

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

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

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

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

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

- 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

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

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

- 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.

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

- 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

Centre - State Relations

Q.1) Which State Appointed Rajamannar Committee to give recommendations on Inter-State Relation?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Kerala

ANS: B

Explanation: In 1969, the Tamil Nadu Government (DMK) appointed a three-member committee under the chairmanship of Dr P V Rajamannar to examine the entire question of Centre–state relations and to suggest amendments to the Constitution so as to secure utmost autonomy to the states.

The committee submitted its report to the Tamil Nadu Government in 1971.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding Inter-State council:

1. Article 262 of Indian Constitution provisions for the establishment of an Inter-State Council.

2. Parliament can establish such a council by passing a law.

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: Article 263 contemplates the establishment of an Inter-State Council to effect coordination between the states and between Centre and states.

- Thus, the President can establish such a council if at any time it appears to him that the public interest would be served by its establishment.
- He can define the nature of duties to be performed by such a council and its organisation and procedure.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The Congress government headed by P. V. Narasimha Rao established the Inter-State Council in 1990.

2. The Inter – State council is a recommendatory body on issues relating to inter-state, Centre–state and Centre–union territories relations.

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: In pursuance of the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission, the Janata Dal Government headed by V. P. Singh established the Inter-State Council in 1990. The council is a recommendatory body on issues relating to inter-state, Centre–state and Centre–union territories relations.

It aims at promoting coordination between them by examining, discussing and deliberating on such issues. Its duties, in detail, are as follows:

- investigating and discussing such subjects in which the states or the centre have a common interest;
- making recommendations upon any such subject for the better coordination of policy and action on it; and
- deliberating upon such other matters of general interest to the states as may be referred to it by the chairman.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) The Punchhi Commission report was related to which among the following?

- a) Centre-State Relations
- b) Fiscal Federalism
- c) Electoral Reforms
- d) Creation of new states

ANS: A

Explanation: The Second commission on Centre-State Relations was set-up by the Government of India in April 2007 under the Chairmanship of Madan Mohan Punchhi, former Chief Justice of India.

It was required to look into the issues of Centre-State relations keeping in view the sea-changes that have taken place in the polity and economy of India since the Sarkaria Commission had last looked at the issue of Centre-State relations over two decades ago.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) The funds under Statutory Grants to the states are charged upon which of the following?

- a) Consolidated Fund of India
- b) Contingency Fund of India
- c) Public Accounts of India
- d) Both A & B

ANS: A

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.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The power to make laws with respect to residuary subjects is vested in the Parliament.
2. The residuary power of legislation does not include the power to levy residuary taxes.

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: The power to make laws with respect to residuary subjects (i.e., the matters which are not enumerated in any of the three lists) is vested in the Parliament.

- This residuary power of legislation includes the power to levy residuary taxes.
- From the above scheme, it is clear that the matters of national importance and the matters which require uniformity of legislation nationwide are included in the Union List.
- The matters of regional and local importance and the matters which permit diversity of interest are specified in the State List.
- The matters on which uniformity of legislation throughout the country is desirable but not essential are enumerated in the concurrent list. Thus, it permits diversity along with uniformity.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Consider the following statements about Finance Commission:

1. It is a quasi-Judicial body.
2. It is required to make recommendations to parliament with respect to distribution of proceeding of taxes between centre and states.

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 280 provides for a Finance Commission as a quasi-judicial body. It is constituted by the President every fifth year or even earlier.

It is required to make recommendations to the President on the following matters:

- The distribution of the net proceeds of taxes to be shared between the Centre and the states, and the allocation between the states, the respective shares of such proceeds.
- The principles which should govern the grants-in-aid to the states by the Centre (i.e., out of the Consolidated Fund of India).
- The measures needed to augment the consolidated fund of a state to supplement the resources of the panchayats and the municipalities in the state on the basis of the recommendations made by the State Finance Commission.
- Any other matter referred to it by the President in the interests of sound finance.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Consider the following statements about Sarkaria Commission:

1. It was formed to review the foreign policy of India.
2. It was in favor of structural changes with respect to foreign policy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: In 1983, the Central government appointed a three-member Commission on Centre–state relations under the chairmanship of R S Sarkaria, a retired judge of the Supreme Court.

- The commission was asked to examine and review the working of existing arrangements between the Centre and states in all spheres and recommend appropriate changes and measures.
- It was initially given one year to complete its work, but its term was extended four times.
- The Commission did not favour structural changes and regarded the existing constitutional arrangements and principles relating to the institutions basically sound.
- But, it emphasized on the need for changes in the functional or operational aspects. It observed that federalism is more a functional arrangement for co-operative action than a static institutional concept.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which among the following is not a constitutional body?

- a) Finance Commission
- b) Inter-State Council
- c) Zonal Council
- d) Election Commission

ANS: C

Explanation: The Zonal Councils are the statutory (and not the constitutional) bodies.

- They are established by an Act of the Parliament, that is, States Reorganisation Act of 1956.
- The act divided the country into five zones (Northern, Central, Eastern, Western and Southern) and provided a zonal council for each zone.
- While forming these zones, several factors have been taken into account which includes: the natural divisions of the country, the river systems and means of communication, the cultural and linguistic affinity and the requirements of economic development, security and law and order.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding Zonal Councils:

1. Zonal Councils was established under the State Reorganization Act, 1956.
2. The Act divided the country into five zones namely, northern, central, eastern, western, and southern.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Zonal Councils are the statutory (and not the constitutional) bodies. They are established by an Act of the Parliament, that is, States Reorganisation Act of 1956.

- The act divided the country into five zones (Northern, Central, Eastern, Western and Southern) and provided a zonal council for each zone.
- In addition to the above Zonal Councils, a North-Eastern Council was created by a separate Act of Parliament—the North-Eastern Council Act of 1971.
- Its members include Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Arunchal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura and Sikkim. Its functions are similar to those of the zonal councils, but with few additions.

Source: Laxmikanth

ForumIAS

President, Vice President, Prime Minister and Council of Ministers

Q.1) With reference to the president's oath, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. President swears to execute the office faithfully.
2. President devotes himself to the service and well-being of the people of India.
3. President devotes himself to defend the Constitution and the law of the nation.

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: Before entering upon his office, the President has to make and subscribe to an oath or affirmation to faithfully execute the office.

- President swears to devotes himself to the service and well-being of the people of India.
- President sears to preserve protect and defend the Constitution and the law.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) With reference to the executive powers of the President, which of the following statements is/are NOT correct?

1. All executive actions of the Government of India are formally taken in his name.
2. He appoints the comptroller and auditor general of India and determines his salary and tenure.

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: B

Explanation: The Indian President is the head of the state and he is also called the first citizen of India.

- He is a part of Union Executive, provisions of which are dealt with Article 52-78 including articles related to President (Article 52-62).
- All executive actions of the Government of India are formally taken in his name.
- The President appoints the comptroller and auditor general of India and he does not determine his salary and tenure.
- The salary and other conditions of service of the CAG are determined by the Parliament of India through "The Comptroller and Auditor-General (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971".

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) With reference to the Union Executive, which of the following are consists of Union Executive?

1. The President
2. The Prime Minister
3. The Council of Ministers

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 Union executive consists of the President, the Vice- President, the Prime Minister, the council of ministers and the attorney general of India. Articles 52 to 78 in Part V of the Constitution deal with the Union executive.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) With reference to the Veto power of President, which of the following veto power/powers is/are NOT enjoyed by President of India?

1. Absolute Veto
2. Pocket Veto
3. Suspensive Veto
4. Qualified Veto

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: When a bill is introduced in the Parliament, Parliament can pass the bill and before the bill becomes an act, it has to be presented to the Indian President for his approval. It is up to the President of India to reject the bill, return the bill or withhold his/her assent to the bill. The choice of the President over the bill is called the veto power. The veto power enjoyed by the executive in modern states can be classified into the following four types:

- Absolute veto, which is, withholding of assent to the bill passed by the legislature.
- Qualified veto, which can be overridden by the legislature with a higher majority.
- Suspensive veto, which can be overridden by the legislature with an ordinary majority.
- Pocket veto, which is, taking no action on the bill passed by the legislature.

Of the above four, the President of India is vested with three– absolute veto, suspensive veto and pocket veto. There is no qualified veto in the case of Indian President; it is possessed by the American President.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) With reference to the Ordinance making power of President, which of the following Article is related to Ordinance?

- a) Article 112
- b) Article 117
- c) Article 123

d) Article 132

ANS: C

Explanation: Article 123 of the Constitution empowers the President to promulgate ordinances during the recess of Parliament. These ordinances have the same force and effect as an act of Parliament, but are in the nature of temporary laws.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) With reference to the qualifications of the Vice President, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. He should be a citizen of India.
2. He should have completed 30 years of age.
3. He should be qualified for election as a member of the Lok Sabha.

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: A

Explanation: To be eligible for election as Vice-President, a person should fulfill the following qualifications:

- He should be a citizen of India.
- He should have completed 35 years of age.
- He should be qualified for election as a member of the Rajya Sabha.
- He should not hold any office of profit under the Union government or any state government or any local authority or any other public authority.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) With reference to the Prime Minister of India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The term of the Prime Minister is not fixed and he holds office during the pleasure of the president.
2. The salary and allowances of the Prime Minister are determined by the President from time to time.

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: A

Explanation: The term of the Prime Minister is not fixed and he holds office during the pleasure of the president.

- However, this does not mean that the president can dismiss the Prime Minister at any time.
- So long as the Prime Minister enjoys the majority support in the Lok Sabha, he cannot be dismissed by the President.
- The salary and allowances of the Prime Minister are determined by the Parliament from time to time.
- He gets the salary and allowances that are payable to a member of Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) “There shall be a council of ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who shall, in the exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice” – is related to which of the following article of Indian constitution?

- a) Article 57
- b) Article 74
- c) Article 75
- d) Article 77

ANS: B

Explanation: Article 74 - There shall be a council of ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who shall, in the exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice.

However, the President may require the council of ministers to reconsider such advice and the President shall act in accordance with the advice tendered after such reconsideration.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) The total number of ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Lok Sabha – provision is added to Constitution by which amendment?

- a) 65th Amendment
- b) 86th Amendment
- c) 89st Amendment
- d) 91st Amendment

ANS: D

Explanation: The total number of ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Lok Sabha. This provision was added by the 91st Amendment Act of 2003.

Source: Laxmikanth.

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the legislative powers of the President:

1. He can summon or prorogue the Parliament and dissolve the Lok Sabha.
2. He can appoint any member of the Lok Sabha to preside over its proceedings when the offices of both the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker fall vacant.

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 President is an integral part of the Parliament of India, and enjoys the following legislative powers.

- He can summon or prorogue the Parliament and dissolve the Lok Sabha. He can also summon a joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament, which is presided over by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
- He can address the Parliament at the commencement of the first session after each general election and the first session of each year.

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- He can send messages to the Houses of Parliament, whether with respect to a bill pending in the Parliament or otherwise.
- He can appoint any member of the Lok Sabha to preside over its proceedings when the offices of both the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker fall vacant. Similarly, he can also appoint any member of the Rajya Sabha to preside over its proceedings when the offices of both the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman fall vacant.
- He nominates 12 members of the Rajya Sabha from amongst persons having special knowledge or practical experience in literature, science, art and social service.
- He can nominate two members to the Lok Sabha from the Anglo-Indian Community.

Source: Laxmikanth

ForumIAS

Parliament & State Government

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The process of summoning the Parliament has clearly mentioned in the Constitution.
 2. According to rules of business of Parliament, India has a fixed Parliamentary calendar.
- 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: The summoning of Parliament is specified in Article 85 of the Constitution. Like many other articles, it is based on the provision of Government of India Act, 1935.

- India does not have a fixed parliamentary calendar. By convention (i.e. not provided by the Constitution), Parliament meets for three sessions in a year.
- The longest, Budget Session (1st session) starts towards the end of January and concludes by the end of April or first week of May.
- The session has a recess so that Parliamentary Committees can discuss the budgetary proposals.
- The second session is the three-week Monsoon Session, which usually begins in July and finishes in August.
- Winter Session (3rd session) is held from November to December.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) With reference to the Parliament of India, which of the following consists of Parliament?

1. The President
2. The Lok Sabha
3. The Rajya Sabha

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: Under the Constitution, the Parliament of India consists of three parts viz, the President, the Council of States and the House of the People.

- In 1954, the Hindi names 'Rajya Sabha' and 'Lok Sabha' were adopted by the Council of States and the House of People respectively.
- The Rajya Sabha is the Upper House (Second Chamber or House of Elders) and the Lok Sabha is the Lower House (First Chamber or Popular House).
- The former represents the states and union territories of the Indian Union, while the latter represents the people of India as a whole.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the Rajya Sabha:

1. The representatives of states in the Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of state legislative assemblies.
2. All states are equally represented in Rajya Sabha.

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

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The representatives of states in the Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of state legislative assemblies.

- The election is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.
- The seats are allotted to the states in the Rajya Sabha on the basis of population. Hence, the number of representatives varies from state to state.
- For example, Uttar Pradesh has 31 members while Tripura has 1 member only.
- However, in USA, all states are given equal representation in the Senate irrespective of their population.
- USA has 50 states and the Senate has 100 members –2 from each state.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which Constitutional Amendment reduced the age of voter from 21 to 18?

- a) 35th Constitutional Amendment
- b) 42nd Constitutional Amendment
- c) 48th Constitutional Amendment
- d) 61st Constitutional Amendment

ANS: D

Explanation: The election is based on the principle of universal adult franchise.

- Every Indian citizen who is above 18 years of age and who is not disqualified under the provisions of the Constitution or any law is eligible to vote at such election.
- The voting age was reduced from 21 to 18 years by the 61st Constitutional Amendment Act, 1988.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Rajya Sabha is a continuing chamber and not subject to dissolution.
2. Lok Sabha is not a continuing chamber and subjected to dissolution.

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 Rajya Sabha (first constituted in 1952) is a continuing chamber, that is, it is a permanent body and not subject to dissolution. However, one-third of its members retire every second year.

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- Their seats are filled up by fresh elections and presidential nominations at the beginning of every third year. The retiring members are eligible for re-election and renomination any number of times.
- Unlike the Rajya Sabha, the Lok Sabha is not a continuing chamber. Its normal term is five years from the date of its first meeting after the general elections, after which it automatically dissolves.
- However, the President is authorised to dissolve the Lok Sabha at any time even before the completion of five years and this cannot be challenged in a court of law.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Article 112 of Indian Constitution deals with which of the following?

- a) Qualifications of Members of Rajya Sabha
- b) Quorum
- c) Annual Financial Statement
- d) Ordinance passed by President

ANS: C

Explanation: The Constitution refers to the budget as the 'annual financial statement'.

- In other words, the term 'budget' has nowhere been used in the Constitution.
- It is the popular name for the 'annual financial statement' that has been dealt with in Article 112 of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Part VI of Indian Constitution is deals with which of the following?

- a) Union Territories
- b) State Legislature
- c) Scheduled Languages
- d) Citizenship

ANS: B

Explanation: Articles 168 to 212 in Part VI of the Constitution deal with the organisation, composition, duration, officers, procedures, privileges, powers and so on of the state legislature. Though these are similar to that of Parliament, there are some differences as well.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Which of the following state does NOT have bicameral legislature?

- a) Telangana
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Karnataka
- d) West Bengal

ANS: D

Explanation: There is no uniformity in the organisation of state legislatures. Most of the states have an unicameral system, while others have a bicameral system. At present (2019), only six states have two Houses (bicameral). These are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. The maximum members of state legislature are fixed at 500 and minimum strength at 50.
2. The Constitution ensures that there is uniformity of representation between different constituencies in the state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The legislative assembly consists of representatives directly elected by the people on the basis of universal adult franchise.

- Its maximum strength is fixed at 500 and minimum strength at 60.
- For the purpose of holding direct elections to the assembly, each state is divided into territorial constituencies.
- The demarcation of these constituencies is done in such a manner that the ratio between the population of each constituency and the number of seats allotted to it is the same throughout the state.
- In other words, the Constitution ensures that there is uniformity of representation between different constituencies in the state.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution lays down the following qualifications for a person to be chosen a member of the state legislature.
2. The member of a state legislature must be not less than 35 years of age in the case of the legislative council and not less than 30 years of age in the case of the legislative assembly.

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: The Constitution lays down the following qualifications for a person to be chosen a member of the state legislature.

1. He must be a citizen of India.
2. He must make and subscribe to an oath or affirmation before the person authorized by the Election Commission for this purpose.

In his oath or affirmation, he swears

- To bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India
- To uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India

3. He must be not less than 30 years of age in the case of the legislative council and not less than 25 years of age in the case of the legislative assembly.
4. He must possess other qualifications prescribed by Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth

Executive (Union and State)

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The council of ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha.
2. When the Lok Sabha passes a no-confidence motion ministers from both Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha resigns.

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 fundamental principle underlying the working of parliamentary system of government is the principle of collective responsibility.

- Article 75 clearly states that the council of ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha.
- This means that all the ministers own joint responsibility to the Lok Sabha for all their acts of omission and commission. They work as a team and swim or sink together.
- When the Lok Sabha passes a no-confidence motion against the council of ministers, all the ministers have to resign including those ministers who are from the Rajya Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) With reference to the Cabinet, which of the following role/roles is/are played by Cabinet?

1. It is the highest decision-making authority in our politico-administrative system.
2. It is an advisory body to the president and its advice is binding on him.
3. It is the chief coordinator of Central administration.

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 role of Cabinet:

- It is the highest decision-making authority in our politico-administrative system.
- It is the chief policy formulating body of the Central government.
- It is the supreme executive authority of the Central government.
- It is chief coordinator of Central administration.
- It is an advisory body to the president and its advice is binding on him.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Which of the following Cabinet Committee deals with all policy matters pertaining to domestic and foreign affairs?

- a) The Political Affairs Committee

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- b) The Cabinet Committee on Security
- c) The Economic Affairs Committee
- d) The Appointment Committee

ANS: A

Explanation: The following four are the more important cabinet committees:

- The Political Affairs Committee deals with all policy matters pertaining to domestic and foreign affairs.
- The Economic Affairs Committee directs and coordinates the governmental activities in the economic sphere.
- Appointments Committee decides all higher level appointments in the Central Secretariat, Public Enterprises, Banks and Financial Institutions.
- Parliamentary Affairs Committee looks after the progress of government business in the Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which of the following cabinet committees are headed by Prime Minister?

1. The Political Affairs Committee
2. The Economic Affairs Committee
3. The Parliamentary Affairs Committee
4. The Appointment Committee

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The following four are the more important cabinet committees:

- The Political Affairs Committee deals with all policy matters pertaining to domestic and foreign affairs.
- The Economic Affairs Committee directs and coordinates the governmental activities in the economic sphere.
- Appointments Committee decides all higher level appointments in the Central Secretariat, Public Enterprises, Banks and Financial Institutions.
- Parliamentary Affairs Committee looks after the progress of government business in the Parliament.

The first three committees are chaired by the Prime Minister and the last one by the Home Minister. Of all the Cabinet Committees, the most powerful is the Political Affairs Committee, often described as a "Super-Cabinet".

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) "Part V" of Indian Constitution deals with which of the following?

- a) Citizenship
- b) Fundamental Rights
- c) Parliament
- d) Directive principles of State Policy

ANS: C

Explanation: Articles 79 to 122 in Part V of the Constitution deal with the organisation, composition, duration, officers, procedures, privileges, powers and so on of the Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The maximum strength of the Rajya Sabha is not fixed and it can be changed after every delimitation.
2. The Fourth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha to the states and union territories.

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 maximum strength of the Rajya Sabha is fixed at 250, out of which, 238 are to be the representatives of the states and union territories (elected indirectly) and 12 are nominated by the president.

- At present, the Rajya Sabha has 245 members. Of these, 229 members represent the states, 4 members represent the union territories and 12 members are nominated by the president.
- The Fourth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha to the states and union territories.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding the parliamentary legislation in the state field:

1. Rajya Sabha can pass a resolution to make laws on the state list.
2. Such resolution should be passed by two-thirds of the members present and voting.

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: D

Explanation: If the Rajya Sabha declares 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.

- Such a resolution must be supported by two-thirds of the members present and voting.
- The resolution remains in force for one year; it can be renewed any number of times but not exceeding one year at a time.
- The laws cease to have effect on the expiration of six months after the resolution has ceased to be in force.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. The Speaker is elected by the Lok Sabha from amongst its members.
2. The date of election of the Speaker is fixed by the President.

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: C

Explanation: The Speaker is elected by the Lok Sabha from amongst its members (as soon as may be, after its first sitting).

- Whenever the office of the Speaker falls vacant, the Lok Sabha elects another member to fill the vacancy.
- The date of election of the Speaker is fixed by the President.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the Rajya Sabha:

1. The Government of India Act, 1919 provided for the creation of a Council of State as a second chamber.
2. The allocation of seats for Rajya Sabha is made on the basis of the population of each State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The origin of the second Chamber (Council of State) can be traced to the Montague-Chelmsford Report of 1918.

- The Government of India Act, 1919 provided for the creation of a 'Council of State' as a second chamber of the then legislature with a restricted franchise which actually came into existence in 1921.
- The Fourth Schedule to the Constitution provides for allocation of seats to the States and Union Territories in Rajya Sabha.
- The allocation of seats is made on the basis of the population of each State.

Source: <https://rajyasabha.nic.in/>

Q.10) Which of the following committee/committees comes under the Standing Committees to scrutinize and control of Rajya Sabha?

1. Ethics Committee
2. Committee on Government assurances.
3. Committee on subordinate legislation.

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 Committees may be classified as Ad-hoc Committees and Standing Committees. Standing Committees may be divided in terms of their functions:

Committees to enquire:

- Committee on Petitions
- Committee on Privileges

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- Ethics Committee

Committees to scrutinize and control:

- Committee on Government Assurances
- Committee on Subordinate Legislation and
- Committee on Papers Laid on the Table

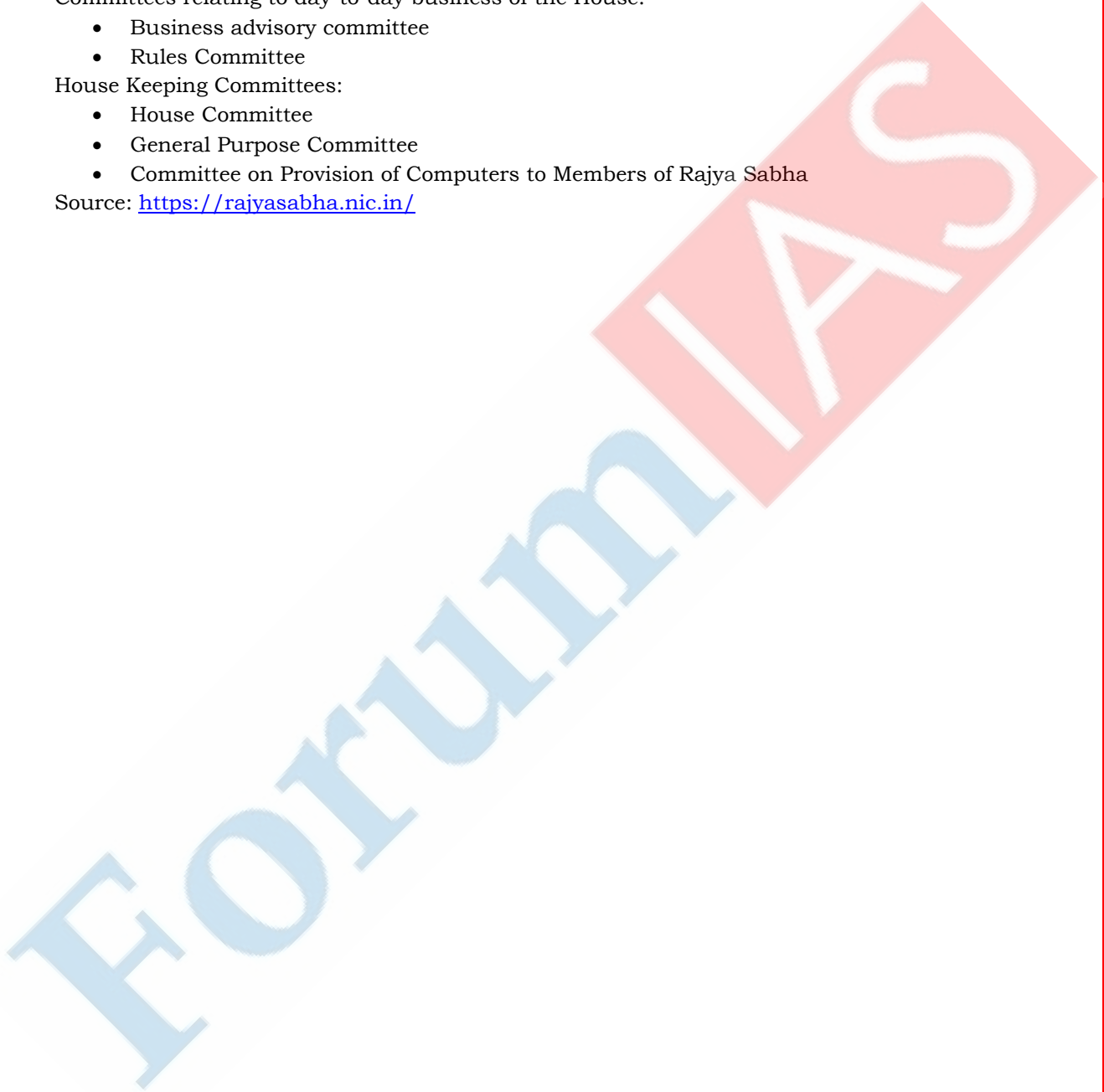
Committees relating to day-to-day business of the House:

- Business advisory committee
- Rules Committee

House Keeping Committees:

- House Committee
- General Purpose Committee
- Committee on Provision of Computers to Members of Rajya Sabha

Source: <https://rajyasabha.nic.in/>



Courts

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the qualifications of Supreme Court Judge:

1. He should be a citizen of India.
2. He should have been a Judge of a High Court for 7 years.
3. He should have been Advocate of a High Court for 10 years.

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

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

ANS: D

Explanation: A person to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court should have the following qualifications:

1. He should be a citizen of India.
2. (A) He should have been a judge of a High Court (or high courts in succession) for five years; or (B) He should have been an advocate of a High Court (or High Courts in succession) for ten years; or (C) He should be a distinguished jurist in the opinion of the president.

From the above, it is clear that the Constitution has not prescribed a minimum age for appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) The concept of “Public Interest Litigation” was first time introduced in which of the following country?

- a) New Zealand
- b) Britain
- c) United States of America
- d) France

ANS: C

Explanation: The concept of Public Interest Litigation (PIL) originated and developed in the USA in the 1960s.

- In the USA, it was designed to provide legal representation to previously unrepresented groups and interests.
- It was undertaken in recognition of the fact that the ordinary marketplace for legal services fails to provide such services to significant segments of the population and to significant interests.
- Such groups and interests include the poor, environmentalists, consumers, racial and ethnic minorities, and others.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the “National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)”:

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1. It was established by executive resolution.
 2. It was constituted to monitor and evaluate implementation of legal aid programmes.
- 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: Article 39A of the Constitution of India provides for free legal aid to the poor and weaker sections of the society and ensures justice for all.

- Articles 14 and 22(1) of the Constitution also make it obligatory for the State to ensure equality before law and a legal system which promotes justice on the basis of equal opportunity to all.
- In the year 1987, the Legal Services Authorities Act was enacted by the Parliament which came into force on 9th November, 1995 to establish a nationwide uniform network for providing free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society on the basis of equal opportunity.
- The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) is a statutory body that has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to monitor and evaluate implementation of legal aid programmes and to lay down policies and principles for making legal services available under the Act.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Article 131 of Indian Constitution is often seen in news is related to which of the following?

- a) Original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.
- b) Appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in appeals from High Courts in civil matters.
- c) Appellate jurisdiction of the high court in appeals from district Courts in criminal matters.
- d) Jurisdiction and powers of the federal court under existing law to be exercisable by the Supreme Court.

ANS: A

Explanation: Amid nationwide protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, or CAA, 2019, and the threat of non-cooperation by some States with the Central government's plan to update the National Population Register (NPR) and possibly establish a National Register of Indian Citizens, Kerala has filed a suit in the Supreme Court of India seeking to declare the CAA as unconstitutional.

- Meanwhile, Chhattisgarh has also filed a similar suit, challenging the constitutional validity of the National Investigation Agency Act.
- Both have invoked Article 131, which confers exclusive jurisdiction on the top court to adjudicate disputes between two or more States, or between States and the Centre.
- Article 131 confers exclusive jurisdiction on the Supreme Court in disputes involving States, or the Centre on the one hand and one or more States on the other. This means no other court can entertain such a dispute.
- It is well-known that both High Courts and the Supreme Court have the power to adjudicate cases against the State and Central governments.
- In particular, the validity of any executive or legislative action is normally challenged by way of writ petitions — under Article 226 of the Constitution in respect of High

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Courts, and, in respect to fundamental rights violations, under Article 32 in the Supreme Court.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the “Lok adalat”:

1. It has been given the status of a civil court.
2. Its awards are challenged before any court.

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: The Legal Services Authorities Act (1987) has established a nation-wide network to provide free and competent legal aid to the poor and to organize lok adalat for promoting equal justice.

- Lok adalat is a statutory forum for conciliatory settlement of legal disputes.
- It has been given the status of a civil court.
- Its awards are enforceable, binding on the parties and final as no appeal lies before any court against them.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Which of the following statement is NOT correct about “Attorney General of India”?

- a) Article 76 has provided for the office of the Attorney General for India.
- b) He is the highest law officer in the country.
- c) He must be a person who is qualified to be appointed a judge of the Supreme Court.
- d) He is appointed by appointment committee.

ANS: D

Explanation: The Constitution (Article 76) has provided for the office of the Attorney General for India.

- He is the highest law officer in the country.
- The Attorney General (AG) is appointed by the president.
- He must be a person who is qualified to be appointed a judge of the Supreme Court.
- In other words, he must be a citizen of India and he must have been a judge of some high court for five years or an advocate of some high court for ten years or an eminent jurist, in the opinion of the president.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) The Integrated system of courts is adopted from which of the following?

- a) Japanese Constitution
- b) Australian Constitution
- c) American Constitution
- d) Government of India Act, 1935

ANS: D

Explanation: The Indian Constitution has established an integrated judicial system with the Supreme Court at the top and the high court’s below it.

- Under a high court (and below the state level), there is a hierarchy of subordinate courts, that is, district courts and other lower courts.

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- This single system of courts, adopted from the Government of India Act of 1935, enforces both Central laws as well as the state laws.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Which of the following dispute (s) is/are considered under Original Jurisdiction of Supreme Court?

1. Between the Centre and one or more states.
2. Between the Centre and any state or states on one side and one or more other states on the other side.
3. Between State and High court.

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: As a federal court, the Supreme Court decides the disputes between different units of the Indian Federation. More elaborately, any dispute:

- Between the Centre and one or more states; or
- Between the Centre and any state or states on one side and one or more other states on the other side; or
- Between two or more states.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which of the following is/are come (s) under appellate jurisdiction of Supreme Court?

1. Appeals in criminal matters
2. Appeal by special leave
3. Appeals in civil matters

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: As mentioned earlier, the Supreme Court has not only succeeded the Federal Court of India but also replaced the British Privy Council as the highest court of appeal. The Supreme Court is primarily a court of appeal and hears appeals against the judgments of the lower courts.

It enjoys a wide appellate jurisdiction which can be classified under four heads:

- Appeals in constitutional matters.
- Appeals in civil matters.
- Appeals in criminal matters.
- Appeals by special leave.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) “Article 143” of the Constitution of India is often seen in news is related with which of the following?

- a) Original Jurisdiction

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- b) Writ Jurisdiction
- c) Advisory Jurisdiction
- d) A Court of Record

ANS: C

Explanation: The Constitution (Article 143) authorises the president to seek the opinion of the Supreme Court in the two categories of matters:

- On any question of law or fact of public importance which has arisen or which is likely to arise.
- On any dispute arising out of any pre-constitution treaty, agreement, covenant, engagement, sanad or other similar instruments.

Source: Laxmikanth

ForumIAS

Constitutional Bodies

Q.1) Which of the following is NOT a permanent Constitutional body?

- a) Finance Commission
- b) Election Commission
- c) Union Public Service Commission
- d) Comptroller and Auditor General of India

ANS: A

Explanation: Constitutional bodies are important bodies in India that derive their powers and authorities from the Indian Constitution.

- They are specifically mentioned in the Constitution, meaning they have dedicated articles.
- Any change in the mechanism of these bodies would require a constitutional amendment.
- Important bodies such as the Finance Commission, the UPSC, the Election Commission, the CAG, National Commissions for SCs and STs, etc. are constitutional bodies.
- Finance Commission is non-permanent constitutional body.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Article 148 of Indian Constitution is related to which of the following?

- a) Finance Commission
- b) Election Commission
- c) Comptroller and Auditor General
- d) Union Public Service Commission

ANS: C

Explanation: The Constitution of India (Article 148) provides for an independent office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG). He is the head of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) With reference to the Union Public Service Commission, which of the following statements is/are NOT correct?

1. The UPSC consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the president of India.
2. The chairman and members of the Commission hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 65 years.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) is the central recruiting agency in India.

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- It is an independent constitutional body in the sense that it has been directly created by the Constitution.
- The UPSC consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the president of India.
- The Constitution, without specifying the strength of the Commission has left the matter to the discretion of the president, who determines its composition.
- Usually, the Commission consists of nine to eleven members including the chairman.
- The chairman and members of the Commission hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. A State Public Service Commission consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the Governor of the State.
2. The chairman and members of the Commission hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 65 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: A

Explanation: A State Public Service Commission consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the governor of the state.

- The Constitution does not specify the strength of the Commission but has left the matter to the discretion of the Governor.
- The chairman and members of the Commission hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier (in the case of UPSC, the age limit is 65 years).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Constitution makes a provision for the establishment of a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states.
2. JSPSC is a statutory body.

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 makes a provision for the establishment of a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states.

- While the UPSC and the SPSC are created directly by the Constitution, a JSPSC can be created by an act of Parliament on the request of the state legislatures concerned.
- Thus, a JSPSC is a statutory and not a constitutional body.
- The two states of Punjab and Haryana had a JSPSC for a short period, after the creation of Haryana out of Punjab in 1966.

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Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Which article empowered the President to constitute a GST Council by an order?

- a) 269
- b) 270
- c) 269
- d) 279A

ANS: D

Explanation: The 101st Amendment Act of 2016 paved the way for the introduction of a new tax regime (i.e. goods and services tax - GST) in the country.

- The smooth and efficient administration of this tax requires co-operation and coordination between the centre and the states.
- In order to facilitate this consultation process, the amendment provided for the establishment of Goods and Services Tax Council or the GST Council.
- The amendment inserted a new Article 279-A in the Constitution. This Article empowered the President to constitute a GST Council by an order.
- Accordingly, the President issued the order in 2016 and constituted the Council.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Which amendment act bi-furcated the combined National Commission for SCs and STs?

- a) 56th Constitutional Amendment Act
- b) 78th Constitutional Amendment Act
- c) 89th Constitutional Amendment Act
- d) 94th Constitutional Amendment Act

ANS: C

Explanation: In order to safeguard the interests of the STs More effectively, it was proposed to set up a separate National Commission for STs by bifurcating the existing combined National Commission for SCs and STs.

- This was done by passing the 89th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2003.
- This Act further amended Article 338 and inserted a new Article 338-A in the Constitution.
- The separate National Commission for STs came into existence in 2004.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Consider the following statements about Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities:

1. It was created in pursuance of the provision of Article 350-B of the Constitution.
2. The Commissioner has his headquarters at Kolkata.

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: In pursuance of the provision of Article 350-B of the Constitution, the office of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities was created in 1957. He is designated as the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities.

- The Commissioner has his headquarters at Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh).
- He has three regional offices at Belgaum (Karnataka), Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Kolkata (West Bengal).
- Each is headed by an Assistant Commissioner.
- The Commissioner is assisted at headquarters by Deputy Commissioner and an Assistant Commissioner.
- He maintains liaison with the State Governments and Union Territories through nodal officers appointed by them.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Who among the following is the guardian of the public purse and controls the entire financial system of the country?

- a) Comptroller & Auditor General
- b) Prime Minister
- c) Finance Minister
- d) RBI Governor

ANS: A

Explanation: The Constitution of India (Article 148) provides for an independent office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG). He is the head of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department.

- He is the guardian of the public purse and controls the entire financial system of the country at both the levels—the Centre and the state.
- His duty is to uphold the Constitution of India and laws of Parliament in the field of financial administration.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Consider the following statement about Attorney-General of India:

1. Article 76 has provided for the office of the Attorney General for India.
2. The Attorney General is appointed by appointment committee.

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: The Constitution (Article 76) has provided for the office of the Attorney General for India. He is the highest law officer in the country.

- The Attorney General (AG) is appointed by the president. He must be a person who is qualified to be appointed a judge of the Supreme Court.
- The AG is not a member of the Central cabinet. There is a separate law minister in the Central cabinet to look after legal matters at the government level.

Source: Laxmikanth

Revision

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution of India divides legislative, executive and financial powers between the Centre and the states.
2. Part XII of the Constitution deal with the legislative relations between the Centre and the states.

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: The Constitution of India, being federal in structure, divides all powers (legislative, executive and financial) between the Centre and the states.

- However, there is no division of judicial power as the Constitution has established an integrated judicial system to enforce both the Central laws as well as state laws.
- Articles 245 to 255 in Part XI of the Constitution deal with the legislative relations between the Centre and the states.
- Articles 268 to 293 in Part XII of the Constitution deal with Centre state financial relations.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) The Constitution provides for a three-fold distribution of legislative subjects between the Centre and the states is drawn from which of the following source?

- a) Britain Constitution
- b) South - African Constitution
- c) Japanese Constitution
- d) Government of India Act, 1935

ANS: D

Explanation: The Constitution provides for a three-fold distribution of legislative subjects between the Centre and the states, viz., List-I (the Union List), List-II (the State List) and List-III (the Concurrent List) in the Seventh Schedule.

- The Government of India Act of 1935 provided for a three-fold enumeration, viz., federal, provincial and concurrent.
- The present Constitution follows the scheme of this act but with one difference, that is, under this act, the residuary powers were given neither to the federal legislature nor to the provincial legislature but to the governor-general of India.
- In this respect, India follows the Canadian precedent.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) “Alternative Scheme of Devolution” was introduced by 80th Amendment Act on the recommendation of which of the following finance commission?

- a) 01st finance commission
- b) 07th finance commission
- c) 10th finance commission

d) 12th finance commission

ANS: C

Explanation: The 80th Amendment was enacted to give effect to the recommendations of the 10th Finance Commission.

- The Commission recommended that out of the total income obtained from certain central taxes and duties, 29% should go to the states.
- This is known as the 'Alternative Scheme of Devolution' and came into effect retrospectively from April 1, 1996.
- This amendment has brought several central taxes and duties like Corporation Tax and Customs Duties at par with Income Tax (taxes on income other than agricultural income) as far as their constitutionally mandated sharing with the states is concerned.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which of the following members participate in the election of President of India?

1. Elected members of both the Houses of Parliament.
2. Nominated members of both houses of Parliament.
3. Members of the State legislative Council.

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 President is elected not directly by the people but by members of Electoral College consisting of:

- the elected members of both the Houses of Parliament;
- the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the states; and
- the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry.

Thus, the nominated members of both of Houses of Parliament, the nominated members of the state legislative assemblies, the members (both elected and nominated) of the state legislative councils (in case of the bicameral legislature) and the nominated members of the Legislative Assemblies of Delhi and Pondicherry do not participate in the election of the President.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) "Article 72" of Indian Constitution deals with?

- a) Pardoning powers of President
- b) Collective and Individual responsibility of Council of Ministers
- c) Attorney General of India
- d) Ordinance powers of President

ANS: A

Explanation: Article 72 of the Constitution empowers the President to grant pardons to persons who have been tried and convicted of any offence in all cases where the:

- Punishment or sentence is for an offence against a Union Law;
- Punishment or sentence is by a court martial (military court); and
- Sentence is a sentence of death.

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The pardoning power of the President is independent of the Judiciary; it is an executive power.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Before the Prime Minister enters upon his office, who among the following administers to him the oaths of office and secrecy?

- a) Chief Justice of Supreme Court
- b) Pro – term Speaker of the house
- c) President
- d) Vice President

ANS: C

Explanation: Before the Prime Minister enters upon his office, the president administers to him the oaths of office and secrecy. In his oath of office, the Prime Minister swears:

- to bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India,
- to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India,
- to faithfully and conscientiously discharge the duties of his office, and
- to do right to all manner of people in accordance with the Constitution and the law, without fear or favour, affection or ill will.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) “The Cabinet is the keystone of the political arch” – was described by whom among the following?

- a) Lowell
- b) Sir John Marriott
- c) Gladstone
- d) Ramsay Muir

ANS: A

Explanation: The various comments made by the eminent political scientists and constitutional experts on the role of cabinet in Britain hold good in the Indian context also. These are mentioned below.

- Ramsay Muir: “The Cabinet is the steering wheel of the ship of the state.”
- Lowell: “The Cabinet is the keystone of the political arch”.
- Sir John Marriott: “The Cabinet is the pivot around which the whole political machinery revolves”.
- Gladstone: “The Cabinet is the solar orb around which the other bodies revolve”.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) With reference to the Parliamentary Standing Committees, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Committee meetings are held in open door meetings.
2. Members of the committee are not bound by their party whips.

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: B

Explanation: In a parliamentary democracy, Parliament has broadly two functions, which are lawmaking and oversight of the executive branch of the government.

- Parliament is the embodiment of the people's will. Committees (Parliamentary standing committees) are an instrument of Parliament for its own effective functioning.
- Given the volume of legislative business, discussing all Bills under the consideration of Parliament in detail on the floor of the House is impossible.
- Committees are platforms for threadbare discussion on a proposed law.
- At least in principle, the assumption is that the smaller cohort of lawmakers, assembled on the basis of the proportional strength of individual parties and interests and expertise of individual lawmakers, could have more open, intensive and better informed discussions.
- Committee meetings are 'closed door' and members are not bound by party whips, which allows them the latitude for a more meaningful exchange of views as against discussions in full and open Houses where grandstanding and party positions invariably take precedence.

Source: Laxmikanth & Indian Express

Q.9) The first session after each general election and the first session of every fiscal year is addressed by the president – which is known as?

- a) Censure motion
- b) Dilatory Motion
- c) Motion of Thanks
- d) No-Day-Yet-Named Motion

ANS: C

Explanation: The first session after each general election and the first session of every fiscal year is addressed by the president.

- In this address, the president outlines the policies and programmes of the government in the preceding year and ensuing year.
- This address of the president, which corresponds to the 'speech from the Throne in Britain', is discussed in both the Houses of Parliament on a motion called the 'Motion of Thanks'.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) "Article 117" of Indian Constitution is deals with?

- a) Private bill
- b) Annual Financial Statement
- c) Financial bill
- d) All of the above

ANS: C

Explanation: Financial bills are those bills that deal with fiscal matters, that is, revenue or expenditure. However, the Constitution uses the term 'financial bill' in a technical sense. Financial bills are of three kinds:

- Money bills–Article 110
- Financial bills (I)–Article 117 (1)
- Financial bills (II)–Article 117 (3)

Source: Laxmikanth

Non – Constitutional Bodies

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. NITI Aayog was established through executive resolution.
2. NITI Aayog is the premier policy think tank of the Government of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: NITI Aayog, like that of the Planning Commission, was also created by an executive resolution of the Government of India (i.e., Union Cabinet). Hence, it is also neither a constitutional body nor a statutory body.

- In other words, it is a non-constitutional or extra-constitutional body (i.e., not created by the Constitution) and a non-statutory body (not created by an Act of the Parliament).
- 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.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. The National Human Rights Commission is a non constitutional body.
2. The commission is the watchdog of human rights in the country.

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: D

Explanation: The National Human Rights Commission is a statutory (and not a constitutional) body.

- It was established in 1993 under a legislation enacted by the Parliament, namely, the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- The commission is the watchdog of human rights in the country, that is, the rights relating to life, liberty, equality and dignity of the individual guaranteed by the Constitution or embodied in the international covenants and enforceable by courts in India.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) With reference to the National Human Rights Commission, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The chairperson of the commission should be a retired chief justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court.

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2. The chairperson and members are appointed by the President on the recommendations of appointment committee.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The commission is a multi-member body consisting of a chairperson and five members.

- The chairperson should be a retired chief justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court and members should be a serving or retired judge of the Supreme Court, a serving or retired chief justice of a high court and three persons (out of which atleast one should be a woman) having knowledge or practical experience with respect to human rights.
- The chairperson and members are appointed by the president on the recommendations of a six-member committee consisting of the prime minister as its head, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, leaders of the Opposition in both the Houses of Parliament and the Central home minister.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) With reference to the functions of National Human Rights Commission, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. To inquire into any violation of human rights or negligence in the prevention of such violation.
- 2. To visit jails and detention places to study the living conditions of inmates and make recommendation thereon.
- 3. To study treaties and other international instruments on human rights and make recommendations for their effective implementation.

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 functions of the Commission are:

- To inquire into any violation of human rights or negligence in the prevention of such violation by a public servant, either suo motu or on a petition presented to it or on an order of a court.
- To intervene in any proceeding involving allegation of violation of human rights pending before a court.
- To visit jails and detention places to study the living conditions of inmates and make recommendation thereon.
- To review the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the protection of human rights and recommend measures for their effective implementation.
- To review the factors including acts of terrorism that inhibits the enjoyment of human rights and recommend remedial measures.

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- To study treaties and other international instruments on human rights and make recommendations for their effective implementation.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) With reference to the Central Information Commission, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was constituted through under the provisions of the Right to Information Act (2005).
2. It consists of a Chief Information Commissioner and not more than five Information Commissioners.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Central Information Commission was established by the Central Government in 2005.

- It was constituted through an Official Gazette Notification under the provisions of the Right to Information Act (2005). Hence, it is not a constitutional body.
- The Commission consists of a Chief Information Commissioner and not more than ten Information Commissioners. The Commission, when constituted initially, had five commissioners including the Chief Information Commissioner.
- At present (2019), the Commission has six Information Commissioners apart from the Chief Information Commissioner.
- They are appointed by the President on the recommendation of a committee consisting of the Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) The Central Vigilance Commission was established under the recommendation of which of the following?

- a) Punchi Commission
- b) Venkata Chellaih Committee
- c) Santhanam Committee
- d) Second ARC commission

ANS: C

Explanation: The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) is the main agency for preventing corruption in the Central government.

- It was established in 1964 by an executive resolution of the Central government.
- Its establishment was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962-64).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Which of the following agency would take up the case against corruption under Whistle Blower Resolution?

- a) Central Vigilance Commission
- b) Central Bureau of Investigation
- c) Crime Investigation Department of Concerned state
- d) National Human Rights Commission

ANS: A

Explanation: In 2004, the CVC has been designated as the agency to receive and act on complaints or disclosure on any allegation of corruption or misuse of office from whistle blowers under the “Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers’ Resolution” (PIDPI), which is popularly known as “Whistle Blowers” Resolution.

The Commission is also empowered as the only designated agency to take action against complainants making motivated or vexatious complaints.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) With Reference to the Central Bureau of Investigation, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was set up in 1963 by a resolution of the Ministry of Home affairs.
2. It derives its powers from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was set up in 1963 by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

- Later, it was transferred to the Ministry of Personnel and now it enjoys the status of an attached office.
- The Special Police Establishment (which looked into vigilance cases) setup in 1941 was also merged with the CBI.
- The establishment of the CBI was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962–1964).
- The CBI is not a statutory body. It derives its powers from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which of the following country created first Ombudsman Institution?

- a) Australia
- b) New Zealand
- c) Sweden
- d) Norway

ANS: C

Explanation: The institution of Ombudsman was first created in Sweden in 1809.

- ‘Ombud’ is a Swedish term and refers to a person who acts as the representative or spokesman of another person.
- According to Donald C. Rowat, Ombudsman refers to “an officer appointed by the legislature to handle complaints against administrative and judicial action.”

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) The Lokpal and Lokayukta Act were passed in which of the following year?

- a) 2010
- b) 2011
- c) 2012
- d) 2013

ANS: D

Explanation: The Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013 provided for the establishment of Lokpal for the Union and Lokayukta for States.

- These institutions are statutory bodies without any constitutional status.
- They perform the function of an "ombudsman" and inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries and for related matters.

Source: Laxmikanth

ForumIAS

Elections

Q.1) “Article 324” of the Indian Constitution is related to which of the following?

- a) Tribunals
- b) Finance, Property, Contracts and Suits
- c) Elections
- d) Languages

ANS: C

Explanation: Articles 324 to 329 in Part XV of the Constitution make the following provisions with regard to the electoral system in our country.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) The Election Commission has the power of superintendence, direction and conduct of elections. Which of the following bodies/personalities is/are comes under the mandate of Election Commission?

- 1. The Parliament
- 2. The President
- 3. Speaker and Chairman of Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha

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: B

Explanation: The Constitution (Article 324) provides for an independent Election Commission in order to ensure free and fair elections in the country.

The power of superintendence, direction and conduct of elections to the Parliament, the state legislatures, the office of the President and the office of the Vice-President is vested in the Commission.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. There is to be only one general electoral roll for every territorial constituency for election to the Parliament and the state legislatures.
- 2. Any person can claim to be included in any special electoral roll for any constituency on grounds only of religion, race, caste or sex or any of them.

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: There is to be only one general electoral roll for every territorial constituency for election to the Parliament and the state legislatures.

- Thus, the Constitution has abolished the system of communal representation and separate electorates which led to the partition of the country.

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- No person is to be ineligible for inclusion in the electoral roll on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex or any of them.
- Further, no person can claim to be included in any special electoral roll for any constituency on grounds only of religion, race, caste or sex or any of them.
- Thus, the Constitution has accorded equality to every citizen in the matter of electoral franchise.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) “Article 323B” of Indian Constitution is related to which of the following?

- a) Special officer for Linguistic minorities
- b) Tribunal for the adjudication of election disputes
- c) Central Administrative Tribunal
- d) Interstate Council

ANS: B

Explanation: Article 323B empowers the appropriate legislature (Parliament or state legislature) to establish a tribunal for the adjudication of election disputes.

It also provides for the exclusion of the jurisdiction of all courts (except the special leave appeal jurisdiction of the Supreme Court) in such disputes.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) With reference to the time of elections, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Elections for the Lok Sabha and every state Legislative Assembly have to take place every five years, unless called earlier.
2. The Central Cabinet can dissolve Lok Sabha and call a General Election before five years is up.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Elections for the Lok Sabha and every state Legislative Assembly have to take place every five years, unless called earlier.

The President can dissolve Lok Sabha and call a General Election before five years is up, if the Government can no longer command the confidence of the Lok Sabha, and if there is no alternative government available to take over.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) With reference to the schedule of elections, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Constitution states that there can be no longer than one year between the last session of the dissolved Lok Sabha and the recalling of the new House.
2. The formal process for the elections starts with the issuance of election notification.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: When the five-year limit is up, or the legislature has been dissolved and new elections have been called, the Election Commission puts into effect the machinery for holding an election.

- The Constitution states that there can be no longer than six months between the last session of the dissolved Lok Sabha and the recalling of the new House, so elections have to be concluded before then.
- The formal process for the elections starts with the Notification or Notifications calling upon the electorate to elect Members of a House.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) The official campaign of elections ends before in how many hours?

- 12 hours
- 24 hours
- 48 hours
- 72 hours

ANS: C

Explanation: The official campaign lasts at least two weeks from the drawing up of the list of nominated candidates, and officially ends 48 hours before polling closes.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Model code lays down broad guidelines as to how the political parties and candidates should conduct themselves during the election campaign.
2. Model code of Conduct is prepared by judicial system.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: During the election campaign, the political parties and contesting candidates are expected to abide by a Model Code of Conduct evolved by the Election Commission on the basis of a consensus among political parties.

- The model code lays down broad guidelines as to how the political parties and candidates should conduct themselves during the election campaign.
- It is intended to maintain the election campaign on healthy lines, avoid clashes and conflicts between political parties or their supporters and to ensure peace and order during the campaign period and thereafter, until the results are declared.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) With reference to the voting procedure, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Polling stations should be within the distance of five kilometers of the voter.
2. Each polling station is open for at least twelve hours on the day of the election.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: D

Explanation: Voting is by secret ballot. Polling stations are usually set up in public institutions, such as schools and community halls.

- To enable as many electors as possible to vote, the officials of the Election Commission try to ensure that there is a polling station within two kilometers of every voter, and that no polling stations should have to deal with more than 1500 voters.
- Each polling station is open for at least eight hours on the day of the election.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) With reference to the election petitions, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Only candidate can file an election petition if he or she thinks there has been malpractice during the election.

2. An election petition is not an ordinary civil suit.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Any elector or candidate can file an election petition if he or she thinks there has been malpractice during the election.

- An election petition is not an ordinary civil suit, but treated as a contest in which the whole constituency is involved.
- Election petitions are tried by the High Court of the state involved, and if upheld can even lead to the restaging of the election in that constituency.

Source: Laxmikanth

Governance & e – Governance

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the Open Government Data Platform India:

1. It is used to publish datasets, documents, services, tools and applications collected by Government of India Ministries/ Departments for public use.
2. It is a joint initiative of Government of India and Singapore Government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Open Government Data (OGD) Platform India - data.gov.in - is a platform for supporting Open Data initiative of Government of India.

- The portal is intended to be used by Government of India Ministries/ Departments their organizations to publish datasets, documents, services, tools and applications collected by them for public use.
- It intends to increase transparency in the functioning of Government and also open avenues for many more innovative uses of Government Data to give different perspective.
- The Open Government Data Platform India is a joint initiative of Government of India and US Government.
- Open Government Data Platform India is also packaged as a product and made available in open source for implementation by countries globally.

Source: Mygov.com

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. e-Pramaan provides a simple, convenient and secure way for the users to access government services via internet/mobile.
2. e-Pramaan is a National e-Authentication service offered by DeitY.

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: e-Pramaan is a National e-Authentication service offered by DeitY.

- e-Pramaan provides a simple, convenient and secure way for the users to access government services via internet/mobile as well as for the government to assess the authenticity of the users.
- e-Pramaan builds up confidence and trust in online transactions and encourages the use of the e-services as a channel for service delivery.

Source: Press Information Bureau

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Q.3) Which of the following is the first state in India to operationalise a law that makes social audit of government programmes and schemes a part of government practice?

- a) Meghalaya
- b) Assam
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Kerala

ANS: A

Explanation: Meghalaya became the first state in India to operationalise a law that makes social audit of government programmes and schemes a part of government practice.

Chief Minister of Meghalaya launched 'The Meghalaya Community Participation and Public Services Social Audit Act, 2017', at a national convention in Shillong.

Source: Governance in India by Laxmikanth

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS):

1. It is a web based application created by the Department of Legal Affairs.
2. It is applicable to civil cases only.

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: Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS) is a web based application created by the Department of Legal Affairs under the Ministry of Law and Justice.

- The idea is to make the legal data available at one single point and streamline the procedure of litigation matters conducted on behalf of Union of India.
- It is in line with Digital India to digitalize the details of court cases and bring various stakeholders on a single platform.
- At present it is applicable to civil cases only.

Source: The Hindu

Q.5) "COMMIT (Comprehensive Online Modified Modules on Induction Training)" is developed by Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) with the help of which of the following?

- a) World Bank
- b) UNESCO
- c) World Trade Organization
- d) United Nations Development Programme

ANS: D

Explanation: COMMIT (Comprehensive Online Modified Modules on Induction Training) is developed by DoPT in collaboration with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

- Comprehensive Online Modified Modules on Induction Training (COMMIT) for State Government officials.
- The objective of this training programme is to improve the public service delivery mechanism and provide citizen centric administration through capacity building of officials who interact with the citizens on day-to-day basis.

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- Advantage of COMMIT is that it is cost effective and has the potential to cover about 3.3 lakh officials annually, compared to 10,000 officials under existing 12-Day Induction Training Programme (ITP).

Source: Press Information Bureau

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission:

1. It was established under the Consumer Protection Act of 1986.
2. The commission is headed by a sitting or retired judge of the Supreme Court of India.

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: D

Explanation: The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), India is a quasi-judicial commission in India which was set up in 1988 under the Consumer Protection Act of 1986.

Its head office is in New Delhi. The commission is headed by a sitting or retired judge of the Supreme Court of India.

Source: Governance in India by Laxmikanth

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding the “Law Commission of India”:

1. It is a non - statutory body.
2. It is constituted for every three 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: The Law Commission of India is a non-statutory body constituted by the Government of India from time to time.

- The Commission was originally constituted in 1955 and is re-constituted every three years.
- The tenure of twenty-first Law Commission of India was upto 31st August, 2018.
- The various Law Commissions have been able to make important contribution towards the progressive development and codification of Law of the country.
- The Law Commission has so far submitted 277 reports.

Source: Governance in India by Laxmikanth

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT):

1. It exercises original jurisdiction in relation to recruitment and all service matters of public servants.
2. It is guided by the principles of natural justice.

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 Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) was set up in 1985 with the principal bench at Delhi and additional benches in different states.

- At present, it has 17 regular benches, 15 of which operate at the principal seats of high courts and the remaining two at Jaipur and Lucknow.
- These benches also hold circuit sittings at other seats of high courts.
- The CAT exercises original jurisdiction in relation to recruitment and all service matters of public servants covered by it.
- Its jurisdiction extends to the all-India services, the Central civil services, civil posts under the Centre and civilian employees of defence services.
- However, the members of the defence forces, officers and servants of the Supreme Court and the secretarial staff of the Parliament are not covered by it.
- The CAT is not bound by the procedure laid down in the Civil Procedure Code of 1908. It is guided by the principles of natural justice.
- These principles keep the CAT flexible in approach. Only a nominal fee of 50 is to be paid by the applicant. The applicant may appear either in person or through a lawyer.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which of the following pension scheme (s) is/are NOT run by the Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority (PFRDA)?

1. National Pension System (NPS)
 2. Atal Pension Yojana
 3. Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM)
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority Act was passed on 19th September, 2013 and the same was notified on 1st February, 2014.

- PFRDA is regulating NPS, subscribed by employees of Govt. of India, State Governments and by employees of private institutions/organizations & unorganized sectors.
- Atal Pension Yojana (APY), a pension scheme launched by Government of India and run by PFRDA is focused on the unorganized sector workers.
- Under the APY, minimum guaranteed pension of Rs. 1,000/- or 2,000/- or 3,000/- or 4,000 or 5,000/- per month will start after attaining the age of 60 years depending on the contributions by the subscribers for their chosen pension amount.

Source: The Hindu

Q.10) The “eShakti” initiative, sometimes seen in news is related to which of the following?

- a) Self Help Groups (SHG)
- b) Women Contingent force to deal with girl child trafficking
- c) Merit scholarship for girls
- d) Women Scientist programme

ANS: A

Explanation: eShakti or Digitization of SHGs is an initiative of Micro Credit and Innovations Department of NABARD in line with our Hon'ble PM statement, 'we move with the dream of electronic digital India.'

- Digital India is an Rs 1.13-lakh crore initiative of Government of India to integrate the government departments and the people of India and to ensure effective governance. It is to "transform India into digital empowered society and knowledge economy".
- Keeping in view the Government of India's mission for creating a digital India, NABARD launched a project for digitization of all Self Help Group (SHG) in the country.
- The project is being implemented in 250 districts across the country.

Source: Indian Express

ForumIAS

RTI, Citizens Charter & Anti – Corruption

Q.1) The right to information movement in India began with which of the following movement?

- a) Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) movement
- b) Appiko movement
- c) Chipko movement
- d) Narmada Bachao Andholan (NBA)

ANS: A

Explanation: The right to information movement in India began with the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) movement to bring in transparency in village accounts through the demand for minimum wages in rural India.

False entries in wage rolls were a sign of increasing corruption in the system, which encouraged MKSS to demand official information recorded in government files.

Source: <http://www.legalservicesindia.com/article/444/Right-To-Information.html>

Q.2) “Information is the currency of democracy” – was described by which of the following?

- a) John Marshall
- b) Adam Smith
- c) David Ricardo
- d) Thomas Jefferson

ANS: D

Explanation: According to Thomas Jefferson “Information is the currency of democracy,” and critical to the emergence and development of a vibrant civil society.

Source: Governance in India by Laxmikanth

Q.3) Section 12(5) of Right to Information Act is often seen in news is related to?

- a) Maintain and proactively disclose information
- b) Public Authorities
- c) Prescribes simple procedure for securing information
- d) Qualifications of Commissioners of RTI

ANS: D

Explanation: Section 12 (5) of the RTI Act states that the commissioners be selected from among “persons of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media or administration and governance.”

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/society/the-rti-act-has-been-systematically-assaulted-by-successive-governments-to-blunt-its-efficacy/>.

Q.4) With reference to the recent amendments to Right to Information bill, 2019, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The term of the central Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners will be prescribed by Central Government.

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2. The salaries, allowances and other terms of service of the Chief Information Commissioner and the Information Commissioners shall be such as may be determined by the Parliament.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation:

Table 1: Comparison of the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005 and the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019

Provision	RTI Act, 2005	RTI (Amendment) Bill, 2019
Term	The Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and Information Commissioners (ICs) (at the central and state level) will hold office for a term of five years.	The Bill removes this provision and states that the central government will notify the term of office for the CIC and the ICs.
Quantum of Salary	The salary of the CIC and ICs (at the central level) will be equivalent to the salary paid to the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners, respectively. Similarly, the salary of the CIC and ICs (at the state level) will be equivalent to the salary paid to the Election Commissioners and the Chief Secretary to the state government, respectively.	The Bill removes these provisions and states that the salaries, allowances, and other terms and conditions of service of the central and state CIC and ICs will be determined by the central government.
Deductions in Salary	The Act states that at the time of the appointment of the CIC and ICs (at the central and state level), if they are receiving pension or any other retirement benefits for previous government service, their salaries will be reduced by an amount equal to the pension. Previous government service includes service under: (i) the central government, (ii) state government, (iii) corporation established under a central or state law, and (iv) company owned or controlled by the central or state government.	The Bill removes these provisions.

Source: <https://prsindia.org/billtrack/the-right-to-information-amendment-bill-2019>

Q.5) The term Principle of Non-Refoulement often seen in news is related to which of the following?

- a) Economic offender
- b) Refugees
- c) Right to property
- d) Right to Information

ANS: B

Explanation: Non-refoulement is a fundamental principle of international law.

It prohibits states from forcibly returning refugees to conditions that caused them to flee their homes in the first place, where they would be likely in danger of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion.

Source: Press Information Bureau

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Q.6) The “Global Social Mobility Index” is released by which of the following International Institution?

- a) Asian Development Bank
- b) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- c) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- d) World Bank

ANS: C

Explanation: India has been ranked very low at 76th place out of 82 countries on a new Social Mobility Index compiled by the World Economic Forum, while Denmark has topped the charts.

The report, released ahead of the 50th Annual Meeting of the WEF, also lists India among the five countries that stand to gain the most from a better social mobility score that seeks to measure parameters necessary for creating societies where every person has the same opportunity to fulfill his potential in life irrespective of socioeconomic background.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/business/india-ranks-low-at-76th-place-on-global-social-mobility-index/>

Q.7) The Corruption Perception Index is released by which of the following?

- a) Tax Justice Network
- b) World Bank
- c) Transparency International
- d) World Economic Forum

ANS: C

Explanation: The Corruption Perceptions Index is released by the Transparency International annually.

- The latest edition is the Corruption Perceptions Index 2019 which was released in January 2020.
- The index includes the ranks of the 180 countries or territories based on the perceived levels of public sector corruption.

Source: The Hindu

Q.8) “Sevottam model” is often seen in news is related to which of the following?

- a) Public Service Delivery
- b) Corruption
- c) Code of Ethics for public servants
- d) Sustainable Development Goals

ANS: A

Explanation: Sevottam Model is a model proposed by 2nd ARC (Administrative Reforms Commission) for public Service Delivery.

- The word, Sevottam, is a combination of two Hindi words: ‘Seva’ (service) and ‘Uttam’ (excellence).
- Sevottam Model is now regarded as a standard model for providing services in citizen centric governance.
- The model is developed by rectifying the drawbacks in the earlier mechanisms of public service delivery like Citizen Charters (CC), and is gradually adopted by various departments under Central and State government.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.9) The task of coordination, formulation, and operationalization of citizen's charters are done by?

- a) Department of Justice and Legal affairs
- b) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
- c) Department of Personnel
- d) Department of Social Welfare

ANS: B

Explanation: The task of coordination, formulation, and operationalization of citizen's charters are done by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG).

Source: Governance in India by Laxmikanth

Q.10) The "Gender Social Norms Index" is released by which of the following institution?

- a) United Nations Environment Programme
- b) UNESCO
- c) WEF
- d) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

ANS: D

Explanation: Nine in 10 people are prejudiced against women, such as thinking university education is more important for men or that men deserve jobs more if work is scarce, the United Nations said.

More than a quarter of men and women also think it is justified for a husband to beat his wife, found the Gender Social Norms Index by the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP), designed to measure how social beliefs obstruct gender equality.

Source: The Hindu

Civil Society and Social Audit

Q.1) Which of the following was the first state to pass legislation on Social Audit?

- a) Kerala
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Tripura
- d) Meghalaya

ANS: D

Explanation: In April 2017, Meghalaya became the first State in the country to pass social audit legislation, the Meghalaya Community Participation and Public Services Social Audit Act.

This Act mandated social audits across 21 schemes and 11 departments.

Source: The Hindu

Q.2) Foreign funding of voluntary organizations in India is regulated under which of the following act?

- a) Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 2010
- b) Societies Registration Act, 1860
- c) Foreign Investment regulation Act, 1988
- d) Competition Commission of India Act, 2002

ANS: A

Explanation: Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 2010

- Foreign funding of voluntary organizations in India is regulated under FCRA act which is implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The Act ensures that the recipients of foreign contributions adhere to the stated purpose for which such contribution has been obtained.
- Under the Act, organizations are required to register themselves every five years.

Source: The Hindu

Q.3) Under which of the following act/acts Non – Governmental Organizations is/are registered?

1. Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860
2. Religious Endowments Act, 1863
3. Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967

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: B

Explanation: NGOs are groups of ordinary citizens that are involved in a wide range of activities that may have charitable, social, political, religious or other interests.

- NGOs are helpful in implementing government schemes at the grassroots.
- In India, NGOs can be registered under a plethora of Acts such as the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860, Religious Endowments Act, 1863, Indian Trusts Act, etc.

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Source: Governance in India by Laxmikanth

Q.4) The Self Help Group (SHG) Bank Linkage Project was launched by which of the following?

- a) Indian Banks Bureau
- b) Regional Rural Banks
- c) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- d) Micro Finance Institutions

ANS: C

Explanation: The SHG Bank Linkage Project launched by NABARD in 1992 has blossomed into the world's largest microfinance project.

NABARD along with RBI permitted SHGs to have a savings account in banks from the year of 1993. This action gave a considerable boost to the SHG movement and paved the way for the SHG-Bank linkage program.

Source: Governance in India by Laxmikanth

Q.5) "Kudumbashree" programme often seen in news is associated with which of the following state?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Kerala
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Karnataka

ANS: B

Explanation: Kudumbashree was launched in Kerala in 1998 to wipe out absolute poverty through community action.

- It is the largest women empowering project in the country.
- It has three components i.e., microcredit, entrepreneurship and empowerment.
- It has three tier structure - neighborhood groups (SHG), area development society (15-20 SHGs) and Community development society (federation of all groups).
- Kudumbashree is a government agency that has a budget and staff paid by the government. The three tiers are also managed by unpaid volunteers.

Source: The Hindu

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act:

1. The Act defines a child as any person below eighteen years of age.
2. It is a gender neutral law.
3. It recognizes consensual sexual acts among children or between a child and an adult.

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: To deal with child sexual abuse cases, the Government has brought in a special law, namely, The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. The Act has come into force with effect from 14th November, 2012 along with the Rules framed there under.

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Provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act:

- The Act defines a child as any person below eighteen years of age and regards the best interests and well-being of the child as being of paramount importance at every stage, to ensure the healthy physical, emotional, intellectual and social development of the child.
- It defines different forms of sexual abuse, including penetrative and non-penetrative assault, as well as sexual harassment and pornography, and deems a sexual assault to be “aggravated” under certain circumstances, such as when the abused child is mentally ill or when the abuse is committed by a person in a position of trust or authority vis-à-vis the child, like a family member, police officer, teacher, or doctor
- It also seeks to establish Special Courts for speedy trial of such offences. The Act stipulates that a case of Child Sexual Abuse must be disposed of within one year from the date the offence is reported.
- It also provides for relief and rehabilitation of the child, as soon as the complaint is made. The Special Juvenile Police Unit or the local police are also required to report the matter to the Child Welfare Committee within 24 hours of recording the complaint, for long term rehabilitation of the child.
- It is gender neutral law, wherein the law takes cognizance of sexual crimes committed against both girls and boys under the age of 18 years.
- It does not recognize consensual sexual acts among children or between a child and an adult. Prosecutes any person (including a child) for engaging in a sexual act with a child irrespective of whether the latter consented to it.

Source: <https://prsindia.org/billtrack/the-protection-of-children-from-sexual-offences-amendment-bill>.

Q.7) Which of the following is/are NOT correctly matched?

Government to Consumer (G2C) initiative	State
1. e-Seva	: Andhra Pradesh
2. Friends	: Haryana
3. Lok-mitra project	: Punjab

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: A key component of e-governance is to provide governments with a citizen-friendly face. Naturally, G2C (government-to-citizens) is an important element of all e-governance projects.

- FirstGov in the US, e-Envoy of the UK, e-Taiwan, e-Citizen in Singapore, e-Korea, e-Malaysia, Victoria Online in Australia and Government Online in Canada are award-winning G2C services in the world.
- Closer home, e-Seva in Andhra Pradesh, Friends in Kerala, Sukhmani centres in Punjab, the Lok-Mitra project in Rajasthan, Coimbatore-Online in Tamil Nadu and BangaloreOne in Karnataka are some of the pioneering G2C initiatives in India.

Source: The Hindu

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Q.8) The Time to Care report (Wealth Inequality), sometimes in news was released by which of the following?

- a) Oxfam International
- b) UNESCO
- c) World Bank
- d) UNDP

ANS: A

Explanation: India's richest 1% hold more than four-times the wealth held by 953 million people who make up for the bottom 70% of the country's population, while the total wealth of all Indian billionaires is more than the full-year budget.

- Releasing the study Time to Care, ahead of the 50th Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF), rights group Oxfam also said the world's 2,153 billionaires have more wealth than the 4.6 billion people who make up 60 per cent of the planet's population.
- The report flagged that global inequality is shockingly entrenched and vast and the number of billionaires has doubled in the last decade, despite their combined wealth having declined in the last year.

Source: The Hindu

Q.9) The "Empowered Action Group (EAG) States" often seen in news, which of the following states are under EAG?

- 1. Uttarakhand
- 2. Uttar Pradesh
- 3. Jharkhand
- 4. Madhya Pradesh
- 5. Chhattisgarh
- 6. Rajasthan

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: India's MMR has declined from 130 per 1 lakh live births in 2014-2016 to 122 per 1 lakh live births in 2015-2017 as per the recently released Sample Registration System (SRS) 2015-2017 bulletin for MMR. A decline of 8 points (6.2%) has been observed.

- The bulletin categorizes the country into three groups: Empowered Action Group (EAG), Southern States and other states.
- The following states are comes under EAG are Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Rajasthan.

Source: The Hindu

Q.10) Which of the following are the criteria for declaring any area as a "Scheduled Area" under the Fifth Schedule?

- 1. Preponderance of tribal population.
- 2. Compactness and reasonable size of the area.
- 3. Economic backwardness of the area as compared to the neighboring areas.
- 4. A viable administrative entity such as a district, block or taluk.

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Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: As per the Constitutional provision under Article 244 (1) of the Constitution of India, the 'Scheduled Areas' are defined as 'such areas as the President may by order declare to be Scheduled Areas' – as per paragraph 6(1) of the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

The criteria for declaring any area as a "Scheduled Area" under the Fifth Schedule are:

- Preponderance of tribal population,
- Compactness and reasonable size of the area,
- A viable administrative entity such as a district, block or taluk, and
- Economic backwardness of the area as compared to the neighboring areas.

These criteria are not spelt out in the Constitution of India but have become well established. Accordingly, since the year 1950 to 2007 Constitutional Order relating to Scheduled Areas has been notified.

Source: Ministry of Tribal Welfare

Public Policy

Q.1) With reference to the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It Provide 100 days of guaranteed wage employment to rural unskilled labour.
2. Mandatory Social Audit for MGNREGA works.
3. 50:50 division of scheme allocation between wage and material.

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: B

Explanation: The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has the following objectives:

- Provide 100 days of guaranteed wage employment to rural unskilled labour
- Increase economic security
- Decrease migration of labour from rural to urban areas
- Social Audit of MGNREGA works is mandatory.
- At least one-third beneficiaries shall be women.
- Right to get unemployment allowance in case employment is not provided within fifteen days of submitting the application or from the date when work is sought. Unemployment allowance is borne by the state governments.
- A 60:40 wage and material ratio has to be maintained. No contractors and machinery are allowed.

Source: Governance in India by Laxmikanth

Q.2) With reference to the PRADHAN MANTRI AWAS YOJANA (GRAMEEN), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was launched in 2018.
2. Beneficiaries are identified through Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) data.
3. Funds under PMAY-G are given in a single installment, directly into the bank account of beneficiary.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Prime Minister had given a clarion call of “Housing for All by 2022”, for which a flagship programme of PMAY-G was launched on 20th November, 2016. So far 1.14 crore houses have already been built across the country under the programme.

- Identification of beneficiaries done using information from Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) subject to 13-point exclusion criteria.
- The list will be presented to Gram Sabha to identify beneficiaries who have been assisted before or who have become ineligible due to other reasons.

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- Inspection and uploading of geo referenced photographs will be done through a mobile app.
- Each beneficiary is given 100% grant of Rs.1.20 lakh (in plain areas) and Rs. 1.30 lakh (in Hilly States/North Eastern States/Difficult areas/UT of J&K and Ladakh/IAP/LWE districts) with a sharing ratio of 60:40 between Centre and State.
- Beneficiaries can also avail loan upto Rs. 7000 from financial institutions.
- Funds for all these houses constructed under PMAY-G are given by way of 4 installments directly into the bank account of the beneficiary after verification of various stages of construction through Geotagged photographs.
- The beneficiaries are provided support of unskilled labour wages for 90/95 person days under MGNREGS and assistance of Rs. 12,000 for construction of toilets through Swachh Bharat Mission- Gramin, or any other dedicated source of funding.

Source: Governance in India by Laxmikanth

Q.3) The “Recognition of Prior Learning” is the component of which of the following scheme?

- a) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)
- b) Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme
- c) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana
- d) National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana

ANS: C

Explanation: PMKVY is a Skill Certification Scheme that aims to encourage the youth population of the country to take up training which is Industry- Relevant and builds them in Skill Development.

- The scheme was launched with an intention to provide secure livelihoods for the individuals participating in the training.
- PMKVY will also certify the previous learning experiences or skills of the individuals under the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).

Source: <https://vikaspedia.in/social-welfare/skill-development/best-practices-on-skill-development/recognition-of-prior-learning>.

Q.4) Consider the following pairs:

- | List | : | Subject |
|--------------------|---|---|
| 1. Union List | : | Electricity |
| 2. State List | : | Regulation of mines and mineral development |
| 3. Concurrent List | : | Public health |

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Public health and sanitation, Regulation of mines and mineral development comes under State list. Electricity is in Concurrent list.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Ayushman Sahakar, a scheme to assist cooperatives in creation of healthcare infrastructure in the country was launched by which of the following?

- a) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- b) Ministry of Finance

- c) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- d) Ministry of Home Affairs

ANS: A

Explanation: The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched Ayushman Sahakar, a scheme to assist cooperatives in creation of healthcare infrastructure in the country.

It is a scheme of National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for financial assistance to cooperatives on holistic healthcare infrastructure, education and services.

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage>.

Q.6) Which of the following is/are functional items of "Twelfth Schedule"?

1. Planning for economic and social development.
2. Fire services.
3. Fisheries.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: List of 18 items covered under the Twelfth Schedule of the Indian Constitution are as follows;

- Regulation of land use and construction of land buildings.
- Urban planning including the town planning.
- Planning for economic and social development
- Urban poverty alleviation
- Water supply for domestic, industrial and commercial purposes
- Fire services
- Public health sanitation, conservancy and solid waste management
- Slum improvement and up-gradation
- Safeguarding the interests of the weaker sections of society, including the physically handicapped and mentally unsound
- Urban forestry, protection of environment and promotion of ecological aspects
- Construction of roads and bridges
- Provision of urban amenities and facilities such as parks, gardens and playgrounds
- Promotion of cultural, educational and aesthetic aspects
- Burials and burials grounds, cremation and cremation grounds and electric crematoriums
- Cattle ponds, prevention of cruelty to animals
- Regulation of slaughter houses and tanneries
- Public amenities including street lighting, parking spaces, bus stops and public conveniences
- Vital statistics including registration of births and deaths

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding the Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA):

1. It is a non-profit, Non Banking Financing Company (NBFC).
2. All Centrally Funded Educational Institutions in Higher Education, School Education and Medical Education sectors are eligible to avail of loans through HEFA.

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: HEFA has been set up on 31st May 2017 by the Central Government as a non-profit, Non Banking Financing Company (NBFC).

- HEFA was established to mobilize extra-budgetary resources for building crucial infrastructure in the higher educational institutions under Central Government.
- The Government has approved the authorised equity capital expansion of Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) to Rs. 10,000 crore, with Government equity of Rs. 6000 crore.
- An amount corresponding to 10% of the Government equity would be contributed by the partner institution, Canara Bank.
- All Centrally Funded Educational Institutions in Higher Education, School Education and Medical Education sectors are eligible to avail of loans through HEFA.

Source: <https://hefa.co.in/about-us/>

Q.8) Which of the following is/are functional items of “Eleventh Schedule”?

1. Animal husbandry, dairying and poultry.
2. Food processing industries.
3. Cattle ponds, prevention of cruelty to animals.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Eleventh Schedule It contains the following 29 functional items placed within the purview of panchayats:

- Agriculture, including agricultural extension
- Land improvement, implementation of land reforms, land consolidation and soil conservation
- Minor irrigation, water management and watershed development
- Animal husbandry, dairying and poultry
- Fisheries
- Social forestry and farm forestry
- Minor forest produce
- Small-scale industries, including food processing industries
- Khadi, village and cottage industries
- Rural housing
- Drinking water

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- Fuel and fodder
- Roads, culverts, bridges, ferries, waterways and other means of communication
- Rural electrification, including distribution of electricity.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding to Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalaya Yojana (DDU-GKY):

1. Scheme was launched by Ministry of Rural Development in 2014.
2. Scheme aim is to transform rural poor youth into an economically independent and globally relevant workforce.

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 Government has informed that around 4.39 lakh candidates have been trained during 2018-19 and 2019-20 under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalaya Yojana (DDU-GKY).

- It was launched in 2014 by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) as a part of the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).
- Scheme aim is to transform rural poor youth into an economically independent and globally relevant workforce.

Source: The Hindu

Q.10) The “Section 124-A” of Indian Penal Code is often seen in news is related to which of the following?

- a) Privacy
- b) Domestic abuse
- c) Sedition
- d) Extra marital affairs

ANS: C

Explanation: The section 124-A deals with the offence of sedition, a term that covers speech or writing, or any form of visible representation, which brings the government into hatred or contempt, or excites disaffection towards the government, or attempts to do so.

- It is punishable with three years in prison or a life term. “Disaffection”, it says, includes disloyalty and feelings of enmity.
- However, it also says expressing disapproval of government measures or actions, with a view to getting them changed by lawful means, without promoting hatred or disaffection or contempt towards the government will not come under this section.
- Sedition was introduced in the penal code in 1870; a decade after the Indian Penal Code came into force. It was a colonial law directed against strong criticism of the British administration.
- Its most famous victims included Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhi called it “the prince among the political sections of the IPC designed to suppress the liberty of the citizen”.
- Two high courts had found it unconstitutional after Independence, as it violated the freedom of speech and expression. The Constitution was amended to include ‘public

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order' as one of the 'reasonable restrictions' on which free speech could be abridged by law.

- Thereafter, the Supreme Court, in Kedar Nath Singh v. State of Bihar (1962) upheld its validity. At the same time, it limited its application to acts that involve "intention or tendency to create disorder" or incitement to violence.
- Thus, even strongly worded remarks, as long as they do not excite disloyalty and enmity, or incite violence, are not offences under this section.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/its-time-to-define-limits-of-sedition-says-sc/>

ForumIAS

Revision

Q.1) With reference to the Central Vigilance Commission, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a multi-member body consists of chairman and not more than two vigilance commissioners.
2. They are appointed by President of India under his hand and seal.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The CVC is a multi-member body consisting of a Central Vigilance Commissioner (chairperson) and not more than two vigilance commissioners.

They are appointed by the president by warrant under his hand and seal on the recommendation of a three-member committee consisting of the prime minister as its head, the Union minister of home affairs and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) The Special Police Establishment is often seen in news is associated with which of the following?

- a) Central Bureau of Investigation
- b) National Crime Records Bureau
- c) National Investigation Agency
- d) Central Vigilance Commission

ANS: A

Explanation: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was set up in 1963 by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

- Later, it was transferred to the Ministry of Personnel and now it enjoys the status of an attached office.
- The Special Police Establishment (which looked into vigilance cases) setup in 1941 was also merged with the CBI.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding State Information Commission:

1. Commission consists of a State Chief Information Commissioner and not more than five State Information Commissioners.
2. They are appointed by President of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The Commission consists of a State Chief Information Commissioner and not more than Ten State Information Commissioners.

- They are appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of a committee consisting of the Chief Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly and a State Cabinet Minister nominated by the Chief Minister.
- They should be persons of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media or administration and governance.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) With reference to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was established after the Kargil war to gather intelligence throughout India.
2. The director – general of NIA is appointed by President.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was constituted in 2009 under the provisions of the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 (NIA Act).

- It is the central counter-terrorism law enforcement agency in the country.
- The NIA is headed by a Director-General. He is appointed by the central government.
- His powers are similar to the powers exercisable by a Director-General of Police in respect of the police force in a state.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Who among the following is the ex – office chairman of the National Disaster Management Authority?

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Finance Minister
- c) Home Minister
- d) Niti Aayog Vice Chairman

ANS: A

Explanation: The NDMA consists of a chairperson and other members, not exceeding nine.

- The Prime Minister is the ex-officio chairperson of the NDMA. The other members are nominated by the chairperson of the NDMA.
- The chairperson of the NDMA designates one of the members as the vice-chairperson of the NDMA.
- The vice-chairperson has the status of a Cabinet Minister while the other members have the status of a Minister of State.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) “Articles 82 and 170” of Indian constitution are related to which of the following?

- a) Readjustment of territorial constituencies
- b) Prime minister and Chief Minister
- c) President and Governor

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d) None of the above

ANS: A

Explanation: Articles 82 and 170 of the Constitution of India provide for readjustment and the division of each State into territorial constituencies (Parliamentary constituencies and Assembly constituencies) on the basis of the 2001 census by such authority and in such manner as Parliament may, by law, determine.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) “Vohra Committee” was associated with which of the following?

- a) States re – organization
- b) Nexus between Crime and Politics
- c) Local governance
- d) e – Governance

ANS: B

Explanation: The various committees and commissions which have examined our electoral system, election machinery as well as election process and suggested reforms are mentioned here.

- Joint Parliamentary Committee on Amendments to Election Laws (1971–72).
- Tarkunde Committee was appointed in 1974 by Jaya Prakash Narayan (JP) during his “Total Revolution” movement. This unofficial committee submitted its report in 1975.
- Dinesh Goswami Committee on Electoral Reforms (1990)
- Vohra Committee on the Nexus between Crime and Politics (1993)
- Election Commission of India Recommendations on Electoral Reforms (1998).
- Indrajit Gupta Committee on State Funding of Elections (1998)

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Which of the following state is NOT part of Sixth Schedule of the Constitution?

- a) Assam
- b) Meghalaya
- c) Manipur
- d) Tripura

ANS: C

Explanation: Article 244 in Part X of the Constitution envisages a special system of administration for certain areas designated as ‘scheduled areas’ and ‘tribal areas’.

- The Fifth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the administration and control of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes in any state except the four states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.
- The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, on the other hand, deals with the administration of the tribal areas in the four northeastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which of the following Article (s) of Indian Constitution is/are deals with the reservation in services/posts?

1. Article 19
2. Article 46
3. Article 335

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: C

Explanation: The relevant Articles of the Constitution which govern the entire reservation set up are the following:

- Article 16(4): Nothing in this Article shall prevent the State from making any provision for the reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens which, in the opinion of the State, is not adequately represented in the services under the State.
- Article 46: The State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.
- Article 335: The claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the making of appointments to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation (NSKFDC):

1. It is wholly owned government of India undertaking.
2. NSKFDC is playing a vital role in elimination of manual scavenging - the worst surviving symbol of untouchability.
3. It is the nodal agency for implementation of the Central Sector Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS).

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: D

Explanation: National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation(NSKFDC), A wholly owned Govt. of India Undertaking under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (M/o SJ&E) was set up on 24th January 1997 as a Company "Not for Profit" under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956.

- NSKFDC is in operation since October, 1997, as an Apex Corporation for the all round socio-economic upliftment of the Safai Karamcharis, Scavengers and their dependants throughout India, through various loan and non-loan based schemes.
- Apart from operating various loan and non-loan based schemes for the upliftment of the target group, NSKFDC is playing a vital role in elimination of manual scavenging - the worst surviving symbol of untouchability.
- NSKFDC has been designated as the Nodal Agency for implementation of the Central Sector Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS) under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Source: The Hindu

Solar system & the Earth & basics of Latitude and Longitude

Q.1) The Nebular Hypothesis was developed by which of the following?

- a) Immanuel Kant
- b) Laplace
- c) Alfred Wagner
- d) Both A & B

ANS: D

Explanation: A large number of hypotheses were put forth by different philosophers and scientists regarding the origin of the earth.

- One of the earlier and popular arguments was by German philosopher Immanuel Kant.
- Mathematician Laplace revised it in 1796. It is known as Nebular Hypothesis.

Source: Fundamental of Physical Geography, Chapter – 2

Q.2) “The hypothesis/theory considered that the planets were formed out of a cloud of material associated with a youthful sun, which was slowly rotating” – is described about which of the following?

- a) Hubble’s Hypothesis
- b) Binary Theory
- c) Big Bang Theory
- d) Nebular Hypothesis

ANS: D

Explanation: One of the earlier and popular arguments was by German philosopher Immanuel Kant. Mathematician Laplace revised it in 1796. It is known as Nebular Hypothesis.

- The hypothesis considered that the planets were formed out of a cloud of material associated with a youthful sun, which was slowly rotating.
- Later in 1900, Chamberlain and Moulton considered that a wandering star approached the sun. As a result, a cigar-shaped extension of material was separated from the solar surface.
- As the passing star moved away, the material separated from the solar surface continued to revolve around the sun and it slowly condensed into planets.

Source: Fundamental of Physical Geography, Chapter – 2

Q.3) Who among the following discovered the relationship between the intrinsic brightness of a variable star and the time it took to vary in brightness, making it possible for others to estimate the distance of these faraway stars, conclude that additional galaxies exist, and begin mapping the Universe?

- a) Kepler
- b) Edwin Hubble
- c) Henrietta Leavitt
- d) Laplace

ANS: C

Explanation: Henrietta Leavitt discovered the relationship between the intrinsic brightness of a variable star and the time it took to vary in brightness, making it possible for others to estimate the distance of these faraway stars, conclude that additional galaxies exist, and begin mapping the Universe.

Source: <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/big-history-project/big-bang/how-did-big-bang-change/a/henrietta-leavitt>.

Q.4) With reference to the solar system, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Mars, Jupiter and Saturn are also called as Jovian planets.
2. The asteroid belt lies between Mars and Jupiter.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Out of the eight planets, mercury, Venus, earth and mars are called as the inner planets as they lie between the sun and the belt of asteroids the other four planets are called the outer planets.

- Alternatively, the first four are called Terrestrial, meaning earth-like as they are made up of rock and metals, and have relatively high densities.
- The rest four are called Jovian or Gas Giant planets. Jovian means Jupiter-like.

Source: Fundamental of Physical Geography, Chapter – 2

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. The intensity of solar winds is very high on Jovian Planets.
2. The gravity of terrestrial planets is lower than the Jovian planets.

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 difference between terrestrial and Jovian planets can be attributed to the following conditions:

- The terrestrial planets were formed in the close vicinity of the parent star where it was too warm for gases to condense to solid particles. Jovian planets were formed at quite a distant location.
- The solar wind was most intense nearer the sun; so, it blew off lots of gas and dust from the terrestrial planets. The solar winds were not all that intense to cause similar removal of gases from the Jovian planets.
- The terrestrial planets are smaller and their lower gravity could not hold the escaping gases.

Source: Fundamental of Physical Geography, Chapter – 2

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Q.6) Which of the following Planet has lowest number of satellites?

- a) Earth
- b) Jupiter
- c) Neptune
- d) Uranus

ANS: A

Explanation:

The Solar System

	<i>Mercury</i>	<i>Venus</i>	<i>Earth</i>	<i>Mars</i>	<i>Jupiter</i>	<i>Saturn</i>	<i>Uranus</i>	<i>Neptune</i>
Distance*	0.387	0.723	1.000	1.524	5.203	9.539	19.182	30.058
Density@	5.44	5.245	5.517	3.945	1.33	0.70	1.17	1.66
Radius#	0.383	0.949	1.000	0.533	11.19	9.460	4.11	3.88
Satellites	0	0	1	2	about 53	about 53	about 27	13

Source: Fundamental of Physical Geography, Chapter – 2

Q.7) Consider the following pairs:

- | | | |
|--------------|---|-----------------|
| Epoch | : | Major event |
| 1. Holocene | : | Modern Man |
| 2. Paleocene | : | Anthropoid Ape |
| 3. Eocene | : | Frogs & Turtles |

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: A

Explanation:

Geological Time Scale

<i>Eons</i>	<i>Era</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Epoch</i>	<i>Age/ Years Before Present</i>	<i>Life/ Major Events</i>
	Cainozoic (From 65 million years to the present times)	Quaternary	Holocene Pleistocene	0 - 10,000 10,000 - 2 million	Modern Man Homo Sapiens
		Tertiary	Pliocene Miocene	2 - 5 million 5 - 24 million	Early Human Ancestor Ape: Flowering Plants and Trees
			Oligocene Eocene Palaeocene	24 - 37 million 37 - 58 Million 57 - 65 Million	Anthropoid Ape Rabbits and Hare Small Mammals : Rats - Mice
	Mesozoic 65 - 245 Million Mammals		Cretaceous Jurassic Triassic	65 - 144 Million 144 - 208 Million 208 - 245 Million	Extinction of Dinosaurs Age of Dinosaurs Frogs and turtles
			Palaeozoic 245 - 570 Million	Permian	245 - 286 Million
	Carboniferous	286 - 360 Million		First Reptiles: Vertebrates: Coal beds	
	Devonian Silurian	360 - 408 Million 408 - 438 Million		Amphibians First trace of life on land: Plants	
	Ordovician Cambrian	438 - 505 Million 505 - 570 Million		First Fish No terrestrial Life : Marine Invertebrate	
	Proterozoic Archean	Pre-Cambrian 570 Million - 4,800 Million		570 - 2,500 Million 2,500 - 3,800 Million	Soft-bodied arthropods Blue green Algae: Unicellular bacteria
	Hadean			3,800 - 4,800 Million	Oceans and Continents form - Ocean and Atmosphere are rich in Carbon dioxide
Origin of Stars	5,000 - 13,700 Million		5,000 Million	Origin of the sun	
Supernova			12,000 Million	Origin of the universe	
Big Bang			13,700 Million		

Source: Fundamental of Physical Geography, Chapter – 2

Q.8) The term 'Ekman Spiral' is related to which of the following?

- Tsunami
- Cyclone
- Coriolis Effect
- Jet stream

ANS: C

Explanation: The Ekman spiral, named after Swedish scientist Vagn Walfrid Ekman (1874-1954) who first theorized it in 1902, is a consequence of the Coriolis Effect.

- When surface water molecules move by the force of the wind, they, in turn, drag deeper layers of water molecules below them.
- Each layer of water molecules is moved by friction from the shallower layer, and each deeper layer moves more slowly than the layer above it, until the movement ceases at a depth of about 100 meters (330 feet).

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- Like the surface water, however, the deeper water is deflected by the Coriolis Effect—to the right in the Northern Hemisphere and to the left in the Southern Hemisphere.
- As a result, each successively deeper layer of water moves more slowly to the right or left, creating a spiral effect.
- Because the deeper layers of water move more slowly than the shallower layers, they tend to “twist around” and flow opposite to the surface current.

Source: G C Leong

Q.9) With reference to the “International Date line”, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It functions as a “line of demarcation”.
2. It has legal international status.
3. It is a straight line.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The International Date Line, established in 1884, passes through the mid-Pacific Ocean and roughly follows a 180 degrees longitude north-south line on the Earth.

- It is located halfway round the world from the prime meridian—the zero degrees longitude established in Greenwich, England, in 1852.
- The International Date Line functions as a “line of demarcation” separating two consecutive calendar dates.
- When you cross the date line, you become a time traveler of sorts! Cross to the west and its one day later; cross back and you’ve “gone back in time.”
- Despite its name, the International Date Line has no legal international status and countries are free to choose the dates that they observe.
- While the date line generally runs north to south from pole to pole, it zigzags around political borders such as eastern Russia and Alaska’s Aleutian Islands.

Source: G C Leong

Q.10) “EGA-WLS formula” is related to which of the following?

- a) Atmospheric pressure
- b) Temperature measurement
- c) Ocean depth measurement
- d) Time measurement

ANS: D

Explanation: Since the earth makes one complete rotation of 360° in one day or 24 hours, it passes through 15° in one hour or 1° in 4 minutes.

- The earth rotates from west to east, so every 15° we go eastwards, local time is advanced by 1 hour.
- If we know G.M.T, to find local time, we merely have to add or subtract the difference in the number of hours from the given longitude, as illustrated below.
- A simple memory aid for this will be East-Gain-Add (E.G.A.) and West-Lose-Subtract (W.L. S.).

Source: G C Leong

Continents & Oceans and Ocean Currents

Q.1) Which of the following statements is/are correct about the “Solar System”?

1. Venus and Uranus have a retrograde or clockwise rotation around their axis.
2. Venus is considered as Earth’s twin because of their close proximity in size, mass and density.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Prograde rotation indicates that the motion is in the same direction as the Sun’s rotation. Retrograde rotation is in the opposite direction.

- Most planets in our solar system, including Earth, rotate counter-clockwise or prograde direction, but Venus and Uranus are said to have a retrograde or clockwise rotation around their axis.
- The tilt angle of a planet is measured relative to the orbital plane of the planet, and most planets’ axes form an almost perpendicular angle to the orbital plane.
- Venus, twice the distance away from the sun, is the next closest planet after Mercury. It is often considered as Earth’s twin because of their close proximity in size, mass and density.

Source: G C leong

Q.2) Which of the following statements is/are correct about “Great and Small Circles”?

1. A Great Circle is any circle that circumnavigates the Earth and passes through the center of the Earth.
2. All longitudes are great circles.
3. All latitudes are great circles.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: A Great Circle is any circle that circumnavigates the Earth and passes through the center of the Earth.

- A great circle always divides the Earth in half, thus the Equator is a great circle (but no other latitudes) and all lines of longitude are great circles.
- The shortest distance between any two points on the Earth lies along a great circle. Circles which do not pass through the centre of the earth are the small circles.

Source: G C Leong

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Q.3) Which of the following statements is/are correct about “Lithosphere”?

1. It is bounded by the atmosphere above and the Asthenosphere below.
2. Oceanic lithosphere is denser than Continental lithosphere.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The lithosphere is the solid, outer part of the Earth. The lithosphere includes the brittle upper portion of the mantle and the crust, the outermost layers of Earth’s structure.

- It is bounded by the atmosphere above and the Asthenosphere (another part of the upper mantle) below.
- Although the rocks of the lithosphere are still considered elastic, they are not viscous.
- The Asthenosphere is viscous, and the lithosphere-Asthenosphere boundary (LAB) is the point where geologists and rheologists—scientists who study the flow of matter—mark the difference in ductility between the two layers of the upper mantle.
- Ductility measures a solid material’s ability to deform or stretch under stress. The lithosphere is far less ductile than the asthenosphere.
- There are two types of lithosphere: oceanic lithosphere and continental lithosphere. Oceanic lithosphere is associated with oceanic crust, and is slightly denser than continental lithosphere.

Source: <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/lithosphere/>

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. Epeirogenic movements are mainly associated with the formation of continents and plateaus.
2. Orogenic movements are mainly associated with the formation of mountain building.

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: D

Explanation: Vertical movements are mainly associated with the formation of continents and plateaus. They are also called as Epeirogenic movements.

Horizontal forces act on the earth’s crust from side to side to cause these movements. They are also known as orogenic movements (mountain building).

Source: <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/lithosphere/>

Q.5) Which of the following are the causes of “Ocean Currents”?

1. Level of salinity
2. Temperature
3. The Earth’s rotation

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Surface currents in the ocean are driven by global wind systems that are fueled by energy from the sun.

- Patterns of surface currents are determined by wind direction, Coriolis forces from the Earth's rotation, and the position of landforms that interact with the currents.
- Surface wind-driven currents generate upwelling currents in conjunction with landforms, creating deepwater currents.
- Currents may also be caused by density differences in water masses due to temperature (thermo) and salinity (haline) variations via a process known as thermohaline circulation.
- These currents move water masses through the deep ocean—taking nutrients, oxygen, and heat with them.
- Occasional events such as huge storms and underwater earthquakes can also trigger serious ocean currents, moving masses of water inland when they reach shallow water and coastlines.
- Earthquakes may also trigger rapid down slope movement of water-saturated sediments, creating strong turbidity currents.

Source: G C Leong

Q.6) Which of the following are “Cold Ocean Currents”?

1. The Gulf Stream
2. The North Atlantic Drift
3. The Labrador Current
4. The Oyashio Current

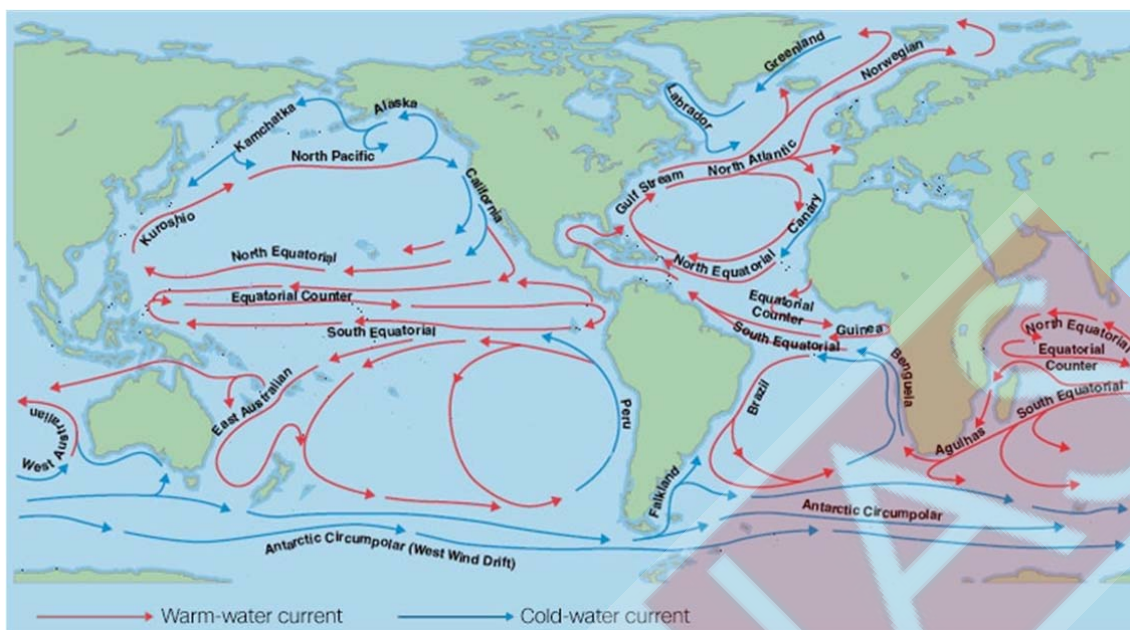
Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Cold currents flow toward the equator on the eastern side of ocean basins. Examples of cold ocean currents include the Canary Current in the North Atlantic, the California Current in the North Pacific, and the Benguela Current in the South Atlantic.

- Cold currents can also flow out of far northern regions. The Labrador Current flows out of Baffin Bay and past Labrador, the coastal part of the Canadian province of Newfoundland.
- The current carries icebergs from Baffin Bay, creating a hazard for ships in the North Atlantic. The Labrador Current meets the Gulf Stream off the coast of Newfoundland.
- When warm, moist air from the Gulf Stream blows over the cold Labrador Current, water vapor condenses. This results in some of the thickest fogs in the world.
- Two other important cold currents originate in northern regions. The East Greenland Current flows into the North Atlantic through the Strait of Denmark.
- The Oyashio Current flows through the Bering Strait between Siberia and Alaska and into the North Pacific.



Source: G C Leong

Q.7) Which of the following factors are affecting the ocean salinity?

1. Precipitation
2. Freezing of Ice
3. Evaporation
4. Wind flow

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: All waters in nature, whether rain water or ocean water, contain dissolved mineral salts. Salinity is the term used to define the total content of dissolved salts in sea water. Factors affecting ocean salinity are mentioned below:

- The salinity of water in the surface layer of oceans depends mainly on evaporation and precipitation.
- Surface salinity is greatly influenced in coastal regions by the fresh water flow from rivers, and in Polar Regions by the processes of freezing and thawing of ice.
- Wind, also influences salinity of an area by transferring water to other areas.
- The ocean currents contribute to the salinity variations. Salinity, temperature and density of water are interrelated. Hence, any change in the temperature or density influences the salinity of water in an area.

Source: NCERT - Fundamental of Physical Geography

Q.8) Which of the following hills/mountains is/are example/examples of “Residual Mountains”?

1. Aravalli hills
2. Nallamalla hills
3. Veliconda hills

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Mountains that have been eroded by the agents of degradation such as winds, rain, frost and running water leaving behind only the hard rocks are known as residual mountains.

- These hard rocks that are left behind are known as the residual mountains.
- Examples of Residual Mountains in India are the Nallamala hills, Mahendragiri hills, the Aravali hills, the Javadi hills, the Veliconda hills, and the Palkonda range.

Source: ICSE – Total Geography Class – IX

Q.9) Which of the following are examples of Fold Mountains?

- 1. Himalayas
- 2. Caucasus
- 3. Atlas

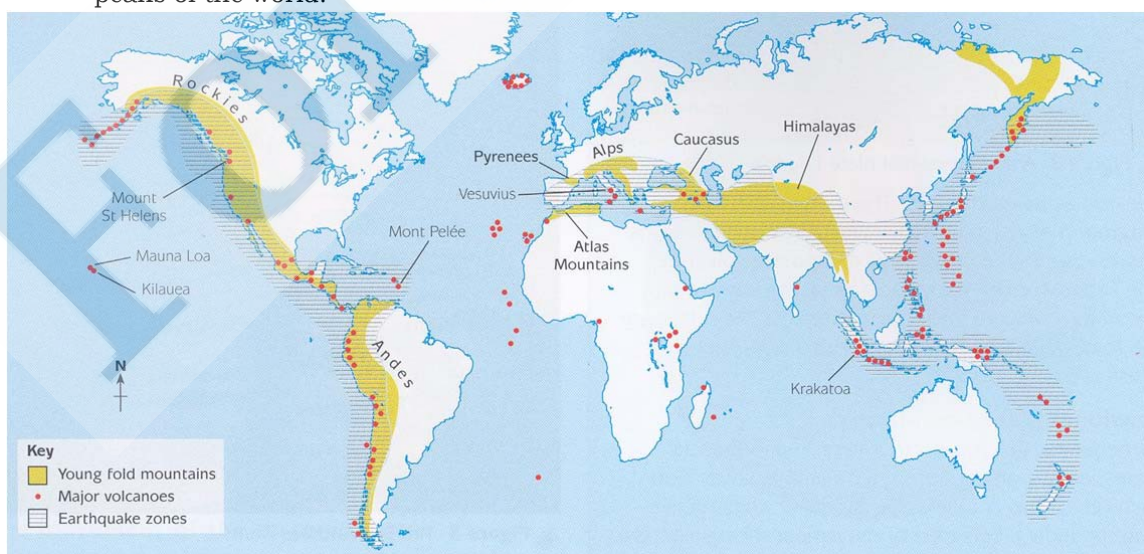
Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Fold Mountains are created through a process called orogeny. An orogenic event takes millions of years to create a fold mountain.

- When a tectonic plate gets pressure from two sides, it gets folded. Some of its portion becomes elevated and forms the mountains.
- The depressions form the valleys. The Himalayas, the Rockies, the Andes and the Alps are examples of Fold Mountain.
- They are the young mountains of the world and hence they have some of the highest peaks of the world.



Source: ICSE – Total Geography Class – IX

Q.10) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

Mechanism/Process	:	Rock
1. Mechanically formed sedimentary rock	:	Sandstone
2. Organically formed sedimentary rock	:	Dolomites
3. Chemically formed sedimentary rock	:	Shale

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: Sedimentary rocks are formed by the accumulation of sediments. There are three basic types of sedimentary rocks.

- Clastic sedimentary rocks such as breccia, conglomerate, sandstone, siltstone, and shale are formed from mechanical weathering debris.
- Chemical sedimentary rocks, such as rock salt, iron ore, chert, flint, some dolomites, and some limestone, form when dissolved materials precipitate from solution.
- Organic sedimentary rocks such as coal, some dolomites, and some limestone, form from the accumulation of plant or animal debris.

Source: G C Leong

Geomorphology and Bio – Geography

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the Dharwar Rock System:

1. It is the first metamorphic sedimentary rocks in India.
2. They were first studied in Dharwar region of Karnataka.

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: Dharwar system is later than the Archean system but older than the other systems.

- The Dharwar period of rock formation has been largely fixed from 2500 million years ago to 1800 million years ago.
- Dharwar Rock System is special because it is the first metamorphic sedimentary rocks in India.
- They are named Dharwar system because they were first studied in Dharwar region of Karnataka.
- But they are also found in Aravallis, Tamil Nadu, Chota-nagpur plateau, Meghalaya, Delhi, and the Himalay region.
- The Dharwar rocks are rich in iron ore, manganese, lead, zinc, gold, silver etc.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.2) The “oxisols or ferralsols” are predominantly found in which of the following areas?

- a) Tropical areas
- b) Polar areas
- c) Desert areas
- d) Temperate areas

ANS: A

Explanation: Latosols are soils found under tropical rainforests which have a relatively high content of iron and aluminum oxides. They are typically classified as oxisols or ferralsols.

Source: G C Leong

Q.3) Arrange the following minerals according to their hardness in descending order:

1. Talc
2. Gypsum
3. Fluorite
4. Diamond

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Hardness — relative resistance being scratched; ten minerals are selected to measure the degree of hardness from 1-10. They are:

1. talc;
2. gypsum;
3. calcite;
4. fluorite;
5. apatite;
6. feldspar;
7. quartz;
8. topaz;
9. corundum;
10. Diamond.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. The phenomenon of wearing down of relief variations of the surface of the earth through erosion is known as gradation.
2. The earth's surface is being continuously subjected to by external forces originating within the earth's atmosphere and by internal forces from within the earth.

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: D

Explanation: The earth's crust is dynamic. You are well aware that it has moved and moves vertically and horizontally. Of course, it moved a bit faster in the past than the rate at which it is moving now.

- The differences in the internal forces operating from within the earth which built up the crust have been responsible for the variations in the outer surface of the crust.
- The earth's surface is being continuously subjected to external forces induced basically by energy (sunlight).
- Of course, the internal forces are still active though with different intensities. That means, the earth's surface is being continuously subjected to by external forces originating within the earth's atmosphere and by internal forces from within the earth.
- The external forces are known as exogenic forces and the internal forces are known as endogenic forces.
- The actions of exogenic forces result in wearing down (degradation) of relief/elevations and filling up (aggradation) of basins/ depressions, on the earth's surface.
- The phenomenon of wearing down of relief variations of the surface of the earth through erosion is known as gradation.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.5) Which of the following are geomorphic agents?

1. Glaciers
2. Winds
3. Waves

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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 process is a force applied on earth materials affecting the same.

- An agent is a mobile medium (like running water, moving ice masses, wind, waves and currents etc.) which removes, transports and deposits earth materials.
- Running water, groundwater, glaciers, wind, waves and currents, etc., can be called geomorphic agents.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.6) Which of the following events are comes under diastrophism?

1. Orogenic movement
2. Plate tectonics
3. Earthquakes

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: All processes that move, elevate or build up portions of the earth's crust come under diastrophism. They include:

- orogenic processes involving mountain building through severe folding and affecting long and narrow belts of the earth's crust;
- epeirogenic processes involving uplift or warping of large parts of the earth's crust;
- earthquakes involving local relatively minor movements;
- plate tectonics involving horizontal movements of crustal plates.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.7) Which of the following are the processes of chemical weathering?

1. Carbonation
2. Exfoliation
3. Thermal expansion

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: A group of weathering processes viz; solution, carbonation, hydration, oxidation and reduction act on the rocks to decompose, dissolve or reduce them to a fine clastic state through chemical reactions by oxygen, surface and/or soil water and other acids.

- Water and air (oxygen and carbon dioxide) along with heat must be present to speed up all chemical reactions.

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- Over and above the carbon dioxide present in the air, decomposition of plants and animals increases the quantity of carbon dioxide underground.
- These chemical reactions on various minerals are very much similar to the chemical reactions in a laboratory.
- There are five major types of mechanical weathering: thermal expansion, frost weathering, exfoliation, abrasion, and salt crystal growth.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.8) The words “macchia, maquis and chaparral” are related to which of the following?

- a) Shrub vegetation
- b) Tropical vegetation
- c) Tundra vegetation
- d) Alpine vegetation

ANS: A

Explanation: Chaparral is sclerophyllous vegetation that is tolerant of seasonal drought.

- It consists of small trees, woody grasses and oleose, xerophytic shrubs that form a nearly continuous cover of intertwined branches.
- Usually less than 10 per cent of the ground is bare, though the proportion may be higher at inhospitable sites.
- Where annual precipitation is in the range 250–500 mm, plants may be only 1–2 m high, while crowns may reach 3.5–4 m where precipitation is 500–750 mm.
- In California chaparral is common at elevations of 300–1500 m. It occupies 3.4 million ha (8.5 per cent) of the state, particularly in its southern part and at moderate elevations.
- The European synonym for chaparral, maquis (in Italian, macchia, plural macchie), is derived from the Corsican word for a species of sun rose (Cistus), which is often a striking component of the maquis community.

Source: G C Leong

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the “Tropical Thorn Forest”:

1. These occur in areas with rainfall less than 50 cm.
2. Important species found here are oak, teak and sal.
3. The forests are given an expression of scrub vegetation.

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) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: B

Explanation: Tropical thorn forests occur in the areas which receive rainfall less than 50 cm.

- These consist of a variety of grasses and shrubs. It includes semi-arid areas of south west Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
- In these forests, plants remain leafless for most part of the year and give an expression of scrub vegetation.
- Important species found are babool, ber, and wild date palm, khair, neem, khejri, palas, etc. Tussocky grass grows upto a height of 2 m as the under growth.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.10) The term “Abyssal Plain” is related to which of the following?

- a) The plain which is formed due to glacial deposition.
- b) The plain which is formed due to river deposits.
- c) The underground plains are formed due water deposition and erosion.
- d) It is an underwater plain on the deep ocean floor.

ANS: D

Explanation: An abyssal plain is an underwater plain on the deep ocean floor, usually found at depths between 3,000 metres (9,800 ft) and 6,000 metres (20,000 ft). Lying generally between the foot of a continental rise and a mid-ocean ridge, abyssal plains cover more than 50% of the Earth's surface.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

ForumIAS

Climatology

Q.1) With reference to the solar radiation, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Earth receives energy from sun through short wavelengths.
2. Due to the shape of geoid of earth the sun's rays fall obliquely at the top of the atmosphere and the earth intercepts a very small portion of the sun's energy.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The earth's surface receives most of its energy in short wavelengths.

- The energy received by the earth is known as incoming solar radiation which in short is termed as insolation.
- As the earth is a geoid resembling a sphere, the sun's rays fall obliquely at the top of the atmosphere and the earth intercepts a very small portion of the sun's energy.
- On an average the earth receives 1.94 calories per sq. cm per minute at the top of its atmosphere.

Source: NCERT Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.2) Which of the following factor/factors is/are affecting the solar radiation which reaches earth's surface?

1. Absorption and Scattering
2. Local variations in the atmosphere
3. Latitude of the location

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: While the solar radiation incident on the Earth's atmosphere is relatively constant, the radiation at the Earth's surface varies widely due to:

- atmospheric effects, including absorption and scattering;
- local variations in the atmosphere, such as water vapour, clouds, and pollution;
- latitude of the location; and
- the season of the year and the time of day.

The above effects have several impacts on the solar radiation received at the Earth's surface.

- These changes include variations in the overall power received, the spectral content of the light and the angle from which light is incident on a surface.
- In addition, a key change is that the variability of the solar radiation at a particular location increases dramatically.
- The variability is due to both local effects such as clouds and seasonal variations, as well as other effects such as the length of the day at particular latitude.

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- Desert regions tend to have lower variations due to local atmospheric phenomena such as clouds. Equatorial regions have low variability between seasons.

Source: NCERT Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.3) The amount and the intensity of insolation vary during a day, in a season and in a year. Which of the following factors are influences the insolation?

1. The rotation of the earth
2. The angle of inclination of the sun's rays
3. The transparency of the atmosphere
4. The configuration of land

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The amount and the intensity of insolation vary during a day, in a season and in a year. The factors that cause these variations in insolation are:

- the rotation of earth on its axis;
- the angle of inclination of the sun's rays;
- the length of the day;
- the transparency of the atmosphere;
- the configuration of land in terms of its aspect.

Source: NCERT Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.4) Which of the following clouds are delicate, feathery clouds that are made mostly of ice crystals?

- a) Cumulus clouds
- b) Cirrus clouds
- c) Altocumulus clouds
- d) Stratocumulus clouds

ANS: B

Explanation: All clouds are made up of basically the same thing: water droplets or ice crystals that float in the sky.

But all clouds look a little bit different from one another, and sometimes these differences can help us predict a change in the weather.

- Cirrus clouds are delicate, feathery clouds that are made mostly of ice crystals. Their wispy shape comes from wind currents which twist and spread the ice crystals into strands.
- Altocumulus clouds have several patchy white or gray layers, and seem to be made up of many small rows of fluffy ripples. They are lower than cirrus clouds, but still quite high. They are made of liquid water, but they don't often produce rain.
- Cumulus clouds look like fluffy, white cotton balls in the sky. They are beautiful in sunsets, and their varying sizes and shapes can make them fun to observe!
- Stratocumulus clouds are patchy gray or white clouds that often have a dark honeycomb-like appearance.

Source: NCERT XI Fundamentals of Physical geography and G C Leong

Q.5) Which of the following is/are ideal conditions for temperature inversion?

1. Long nights, so that the outgoing radiation is greater than the incoming radiation.
2. Cloudy weather.
3. Rapid and unstable air.

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: A

Explanation: Temperature inversion is a reversal of the normal behavior of temperature in the troposphere, in which a layer of cool air at the surface is overlain by a layer of warmer air. (Under normal conditions, temperature usually decreases with height).

Ideal Conditions for Temperature Inversion:

- Long nights, so that the outgoing radiation is greater than the incoming radiation.
- Clear skies, which allow unobstructed escape of radiation.
- Calm and stable air, so that there is no vertical mixing at lower levels.

Source: NCERT XI Fundamentals of Physical geography

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Savanna Climate:

1. It has continuous dry season throughout the year.
2. It is spread throughout the tropical and temperate regions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Savanna Climate is a type of climate has alternate wet and dry seasons similar to monsoon climate but has considerably less annual rainfall.

- Also, there is no distinct rainy season like in monsoon climate.
- It is confined within the tropics and is best developed in Sudan, hence its name the Sudan Climate.

Source: G C Leong

Q.7) The term isotherm is associated with which of the following?

- a) Rainfall
- b) Oceanic depth
- c) Temperature
- d) Mountain heights

ANS: C

Explanation: Isotherm: a line on a map connecting points having the same temperature at a given time or on average over a given period.

- Isobar: A line drawn on a weather map connecting points of equal pressure is called an isobar. The isobars are generated from mean sea level pressure reports and the pressure values are given in millibars.

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- An isohyet is also known as isohyetal line, and it is a line on a map which connects points that have the same amounts of precipitation in a given period or for a particular storm.
- The method used in estimating average rainfall across a particular area is known as an isohyetal method.

Source: G C Leong

Q.8) Which of the following clouds are extremely dense and opaque to the rays of the sun?

- a) Nimbus clouds
- b) Cirrus clouds
- c) Cumulus clouds
- d) Stratus clouds

ANS: A

Explanation: Nimbus clouds are black or dark gray. They form at middle levels or very near to the surface of the earth. These are extremely dense and opaque to the rays of the sun. Sometimes, the clouds are so low that they seem to touch the ground. Nimbus clouds are shapeless masses of thick vapour.

Source: NCERT XI Fundamentals of Physical geography

Q.9) Which of the following are refer as the Roaring Forties, Furious Fifties and Shrieking or Stormy Sixties?

- a) Westerlies
- b) Easterlies
- c) Doldrums
- d) Horse latitudes

ANS: A

Explanation: The Roaring Forties take shape as warm air near the equator rises and moves toward the poles.

- Warm air moving pole-ward (on both sides of the equator) is the result of nature trying to reduce the temperature difference between the equator and at the poles created by uneven heating from the sun.
- This process sets up global circulation cells, which are mainly responsible for global-scale wind patterns.
- The air descends back to Earth's surface at about 30 degrees' latitude north and south of the equator. This is known as the high-pressure subtropical ridge, also known as the horse latitudes.
- Here, as the temperature gradient decreases, air is deflected toward the poles by the Earth's rotation, causing strong westerly and prevailing winds at approximately 40 degrees. These winds are the Roaring Forties.
- The Roaring Forties in the Northern Hemisphere don't pack the same punch that they do in the Southern Hemisphere.
- This is because the large land masses of North America, Europe, and Asia obstructing the airstream, whereas, in the southern hemisphere, there is less land to break the wind in South America, Australia, and New Zealand.
- While the Roaring Forties may be fierce, 10 degrees south are even stronger gale-force winds called the Furious Fifties.
- And 10 degrees south of the Furious Fifties lay the Screaming Sixties! We can thank the intrepid sailors of yore for these wildly descriptive terms.

Source: G C Leong

Q.10) “It is called after the types of vegetation, like low growing mosses, lichens and flowering plants. This is the region of permafrost where the sub soil is permanently frozen” – describes which of the following?

- a) Cryosphere climate
- b) Timberline forest climate
- c) Mediterranean climate
- d) Tundra climate

ANS: D

Explanation: The tundra climate (ET) is so called after the types of vegetation, like low growing mosses, lichens and flowering plants.

- This is the region of permafrost where the sub soil is permanently frozen.
- The short growing season and water logging support only low growing plants.
- During summer, the tundra regions have very long duration of day light.

Source: NCERT XI Fundamentals of Physical geography

Landforms formed due to erosion and depositional agents

Q.1) With reference to the landforms formed due to running water, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. There are no depositional forms associated with streams flowing over steep slopes.
2. The vigorous the river channels in gradient, the greater is the deposition.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: There are two components of running water. One is overland flow on general land surface as a sheet. Another is linear flow as streams and rivers in valleys.

- Most of the erosional landforms made by running water are associated with vigorous and youthful rivers flowing over steep gradients.
- With time, stream channels over steep gradients turn gentler due to continued erosion, and as a consequence, lose their velocity, facilitating active deposition.
- There may be depositional forms associated with streams flowing over steep slopes. But these phenomena will be on a small scale compared to those associated with rivers flowing over medium to gentle slopes.
- The gentler the river channels in gradient or slope, the greater is the deposition.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding Peneplain:

1. It is formed due to erosion by rivers and rain.
2. When a peneplain is raised, it becomes a Plateau.

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: Peneplain is a region that is almost a plain. It is formed due to erosion by rivers (stream erosion) and rain, that continues until almost all the elevated portions are worn down; the most resistant rocks generally stand above the general level of the land.

When a peneplain is raised, it becomes a Plateau, which is then dissected by the river as they pass through a fresh cycle from youth to old age.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Large and deep holes at the base of waterfalls are formed due to sheer impact of water and rotations of boulders are called as plunge pools.
2. Over the rocky beds of hill-streams more or less circular depressions form because of stream erosion aided by the abrasion of rock fragments are called as potholes.

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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: Over the rocky beds of hill-streams more or less circular depressions called potholes form because of stream erosion aided by the abrasion of rock fragments.

- Once a small and shallow depression forms, pebbles and boulders get collected in those depressions and get rotated by flowing water and consequently the depressions grow in dimensions.
- A series of such depressions eventually join and the stream valley gets deepened.
- At the foot of waterfalls also, large potholes, quite deep and wide, form because of the sheer impact of water and rotation of boulders.
- Such large and deep holes at the base of waterfalls are called plunge pools.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. Point bars are low, linear and parallel ridges of coarse deposits along the banks of rivers, quite often cut into individual mounds.
2. Natural levees are found on the concave side of meanders of large rivers and are sediments deposited in a linear fashion by flowing waters along the bank.

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: Natural levees and point bars are some of the important landforms found associated with floodplains.

- Natural levees are found along the banks of large rivers. They are low, linear and parallel ridges of coarse deposits along the banks of rivers, quite often cut into individual mounds.
- Point bars are also known as meander bars. They are found on the concave side of meanders of large rivers and are sediments deposited in a linear fashion by flowing waters along the bank.
- They are almost uniform in profile and in width and contain mixed sizes of sediments.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.5) “They hang as icicles of different diameters and normally they are broad at their bases and taper towards the free ends showing up in a variety of forms” – is related to which of the following?

- a) Stalagmites
- b) Uvalas
- c) Stalactites
- d) Sinkhole

ANS: C

Explanation: Stalactites hang as icicles of different diameters. Normally they are broad at their bases and taper towards the free ends showing up in a variety of forms.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.6) Which of the following is/are depositional landforms formed by glaciers?

1. Cirque
2. Moraines
3. Eskers

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: C

Explanation: Cirques are the most common of landforms (erosional) in glaciated mountains. The cirques quite often are found at the heads of glacial valleys.

- The accumulated ice cuts these cirques while moving down the mountain tops.
- They are deep, long and wide troughs or basins with very steep concave to vertically dropping high walls at its head as well as sides.
- A lake of water can be seen quite often within the cirques after the glacier disappears. Such lakes are called cirque or tarn lakes.
- There can be two or more cirques one leading into another down below in a stepped sequence.
- When the glaciers retreated leaving behind their freight of crushed rock and sand (glacial drift), they created characteristic depositional landforms.
- Examples include glacial moraines, eskers, and kames. Drumlins and ribbed moraines are also landforms left behind by retreating glaciers.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.7) Which of the following is/are rapid mass movement of rocks or debris?

1. Earthflow
2. Creep
3. Avalanche
4. Landslide

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Mass Movements transfer the mass of rock debris down the slopes under the direct influence of gravity. That means, air, water or ice does not carry debris with them from place to place but on the other hand the debris may carry with it air, water or ice.

- The movements of mass may range from slow to rapid, affecting shallow to deep columns of materials and include creep, flow, slide and fall.
- Creep can occur on moderately steep and soil covered slopes. Movement of materials is extremely slow and imperceptible except through extended observation. Material involved can be soil or rock debris.

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- Landslides are relatively rapid and perceptible movements. The materials involved are relatively dry. The size and shape of the detached mass depends on the nature of discontinuities in the rock, the degree of weathering and the steepness of the slope.
- Movement of water saturated clayey or silty earth materials down low-angle terraces or hillsides is known as Earthflow.
- Avalanche is more characteristic of humid regions with or without vegetation cover and occurs in narrow tracks on steep slopes. Debris avalanche is similar to snow avalanche.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.8) Which of the following is/are the examples of metamorphic rocks?

1. Granite
2. Marble
3. Slate

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: In the process of metamorphism in some rocks grains or minerals get arranged in layers or lines. Such an arrangement of minerals or grains in metamorphic rocks is called foliation or lineation.

- Sometimes minerals or materials of different groups are arranged into alternating thin to thick layers appearing in light and dark shades.
- Such a structure in metamorphic rocks is called banding and rocks displaying banding are called banded rocks.
- Types of metamorphic rocks depend upon original rocks that were subjected to metamorphism.
- Metamorphic rocks are classified into two major groups-foliated rocks and non-foliated rocks.
- Gneissoid, granite, syenite, slate, schist, marble, quartzite etc. are some examples of metamorphic rocks.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.9) Which among the following weathering process result in the formation of caves?

- a) Hydration
- b) Carbonation
- c) Oxidation
- d) Solution

ANS: B

Explanation: Carbonation is the reaction of carbonate and bicarbonate minerals and is a common process helping in breaking down of feldspars and carbonate minerals.

- Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and soil air is absorbed by water, to form carbonic acid that acts as a weak acid.
- Calcium carbonates and magnesium carbonates are dissolved in carbonic acid and are removed in solution without leaving any residue resulting in cave formation.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

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Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding Mass Movements:

1. Mass movements are aided by gravity and no geomorphic agent like running water, glaciers, wind, waves and currents participate in the process of mass movements.
2. Mass movements do not come under erosion.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Mass movements transfer the mass of rock debris down the slopes under the direct influence of gravity.

- That means, air, water or ice doesn't carry debris with them from place to place but on the other hand the debris may carry with it air, water or ice.
- The movements of mass may range from slow to rapid, affecting shallow to deep columns of materials and include creep, flow, slide and fall. Gravity exerts its force on all matter, both bedrock and the products of weathering.
- So, weathering is not a pre-requisite for mass movement though it aids mass movements. Mass movements are very active over weathered slopes rather than over un-weathered materials.
- Mass movements are aided by gravity and no geomorphic agent like running water, glaciers, wind, waves and currents participate in the process of mass movements.
- That means mass movements do not come under erosion though there is a shift (aided by gravity) of materials from one place to another.
- Materials over the slopes have their own resistance to disturbing forces and will yield only when force is greater than the shearing resistance of the materials.
- Weak unconsolidated materials, thinly bedded rocks, faults, steeply dipping beds, vertical cliffs or steep slopes, abundant precipitation and torrential rains and scarcity of vegetation etc., favor mass movements.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Introduction: Location, Area and boundaries of India

Q.1) Which of the following statement is NOT correct about Andaman & Nicobar Islands?

- a) Eight Degree Channel separates Little Andaman from South Andaman.
- b) Ten Degree Channel separates Great Andaman group from Nicobar group.
- c) Saddle peak in North Andaman is the highest peak.
- d) Andaman Islands are divided into three main islands i.e. North, Middle and South.

ANS: A

Explanation: The Andaman Islands are divided into three main islands i.e. North, Middle and South. Duncan passage separates Little Andaman from South Andaman.

- The Great Andaman group of islands in the north is separated by the Ten Degree Channel from the Nicobar group in the south. Among the Nicobar Islands, the Great Nicobar is the largest.
- It is the southernmost island and is very close to Sumatra island of Indonesia. The Car Nicobar is the northernmost.
- Some of the islands are fringed with coral reefs. Many of them are covered with thick forests.
- Most of the islands are mountainous. Saddle peak (737 m) in North Andaman is the highest peak.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment

Q.2) “Jelep-la” pass is located in which of the following state?

- a) Sikkim
- b) Assm
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Arunachal Pradesh

ANS: A

Explanation: Sikkim is a land of dramatic contours. Rugged mountains, deep valleys and dense forests consort with raging rivers, lakes and waterfalls to create a visual feast.

- The state has the steepest rise in altitude over the shortest distance and has within its 7,096 sq. kms the entire climatic range, from tropical to temperate to alpine.
- Located between these towering mountain ranges are passes like Nathu-la, Jelep-la, Cho-la and many others which were at one time important corridors of passage between Sikkim and Tibet.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment

Q.3) The “Indian Standard Meridian” NOT passes through which of the following States?

1. Uttar Pradesh
2. Madhya Pradesh
3. Chhattisgarh
4. Pondicherry
5. Tamil Nadu

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The Indian Standard Meridian passes through mostly 5 states which are Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment

Q.4) Which of the following State (s) of India is/are NOT share (s) border with three countries?

- 1. Nagaland
- 2. Arunachal Pradesh
- 3. West Bengal

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: India has a land frontier of 15,106.7 km. The total length of the coastline of India is 7,516.6 km. India shares its border with seven countries namely Afghanistan, Pakistan, China, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka.

- Arunachal Pradesh shares border with Bhutan, China and Myanmar.
- West Bengal shares border with Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal.
- Sikkim shares border with Bhutan, China and Nepal.
- Nagaland is a mountainous state in northeast India, bordering Myanmar.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment

Q.5) Which of the following pair (s) is/are correctly matched?

- | Pass | : | Significance |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Zoji la (Pass) | : | Connects Srinagar to Leh |
| 2. Shipki La Pass | : | Satluj River flows through this Pass |
| 3. Nathu la (Pass) | : | Chumbi River flows through this Pass |

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Zoji La: Zoji La is a high mountain pass located in the Kargil district of Ladakh.

- The pass links Leh and Srinagar and provides an important link between Union Territories of Ladakh and Kashmir.
- In 2018, the Zojila tunnel project was launched.
- The tunnel is Asia's longest and strategic bi-directional tunnel, which will provide all-weather connectivity between Srinagar, Kargil and Leh.

Banihal Pass: It is in Jammu & Kashmir. The National Highway No.1A that links Srinagar to Jammu goes through it. Satluj River flows through Shipki La (Pass).

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Nathu La: It is in Sikkim. It gives way to Tibet from Darjeeling and Chumbi Valley. The Chumbi River flows through this pass.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment and ICSE – X Total Geography

Q.6) Which of the following pair (s) is/are correctly matched?

- | Peak | | hills/Range |
|-----------------|---|----------------|
| 1. Anai Mudi | : | Nilgiri hills |
| 2. Doda Beta | : | Anamalai hills |
| 3. Guru Shikhar | : | Aravali range |

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Anamudi is a mountain located in the Indian state of Kerala.

- It is the highest peak in the Western Ghats and South India, at an elevation of 2,695 metres.
- Its parental hills are Anaimalai hills.
- Doda beta is the highest peak of nilgiri hills while Guru Shikhar is the highest peak of Aravali Range located in Rajasthan.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment and ICSE – X Total Geography

Q.7) Which of the following river rises north of the tropic of cancer in India?

- a) Krishna River
- b) Godavari River
- c) Pennar River
- d) Dhasan River

ANS: D

Explanation:



Source: Oriental Blackswan Atlas

Q.8) Which of the following factors are affecting the Indian monsoon?

1. The differential heating of the landmass of Asia and the Indian Ocean.
2. The existence of the Himalayan ranges and the Tibetan Plateau.
3. Changes in the equatorial Atlantic Ocean.

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 monsoon has been derived from the Arabic word mausin or from the Malayan word monsin meaning 'season'.

Monsoons are seasonal winds (Rhythmic wind movements - Periodic Winds) which reverse their direction with the change of season.

Factors affecting monsoon in India-

- The differential heating of the landmass of Asia and the Indian Ocean.
- The existence of the Himalayan ranges and the Tibetan Plateau.
- The occurrence of heavy-light snow over the Tibetan Plateau.
- The existence and circulation of the upper air jet stream in the troposphere.
- Changes in the equatorial Atlantic Ocean have been known to have an inverse relationship with the Indian summer monsoon rainfall. This means if there is a cold phase in the Atlantic, it can bring more rainfall to India and vice versa.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment

Q.9) Port Blair, the capital of Andaman and Nicobar Islands is located on?

- a) Great Nicobar
- b) South Andaman
- c) Little Andaman
- d) Middle Andaman

ANS: B

Explanation: Port Blair is located on South Andaman Island.



Source: Oxford Atlas

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Q.10) Three important rivers of the Indian sub-continent have their source near the Mansarovar Lake in the Great Himalayas. Which among the following are the rivers?

- a) Indus, Ganga and Sutlej
- b) Sutlej, Yamuna and Brahmaputra
- c) Brahmaputra, Indus and Sutlej
- d) Sutlej, Jhelum and Yamuna

ANS: C

Explanation: Lake Manasa sarovar is relatively round in shape with the circumference of 88 km (54.7 mi).

- Its depth reaches a maximum depth of 90 m (300 ft) and its surface area is 320 km² (123.6 sq mi).
- It is connected to nearby Lake Rakshastal by the natural Ganga Chhu channel.
- Lake Manasarovar is near the source of the Sutlej, which the easternmost large tributary of the Indus, is nearby are the sources of the Brahmaputra River, the Indus River, and the Ghaghara, an important tributary of the Ganges.

Source: ICSE – X Total Geography

Revision

Q.1) Which among the following is/are the indirect source of information about the interiors of Earth?

1. Seismic Activities
2. Volcanic Eruption
3. Meteors

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The earth's radius is 6,370 km. No one can reach the centre of the earth and make observations or collect samples of the material.

- Most of our knowledge about the interior of the earth is largely based on estimates and inferences. Yet, a part of the information is obtained through direct observations and analysis of materials.
- Volcanic eruption forms another source of obtaining direct information. As and when the molten material (magma) is thrown onto the surface of the earth, during volcanic eruption it becomes available for laboratory analysis. However, it is difficult to ascertain the depth of the source of such magma.
- Indirect Sources: Another source of information is the meteors that at times reach the earth. However, it may be noted that the material that becomes available for analysis from meteors, is not from the interior of the earth.
- The material and the structure observed in the meteors are similar to that of the earth. They are solid bodies developed out of materials same as, or similar to, our planet.
- Hence, this becomes yet another source of information about the interior of the earth.
- The other indirect sources include gravitation, magnetic field, and seismic activity.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.2) Consider the following pairs:

- | Discontinuity | : | Layers |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Moho Discontinuity | : | Separates Crust and mantle |
| 2. Gutenberg Discontinuity | : | Separates mantle and core |
| 3. Connardo Discontinuity | : | Separates Felsic and Mefic layer |

Which of the above given pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The portion of the interior beyond the crust is called the mantle. The mantle extends from Moho's discontinuity to a depth of 2,900 km. The upper portion of the mantle is called asthenosphere.

- Connardo's discontinuity separates upper felsic layer of continent from mafic layer. It is only present within continental crust and not in the oceanic layer.
- While the Gutenberg discontinuity separates the lower mantle from the core. It is present at about 2900 km of depth.

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.3) Which one of the following is NOT a luminous object?

- Sun
- Electric Lamp
- Candle
- Moon

ANS: D

Explanation: Moon is a non-luminous object because as we know that luminous objects emit light on their own while non-luminous objects emit light with the help of luminous objects.

Here sun is a luminous object so moon takes light from the sun and emits light in our surrounding and our environment.

Source: G C Leong

Q.4) Sonoran is a desert located in which of the following Continent?

- Antarctica
- Europe
- Asia
- North America

ANS: D

Explanation: Sonoran Desert, also called Desierto de Altar, arid region covering 120,000 square miles (310,800 square km) in southwestern Arizona and southeastern California, U.S., and including much of the Mexican state of Baja California Sur, part of Baja California State, and the western half of the state of Sonora.

Subdivisions of the hot, dry region include the Colorado and Yuma deserts.

Source: G C Leong

Q.5) India has the longest land frontier with which of the following countries?

- Nepal
- China
- Myanmar
- Bangladesh

ANS: D

Explanation: India has 15,106.7 Km of land border and a coastline of 7,516.6 Km including island territories. The length of our land borders with neighboring countries is as under:

Name of the country	Length of the border (in Km)
Bangladesh	4,096.7
China	3,488

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Pakistan	3,323
Nepal	1,751
Myanmar	1,643
Bhutan	699
Afghanistan	106
Total	15,106.7

Source: NCERT – XI Fundamentals of Physical Geography

Q.6) India's climate is most affected by which of the following two winds?

- a) North-East monsoon and South-West monsoon
- b) North-West monsoon and South-East monsoon
- c) North-East monsoon and South-East monsoon
- d) North-West monsoon and South-West monsoon

ANS: A

Explanation: The climate of India is described as a monsoon type. This type of climate is found in south and south-east Asia. However, there are variations in climatic conditions in the country itself. The coastal regions of India show the least amount of difference between the temperatures of night and day. In the interior regions, the difference in temperatures of day and night is huge.

The climate of India depends greatly on monsoon winds. The monsoons usually happen due to the differential heating of land and water.

- The Advancing Monsoon (Rainy Season) or South west Monsoon: By early June, the trade winds of the southern winds bring abundant moisture to the country. The windward side of the Western Ghats receives very heavy rainfall, more than 250 cm. The monsoon is known for its uncertainties. While it causes heavy floods in one part, it may be responsible for droughts in the other. It is also irregular in arrival and retreat.
- Retreating Monsoons (Transition Season) or North-east Monsoon: During October-November, the monsoons become weaker. The sun moves towards the south. By the beginning of October, monsoon withdraws from the Northern Plains. There is a transition from hot rainy season to dry winter season.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. Sikkim is the only state in India to share border with only one state.
2. Chhattisgarh has maximum number of neighboring states.

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: Sikkim and Meghalaya are the only two states in India to share border with just one state. Sikkim shares border with West Bengal while Meghalaya shares border with Assam.

- Uttar Pradesh is the only state which has maximum number of neighboring state. Uttar Pradesh shares border with 9 states, which are Uttarakhand, HP, Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, MP, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Jharkhand.

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- The second highest number of neighboring states is 7. Both Assam and Chhattisgarh shares border with 7 other states.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment

Q.8) On which of the following hill ranges “Guru Shikhar” peak is situated?

- a) Aravali Hills
- b) Garo Hills
- c) Mahadeo hills
- d) Satmala Hill

ANS: A

Explanation: Guru Shikhar is located at a height of 1772 meters above sea level. This mountain peak is located at a distance of 15 km from Mount Abu in the Aravalli range. It is the highest peak in the Aravali Range.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment

Q.9) Which of the following statements is/are correct about Konkan coast?

1. It extends from Mumbai to South Karnataka.
2. It has high annual range of temperature.
3. It receives rainfall by the Arabian Sea branch of Southwest monsoon.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: India’s climate is controlled by a number of factors which can be broadly divided into two groups — factors related to location and relief, and factors related to air pressure and winds. With a long coastline, large coastal areas have an equable climate.

- Areas in the interior of India are far away from the moderating influence of the sea. Such areas have extremes of climate.
- That is why the people of Mumbai and the Konkan coast have hardly any idea of extremes of temperature and the seasonal rhythm of weather.
- On the other hand, the seasonal contrasts in weather at places in the interior of the country such as Delhi, Kanpur and Amritsar affect the entire sphere of life.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the 8th largest country in the world.
2. The tropic of Capricorn divides country into two equal parts.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: India is a vast country. Lying entirely in the Northern hemisphere the main land extends between latitudes 8°4'N and 37°6'N and longitudes 68°7'E and 97°25'E.

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- The Tropic of Cancer (23° 30'N) divides the country into almost two equal parts. To the southeast and southwest of the mainland, lie the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Lakshadweep islands in Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea respectively.
- The land mass of India has an area of 3.28 million square km. India's total area accounts for about 2.4 per cent of the total geographical area of the world. It is clear that India is the seventh largest country of the world.
- India has a land boundary of about 15,200 km and the total length of the coast line of the mainland including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep is 7,516.6 km.

Source: NCERT – XI India Physical Environment

ForumIAS

Structure and Relief: Physiographic Divisions of India

Q.1) “Pichavaram mangrove” forest is located in which of the following state?

- Odisha
- Karnataka
- Tamil Nadu
- Andhra Pradesh

ANS: C

Explanation: Pichavaram mangrove is one of the largest mangrove in India, situated at Pichavaram near Chidambaram in Tamil Nadu.

Pichavaram ranks among the one of the most exquisite scenic spot in Tamil Nadu and home of many species of Aquatic birds.

Source: ICSE – Total Geography and The Hindu

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “Palani Mountain Range”:

- It is part of Eastern Ghats.
- Kodaikanal hill station located in the Palani range.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Palni Hills, range of hills, an eastward extension of the Western Ghats, in southwestern Tamil Nadu state, southern India.

- The range is a continuation of the Anaimalai Hills in Kerala state. The Palnis are about 45 miles (70 km) wide and 15 miles (23 km) long.
- In the south the hills terminate abruptly in steep slopes. The upper Palnis, in the west, consist of rolling hills covered with coarse grasses; dense forests grow in the valleys.
- Peaks include Vandaravu, 8,376 feet (2,553 metres); Vembadi Shola, 8,221 feet (2,505 metres); and Karunmakadu, 8,042 feet (2,451 metres).
- The town of Kodaikanal is located in a high basin about 7,000 feet (2,150 metres) above sea level.
- Potatoes, beans, root crops, pears, and peaches are cultivated in and around the hill villages.

Source: NCERT XI India Physical Environment

Q.3) Which of the following is/are consists of present day “Gondwana land”?

- Africa
- Latin America
- Arabian Peninsula
- European Continent
- North American Continent

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Gondwanaland or “Gondwana” is the name for the southern half of the Pangaeen supercontinent that existed some 300 million years ago.

- Gondwanaland is composed of the major continental blocks of South America, Africa, Arabia, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, India, Antarctica, and Australia.
- The name “Gondwana” is derived from a tribe in India (Gonds) and “wana” meaning “land of.”
- Gondwanaland is superficially divided into a western half (Africa and South America) and an eastern half (India, Sri Lanka, Madagascar, Antarctica, and Australia).

Source: NCERT XI India Physical Environment

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to “Barail Range”:

1. It is the highest hill range in Arunachal Pradesh.
2. The Barail Range is the watershed between the Brahmaputra and Manas rivers.

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 Barail is the highest hill range in Assam. It includes the North Cachar Hill Reserve Forest (RF) of Cachar district, Barail RF of Cachar and North Cachar Hills districts and the unclassified forests stretching from the Simleng river valley in the west to Laike in the east (in North Cachar Hills district).

The Barail Range is the watershed between the Brahmaputra and Barak rivers. The terrain ranges from flat and undulating in the river valleys, to mountainous with steep slopes.

Source: NCERT XI India Physical Environment

Q.5) “Parasnath hills” is located in which of the following state?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Gujarat
- d) Maharashtra

ANS: B

Explanation: Parasnath Hills are a range of hills located in Giridih district of Jharkhand. The highest peak is 1350 metres. It is one of the most important pilgrimage centres for Jains. They call it Sammed Sikhar.

- The hill is named after Parasnath, the 23rd Tirthankara. Twenty of the twenty-four Jain Tirthankaras attained salvation on this hill.
- According to some, nine Tirthakaras attained salvation on this hill. For each of them there is a shrine (gumti or tuk) on the hill. Some of the temples on the hill are believed to be more than 2,000 years old.

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- However, although the place is habited from ancient times, the temples may be of more recent origin.
- The Santhals call it Marang Buru, the hill of the deity. They celebrate a hunting festival on the full moon day in Baisakh (mid April).

Source: NCERT XI India Physical Environment

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Satpura range”:

1. It stretches through Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.
2. It forms the watershed between the Narmada and Godavari rivers.

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: C

Explanation: Satpura Range, range of hills, part of the Deccan plateau, western India.

- The hills stretch for some 560 miles (900 km) across the widest part of peninsular India, through Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat and Chhattisgarh states.
- The range, the name of which means “Seven Folds,” forms the watershed between the Narmada (north) and Tapti (south) rivers.

Source: NCERT XI India Physical Environment

Q.7) “Taptapani hot spring” is located in which of the following state?

- a) Odisha
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Assam
- d) Telangana

ANS: A

Explanation: Taptapani hot spring famous for a perennial hot spring of “Medicinal Sulfuric Water” which is located on the State Highways that connects Berhampur with Western Odisha.

Source: ForumIAS Factly

Q.8) The “Kalsubai peak” is located in which of the following state?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Kerala

ANS: B

Explanation: Kalsubai Peak is located in Akole taluka of Ahmednagar district.

- The Kaslubai temple is situated at the topmost peak of Sahyadri mountain range of Maharashtra, its commands a beautiful view. The natural peak of Kalsubai is located 10 km away from Bhandardara dam.
- Kalsubai height is of 1646 meters and is known as one of the highest peaks in Maharashtra state.

Source: NCERT XI India Physical Environment

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Q.9) The term “rohi” is related to which of the following?

- a) Fertile tracts
- b) kind of jhum cultivation
- c) Tribal festival
- d) Tea Cultivation

ANS: A

Explanation: The Rajasthan Bagar region (Bagar refers to the semi-desert area which is west of Aravallis.

- Bagar has a thin layer of sand. It is drained by Luni in the south whereas the northern section has a number of salt lakes) have a number of short seasonal streams which originate from the Aravallis.
- These streams support agriculture in some fertile patches called Rohi.

Source: ICSE Total Geography

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the Majuli Island:

1. It covers an area of around 1500 sq km.
2. It is inhabited by Mising tribes, Deori and Sonowal Kachri tribes.

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 World Records has declared Majuli in Assam as the largest river island in the world. It has toppled Marajo in Brazil to clinch the record. The beautiful river island is situated on the Brahmaputra River.

- It is formed by Brahmaputra River in the south and Kherkutia Xuti, an anabranch of the Brahmaputra, joined by the Subansiri River in the north.
- The island is inhabited by Mising tribes, Deori and Sonowal Kachri tribes.
- The people of the island speak Mising, Assamese and Deori language.
- It covers an area of around 880 sq km.
- Due to the frequent flooding of the Brahmaputra River, Majuli suffers heavy erosion. In the last 30-40 years it is estimated that it has lost about one third of its area.

Source: ICSE Total Geography and The Hindu

Drainage System in India

Q.1) Arrange the following rivers from west to east:

1. Ken
2. Betwa
3. Son
4. Sabarmati

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The correct order from east to west is son, ken, betwa and Sabarmati.

- River son is a tributary of Ganga, while ken and betwa are tributaries of Yamuna.
- River Sabarmati is a west flowing river in state of Gujarat.

Source: NCERT – XI Indian Physical Environment

Q.2) Which of the following pair (s) is/are correctly matched?

- | Dam | : | River |
|------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. Krishna Raja Sagara | : | Ganga |
| 2. Hirakud | : | Mahanadi |
| 3. Nagarjuna sagar | : | Krishna |

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: B

Explanation:



Source: ICSE – Total Geography and NCERT – XI Indian Physical Environment

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “Peninsular Drainage System”:

1. It is characterized by the broad, largely-graded shallow valleys, and the maturity of the rivers.

2. Narmada and Tapi rivers flow from east to west.

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: The Peninsular drainage system is older than the Himalayan one. This is evident from the broad, largely-graded shallow valleys, and the maturity of the rivers.

- The Western Ghats running close to the western coast act as the water divide between the major Peninsular Rivers, discharging their water in the Bay of Bengal and as small rivulets joining the Arabian Sea.
- Most of the major Peninsular Rivers except Narmada and Tapi flow from west to east. The Chambal, the Sind, the Betwa, the Ken, the Son, originating in the northern part of the Peninsula belong to the Ganga river system.
- The other major river systems of the peninsular drainage are – the Mahanadi the Godavari, the Krishna and the Kaveri.

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- Peninsular rivers are characterised by fixed course, absence of meanders and non-perennial flow of water. The Narmada and the Tapi which flow through the rift valley are, however, exceptions.

Source: NCERT – XI Indian Physical Environment

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “River Godavari”:

1. It originates from Trimbakeshwar, Nasik District in Western Ghats.
2. The biggest city on the river banks of the Godavari is Vijayawada.
3. Kaleshwaram project was built on Godavari River in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The River Godavari is an important stream in central India, rising in the Western Ghats Mountain Range.

- The name of the origin is Trimbakeshwar and it is situated in the Nashik District or Subdivision in the state of Maharashtra and runs towards the east over the Deccan terrain through the Maharashtra state. The river is also named as Southern Ganges or Dakshin Ganga.
- The river moves into Andhra Pradesh at Kandhakurthi in Nizamabad district of Andhra Pradesh, moves past the Deccan terrain and subsequently bends to run according to a southeasterly course till it pours into the Bay of Bengal via two mouths.
- An important place of attraction on the riverbanks is Basara in Adilabad District.
- It houses a popular place of worship for Goddess Saraswati. It is also the second oldest temple for the deity in India.
- The biggest city on the riverbanks of the Godavari is Rajahmundry.
- In this place, the river has the maximum breadth (about 5 km from Rajahmundry to the other bank at Kovvur).
- The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project or KLIP is a multi-purpose irrigation project on the Godavari River in Kaleshwaram, Bhoopalpally, Telangana, India.

Source: NCERT – XI Indian Physical Environment and The Hindu

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “Cauvery River Basin”:

1. The basin lies in the States Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala and Andhra Pradesh.
2. Cauvery basin consists of about 3% of the cultivable area 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: B

Explanation: Cauvery basin extends over an area of 87,900 sq. km. which is nearly 2.7% of the total geographical area of the country.

- It is bounded by the Western Ghats on the west, by the Eastern Ghats on the east and south and by the ridges separating it from Krishna basin and Pennar basin on the north.

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- The basin lies in the States Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala. Physiographically, the basin can be divided into three parts—the Western Ghats, the Plateau of Mysore and the Delta. The delta area is the most fertile tract in the basin.
- The principal soil types found in the basin are black soils, red soils, lateritic, alluvial soils, forest soils and mixed soils. Red soils occupy large areas in the basin.
- Alluvial soils are found in the delta areas. The cultivable area of the basin is about 5.8 Mha which about 3% of the cultivable area of the country.

Source: NCERT – XI Indian Physical Environment and The Hindu

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Mahi river basin”:

1. Mahi River drains into Gulf of Kutch.
 2. The basin lies in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- 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: Mahi River is one of the major west flowing inter-state rivers of India, draining into the Gulf of Khambhat.

- The basin is bounded on the North and the North-West by Aravalli hills, on the East by the ridge separating it from the Chambal Basin, on the South by the Vindhyas and on the West by the Gulf of Khambhat.
- The basin has a maximum width of about 250km. Mahi river originates on the Northern slope of Vindhyas near the village of Sardarpur in the Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh at an elevation of 500m above mean sea level.
- It has a total length of 583 km and it traverses through the states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat. The total drainage area of Mahi is 34,842 sq. km.
- The principal tributaries of the Mahi River are Som, Jakham, Moran, Anas, and the Bhadar. Major projects are Jakham Reservoir, Panam Dam, Mahi Bajaj Sagar Project and Kadana Project.

Source: ICSE – Total Geography and NCERT – XI Indian Physical Environment

Q.7) Which of the following is/are tributaries of “Brahmaputra River”?

1. Teesta River
2. Sankosh River
3. Manas River
4. Subansiri River

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Primary Tributaries of the Brahmaputra River are:

- The Dhansiri River.
- The Dibang River.
- The Subansiri River.
- The Kameng River.

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- The Manas River.
- The Sankosh River.
- The Teesta River.

Source: ICSE – Total Geography

Q.8) 'Charmanvati' is the ancient name of which of following River?

- Saraswati River
- Sabarmati River
- Kaveri River
- Chambal River

ANS: D

Explanation: The Chambal River, called Charmanvati in ancient times, is the largest of the rivers flowing through and Rajasthan State.

This is a major tributary of Yamuna which is 960 km long. Located in Central India, the river comprises a significant portion of the Greater Gangetic Drainage System.

Source: The Hindu

Q.9) The Pakal Dul Hydro Electric Project is often seen in news is proposed on which of the following river?

- Marusudar River
- Beas River
- Chenab River
- Alaknanda River

ANS: A

Explanation: The Pakal Dul Hydro Electric Project (1,000 MW) is proposed on the Marusudar river, a tributary of the Chenab river, in Kishtwar district in Jammu and Kashmir.

Source: ICSE Total Geography

Q.10) Consider the following pairs:

Famous place	:	River
1. Patna	:	Ganga
2. Jabalpur	:	Yamuna
3. Ferozpur	:	Chambal

Which of the pair/pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

ANS: A

Explanation:

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S.No.	River	Originates From	Falls into	Major Indian Cities on The Banks
1	Ganges	Gangotri Glacier	Bay of Bengal	Varanasi, Allahabad, Haridwar, Patna
2	Brahmaputra	Angsi Glacier (Tibet)	Bay of Bengal	Guwahati, Dibrugarh
3	Indus	Tibet, Kailash Range	Arabian Sea	Leh, Kargil
4	Godavari	Triambakeshwar, Maharashtra	Bay of Bengal	Trimbakeshwar, Nashik, Rajahmundry
5	Narmada	Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh	Arabian Sea	Jabalpur, Harda, Bharuch
6	Krishna	Near Mahabaleswar, Maharashtra	Bay of Bengal	Sangli, Vijayawada
7	Yamuna	Yamunotri Glacier	Ganges River	Delhi, Agra, Mathura
8	Mahanadi	Hills of Southeastern Chhattisgarh	Bay of Bengal	Rajim, Sambalpur, Cuttack
9	Kaveri	Talakaveri, Karnataka	Bay of Bengal	Tiruchirapalli, Erode
10	Tapti (Tapi)	Satpura Range near Multai, Madhya Pradesh	Arabian Sea	Burhanpur, Bhusawal, Surat
11	Sutlej	Lake Rakshastal in Tibet	Indus River	Ferozpur, Rupnagar
12	Chambal	Vindhya Range Near Mhow, Madhya Pradesh	Yamuna River	Kota, Gwalior
13	Beas	Beas Kund, Himachal Pradesh	Sutlej River	Mandi, Kullu, Amritsar
14	Tungabhadra	Koodli (where Tunga and Bhadra rivers meet), Karnataka	Krishna River	Harihara, Hospet, Hampi, Kurnool
15	Sabarmati	Aravali Hills Near Udaipur, Rajasthan	Arabian Sea	Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar

Source: Central Water Commission

Weather, Climate and Seasons of India

Q.1) “Rainfall occurs in winter from the retreating monsoon and summer is dry” - above statement best describes which of the following regions?

- a) North East
- b) Konkan coast
- c) Lakshadweep Islands
- d) Coromandel Coast

ANS: D

Explanation: The Ganga delta and the coastal plains of Orissa are hit by strong rain-bearing storms almost every third or fifth day in July and August while the Coromandal coast, a thousand km to the south, goes generally dry during these months.

Most parts of the country get rainfall during June-September, but on the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu, it rains in the beginning of the winter season.

Source: NCERT – India Physical Environment

Q.2) It is a belt around the Earth extending approximately five degrees north and south of the equator also known as?

- a) ITCZ
- b) Polar Westerlies
- c) Polar Jet streams
- d) Horse Latitudes

ANS: A

Explanation: Known to sailors around the world as the doldrums, the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone, (ITCZ pronounced and sometimes referred to as the “itch”), is a belt around the Earth extending approximately five degrees north and south of the equator.

- Here, the prevailing trade winds of the northern hemisphere blow to the southwest and collide with the southern hemisphere’s driving northeast trade winds.
- Due to intense solar heating near the equator, the warm, moist air is forced up into the atmosphere like a hot air balloon. As the air rises, it cools, causing persistent bands of showers and storms around the Earth’s midsection.
- The rising air mass finally subsides in what is known as the horse latitudes, where the air moves downward toward Earth’s surface.
- Because the air circulates in an upward direction, there is often little surface wind in the ITCZ.
- That is why sailors well know that the area can be calm sailing ships for weeks. And that’s why they call it the doldrums.

Source: NOAA

Q.3) With reference to the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. In July, it shifts southwards and becomes a reason for Southwest monsoon.
2. It is a low pressure zone located at equator where trade winds converge.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 only

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) is a low pressure zone located at the equator where trade winds converge, and so, it is a zone where air tends to ascend.

- In July, the ITCZ is located around 20°N-25°N latitudes (over the Gangetic plain), sometimes called the monsoon trough.
- This monsoon trough encourages the development of thermal low over north and northwest India.
- Due to the shift of ITCZ, the trade winds of the southern hemisphere cross the equator between 40° and 60°E longitudes and start blowing from southwest to northeast due to the Coriolis force.
- It becomes southwest monsoon. In winter, the ITCZ moves southward, and so the reversal of winds from northeast to south and southwest, takes place. They are called northeast monsoons.

Source: NCERT – India Physical Environment

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. The temperature in mesosphere increases with increase in altitude.
2. Ozone layer is present in stratosphere.
3. Radio waves transmitted from the earth are reflected back to the earth by ionosphere.

Which of the statements above given is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The atmosphere consists of different layers with varying density and temperature. Density is highest near the surface of the earth and decreases with increasing altitude.

- The column of atmosphere is divided into five different layers depending upon the temperature condition. They are: troposphere, stratosphere, mesosphere, thermosphere and exosphere.
- The troposphere is the lowermost layer of the atmosphere. Its average height is 13 km and extends roughly to a height of 8 km near the poles and about 18 km at the equator.
- The stratosphere is found above the tropopause and extends up to a height of 50 km.
- One important feature of the stratosphere is that it contains the ozone layer. This layer absorbs ultra-violet radiation and shields life on the earth from intense, harmful form of energy.
- The mesosphere lies above the stratosphere, which extends up to a height of 80 km.
- In this layer, once again, temperature starts decreasing with the increase in altitude and reaches up to minus 100°C at the height of 80 km.
- The upper limit of mesosphere is known as the mesopause.
- The ionosphere is located between 80 and 400 km above the mesopause. It contains electrically charged particles known as ions, and hence, it is known as ionosphere.

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- Radio waves transmitted from the earth are reflected back to the earth by this layer. Temperature here starts increasing with height.
- The uppermost layer of the atmosphere above the thermosphere is known as the exosphere. This is the highest layer but very little is known about it.

Source: ICSE – Total Geography

Q.5) In the context of Indian climate, what is the reason of ‘October Heat’?

- a) Low temperature and rainy conditions
- b) High temperature and rainy conditions
- c) High temperature and humidity
- d) Low temperature and humidity

ANS: C

Explanation: The retreating southwest monsoon season is marked by clear skies and rise in temperature. The land is still moist.

- Owing to the conditions of high temperature and humidity, the weather becomes rather oppressive. This is commonly known as the ‘October heat’.
- In the second half of October, the mercury begins to fall rapidly, particularly in northern India.
- The weather in the retreating monsoon is dry in north India but it is associated with rain in the eastern part of the Peninsula. Here, October and November are the rainiest months of the year.

Source: NCERT – India Physical Environment

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding south-west monsoon:

1. Peninsular shape of India divides the southwest monsoons into two branches - Arabian Sea branch and Bay of Bengal branch.
2. Arabian Sea branch of southwest monsoons causes heavy rains on the western slopes of the Western Ghats.

Which of statements above given is/are NOT correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The peninsular shape of India divides these Southwest monsoons into two branches - Arabian Sea branch and Bay of Bengal branch.

- Arabian Sea branch of Southwest monsoons strikes the western coast of India and causes heavy rains on the western slopes of the Western Ghats.
- After crossing the Western Ghats, these winds cause less rainfall on the eastern slopes as they gain temperature while descending. This area is, therefore, known as rain shadow zone.
- The Bay of Bengal branch is divided into two sub branches after striking eastern Himalayas. One branch moves towards the east northeast direction and causes heavy rains in Brahmaputra valley and northeast hills of India.
- The other branch moves towards northwest along the Ganga valley and the Himalayan ranges causing heavy and widespread rains over vast areas.
- In this region, the amount of rainfall decreases from east to west owing to the progressive decrease in humidity of these winds.

Source: NCERT – India Physical Environment

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Q.7) Consider the following pairs:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| Cyclone | : | Region |
| 1. Hurricanes | : | Caribbean |
| 2. Willy-willies | : | China |
| 3. Tropical Cyclones | : | Indian Ocean region |

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: In low latitudes, an intense depression with a low pressure centre is known as a Tropical cyclone in the Indian Ocean area, as hurricanes in the Caribbean, typhoons in China and Willy-willies in Australia.

Source: ICSE – Total Geography

Q.8) Which of the following are hot local winds?

- 1. Chinook
- 2. Santa Ana
- 3. Northers
- 4. Mistral

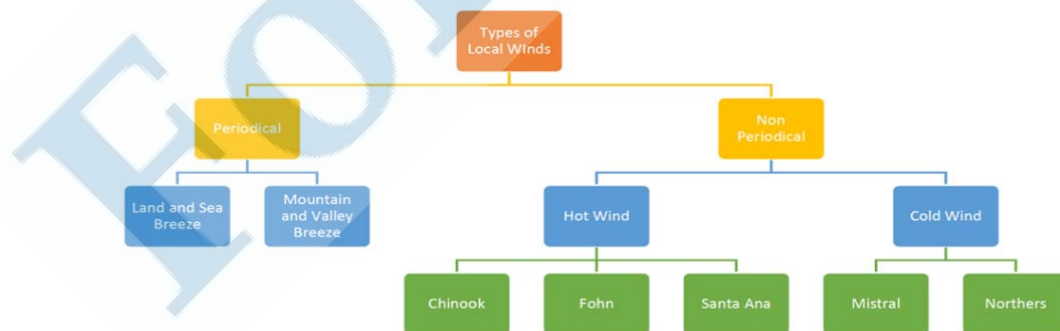
Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Local Winds are produced due to local variability in temperature and pressure conditions. Thus, they are more localized in their extent and cover limited horizontal and vertical dimensions and confined to the lower levels of the troposphere.

Types of Local Winds



Source: ICSE – Total Geography and NOAA

Q.9) With reference to the impact of Himalayas on Indian climate, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. They act as an effective physical barrier for rain bearing south-west monsoon winds.
- 2. They protect India from cold and dry air masses of Central Asia.

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Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Himalayas act as a climatic divide between India and Central Asia.

- During winter, Himalayas protect India from cold and dry air masses of Central Asia.
- During monsoon months these mountain ranges act as an effective physical barrier for rain bearing south-west monsoon winds.
- Himalayas divide the Bay of Bengal branch of monsoon winds into two branches – one branch flowing along the plain regions towards north-west India and the other towards South-East Asia.
- If the Himalayas were not present, the monsoon winds would simply move into China and most of the north India would have been a desert.

Source: NCERT – India Physical Environment

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. The South Indian coastal areas are under the influence of hot dry wind called 'loo'.
2. Mawsynram and Cherrapunji in Meghalaya receive around 1,000 cm of annual rainfall from south west monsoon.

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

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

ANS: A

Explanation: India's climate closely resembles the climate that of a tropical country although it's northern part (north of tropic of cancer) is situated in the temperate belt.

- Indian subcontinent is separated from the rest of Asia by the lofty Himalayan ranges which block the cold air masses moving southwards from Central Asia.
- As a result, during winters, the northern half of India is warmer by 3°C to 8°C than other areas located on same latitudes.
- During summer, due to over the head position of the sun, the climate in the southern parts resemble equatorial dry climate.
- The north Indian plains are under the influence of hot dry wind called 'loo' blowing from the Thar, Baloch and Iranian Deserts, increasing the temperatures to a level comparable to that of the southern parts of the country.
- The climate in most of the regions is characterized by distinct wet and dry seasons.
- Some places like Thar desert, Ladakh have no wet season. Mean annual rainfall varies substantially from region to region.
- Mawsynram and Cherrapunji in Meghalaya receive around 1,000 cm of annual rainfall while at Jaisalmer the annual rainfall rarely exceeds 12 cm.

Source: NCERT – India Physical Environment