

## VAJIRAM & RAVI

### Answer Key & Exp for GS Prelim Test-7 held on 13<sup>th</sup> Jan' 2019

1. With reference to 'the Leader of the Opposition' in the Parliamentary system of India, consider the following statements:
- (1) The Indian Constitution recognizes this position and accords the holder the status of a Union Cabinet Minister.
  - (2) The Leader of Opposition gets the same salary as that of a Union Cabinet Minister.
- Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct:** The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha were accorded statutory recognition in 1977. Thus, the Leader of Opposition doesn't have a Constitutional recognition. It was in 1969 that an official Leader of the Opposition was recognised for the first time. The same functionary in USA is known as the '**minority leader**'.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The Leaders of Opposition are entitled to the salary, allowances and other facilities equivalent to that of a Union Cabinet Minister. **Ivor Jennings** describes the Leader of Opposition as the '**alternative Prime Minister**'. He enjoys the status of a Union Cabinet Minister and is paid by the Union government.

**Source:** Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, Ch-22: Parliament, pg-22.11

2. With reference to 'Tribal Advisory Council', in a State, which of the following statements is/are correct?
- (1) It consists of a maximum of 20 members out of which 3/4<sup>th</sup> are Scheduled Tribe MLAs of the State concerned.
  - (2) It advises the President on matters pertaining to welfare and advancement of Scheduled Tribes in the State concerned.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

The Fifth Schedule to the Constitution envisages the following under the **Tribal Advisory Council**:

- (1) There shall be established in each State having Scheduled Areas therein and, if the President so directs, also in any State having Scheduled Tribes but not Scheduled Areas therein, a Tribal Advisory Council consisting of *not more than twenty members*

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of whom, as nearly as may be, three-fourths shall be the representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of the State. Hence, Statement 1 is correct.

- (2) It shall be the duty of the Tribal Advisory Council to advise the Governor on such matters pertaining to the welfare and advancement of the Scheduled Tribes in the State as may be referred to them by the Governor. Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.

Source: <https://tribal.nic.in/DivisionsFiles/clm/TribesAdvisoryCouncil.pdf>

3. With reference to the Judges of the Supreme Court of India, consider the following statements:

- (1) The Indian Constitution prescribes a minimum age for a person to be appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court.
- (2) A Supreme Court Judge can be removed by the President when the Parliament passes a motion to that effect by a special majority.
- (3) The ground mentioned for the removal of a Supreme Court Judge, in the Indian Constitution, is 'incapacity' or 'proved misbehaviour' only.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

**Statement 1 is not correct.** The Constitution does not prescribe a minimum age for appointment of a person to the Supreme Court (SC) as a Judge.

**Statement 2 is correct.** The motion for the removal of the SC Judge has to be passed by special majority by the Parliament. According to the Article 124(4) of the Constitution, the President can remove a Judge when the Parliament passes a motion with a majority of the total membership of each House in favour of his removal and not less than two thirds of the members of each House present and voting.

**Statement 3 is correct.** The Constitution provides only two grounds for removal of the Supreme Court Judge; 'proved misbehaviour' or 'incapacity'.

Source: Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part – 2, Chapter -2: The Judiciary, Page 18.

4. Consider the following reports:

- (1) The report of the Special Officer For Linguistic Minorities
- (2) The report of the National Commission For Backward Classes
- (3) The report of the National Commission For Women
- (4) The report of the Public Accounts Committee
- (5) The report of the UPSC

Which of the reports the President does **not** cause to be laid before the Parliament?

- (a) 1, 2 and 5 only
- (b) 3 and 4 only

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- (c) 1, 3 and 5 only
- (d) 3, 4 and 5 only

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

It is the duty of the President to cause to be laid before the Parliament:

- The Annual Financial Statement (Budget)
- Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General.
- Recommendations of the Finance Commission.
- Report of the UPSC
- Report of the National Commission For Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
- Report of the National Commission For Backward Classes
- Report of the Special Officer For Linguistic Minorities

Hence, the correct answer is option (b).

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part 1, Chapter 14, Page 124

5. With reference to the Prime Minister of India, consider the following statements:
- (1) The Prime Minister is the Head of the State.
  - (2) The Constitution does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.
  - (3) According to the Conventions of the Parliamentary System of Government, the President appoints the Leader of the majority party in the Lok Sabha as the Prime Minister.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 3 only
  - (b) 1 and 2 only
  - (c) 1 and 3 only
  - (d) 2 and 3 only

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct:** The President is the nominal executive authority (*de jure* Executive) and the Prime Minister is the real executive authority (*de facto* Executive). In other words, the President is the Head of the State while the Prime Minister is the Head of the Government.

**Statement 2 is correct:** There is no separate procedure written down in the Indian Constitution, for the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.

**Statement 3 is correct:** According to the Conventions of the Parliamentary System of Government, the President has to appoint the Leader of the majority party in the Lok Sabha as the Prime Minister. There is no procedure written down explicitly in the Constitution of India.

**Source:** Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth; 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch. 19: Prime Minister, page 19.1

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6. In addition to the Indian Constitution, The Representation Of The People Act, 1951 has laid down various provisions for qualification of members of the Legislative Councils. In this context, consider the following statements:

- (1) A person must be a resident of the State in order to get nominated by the Governor for the State Legislative Council of the State concerned.
- (2) A person must be an elector for an Assembly Constituency of the State in order to get elected to the Legislative Council of the State concerned.

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

Article 169 of the Constitution of India provides for the establishment of a Legislative Council/ Vidhan Parishad/ Upper House in a State. The constitutional provisions under Article 173 for qualification of members of the Legislative Council include that he:

- (a) is a citizen of India, and makes and subscribes before some person authorised in that behalf by the Election Commission an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule;
- (b) is not less than thirty years of age; and
- (c) Possesses such other qualifications as may be prescribed in that behalf by or under any law made by the Parliament.

**Statement 1 is correct.** As per **section 6(2) of The Representation of the People Act, 1951**, a person shall not be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in the Legislative Council of a State to be filled by nomination by the Governor unless he is ordinarily resident in the State.

**Statement 2 is correct.** As per **section 6(1) of The Representation of the People Act, 1951**, a person shall not be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in the Legislative Council of a State to be filled by election unless he is an elector for any Assembly constituency in that State.

**Source:** Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch. 29, State Legislature; Page no. 29.3-29.4

7. With reference to the 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992, which of the following provisions are voluntary in nature?

- (1) Reservation for the backward classes
- (2) Reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Panchayats
- (3) Financial autonomy for the Panchayats

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

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**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

The provisions of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment Act can be grouped into two categories - compulsory and voluntary. **The compulsory provisions** of the Act have to be included in the State laws creating the new Panchayati Raj System. **The voluntary provisions**, on the other hand, may be included at the discretion of the States, in accordance with the local situations and needs.

**Voluntary provisions of the Act:**

1. Giving voting rights to members of the Union and the State Legislatures in these bodies;
2. Providing reservation for the backward classes.
3. Giving the Panchayats financial autonomy and thereunder the power to levy taxes, fees, etc.
4. Devolution of powers to the Panchayat bodies to perform functions as provided in the XIth Schedule to the Constitution.

**Reservation of seats** for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Panchayats come under the **Compulsory provisions**.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

Source: Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Part 2; Ch. 3, page-46

8. In India, the Governor of any State has both Constitutional and situational discretion. In this context, which among the following is a Constitutional discretion?
- (a) Dismissal of a State Council of Ministers when it cannot prove the confidence of the State Legislative Assembly
  - (b) Recommendation of the imposition of President's Rule in a State
  - (c) Dissolution of a State Legislative Assembly if the State Council of Ministers has lost its confidence
  - (d) Appointment of the Chief Minister when no party has a clear cut majority

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

The Governor has a **constitutional discretion** in the following cases:

- Reservation of a Bill for the consideration of the President
- Recommendation for the imposition of the President's Rule in the State.
- Seeking information from the Chief Minister with regard to the administrative and legislative matters of the State.

Following are the **situational discretions**:

1. Dismissal of the Council of Ministers when it cannot prove the confidence of the State Legislative Assembly.
2. Dissolution of the State Legislative Assembly if the State Council of Ministers has lost its confidence
3. Appointment of the Chief Minister when no party has a clear cut majority

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 4<sup>th</sup> edition Chapter 26, pg. 26.10

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9. Consider the following statements regarding Cabinet Committees:

- (1) The Cabinet Committees are Constitutional bodies.
  - (2) All the Cabinet Committees are Standing Committees which are permanent in nature.
  - (3) The Prime Minister presides over all the Cabinet Committees.
- Which of the statements given above are **not** correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
  - (b) 2 and 3 only
  - (c) 1 and 3 only
  - (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct:** The Cabinet Committees are extra-constitutional in nature. They are not mentioned in the Constitution. However, The Rules of Business provide for their establishment.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** There are two types of Cabinet Committees – Standing and Ad-hoc. The Standing Committee is of permanent nature whereas Ad-hoc Committee is of a temporary nature. The Ad-hoc Committees are disbanded after their task is completed.

**Statement 3 is not correct:** The Cabinet Committees are mostly headed by the Prime Minister. However, sometimes other Cabinet Ministers, particularly the Home Minister or the Finance Minister also preside over the Cabinet Committees.

**Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth: 4<sup>th</sup> Edition: Chapter 21 Cabinet Committees and Page no 21.1**

10. In the context of the Parliamentary system of India, the term 'whip' is often in the news. Which of the statements given below is/are correct regarding the office of the Whip?

- (1) The Office of Whip is mentioned in the Rules of each House of the Parliament.
- (2) The Speaker/Chairman appoints Whip for each party who ensures attendance of party members.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct:** The Office of 'Whip', is mentioned neither in the Constitution of India nor in the Rules of the House nor in a Parliamentary Statute. It is based on the Conventions of the Parliamentary System of Government.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** Every political party, whether ruling or Opposition has its own Whip in the Parliament. He is appointed by the political party to serve as an **Assistant Floor Leader**. He is charged with the responsibility of ensuring the attendance of his party members in large numbers and securing their support in favour of or against a particular

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issue. He regulates and monitors their behaviour in the Parliament. The members are supposed to follow the directives given by the Whip. Otherwise, disciplinary action can be taken against the erring members of the political party.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> edition- ch-22: Parliament, pg. 22.11**

11. Regarding the 'representation, powers and functions of the Indian Prime Minister', consider the following statements:

- (1) The Prime Minister must be a member of the Lower House of the Parliament.
- (2) He can recommend dissolution of the Lok Sabha to the President at any time.
- (3) He can bring about the collapse of the Council of Ministers by resigning from his office.
- (4) He appoints the Council of Ministers and allocates various portfolios among the Ministers.

Which of the statements given above are **not** correct?

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct:** Constitutionally, the Prime Minister may be a member of any of the two Houses of the Parliament. For example, three Prime Ministers, Indira Gandhi (1966), Deve Gowda (1996) and Manmohan Singh (2004), were members of the Rajya Sabha. In Britain, on the other hand, the Prime Minister should definitely be a member of the Lower House (House of Commons).

**Statements 2 and 3 are correct:** The Prime Minister is the Head of the Government. His resignation implies the collapse of the government. Similarly, he can also recommend dissolution of the Lok Sabha and thereby the government to the President of India.

**Statement 4 is not correct:** He recommends persons who can be appointed to the Council of Ministers to the President. The President can appoint only those persons to the Council of Ministers who are recommended by the Prime Minister.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch. 19: Prime Minister, page no. 19.3-19.4**

12. The Supreme Court of India recently decriminalized the offence of adultery by holding Section 497 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 198(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure as unconstitutional. Which of the following is/are the reason(s) observed by the Supreme Court to decriminalize adultery?

- (1) Criminalization of adultery led to commodification of women.
- (2) Criminalization of adultery is violative of Article 14 of the Constitution.
- (3) Criminalization of adultery is the violation of the right to privacy and to live with dignity, thus violating their fundamental rights under Article 21 of the Constitution.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

The Supreme Court (SC) decriminalized the offence of adultery by holding Section 497 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 198(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure as unconstitutional.

**The Supreme Court's observations**

- **Equality of spouses:** Marriage in a constitutional regime is founded on the equality of and between spouses. Each of them is entitled to the same liberty, which Part III [of the Constitution] guarantees. Therefore, not affording both parties to a marriage equal rights and opportunities would be discriminatory and a violation of their right to equality.
- Section 497 of IPC led to **commodification of women** since it treated a woman as a property of her husband as it was not an offence of adultery if the husband consented to his wife's adulterous relationship with another man.
- The section was **violative of Article 14** as the purported sanctity of marriage was not hurt if a married man was involved in an adulterous relationship.
- **Civil remedy already available:** The court observed that the issue of adultery between spouses was a private matter and could be a ground for divorce under civil law. It did not warrant the use of criminal sanction against any party involved.
- **Violation of privacy:** The Court held that even then the matter was private and anything otherwise would be a grave intrusion into the privacy of individuals. The Court even relied on K.S. Puttaswamy vs. Union of India Case to explain this deprivation of autonomy as a violation of their right to privacy and to live with dignity, thus violating their fundamental rights under Article 21 of the Constitution.
- **Patriarchy:** The Court held that Section 497, as it existed, denied women ownership of their sexuality and agency over their own relationships.
- Following the Supreme Court intervention, adultery is now a civil matter between individuals. But a criminal residue remains i.e. Section 306 of the IPC will be invoked if a suicide results from adultery.

**Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Source: VAJIRAM & RAVI Current Affairs for September 2018 Page No. 01-02**

13. With reference to the jurisdiction and powers of the Supreme Court of India, which of the following statements is/are correct?
- (1) The jurisdiction and powers of the Supreme Court can be extended and curtailed by the Parliament.
  - (2) The Supreme Court enquires into the conduct of the Chairman and members of the Union Public Service Commission on a reference made by the Parliament.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only

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- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer:** (d)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct:** The jurisdiction and powers of the Supreme Court can only be extended by the Parliament. It cannot curtail them. This provision ensures independence of the Supreme Court of India.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** The Supreme Court enquires into the conduct of the Chairman and members of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) on a reference made by the President and not the Parliament.

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part –2, and Chapter 2: The Judiciary, Page 24.

**14.** With respect to the relations between the Indian President and the Union Council of Ministers, consider the following statements:

- (1) The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act 1976 made the advice of the Council of Ministers constitutionally binding on the President.
- (2) The 44th Constitutional Amendment Act 1978 allowed the President to send back such an advice for reconsideration of the Council of Ministers once.

Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?

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

**Answer:** (d)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** Before the 42<sup>nd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976 there was no provision in the Constitution that made the advice of the Union Council of Ministers obligatory to the President. The 42<sup>nd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act 1976 made the advice of the Council of Ministers binding on the President.

**Statement 2 is correct.** The 44<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978 added a provision for the President to send back the advice once for reconsideration. However, the President has to act as per the reconsidered advice of the Union Council of Ministers.

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies; Indian Polity Part 1; Chapter 14 Page 131.

**15.** With reference to the ‘powers of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of a State’, consider the following statements:

- (1) He is the final authority regarding the decision of a Bill being a Money Bill.
- (2) He can allow a secret sitting on request of the Leader of the House.
- (3) He decides on the disqualification of a member under the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

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

**Answer:** (d)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** As per Article 199(3) of the Constitution of India, if any question arises whether a Bill introduced in the Legislature of a State which has a Legislative Council is a Money Bill or not, the decision of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of such State thereon shall be final.

**Statement 2 is correct.** The Speaker can allow a secret sitting on the request of the Leader of the House. When the House sits in secret no stranger shall be permitted to be present in the Chamber, Lobby or Galleries. This provision is a part of procedures rather than being a constitutional provision.

**Statement 3 is correct.** As per Article 191(2), a person shall be disqualified for being a member of the Legislative Assembly or Legislative Council of a State if he is so disqualified under the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution. The Speaker/Chairman of the House decides on disqualification under the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution.

**Sources:**

- **Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch. 29, State Legislature; Page no. 29.5**
- <http://164.100.47.194/Lok Sabha/rules.aspx>

**16.** In the context of Centre-State relationship concerning Jammu and Kashmir, consider the following statements:

- (1) The Part VI of the Indian Constitution relating to Centre-State relationship is not applicable to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
- (2) Any law on preventive detention by the Parliament is automatically applicable to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** The State of Jammu and Kashmir has its own Constitution and is administrated according to that Constitution. Hence, Part VI relating to Centre-State relationship of the Indian Constitution is not applicable to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

**Statement 2 is not correct.** Any law on preventive detention by the Parliament is not automatically applicable to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The power to make law on preventive detention rests with the Legislature of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch. 32, special status of Jammu & Kashmir; Page no. 32.2**

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17. Which of the following States were earlier Union Territories?

- (1) Goa
- (2) Mizoram
- (3) Arunachal Pradesh
- (4) Nagaland

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

1. India acquired three Union Territories from the Portuguese (Goa, Daman and Diu, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli) by means of a police action in 1961. They were constituted as Union Territories by the **12th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1962**. Later, in 1987, Goa was conferred statehood.
2. The Union Territory of **Mizoram was conferred the status of a full State** as a sequel to the signing of a **memorandum of settlement (Mizoram Peace Accord) in 1986** between the Central Government and the Mizo National Front, ending the two-decade-old insurgency.
3. Arunachal Pradesh had also been a Union Territory from 1972, **gained Statehood in 1987**; along with Goa and Mizoram.
4. In **1963, the State of Nagaland was formed** by taking the Naga Hills and Tuensang area out of the State of Assam. This was done to satisfy the movement of the hostile Nagas. However, before giving Nagaland the status of the 16th State of the Indian Union, it was placed under the control of the Governor of Assam in 1961.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch. 5: Union and its territory, Page No. 5.10**

18. Regarding the Cabinet Committee on Security, consider the following statements:

- (1) It is the final decision making body on all matters related to India's national security.
- (2) The Cabinet Committee on Security is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.
- (3) The Union Minister of Finance is not a member of the Cabinet Committee on Security.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The **Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)** of the Central Government of India discusses, debates and **is the final decision-making body on**

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**senior appointments in the national security apparatus, defence policy and expenditure**, and generally all matters of India's national security.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The Cabinet Committee on Security is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.

**Statement 3 is not correct:** The Cabinet Committee on Security consists of the Prime Minister, Union Minister of Home Affairs, Union Minister of External Affairs, Union Minister of Finance and the Union Minister of Defence.

**Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth: 4<sup>th</sup> Edition: Chapter 21 Cabinet Committees and Page no 21.1**

**19.** With reference to the sessions of the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:

- (1) The maximum gap between two sessions of the Parliament cannot be more than six months.
- (2) A session in the Rajya Sabha could be a period between a meeting and its dissolution.
- (3) The period between the prorogation of the Lok Sabha and its reassembly in a new session is termed as 'recess'.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The President from time to time summons each House of the Parliament for meeting. But, the maximum gap between two sessions of Parliament **cannot be more than six months**. In other words, the Parliament should meet at least twice a year. There are usually three sessions in a year:

1. The Budget Session (February to May);
2. The Monsoon Session (July to September); and
3. The Winter Session (November to December).

**Statement 2 is not correct:** A 'session' of the Parliament is the period between the first sitting of a House and its prorogation (or dissolution in the case of the Lok Sabha but not the Rajya Sabha).

**Statement 3 is correct:** During a session, the House meets every day to transact business. The period between the prorogation of a House and its reassembly in a new session is called '**recess**'.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> edition ch-22: Parliament, pg-22.12**

**20.** The Indian Constitution lays down certain conditions for the office of the Governor. In this context, which of the following conditions are correct?

- (1) His emoluments and allowances are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India.

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- (2) The oath of the office to the Governor is administered by the President of India.
- (3) He should not be a member of either House of the Parliament or a House of the State Legislature.
- (4) His emoluments and allowances cannot be diminished during his term of office.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

The Constitution of India lays down the following conditions for the Governor's office:

- His emoluments and allowances are determined by the **Parliament** from time to time. **They are not** charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India but are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of the State. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- The oath of office to the Governor is administered by the Chief Justice of the High Court of the State concerned. **Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.**
- He should not be a member of either House of the Parliament or a House of the State Legislature. He should not hold any other office of profit. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**
- His emoluments and allowances cannot be diminished during his term of office. **Hence, Statement 4 is correct.**

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth; 4<sup>th</sup> edition Chapter 26; pg. 26.4**

**21. The Leader of the Lower House of the Indian Parliament is:**

- (a) The Speaker
- (b) The President
- (c) The Prime Minister, when he is a Member of the Lok Sabha
- (d) The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- The Prime Minister is the Leader of the Lok Sabha, when he is the member of the Lok Sabha.

In this capacity, he enjoys the following powers:

- i. Advising the President with regard to summoning and proroguing the sessions of the Parliament.
- ii. Recommending dissolution of the Lok Sabha to the President at any time.
- iii. Announcing government policies on the floor of the House.

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

- The Opposition Leader is also known as the 'alternative Prime Minister'.
- The Speaker is the presiding officer of the Lok Sabha.
- The President is the nominal head of the Indian State.

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**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth; 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch. 19: Prime Minister, page no. 19.3-19.4**

**22.** In the context of the organization of the Supreme Court of India, consider the following statements:

- (1) The number of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is prescribed by the Parliament.
- (2) Originally, the strength of the Judges in the Supreme Court was fixed by the Indian Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 and 2

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct:** The number of Judges in the Supreme Court is decided by the **Parliament** under Article 124(1) of the Constitution of India. The number of Judges in the High Court is decided at the discretion of the **President**, under Article 216 of the Constitution of India.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Originally, the strength of the Judges in the Supreme Court was fixed by the Constitution as Chief Justice of India and no more than seven other judges; until the Parliament by law prescribes a larger number. Thus, under the **Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2008**, the present strength of the Supreme Court is 31 Judges including the Chief Justice of India.

**Source: Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part – 2: The Judiciary, Page 17, 24.**

**23.** The President of India is the Head of State but not the Head of Government. Which of the following provision(s) correctly represent this?

- (1) Even after the dissolution of the Lower House, the Council of Ministers is there to aid and advise the President in the exercise of his executive functions.
- (2) Wherever the Constitution requires satisfaction of the President, it is not the personal satisfaction of the President, rather the satisfaction of the Council of Ministers.
- (3) Ignoring the advice of the Council of Ministers can be a basis for impeachment of the President.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

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The Indian Constitution envisages a Parliamentary form of Government:

**The President is the Head of State but not the Head of Government.** The President cannot exercise his powers except on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers.

**Statement 1 is correct.** Even after the dissolution of Lower House, the Council of Ministers is in existence to aid and advise the President in the exercise of his executive functions.

**Statement 2 is correct.** Wherever the Constitution requires the satisfaction of the President, it is not the personal satisfaction of the President, rather the satisfaction of the Council of Ministers.

**Statement 3 is correct.** Ignoring the advice of the Council of Ministers can be a basis for impeachment of the President.

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part 1, Chapter 14, Page 130

24. Under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, who among the following is **not** entitled to free legal services?
- (a) A victim of trafficking in human beings
  - (b) A person with annual income of not more than Rs. 18,000
  - (c) A person in custody
  - (d) An Industrial workman

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

Every person who has to file or defend a case shall be entitled to legal services under this Act if that person is:

- (a) A victim of trafficking in human beings or begar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution.
- (b) In receipt of annual income **less than rupees nine thousand** or such other higher amount as may be prescribed by the State Government, if the case is before a court other than the Supreme Court, and **less than rupees twelve thousand** or such other higher amount as may be prescribed by the Central Government, if the case is before the Supreme Court.
- (c) A person in custody, including protective custody under the ambit of certain acts.
- (d) An industrial workman.

**Additional Information:**

- (e) A person under circumstances of undeserved want such as being a victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster
- (f) A mentally ill or otherwise disabled person.
- (g) A member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe.
- (h) A woman or a child.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

**Source:**

- Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth (5th edition), Chapter 35, High Court, Page 35.3.
- <https://nalsa.gov.in/acts>

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25. With reference to the ‘powers of the Legislative Council in a State’, consider the following statements:

- (1) In case of disagreement on an Ordinary Bill, a joint sitting of both the Houses can be summoned by the Governor.
  - (2) The Legislative Council cannot amend a Money Bill.
  - (3) A Money Bill cannot be introduced in the Legislative Council.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
  - (b) 1 and 3 only
  - (c) 2 and 3 only
  - (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct.** There is no provision for joint sitting of the State Legislative Assembly and the State Legislative Council. In case of disagreement, the State Legislative Council can at most delay the Bill by four months.

**Statement 2 is correct.** As per Article 198 of the Constitution, the State Legislative Council can recommend the changes but it has no power to amend the Money Bill.

**Statement 3 is correct.** As per Article 198(1) of the Constitution, a Money Bill shall not be introduced in the State Legislative Council. Thus, a Money Bill can only be introduced in the State Legislative Assembly by a Minister and not a private member.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch. 29, State Legislature; Page no. 29.8-29.9**

26. Recently, which State has passed a Bill to do away with the intermediate level Panchayat?

- (a) Goa
- (b) Sikkim
- (c) Arunachal Pradesh
- (d) Rajasthan

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

Recently, the **Arunachal Pradesh Assembly** passed the Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2018 to do away with the **Anchal Samiti**, the intermediate level of the three-tier panchayati raj system, and set up a two-tier system in the State. This is being done following the 73rd Amendment of the Constitution, 1992 that enables a State having less than 20 lakh population not to have the intermediate level, and **Arunachal Pradesh has a population of 13.84 lakh**.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

**Source:**<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/change-in-structure-delays-panchayat-polls-in-arunachal-pradesh/article23629501.ece>

27. Which of the following actions of the Indian State is tantamount to violation of the ‘basic structure’ of the Constitution?

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- (1) A Parliamentary law limiting the power of judicial review of the Supreme Court.
- (2) Curbs imposed by the State during the operation of Emergency, to restrict the freedom of speech and expression of the citizens.
- (3) A law limiting the power of the Election Commission to cancel the elections on the ground of electoral malpractices.
- (4) A Constitutional Amendment making provisions for the appointment of the Chief Minister of any State in consultation with the Prime Minister.

Select the correct answer using the code give below:

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** Since judicial review has been designated as a part of the basic structure of the Constitution by the Supreme Court in the Minerva Mills case, any law limiting the judicial review by the Supreme Court would violate the basic structure of the Constitution.

**Statement 2 is not correct.** The Fundamental Rights under Article 19(1) can be suspended during an Emergency.

**Statement 3 is correct.** Free and fair elections have been declared as a basic feature of the Constitution. Any change in power of the Election Commission which undermines free and fair elections such as curtailing its power to cancel an election on ground of electoral malpractices would amount to violation of the basic structure.

**Statement 4 is correct.** Federalism is a part of the basic structure of the Constitution. Any interference by the Prime Minister in appointment of the Chief Minister would amount to a violation of this principle.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, Ch-11, Basic Structure. pg- 11.1-11.3**

**28.** With reference to the features related to the Higher Judiciary provided in the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

- (1) The Presidential references made to the Supreme Court are dealt by a bench of five Judges or more.
- (2) The High Courts can strike down laws made by the Parliament.
- (3) The Supreme Court of India is the highest Court of Appeal.
- (4) The Supreme Court may take contempt of court issues on *suo motu* basis.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct:** As per Article 145 of the Constitution, the minimum number of

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Judges who are to sit for the purpose of deciding any case involving a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of this Constitution or for the purpose of hearing any reference under Article 143 (Presidential Reference) shall be five.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The High Court can strike down laws made by the Parliament, if upon examination they are found to be violative of the Constitution.

**Statement 3 is correct:** The Supreme Court has replaced the British Privy Council as the highest Court of Appeal after independence.

**Statement 4 is correct:** To ensure the independence of Judiciary, this provision has been provided.

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part– 2, Chapter-2: The Judiciary, Page 22,24.

**29.** Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to a Departmentally Related Standing Committee?

- (1) It consists of 31 members.
- (2) The objective is to secure more accountability of the Executive to the Parliament.
- (3) A Minister is eligible to be nominated as a member of any of the Standing Committees.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement (1) is correct.** Each Standing Committee consists of 31 members: 21 from the Lok Sabha and 10 from the Rajya Sabha. The members of the Lok Sabha are nominated by the Speaker from amongst its own members, just as the members of the Rajya Sabha are nominated by the Chairman from amongst its members.

**Statement (2) is correct.** The main objective of the Standing Committee is to secure more accountability of the Executive to the Parliament. They also assist the Parliament in debating the budget more effectively.

**Statement (3) is not correct.** A Minister is not eligible to be nominated as a member of any of the Standing Committees. In case, a member after his nomination to any of the Standing Committees is appointed a Minister, he then ceases to be a member of the Committee.

**Source:** Indian Polity by Laxmikanth: 4<sup>th</sup> Edition: Chapter 23 Parliamentary Committee and Page no 23.5

**30.** With reference to the provisions of the 91st Constitutional Amendment Act 2003, which of the following statements are correct?

- (1) The total number of Ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Union Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Lok Sabha.

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- (2) A member of either House of the Parliament belonging to any political party, who is disqualified on the ground of defection, shall also be disqualified to be appointed as a Minister.
- (3) It added the provision in the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution (Anti-Defection Law), pertaining to exemption from disqualification in case of split by one-third members of the party.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

The 91<sup>st</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act 2003 made the following provisions to limit the size of Council of Ministers, to debar defectors from holding public offices, and to strengthen the Anti-Defection law:

1. The total number of Ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Union Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Lok Sabha (Article 75(1A)).

**Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

2. A member of either House of the Parliament belonging to any political party who is disqualified on the ground of defection shall also be disqualified to be appointed as a Minister (Article 75(1B)). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

3. The provision of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution (anti-defection law) pertaining to exemption from disqualification in case of split by one-third members of legislature party has been **deleted**. It means that the defectors have no more protection on grounds of splits. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch.20: Central Council of Ministers; Page No. 20.1; Appendix VI: Constitutional Amendments at a Glance.**

**31. Which of the following provisions of the Constitution can be amended/ added only by a special majority of the Parliament and the consent of half of the States?**

- (1) Increasing the vote share of the Members of Parliament in the election of the President.
- (2) Any change in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule
- (3) Representation of the States in the Parliament
- (4) Provisions of election to the State Legislature
- (5) Power of the Parliament to amend the Constitution

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
- (c) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

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The following provisions of the Constitution need a special majority of the Parliament and the consent of half of the States for their amendment/addition to the Constitution:

1. Election of the President and its manner.
2. Extent of the executive power of the Union and the States.
3. The Supreme Court and the High Courts.
4. Distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the States.
5. Any of the lists in the Seventh Schedule.
6. Representation of the States in the Parliament.
7. Power of the Parliament to amend the Constitution and its procedure (Article 368 itself).

Whereas provisions related to elections to the Parliament and State Legislatures can be amended by simple majority of the Parliament.

**Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

**Source: M Laxmikanth, ch-10, Amendment of the constitution, pg- 12.1-12.3**

**32.** Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?

	<b>Type of Municipal Body</b>	<b>Composition</b>
1.	Municipal Corporation	: Directly elected councillors as well as a few nominated members
2.	Notified Area Committee	: Entirely nominated body
3.	Cantonment Board	: Partly nominated partly elected members body

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

Eight types of urban local bodies are created in India for the administration of urban areas: These are Municipal Corporation, Municipality, Notified Area Committee, Town Area Committee, Cantonment Board, Township, Port Trust, and Special Purpose Agency.

- **Pair 1 is correctly matched:** 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.
- **Pair 2 is correctly matched:** A **Notified Area Committee** is created for the administration of two types of areas—a **fast developing town due to industrialization** 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. **It is an entirely nominated body**, that is, all the members of a

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Notified Area Committee including the Chairman are nominated by the State government. Thus, it is **neither an elected body nor a statutory body**.

- **Pair 3 is correctly matched:** A Cantonment Board is established for municipal administration for civilian population in the cantonment area. A Cantonment Board consists of **partly elected and partly nominated members**. The elected members hold office for a term of five years while the nominated members (i.e., ex-officio members) continue so long as they hold the office in that station. The military officer commanding the station is the ex-officio President of the board and presides over its meetings. The Vice-president of the Board is elected by the elected members from amongst themselves for a term of five years.

**Source:** Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, chapter 39; Page no.39.6-39.8

33. With reference to 'the Ordinance making power of the Indian President under Article 123 of the Constitution', which of the following features are correct?

- The power of the President to promulgate an Ordinance is co-terminus with the legislative powers of the Parliament.
- An Ordinance can be promulgated only when neither of the Houses is in session
- The satisfaction of the President regarding promulgation of an Ordinance is subject to judicial review.
- An Ordinance can be promulgated if the circumstances require an immediate action by the President.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 1, 3 and 4 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

Article 123 provides power to the President to promulgate ordinances when **either of the Houses is not in session**. There are certain limitations on this power. These are:

- **Feature 1 is correct.** An Ordinance can be issued by the President only on those subjects on which the Parliament can make laws.
- **Feature 2 is not correct.** Legislature not being in session (Either of the Houses of the Parliament).
- **Feature 3 is correct.** Satisfaction of the President is subject to judicial review on the ground of malafide. (R.C. Cooper vs. Union of India case, 1970).
- **Feature 4 is correct.** The President can promulgate Ordinances only when he is satisfied that the circumstances exist that render it necessary for him to take immediate action. Every such Ordinance shall be laid before the Parliament on reassembly and has to be approved within 6 weeks.

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part 1, Chapter 14 Page 127

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34. Regarding comparison of the State Legislative Councils and the Rajya Sabha in the Indian legislative framework, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
- The Rajya Sabha is a revisory body while the State Legislative Councils are a dilatory body.
  - The Members of the State Legislative Councils can vote in an election of the President, but their share of votes is far less than that of the members of the Rajya Sabha.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** As the State Legislative Councils do not have the powers to revise the Ordinary Bill like the Rajya Sabha, it's considered more as advisory or dilatory in nature rather than a revisory body.

**Statement 2 is not correct.** The members of the State Legislative Councils cannot vote in an election of the President. The President of India is indirectly elected by an electoral college consisting of the elected members of both Houses of the Parliament, the elected members of the State Legislative Assemblies of the 29 States and the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch. 29, State Legislature; Page no. 29.12.**

35. With respect to the special status of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, consider the following statements:
- The 69<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act, 1991 provided special status to the Union Territory of Delhi.
  - The Legislative Assembly of Delhi can make laws on all the matters of the State List as well as the Concurrent List.
  - The Chief Minister of the National Capital Territory of Delhi is appointed by the President.

Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?

- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 2 only

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct.** The 69<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act of 1991 provided no special status to the Union Territory of Delhi. It merely re-designated it as the National Capital Territory of Delhi and designated the administrator of Delhi as the Lieutenant Governor.

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**Statement 2 is not correct.** The Legislative Assembly of Delhi can make laws on all the matters of the State List and the Concurrent List **except the three matters of the State List, that is, public order, police and land.** But, the laws of the Parliament prevail over those made by the Assembly.

**Statement 3 is correct.** The Chief Minister is appointed **by the President (not by the Lieutenant Governor).** The other Ministers are appointed by the President on the advice of the Chief Minister. The Ministers hold office during the pleasure of the President.

**Source:** Indian Polity 5<sup>th</sup> Edition M. Laxmikanth Chapter 40 Pg-752

36. Which of the following statements is/are **not** correct about the 'Supervisory Jurisdiction of the High Courts' in India?
- (a) It covers both administrative and judicial superintendence.
  - (b) It extends to all the lower courts of the State.
  - (c) The High Court can take *suo-motu* action in exercise of this jurisdiction.
  - (d) It extends only to those Tribunals which are subject to the Appellate Jurisdiction of the High Court.

**Answer:** (d)

**Explanation:**

**Statements (a) and (b) are correct.** The power of superintendence, vested in the High Court, is judicial as well as administrative in nature. The High Court is thus in charge of the administration of justice in the State.

**Statement (c) is correct.** The High Court can take *suo-motu* action (on its own) and not necessarily on the application of a party while exercising this jurisdiction.

**Statement (d) is not correct.** The High Court, under Article 227, has the power of superintendence over all the Courts and Tribunals **except those which deal with Armed Forces** located in the State.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part-2, The Judiciary, Page 28.

37. Consider the following statements about Estimates Committee:

- (1) The Rajya Sabha has no representation in this Committee.
  - (2) Its term is concurrent with the term of a Member of the Lok Sabha.
  - (3) It has also been described as a 'Continuous Economic Committee'.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) 3 only
  - (d) 1 and 3 only

**Answer:** (d)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** The Estimates Committee has **30 members, all of which are from the Lok Sabha only.** The Rajya Sabha has no representation in this Committee. These members are elected by the Lok Sabha every year from amongst its own

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members, according to the principles of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote.

**Statement 2 is not correct.** The term of Estimates Committee is **one year**. A Union Minister cannot be elected as a member of the Committee.

**Statement 3 is correct.** The function of the Committee is to examine the estimates included in the Budget and suggest ‘economies’ in public expenditure. Hence, it has been described as a ‘continuous economy committee’.

**Source:** Indian Polity by Laxmikanth: 4<sup>th</sup> Edition: Chapter 23 Parliamentary Committee and Page no 23.5

38. With reference to ‘the Speaker of the Lok Sabha’, consider the following statements:

- (1) He is the final interpreter of the Indian Constitution within the Lok Sabha.
- (2) He appoints the Chairman of all the Parliamentary Committees of the Lok Sabha, while he is not the Chairperson of any of them.

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Speaker of the Lok Sabha is the final interpreter of the provisions of:

- (a) The Constitution of India,
- (b) The Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha, and
- (c) The Parliamentary Precedents, within the House.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** The Speaker of the Lok Sabha appoints the Chairman of all the Parliamentary Committees of the Lok Sabha and supervises their functioning. He himself is the Chairman of the Business Advisory Committee, the Rules Committee and the General Purpose Committee.

**Source:** Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> edition- ch-22: Parliament, Pg-22.7-22.8

39. With reference to ‘the powers and functions of the Union Council of Ministers in the Indian Parliamentary system’, which of the following statements are correct?

- (1) Every Minister shall have the right to speak, vote and take part in the proceedings of either House, any joint sitting of the Houses and any Committee of Parliament of which he may be named a member.
- (2) The nature of advice tendered by Ministers to the President cannot be enquired by any Court of law.
- (3) Even after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the Council of Ministers does not cease to hold office.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

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- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct: Article 88—Rights of Ministers as Respects the Houses**

Every Minister shall have the right to speak and take part in the proceedings of either House, any joint sitting of the Houses and any Committee of the Parliament of which he may be named a member. But he shall not be entitled to vote except in the House of which he is a member.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Article 74 provides for a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advice the President in the exercise of his functions. Further, the nature of advice tendered by the Ministers to the President cannot be enquired by any Court of law. This provision emphasises the intimate and the confidential relationship between the President and the Ministers.

**Statement 3 is correct:** In 1971, the Supreme Court held that 'even after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the Council of Ministers does not cease to hold office. Article 74 is mandatory and, therefore, the President cannot exercise the executive power without the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers. Any exercise of the executive power without the aid and advice will be **unconstitutional as being violative of Article 74'**.

**Source:** Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch.20: Central Council of Ministers; Page No. 20.2-20.4

40. Vacancy in the office of the Vice President of India contains certain peculiar provisions in the Constitution. In this context, which among the following provisions is **not** correct?
- (a) The procedure for the removal of the Vice President cannot be initiated in the Lok Sabha.
  - (b) When a vacancy is created in the office of the Vice President, then the functions of the Vice-President are performed by such person as designated by the President of India.
  - (c) The Vice President submits his resignation to the President of India.
  - (d) A formal impeachment is not required for the removal of the Vice President.

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

Provisions related to the vacancy in the office of the Vice President:

- *The procedure for the removal of the Vice President cannot be initiated in the Lok Sabha.*
- *The Constitution is silent on who performs the duties of the Vice President when a vacancy occurs in the office of the Vice President of India.*
- **The Vice President submits his resignation to the President of India.**
- He/She is removed from the office by a resolution of the Rajya Sabha passed by a majority of all the then members of Rajya Sabha and agreed to by the Lok Sabha.
- *A formal impeachment is not required for his/her removal.*

**Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

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Source: Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part 1, Chapter 15 pg. 133

41. Which of the following matter(s) is/are excluded from the Original Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India?

- (1) Complaints referred to a Tribunal constituted under Article 262 of the Constitution.
- (2) Matters referred to the Finance Commission.
- (3) Disputes arising out of the treaties signed after the commencement of the Constitution.
- (4) Adjustment of certain expenses between the Centre and the States

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

Original Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court does **not** extend to:

- i. Treaties signed **before** the commencement of the Constitution
- ii. Complaints as to interference with inter-state water supplies referred to Statutory Tribunal mentioned in **Article 262** with **Inter-State Water Disputes Act. 1956**.
- iii. Matters referred to the Finance Commission (Art. 280)
- iv. Adjustment of finances between the Centre and the States (Art. 290).
- v. Ordinary disputes of commercial nature between the Centre and the States.
- vi. Recovery of damages by a State against the Centre.

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

**Sources:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part – 2, Chapter -2: The Judiciary, Page 21.

42. Regarding the election and impeachment of the President of India, which of the following statements is/are **not** correct?

- (1) The elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of States can vote in the election but have no such power in case of impeachment.
- (2) The nominated members of either House of the Parliament cannot vote in the election but can exercise such power in impeachment.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

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The election and impeachment of the President are performed by two slightly different set of people.

- Electoral college for the election of the President consists of :
  - I. Elected members of both the Houses of the Parliament,
  - II. Elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States.
- An impeachment is a quasi-judicial procedure in the Parliament. In this context, two things should be noted:
  - (a) The nominated members of either House of the Parliament can participate in the impeachment of the President though they do not participate in his election;
  - (b) The elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of States and the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry do not participate in the impeachment of the President though they participate in his election.

Hence, both the statements 1 and 2 are correct.

Source: Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Indian Polity Part 1 Chapter 14 Page 119

43. In India, the privileges of a State Legislature extend to which of the following functionaries?

- (1) The Governor of the State.
- (2) The Advocate-General of the State
- (3) The Members of the State Legislative Assembly.
- (4) The Members of the State Legislative Council.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

Privilege is a legal immunity enjoyed by members of Legislature, in which the legislators are granted protection against Civil or Criminal liability for actions done or statements made in the course of their legislative duties.

**Statement 1 is not correct.** Although the Governor is part of the State Legislature, privileges of the State Legislature don't extend to the Governor.

**Statement 2 is correct.** The Advocate-General of the State is entitled to speak and take part in proceedings of the House. The privileges of a State Legislature thus extend to the Advocate-General of the State.

**Statement 3 and 4 are correct.** A member of the State Legislature (Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council both) enjoys these privileges.

Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch. 29, State Legislature; Page no. 29.12-29.13

44. With reference to the State Legislature in India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (1) All executive actions of the State Governments shall be expressed to be taken in the name of the Chief Minister.

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- (2) The number of Ministers, including the Chief Minister, in a State Government shall not be less than 15.  
(3) If any question arises whether a matter falls within the Governor's discretion or not, decision of the Governor shall be final.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct:** All the executive actions of the government of a State are expressed in the name of the Governor and not the Chief Minister. The Governor is the nominal Head of the State Government.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** The number of Ministers, including the Chief Minister, in a State Government shall not be less than 12.

**Statement 3 is correct: Article 163—State Council of Ministers to aid and advise Governor Clause 2.** If any question arises whether a matter falls within the Governor's discretion or not, decision of the Governor shall be final and the validity of anything done by the Governor shall not be called in question on the ground that he ought or ought not to have acted in his discretion.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch.32: State Council of Ministers; Page No 32.2**

45. The Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principle of State Policy enshrined in the Constitution of India can be amended by which of the following majorities?
- (a) Simple majority of the Parliament  
(b) Special majority of the Parliament.  
(c) Absolute majority of the Parliament.  
(d) Amendment by special majority of the Parliament and the ratification by half of the State Legislatures.

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

The Constitution can be amended in three ways:

- A. Amendment by simple majority of the Parliament,  
B. Amendment by special majority of the Parliament, and  
C. Amendment by special majority of the Parliament and the ratification by half of the State Legislatures.

**Special Majority of Parliament:**

The majority of the provisions in the Constitution need to be amended by a special majority of the Parliament, i.e 50% of the total membership of each House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of each House present and voting. Following provisions can be amended by this way:

- **Fundamental Rights;**

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- Directive Principles of State Policy; and
- All other provisions which are not covered by simple majority and by special majority with the consent of States.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

Source: Indian Polity by M Laxmikanth- Chapter 11, page no. 10.2-10.3

46. Consider the following statements about Public Accounts Committee:

- It was set up under the Government of India Act, 1919.
  - Since 1967, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha is the Chairman of Public Accounts Committee.
  - It consists of 15 members each from the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.
- Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?
- 1 only
  - 2 and 3 only
  - 1 and 3 only
  - 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

**Statement (1) is correct.** The Public Accounts Committee was set up in 1921 under the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1919.

**Statement (2) is not correct.** The Chairman of the Committee is appointed from amongst its members by the Speaker. Until 1966-67, the Chairman of the Committee belonged to the ruling party. However, since 1967 a Convention has developed whereby the Chairman of the Committee is selected invariably from the Opposition, but not necessarily the Leader of the Opposition. Any member from the Opposition in the Lok Sabha can be appointed as the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee.

**Statement (3) is not correct.** At present, it has **22 members**: 15 members from the Lok Sabha and 7 members from the Rajya Sabha.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth: 4<sup>th</sup> Edition: Chapter 23 Parliamentary Committee and Page no 23.5

47. Under which of the following circumstances, a Bill pending in the Parliament shall not lapse?

- A Bill passed by both the Houses but pending assent of the President.
- A Bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha
- A Bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha
- A Bill not passed by the two Houses due to disagreement and if the President has notified the holding of a joint sitting before the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1, 2 and 4 only
- 1, 3 and 4 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

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**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

The position with respect to lapsing of the Bills in Houses of the Parliament are as follows:

1. A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses (whether originating in the Lok Sabha or transmitted to it by the Rajya Sabha).
2. A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses.
3. A bill not passed by the two Houses due to disagreement and if the President has notified the holding of a joint sitting before the dissolution of Lok Sabha, does not lapse.
4. A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha does not lapse.
5. A bill passed by both Houses but pending assent of the President does not lapse.
6. A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the President for reconsideration of Houses does not lapse.

**Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> edition- ch-22: Parliament, pg-22.13**

**48.** Consider the following statements regarding the role of the Governor of a State in India:

- (1) The office of the Governor of a State is an employment under the Central Government.
- (2) The provision of appointment of a Governor for two or more States at the same time was not present originally in the Constitution.
- (3) The part of the Constitution related to the Governor is not applicable in case of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

**Articles 153 to 167 in Part VI** of the Constitution deals with the State Executive:

- The Governor is the Chief Executive Head of the State.
- He is a nominal executive head as well as an agent of the Central Government.
- As held by the Supreme Court in 1979, the office of the Governor of a State is not an employment under the Central Government. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **The 7th Constitutional Amendment, 1956** facilitated the appointment of the same Governor for two or more States. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Part VI of the Constitution is not applicable to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Chapter 26 pg. 26.3**

**49.** In the context of the Indian Parliamentary system, the principle of 'Collective Responsibility' of the Council of Ministers implies:

- (1) That all the Ministers own joint responsibility to the Parliament for all their acts of omission and commission.

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- (2) When the Lok Sabha passes a No-Confidence Motion against the Council of Ministers, all the Ministers have to resign including those Ministers who are from the Rajya Sabha.
- (3) The Cabinet decisions bind all Cabinet Ministers (and other Ministers) even if they differed in the Cabinet meeting.
- (4) If any Minister disagrees with a Cabinet decision and is not prepared to defend it, he must resign.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

**Collective Responsibility:** The fundamental principle underlying the working of Parliamentary System of government is the principle of Collective Responsibility. Article 75 clearly states that the Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha.

- This means that all the Ministers own joint responsibility **to the Lok Sabha and not to the Parliament**, for all their acts of omission and commission. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- They work as a team and **swim or sink together**. When the Lok Sabha passes a No-Confidence Motion against the Council of Ministers, all the Ministers have to resign including those Ministers who are from the Rajya Sabha. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The principle of collective responsibility also means that the Cabinet decisions bind all Cabinet Ministers (and other Ministers) even if they differed in the Cabinet meeting. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- It is the duty of every Minister to stand by Cabinet decisions and support them both within and outside the Parliament. If any Minister disagrees with a Cabinet decision and is not prepared to defend it, he must resign. **Hence, statement 4 is correct.**

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch.20: Central Council of Ministers, page No 20.5**

**50.** A citizen of India being identified as a “distinguished jurist” by the President of India is one of the qualifications for appointment as a Judge for which of the following Courts?

- (a) The Supreme Court of India
- (b) The High Courts of India
- (c) Both the Supreme Court and the High Courts
- (d) None of the Above

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

Article 124 (3) of the Constitution prescribes that for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court a person should be:

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- (a) A **citizen** of India. (not necessarily born in India).
- (b) Have been a Judge of any High Court for at least 5 years, or
- (c) Have been an advocate in a High Court for 10 years or is in the opinion of the President a distinguished jurist.

The criterion of “distinguished jurist” does not apply for the appointment of Judges to the High Courts of India.

**Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part-2: The Judiciary, Page 18.

- 51.** Consider the following statements about the strength of the Legislative Council in a State:

- (1) The total membership of the State Legislative Council should not exceed half of the total strength of the State Legislative Assembly.
- (2) The Constitution has fixed maximum and minimum limits, the actual strength of a State Legislative Council is fixed by the Parliament.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct.** As per Article 171(1) of the Indian Constitution, the total number of members in the Legislative Council of a State having such a Council shall not exceed **one-third** of the total number of members in the Legislative Assembly of that State.

**Statement 2 is correct.** Though the Constitution has fixed maximum and minimum limits, the actual strength of a Legislative Council is fixed by the Parliament. The minimum strength of the Legislative Council of a State is fixed at **forty**.

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Part 2; Ch. 1: Government of the state; Page No.13.

- 52.** Which of the following States have Scheduled Areas under the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution?

- (1) Telangana
- (2) Himachal Pradesh
- (3) Madhya Pradesh
- (4) Maharashtra
- (5) Odisha

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

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**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- As per the provision under Article 244 (1) of the Constitution of India, the '**Scheduled Areas**' are defined as 'such areas as the President may by order declare to be Scheduled Areas' – as per paragraph 6(1) of the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- The specification of "Scheduled Areas" in relation to a State is by a notified order of the President, after consultation with the Governor of that State. In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 6(2) of the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution of India, the President *may increase the area of any Scheduled Area in a State after consultation with the Governor of that State; and make fresh orders redefining the areas which are to be Scheduled Areas in relation to any State.*
- The same applies in the case of any alteration, increase, decrease, incorporation of new areas, or rescinding any Orders relating to "Scheduled Areas".
- At present, Scheduled Areas have been declared in the States of Andhra Pradesh (including Telangana), Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan.

**Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Source:** <https://tribal.nic.in/declarationof5thSchedule.aspx>

53. The 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment provided for the formation of Ward Committees in Municipalities. Which among the following Bodies/Constitutional Authority has been given the power to create Ward Committees?
- (a) The State Legislature
  - (b) The Municipality itself
  - (c) The State Executive
  - (d) The Parliament

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- Article 243S of the Constitution says that – There shall be constituted Wards Committees, consisting of one or more Wards, within the territorial area of a Municipality having a population of three lakhs or more.
- The Legislature of a State** may, by law, make provision with respect to – the composition and the territorial area, and the manner in which the seats in a Wards Committee shall be filled. This section was added to the Constitution after the **74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act 1992**.

**Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi Yellow Book, part-2; Chapter-3, page-49-50

54. Regarding the Constitutional provision of Scheduled and Tribal Areas, consider the following statements:
- (1) The Fifth Schedule deals with the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Tribes in all the States.

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- (2) The Sixth Schedule deals with the administration of Tribal Areas in all the north-eastern States of India.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are **not** correct?

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement (1) is not correct.** Article 244 in Part X of the Constitution envisages a special system of administration for certain areas designated as 'Scheduled Areas' and 'Tribal Areas'. The Fifth Schedule deals with the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Tribes in any State except the four States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

**Statement (2) is not correct.** The Sixth Schedule deals with the administration of tribal areas in the four north-eastern States of India which are **Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram** and not in all the north-eastern States of India.

**Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant: 4<sup>th</sup> Edition: Chapter 37 Scheduled and Tribal Areas Page no 37.1**

55. Consider the following statements regarding 'Quorum in the Houses of the Indian Parliament':

- (1) It is one tenth of the total number of members in each House of the Indian Parliament.
- (2) For Quorum in the Upper House, Chairman of the Rajya Sabha is not included as he is not a member of the Rajya Sabha.
- (3) It is the duty of the Presiding Officer of each House to either adjourn the House or suspend the meeting until there is a Quorum.

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is not correct:** Quorum is the minimum number of members required to be present in the House before it can transact any business. It is one-tenth of the total number of members in each House **including the Presiding Officer**. It means that there must be at least 55 members present in the Lok Sabha and 25 members present in the Rajya Sabha, if any business is to be conducted.

**Statement 3 is correct:** If there is no quorum during a meeting of the House, it is the duty of the Presiding Officer either to adjourn the House or to suspend the meeting until there is a quorum.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, ch-22: Parliament, pg-22.13**

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56. In Indian Parliamentary System, which of the following could have been the reasons for **not** adopting the Proportional Representation system in elections to the Lok Sabha?

- (1) The low literacy rate in India at the time of independence.
- (2) Adoption of parliamentary form of the government with multiparty system.
- (3) The members of Drafting Committee were unaware of this system.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

Though some members of the Constituent Assembly had advocated **the system of proportional representation** for the election of members to the Lok Sabha, the Constitution has not adopted the system due to two reasons.

1. Difficulty for the voters to understand the system of proportional representation (which is complicated) due to low literacy scale in the country.
2. Unsuitability to the Parliamentary Government due to the tendency of the system to multiply political parties leading to instability in government.

**Hence, statements 1 and 2 are correct, while statement 3 is not correct.**

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> edition- ch-22, Parliament, Pg-22.6-22.7**

57. Which of the following is the highest decision-making authority in Indian politico-administrative system?

- (a) The President
- (b) The Prime Minister
- (c) The Union Council of Ministers
- (d) The Union Cabinet

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

### COUNCIL OF MINISTERS VS CABINET

The words 'Council of Ministers' and 'Cabinet' are often used interchangeably though there is a definite distinction between them. They differ from each other in respect of composition, functions, and role.

#### **Cabinet**

It is a smaller body consisting of 15 to 20 ministers. It includes the Cabinet Ministers only. Thus, it is a part of the Council of Ministers.

#### **Role of Cabinet:**

- It is the highest decision-making authority in our politico-administrative system.
- It is the chief policy formulating body of the Central government.
- It is the supreme executive authority of the Central government.
- It is chief coordinator of Central administration.

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- It is an advisory body to the President and its advice is binding on him.
- It is the chief crisis manager and thus deals with all emergency situations.
- It deals with all major legislative and financial matters.
- It exercises control over higher appointments like constitutional authorities and senior secretariat administrators.
- It deals with all foreign policies and foreign affairs.

**Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch.20: Central Council of Ministers, page No 20.1-20.2**

**58. With reference to the High Courts in India, which of the following statements is correct?**

- (a) The name of a High Court can be altered by the respective State Legislative Assembly through suitable legislation.
- (b) A new High Court can be created by the President on the recommendation of the Union Council of Ministers.
- (c) Only two (and not more) States can have a common High Court.
- (d) The Parliament can exclude the jurisdiction of a High Court from any Union Territory.

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

**Statements (a) and (b) are not correct.** Only the Parliament has the power with respect to establishing the new High Courts and altering their name.

**Statement (c) is not correct.** After the Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956, the Parliament can create a common High Court for 2 or more States, or for 2 or more States and a Union Territory.

**Statement (d) is correct.** The Parliament can extend or exclude the jurisdiction of High Court with respect to any Union Territory. Thus, the territorial jurisdiction of the High Court remains co-terminus with the territory of respective State or the territories of the concerned States and the Union Territory.

**Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Source: Indian Polity - M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, High Court, Page No. 34.1.**

**59. With respect to the Constitutional provisions regarding the office of the President, what is meant by 'Alternative Vote System'?**

- (a) System of indirect election of the President
- (b) System of impeachment of the President.
- (c) Process of transfer of votes by Single transferable vote system
- (d) Resorting to the indirect election of the President by the Parliament and the State Legislative Assemblies.

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

Election of the President:

- Each voter is entitled to cast as many preferences as there are candidates in the fray.

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- If in the first round of counting, a candidate secures the required quota, he is declared winner.
- But if no candidate secures the requisite quota then second round of counting is started along with transfer of votes. The ballots of the candidate securing the least number of first preference votes are cancelled and his second preference votes are transferred to the first preference votes of other candidates.
- This process continues until the requisite quota votes are secured by someone.

This process of transfer of votes is also known as 'alternative vote system'.

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

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Indian Polity Part-1 Chapter 14 Pg. 120

- 60.** The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act 1992 added a new Part IX-A to the Constitution titled as Municipalities. In this context, which of the following bodies find mention in the Constitution of India?

- (1) Nagar Panchayat
- (2) Municipal Corporation
- (3) Port Trust
- (4) Cantonment Board

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

**Points 1 and 2 are correct:** Three types of bodies are mentioned in the 74th Amendment:

- **Nagar Panchayat** (by whatever name called) for a transitional area from rural to urban
- **Municipal Council** for a smaller urban area
- **Municipal Corporation** for a larger urban area

**Points 3 and 4 are not correct:** Port Trusts are created by Acts of the Parliament. The Cantonment Board was set up under the provisions of the **Cantonments Act of 2006**- a legislation enacted by the Central government. Both of them contain elected as well as nominated members. They are not mentioned in the 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992.

**Source:** Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth; Chapter 35 Municipalities, Page no. 35.2

- 61.** Regarding the creation of the Legislative Council in a State, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- (1) The resolution for creation/abolition of the State Legislative Council must be passed by the State Legislative Assembly by effective majority.
- (2) The Parliament must approve this resolution by special majority.

Select the correct answer using code given below:

- (a) 1 only

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

**Answer:** (d)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct.** As per Article 169(1) of the Indian Constitution, the Parliament may by law provide for the abolition of the Legislative Council of a State having such a Council or for the creation of such a Council in a State having no such Council, if the Legislative Assembly of the State passes a resolution to that effect by a majority of the total membership of the Assembly and by a majority of not less than **two-thirds of the members of the Assembly present and voting**. Hence, special majority is required.

**Statement 2 is not correct.** The Parliament can abolish or create the Legislative Council of a State by a simple majority. Any change made in the Constitution thereupon is not deemed to be a Constitutional Amendment for the purpose of Article 368 and is passed like an ordinary piece of legislation.

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Part 2; Ch. 1: Government of the state; Page No.13

**62.** Which of the following are the sources of municipal finance?

- (1) Property Tax
- (2) Grants-in-Aid from the Consolidated Fund of the State
- (3) Income Tax
- (4) Entertainment Tax

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

- **Points/Taxes no. 1 and 2 are correct:** Article 243X specifies the power to impose taxes by, and funds, of, the Municipalities. The Legislature of a State may, by law—
  - Authorize a Municipality to levy, collect and appropriate such **taxes, duties, tolls and fees** in accordance with such procedure and subject to such limits;
  - Assign to a Municipality such taxes, duties, tolls and fees levied and collected by the State-Government for such purposes and subject to such conditions and limits;
  - Provide for making, such grants-in-aid to the Municipalities from the **Consolidated Fund of the State**.
- The local municipal authorities assess the value of every property and accordingly levy a proportionate tax on the same, which would be payable on an annual or semi-annual basis. The **revenue generated from property tax is used to maintain and provide various civic amenities such as road repairs, sewer system, lighting, maintenance of common areas such as parks, etc.** The rate of property tax and manner of valuation differs from one municipal authority to the other.

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- **Point/Tax no. 3 is not correct:** The Constitution of India → Schedule VII → Union List → Entry 82 has given the power to the Central Government to levy a tax on any income other than agricultural income, which is defined in **Section 10(1) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.**
- **Point/Tax no. 4 is not correct:** Entertainment falls in List 2 of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and is **exclusively reserved as a revenue source for the state governments.** This source of revenue has grown with the advent of paid television services in India. The component of entertainment is intrinsically intertwined in the transaction of service, that it cannot be separated from the whole transaction. Given the nature of transaction of service, it is being subjected to tax by the Union and the State governments both.

**Source: Vajiram & Ravi Yellow Book, part-2; Chapter-3, page-50**

63. The District and the Regional Councils in Scheduled Areas are empowered with the law making powers regarding which of the following matters?

- Inheritance of property.
- Marriage and Social Customs.
- Land and the forests.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1 only
- 2 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

The tribal areas in the four **States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram** have been constituted as Autonomous Districts. But, they do not fall outside the executive authority of the States concerned. The Governor is empowered to organize the autonomous districts. Each autonomous district has a District Council consisting of 30 members. **The District and Regional Councils** administer the areas under their jurisdiction. They can make laws on certain specified matters like land, forests canal water, inheritance of property, marriage, social custom.

**Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Source: Schedule Six of the Indian Constitution, Section 3.**

64. Consider the following statements:

- The Governor announces the policies of the State government on the floor of the House.
- The Chief Minister can recommend the dissolution of the State Legislative Assembly to the Governor at any time.
- The Chief Minister acts as a Vice-Chairman of the concerned Zonal Council by rotation.
- The State's Chief Secretary is the Chairman of the State Planning Board.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- 1 only

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

The Chief Minister enjoys the following powers as the Leader of the House in the State Legislature:

- (a) He advises the Governor with regard to the summoning and proroguing of the sessions of the State Legislature.
- (b) He can recommend the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly to the Governor at any time.
- (c) He announces the government policies on the floor of the House.

**Hence, statement 1 is not correct and 2 is correct.**

In addition, the Chief Minister also performs the following functions:

- (a) He acts as a Vice-Chairman of the concerned Zonal Council by rotation, holding office for a period of one year at a time.
- (b) He is the Chairman of the State Planning Board.

**Hence, Statement 3 is correct and Statement 4 is not correct.**

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch.31: Chief Minister; Page No 31.4**

**65. Regarding the composition of the Rajya Sabha, consider the following statements:**

- (1) The maximum number of representatives of the States in the Rajya Sabha has been fixed at 250.
- (2) The allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha is done in accordance with a Statutory law enacted by the Parliament of India.
- (3) The seats in the Rajya Sabha are allotted to the States on the basis of the number of Assembly constituencies in the States.

Which of the statements given above are **not** correct?

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct:** The maximum strength of the Rajya Sabha is fixed at 250, out of which, **only 238 are to be the representatives of the States** and Union Territories (elected indirectly) and 12 are nominated by the President.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** The Fourth Schedule to the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha to the States and Union Territories. It is not in accordance with any law made by the Parliament.

**Statement 3 is not correct:** The representatives of States in the Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of the State Legislative Assemblies. The election is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single

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transferable vote. The seats are allotted to the States in the Rajya Sabha on the basis of population, not on the basis of number of Assembly constituencies.

Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> edition- ch-22: Parliament, Pg-22.2-22.3

66. Consider the following:

**Assertion:** The Writ Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is narrower than that of the High Courts.

**Reason:** The Supreme Court can issue writs only for the enforcement of the Fundamental Rights and not in the case of breach of ordinary legal right.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Both Assertion and Reason are true and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion.
- (b) Both Assertion and Reason are true but Reason is not the correct explanation of Assertion.
- (c) Assertion is true but Reason is false.
- (d) Assertion is false but Reason is true.

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

The High Court is empowered to issue writs for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights, **and also for any other purpose**, i.e. ordinary legal rights of the citizen. Hence, this widens the writ jurisdiction of the High Courts as compared to the Supreme Court, whose writ jurisdiction is limited to the enforcement of the Fundamental Rights only.

**Hence, both Assertion and Reason are true and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion.**

Source: Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part-2, The Judiciary, Page 21-23.

67. Regarding the Union Council of Ministers in India, consider the following statements:

- (1) The Council of Ministers is legally responsible for any legislation passed by it in the Parliament of India.
- (2) Individual responsibility of the Ministers implies that the President can remove a Minister even at a time when the Council of Ministers enjoys the confidence of the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct: No Legal Responsibility:** There is no provision in the Constitution for the system of legal responsibility of a Minister. It is not required that an order of the President for any public act should be countersigned by a Minister. Moreover,

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the courts are barred from enquiring into the nature of advice rendered by the Ministers to the President. However, in Britain every order of the King is countersigned by a Minister.

**Statement 2 is correct: Individual Responsibility:** Article 75 also contains the principle of individual responsibility. It states that the Ministers hold office during the ‘pleasure of the President’, which means that the President can remove a Minister even at a time when the Council of Ministers enjoys the confidence of the Lok Sabha. However, the President can remove a Minister only on the advice of the Prime Minister.

**Source:** Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch.20: Central Council of Ministers, page no. 20.6

**68.** Regarding the appointment of the Chief Minister of a State in India, consider the following statements:

- (1) On the death of a Chief Minister, the ruling party usually elects a new leader and the Governor has no choice but to appoint him as the Chief Minister.
- (2) The Constitution does not require that a person must prove his majority in the Legislative Assembly before he is appointed as the Chief Minister.
- (3) A person who is not a member of the State Legislature can be appointed as the Chief Minister.
- (4) According to the Indian Constitution, the Chief Minister may be a member of any of the two Houses of a State Legislature.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (d)

**Explanation:**

### APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF MINISTER

The Indian Constitution does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Chief Minister. Article 164 only says that the Chief Minister shall be appointed by the Governor.

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Governor may have to exercise his individual judgement in the selection and appointment of the Chief Minister when the Chief Minister in office dies suddenly and there is no obvious successor. However, on the death of a Chief Minister, the ruling party usually elects a new leader and the Governor has no choice but to appoint him as the Chief Minister.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The Constitution does not require that a person must prove his majority in the Legislative Assembly before he is appointed as the Chief Minister. The Governor may first appoint him as the Chief Minister and then ask him to prove his majority in the Legislative Assembly within a reasonable period.

**Statement 3 is correct:** A person who is not a member of the State Legislature can be appointed as the Chief Minister for six months, within which time, he should be elected to the State Legislature, failing which he ceases to be the Chief Minister.

**Statement 4 is correct:** According to the Constitution, the Chief Minister may be a member of any of the two Houses of a State Legislature. Usually Chief Ministers have

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been selected from the Lower House (Legislative Assembly), but, on a number of occasions, a member of the Upper House (Legislative Council) has also been appointed as Chief Minister.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ch.31: Chief Minister; Page No 31.1-31.2**

69. For being elected to the office of the President of India, one must not hold any office of profit. Which among the following is considered as an office of profit?
- (a) The Vice-President
  - (b) The Chief Justice of India
  - (c) The Governor of any State
  - (d) The Minister of the Union or any State

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

An Office of Profit is an office which is capable of **yielding profit or pecuniary gain**. Holding an office under the Central or State government, to which some pay, salary, emolument, remuneration or non-compensatory allowance is attached, is termed as "holding an office of profit" for the purposes of Article 102 of the Constitution of India.

The following posts/offices shall not be considered as an office of profit and hence are qualified as a candidate for election to be the President.

- The President and the Vice President
- The Governor of any State
- The Minister of the Union or any State

Since, the office of Chief Justice of India does not suit above mentioned criteria, hence it is deemed to be an office of profit.

Hence, the correct answer is option (b).

**Source: Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Indian Polity Part-1, Chapter 14 Pg. No. 121**

70. In case of Nagaland, Acts of the Indian Parliament would not apply unless approved by the State Legislative Assembly. For which of the following matters, the provisions given above is/are correct?

- (1) Religious and social practices of Naga
- (2) Civil and Criminal Justice System involving customary laws.
- (3) Land and its resources.

Select the correct answer using code given below:

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

As per article 371-A of the Indian Constitution, certain Acts of Parliament would not apply to Nagaland unless the State Legislative Assembly so decides:

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- (i) Religious or social practices of the Nagas,
- (ii) Naga customary law and procedure,
- (iii) Administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to Naga customary law,
- (iv) Ownership and transfer of land and its resources.

**Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi General Studies Yellow Book, Part 2; Ch. 4: Union Territories; Page No.63

71. One of the most important aspects of local governance in India is planning. The 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act 1992, specifies which of the following planning bodies?

- (1) District Planning Committee
- (2) Metropolitan Planning Committee
- (3) General Planning Division

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- District Planning Committee (DPC) is the Committee created as per Article 243ZD of the 74th Amendment to the Constitution of India at the district level for planning at the district and below. The Committee in each district should **consolidate the plans prepared by the Panchayats and the Municipalities** in the district and prepare a draft development plan for the district.
- The Constitution of India makes it mandatory for the States to set up Metropolitan Planning Committees (MPCs) in the metropolitan areas of the country. Article 243ZE of the 74th Amendment to the Constitution says “There shall be constituted in every Metropolitan area, a Metropolitan Planning Committee to prepare a draft development plan for the Metropolitan Region as a whole.”
- **General Planning Division** was a division of the Planning Commission, which was abolished in 2014.

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

**Source:** Vajiram & Ravi Yellow Book, part-2; Chapter-3, page-51

72. Which of the following factors may lead to ineffectiveness of the Public Accounts Committee?

- (1) It is not concerned with the questions of policy making.
- (2) Its recommendations are advisory in nature and not binding on the Ministers.
- (3) It cannot intervene in the matters of day to day administration.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

The effectiveness of the role of Public Accounts Committee is limited by the following:

- It is not concerned with the questions of policy in broader sense.
- It conducts a post-mortem examination of accounts.
- It cannot intervene in the matters of day to day administration.
- Its recommendations are only advisory in nature and not binding on the ministers.
- It is not vested with the power of disallowance of expenditures by the department.

**Hence, statements (1), (2) and (3) are correct.**

**Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant: 4<sup>th</sup> Edition: Chapter 23 Parliamentary Committee and Page no 23.3**

**73. Consider the following statements:**

- (1) The Indian Constitution has prescribed the manner of choosing the representatives of the Union Territories in the Lok Sabha.
- (2) The mechanism of nominating members in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha is a temporary arrangement.

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct:** The Constitution has empowered the Parliament to prescribe the manner of choosing the representatives of the Union Territories in the Lok Sabha. Accordingly, the Parliament has enacted the **Union Territories (Direct Election to the House of the People) Act, 1965**, by which the members of Lok Sabha from the Union Territories are also chosen by direct election.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** While the mechanism of nominated members in Rajya Sabha is a permanent feature of the Constitution, the provisions for nominated members in Lok Sabha is temporary feature, which was to remain in force till 1960, however it has been extended up to 2020 by the 95<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act, 2009.

**Source: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth, 5<sup>th</sup> edition- ch-22, Parliament: Pg-22.2-22.4**

**74. In the context of special provision for Jammu and Kashmir under Article 35A of the Constitution, consider the following statements:**

- (1) It was introduced in 1954 by a parliamentary resolution.
- (2) It provides for rights such as ownership of land restricted to 'permanent residents' of the State.
- (3) The amendment made thereupon did not invoke Article 368 of the Constitution.

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Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct.** Article 35A was incorporated into the Constitution in 1954 by a Presidential Order and not a parliamentary resolution.

**Statement 2 is correct.** Article 35A provides for rights such as ownership of land restricted to 'permanent residents' of the State.

**Statement 3 is correct.** As it was not a Constitutional Amendment made by the Parliament, it did not invoke Article 368, rather special provision under Article 371 was used for the purpose of inclusion of Article 35A.

**Sources:** Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 4th Edition, Ch. 29, State Legislature; Page no. 29.8-29.9

- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/what-is-article-35a/article19567213.ece>

75. With reference to 'the appointment of the District Judges and the other judges in India', consider the following statements:

- (1) Appointment and promotion of the District Judges are made by the Governor of the State in consultation with the State High Court.
- (2) Appointment of persons to the judicial service of a State are made by the Governor of the State in consultation with the State Public Service Commission and the State High Court.
- (3) The District Judge possesses Appellate jurisdiction only for the civil cases.
- (4) The District Judge exercises supervisory powers over all the subordinate courts in the district.

Which of the statement given above is **not correct**?

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

**Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** The appointment, posting & promotion of the District Judges in a State are made by the Governor of the State after consultation with the High Court.

**Statement 2 is correct.** Appointments of persons (other than the district judges) to the judicial service of a State are made by the Governor after consulting the High Court and The State Public Service Commission. Appointments of judicial service below district judge are made by the High Court.

**Statement 3 is not correct.** The District Judge is the highest judicial authority in the district. He possess original and appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal matters. When district judge deals with civil cases he is known as district judge, when he hears the

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criminal cases he is called as the sessions judge.

**Statement 4 is correct.** Besides the District Court, there are courts of sub – judges, munsiff courts and courts of small causes. Below the Session Courts are the courts of First Class Magistrates. All of these are under the supervision of a District Judge.

**Source:** Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth (5<sup>th</sup> edition), Chapter 35, High Court, Page 35.2.

**76.** Consider the following statements with respect to Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan:

- (1) This scheme aims at making rural local bodies self sustainable, financially stable and more efficient.
- (2) This scheme will extend to all States and Union Territories of the country.
- (3) It includes institutions of local government in rural areas where Panchayats do not exist.

Which of the statements given above are **not** correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None of the above

**Answer:** (d)

**Explanation:**

**All the statements are correct.**

Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

**(i) This scheme will extend to all States and UTs of the country and will also include institutions of rural local government in non-Part IX areas, where Panchayats do not exist,**

**(ii) The scheme will have both Central Component - National Level activities including "National Plan of Technical Assistance", "Mission Mode project on e-Panchayat", "Incentivization of Panchayats" and State component - Capacity Building of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs),**

**(iii) The Central Component will be fully funded by the Government of India. However, Centre: State funding pattern for State Component will be 60:40 for all States, except North East and Hill States where Centre:State funding pattern will be 90:10. For all Union Territories (UTs) (with and without legislatures), the Central share will be 100%.**

**(iv) The implementation and monitoring of the activities of the scheme will broadly be aligned for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with main thrust on Panchayats identified under Mission Antyodaya and 115 Aspirational districts as identified by NITI Aayog.**

**(v) The Scheme will converge capacity building initiatives of other Ministries with particular focus on those Ministries which will be impacted substantially by this Scheme.**

**Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Sources:**

- [https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/e-governance-cabinet-approves-restructured-rashtriya-gram-swaraj-abhiyan-118042100468\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/e-governance-cabinet-approves-restructured-rashtriya-gram-swaraj-abhiyan-118042100468_1.html)

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- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/pm-modi-launches-rashtriya-gram-swaraj-abhiyan/articleshow/63893940.cms>

77. India's first ever Global Mobility Summit 'MOVE' was in news recently. In this context, consider the following statements:

- The summit was organized by NITI Aayog.
- In this summit India and France signed an implementation agreement on "Mobilise Your City" (MYC) for sustainable urban transport.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **NITI Aayog recently organised MOVE:** India's first ever Global Mobility Summit in New Delhi. The Summit brought together stakeholders from across the sectors to deliberate on creating a public interest framework to revolutionize transport. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Need for the Summit:** Affordability of public transit is crucial for low-income users and of freight for the industry. Safe, energy-efficient and low-emission systems are necessary for India to meet its international commitments on climate change.
- During the Summit 'MOVE', NITI Aayog released a report titled '**Transforming India's Mobility: A Perspective**' which suggests a holistic framework for public transport to answer the twin problems of pollution and congestion.
- India and France signed an implementation agreement on "Mobilise Your City" (MYC) for sustainable urban transport for 3 pilot cities- Nagpur, Kochi and Ahmedabad. MYC is part of the international initiative which is supported by French and German governments. It was launched at the **21<sup>st</sup> Conference of Parties (CoP21)** meeting in December, 2015. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

**Source: VAJIRAM & RAVI Current Affairs for September 2018 Page No. 04- 05**

78. Which of the following is/are the functions of the 'Banks Board Bureau(BBB)'?

- To recommend for selection of heads of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and Financial Institutions.
- It advises banks on strategies for consolidation among them including mergers and acquisitions.
- To help Banks in developing strategies and capital raising plans.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (d)**

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### Explanation:

All the given statements are the functions of Banks Board Bureau.

The Government of India in 2016 set up an **autonomous body called Banks Board Bureau (BBB)** to:

- recommend for selection of heads of PSBs and Financial Institutions and
- help Banks in developing strategies and capital raising plans.
- BBB also help banks in terms of developing business strategies and capital raising plan etc.

**Source:** <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=136968>

<https://financialservices.gov.in/sites/default/files/Functions%20of%20bank%20board%20bureau.pdf>

**79.** In the context of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), consider the following statements:

- The PM-AASHA scheme does not include the private sector in the procurement of notified farm produce on MSP.
- The PM-AASHA comprises of Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) and Private Procurement & Stockist Scheme (PPSS).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: (b)**

### Explanation:

Recently, the Union Cabinet approved a new umbrella scheme – ‘Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan’ (PM-AASHA).

**Statement (1) is not correct.** The PM-AASHA scheme includes the private sector in the procurement of notified farm produce on MSP.

**Statement (2) is correct.** It has three components complementing the existing schemes of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for procurement of paddy, wheat and other cereals and coarse grains where procurement takes place at MSP:

- Price Support Scheme (PSS):** Under this, physical procurement of pulses, oilseeds and copra will be done by Central Nodal Agencies. Besides National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED), FCI will also take up procurement of crops under PSS. The expenditure and losses due to procurement would be borne by the Centre.
- Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS):** This will cover all oilseeds for which MSP is notified and Centre will pay the difference between the MSP and actual selling/ model price to the farmer directly into his bank account. Farmers who sell their crops in recognized mandis within the notified period can benefit from it.
- Pilot of Private Procurement and Stockiest Scheme (PPSS):** In the case of oilseeds, the States will have the option to roll out PPSS in select districts where a private player can procure crops at MSP when market prices drop below MSP. The

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private player will then be compensated through a service charge up to a maximum of 15% of the MSP of the crop.

**Source: VAJIRAM & RAVI Current Affairs for September 2018 Page No. 82**  
<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183409>

80. With reference to the 'Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS)', consider the following statements:

- (1) CIBMS will have an indigenously designed virtual fencing system.
- (2) It would detect infiltration via land, underwater, air and tunnels.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

**Both the given statements are correct.**

Recently Union Home Minister inaugurated the smart border fencing pilot projects under the comprehensive integrated border management system (CIBMS) programme.

CIBMS is a robust and integrated system that is capable of addressing the gaps in the present system of border security by seamlessly integrating human resources, weapons, and high-tech surveillance equipment.

**It has three main components:**

- New high-tech surveillance devices such as sensors, detectors, cameras, etc. as well as existing equipment for round-the-clock surveillance of the international border.
- An efficient and dedicated communication network including fibre optic cables and satellite communication for transmitting data gathered; and
- A command and control centre to which the data will be transmitted providing a composite picture of the international border.

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

**Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/rajnath-singh-inaugurates-smart-border-fencing-pilot-projects/articleshow/65839535.cms>**

81. The average rates of which of the following gas surplus markets is/are used as a basis to set natural gas prices in India?

- (1) Henry Hub of US
- (2) National Balancing Point of UK
- (3) Alberta
- (4) Russia

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

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**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

Unlike crude oil, the price of natural gas in India is not market-determined. The domestic gas price is the **weighted average price of four global benchmarks**—

1. the US-based Henry Hub,
2. Canada-based Alberta gas,
3. the UK-based National Balancing Point (NBP), and
4. Russian gas.

The domestic price is based on the **benchmark prices in the prior year** and kicks in with a quarter's lag. It applies for six months.

**Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Source:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/natural-gas-price-hiked-by-10/articleshow/65996972.cms>

**82. Consider the following statements about the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI):**

- (1) The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) assesses poverty at the individual level.
  - (2) The global MPI was developed by Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

**Both the given statements are correct.**

The 2018 global Multidimensional Poverty Index was released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI).

**The MPI measures**

- **Incidence of poverty:** the proportion of the population who are poor according to the MPI (those who are deprived in at least one third of the weighted indicators).
- **Average intensity of poverty:** the average share of deprivations people experiences at the same time.
- **MPI value:** The MPI value, which ranges from **zero to one**, is calculated by multiplying the incidence of poverty by the average intensity of poverty. It shows the *proportion of deprivations that a country's poor people experience out of the total possible deprivations that would be experienced if every person in the society were poor and deprived in every indicator*.

The MPI assesses poverty at **the individual level**. If someone is deprived in a three or more of ten (weighted) indicators, the global index identifies them as 'MPI poor', and the extent – or intensity – of their poverty is measured by the number of deprivations they are experiencing.

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

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Source: <https://ophi.org.uk/multidimensional-poverty-index/>

83. Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct about the 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana'?

- It provides a cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for primary health care.
- There is no restriction on family size, age or gender under the scheme.
- All members of eligible families as present in SECC database are automatically covered under the scheme.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1 only
- 2 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

Prime Minister on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2018 launched the world's largest state funded health insurance scheme, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), at Ranchi, Jharkhand.

**Features of the Scheme:**

- Hospitalization cover from inpatient care to post hospitalization care:** The Yojana will provide a coverage up to Rs. 5,00,000 per family per year, **for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization** through a network of Empanelled Health Care Providers (EHCP). The services will include 1350 procedures covering pre and post hospitalization, diagnostics, medicines etc. **Hence, Statement (1) is not correct.**
- Beneficiary Identification:** PMJAY primarily targets the poor, deprived rural families and identified occupational category of urban workers' families, 8.03 crore in rural and 2.33 crore in urban areas as per the latest **Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) data** for both rural and urban areas as well as the active families under the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY). **There is no cap on family size and age as well as restriction on pre-existing conditions. Hence, Statement (2) is correct.**
- Universality:** One unique feature of the PMJAY is its national portability once fully operational. The beneficiaries will be able to move across borders and access services across the country through the provider network seamlessly. The beneficiaries will not need a special card. Their Aadhaar numbers will suffice. Hence, **Statement (3) is correct.**

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183624>

84. Consider the following statements regarding the National Medical Commission (NMC) Bill, 2017:

- The National Medical Commission Bill seeks to replace the Medical Council of India with a new regulatory body.
- Under the Bill prior permission of the Board of Governors (BOG) would be required to add new seats or to start postgraduate courses.
- The Bill allows practitioners of Ayurveda and other traditional Indian Systems of Medicine to prescribe allopathic drugs after they have passed a 'bridge course'.

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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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

Recently, **Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018** was issued dissolving the Medical Council of India (MCI) and replacing it with a Board of Governors (BOG). The ordinance amends the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and provides for the supersession of the MCI for 1 year till National Medical Commission Bill is cleared in the Parliament.

### Features of the National Medical Commission Bill, 2017

- The Bill sets up the **National Medical Commission (NMC)** which shall replace the MCI (Medical Council of India) as top regulator of medical education in India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**  
It will:
  - have 25 members.
  - frame policies for regulating medical institutions and medical professionals.
  - recognize medical qualifications.
  - determine fees for some seats in private medical institutions and deemed universities. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Bill allows practitioners of Ayurveda and other traditional Indian systems of medicine to prescribe allopathic drugs after they have passed a 'bridge course'. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

### Additional Information:

- A **Medical Advisory Council (MAC)** will be set up to provide a platform to states/union territories to express their views and concerns.
- **Four autonomous Boards** have been set up under the supervision of the NMC.
  - Under-Graduate Medical Education Board (UGMEB)
  - Post-Graduate Medical Education Board (PGMEB)
  - Medical Assessment and Rating Board (MARB)
  - Ethics and Medical Registration
- A **National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET)** will be conducted for admission to under-graduate medical education in all medical institutions regulated by the Bill.
- **State Medical Councils** will be set up which will have a role similar to the NMC, at the state level.
- There will be a **National Licentiate Examination** for doctors to obtain a licence to practice after graduation

### Sources:

- **VAJIRAM & RAVI Current Affairs for September 2018 Page No. 33**
- <https://www.prssindia.org/uploads/media/medical%20commission/SCR-%20National%20Medical%20Commission%20Bill,%202017.pdf>

**85. The 'Houthi insurgency' is related to which of the following countries?**

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- (a) Yemen
- (b) Syria
- (c) Oman
- (d) South Sudan

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

The Houthi insurgency in Yemen, also known as the **Houthi rebellion, Sa'dah War, or Sa'dah conflict**, is a *military rebellion pitting Zaidi Shia Houthis (though the movement also includes Sunnis) against the Yemeni military that began in Northern Yemen and has since escalated into a full-scale civil war.*

The conflict was sparked in 2004 by the government's attempt to arrest Hussein Badreddin al-Houthi, a Zaidi religious leader of the Houthis and a former parliamentarian on whose head the government had placed a \$55,000 bounty.

Initially, most of the fighting took place in Sa'dah Governorate in northwestern Yemen, but some of the fighting **spread to neighbouring governorates Hajjah, 'Amran, al-Jawf and the Saudi province of Jizan.**

Since 2014 the nature of the insurgency has changed with the Houthi takeover in Yemen and then into the ongoing **Yemeni civil war (2015–present)** with a major Saudi-led intervention in Yemen beginning in 2015.

**Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

86. Which of the following petroleum products have been kept out of Goods and Services Tax (GST)?

- (1) Petroleum crude
- (2) Motor spirit
- (3) natural gas
- (4) Aviation turbine fuel

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

States were not in favour of including petrol and diesel into GST, ruling out immediate levy of the new indirect tax on the **petroleum products**. While GST was rolled out on 1 July 2017, Petroleum products, Motor spirit, Natural gas and Jet Fuel or Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) were kept out of its purview. Thus, these products continued to attract duties like Central Excise and VAT( Value Added Tax).

**Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Sources:**

- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/faqs/gst-faqs/list-of-items-kept-outside-the-purview-of-gst/articleshow/60191839.cms>

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- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/states-not-in-favour-of-petrol-diesel-inclusion-into-gstfm/articleshow/62794412.cms>
87. Which of the following factors are **not** considered by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), for recommending price policy of various commodities?
- (1) Demand and Supply
  - (2) Cost of Production
  - (3) Inter-crop price parity
  - (4) Likely implications of MSP on consumers of that product
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) 1 and 2 only
  - (b) 2 and 3 only
  - (c) 2 and 4 only
  - (d) None of the above

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

All above factors are considered by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) for recommending price policy of various commodities.

While recommending price policy of various commodities under its mandate, the commission keeps in mind the various **Terms of Reference (ToR)** given to CACP in 2009. Accordingly, it analyses:

1. Demand and supply;
2. Cost of production;
3. Price trends in the market, both domestic and international;
4. Inter-crop price parity;
5. Terms of trade between agriculture and non-agriculture; and
6. Likely implications of MSP on consumers of that product.

It may be noted that cost of production is an important factor that goes as an input in determination of MSP, but it is certainly not the only factor that determines MSP.

**Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Source:** <http://cacp.dacnet.nic.in/content.aspx?pid=62>

88. Consider the following statements:

- (1) 'Sagarmatha Friendship-2' is a joint military exercise between Nepal and India.
  - (2) MILEX-18 is a military exercise initiative of the BIMSTEC group.
- Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

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**Statement (1) is not correct.** ‘Sagarmatha Friendship-2’ is a joint military exercise between Nepal and China.

**Statement (2) is correct.** The first joint military exercise of the seven-member countries of the **Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)**, with a focus on counter-terrorism in semi-urban areas, took place in Pune on September 10.

**Source:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/insult-to-injury-nepal-to-now-join-military-drill-with-china/articleshow/65759034.cms>

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/pune-to-host-first-joint-military-exercise-with-bimstec-countries/article24897121.ece>

**89.** Consider the following statements about the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF):

- (1) The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) outlines a methodology to rank institutions across the country.
- (2) The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) works under the aegis of the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) was approved and launched by the MHRD and on 29th September 2015.

**Statement (1) is correct.** This framework outlines a methodology to rank institutions across the country. The methodology draws from the overall recommendations broad understanding arrived at by a **Core Committee set up by MHRD**, to identify the broad parameters for ranking various universities and institutions. The parameters broadly cover “Teaching, Learning and Resources,” “Research and Professional Practices,” “Graduation Outcomes,” “Outreach and Inclusivity,” and “Perception”.

**Statement (2) is not correct.** The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) works under the aegis of Ministry of Human Resource Development and not the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation.

**Source:** <https://www.nirfindia.org/About>

**90.** Consider the following statements:

- (1) India VIX (India Volatility Index) is an index disseminated by the SEBI.
- (2) India VIX measures the degree of volatility or fluctuation that active traders expect in the Nifty50 over the next 30 days.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2

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- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement (1) is not correct.** India VIX is the pet name for the India Volatility Index, an index disseminated by the NSE.

**Statement (2) is correct.** It measures the degree of volatility or fluctuation that active traders expect in the Nifty50 over the next 30 days. It was the Chicago Board Options Exchange which originally came up with the term VIX in 1993 and the NSE, with the CBOE's permission, kicked off the India VIX a few years ago.

**Source:** <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/columns/aarati-krishnan/all-you-wanted-to-know-about-the-india-vix/article22080461.ece>

**91.** Consider the following statements:

- (1) COMCASA gives access to partner countries in an Agreement to designated military facilities for the purpose of refuelling and replenishment.
- (2) LEMAO is to facilitate interoperability between militaries of participating countries and sale of high end technology.
- (3) CAATSA aims to counter anti-US aggression displayed by countries like Iran, North Korea and Russia through a series of punitive measures.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct:** COMCASA is an India-specific version of the Communication and Information on Security Memorandum of Agreement (CISMOA). COMCASA is to facilitate interoperability between militaries and sale of high end technology. COMCASA allows India to procure transfer specialised equipment for encrypted communications for US origin military platforms like the C-17, C-130 and P-8Is.

**Statement 2 is not correct:** The India-U.S. foundational agreement for mutual logistics support, the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA), has been fully operationalised over the past few months. LEMOA gives access to both countries to designated military facilities for the purpose of refuelling and replenishment.

**Statement 3 is correct:** CAATSA aims to counter anti-US aggression displayed by countries like Iran, North Korea and Russia through a series of punitive measures.

**Sources:**

- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/lemoa-already-fully-operational/article24904359.ece>
- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/what-is-comcasa/article24881039.ece>

**92.** Consider the following statements:

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- (1) HysIS (Hyper spectral Imaging Satellite) is an Earth Observation satellite operating only in the near infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum.
- (2) HysIS has range of applications in agriculture, forestry and in the assessment of geography such as coastal zones and inland waterways.
- (3) RISAT-1 and 2 were radar imaging satellites that could 'see' through clouds and the dark.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct.** HysIS (Hyper spectral Imaging Satellite) is an Earth Observation satellite. The primary goal of HysIS is to study the earth's surface in the visible, near infrared and shortwave infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum.

**Statement 2 is correct.** HysIS has range of applications in agriculture, forestry and in the assessment of geography such as coastal zones and inland waterways.

**Statement 3 is correct.** The R/SAT series are the first **all-weather earth observation satellites** from ISRO. Previous Indian observation satellites relied primarily on optical and spectral sensors which were hampered by cloud cover.

**Source:** <https://www.isro.gov.in/Spacecraft/hysis>

**93.** Consider the following statements regarding Census in India:

- (1) The responsibility of conducting the decennial Census in India rests with the Office of the Registrar General and the Census Commissioner.
- (2) The Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner works under the aegis of Ministry of Social Justice.
- (3) Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011 was the first caste census conducted since 1931.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** The responsibility of conducting the decennial Census rests with the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India.

**Statement 2 is not correct.** Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India comes under Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

**Statement 3 is correct.** Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011 was the first caste census since 1931.

**Value Addition -**

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- It may be of historical interest that though the population census of India is a major administrative function; the Census Organisation was set up on an ad-hoc basis for each Census till the 1951 Census.
- The Census Act was enacted in 1948 to provide for the scheme of conducting population census with duties and responsibilities of census officers. The Government of India decided in May 1949 to initiate steps for developing systematic collection of statistics on the size of population, its growth, etc., and established an organisation in the Ministry of Home Affairs under Registrar General and ex-Officio Census Commissioner, India.
- This organisation was made responsible for generating data on population statistics including Vital Statistics and Census. Later, this office was also entrusted with the responsibility of implementation of **Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969** in the country.

Source: <http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011-common/aboutus.html>

94. Consider the following statements:

- Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is a flagship programme of the Ministry of Human Resources Development, with the intention to enrich Urban India.
- Under the programme, the knowledge base of the Premier Institutions of the country is to be leveraged to bring in transformational change in the urban developmental process.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

**Statements 1 and 2 are not correct.** The mission of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is to enable higher premier educational institutions to work with the people of rural India in identifying development challenges and evolving appropriate solutions for accelerating sustainable growth. It also aims to create a virtuous cycle between society and an **inclusive academic system** by providing knowledge and practices for emerging professions and to upgrade the capabilities of **both the public and the private sectors** in responding to the development needs of rural India.

The objectives of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan are broadly two-fold:

- Building **institutional capacity** in Institutes of higher education in research & training relevant to the needs of rural India.
- Provide rural India with professional resource support from institutes of higher education, especially those which have acquired academic excellence in the field of **Science, Engineering & Technology and Management**

Source: <http://unnatbharatabhiyan.gov.in/introduction>

95. Consider the following statements:

- Orphan drugs are the medicinal products for the treatment of rare diseases.

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- (2) Currently, India has no standard definition of rare diseases.  
Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?  
(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** An orphan drug is a pharmaceutical agent that has been developed specifically to treat a rare medical condition, the condition itself being referred to as an orphan disease. These drugs are called “orphan” because *under normal market conditions the pharmaceutical industry has little interest in developing and marketing products intended for only a small number of patients.*

**Statement 2 is correct.** India, like many developing countries, currently has no standard definition. The World Health Organization (W.H.O.) has suggested that a rare disease should be defined as one with frequency less than 6.5 – 10 per 10,000 people.

**Source:**

<https://mohfw.gov.in/sites/default/files/Rare%20Diseases%20Policy%20FINAL.pdf>

96. Regarding the Share market, consider the following statements:

- (1) Market Capitalisation is the price of individual share multiplied by total number of shares in the issue.  
(2) The base year for the SENSEX calculation is 2004-05.  
(3) The market index helps compare present day share price with the past to show how the market is moving.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** Market capitalization (market cap) is the market value of a publicly traded company's shares. It is calculated by multiplying price of individual shares by total number of shares in the issue.

**Statement 2 is not correct.** Sensex's base year is 1978-79. This means the value of the index was equated to 100 for that year.

**Statement 3 is correct.** The stock market index acts like a barometer which shows the overall conditions of the market. They facilitate the investors in identifying the general pattern of the market.

**Source:** <https://www.investopedia.com/articles/stocks/09/indian-stock-market.asp>

97. Regarding the Remote Sensing Satellites of India, consider the following statements:

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- (1) ISRO has a full fledged IRS programme with a constellation of earth observation satellites.
- (2) IRS1A was India's first indigenous remote sensing satellite.
- (3) The IRS satellites observe the Earth from space and provide us periodically information pertaining only to land and the ocean.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** ISRO has a full-fledged IRS programme with a constellation of earth observation satellites, with the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Hyderabad responsible for data acquisition and processing, data dissemination, aerial remote sensing and decision support for disaster management.

**Statement 2 is correct.** IRS-1A, the first of the series of indigenous state-of-art remote sensing satellites, was successfully launched into a polar sun-synchronous orbit on March 17, 1988 from the Soviet Cosmodrome at Baikonur.

**Statement 3 is not correct.** The IRS satellites observe the Earth from space and provide us periodically information pertaining to land, ocean and atmosphere and several aspects of environment.

**Source:** <https://www.isro.gov.in/saga-of-indian-remote-sensing-satellite-system>

**98.** In the context of Penal Code in Jammu and Kashmir, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- (1) Indian Penal Code doesn't automatically extend to Jammu and Kashmir.
- (2) Jammu and Kashmir is governed by its criminal law i.e. Ranbir Penal Code.
- (3) Ranbir Penal Code was framed on the lines of Indian penal code after independence of India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is correct.** Indian Penal Code is not applicable in Jammu & Kashmir as Article 370 of the Constitution of India provides special status to the state.

**Statement 2 is correct.** Jammu and Kashmir state **Ranbir Penal Code or RPC** is the main criminal code applicable in the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir.

**Statement 3 is not correct.** It came into force in 1932. The code was introduced during the reign of Dogra dynasty with Ranbir Singh as its ruler. It was made on the **lines of Indian Penal Code prepared by Thomas Babington Macaulay**.

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**Source:**

[http://www.academia.edu/10757264/difference\\_between\\_Ranbir\\_penal\\_code\\_and\\_Indian\\_penal\\_code](http://www.academia.edu/10757264/difference_between_Ranbir_penal_code_and_Indian_penal_code)

**99.** With reference to National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF), consider the following statements:

- (1) NIIF has been set up by the government as an investment vehicle for funding only the commercially viable greenfield projects.
- (2) The government holds 49 per cent stake in NIIF and the balance is being held by other global and domestic investors.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct.** National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) is India's first sovereign wealth fund that was set up by the Government of India in February 2015. The objective behind creating this fund was to maximize economic impact mainly through infrastructure investment in commercially viable projects, both Greenfield and Brownfield.

**Statement 2 is correct.** It has targeted corpus of Rs 40,000 crore to be raised over the years — 49% of it will be funded by government at any given point of time. The remaining 51% will be raised from domestic and global investors, including international pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, multilateral/bilateral investors.

**Source:** <https://niifindia.in/>

**100.** Consider the following statements:

- (1) Kuiper belt is flat ring of icy small bodies that revolve around the Sun beyond the orbit of the planet Jupiter.
- (2) Pluto lies in the Kuiper Belt.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

**Statement 1 is not correct.** The Kuiper Belt (also known as the Edgeworth–Kuiper belt) is flat ring of icy small bodies that revolve around the Sun beyond the orbit of the planet Neptune.

**Statement 2 is correct.** Pluto lies in the Kuiper Belt.

**Additional Information:**

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- There may be millions of these icy objects, collectively referred to as **Kuiper Belt objects (KBOs) or trans-Neptunian objects (TNOs)**, in this distant region of our solar system.
- Similar to the asteroid belt, the Kuiper Belt is a region of leftovers from the solar system's early history. Like asteroid belt, it has also been shaped by a giant planet, although it's more of a thick disk (like a donut) than a thin belt.
- The Kuiper Belt shouldn't be confused with the **Oort Cloud**, which is a much more distant region of icy, comet-like bodies that surrounds the solar system, including the Kuiper Belt. (But both the Oort Cloud and the Kuiper Belt are thought to be sources of comets.)

Source: <https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/solar-system/kuiper-belt/overview/>