

### Ans & Exp – A Series

1. Consider the following statements:

1. The Parliament can make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India.
2. The laws of the Parliament can also be made applicable to the Indian citizens and their property in any part of the world.

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation: The Constitution DEFINES the territorial limits of the legislative powers vested in the Centre and the states in the following way:

- (i) The Parliament can make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India. The territory of India includes the states, the union territories, and any other area for the time being included in the territory of India.
- (ii) A state legislature can make laws for the whole or any part of the state. The laws made by a state legislature are not applicable outside the state, except when there is a sufficient nexus between the state and the object.
- (iii) The Parliament alone can make 'extra-territorial legislation'. Thus, the laws of the Parliament can also be made applicable to the Indian citizens and their property in any part of the world.

2. Which of the following statements about GST Amendment, which amended the financial relations between Union and State are correct?

1. It provides to the Parliament an exclusive right to charge any tax by way of surcharge on GST.
2. It seeks to provide power to both Union and State Legislatures to make laws during emergency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the Above

Answer: D

Explanation: Amendment of Article 271 (Surcharge on taxes by union):- Parliament has

exclusive right to charge the surcharge on any tax and such surcharge will form the part of consolidated fund of India. But the GST is exception to above article. In other words, Parliament cannot charge any tax by way of surcharge on GST.

In the event of announcement of emergency, Parliament of India has power to make the laws in respect of any item covered under state list for the whole India or part of the India under article 250(1). Goods and service tax under article 246A i.e. ONLY Parliament of India can make the GST law in case of emergency

**3. Consider the following statements regarding Centre-state financial relations:**

1. All the duties and taxes mentioned in the union list are levied, collected and appropriated by the Union.
2. Taxes on sale and purchase of in interstate trade and commerce will be distributed between Union and the states as per the Finance Commission recommendation.

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

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

Answer: C

Explanation: All the duties and taxes mentioned in the Union list except surcharges, any cess, and taxes and duties mentioned in article 268, 268-A, 269 and 271 are taxes levied and collected by centre but distributed between centre and state. (article 270)

Taxes on sale and purchase of in interstate trade and commerce will be distributed between Union and the states **not as per the Finance Commission recommendation** but as per law to be made by Parliament as per recommendations of the GST council. (ARTICLE 269A)

**4. With regard to Legislative Relations between Union and states, consider the**

following statements :

1. No State law can prevail over the law made by the Parliament.
2. The Constitution expressly secures predominance of Union List and Concurrent List over the State List.

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

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

Answer: B

In case of a conflict between the Central law and the state law on a subject

enumerated in the Concurrent List, the Central law prevails over the state law. But, there is an exception. If the state law has been reserved for the consideration of the president and has received his assent, then the state law prevails in that state. But, it would still be competent for the Parliament to override such a law by subsequently making a law on the same matter.

The Constitution expressly secures the predominance of the Union List over the State List and the Concurrent List and that of the Concurrent List over the State List. Thus, in case of overlapping between the Union List and the State List, the former should prevail. In case of overlapping between the Union List and the Concurrent List, it is again the former which should prevail. Where there is a conflict between the Concurrent List and the State List, it is the former that should prevail.

5. Assertion: NITI Aayog is neither a statutory body nor a constitutional body.

Reason: It is established by an executive resolution of the Union Cabinet.

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

Answer: A

Explanation: The National Institution for Transforming India, also called NITI Aayog, was formed via a resolution of the Union Cabinet on January 1, 2015. NITI Aayog is the premier policy 'Think Tank' of the Government of India, providing both directional and policy inputs. While designing strategic and long term policies and programmes for the Government of India, NITI Aayog also provides relevant technical advice to the Centre and States.

6. Which of the following civil services find mention in the Constitution?

- 1. Indian Administrative Service
- 2. Indian Forest Service
- 3. Indian Police Service
- 4. All-India Judicial Service
- 5. Indian Foreign Service

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

Answer: D

### Article 312 {All-India services}

(1) Notwithstanding anything in Chapter VI of Part VI or Part XI, if the Council of States has declared by resolution supported by not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting that it is necessary or expedient in the national interest so to do, Parliament may by law provide for the creation of one or more all-India services (including an all-India judicial service) common to the Union and the States, and, subject to the other provisions of this Chapter, regulate the recruitment, and the conditions of service of persons appointed, to any such service.

(2) The services known at the commencement of this Constitution as the Indian Administrative Service and the Indian Police Service shall be deemed to be services created by Parliament under this article.

(3) The all-India judicial service referred to in clause (1) shall not include any post inferior to that of a district judge as defined in article 236.

(4) The law providing for the creation of the all-India judicial service aforesaid may contain such provisions for the amendment of Chapter VI of Part VI as may be necessary for giving effect to the provisions of that law and no such law shall be deemed to be an amendment of this Constitution for the purposes of article 368.

7. Statement 1: The members of All-India Services work in the Central Government, state governments and union territories.

Statement 2: They are selected and recruited on the basis of all-India competitive examinations conducted by the UPSC.

Which of the above statements are **correct** ?

- (a) Statement 1 only
- (b) Statement 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of these.

Answer: C

Explanation: the Centre and the states also have their separate public services called as the Central Services and the State Services respectively. In addition, there are all-India services—IAS, IPS and IFS. The members of these services occupy top positions (or key posts) under both the Centre and the states and serve them by turns. But, they are recruited (UPSC) and trained by the Centre.

8. Consider the following about The Essential Services Maintenance Act:

- 1. The Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) is an act of Parliament of India.
- 2. It was established to ensure the delivery of certain services, which if obstructed would affect the normal life of the people.

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

- a) 1 only



- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation: Declaring nurses' strike as illegal, the Delhi government has invoked the Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA). The Lieutenant-Governor has approved the government's proposal to invoke ESMA against the agitating nurses. The Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) is an act of Parliament of India. It is a central law.

- It was established to ensure the delivery of certain services, which if obstructed would affect the normal life of the people. These include services like public transport (bus services), health services (doctors and hospitals).
- Although it is a very powerful law, its execution rests entirely on the discretion of the State government. Each state in the union of India, hence has a separate state Essential Services Maintenance Act with slight variations from the central law in its provisions. This freedom is accorded by the central law itself.

9. Consider the following statements:

1. During the operation of a national emergency the Centre becomes entitled to give executive directions to a state on 'any' matter
2. The Parliament can provide for the adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to the use, distribution and control of waters of any inter-state river and river valley.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Answer: D

Explanation: Both the statements are correct

The Parliament can provide for the adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to the use, distribution and control of waters of any inter-state river and river valley

During the operation of a national emergency the Centre becomes entitled to give executive directions to a state on 'any' matter.

10. Which among the following comes under Residuary list:

1. Gift tax
2. Wealth Tax
3. Cyber law

- a) 1,2
- b) 1,3
- c) 2,3
- d) All of the above

Answer: D

Explanation: The residuary power of taxation (that is, the power to impose taxes not

enumerated in any of the three lists) is vested in the Parliament. Under this provision, the Parliament has imposed gift tax, wealth tax and expenditure tax.

since cyber crime came into existence after constitution was made therefore it comes under residuary subject

**11.** Choose the **correct** statement regarding Service tax:

1. The Centre will levy and collect the Central GST.
2. States will levy and collect the State GST on the supply of goods and services within a state.
3. The Centre will levy the Integrated GST (IGST) on the interstate supply of goods and services, and apportion the state's share of tax to the state where the good or service is consumed.

Choose the correct option:

- a. 1 and 2
- b. 2 and 3
- c. 1 and 3
- d. All the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

- The Centre will levy and collect the Central GST.
- States will levy and collect the State GST on the supply of goods and services within a state.
- The Centre will levy the Integrated GST (IGST) on the interstate supply of goods and services, and apportion the state's share of tax to the state where the good or service is consumed.
- The 2016 Act requires Parliament to compensate states for any revenue loss owing to the implementation of GST.

**12.** Consider the following statements:

1. Central GST and Integrated GST bills were introduced with prior recommendations of the President.
2. Central GST and Integrated GST are money bills.

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

:

- a) 1 only

- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation: After passing of constitutional amendment for GST, the various statutes namely Central GST, Integrated GST, Union Territories GST and GST (Compensation of states) bill were passed by Lok Sabha as money bills.

A money bill can only be introduced in parliament with prior permission of the President of India.

**13.** For GST Constitutional amendment bill to become a law, it needed:

- a) Simple Majority
- b) Absolute Majority
- c) Special Majority
- d) Special Majority plus ratification by 50% of states.

Answer: D

Explanation

Special Majority as Per Article 368 plus State ratification

—This type of special majority is required when a constitutional amendment bill try to change the federal structure like making changes in the lists(Ex: GST). Special majority as per article 368 plus state ratification requires a majority of 2/3rd members present and voting supported by more than 50% of the state legislatures by a simple majority. A good example would be the bill which introduced the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC). It required the support of at least 15 state legislatures out of the 29 states.

Cases where special majority as per article 368 plus state ratification is used: To pass a constitutional amendment bill which affects federalism like the position of High Court Judges.

**14.** Consider the following statements :

1. Polavaram Project is a multi-purpose irrigation project which has been accorded national project status by the central government.
2. The progress of work of National Project is monitored by Central Water Commission.

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation: Polavaram Project is a multi-purpose irrigation project which has been accorded national project status by the central government.

- This dam across the Godavari River is under construction located in West Godavari District and East Godavari District in Andhra Pradesh state and its reservoir spreads in parts of Chhattisgarh and Orissa States also.
- The project is multipurpose major terminal reservoir project on river Godavari for development of Irrigation, Hydropower and drinking water facilities to East Godavari, Vishakhapatnam, West Godavari and Krishna districts of Andhra Pradesh.
- The project is likely to displace over 1.88 lakh people across 222 villages and so far, 1,730 persons in six villages have been rehabilitated by the government.

**CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF NATIONAL PROJECTS** The criteria for selection of National Project will be as under: (a) International projects where usage of water in India is required by a treaty or where planning and early completion of the project is necessary in the interest of the country. (b) Inter-State projects which are dragging on due to non resolution of Inter-State issues relating to sharing of costs, rehabilitation, aspects of power production etc., including river interlinking projects. (c) Intra-State projects with additional potential of more than 2,00,000 hectare (ha) and with no dispute regarding sharing of water and where hydrology is established

**15.** Consider the following statements :

1. A cess is tax on tax which is levied on some specific purpose.
2. These are collected by centre but distributed among both state and centre.

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above.

Answer: A

Explanation : The proceeds of such surcharges and cess go to the Centre exclusively

**16.** Consider the following statements.

1. Certain types of bills passed by the state legislature can be reserved by the governor for the consideration of the President.
2. Bills on certain matters can be introduced in the state legislature only with the previous sanction of the president.



3. The President can direct the states to reserve money bills and other financial bills passed by the state legislature for his consideration during a financial emergency.

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

Answer: D

Explanation : Besides the Parliament's power to legislate directly on the state subjects under the exceptional situations, the Constitution empowers the Centre to exercise control over the state's legislative matters in the above mentioned ways..

Any bill imposing restrictions on freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse within a State required in public interest, shall be introduced in State Legislature only with the previous sanction of the President (Art 304)

**17.** Consider the following statements.

- 1. State Legislatures can make laws on Residuary matters in special circumstances.
- 2. State Legislatures cannot make laws on those matters enumerated in the Concurrent List on which a Central legislation already exists.

Which of the above is/are **correct**?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None

Answer :D

Explanation: The Parliament has exclusive powers to make laws with respect to any of the matters not enumerated in the lists of Schedule 7 (Residuary matters).

Both, the Parliament and state legislature can make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in the Concurrent List even if a Central law exists. But, laws made by state should not contravene Central laws and if such a law is made, it will be valid only if it is reserved for assent of President and receives such assent.

**18.** The Constitution empowers the Parliament to make laws on any matter enumerated in the State List under which of the following extraordinary circumstances?

- 1. When Lok Sabha passes a resolution to this effect by 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority of members present and voting.
- 2. During a Proclamation of National Emergency.

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: B

Explanation: If the Rajya Sabha declares (by just 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of members present and voting) that it is necessary in the national interest that Parliament should make laws on a matter in the State List, then the Parliament becomes competent to make laws on that matter.

**19.** Which of the following are extra-constitutional devices to promote cooperation and coordination between the Centre and the states?

- 1. Zonal Councils
- 2. Inter-State Councils
- 3. North-Eastern Council

Choose the correct choice:

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

Answer : A

Explanation: Subject specific **Inter-State Councils set up under Article 263** of the Constitution of India :

- 1. Central Council of Health
- 2. Central Council for Local Government and Urban Development
- 3. Regional Councils for Sales Tax and State Excise Duties

Inter-State Coordination Mechanism set up outside the framework of Article 263 of the Constitution of India:

- 1. Planning Commission of India (Now abolished)
- 2. National Development Council
- 3. National Integration Council
- 4. Central Advisory Board of Education Central
- 5. Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha
- 6. Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy
- 7. Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy Labour Conference

**20.** Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Constitution empowers the Parliament to make grants to the states which are in need of financial assistance and not to every state.
- 2. The statutory grants (both general and specific) are given to the states on the recommendation of the Finance Commission.

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation: Article 275 empowers the Parliament to make grants to the states which are in need of financial assistance and not to every state. Also, different sums may be fixed for different states. These sums are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India every year. Apart from this general provision, the Constitution also provides for specific grants for promoting the welfare of the scheduled tribes in a state or for raising the level of administration of the scheduled areas in a state including the State of Assam. The statutory grants under Article 275 (both general and specific) are given to the states on the recommendation of the Finance Commission.

- 21.** Assertion: A state legislature cannot impose any taxes on the sale or purchase of goods on its own.

2. Reason (R): A state legislature needs the approval of the President for imposing any tax.

In the context of the above, which of these is **correct**?

- a) A is correct, and R is an appropriate explanation of A.
- b) A is correct, but R is not an appropriate explanation of A.
- c) A is incorrect, but R is correct.
- d) Both A and R are incorrect

Answer : D

Explanation: A state legislature can impose taxes on professions, trades, callings and employments, sale or purchase of goods (other than newspapers) etc. However, a tax imposed on the sale or purchase of goods declared by Parliament to be of special importance in inter-state trade and commerce is subject to the restrictions and conditions specified by the Parliament. Presidential assent is not generally required for introduction of taxes by a state.

- 22.** Consider the following statements:

1. Central sector Scheme (CSS) is 100% funded by the Union government and implemented by the Central Government machinery.
2. Under Central sponsored schemes a certain percentage of the funding is borne by the States in the ratio of 50:50, 70:30, 75:25 or 90:10 and the implementation is by the State Governments.

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

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

d) None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation: Under Central sector schemes, it is 100% funded by the Union government and implemented by the Central Government machinery. Central sector schemes are mainly formulated on subjects from the Union List. In addition, the Central Ministries also implement some schemes directly in States/UTs which are called Central Sector Schemes but resources under these Schemes are not generally transferred to States.

Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) a certain percentage of the funding is borne by the States in the ratio of 50:50, 70:30, 75:25 or 90:10 and the implementation is by the State Governments. Centrally Sponsored Schemes are formulated in subjects from the State List to encourage States to prioritise in areas that require more attention. Funds are routed either through consolidated fund of States and or are transferred directly to State/ District Level Autonomous Bodies/Implementing Agencies.

**23.** Consider the following statements

1. Centre can delegate its legislative powers to the states.
  2. A single state cannot request the Parliament to make a law on a state subject.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Answer: B

Explanation: The distribution of legislative powers between the Centre and the states is rigid. Consequently, the Centre cannot delegate its legislative powers to the states and a single state cannot request the Parliament to make a law on a state subject. It can be done by only two or more states (Art 252)

**24.** Which among the following features meet the requirements for special status of a state:

1. Economic and infrastructural backwardness.
  2. hilly and difficult terrain.
  3. Strategic location along borders with neighbouring countries.
  4. High population density.
- a) 1,2,3
  - b) 2,3,4
  - c) 1,2,4
  - d) All of the above



Answer: A

Explanation: The concept of a special category state was first introduced in 1969 by the 5th Finance Commission. Some of the features required for special status were: hilly and difficult terrain; low population density or sizeable share of tribal population; strategic location along borders with neighbouring countries; economic and infrastructural backwardness; Non-viable nature of state finances

**25.** Mokedatu reservoir project is planned on the borders of which two states:

- a) Tamil Nadu and Karnataka
- b) Andhra and Telangana
- c) Odisha and Andhra
- d) Maharashtra and Telangana

Answer: A

Explanation: Karnataka had sought the CWC's permission to start work on Mokedatu project, which has been opposed by Tamil Nadu alleging that it violates the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal order. The State had submitted the Detailed Project Report on Mokedatu to the chief engineer of CWC in June, 2017. After this, the CWC had sought a few clarifications on the DPR, including whether the project violates the final award of Tribunal and whether the construction of a balancing reservoir would affect flow of water to Tamil Nadu.

**26.** Consider the following statements regarding Parliamentary form of government

- 1) The President is the real executive .
- 2) The Prime Minister the Nominal Executive.

Which of the above statements **are true**?

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

Solution d

The President is the nominal executive (de jure executive or titular executive) while the Prime Minister is the real executive (de facto executive). Thus, the President is head of the State, while the Prime Minister is head of the government.

**27.** Consider the following statements regarding presidential form of government

- 1) The executive is constitutionally independent of the legislature
- 2) Also known as fixed executive system of government

Which of the above statements are **incorrect**?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Solution: D

The presidential system of government, is one in which the executive is not responsible to the legislature for its policies and acts, and is constitutionally independent of the legislature in respect of its term of office.

The presidential government, is also known as non-responsible or nonparliamentary or fixed executive system of government and is prevalent in USA, Brazil, Russia, Sri Lanka among others.

**28.** Which of the following is **not a feature** of parliamentary form of government?

- a) Political heterogeneity
- b) Double membership
- c) Principle of secrecy
- d) collective responsibility

SOLUTION: a

The following are the features of parliamentary form of government

- a) Political homogeneity – As council of Ministers are collectively responsible to Lok Sabha & there is harmony between the Legislature and Executive.
- b) Double membership – Council of Ministers are also members of Parliament
- c) Principle of secrecy – Oath of secrecy by Cabinet Ministers and deliberations of council of Ministers are not made public, only final decision is made public
- d) collective responsibility
- e) Leadership of Prime minister
- f) Majority Party Rule
- g) Dissolution of lower house
- h) Nominal and real executive

**29.** Under the parliamentary form of government, the Council of Ministers generally remains in office,

- a) For a fixed term
- b) Until it enjoys confidence of the popular chamber of legislature
- c) Until it enjoys confidence of the head of the state
- d) Until it enjoys confidence of electorate

Solution: b

Cabinet form of government works on the 'Principle of collective Responsibility'

The ministers are collectively responsible to the Parliament in general and to the Lok Sabha in particular (Article 75). They act as a team, and swim and sink

together. The principle of collective responsibility implies that the Lok Sabha can remove the ministry (i.e., council of ministers headed by the prime minister) from office by passing a vote of no confidence.

**30.** Which of the following **are not the merits** of Parliamentary system?

- 1) Continuity of Policies
- 2) Stable Government
- 3) Separation of powers
- 4) Responsible Government

Choose the correct option:

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

Solution: a

#### MERITS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM

- 1. Harmony Between Legislature and Executive
- 2. Responsible Government
- 3. Prevents Despotism
- 4. Ready Alternative Government
- 5. Wide Representation

#### DEMERITS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM

- 1) Unstable government
- 2) No continuity of policies
- 4) Against Separation of powers
- 5) Government by amateurs

**31.** In a parliamentary form of government ministers are appointed by

- A) Head of the government
- B) Head of the state at his/her discretion
- C) Head of the state on the recommendation of Head of the government
- D) Ruling party president

Solution: C

#### Article 75 in The Constitution Of India

The Prime Minister shall be appointed by the President and the other Ministers shall be appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister

**32.** Consider the following statements regarding NOTA:

1) NOTA or 'None of the above' is an option in voting process that a voter can choose to apply instead of giving their vote to any of the contesting candidates

2) NOTA button can increase the public participation in an electoral process.

3) It will compel the political parties to nominate a sound candidate.

Select the correct code:

- a) Only 1 & 3 are correct
- b) Only 2 & 3 are correct
- c) Only 1 & 2 are correct
- d) All 1, 2, 3 are correct

Ans: D

The Supreme Court, in September 2013, upheld the right of voters to reject all candidates contesting the elections, saying it would go a long way in cleansing the political system of the country. The apex court directed the Election Commission to have an option of 'None Of The Above' (NOTA) on the electronic voting machines (EVMs) and ballot papers in a major electoral reform.

Thus, India became the 14th country to institute negative voting. However, NOTA in India does not provide for a 'right to reject'. The candidate with the maximum votes wins the election irrespective of the number of NOTA votes polled.

#### Benefits of NOTA

- a) NOTA option will force the political parties to select the honest candidates, i.e with no criminal records.
- b) NOTA ensures people's 'right to freedom of speech and expression'.
- c) The disadvantage of 49-O will be overcome with the implementation of NOTA.
- d) This will increase the polling percentage.

**33.** Which of the following is not a ground for disqualification under Anti-Defection law?

- (a) An elected member voluntarily resigns from his political party and joins any other political party
- (b) An elected member votes or abstains from voting contrary to party whip
- (c) An independent member of legislature joins any political party
- (d) A nominated member of a House joins a political party within six months after becoming a member of the house

Answer : (d)

Explanation :

The grounds on which a member of the Parliament and State Legislature shall be disqualified from being members of the House are:



- If an elected member voluntarily gives up the membership of his political party and joins any other political party.
- If an elected member votes or abstains from voting in House contrary to any direction issued by the political party to which he belongs.
  - If an independent member of a legislature joins political party after been elected to the House.
- If a nominated member of a House joins a political party six months after becoming a member of the House

**34.** The structure of Indian Constitution is

- A) unitary in form and federal in spirit
- B) Unitary
- C) Completely federal
- D) Federal in form Unitary in spirit

Ans : D

The Federal character of the Indian Constitution is one of its salient features, however the term 'Federation' has nowhere been used in the Constitution.

Constitution has provided for a structure of governance which is essentially federal in nature

It contains all the usual features of a federation, i.e. two government, division of powers, written Constitution, supremacy of Constitution, rigidity of Constitution, independent judiciary and bicameralism. However, the Indian Constitution also contains a large number of unitary or non-federal features, i.e. a strong Centre, single Constitution, single citizenship, flexibility of Constitution, integrated judiciary, appointment of state governor by the Centre, all-India services, emergency provisions, and so on.

Article 1, on the other hand, describes India as a 'Union of States' which implies two things: one, Indian Federation is not the result of an agreement by the states; and two, no state has the right to secede from the federation. Hence, the Indian Constitution has been variously described as 'federal in form but unitary in spirit'.

**35.** A political system in which a small group rules and holds supreme power over a larger society is known as

- a) Totalitarian system
- b) Oligarchic system
- c) Pluralistic system
- d) Patrimonial system

SOLUTION: B

- 1) Totalitarian system is a system in which the state controls and regulates all phases of life considered essential for perpetuating its power and for carrying out programmes arbitrarily. Centralised authority is stressed over the autonomy of individuals or subgroups within the society. In practice, the state is represented by a politically powerful ruling class or elite that dominates all other interest groups,
- 2) Oligarchic system, is a system in which a small group rules and holds supreme power over a larger society.
- 3) The pluralistic systems/ regimes are characterised by strong centre, large scope of political freedom, and are capable of absorption of sustained growth.
- 4) The patrimonial regimes have emerged after World War II. It is a 'personal ruler-ship' in which the followers of the ruler do not have belief in his personal qualities but in material rewards and incentives he offers.

**36.** Consider the following statements regarding Republican form of government

- 1) It is a political system in which the government remains mostly subject to those governed
- 2) It consists of only multiparty system.
- 3) Britain and United States of America has republican form of government.

Which of the statements are **not true**?

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

**SOLUTION: B**

- A republic is a political system in which the government remains mostly subject to those governed.
- It might consist of single party or multiparty system
- The United States is referred to as a federal republic, whereas Britain has a monarchical form of government.

**37.** Consider the following statements regarding Presidential System of government. Which of the below is Correct?

- 1) The Lower house cannot be dissolved
- 2) It is based on Separation of powers
- 3) Dual executive system is followed
- 4) Political homogeneity exists

**OPTIONS:**

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 3 and 4
- c) 2 and 4
- d) All the above

SOLUTION:a

The following are the features of Presidential form of government

- The Lower house cannot be dissolved
- Single executive
- Political homogeneity may not exist.
- Separation of powers exists.

**38.** According to the 'Basic structure' doctrine of the constitution of India, the form of political system in India is

- 1)Federal
- 2)Welfare State
- 3)Separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the Judiciary
- 4)Secular

OPTIONS

- a)1 and 4
- b)2 and 4
- c)1 and 3
- d)All the above

SOLUTION:d

From the various judgements, the following have emerged as 'basic features' of the Constitution or elements / components / ingredients of the 'basic structure' of the constitution:

- Sovereign, democratic and republican nature of the Indian polity
- Secular character of the Constitution
- Separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the Judiciary – Though the separation between Legislature and Executive is not as strict as in Presidential form but still it exists in the form of checks and balances and has been described as a basic structure of the Indian constitution by Supreme Court.
- Federal character of the Constitution
- Welfare state (socio-economic justice)
- Parliamentary system

**39.** The Federal scheme of the government that was established in the constitution was majorly borrowed from

- a)US constitution
- b)British constitution

- c) Government of India Act 1935
- d) French constitution

SOLUTION: C

Government of India Act of 1935: Features Borrowed  
Federal Scheme, Office of governor, Judiciary, Public  
Service Commissions, Emergency provisions and administrative details.

**40.** Which of the following are correctly matched?

COUNTRY	FORM OF GOVERNMENT
1) Russia	Non-Parliamentary
2) Japan	Parliamentary
3) Britain	Federal
4) Canada	Unitary

OPTIONS

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 2 3 and 4
- d) None of the above

SOLUTION: a

COUNTRY	FORM OF GOVERNMENT
1) Russia	Non-Parliamentary
2) Japan	Parliamentary
3) Britain	Unitary
4) Canada	Federal

**41.** Which of the following are the features of federal government?

- 1) Written Constitution
- 2) Flexible Constitution
- 3) Supremacy of the parliament
- 4) Bicameral Legislature

OPTIONS:

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

SOLUTION: a

The following are features of federal Government

- 1) Dual Government
- 2) Written Constitution



- 3) Division of powers between national and regional government
- 4) Supremacy of the constitution
- 5) Rigid Constitution
- 6) Independent Judiciary
- 7) Bicameral Legislature

**42.** Which of the following are Unitary features of the Indian Constitution?

- 1) Independent Judiciary
- 2) Bicameralism
- 3) Integrated Judiciary
- 4) Appointment of governor

OPTIONS

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

SOLUTION: B

Independent Judiciary and Bicameralism are features of Federal structure of the constitution

Integrated Judiciary and Appointment of governor are Unitary Features

**43.** A political party can be recognized as 'National Party' in India:

1. If it wins two per cent of seats in the Lok Sabha at a general election; and these candidates are elected from three states;
2. If it is recognised as a state party in four states.

Choose the correct option:

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Either 1 or 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

SOLUTION: C

At present (2013), a party is recognised as a national party if any of the following conditions is fulfilled:

1. If it secures six per cent of valid votes polled in any four or more states at a general election to the Lok Sabha or to the legislative assembly; and, in addition, it wins four seats in the Lok Sabha from any state or states; or
2. If it wins two per cent of seats in the Lok Sabha at a general election; and these candidates are elected from three states; or
3. If it is recognised as a state party in four states.

**44.** Which of the following are tools of direct democracy?

- 1) Referendum
- 2) Initiative
- 3) Recall

4)Plebiscite

Choose the correct option:

- a)2 and 3
- b)1 and 4
- c)All the above
- d)None of the above

SOLUTION:C

The following are the tools of direct democracy:

- 1)Referendum
- 2)Initiative
- 3)Recall
- 4)Plebiscite

Referendum - procedure in which a proposed legislation is referred to the electorate for acceptance through direct voting.

Initiative - method by means of which the people can propose a bill to the legislature for enactment.

Recall - way for voters to remove a representative or an officer before the expiry of his/her term, when he fails to discharge his duties properly.

Plebiscite - method of obtaining the opinion of people on any issue of public importance. It is generally used to solve territorial disputes.

45. Consider the following statements regarding the sources (from the constitution of other countries)and features borrowed for the establishment of present form of government by Indian Constitution

SOURCE	FEATURE BORROWED
1)British constitution	Federation with strong centre
2)Canadian constitution	DPSP
3)Australian constitution	Legislative procedure
4)Irish constitution	Concurrent List

Which of theaboveare **incorrectly** matched?

OPTIONS

- a)3 only
- b)1 and 3
- c)All the above
- d)None of the above

SOLUTION:C

- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1)British constitution   | Legislative procedure         |
| 2)Canadian constitution  | Federation with strong centre |
| 3)Australianconstitution | Concurrent List               |
| 4)Irish constitution     | DPSP                          |

46. Consider the following statements regarding Socialistic form of government in India

- 1) Indian form of socialism is Democratic Socialism, not Communistic Socialism
- 2) The term was added to the Preamble by a constitutional amendment in 1976.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both
- d) None

SOLUTION: C

- 1) Indian form of socialism is Democratic Socialism (Holds faith in mixed economy), not Communistic Socialism (also known as state socialism where there is abolition of private property)
- 2) The term was added by the 42nd constitutional amendment in 1976.

**47.** Consider the following statements regarding secularism in India

- 1) The term was added in the Preamble during the enactment of the constitution of India
- 2) Articles 25 to 28 of the constitution implicitly express the Secular Nature of the state.
- 3) Indian form of secularism does not completely separate religion from state, but treats all religions equally.

Which of the statements are correct?

OPTIONS:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All the above

Solution: b

The term was added by the 42nd constitutional amendment in 1976.

Articles 25 to 28 of the constitution (Guaranteeing fundamental right to freedom of Religion) implicitly express the Secular Nature of the state.

The Indian Constitution embodies the positive concept of secularism i.e. all religions in our country have the same status and support from the state.

Political system-types, concepts and forms

---

**48.** Identify the correctly matched pairs

1. Ministry of Power - New Coal Distribution Policy
2. Ministry of Power - National Electricity Plan (generation)
3. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy - National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy

Choose the correct statement/s

- a. 1 only

- b. 2, 3 only
- c. 1, 2 only
- d. All the above

Answer: b

Explanation:

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy released the draft National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy in June 2016.<sup>113</sup> The Policy seeks to provide for a framework for the promotion of a large grid connected wind and solar photovoltaic system for: (i) optimal and efficient utilisation of transmission infrastructure, and (ii) reducing variability in renewable power generation. In case of wind-solar hybrid plants, wind and solar PV systems will be configured to operate at the same point of the grid connection (backbone network of interconnected transmission lines, etc.)

The Ministry of Power released the draft National Electricity Plan (generation) in December 2016.<sup>112</sup> As per the Electricity Act, 2003, the Central Electricity Authority is required to prepare a National Electricity Plan in accordance with the National Electricity Policy

The Ministry of Coal amended the New Coal Distribution Policy (NCDP) in September 2016.<sup>121</sup> The NCDP provides guidelines for the distribution and pricing of coal to various sectors (such as independent power producers, and steel plants), and was released in October 2007

**49.** Consider the following statements about the draft National Education Policy 2016

- 1. It includes provision for pre school education
- 2. It proposes for the setting up of an Education commission every five years

Choose the correct statements.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

The Ministry of Human Resource Development released some inputs towards the draft National Education Policy (NEP), 2016 in July 2016.<sup>156</sup>

The vision of the draft NEP is an education system that ensures quality education and learning opportunities for all.

Key policy initiatives highlighted in the draft NEP include:

**Pre-school education:** A program for preschool education for children in the age group of four to five years will be implemented in coordination with the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

**Learning outcomes in school education:** Under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, norms for learning outcomes will be developed and applied uniformly to both private and government schools. The existing no-detention policy (promoting all students of a class to the next class) will be



amended and limited up to primary level (Class 5). At the upper primary level of education (Class 6 onwards), the system of detention will be restored.

Examination reforms: In order to reduce failure rates in class 10, examination for the subjects of Mathematics, Science and English in class 10 will be conducted at two levels, Part A at a higher level and Part B at a lower level. Students who wish to opt for the vocational stream or courses for which mathematics, science and English are not compulsory, will be able to opt for Part B level examination.

Teacher development: At the national level, a Teacher Education University will be set up, with a particular focus on teacher education and faculty development.

Reforms and regulation in higher education: **An Education Commission, comprising academic experts will be set up every five years** to: (i) assist the Ministry of Human Resource Development in identifying new disciplines, and (ii) undertake curriculum and assessment reforms in higher education

Financing education: The government will take steps for raising the investment in education sector to at least 6% of GDP

50. Which of the following are features of the Recently tabled The HIV and AIDS (Prevention and Control) Bill, 2014?

1. The Bill requires that no HIV test, medical treatment, or research will be conducted on a person without his informed consent.
2. An ombudsman shall be appointed by each state government to inquire into complaints related to the violation of the Act and the provision of health care services

Choose the correct statement/s

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

The Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Prevention and Control) Bill, 2014 was passed by Rajya Sabha in March 2017.

The Bill seeks to prevent and control the spread of HIV and AIDS and prohibits discrimination against persons with HIV and AIDS.

Key features of the Bill include:

Prohibition of discrimination against HIV positive persons: The Bill lists the various grounds on which discrimination against HIV positive persons and those living with them is prohibited. These include the denial, termination, discontinuation or unfair treatment with regard to: (i) employment, (ii) educational establishments, (iii) health care services, (iv) residing or renting property, and (v) standing for public or private office. The requirement for HIV testing as a pre-requisite for obtaining employment or accessing health care or education is also prohibited.

Informed consent and disclosure of HIV status: The Bill requires that no HIV test, medical treatment, or research will be conducted on a person without his informed

consent. Further, no person shall be compelled to disclose his HIV status except with his informed consent, and if required by a court order.

**Role of the ombudsman:** An ombudsman shall be appointed by each state government to inquire into complaints related to the violation of the Act and the provision of health care services. The ombudsman will submit a report to the state government every six months stating the number and nature of complaints received, the actions taken and orders passed.

**51.** . Consider the following statements about the National Health Policy, 2017

1. The Policy proposes creation of Public Health Management Cadre in all states
  2. The Policy proposes a target of 2.5% of the GDP as public health expenditure.
- Choose the correct statement/s
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare released the National Health Policy, 2017 in March 2017.

The last National Health Policy was released in 2002. The objective of the Policy is to improve the health status of all age groups by expanding: (i) preventive, (ii) promotive, (iii) curative, (iv) palliative, and (v) rehabilitative services provided through the public health sector.

**The key features of the Policy are:**

**Investment in health:** The Policy proposes a target of 2.5% of the GDP as public health expenditure. The Policy advocates allocating major proportion (two-thirds or more) of resources to primary care followed by secondary and tertiary care. General taxation will remain the predominant means for financing health care.

**Public Health Management Cadre:** The Policy proposes creation of Public Health Management Cadre in all states. States could decide to place these public health managers, with medical and non-medical qualifications, in cadre streams related to directorates of health.

**Access to healthcare services:** The Policy regarding provision to healthcare services is: (i) free primary care provision by the public sector, and (ii) strategic purchase of secondary care hospitalisation and tertiary care services from both public and the non-government sector.

**Strategic purchasing** refers to the government acting as a single payer. The order of preference for strategic purchase by the government with regard to secondary and tertiary care would be public sector hospitals followed by not-for profit private sector and then commercial private sector in the underserved areas.

**Private sector involvement:** The Policy proposes certain measures to encourage greater participation by the private sector.

These measures include: (i) preferential treatment in collaborating with private hospitals for Central Government Health Scheme (covers the healthcare needs of central government employees and members of their families), and (ii) non-financial incentives like skill upgradation to the private sector hospitals/practitioners for providing public health services.

**52.** The Draft Public health bill aims to provide for the prevention, control and management of

1. Epidemics
2. Public health consequences of disasters
3. Acts of bio terrorism or threats

Choose the **correct** statement/s

- a. 1 only
- b. 1, 3 only
- c. 1, 2 only
- d. All the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

The draft Public Health (Prevention, Control and Management of Epidemics, Bio-Terrorism and Disasters) Bill, 2017 was released in February 2017.<sup>187</sup> The Bill seeks to repeal the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897. The Bill aims to provide for the prevention, control and management of: (i) epidemics, (ii) public health consequences of disasters, and (iii) acts of bio terrorism or threats.

Key features of the draft Bill include:

Definition of public health emergency: 'Public health emergency' is defined as any sudden state of danger to public health, including: (i) extension or spread of any infectious or contagious disease or pests affecting humans, animals or plant, (ii) occurrence of or threat of dangerous epidemic disease, and (iii) disaster or bio-terrorism or potential public health emergency requiring immediate action for its prevention, control and management.

Powers of central government: If a situation of public health emergency arises in the country, the central government can: (i) give directions to the state government, district or local authority to implement the provisions of the Bill, (ii) order measures to be observed by the general public to prevent, control and manage the public health emergency, and (iii) require any person to take measures that may be necessary to prevent, control and manage the public health emergency.

Penalties: (i) Violation of any provisions of the Bill due to negligence will be punishable with a fine upto Rs 10,000 for the first time and upto Rs 25,000 for subsequent times. (ii) Violation of any provisions of the Bill intentionally will be punishable with a fine upto Rs 50,000 for first time and upto Rs 1,00,000 for subsequent times. Wilful violation may also lead to imprisonment extendable upto a period of two years.

**53.** Consider the following statements

1. Separation of power is known as the sharing of power between different organs of government placed at same level
2. Division of power is known as the sharing of power among governments at different levels

**54.**      Types of democracy      Meaning

1. Direct democracy	Citizens get to vote for a policy directly
2. Indirect democracy	Only elites are part of the parliamentary process
3. Participatory Democracy	Involving everyone in decision making process

Choose the correctly matched pair

- 1 only
- 1, 2 only
- 1, 3 only
- All the above

Answer: C

Authoritarian Democracy: This is when only the elites are a part of the parliamentary process. The individuals of the state are allowed to vote for their chosen candidate, but “regular people” cannot enter the elections

**Participatory Democracy** The exact opposite of an authoritarian democracy is the participatory form of democracy. There are different types of participatory democracy, but all of them yearn to create opportunities for all members of a population to make meaningful contributions to the decision-making process.



**55.** Consider the following statements

1. Although India is a Federal State, the word federal is mentioned nowhere in constitution

2. In India while the residuary powers are vested with Union government, the States have more power than Centre with regard to concurrent list

Choose the correct statement/s.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation: The Constitution of India establishes a federal system of government. The term 'Federation' has nowhere been used in the Constitution. Article 1, on the other hand, describes India as a 'Union of States'

**56.** Consider the following statements about Draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016

1. The bill ensures Right to water for life

2. The responsibility to ensure every person has access to safe water remains with the concerned state government even if water is being provided through a private agency

Choose the correct statement/s.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation: The Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation released the draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016 in June 2016.

The Bill seeks to provide a national legal framework for protection, conservation, regulation and management of water.

Key features include:

Right to water for life: The Bill states that every person has a right to sufficient quantity of safe water for life within easy reach of a household, regardless of one's community, economic status, land ownership, etc. The responsibility to ensure every person has access to safe water remains with the concerned state government even if water is being provided through a private agency

Standards for water quality: National water quality standards will be binding on all types of water use. In addition, efforts must be made for treatment of wastewater to make it appropriate for use.

Integrated River Basin Development and Management: A river basin, with its associated aquifers (underground layer that contains water), must be considered as the basic hydrological unit for planning, development and management of water.

For every inter-state river basin, a River Basin Authority must be established,



which will be responsible to prepare Master Plans for river basins under its jurisdiction.

**Water security:** The appropriate state government will prepare and oversee the implementation of a water security plan to ensure sufficient quantity of safe water for every person, even in times of emergency such as droughts and floods. These plan will include incentives for: (i) switching from water-intensive crops, (ii) adoption of water-conserving methods, such as drip irrigation and sprinklers, and (iii) setting up groundwater recharge structures.

**Water pricing:** Pricing of water must be based on a differential pricing system in accordance with the fact that water is put to multiple uses. Water use for commercial agriculture and industry may be subjected to market based priced pricing. For domestic water supply, different categories of users may be subsidised.

**57.** From the below rights choose the ones that are available to the Indian Consumers

- 1) Right to safety
- 2) Right to be informed
- 3) Right to choose
- 4) Right to be heard
- 5) Right to seek redressal
- 6) Right to consumer education

Choose the correct option:

- a. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- b. 1, 2 only
- c. 1, 3 only
- d. All the above

Answer: d

**Explanation:-**

**Right to Safety**

Means right to be protected against the marketing of goods and services, which are hazardous to life and property. The purchased goods and services availed of should not only meet their immediate needs, but also fulfil long term interests.

Before purchasing, consumers should insist on the quality of the products as well as on the guarantee of the products and services. They should preferably purchase quality marked products such as ISI, AGMARK, etc

**Right to be Informed**

Means right to be informed about the quality, quantity, potency, purity, standard and price of goods so as to protect the consumer against unfair trade practices.

Consumer should insist on getting all the information about the product or service before making a choice or a decision. This will enable him to act wisely and responsibly and also enable him to desist from falling prey to high pressure selling techniques.

### Right to Choose

Means right to be assured, wherever possible of access to variety of goods and services at competitive price. In case of monopolies, it means right to be assured of satisfactory quality and service at a fair price. It also includes right to basic goods and services. This is because unrestricted right of the minority to choose can mean a denial for the majority of its fair share. This right can be better exercised in a competitive market where a variety of goods are available at competitive prices

### Right to be Heard

Means that consumer's interests will receive due consideration at appropriate forums. It also includes right to be represented in various forums formed to consider the consumer's welfare.

The Consumers should form non-political and non-commercial consumer organizations which can be given representation in various committees formed by the Government and other bodies in matters relating to consumers.

### Right to Seek redressal

Means right to seek redressal against unfair trade practices or unscrupulous exploitation of consumers. It also includes right to fair settlement of the genuine grievances of the consumer.

Consumers must make complaint for their genuine grievances. Many times their complaint may be of small value but its impact on the society as a whole may be very large. They can also take the help of consumer organisations in seeking redressal of their grievances.

### Right to Consumer Education

Means the right to acquire the knowledge and skill to be an informed consumer throughout life. Ignorance of consumers, particularly of rural consumers, is mainly responsible for their exploitation. They should know their rights and must exercise them. Only then real consumer protection can be achieved with success.

**58.** Match the following

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| A) Distributive Policy   | 1) Drug pricing policy |
| B) Redistributive policy | 2) Food security       |
| C) Regulatory policy     | 3) Income tax policies |
| a) A: 1, B: 2, C: 3      |                        |
| b) A: 1, B: 3, C: 2      |                        |
| c) A: 2, B: 1, C: 3      |                        |
| d) A: 2, B: 3, C: 1      |                        |

Answer: d

Explanation:-

Distributive Policy:-

Policy issues concerned with the distribution of new resources are distributive policies. Distributive policies are meant for specific segments of society. It can be in the area of grant of subsidies, loans, provision of education, welfare or health services or other public assistance schemes. Some more examples of distributive

policies are adult education programme, food security, social insurance, scholarships to students from disadvantaged social backgrounds, assistance to aged, physically challenged persons, etc.

**Redistributive Policy:-**

Redistributive policy issues are concerned with changing the distribution of existing resources. Redistributive policies are concerned with the rearrangement of policies, which are concerned with bringing about basic socio-economic changes. Certain public goods and welfare services are disproportionately divided among certain segments of the society, these goods and services are streamlined through redistributive policies. Income tax policies usually carry elements of redistribution of incomes.

**Regulatory policy:-**

They are concerned with regulation and control of activities. They deal with regulation of trade, business, safety measures, public utilities, etc. This type of regulation is done by independent organizations that work on behalf of the government. In India, the Reserve Bank of India, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, the Controller of Drugs and Pharmaceuticals, the Registrar General of India, the Bureau of Indian Standards, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), etc. are engaged in regulatory activities. Organizations like the university Grants Commission, the All-India Council of Technical Education, and the Central Board of Secondary Education perform both promotional and regulatory activities. The Indian Medical Council, the Bar Council of India, the National Council of Teacher Education, the Pharmacy Council of India, and the Nursing Council of India are examples of regulatory agencies intended to protect the standards of the respective professions. The policies made by the government, pertaining to the relevant services, and organizations rendering these services are known as regulatory policies.

**59.** Which of the following are objectives of the government policy regarding Minimum Support Price(MSP):

- (i) the need to provide incentives to the producers for adopting improved technology and for developing a production pattern broadly in the light of national requirements
- (ii) the need to ensure rational utilization of land, water and other production resources

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. None of the above

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

The Government announces, Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for 25 major agricultural commodities each year in both the Crop seasons after taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).

CACP recommends MSP for twenty two (22) crops and Fair & Remunerative Price (FRP) for sugarcane. Apart from Sugarcane for which FRP is declared by the Department of Food & Public Distribution, twenty two crops covered under MSP are Paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Arhar, Moong, Urad, Groundnut-in-shell, Soyabean, Sunflower, Sesamum, Nigerseed, Cotton, Wheat, Barley, Gram, Masur (lentil), Rapeseed/Mustardseed, Safflower, Jute and Copra.

In addition, MSP for Toria and De-Husked coconut is fixed by the Department on the basis of MSP's of Rapeseed/Mustardseed and Copra respectively.

The CACP, while recommending the Minimum Support Price keeps in view (i) the need to provide incentives to the producers for adopting improved technology and for developing a production pattern broadly in the light of national requirements (ii) the need to ensure rational utilization of land, water and other production resources and (iii) the likely effect of the price policy on the rest of the economy, particularly, on the cost of living, level of wages, industrial cost structure etc.

60. Consider the following statements about internally displaced peoples

- 1) Internally displaced persons (IDPs) flee their homes for the same reasons as refugees, but remain within their own country
- 2) They are not subject to the laws of their country.

Choose the correct statement/s.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

Who is a Refugee?

A refugee is a person who "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country ... "

- The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees

Who helps the internally displaced?

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) flee their homes for the same reasons as refugees, **but remain within their own country and are thus subject to the laws of that state.** In some crises, and though it does not have a specific mandate in this area, UNHCR assists several million, but not all of the estimated 20-25 million IDPs worldwide.

These operations are initiated at the request of the U.N. Secretary-General or the General Assembly, with the consent of the country involved and have included recent crises in the Middle East, the Balkans, Africa and Afghanistan.

61. From the following rights identify the one/s that is/are available to refugees as per UNHCR (United Nations High commissioner for Refugees)



- 1) Right to safe asylum
  - 2) Freedom of thought
  - 3) Freedom from torture and degrading treatment.
  - 4) Economic and social rights
  - 5) Right to work.
- a) 1 only
  - b) 1 and 3 only
  - c) 1, 3 and 4 only
  - d) All of the above.

Answer: - d

Explanation:-

What rights does a refugee have?

A refugee has the right to safe asylum. However, international protection comprises more than physical safety. Refugees should receive at least the same rights and basic help as any other foreigner who is a legal resident, including freedom of thought, of movement, and freedom from torture and degrading treatment. Economic and social rights are equally applicable. Refugees should have access to medical care, schooling and the right to work.

In certain circumstances when adequate government resources are not immediately available, such as the sudden arrival of large numbers of uprooted persons, international organizations such as UNHCR provide assistance. This may include financial grants, food, tools and shelter and basic infrastructure such as schools and clinics. With projects such as income-generating activities and skill training programmes, UNHCR makes every effort to ensure that refugees become self-sufficient as quickly as possible.

What are the obligations of a refugee?

Refugees are required to respect the laws and regulations of their country of asylum.

**62.** Consider the following statements about the issue of statelessness.

- 1) The right to a nationality is widely recognized in international law and constitutes a status from which other rights may derive.
- 2) The U.N. General Assembly has entrusted UNHRC (United Nations Human Rights Council) with overseeing the Conventions dealing with the statelessness issue.

Choose the incorrect statement/s.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. None of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

What does UNHCR do to prevent statelessness?

The right to a nationality is widely recognized in international law and constitutes a status from which other rights may derive. However, several million people worldwide probably remain stateless especially in some countries of the former



Soviet Union. The problem may be particularly acute among children of parents of mixed origin, or who are born in a country other than their parents' country of origin, since they do not necessarily gain citizenship of the place where they are born.

There are several international documents which deal with the issue including the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness which underlines that a person may not be deprived of nationality on racial, ethnic, religious or political grounds. It sketches out measures to prevent statelessness resulting from the transfer of territory; and establishes rules for the granting of nationality to persons born in a country who would otherwise be stateless. **The U.N. General Assembly has entrusted UNHCR with overseeing the Convention.**

**63.** Consider the following statements regarding rights of transgender persons.

- 1) The Supreme Court has held that the right to self-identification of gender is part of the right to dignity and autonomy under Article 21 of the Constitution.
- 2) A private member Bill was introduced to guarantee rights and provide welfare measures for transgender persons in Rajya Sabha recently

Choose the correct statements

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

According to the World Health Organisation, 'transgender' is an umbrella term that includes persons whose sense of gender does not match with the gender assigned to them at birth

In 2014, the Supreme Court recognised a transgender person's right to self-identification as male, female or the third gender.

Further, the Court directed central and state governments to grant legal recognition to transgender persons, address issues of social stigma and discrimination, and provide social welfare schemes for them.

A private member Bill was introduced in Rajya Sabha by Mr. Tiruchi Siva in 2014 to guarantee rights and provide welfare measures for transgender persons. This Bill was passed in Rajya Sabha in 2015. This has been replaced by a Government bill on the same subject and has been introduced in the Lok Sabha.

**64.** National Action Plan for Children, 2016 (NPAC) focuses on which of the following priority areas.

- 1) Survival
- 2) Health and nutrition
- 3) Education and development
- 4) Protection and participation

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) All of the above.

Answer: - d

Explanation:-

National Action Plan for Children, 2016 (NPAC) has been developed by the Ministry of Women & Child Development. It seeks to ensure the following:

- The Action Plan has four key priority areas; *survival, health and nutrition; education and development; protection and participation.*
- The NPAC defines objectives, sub-objectives, strategies, action points and indicators for measuring progress under the four key priority areas and also identifies key stakeholders for the implementation of different strategies.
- The plan also puts focus on new and emerging concerns for children such as online child abuse, children affected by natural and man-made disasters and climate change, etc.
- The strategies and action points largely draw upon the existing programmes and schemes of various Ministries/Departments. However, for new and emerging issues related to children; it also suggests formulation of new programmes and strategies, as required.
- The plan takes into account the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and provides a roadmap towards achieving them through co-ordination and convergence with different stakeholders.
- The National Policy for Children (2013) provides for formation of a National Co-ordination and Action Group (NCAG) under the Ministry of Women and Child Development to coordinate and implement the plan and monitor the progress with other Ministries concerned as its members.

**65.** Identify the legal rights that are not available to women in India from the below.

- 1) Right to equal pay
- 2) Right against sexual harassment
- 3) Right to maternity-related benefits
- 4) Right against female foeticide

- a) 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) None of the above.

Answer: - d

Explanation:-

1. Right to equal pay

According to provisions under the Equal Remuneration Act, one cannot be discriminated on the basis of sex when it comes to salary or wages.

2. Right against harassment at work

The enactment of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act gives you the right to file a complaint against sexual harassment.

3. Right against domestic violence

The act primarily looks to protect a wife, a female live-in partner or a woman living in a household like a mother or a sister from domestic violence at the hands of a husband, male live-in partner or relatives. She or anybody on her behalf, can file a complaint.

4) Right to Zero FIR

The concept of a 'Zero FIR' means that an FIR can be filed at any police station irrespective of its jurisdiction to receive complaint. Even if you are far off from the place of incident and may not be sure of the correct jurisdiction, the Station House Officer of a police station is under legal obligation to lodge your FIR. A Zero FIR can be filed at any police station, irrespective of place of incident or jurisdiction, and it can be later transferred to the right police station.

5. Right to maternity-related benefits

Maternity benefits are not merely a privilege of the working woman, they are a right. The Maternity Benefit Act ensures that the new mother does not suffer any loss of earnings following a period of twelve weeks after her delivery, allowing her to rejoin the workforce.

6. Right against female foeticide

It is a duty imposed on every citizen of India to allow a woman to experience the most basic of all rights — the right to life. The Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act (PCPNDT) ensures her right against female foeticide.

7. Right to free legal aid

All female rape victims have the right to free legal aid, under the Legal Services Authorities Act. It is mandatory for the Station House Officer (SHO) to inform the Legal Services Authority, who arranges for the lawyer.

8. Right to property

The Hindu Succession Act allows women and men equal share in inheritance, thereby setting new rules and regulations.

**66.** Consider the following statements about Farmer's rights

1) Indian parliament has enacted a dedicated legislation called Farmers' Rights Act for protecting farmer's rights.

2) A farmer in India is legally entitled to save, use, sow, resow, exchange, share or sell his farm produce including seeds.

Choose the correct statements

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture recognizes Farmers' Rights and obliges the countries being Parties to the Treaty to protect and promote these rights.

India is among the first countries in the world to have passed legislation granting Farmers' Rights in the form of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 (PPVFR). India's law is unique in that it simultaneously aims to protect both breeders and farmers.

India's PPVFR Act not only upholds farmers' rights to save, use and exchange seeds and propagating material but also attempts to enable farmers to claim special forms of intellectual property rights over their varieties.

A farmer is entitled to save, use, sow, resow, exchange, share or sell his farm produce including seed of a variety protected under the Act in the same manner before this Act came into force. He cannot sell branded seed of a variety protected under the Act.

If a breeder of a propagating material of a variety registered under the Act sells his product to a farmer, he has to disclose the expected performance under given conditions. If the propagating material fails to perform, the farmer can claim compensation in the prescribed manner before the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority.

The National Biodiversity Act, 2002, based on the Convention on Biological Diversity, regulates access to and use of genetic resources in India. This Act also focuses on benefit sharing, protection of traditional knowledge and prior informed consent. The Geographical Indications Act, the Patents Amendments Act and the Seed Bill also have implications for Farmers' Rights in India. The Seed Bill could restrict farmers' right to sell their seeds, and the Patent Amendment Acts could pave the way for further extensions of patentability in agriculture that may restrict farmers' rights to save, use or exchange seeds. The Geographical Indications Act may enable farmers to claim rights for agricultural goods originating in a specific region, or it could restrict access of farmers to the protected goods depending on the way it is implemented.

**67.** Consider the following statements regarding mental health policy of India.

- 1) India has ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- 2) The Mental Health Policy of 2014 recommends Universal access to mental healthcare
- 3) The Mental Healthcare act 2017 decriminalizes suicide.

Choose the correct statements

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

Answer: - d

Explanation:-

In 2007, India ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which requires signatory countries to change their laws to give effect to the rights of persons with mental illness.

Objectives of the Mental Health Policy 2014:-

1. To provide universal access to mental health care.



2. To increase access to and utilisation of comprehensive mental health services by persons with mental health problems.
3. To increase access to mental health care especially to vulnerable groups including homeless persons, persons in remote areas, educationally, socially and deprived sections.
4. To reduce prevalence and impact of risk factors associated with mental health problems.
5. To reduce risk and incidence of suicide and attempted suicide.
6. To ensure respect for rights and protection from harm of persons with mental health problems.
7. To reduce stigma associated with mental health problems.
8. To enhance availability and equitable distribution of skilled human resources for mental health.
9. To progressively enhance financial allocation and improve utilisation for mental health promotion and care.
10. To identify and address the social, biological and psychological determinants of mental health problems and to provide appropriate interventions.

What are key rights being guaranteed under the Mental health care act 2017?

*Manner of treatment(Advance Directive):* The Bill states that every person would have the right to specify how he would like to be treated for mental illness in the event of a mental health situation. An individual will also specify who will be the person responsible for taking decisions with regard to the treatment, his admission into a hospital, etc.

*Access to public health care:* The Bill guarantees every person the right to access mental health care and treatment from the government. This right includes affordable, good quality, easy access to services such as minimum mental health services in every district. Persons with mental illness also have the right to equality of treatment and protection from inhuman and degrading treatment.

*Suicide decriminalized:* Currently, attempting suicide is punishable with imprisonment for up to a year and/or a fine. The Bill decriminalizes suicide. It states that whoever attempts suicide will be presumed to be under severe stress, and shall not be punished for it.

*Insurance:* The Bill requires that every insurance company shall provide medical insurance for mentally ill persons on the same basis as is available for physical illnesses.



- a. In India, Environmental rights are nonjusticiable rights
- b. In India, Protecting the environment is the duty of both the state and citizens
- c. Both a and b
- d. None of the above

Answer: b

Explanation:

Article 51-A (g), says that "It shall be duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life and to have compassion for living creatures."

Article 48 -A of the constitution says that "the state shall endeavor to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wild life of the country"

In M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India, AIR 1987 SC 1086 the Supreme Court treated the right to live in pollution **free environment as a part of fundamental right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution.**

69. Consider the following Statements

1. In India, Scheduled Tribes have legal rights such as ownership rights, access to collect, use and dispose of minor forest produce
2. Diversion of forest land for public utility facilities such as for the construction of Schools does not requires the recommendation of concerned Gram Sabhas

Choose the correct statements

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 not only recognizes the rights to hold and live in the forest land under the individual or common occupation for habitation or for self-cultivation for livelihood, but also grants several other rights to ensure their control over forest resources which, inter-alia, include right of ownership, access to collect, use and dispose of minor forest produce, community rights such as nistar; habitat rights for primitive tribal groups and pre-agricultural communities; right to protect, regenerate or conserve or manage any community forest resource which they have been traditionally protecting and conserving for sustainable use.

The Act also provides for diversion of forest land for public utility facilities managed by the Government, such as schools, dispensaries, fair price shops, electricity and **telecommunication lines, water tanks, etc. with the recommendation of Gram Sabhas.**

**70.** In India the prohibition of employment of **Children less than fourteen years of age** in hazardous industry is

- a. Fundamental Right
- b. Legal right
- c. Both a & b
- d. None of the above

Answer: C

Explanation:

Article 24 of the Indian constitution clearly states that, "No child below the age of fourteen years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or employed in any hazardous employment.

Child Labor (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 completely prohibits the employment of children below 14 years. The amendment also prohibits the employment of adolescents in the age group of 14 to 18 years in hazardous occupations

**71.** With regards to anti defection which of the following is correct?

- 1) The provision was inserted in order to strengthen political democracy
- 2) The decision of speaker is final and not subjected to judicial review

Options

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer – A

The defection law tries to address the issue of horse trading of legislators and strengthens political democracy.

An independent member becomes disqualified immediately after joining any party while a nominated member becomes disqualified if he joins any party after the expiry of 6 months from the date of taking his seat in the house.

The decision of speaker is final but it is subjected to judicial review.(KihotoHolohan case, 1993).

**72.** Choose the correct regarding anti defection

- 1) A speaker should decide on defection within 3 months.
- 2) Every motion on defection must be referred to the committee on privileges.

Options

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer- D

While there are precedents to refer the issue to the privilege committee before taking an action, there is no such mandatory provisions with regards to the same. Though the Vice-President recently opined that all anti-defection issues must be settled within 3 months, there is no set time frame to take action on defection prescribed on the law itself.

**73.** Which of the following steps are taken by the Election Commission to make elections free and fair?

- A) Introduction of EVMs.
- B) Adjournment of poll in case of booth capturing.
- C) Introduction of VVPAT system in a phased manner
- D) All the above

Answer- D

**74.** Which of the following makes an election democratic?

- 1) Every vote has an equal value
- 2) Political parties and people should be free to contest elections

Options

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) None of the above
- D) All the above

Answer- D

Elections are held in all democratic and in most non democratic countries too. The following makes an election democratic

- 1) Everyone should have the right to vote which means every one has one vote and every vote has equal value
- 2) Political parties and candidates should be free to contest elections
- 3) The choices should be offered at regular intervals and hence election should be held regularly.

- 4) The candidate preferred by the people only should be elected
- 5) Elections should be free and fair

**75.** Choose the correct one

- 1) State legislature may extend reservation to weaker sections like OBC's in local body election
- 2) The state should provide reservation for ST/SC in proportion to their population in local body elections.

Options

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer – c

A few seats in loksabha is reserved for SC/ST. This number is in proportion to the share of total population. This system was later extended to other weaker sections at district and Local levels at the will of the state legislature. While the provision of reservation for ST/SC was made mandatory in local bodies under 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act.

**76.** With regards to proportional representation in India which of the following is correct?

- 1) It is used in elections of President, Vicepresident ,Rajya Sabha and state legislative councils .
- 2) India follows the list system

Options

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer- A

India follows proportional representation in the form of single transferable vote. Proportional representation is used in elections of President, Vicepresident ,Rajya Sabha and state legislative councils. . In the list system, a list of candidates is proposed by Political parties and seats gets distributed to each party in proportion to the number of votes a party receives. In India it is individual candidates who contest even in PR system elections through means of a single transferable vote.

**77.** Which of the following are not permitted under the code of conduct ?

- 1) Mobilising votes in the name of religion or caste
- 2) Using government resource for election campaigning
- 3) Use a place of worship for election propaganda

Options

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 2
- C) 1 and 3
- D) All the Above

Answer- D



The Model Code of Conduct is a set of guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India to regulate the conduct of political parties and their candidates in the run up to elections and is aimed at ensuring free and fair elections. Though the Code doesn't have any statutory basis, it has an indisputable legitimacy and parties across the political spectrum have generally adhered to its letter and spirit.

The Code was issued for the first time in 1971 before the 5<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha elections. Since then, it has been issued before every central and state election and revised from time to time. The broad objectives of the code of conduct are to ensure a level playing field for all political parties, prevent conflicts between parties, and ensure law and order in the heat of election season. Still, its primary purpose is to ensure that the ruling party does not misuse or use to its advantage the government machinery for its election campaign purpose. This function of the code is the primary reason for its indisputable legitimacy across all parties. Each party follows the code in the hope that other parties, especially the ruling party, will also follow it and hence no party will gain unfair advantage in the elections. Another reason for the success of the code lies in its restrained nature that the parties find tolerable to follow.

**78.** With regard to Model Code of Conduct, which of the following are true

- 1) It is a set of guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India.
- 2) The code has a statutory backing under Representation of People Act.
- 3) It regulates the conduct of the Bureaucracy.

Options

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) 1 and 3
- D) 1,2 and 3

Answer- A

The Model Code of Conduct is a set of guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India to regulate the conduct of political parties and their candidates in the run up to elections and is aimed at ensuring free and fair elections. Though the Code doesn't have any statutory basis, it has an indisputable legitimacy and parties across the political spectrum have generally adhered to its letter and spirit.

The Code was issued for the first time in 1971 before the 5<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha elections. Since then, it has been issued before every central and state election and revised from time to time. The broad objectives of the code of conduct are to ensure a level playing field for all political parties, prevent conflicts between parties, and ensure law and order in the heat of election season. Still, its primary purpose is to ensure that the ruling party does not misuse or use to its advantage the government machinery for its election campaign purpose. This function of the code is the primary reason for its indisputable legitimacy across all parties. Each party follows the code in the hope that other parties, especially the ruling party, will also follow it and hence no party will gain unfair advantage in the elections. Another reason for the success of the code lies in its restrained nature that the parties find tolerable to follow.



79. Which of the following is/**are true** regarding unrecognised registered parties ?

- 1) They do not have a permanent electoral symbol
- 2) They are ineligible to contest in election to the lok Sabha

Options

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer- a

The unrecognised registered parties are those parties which are not recognised by ECI as state or national parties but are free to contest in any elections inside the territory of India. They do not have a permanent electoral symbol but are allotted on a random lot basis.

Types of Political parties

Political parties in India are classified by the Election Commission for the allocation of symbols. The Commission classifies parties into three main heads: National Parties, State Parties, and Registered (unrecognized) Parties.

A political party shall be treated as a recognised political party in a State, if and only if either the conditions specified in Clause (A) are, or the condition specified in Clause (B) is, fulfilled by that party and not otherwise, that is to say-

(A) that such party –

- Has been engaged in political activity for a continuous period of five years; and
- Has, at the last general election in that State to the House of the People, or, as the case may be, to the Legislative Assembly of the State, returned-

either (i) at least one member to the House of the People for every twenty-five members of that House or any fraction of that number from that State;

or (ii) at least one member to the Legislative Assembly of that State for every thirty members of that Assembly or any fraction of that number;

(B) That the total number of valid votes polled by all the contesting candidates set up by such party at the last general election in the State to the House of the People, or as the case may be, to the Legislative Assembly of the State, is not less than six per cent of the total number of valid votes polled by all the contesting candidates at such general election in the State.

- 80.** With regards to the Election Commissioners(ECs) of India, which of the following are true,
1. The ECs enjoy similar power to the Chief Election Commissioner in the functioning of the Commission.
  2. They can be removed by the recommendation of CEC and a motion passed thereof by a simple majority in the Parliament.
- Options:
- A) 1 only
  - B) 2 only
  - C) Both 1 and 2
  - D) Neither 1 and 2

Answer: A

Explanation: While the ECs enjoy similar power to the CEC, they don't enjoy security of **tenure** and they can be removed on the recommendation of CEC without requiring a **vote** of the Parliament. The issue has been raised as a PIL in the Supreme Court recently as it affects the independence of the ECs.

- 81.** Which of the following are features of democracy ?

- 1) Popular sovereignty
  - 2) Rights of minorities
  - 3) Legal equality and rule of law
- Options

- A) 3 only
- B) 2 and 3
- C) 1 and 3
- D) All the above

Answer - D

1) Democracy – Democracy is a system of government in which the citizens exercise power directly or elect representatives from among themselves to form a governing body, such as a parliament. Democracy is sometimes referred to as rule of the majority. India, the US, the UK, France, Australia, Brazil, South Africa, Japan etc. are the democratic countries.

Features –

- The democracy consists of four key elements: (a) A political system for choosing and replacing the government through free and fair elections; (b) The active participation of the people, as citizens, in politics and civic life; (c) Protection of the human rights of all citizens, and (d) A rule of law, in which the laws and procedures apply equally to all citizens.

- Other features of democracy are as follows:

- 1) popular sovereignty
- 2) political freedom and equality
- 3) protection of minority rights
- 4) freedom of expression
- 5) civil and socio economic rights
- 6) legal equality and rule of law

**82.** Which of the following represents constitutionalism correctly ?

- 1) A Written constitution
- 2) Independent judiciary
- 3) Federal polity and parliamentary sovereignty
- 4) Electoral democracy

Options

- A) 1 and 2
- B) 1 and 3
- C) 1,2,3
- D) 1,3,4

answer- A

The concept of constitutionalism is that of a polity governed by or under a constitution that ordains essentially limited government and rule of law as opposed to arbitrary authoritarian or totalitarian rule. Constitutional government, therefore, need not necessarily be democratic government.

There are countries that has got constitution without democracy. Hence constitutionalism does not necessarily mean democracy.

Since the constitution limits the power of parliament in law making, it does not mean parliamentary sovereignty always.

**83.** Which of the following is true regarding NOTA?

- 1) If the number of votes for NOTA exceeds that of the winning candidate, it calls for a new election.
- 2) India is the first country to introduce the NOTA or negative voting.

Options

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer- D

In recent elections in Gujarat for the Rajya Sabha membership, the option of NOTA has been challenged through a petition to the Election Commission.

- The election also highlighted the secrecy debate over the procedural matrix of the 'open ballot' system under Rule 39AA of the Conduct of Election Rules of 1961.
- In the petition to the Election Commission, it was said that use of NOTA during the Rajya Sabha elections was contrary to the mandate of the Constitution, the Representation of People's Act, the conduct of election rules.
- The petition further said that use of NOTA in "indirect elections" was in direct conflict with and militates against the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.
- The petition reflects the apprehensions of political parties about the defection and rebellious party members. Use of NOTA by such members may lead to the defeat of their representative.

- Both Supreme Court and the Election Commission, however, upheld the use of NOTA in Rajya Sabha elections.

The state of Nevada, USA in 1978 introduced the NOTA for the first time.

**84.** With regard to elections to Rajya Sabha , which is correct ?

- 1) Open ballot election
- 2) Proportional representation by means of single transferable vote
- 3) NOTA is not available

Options

- A) 1 and 2
- B) 1 and 3
- C) 2 and 3
- D) All the above

Answer- A

The Rajya Sabha elections are held in open ballot and in the Proportional Representation system.

Elections to Rajya Sabha

- Elections to one-third of the RS seats happen every two years.
- Members of a state's legislative assembly vote in the Rajya Sabha elections in what is called the proportional representation with the single transferable vote (STV) system. Each voter's vote is counted only once.
- To win a Rajya Sabha seat, a candidate should get a required number of votes.
- Each voter ranks his preferences and if the first choice candidate has enough votes already or no chance of being elected, the vote is transferred to the second choice and so on.
- Only the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies participate in the election of the members of Rajya Sabha.
- In Rajya Sabha polls, the MLAs have to show their ballot paper to an authorised party agent before putting it in ballot box.

Implications of NOTA in RS

- If a voter (MLA) defies the party directive and votes for someone else or uses NOTA option, he cannot be disqualified as a legislator. But the party is free to take disciplinary action. The party high command can issue a whip for a Rajya Sabha candidate, but anti-defection law provisions do not apply, and a defiant MLA cannot be disqualified from membership of the House.



- In principle, the presence of the NOTA option for the legislator allows the possibility of a protest vote against the party high command for choosing candidates who are not agreeable to them, without having to choose candidates from opposing parties.

**85.** Which of the following are benefits of hybrid system of elections?

- 1) It solves the Problem of minority government
- 2) It's a more representative system

Options

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer- c

- A hybrid/mixed system refers to an electoral system in which two systems are merged into one combining the positive features from more than one electoral system.
- In a mixed system, there are two electoral systems using different formulae running alongside each other. The votes are cast by the same voters and contribute to the election of representatives under both systems.
- One of those systems is a plurality/majority system (or occasionally an 'other' system), usually a single-member district system, and the other a List PR system.
- It is argued that the majority aspirations and the will of the people is not getting reflected in election results with the current electoral system.
- The situations have changed since the current system of FPTP was adopted (one party rule). But now because of a division of votes, a party with even 20% share does not get a single seat, while a party with 28% can get disproportionately large number of seats. Example, Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections held in March, 2017.
- This system is followed by various European countries successfully.
- The Law Commission's 170th and 255th report also have suggested that 25% or 136 more seats should be added to the present Lok Sabha and be filled by Proportional Representation.
- Many point out that the current system reflects a "Minority democracy" which has been ruling the country since independence

**86.** Regarding delimitation commission which of the following is correct ?

- 1) It is a statutory body
- 2) It's order cannot be challenged in court of law
- 3) Rajya Sabha cannot make amendments to its recommendations.

Options

- A) 1 and 2
- B) 1 and 3
- C) 2 and 3
- D) All the above

Answer- D

Delimitation means the act or process of fixing limits or boundaries of territorial constituencies in a country or a province having a legislative body. The job of delimitation is assigned to a high power body. Such a body is known as Delimitation Commission or a Boundary Commission. This body has its origin under Article 82 of the Constitution which has provision that the Parliament by law enacts a Delimitation Act after every census. After coming into force commencement of the Act, the Central Government constitutes a Delimitation Commission.

Delimitation Commission is a statutory body and not a constitutional body established by Central government. The commission's orders have force of law and its decision cannot be challenged in any court. Orders are laid before Upper House and the state legislative assembly concerned, but changes/modifications are not possible by them. Basis of delimitation is Population. As far as possible, every state gets representation in the Lok Sabha in proportion to its population as per census figures.

- democracy.

**87.** Which of the following are the advantages of coalition politics ?

- 1) It reduces dominance of national parties
- 2) It hampers the tyranny of majoritarianism
- 3) It leads to a stable political system

Options

- A) 1 and 2
- B) 1 and 3
- C) 2 and 3
- D) All the above

Answer- A

A coalition government is a cabinet of a parliamentary government in which many or multiple political parties cooperate, reducing the dominance of any one party

within that coalition. The usual reason for this arrangement is that no party on its own can achieve a majority in the parliament.

It leads to regional parties acquiring more clout in national politics. Thus it leads to unstable government and delay in decision making.

**88.** Which of the following are advantages of simultaneous elections in India ?

- 1) Decreases cost of management of elections
- 2) Reduces policy paralysis due to restrictions by model code of conduct.

Options

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) None of these
- D) All the above

Answer- D

Need for holding simultaneous elections arises from the following reasons:

- The massive expenditure that is currently incurred for the conduct of separate elections.
- The policy paralysis that results from the imposition of the Model Code of Conduct during election time.
- Impact on delivery of essential services.
- Burden on crucial manpower that is deployed during election time.

Problems associated with frequent elections:

- Frequent elections affect policymaking and governance as the government is trapped in short-term thinking.
- It also destabilises duly-elected governments and imposes a heavy burden on the exchequer.
- It also puts pressure on political parties, especially smaller ones, as elections are becoming increasingly expensive.
- The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) which comes into force with the announcement of poll dates, prevents government from announcing any new schemes, make any new appointments, transfers and postings without the approval of election commission. This brings normal work of the government to a standstill.
- It also increases the cost of management to the election commission.

**89.** Which of the following are merits of parliamentary system of government ?

- 1) Prevents despotism
- 2) Wider representation
- 3) Harmony between legislature and executive

Options

- A) 1 and 2
- B) 1 and 3
- C) 2 and 3
- D) All the above

Answer- D

Parliamentary form of Government is the system of government in which there exists an intimate and harmonious relationship between the executive and the legislative departments, and the stability and efficacy of the executive department depend on the legislature.

Presidential system. A presidential system is a democratic and republican system of government where a head of government leads an executive branch that is separate from the legislative branch. This head of government is in most cases also the head of state, which is called president.

**90.** Consider the following statements regarding amendment of the constitution :

- 1) A Constitutional amendment bill must be passed in each House separately.
- 2) In case of disagreement between the two Houses, there is a provision for holding a joint sitting.

Which of the following statements given above is / are correct ?

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

Ans : a

Solution : An amendment bill must be passed in each House separately by a special majority. In case of disagreement between the two Houses, there is no provision for holding a joint sitting of the two Houses for the purpose of deliberation and passage of the bill.

**91.** Which of the following options are available for the President regarding Constitution Amendment bill

- 1) The President must give his assent
- 2) The President can withhold his assent
- 3) The President can return the bill.

Choose the correct option

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



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

Ans : c

Solution : After duly passed by both the Houses of Parliament and ratified by the state legislatures, where necessary, the bill is presented to the President for assent.

The President must give his assent to the bill. He can neither withhold his assent to the bill nor return the bill for reconsideration of the Parliament.

**92.** Consider the following statements:

1) Parliament can redraw the political map of any states within India without their consent.

2) India is described as " an indestructible union of destructible states"

Which of the following statements given above is / are correct ?

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

Ans : c

Solution : Parliament can redraw the political map of any states within India without their consent. Hence, the territorial integrity or continued existence of any state is not guaranteed by the Constitution. Therefore, India is rightly described as " an indestructible union of destructible states".

**93.** Which of the following statements regarding Parliament power to reorganise the states is / are correct

- 1) Increase the area of any state
- 2) Diminish the area of any state
- 3) Alter the boundaries of any state

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1, 2 and 3

- b) 1 and 2
- c) 1 and 3
- d) None of these

Ans : A

Solution : Article 3 authorises Parliament to reorganise the states. It includes

- 1) form a new state by separation of territory from any state or by uniting two or more states or parts of states or by uniting any territory to a part of any state.
- 2) increase the area of any state
- 3) Diminish the area of any state
- 4) alter the boundaries of any state
- 5) alter the name of any state

The power to establish new state will come under Article 2 which relates to the admission or establishment of new states that are not part of the Union of India.

In other words, Article 3 deals with the internal re-adjustment inter se of the territories of the constituent states of the Union of India.

94. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Preamble of the Constitution can be amended
- 2) Fundamental Rights of the Constitution cannot be amended

Which of the following Statements given above is / are correct?

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

Ans : a

Solution : As per Supreme court judgement , any part of the Constitution (including Preamble and Fundamental Rights) can be amended by Parliament, subject to the condition that no amendment is done to the 'basic features ' of the Constitution.

**95.** Which of the following are mentioned in preamble of our Constitution?

- i) Social Justice
  - ii) Liberty of thoughts
  - iii) Equality of status
  - iv) Dignity of the individual
- Choose the appropriate code
- a) I, ii, iii only
  - b) ii, iii, iv only
  - c) iii, iv, I only
  - d) I, ii, iii, iv

**Solution d**

The four ideals of the Preamble are aimed at the promotion of human rights. They are as under:

- Justice in social, economic and political spheres
- Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship
- Equality of status and opportunity
- Fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual

The Fundamental Rights under Part-III of the Constitution.

**96.** Which of the following are true regarding “Right to Privacy”?

- i) Privacy has been a key focus in the recent debate on Aadhaar.
  - ii) This right has been interpreted in Right to life and personal liberty by Supreme court.
- Choose the appropriate code
- a) i only
  - b) ii only
  - c) Both I & ii
  - d) Neither I nor ii

**Solution c**

The right to privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 and as a part of the freedoms guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution. The right to privacy in India has developed through a series of decisions over the past 60 years.

**97.** One of the implications of equality in society is the absence of

- (a) Privileges
- (b) Restraints
- (c) Competition
- (d) Ideology

**Solution: A**

Article 18 of the constitution justifies this. Under Right to equality, Article 18 abolishes titular privileges (except military or academic) granted to citizens of India. Article 18 abolishes titles and makes four provisions in that regard:

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

- (b) It prohibits a citizen of India from accepting any title from any foreign state.
- (c) A foreigner holding any office of profit or trust under the state cannot accept any title from any foreign state without the consent of the president.
- (d) No citizen or foreigner holding any office of profit or trust under the State is to accept any present, emolument or office from or under any foreign State without the consent of the president.

**98.** Which one of the following statements is correct?

- (a) Rights are claims of the State against the citizens.
- (b) Rights are privileges which are incorporated in the Constitution of a State.
- (c) Rights are claims of the citizens against the State.
- (d) Rights are privileges of a few citizens against the many.

**Solution: C**

Option C: The philosophy of rights is grounded in preventing the exploitation of the citizen by the state. So, essentially it is the claim of an individual against the state.

Option B: This is wrong because rights are not privileges, they are the bare minimum for the formation of a democratic state. Also, the constitution abolishes the concept of special privileges.

**99.** Consider the following statements:

With reference to the Constitution of India, the Directive Principles of State Policy constitute limitations upon

1. legislative function.
2. executive function.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

**Solution: D**

It is the fundamental rights that constitute limitations upon state action (whether legislative or executive).

The directive principles are in the nature of instruments of instruction to the government of the day to achieve certain ends by their actions. It guides them, not restricts them.

**100.** Which of the following statements is/are true of the Fundamental Duties of an Indian citizen?

1. Legislations are required to enforce these duties.
2. They are correlative to legal duties.

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

Solution: C

**Justification:**

Statement 1: While FDs can be enforced by legislative processes (for e.g. Environment Protection Act that helps enforce the individual duty of environment protection), the constitution explicitly does not enforce them via legal provisions or does not explicitly mention in Part IVA that there are legislative processes to enforce them.

However, since the Parliament has enforced most fundamental duties already via a legislative process, we will consider this statement 1 as correct.

Statement 2: practical purposes legal duties it can be considered as 'law of the land'.

FDs are in sync with legal duties because what is illegal cannot be a fundamental duty, and what is a fundamental duty has also been made a legal duty (e.g. respecting women).

Also, it is an Indian citizen's fundamental duty to abide by the constitutional laws (legal duties); this brings the correlation. Statement 2 is thus correct.

