parliament of which he may be named a member but without a right to vote.
- He enjoys all the privileges and immunities that are available to a Member of Parliament.
- The Attorney General is not a full-time counsel for the Government of India. He does not fall into the category of Government Servants. Further, he is not debarred from the private legal practice.
- Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

Q 81.D

- **Advice of Council of Ministers:**
 - The 42nd (1976) and 44th (1978) Constitutional Amendment Acts made the advice rendered by the Council of Ministers binding on the President during the exercise of his functions.
 - In 1971, the Supreme Court ruled that the Council of Ministers continues to hold office even after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.
 - **The 44th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1978 introduced a provision allowing the President to request the Council of Ministers to reconsider their advice.**
 - Subsequently, the President must act in accordance with the advice given after such reconsideration.
 - The nature of advice provided by ministers to the President is not subject to inquiry by any court, highlighting the confidential nature of their relationship.
 - Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

Q 82.C

- The Cabinet Secretariat is a crucial part of the Indian government, providing support to the Cabinet and its committees. **It is headed by the Cabinet Secretary (the administrative head of the Secretariat), who is the ex-officio head of the Civil Services Board and the Indian Administrative Service. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Secretariat's primary function is to facilitate the smooth functioning of the government by coordinating between different ministries and ensuring consensus on policy matters.
- **The Cabinet Secretariat functions directly under the Prime Minister. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 83.A

- The Council of Ministers (COM) is the highest decision-making body in the government, headed by the Prime Minister. According to the 91st Constitutional Amendment Act 2003, **The total number of ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Central Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15 percent of the total strength of the Lok Sabha. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the House of the People.
- This principle holds that all members of the council of ministers are jointly responsible to the Lok Sabha, meaning they must work as a team and take responsibility for their actions as a group.
- **When the Lok Sabha passes a motion of no confidence against the council of ministers, all members of the council must resign, including those from the Rajya Sabha. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

Q 84.C

- The Government of India instituted two civilian awards-Bharat Ratna & Padma Vibhushan in 1954. The latter had three classes namely Pahela Varg, Dusra Varg and Tisra Varg. These were subsequently renamed as Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri vide Presidential Notification issued on January 8, 1955.
- The Padma Awards are one of the highest civilian honours of India announced annually on the eve of Republic Day. The Awards are given in three categories: Padma Vibhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service), Padma Bhushan (distinguished service of higher order) and Padma Shri (distinguished service). The award seeks to recognize achievements in all fields of activities or disciplines where an element of public service is involved.
- The Padma Awards are conferred on the recommendations made by the **Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year.** The nomination process is open to the public. Even self-nomination can be made.

- **The Padma Awards Committee is headed by the Cabinet Secretary and includes Home Secretary, Secretary to the President and four to six eminent persons as members.** The recommendations of the committee are submitted to the Prime Minister and the President of India for approval.
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 85.A

- The Constitution of India does not mention the post of Deputy Prime Minister. It is a political/administrative designation, not a constitutional or statutory office. It is used to give seniority or political status to a senior cabinet minister, usually the Home or Finance Minister. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Its origin can be traced to the post of Deputy Prime Minister which was appointed in 1947 post-independence, Sardar Vallabhai Patel is the first Deputy PM of India. He held the post from 1947 to 1950, alongside being the Home Minister. In 1967, Shri Desai joined Smt. Indira Gandhi's cabinet as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister in charge of Finance. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Since the Deputy Prime Minister is a ministerial rank (without separate legal status), the person must be a cabinet minister. The title does not grant additional powers beyond what is assigned as a minister.

Q 86.C

- **The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is the Chief Whip of Government.** He is directly responsible to the Leader of the House. It is a part of his duties to advise the Government on Parliamentary business and to maintain a close liaison with the Ministers in regard to parliamentary business affecting their Departments. **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**
- Chief Whip in India also performs multifarious functions, the important among which are to:-
 - decide about the spacing of Parliament Session during the year, considering the volume of business pending, climatic conditions, festival days, etc.—
 - adjust the sessional programme of the House with that of the other;
 - finalize the Government business in consultation with Ministries of the Government of India and also, if necessary, Opposition Whips;
 - when the Session actually commences, see that the legislative and the non-legislative business of the Government is transacted in accordance with the planned programme;
 - send notices to members, that is Whips indicating the urgency and importance attached to each business;
 - assign roster duties to Ministers so that some Ministers are always present in the House and the Government is not put in an embarrassing position by the absence of Ministers concerned with the subject matter of the business as well as others who deputize for them;
 - assist Members in the general interest of the party, feed them with material and provide the general guidance;
 - supply list of speakers on Bills and other business in the House to facilitate the job of the Chair, who would like to call the Members to speak;
 - suggest names of Members to be appointed on various Select and other important bodies or to be included in various parliamentary delegations;
 - attend meetings of Business Advisory Committee for discussion and allotment of time for transaction of various items of Government business.

Q 87.A

- **Article 163:** “There shall be a Council of Ministers with the chief minister at the head to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions, **except in so far as he is by or under this Constitution required to exercise his functions or any of them in his discretion**”. Hence, Statement-II is correct.
- **The governor has discretion to recommend the dismissal of the chief minister and imposition of President’s rule.** It means Governor can only recommend for the President's rule but can not imposed as final say on imposition is with the President. **Hence, Statement-I is correct.**
- The Governor also acts as the administrator of an adjoining union territory and exercises discretion in other constitutional matters. Additionally, the Governor has discretion in determining the royalty payable by certain states to Tribal District Councils and seeking information from the Chief Minister on state matters.

Q 88.A

- **The Ministry of Commerce and Industry in India is comprised of two main departments: the Department of Commerce and the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).** These departments handle various aspects of trade, industry, and internal trade within India.

- **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT):**
 - Deals with matters related to industrial policy and promotion of internal trade.
 - Focuses on promoting the growth and development of industries within India.
 - Responsible for various initiatives and policies related to industrial development and trade. **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**
- **The Department of Heavy Industry is under the Ministry of Heavy Industries.**
- **The Department of Economic Affairs and Department of Investment and Public Asset Management falls under the Ministry of Finance in India.**

Q 89.C

- **As per Article 200 of Indian Constitution:** When a Bill has been passed by the Legislative Assembly of a State or, in the case of a State having a Legislative Council, has been passed by both Houses of the Legislature of the State, it shall be presented to the Governor and the Governor shall declare either that he assents to the Bill or that he withholds assent therefrom or that he reserves the Bill for the consideration of the President.
- **Provided that the Governor may, as soon as possible after the presentation to him of the Bill for assent. Hence, article 200 of the Constitution does not prescribe a time limit to the Governor for providing or withholding his assent to the Bill** or reservation of such Bill for the consideration of the President of India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Article 368 outlines the procedure for amending the Constitution. **According to Article 368 of the Indian Constitution, a bill to amend the Constitution can only be introduced in either House of the Parliament, not in the state legislatures. State legislatures do not have the power to initiate or introduce such bills.** Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Q 90.B

- Recently, The "India Hydrocarbon Outlook 2025" report, launched by the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH), outlines India's roadmap for a secure, sustainable, and resilient energy future, particularly within the hydrocarbon sector. **The Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) was established in 1993 under the administrative control of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas through Government of India Resolution.** Objectives of DGH are to promote sound management of the oil and natural gas resources having a balanced regard for environment, safety, technological and economic aspects of the petroleum activity. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **DGH has been entrusted with several responsibilities such as:**
 - **Implementation of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and Coal Bed Methane policy on behalf of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.** Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - To advise Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas on Exploration Strategies & Production Policies.
 - To advise the Government on the offering of acreages for exploration to companies as well as matters relating to relinquishment of acreage by companies
 - Assist Government in Contract management functions
 - Exploration & Development of unconventional hydrocarbon resources like Gas Hydrate, Shale Gas/Oil and Oil Shale

Q 91.C

- Article 163 of Indian constitution talks about that there should be a chief minister along with council of ministers. As a real executive authority, chief minister is called the head of the government. **Following are the powers and functions of the Chief Minister:**
 - **With regards to the Council of Ministers:**
 - > The governor appoints only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Chief Minister
 - > He assigns and reshuffles portfolios to ministers.
 - > **In the event of a disagreement, he can ask a minister to resign or advise the governor to dismiss him.** Hence, option 2 is correct.
 - **With regards to the State Legislature:**
 - > **The Chief minister can also advise the Governor to prorogue or summon the session of the state legislature.** The Legislative assembly can be dissolved any time at the CM's recommendation to the Governor. All government policies are announced by the Chief minister on the floor of the house. **Hence, option 1 is correct.**
- **The Speaker of the House (or the Chairman in the case of the Legislative Council) is the authority to decide on disqualification cases.** Hence, option 3 is not correct.

Q 92.B

- As per Article 153 of Indian Constitution there is a governor for each state, but the **7th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 facilitated the appointment of the same person as a governor for two or more states. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **Council of Ministers in a state cannot exceed 15% of the total number of members in the Legislative Assembly. This is a constitutional provision introduced by the 91st Amendment Act, 2003.** The minimum number of ministers, including the Chief Minister, is set at 12. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Article 176(1) outlines this requirement for the Governor's address. As per Article, Governor address the state legislature at the commencement of the first session after each general election and at the beginning of the first session of each year. This provision was part of the original Constitution drafted by the Constituent Assembly in 1949. The Hence statement 3 is not correct.

Q 93.D

- **As per Article 156, Term of office of Governor are:**
 - The Governor shall hold office during the pleasure of the President.
 - The Governor may, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office.
 - Subject to the foregoing provisions of this Article, a Governor shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office. Provided that a Governor shall, notwithstanding the expiration of his term, **continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office. The underlying idea is that there must be a Governor in the state and there cannot be an interregnum. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Supreme Court held that the pleasure of the President is not justifiable. The Governor has no security of tenure and no fixed term of office. **He may be removed by the President at any time. The Constitution does not lay down any grounds upon which a Governor may be removed by the President.** Hence, statement 1 and 3 are correct.

Q 94.D

- Under the Constitution of India Article 165 has provided for the office of the Advocate General for the states. He is the highest law officer in the state. **The Advocate General is appointed by the Governor. He must be a person who is qualified to be appointed a judge of a High Court.** In other words, he must be a citizen of India and must have held a judicial office for ten years or been an advocate of a High Court for ten years.
- **The Constitution does not contain the procedure and grounds for his removal. He holds office during the pleasure of the Governor. This means that he may be removed by the Governor at any time.** He may also quit his office by submitting his resignation to the Governor.
- Conventionally, he resigns when the government (council of ministers) resigns or is replaced, as he is appointed on its advice. The remuneration of the Advocate General is not fixed by the Constitution. He receives such remuneration as the Governor may determine. **Hence, Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.**

Q 95.A

- Article 187 contained provisions related to Secretariat of State Legislature :
 - **The House or each House of the Legislature of a State shall have a separate secretarial staff.** Provided that nothing in this clause shall, in the case of the Legislature of a State having a Legislative Council, be construed as preventing the creation of posts common to both Houses of such Legislature. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - **The Legislature of a State may by law regulate the recruitment, and the conditions of service of persons appointed, to the secretarial staff of the House or Houses of the Legislature of the State.**
 - **Until provision is made by the Legislature of the State under clause (2), the Governor may, after consultation with the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly or the Chairman of the Legislative Council, as the case may be, make rules regulating the recruitment, and the conditions of service of persons appointed, to the secretarial staff of the Assembly or the Council, and any rules so made shall have effect subject to the provisions of any law made under the said clause.** **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 96.D

- **Article 200 of the Constitution empowers the governor to give assent to the bills presented to him, withhold the assent or to reserve it for the consideration of the president. the Governor must reserve certain bills for the President's consideration if the Governor believes the bill, if enacted, would**

weaken the High Court's powers to the point of jeopardizing its constitutional role. Instead of assenting to the bill, the Governor must send it to the President.

- In addition, the Governor can also reserve the bill (not the constitutional obligation) if it is of the following nature:
 - Ultra-vires, that is, against the provisions of the Constitution
 - Opposed to the Directive Principles of State Policy
 - Against the larger interest of the country
 - Of grave national importance.
 - Dealing with compulsory acquisition of property under Article 31A of the Constitution. **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 97.A

- **Article 77 Conduct of business of the Government of India:**
 - All executive action of the Government of India shall be expressed to be taken in the name of the President.
 - **President shall make rules for the more convenient transaction of the business of the Government of India, and for the allocation among Ministers of the said business. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **The Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961**, which dictate how the government's business is distributed among various ministries and departments, are indeed made by the President of India under Article 77(3) of the Constitution.
- **The Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are created by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.** A minister controls the ministry, and the department is under the control of a secretary. Ministries function to conduct necessary communications to make arrangements and procedures for the execution, implementation and monitoring of activities and also to protect public interests. Departments of the Government of India are involved in taking legal and administrative actions which are needed to uphold constitutional laws. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 98.D

- **Department of Consumer Affairs** is one of the two **Departments under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.** It was constituted as a separate Department in June 1997 as it was considered necessary to have a separate Department to give a fillip to the nascent consumer movement in the country. The Department has been entrusted with the following work:
 - Implementation of Consumer Protection Act, 2019
 - **Implementation of Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016**
 - **Implementation of Standards of Weights and Measures - The Legal Metrology Act, 2009.**
 - **Regulation of Packaged Commodities.**
 - The Essential Commodities Act, 1995(10 of 1995)(Supply, Prices and Distribution of Essential Commodities not dealt with specifically by any other Department).
 - Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supply of Essential Commodities Act, 1980(7 of 1980).
 - **Monitoring of prices and availability of essential commodities.**
 - Training in Legal Metrology.
 - The Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1952.
 - Laying down specifications, standards and codes and ensuring quality control.
 - Consumer Cooperatives
 - National Test House
 - Central Consumer Protection Authority. **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 99.D

- **Article 163:** There shall be a Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister at the head to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions, except in so far as he is by or under this Constitution required to exercise his functions or any of them in his discretion.
 - **The question whether any, and if so what, advice was tendered by Ministers to the Governor shall not be inquired into in any court. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Article 361** of the Indian Constitution grants the Governor immunity from criminal prosecution during their term in office. **This means no criminal case can be initiated or continued against them in any court while they are in office.**

- Article 361 does not provide the same level of blanket immunity for civil cases. While civil proceedings might be restricted, they are not entirely prohibited. **Two months' prior notice is required before initiating civil proceedings against a Governor for actions taken in their personal capacity. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 100.B

- Under Executive powers, Governor acts as the chancellor of universities in the state. He also appoints the vice-chancellors of universities in the state. **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**
- According to the UGC (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and other Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2018, the “Visitor/Chancellor” mostly the Governor in states shall appoint the VC out of the panel of names recommended by search-cum-selection committees.
- The Governor’s role as Chancellor is not uniform across states. It is determined by State University Acts, and different states have varying provisions regarding the Governor’s powers in university administration.

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