

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

31st May to 6th June, 2021

*HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

Consolidation of India after Independence

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding Official Language Resolution:

1. Resolution advocates the implementation of the three-language formula in the country.
2. According to the resolution, the knowledge of either Hindi or English shall be compulsory for the selection of candidates to the various posts in the central government.

Which of the statements above given is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: On 18 January 1968, the Official Language Resolution was passed by both Houses of Parliament.

- This Resolution was passed to build a comprehensive program to increase the use of Hindu language for official purposes by the Union of India.
- The resolution also says that an annual measure of progress achieved in this regard will be tabled on both Houses of Parliament, and the same shall be sent to all the State governments as well.
- As per the resolution, measures should be taken to advance the 14 major languages mentioned in the eighth schedule of the constitution (at present there are 22 languages in this schedule).
- The resolution advocates the implementation of the three-language formula in the country.
- As per this arrangement, full measures should be taken for the study of Hindi, English and any other modern Indian language (preferably from the southern states) in the Hindi-speaking regions, and for the study of Hindi, English and the regional language in the non-Hindi speaking states.
- As per the resolution, the knowledge of either Hindi or English shall be compulsory for the selection of candidates to the various posts in the central government; except in cases where a high standard of either of the languages or both were required in certain services.
- The resolution also states that all languages in the eighth schedule shall be allowed as an alternate media for all India central services examinations.

Source: Spectrum Modern India & The Hindu

Q.2) In which of the following Congress Session had made efforts to recognize regional linguistic identities and divided India into 21 linguistic units for its organizational set up?

- a) 1916 – Lahore
- b) 1920 – Nagpur
- c) 1923 – Belgaum
- d) 1929 – Calcutta

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ANS: B

Explanation: The Congress in its 1920's session in Nagpur had made efforts to recognise regional linguistic identities and divided India into 21 linguistic units for its organisational set up.

Many provincial Congress committees were set up on the basis of linguistic zones, which often did not coincide with the administrative divisions of British India.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.3) Due to continuous demands, the Constituent Assembly, in June 1948, appointed the Linguistic Provinces Commission, which is headed by?

- a) Hridaynath Kunzru
- b) B. R. Ambedkar
- c) S.K. Dhar
- d) Vallabhbhai Patel

ANS: C

Explanation: Due to continuous demands, the Constituent Assembly, in June 1948, appointed the Linguistic Provinces Commission, and headed by Justice S.K. Dhar, to enquire into the need of linguistic provinces.

- The Dhar Commission, however, opposed such a move in the interest of national integration.
- Consequently the Constituent Assembly decided not to include the linguistic principle in the constitution.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.4) In December 1952, "Potti Sriramulu", a Congressman and Gandhian leader, started a fast unto death for a linguistic province – was belongs to which region?

- a) Assam
- b) Gujarat
- c) Karnataka
- d) Andhra

ANS: D

Explanation: The first demand for a linguistic province was seen in the Telugu-speaking region of Andhra.

- In August 1951, Swami Sitaram, a Congressman and Gandhian leader started a fast unto death.
- While he broke his fast after thirty-five days, the movement was renewed in December 1952, by another Gandhian follower, Potti Sriramulu who died after fasting for fifty-six days.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.5) Who among the following is NOT a member of States Reorganization Commission (SRC) in 1953?

- a) Fazl Ali
- b) K.M. Panikkar
- c) Hridaynath Kunzru
- d) C. R. Rajagopalachari

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ANS: D

Explanation: The creation of Andhra encouraged other linguistic groups to intensify their movements for their own state or for rectification of their boundaries on a linguistic ground.

- Under popular pressure, Nehru government appointed the States Reorganisation Commission (SRC) in August 1953.
- The commission, comprising Justice Fazl Ali, K.M. Panikkar and Hridaynath Kunzru as members, submitted its report in October 1955;
- Its recommendations were accepted with some modifications and implemented quickly.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.6) In November 1956, the States Reorganization Act was passed which provided for fourteen States and how many Union Territories?

- a) 5 Union Territories
- b) 6 Union Territories
- c) 7 Union Territories
- d) 9 Union Territories

ANS: B

Explanation: In November 1956, the States Reorganization Act was passed which provided for fourteen states and six centrally administered territories, but many of these states still contained sizeable linguistic minorities and regional economic disparities.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.7) The PEPSU States were merged with which of the following State?

- a) Punjab
- b) Jammu & Kashmir
- c) Assam
- d) Uttar Pradesh

ANS: A

Explanation: In an exception to the linguistic principle, in 1956, the states of PEPSU were merged with Punjab.

Punjab remained a trilingual state having three language speakers—Punjabi, Hindi and Pahari.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.8) After Independence, which State first won the election other than the Congress party?

- a) Kerala
- b) West Bengal
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Tamil Nadu

ANS: A

Explanation: Perhaps the first time people exercised their right of choice for a party other than the Congress was when they voted the Communists into power in Kerala in 1957.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

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Q.9) In September 1952, the Congress Socialist Party (CSP) merged with the Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party (KMPP) to form which of the following?

- a) Bharatiya Jan Sangh
- b) Praja Socialist Party (PSP)
- c) Communist Party (CPI)
- d) Unionist Party

ANS: B

Explanation: In September 1952, the CSP merged with the Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party (KMPP) to form a new party—Praja Socialist Party (PSP).

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.10) Who among the following founded the Swatantra Party?

- a) Rammanohar Lohia
- b) Hridaynath Kunzru
- c) Fazl Ali
- d) C. Rajagopalachari

ANS: D

Explanation: Founded in August 1959, the Swatantra Party was a non-socialist, constitutionalist and secular conservative party having distinguished leaders like C. Rajagopalachari (who resigned from the Congress), Minoo Masani, N.G. Ranga and K.M. Munshi, most of them being veteran Congress leaders.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Indian Constitution: Historical Underpinnings, Evolution & Making of the Constitution

Q.1) The Regulating Act 1773 has a great constitutional importance due to which of the following?

1. It was the first step taken by the British Government to control and regulate the affairs of the East India Company in India.
2. It was the first step to recognize the political, economical and administrative functions of the Company.
3. It laid the foundations of decentralized administration in India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Regulating act of 1773 was of great constitutional importance as

- It was the first step taken by the British Government to control and regulate the affairs of the East India Company in India;
- It recognized, for the first time, the political and administrative functions of the Company; and
- It laid the foundations of central administration in India.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.2) Which of the following is/are the features of Act of Settlement, 1781?

1. It exempted the Governor-General from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court for the acts done by them in their official capacity and not executive council.
2. It empowered the Supreme Court to frame regulations for the Provincial Courts and Councils.

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

ANS: D

Explanation: In a bid to rectify the defects of the Regulating Act of 1773, the British Parliament passed the Amending Act of 1781, also known as the Act of Settlement.

The features of this Act were as follows:

- It exempted the Governor-General and the Council from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court for the acts done by them in their official capacity.
- Similarly, it also exempted the servants of the company from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court for their official actions.

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- It excluded the revenue matters and the matters arising in the collection of revenue from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.
- It provided that the Supreme Court was to have jurisdiction over all the inhabitants of Calcutta.
- It also required the court to administer the personal law of the defendants i.e., Hindus were to be tried according to the Hindu law and Muslims were to be tried according to the Mohammedan law.
- It laid down that the appeals from the Provincial Courts could be taken to the Governor-General-in-Council and not to the Supreme Court.
- It empowered the Governor-General- in - Council to frame regulations for the Provincial Courts and Councils.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.3) Which of the following Act distinguish the commercial and political functions of the Company?

- a) Regulating Act of 1773
- b) Act of Settlement, 1781
- c) Pitts India Act, 1784
- d) Regulating act of 1793

ANS: C

Explanation: Pitts India Act, 1784 distinguished between the commercial and political functions of the Company.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.4) Which of the following is/are features of Charter Act of 1813?

1. It abolished the trade monopoly of the company in India.
2. Act did not assert the sovereignty of the British Crown over the Company's territories in India.
3. It did not allow the Christian missionaries to come to India for the purpose of enlightening the people.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The features of Charter Act of 1813 were as follows:

- It abolished the trade monopoly of the company in India i.e., the Indian trade was thrown open to all British merchants.
- However, it continued the monopoly of the company over trade in tea and trade with China.
- It asserted the sovereignty of the British Crown over the Company's territories in India.
- It allowed the Christian missionaries to come to India for the purpose of enlightening the people.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.5) Which of the following words are mentioned in Objectives Resolution?

1. Sovereign
2. Residuary powers
3. Integrity
4. Justice
5. Freedom
6. World Peace

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- b) 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
- c) 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 only
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

ANS: D

Explanation: On December 13, 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru moved the historic 'Objectives Resolution' in the Assembly. It laid down the fundamentals and philosophy of the constitutional structure. It read:

- "This Constituent Assembly declares its firm and solemn resolve to proclaim India as an Independent Sovereign Republic and to draw up for her future governance a Constitution.
- Wherein the territories that now comprise British India, the territories that now form the Indian States and such other parts of India as are outside India and the States as well as other territories as are willing to be constituted into the independent sovereign India, shall be a Union of them all; and
- wherein the said territories, whether with their present boundaries or with such others as may be determined by the Constituent Assembly and thereafter according to the law of the Constitution, shall possess and retain the status of autonomous units together with residuary powers and exercise all powers and functions of Government and administration save and except such powers and functions as are vested in or assigned to the Union or as are inherent or implied in the Union or resulting there from; and
- where in all power and authority of the sovereign independent India, its constituent parts and organs of Government are derived from the people; and
- Where in shall be guaranteed and secured to all the people of India justice, social, economic and political; equality of status of opportunity, and before the law; freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith, worship, vocation, association and action, subject to law and public morality; and
- Where in adequate safeguards shall be provided for minorities, backward and tribal areas, and depressed and other backward classes; and
- Where by shall be maintained the integrity of the territory of the Republic and its sovereign rights on land, sea and air according to justice and the law of civilized nations; and
- This ancient land attains its rightful and honored place in the world and makes its full and willing contribution to the promotion of world peace and the welfare of mankind."

This Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Assembly on January 22, 1947. It influenced the eventual shaping of the constitution through all its subsequent stages. Its modified version forms the Preamble of the present Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth.

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Q.6) Who among the following was headed the Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas?

- a) Jawaharlal Nehru
- b) B. R. Ambedkar
- c) Sardar Vallabhai Patel
- d) H Kunzru

ANS: C

Explanation: Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas - Sardar Patel.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.7) The structural part of the Indian Constitution is, to a large extent, derived from which of the following?

- a) British Constitution
- b) Independence Act, 1947
- c) Government of India Act, 1935
- d) Soviet Union Constitution

ANS: C

Explanation: The structural part of the Constitution is, to a large extent, derived from the Government of India Act of 1935.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.8) The Indian Constitution has been described as 'quasi-federal' by whom among the following?

- a) K.C. Wheare
- b) Morris Jones
- c) Ivor Jennings
- d) James Mill

ANS: A

Explanation: Indian Constitution has been variously described as 'federal in form but, unitary in spirit', 'quasi-federal' by K.C. Wheare, 'bargaining federalism' by Morris Jones, 'co-operative federalism' by Granville Austin, 'federation with a centralizing tendency' by Ivor Jennings and so on.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.9) Which of the following is/are the features of Parliamentary form of Government?

1. Minority party rule
2. Dissolution of the lower House
3. Collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The parliamentary system is also known as the 'Westminster' Model of Government, responsible Government and Cabinet Government. The Constitution establishes the parliamentary system not only at the Centre, but also in the states.

The features of parliamentary government in India are:

- Presence of nominal and real executives;
- Majority party rule,
- Collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature,
- Membership of the ministers in the legislature,
- Leadership of the Prime Minister or the Chief Minister,
- Dissolution of the lower House (Lok Sabha or Assembly).

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.10) Which of the following is the 'novel feature' of the Indian Constitution?

- a) Fundamental duties
- b) Writs
- c) Objectives Resolution
- d) Directive Principles of State Policy

ANS: D

Explanation: According to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the Directive Principles of State Policy is a 'novel feature' of the Indian Constitution.

- They are enumerated in Part IV of the Constitution.
- They can be classified into three broad categories – socialistic, Gandhian and liberal intellectual.

Source: Laxmikanth.

The Preamble, Union and its Territory, Citizenship

Q.1) Which of the following is/are example/examples of direct democracy?

1. Referendum
2. Recall
3. Initiative

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Democracy is of two types: direct and indirect. In direct democracy, the people exercise their supreme power directly as is the case in Switzerland.

- There are four devices of direct democracy, namely, Referendum, Initiative, Recall and Plebiscite.
- In indirect democracy, on the other hand, the representatives elected by the people exercise the supreme power and thus carry on the government and make the laws.
- This type of democracy, also known as representative democracy, is of two kinds: parliamentary and presidential.
- The Indian Constitution provides for representative parliamentary democracy under which the executive is responsible to the legislature for all its policies and actions.
- Universal adult franchise, periodic elections, rule of law, independence of judiciary, and absence of discrimination on certain grounds are the manifestations of the democratic character of the Indian polity.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Consider the following statements with regarding to Preamble:

1. American constitution was the first to begin with a Preamble.
2. It refers to the introduction or preface to the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: American Constitution was the first to begin with a Preamble. Many countries, including India, followed this practice.

- The term preamble refers to the introduction or preface to the Constitution. It contains the summary or essence of the Constitution.
- N A Palkhivala, an eminent jurist and constitutional expert, called the Preamble as the identity card of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth.

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Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding secular state of India:

1. The term secular was part of original constitution.
2. The Preamble secures to all citizens of India liberty of belief, faith and worship.

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Constitution of India stands for a secular state. Hence, it does not uphold any particular religion as the official religion of the Indian State. The following provisions of the Constitution reveal the secular character of the Indian State:

- The term 'secular' was added to the Preamble of the Indian Constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976.
- The Preamble secures to all citizens of India liberty of belief, faith and worship.
- The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or equal protection of the laws (Article 14).
- The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on the ground of religion (Article 15).
- Equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters of public employment (Article 16).
- All persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice and propagate any religion (Article 25).
- Every religious denomination or any of its section shall have the right to manage its religious affairs (Article 26).
- No person shall be compelled to pay any taxes for the promotion of a particular religion (Article 27).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding Justice in Preamble of Indian Constitution:

1. The term justice in the Preamble embraces social and political justice only.
2. A combination of social justice and economic justice is known as distributive justice.
3. The ideal of Justice has been taken from Russian Revolution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The term 'justice' in the Preamble embraces three distinct forms-social, economic and political, secured through various provisions of Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles.

- Social justice denotes the equal treatment of all citizens without any social distinction based on caste, color, race, religion, sex and so on.
- It means absence of privileges being extended to any particular section of the society, and improvement in the conditions of backward classes (SCs, STs and OBCs) and women.

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- Economic justice denotes the non-discrimination between people on the basis of economic factors. It involves the elimination of glaring inequalities in wealth, income and property.
- A combination of social justice and economic justice denotes what is known as 'distributive justice'.
- Political justice implies that all citizens should have equal political rights, equal access to all political offices and equal voice in the government.
- Fundamental Duties & Idea of Social, Economic, and Political Justice in Preamble was taken from Russian Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding Citizenship:

1. Articles 5 to 11 of the Constitution deals with Citizenship.
 2. Constitution does not contain permanent and elaborate provisions related to Citizenship.
- 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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Constitution deals with the citizenship from Articles 5 to 11 under Part II. However, it contains neither any permanent nor any elaborate provisions in this regard.

- It only identifies the persons who became citizens of India at its commencement (i.e., on January 26, 1950).
- It does not deal with the problem of acquisition or loss of citizenship subsequent to its commencement.
- It empowers the Parliament to enact a law to provide for such matters and any other matter relating to citizenship.
- Accordingly, the Parliament has enacted the Citizenship Act, 1955, which has been amended in 1957, 1960, 1985, 1986, 1992, 2003, 2005, 2015 and 2019.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Consider the following statement regarding state of Sikkim:

1. Till 1947, Sikkim was an Indian princely state ruled by Awadh Descendants.
2. After the lapse of British paramountcy, Sikkim became a 'protectorate' of India.
3. The 36th Constitutional Amendment Act (1975) was enacted to make Sikkim a full-fledged state of the Indian Union (the 22nd state).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Till 1947, Sikkim was an Indian princely state ruled by Chogyal. In 1947, after the lapse of British paramount, Sikkim became a 'protectorate' of India, whereby the Indian Government assumed responsibility for the defense, external affairs and communications of Sikkim.

- In 1974, Sikkim expressed its desire for greater association with India. Accordingly, the 35th Constitutional Amendment Act (1974) was enacted by the parliament.

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- This amendment introduced a new class of statehood under the constitution by conferring on Sikkim the status of an 'associate state' of the Indian Union.
- For this purpose, a new Article 2A and a new schedule (Tenth Schedule containing the terms and conditions of association) were inserted in the Constitution.
- This experiment, however, did not last long as it could not fully satisfy the aspirations of the people of Sikkim.
- In a referendum held in 1975, they voted for the abolition of the institution of Chogyal and Sikkim becoming an integral part of India.
- Consequently, the 36th Constitutional Amendment Act (1975) was enacted to make Sikkim a full-fledged state of the Indian Union (the 22nd state).
- This amendment amended the First and the Fourth Schedules to the Constitution and added a new Article 371-F to provide for certain special provisions with respect to the administration of Sikkim.
- It also repealed Article 2A and the Tenth Schedule that were added by the 35th Amendment Act of 1974.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. In USA, only a naturalized citizen is eligible for the office of President.
2. In India both a citizen by birth as well as a naturalized citizen is eligible for the office of President.

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Like any other modern state, India has two kinds of people—citizens and aliens. Citizens are full members of the Indian State and owe allegiance to it. They enjoy all civil and political rights.

- Aliens, on the other hand, are the citizens of some other state and hence, do not enjoy all the civil and political rights. They are of two categories—friendly aliens or enemy aliens.
- Friendly aliens are the subjects of those countries that have cordial relations with India. Enemy aliens, on the other hand, are the subjects of that country that is at war with India.
- They enjoy lesser rights than the friendly aliens, e.g., they do not enjoy protection against arrest and detention (Article 22).
- Along with the above rights, the citizens also owe certain duties towards the Indian State, as for example, paying taxes, respecting the national flag and national anthem, defending the country and so on.
- In India both a citizen by birth as well as a naturalized citizen is eligible for the office of President while in USA, only a citizen by birth and not a naturalized citizen is eligible for the office of President.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Article 1 of Indian Constitution describes India as a Union of States rather than a Federation of States.
2. There was unanimity in the Constituent Assembly with regard to the name of the country.

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Article 1 describes India, that is, Bharat as a 'Union of States' rather than a 'Federation of States'.

- This provision deals with two things: one, name of the country, and two, type of polity.
- There was no unanimity in the Constituent Assembly with regard to the name of the country. Some members suggested the traditional name (Bharat) while other advocated the modern name (India).
- Hence, the Constituent Assembly had to adopt a mix of both ('India, that is, Bharat')
- Secondly, the country is described as 'Union' although its Constitution is federal in structure.
- According to Dr B R Ambedkar, the phrase 'Union of States' has been preferred to 'Federation of States' for two reasons: one, the Indian Federation is not the result of an agreement among the states like the American Federation; and two, the states have no right to secede from the federation.
- The federation is a Union because it is indestructible. The country is an integral whole and divided into different states only for the convenience of administration.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.9) Which of the following commission/committee is/are NOT accepted language to be basis for state reorganization?

1. Dhar Commission
2. JVP Committee
3. Fazl Ali Commission

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The integration of princely states with the rest of India has purely an ad hoc arrangement. There has been a demand from different regions, particularly South India, for reorganization of states on linguistic basis.

- Accordingly, in June 1948, the Government of India appointed the Linguistic Provinces Commission under the chairmanship of S K Dhar to examine the feasibility of this.
- The commission submitted its report in December 1948 and recommended the reorganization of states on the basis of administrative convenience rather than linguistic factor.

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- This created much resentment and led to the appointment of another Linguistic Provinces Committee by the Congress in December 1948 itself to examine the whole question afresh.
- It consisted of Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel and Pattabhi Sitaramayya and hence, was popularly known as JVP Committee.
- It submitted its report in April 1949 and formally rejected language as the basis for reorganization of states.
- The creation of Andhra state intensified the demand from other regions for creation of states on linguistic basis.
- This forced the Government of India to appoint (in December 1953) a three-member States Reorganisation Commission under the chairmanship of Fazl Ali to re-examine the whole question. Its other two members were K M Panikkar and H N Kunzru.
- It submitted its report in September 1955 and broadly accepted language as the basis of reorganisation of states. But, it rejected the theory of one language– one state.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Which of the following term was not in the original Preamble of Indian Constitution?

- a) Socialist
- b) Unity
- c) Democratic
- d) Republic

ANS: A

Explanation: The Preamble in its present form reads:

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN

SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and to secure to all its citizens:

JUSTICE, social, economic and political;

LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;

EQUALITY of status and of opportunity; and to promote among them all

FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the [unity and integrity of the Nation];

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twentysixth day of November, 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.

The Preamble to the Indian Constitution is based on the 'Objectives Resolution', drafted and moved by Pandit Nehru, and adopted by the Constituent Assembly. It has been amended by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act (1976), which added three new words: socialist, secular and integrity.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Fundamental Rights

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The original constitution consists of seven fundamental rights.
2. The Fundamental Rights are guaranteed by the Constitution to all persons without any discrimination.
3. The framers of the Constitution derived inspiration from the Constitution of Britain to incorporate fundamental rights in Indian Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

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

- In this regard, the framers of the Constitution derived inspiration from the Constitution of USA (i.e., Bill of Rights).
- The Fundamental Rights are guaranteed by the Constitution to all persons without any discrimination.
- They uphold the equality of all individuals, the dignity of the individual, the larger public interest and unity of the nation.
- Originally, the Constitution provided for seven Fundamental Rights.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding right to property:

1. It was deleted from the list of Fundamental Rights by the 1st Amendment Act, 1951.
2. It is made a legal right under Article 276-A in Part XII of the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: D

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.3) Which of the following is/are the features of Fundamental Rights?

1. All fundamental rights are positive in nature.
2. They are not absolute but qualified in nature.
3. All of them are available against the arbitrary action of the state.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Fundamental Rights guaranteed by the Constitution are characterized by the following:

- Some of them are available only to the citizens while others are available to all persons whether citizens, foreigners or legal persons like corporations or companies.
- They are not absolute but qualified. The state can impose reasonable restrictions on them. However, whether such restrictions are reasonable or not is to be decided by the courts.
- Thus, they strike a balance between the rights of the individual and those of the society as a whole, between individual liberty and social control.
- All of them are available against the arbitrary action of the state. However, some of them are also available against the action of private individuals.
- Some of them are negative in character, that is, place limitations on the authority of the State, while others are positive in nature, conferring certain privileges on the persons.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.4) Which of the following statement is NOT correct about Fundamental Rights?

- a) They are defended and guaranteed by the Supreme Court.
- b) Aggrieved person cannot directly go to the Supreme Court for their violation or enforcement.
- c) Parliament can curtail or repeal fundamental rights by a constitutional amendment act.
- d) They can be suspended during the operation of a National Emergency except the rights guaranteed by Articles 20 and 21.

ANS: B

Explanation: Fundamental Rights are justifiable, allowing persons to move the courts for their enforcement, if and when they are violated.

- They are defended and guaranteed by the Supreme Court. Hence, the aggrieved person can directly go to the Supreme Court, not necessarily by way of appeal against the judgment of the high courts.
- They are not sacrosanct or permanent. The Parliament can curtail or repeal them but only by a constitutional amendment act and not by an ordinary act. Moreover, this can be done without affecting the 'basic structure' of the Constitution.
- They can be suspended during the operation of a National Emergency except the rights guaranteed by Articles 20 and 21.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.5) Article 12 has defined the term "State" for the purposes of Part III. Which of the following is/are come under the definition of State?

1. Executive and Legislative organs of Union and State government.
2. Improvement trusts.
3. Non – statutory authorities.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: The term 'State' has been used in different provisions concerning the fundamental rights. Hence, Article 12 has defined the term for the purposes of Part III. According to it, the State includes the following:

- Government and Parliament of India, that is, executive and legislative organs of the Union government.
- Government and legislature of states, that is, executive and legislative organs of state government.
- All local authorities, which is, municipalities, panchayats, district boards, improvement trusts, etc.
- All other authorities, that is, statutory or non-statutory authorities like LIC, ONGC, SAIL, etc.
- Thus, State has been defined in a wider sense so as to include all its agencies. It is the actions of these agencies that can be challenged in the courts as violating the Fundamental Rights.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.6) Which of the following is NOT part of Right to equality?

- a) Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.
- b) Right to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.
- c) Abolition of titles except military and academic.
- d) Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment.

ANS: B

Explanation: Right to equality (Articles 14–18):

- Equality before law and equal protection of laws (Article 14).
- Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth (Article 15).
- Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment (Article 16).
- Abolition of un-touchability and prohibition of its practice (Article 17).
- Abolition of titles except military and academic (Article 18).

NOTE: Right to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business is covers under Right to Freedom.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.7) Which of the following Fundamental Right is NOT available to Foreigners?

- a) Equality before law and equal protection of laws.
- b) Protection of life and personal liberty.
- c) Right to elementary education.
- d) Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment.

ANS: D

Explanation:

FR available only to citizens and not to foreigners	FR available to both citizens and foreigners (except enemy aliens)
1. Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth (Article 15).	1. Equality before law and equal protection of laws (Article 14).
2. Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment (Article 16).	2. Protection in respect of conviction for offences (Article 20).
3. Protection of six rights regarding freedom of : (i) speech and expression, (ii) assembly, (iii) association, (iv) movement, (v) residence, and (vi) profession (Article 19).	3. Protection of life and personal liberty (Article 21).
4. Protection of life and personal liberty (Article 21).	4. Right to elementary education (Article 21A).

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.8) “No member of Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or any committee thereof” – describes in which of the following Article of Indian Constitution?

- a) Article 102
- b) Article 103
- c) Article 104
- d) Article 105

ANS: D

Explanation: No Member of Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or any committee thereof (Article 105).

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.9) The famous Menaka Gandhi case of 1978 was associated with which of the following Article of Indian constitution?

- a) Article 15
- b) Article 16
- c) Article 21
- d) Article 25

ANS: C

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

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

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- In other words, it has introduced the American expression 'due process of law'.
- In effect, the protection under Article 21 should be available not only against arbitrary executive action but also against arbitrary legislative action.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.10) Which constitutional amendment act added the provision of "State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such a manner as the State may determine"?

- a) 61st constitutional amendment act
- b) 65th constitutional amendment act
- c) 81st constitutional amendment act
- d) 86th constitutional amendment act

ANS: D

Explanation: Article 21 A declares that the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such a manner as the State may determine.

- Thus, this provision makes only elementary education a Fundamental Right and not higher or professional education.
- This provision was added by the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2002.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Directive Principles and Fundamental Duties

Q.1) Which of the following are like the instrument of instructions, which were issued to the Governor-General and to the Governors of the colonies of India by the British Government under the Government of India Act of 1935?

- a) Fundamental Rights
- b) Fundamental duties
- c) Directive Principles of State Policy
- d) Objective Resolution

ANS: C

Explanation: The Directive Principles resemble the 'Instrument of Instructions' enumerated in the Government of India Act of 1935.

- In the words of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, 'the Directive Principles are like the instrument of instructions, which were issued to the Governor-General and to the Governors of the colonies of India by the British Government under the Government of India Act of 1935.
- What is called Directive Principles is merely another name for the instrument of instructions.
- The only difference is that they are instructions to the legislature and the executive'.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.2) Which of the following provisions of Indian Constitution embody the concept of a welfare state?

- a) Fundamental Rights
- b) Directive Principles of State Policy
- c) Fundamental duties
- d) Preamble

ANS: B

Explanation: The Directive Principles constitute a very comprehensive economic, social and political programme for a modern democratic State.

- They aim at realising the high ideals of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity as outlined in the Preamble to the Constitution.
- They embody the concept of a 'welfare state' and not that of a 'police state', which existed during the colonial era.
- In brief, they seek to establish economic and social democracy in the country.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.3) Which of the following Article of Indian Constitution says that directive principles are fundamental in the governance of the country?

- a) Article 37
- b) Article 42
- c) Article 48
- d) Article 51

ANS: A

Explanation: The Constitution (Article 37) itself says that these principles are fundamental in the governance of the country and it shall be the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.4) “To organise village panchayats and endow them with necessary powers and authority to enable them to function as units of self-government” – is described in which of the following Article?

- a) Article 36
- b) Article 37
- c) Article 38
- d) Article 40

ANS: D

Explanation: To organise village panchayats and endow them with necessary powers and authority to enable them to function as units of self-government (Article 40).

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.5) Which of the following provisions are covered under Article 39 of Directive Principles of State policy?

1. The equitable distribution of material resources of the community for the common good.
2. Opportunities for healthy development of children.
3. To take steps to secure the participation of workers in the management of industries.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: To secure

- the right to adequate means of livelihood for all citizens;
- the equitable distribution of material resources of the community for the common good;
- prevention of concentration of wealth and means of production;
- equal pay for equal work for men and women;
- preservation of the health and strength of workers and children against forcible abuse; and
- Opportunities for healthy development of children (Article 39).

NOTE: To take steps to secure the participation of workers in the management of industries (Article 43 A).

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.6) Which amendment act was added the directive principle of cooperative societies?

- a) 65th Amendment Act
- b) 86th Amendment Act
- c) 91st Amendment Act
- d) 97th Amendment Act

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ANS: D

Explanation: The 97th Amendment Act of 2011 added a new Directive Principle relating to cooperative societies.

It requires the state to promote voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control and professional management of co-operative societies (Article 43B).

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.7) Which of the following directive principles is/are added under 42nd constitutional Amendment Act, 1976?

1. To provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years.
2. To promote equal justice and to provide free legal aid to the poor.
3. To protect and improve the environment and to safeguard forests and wild life.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 added four new Directive Principles to the original list. They require the State:

- To secure opportunities for healthy development of children (Article 39).
- To promote equal justice and to provide free legal aid to the poor (Article 39 A).
- To take steps to secure the participation of workers in the management of industries (Article 43 A).
- To protect and improve the environment and to safeguard forests and wild life (Article 48 A).

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.8) Which of the following committee fundamental duties in Indian constitution set up by the government to make recommendations about fundamental duties?

- a) Sarkaria Committee
- b) Fazl ali committee
- c) Swaran Singh committee
- d) Punchhi Commission

ANS: C

Explanation: In 1976, the Congress Party set up the Sardar Swaran Singh Committee to make recommendations about fundamental duties, the need and necessity of which was felt during the operation of the internal emergency (1975–1977).

The committee recommended the inclusion of a separate chapter on fundamental duties in the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.9) “Article 51A” of Indian Constitution is associated with?

- a) Ratification of International Conventions
- b) Wild Life Protection
- c) Fundamental Duties
- d) World Peace

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ANS: C

Explanation: The Congress Government at Centre accepted these recommendations and enacted the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1976.

- This amendment added a new part, namely, Part IVA to the Constitution.
- This new part consists of only one Article, that is, Article 51A which for the first time specified a code of ten fundamental duties of the citizens.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.10) Arrange the following acts in chronological order?

1. The Minimum Wages Act
2. The Payment of Wages Act
3. The Payment of Bonus Act

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Minimum Wages Act (1948), the Payment of Wages Act (1936), the Payment of Bonus Act (1965), the Contract Labour Regulation and Abolition Act (1970), the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act (1986), the Bonded Labour System Abolition Act (1976), the Trade Unions Act (1926), the Factories Act (1948), the Mines Act (1952), the Industrial Disputes Act (1947), the Workmen's Compensation Act (1923) and soon have been enacted to protect the interests of the labour sections. In 2006, the government banned the child labour.

In 2016, the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act (1986) was renamed as the Child and Adolescent Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act, 1986.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Amendment of Constitution, Basic Structure of the Constitution, Emergency Provisions

Q.1) Which of the following provisions is/are amended by simple majority of Parliament?

1. Delimitation of Constituencies.
2. Abolition or creation of legislative councils in states.
3. Union territories.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: A number of provisions in the Constitution can be amended by a simple majority of the two Houses of Parliament outside the scope of Article 368.

These provisions include:

- Admission or establishment of new states.
- Formation of new states and alteration of areas, boundaries or names of existing states.
- Abolition or creation of legislative councils in states.
- Second Schedule—emoluments, allowances, privileges and so on of the president, the governors, the Speakers, judges, etc.
- Quorum in Parliament.
- Salaries and allowances of the members of Parliament.
- Rules of procedure in Parliament.
- Privileges of the Parliament, its members and its committees.
- Use of English language in Parliament.
- Number of puisne judges in the Supreme Court.
- Conferment of more jurisdictions on the Supreme Court.
- Use of official language.
- Citizenship—acquisition and termination.
- Elections to Parliament and state legislatures.
- Delimitation of constituencies.
- Union territories.
- Fifth Schedule—administration of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes.
- Sixth Schedule—administration of tribal areas.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the procedure for the amendment of the Constitution:

1. An amendment of the Constitution cannot be initiated in the state legislature.
2. The constitutional amendment bill cannot be introduced by a private member.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Article 368 in Part XX of the Constitution deals with the powers of Parliament to amend the Constitution and its procedure.

- An amendment of the Constitution can be initiated only by the introduction of a bill for the purpose in either House of Parliament and not in the state legislatures.
- The bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member and does not require prior permission of the president.
- The bill must be passed in each House by a special majority, that is, a majority (that is, more than 50 per cent) of the total membership of the House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of the House present and voting. Each House must pass the bill separately.
- In case of a 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.
- If the bill seeks to amend the federal provisions of the Constitution, it must also be ratified by the legislatures of half of the states by a simple majority, that is, a majority of the members of the House present and voting.
- 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.
- After the president's assent, the bill becomes an Act (i.e., a constitutional amendment act) and the Constitution stands amended in accordance with the terms of the Act.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. During emergency, Central government converts the federal structure into a unitary one by an amendment of the Constitution.
2. Emergency provisions are contained in Part XVIII of the Constitution.

Which of the statements above given is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Emergency provisions are contained in Part XVIII of the Constitution, from Articles 352 to 360.

- These provisions enable the Central government to meet any abnormal situation effectively.
- The rationality behind the incorporation of these provisions in the Constitution is to safeguard the sovereignty, unity, integrity and security of the country, the democratic political system, and the Constitution.
- During an Emergency, the Central government becomes all powerful and the states go into the total control of the Centre.

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- It converts the federal structure into a unitary one without a formal amendment of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which of the following amendment/amendments is/are NOT comes under Article 368?

1. Simple Majority
2. Special Majority
3. Special Majority with half of the states ratification

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Article 368 provides for two types of amendments, that is, by a special majority of Parliament and also through the ratification of half of the states by a simple majority.

- But, some other articles provide for the amendment of certain provisions of the Constitution by a simple majority of Parliament, that is, a majority of the members of each House present and voting (similar to the ordinary legislative process).
- Notably, these amendments are not deemed to be amendments of the Constitution for the purposes of Article 368.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth

Q.5) In which of the following cases Supreme Court used the power of Judicial Review?

1. The Golaknath case
2. The Privy Purses Abolition case
3. The Minerva Mills case

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The Supreme Court used the power of judicial review in various cases, as for example, the Golaknath case (1967), the Bank Nationalisation case (1970), the Privy Purses Abolition case (1971), the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973), the Minerva Mills case (1980), and so on.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Which of the following provisions/features is/are consider as Basic Structure of the Indian Constitution?

1. Separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary.
2. Unity and integrity of nation.
3. Freedom and dignity of individual.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: The present position is that the Parliament under Article 368 can amend any part of the Constitution including the Fundamental Rights but without affecting the 'basic structure' of the Constitution.

However, the Supreme Court is yet to define or clarify as to what constitutes the 'basic structure' of the Constitution.

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

- Supremacy 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
- Federal character of the Constitution
- Unity and integrity of the nation
- Welfare state (socio-economic justice)
- Judicial review
- Freedom and dignity of the individual

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding financial emergency:

1. The Financial Emergency continues indefinitely till it is revoked, if it is approved by both houses.
2. A resolution approving the proclamation of financial emergency should be passed by both Houses of Parliament by special majority.

Which of the statements above given is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Once approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the Financial Emergency continues indefinitely till it is revoked. This implies two things:

- there is no maximum period prescribed for its operation; and
- Repeated parliamentary approval is not required for its continuation.

A resolution approving the proclamation of financial emergency can be passed by either House of Parliament only by a simple majority, that is, a majority of the members of that house present and voting.

A proclamation of Financial Emergency may be revoked by the president at anytime by a subsequent proclamation. Such a proclamation does not require the parliamentary approval.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding National Emergency:

1. President proclaims a national emergency only after receiving a written recommendation from the cabinet.
2. President can declare a national emergency only on the actual occurrence of war or external aggression.

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Which of the statements given above is/are NOT correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Under Article 352, the President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.

- It may be noted that the president can declare a national emergency even before the actual occurrence of war or external aggression or armed rebellion, if he is satisfied that there is an imminent danger.
- The President, however, can proclaim a national emergency only after receiving a written recommendation from the cabinet.
- This means that the emergency can be declared only on the concurrence of the cabinet and not merely on the advice of the prime minister.
- In 1975, the then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi advised the president to proclaim emergency without consulting her cabinet.
- The cabinet was informed of the proclamation after it was made, as a fait accompli.
- The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 introduced this safeguard to eliminate any possibility of the prime minister alone taking a decision in this regard.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth

Q.9) “The President can also issue different proclamations on grounds of war, external aggression, armed rebellion, or imminent danger thereof, whether or not there is a proclamation already issued by him and such proclamation is in operation” – this provision was added by which amendment act?

- a) 38th Amendment Act of 1975
- b) 42nd Amendment Act 1976
- c) 44th Amendment Act 1978
- d) 56th Amendment Act 1987

ANS: A

Explanation: The President can also issue different proclamations on grounds of war, external aggression, armed rebellion, or imminent danger thereof, whether or not there is a proclamation already issued by him and such proclamation is in operation. This provision was added by the 38th Amendment Act of 1975.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding “President’s Rule”:

1. It should be approved by both houses of the Parliament.
2. Maximum period of President’s rule is 3 years.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: A proclamation imposing President's Rule must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within two months from the date of its issue.

- However, if the proclamation of President's Rule is issued at a time when the Lok Sabha has been dissolved or the dissolution of the Lok Sabha takes place during the period of two months without approving the proclamation, then the proclamation survives until 30 days from the first sitting of the Lok Sabha after its reconstitution, provided the Rajya Sabha approves it in the mean time.
- If approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the President's Rule continues for six months.
- It can be extended for a maximum period of three years with the approval of the Parliament, every six months.

Source: Laxmikanth

ForumIAS

Revision

Q.1) Which of the following factors that can be taken into account of reorganization of states by Fazl Ali Commission?

1. Linguistic and cultural homogeneity.
2. Preservation and strengthening of the unity and security of the country.
3. Planning and promotion of the welfare of the people in each state as well as of the nation as a whole.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The creation of Andhra state intensified the demand from other regions for creation of states on linguistic basis.

- This forced the Government of India to appoint (in December 1953) a three-member States Re-organization Commission under the chairmanship of Fazl Ali to re-examine the whole question.
- Its other two members were K M Panikkar and H N Kunzru. It submitted its report in September 1955 and broadly accepted language as the basis of reorganisation of states. But, it rejected the theory of 'one language- one state'.
- Its view was that the unity of India should be regarded as the primary consideration in any redrawing of the country's political units.

It identified four major factors that can be taken into account in any scheme of reorganisation of states:

- (a) Preservation and strengthening of the unity and security of the country.
- (b) Linguistic and cultural homogeneity.
- (c) Financial, economic and administrative considerations.
- (d) Planning and promotion of the welfare of the people in each state as well as of the nation as a whole.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the "demand for constituent assembly":

1. In 1935 the Indian National Congress officially demanded a constituent assembly to frame the constitution of India.
2. In 1938, Jawaharlal Nehru declared that the constitution of free India must be framed without outside Interference.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: It was in 1934 that the idea of constituent assembly for India was put forward for the first time by M. N. Roy, a pioneer of communist movement in India.

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- In 1935, the Indian National Congress (INC), for the first time, officially demanded a Constituent Assembly to frame the Constitution of India.
- In 1938, Jawaharlal Nehru, on behalf the INC declared that ‘the Constitution of free India must be framed, without outside interference, by a Constituent Assembly elected on the basis of adult franchise’.
- The demand was finally accepted in principle by the British Government in what is known as the ‘August Offer’ of 1940.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Consider the following statements with regard to “Objectives Resolution”:

1. Dr. Rajendra Prasad moved the historic ‘Objectives Resolution’ in the constituent assembly.

2. Objectives Resolution was modified version of Preamble.

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

ANS: D

Explanation: On December 13, 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru moved the historic ‘Objectives Resolution’ in the Assembly.

- It laid down the fundamentals and philosophy of the constitutional structure. Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Assembly on January 22, 1947.
- It influenced the eventual shaping of the constitution through all its subsequent stages. Its modified version forms the Preamble of the present constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which article of the constitution of India is deals with the India’s foreign policy and promotes international peace and security?

- a) Article 48
- b) Article 49
- c) Article 50
- d) Article 51

ANS: D

Explanation: India’s foreign policy aims at the promotion of international peace and security. Article 51 of the Constitution (Directive Principles of State Policy) directs the Indian State to promote international peace and security, maintain just and honorable relations between nations, foster respect for international law and treaty obligations, and encourage settlement of international disputes by arbitration.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Consider the following pairs:

Committee	Headed by
1. Union powers committee	Jawaharlal Nehru
2. Union constitution committee	Sardar Patel
3. Rules of procedure committee	J.B. Kripalani

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Constituent Assembly appointed a number of committees to deal with different tasks of constitution-making. Out of these, eight were major committees and the others were minor committees. The names of these committees and their chairmen are given below:

Major Committees

1. Union Powers Committee – Jawaharlal Nehru
2. Union Constitution Committee – Jawaharlal Nehru
3. Provincial Constitution Committee – Sardar Patel
4. Drafting Committee – Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
5. Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas – Sardar Patel. This committee had the following five sub-committees:
 - (a) Fundamental Rights Sub-Committee – J.B. Kripalani
 - (b) Minorities Sub-Committee – H.C. Mukherjee
 - (c) North-East Frontier Tribal Areas and Assam Excluded & Partially Excluded Areas Sub-Committee – Gopinath Bardoloi
 - (d) Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas (Other than those in Assam) Sub-Committee – A.V. Thakkar
 - (e) North-West Frontier Tribal Areas Sub-Committee
6. Rules of Procedure Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad
7. States Committee (Committee for Negotiating with States) – Jawaharlal Nehru
8. Steering Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Which of the following articles of Constitution of India is/are reveal the secular character of the Indian State?

1. Article 14
2. Article 22
3. Article 32

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Constitution of India stands for a secular state. Hence, it does not uphold any particular religion as the official religion of the Indian State. The following provisions of the Constitution reveal the secular character of the Indian State:

- The term 'secular' was added to the Preamble of the Indian Constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976.
- The Preamble secures to all citizens of India liberty of belief, faith and worship.
- The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or equal protection of the laws (Article 14).
- The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on the ground of religion (Article 15).
- Equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters of public employment (Article 16).

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- All persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice and propagate any religion (Article 25).
- Every religious denomination or any of its section shall have the right to manage its religious affairs (Article 26).
- No person shall be compelled to pay any taxes for the promotion of a particular religion (Article 27).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Consider the following statements with respect to Fundamental Duties:

1. Fundamental Duties were added to constitution by 38th constitutional amendment.
2. Originally total 10 duties were added to constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: When the Constitution was adopted in the year 1949, there were no provisions regarding Fundamental Duties to the Citizens though there was a Part III for Fundamental Rights.

- The Fundamental Duties of citizens were added to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment in 1976, upon the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee that was constituted by the Government.
- The Committee suggested that steps needed to be taken to ensure that the individual did not overlook his duties while in exercise of his Fundamental Rights.
- Originally ten fundamental duties were listed. Later on, by virtue of 86th Constitution the Amendment in year 2002, 11th duty was added.

Source: <https://doj.gov.in/sites/default/files/Constitution%20Day.pdf>

Q.8) Which among the following provision of Indian constitution is NOT came into force on November 26, 1949 itself?

- a) Provisional parliament
- b) Planning Commission
- c) Elections
- d) Citizenship

ANS: B

Explanation: Some provisions of the Constitution pertaining to citizenship, elections, provisional parliament, temporary and transitional provisions, and short title contained in Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 60, 324, 366, 367, 379, 380, 388, 391, 392 and 393 came into force on November 26, 1949 itself.

- The remaining provisions (the major part) of the Constitution came into force on January 26, 1950.
- This day is referred to in the Constitution as the 'date of its commencement', and celebrated as the Republic Day.
- January 26 was specifically chosen as the 'date of commencement' of the Constitution because of its historical importance.
- It was on this day in 1930 that Purna Swaraj day was celebrated, following the resolution of the Lahore Session (December 1929) of the INC.

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- With the commencement of the Constitution, the Indian Independence Act of 1947 and the Government of India Act of 1935, with all enactments amending or supplementing the latter Act, were repealed.
- The Abolition of Privy Council Jurisdiction Act (1949) was however continued.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which of the following Articles are NOT suspended during National Emergency?

- a) Articles 19 and 20
- b) Articles 20 and 21
- c) Articles 21 and 22
- d) Articles 22 and 23

ANS: B

Explanation: The Fundamental Rights are meant for promoting the idea of political democracy.

- They operate as limitations on the tyranny of the executive and arbitrary laws of the legislature.
- They are justiciable in nature, that is, they are enforceable by the courts for their violation.
- Further, they are not sacrosanct and can be curtailed or repealed by the Parliament through a constitutional amendment act.
- They can also be suspended during the operation of a National Emergency except the rights guaranteed by Articles 20 and 21.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) In which of the following case, the Supreme Court held that 'the Indian Constitution is founded on the bedrock of the balance between the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles'?

- a) Golaknath case 1967
- b) Keshavananda Bharathi Case 1973
- c) Menaka Gandhi Case 1978
- d) Minerva Mills Case 1980

ANS: D

Explanation: In the Minerva Mills case (1980), the Supreme Court held that 'the Indian Constitution is founded on the bedrock of the balance between the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles'.

Source: Laxmikanth