

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

9th to 15th May, 2022

HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

Indian Economy

Q.1) National Income refers to

- a) Current market value of all final goods and services produced in a year.
- b) Current market value of all consumer goods and services produced in a year.
- c) Current market value of all capital goods and services produced in a year.
- d) Both B and C.

ANS: A

Explanation:

- National Income refers to the money value of all the goods and services produced in a country during a financial year.
- In other words, the final outcome of all the economic activities of the nation during a period of one year, valued in terms of money is called as a National income.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.2) Which of the following is/are inflation controlling measures?

- 1. Supply side measures
- 2. Cost side measures
- 3. Easy monetary policy measures

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 governments resort to the following options to check rising inflation:

- As a supply side measure, the government may go for import of goods which are in short-supply. As a long-term measure, governments go on to increase the production to matching the level of demand. Storage, transportation, distribution, hoarding are the other aspects of price management of this category.
- As a cost side measure, governments may try to cool down the price by cutting down the production cost of goods showing price rise with the help of tax breaks—cuts in the excise and custom duties.
- The governments may take recourse to tighter monetary policy to cool down either the demand-pull or the cost-push inflations. This is basically intended to cut down the money supply in the economy by siphoning out the extra money.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding measures to achieve “Fiscal Consolidation” in India:

1. Cutting down the burden of salaries and pensions.
2. Cutting down the Administered Price Mechanisms.
3. Higher education declared as non-priority sector.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation:

- India started the politically and socially painful process of fiscal reforms, a step towards fiscal consolidation.
- A number of steps were taken by the government at the Centre in this direction and there had been incessant attempts to do the same in the states’ public finances too. Major highlights in this direction can be summed up as given below:

Policy initiatives towards cutting revenue deficits:

- Cutting down the burden of salaries, pensions and the PFs (downsizing/ right-sizing of the government, out of every 3 vacancies 1 to be filled up, interest cut on the PF, pension reforms-PFRDA, etc.);
- Cutting down the subsidies (Administered Price Mechanism in petroleum, fertilizers, sugar, drugs to be rationalised, it was done with mixed successes);
- Interest burden to be cut down (by going for lesser and lesser borrowings, pre-payment of external debts, debt swaps, promoting external lending, minimal dependence on costlier external borrowings, etc.);
- General Services to be motivated towards profit with subsidized services to the needy only (railways, power, water, etc.);
- Postal deficits to be checked by involving the post offices in other areas of profit;
- Higher education declared as non-priority sector; fees of institutions of professional courses revised upward; etc.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Pigovian Tax”:

1. It is a tax placed on any good which creates negative externalities.
2. Carbon tax is an example of Pigovian Tax.

Which of the following codes below given is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation:

A Pigovian tax is a tax placed on any good which creates negative externalities.

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- The aim of a Pigovian tax is to make the price of the good equal to the social marginal cost and create a more socially efficient allocation of resources.
- It is named after the economist Arthur Pigou who developed the concept of externalities in the 1920s.
- A carbon tax aims to make individuals and firms pay the full social cost of carbon pollution.
- In theory, the tax will reduce pollution and encourage more environmentally friendly alternatives.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.5) Which of the following statements is/are correct about “Tobin tax”?

1. It is a tax imposed on all foreign exchange transactions.
2. It is not implemented anywhere in the world till now.

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:

- It is a proposal of imposing small tax on all foreign exchange transactions with the objective to discourage destabilizing speculation and volatility in the foreign exchange markets.
- Proposed by the Nobel prize-winning economist James Tobin (1918– 2002), the tax has never been implemented anywhere in the world so far.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.6) “A graph showing those combinations of the two commodities that leave the consumer equally well off or equally satisfied”- describes which of the following?

- a) Supply Curve
- b) Indifference Curve
- c) Production Possibility Frontier
- d) Demand Curve

ANS: B

Explanation:

- An indifference curve, with respect to two commodities, is a graph showing those combinations of the two commodities that leave the consumer equally well off or equally satisfied—hence indifferent—in having any combination on the curve.
- Indifference curves are heuristic devices used in contemporary microeconomics to demonstrate consumer preference and the limitations of a budget.
- Economists have adopted the principles of indifference curves in the study of welfare economics.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.7) The term “Autarky” is associated with which of the following?

- a) Service Sector
- b) International trade
- c) Defense sector
- d) Pension sector

ANS: B

Explanation: Autarky:

- The idea of self-sufficiency and ‘no’ international trade by a country.
- None of the countries of the world has been able to produce all the goods and services required by its population at competitive prices, however, some tried to live it up at the cost of inefficiency and comparative poverty.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.8) The Gadgil Strategy is associated with which of the following plan?

- a) Second five year plan
- b) Third five year plan
- c) Fourth five year plan
- d) Eighth five year plan

ANS: C

Explanation:

- The fourth five year Plan period was 1969–74.
- The Plan was based on the Gadgil strategy with special focus to the ideas of growth with stability and progress towards self-reliance.
- Droughts and the Indo-Pak War of 1971–72 led the economy to capital diversions creating financial crunch for the Plan.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.9) Which of the following International Institution releases the International Debt Statistics?

- a) IMF
- b) WTO
- c) UNO
- d) World Bank

ANS: D

Explanation:

- International Debt Statistics (IDS) is the World Bank's database on the external debt and financial flows (debt and equity) of 128 countries in the World Bank's debtor reporting system. More than 200 indicators are available.
- Data is from 1970 to 2019. The database combines observations from 'Quarterly External Debt Statistics' and 'Quarterly Public Sector Debt' published by the World Bank. (IDS were formerly known as 'Global Development Finance'.)

Source: [Source](#)

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the “gig economy”:

1. Gig workers include self-employed, freelancers, independent contributors and part-time workers.
2. It is tech-enabled platforms connect the consumer to the gig worker to hire services on a short-term basis.

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:

- Gig economy can be defined as a work engagement where on one side, there is a service seeker i.e. a consumer with a demand for a specific task, and on the other side, and there is a service provider i.e. a gig worker who can perform that specific task.
- A gig economy undermines the traditional economy of full-time workers who rarely change positions and instead focus on a lifetime career.
- In this economy, tech-enabled platforms connect the consumer to the gig worker to hire services on a short-term basis.
- Gig workers include self-employed, freelancers, independent contributors and part-time workers.
- The digital gig economy generated a gross volume of approximately \$204 bn from worldwide customers in 2018.
- Transportation-based services contributed to over 50% of this value. The size of the gig economy is projected to grow by a 17% CAGR and generate a gross volume of ~\$455 bn by 2023.
- India has emerged as the 5th largest country for flexi-staffing after US, China, Brazil and Japan.
- Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Telangana have most opportunities in terms of growth for the flexi-workers.

Source: [Source](#)

Indian Economy

Q.1) Which of the following measures will spur the economic growth?

1. Transparent and hassle free land acquiring.
2. Availability of Skilled labour.
3. High interest rates in the economy.
4. Decrease in effective demand.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation:

- The traditional argument is that the lower the interest rate, the better for businesses as it brings down the cost of capital, making investments more attractive.
- Any government would love this as the country would then draw higher investments leading to higher growth and more job creation.
- Governments abhor higher interest rates as, theoretically, these push up project costs and keep investors away.
- Capital is one of the three main factors of production, which are critical to the growth of a commercial entity, the other two being land and labour.
- But capital is only a necessary, not sufficient, condition. Land, unless allocated by the local government, is too costly for investors seeking to set up shop.
- On labour, even if adequate hands are available for a job, the skill quotient is still low. Training graduates to be job-ready is a form of tax that companies pay.
- Also to be taken into account is the market environment and demand. If end users are seeing lesser money in hand than earlier, demand will certainly be impacted.
- Therefore, in an environment where the other factors of production are not favourable for an investor, low interest rates by themselves may not prove attractive enough.
- Any revival of economic activity will be contingent on joint efforts by the government on the fiscal front to stimulate demand, and the RBI, to keep interest rates low.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.2) Which of the following is an example of “Stealth Tax”?

- a) Personal Income Tax
- b) Corporate Tax
- c) Sales Tax
- d) Excise Tax

ANS: C

Explanation:

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- Stealth taxes are sometimes built into the prices of products so that consumers do not see how much tax they are paying.
- In comparison to income taxes and property taxes, stealth taxes are smaller and less visible.
- Because of their lower visibility they attract significantly less attention than income or property taxes.
- Governments find stealth taxes easier to collect than other types of taxes because the government collects them at the point of sale and they do not depend on a taxpayer's income level.
- The most common stealth tax is the sales tax.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.3) A country's balance of trade initially worsens following a devaluation of its currency, then quickly recovers and finally surpasses its previous performance – describes which of the following?

- a) Laffer Curve effect
- b) Kuznets Curve effect
- c) Producers responsibility effect
- d) J – Curve effect

ANS: D

Explanation:

- The J-curve effect is often cited in economics to describe, for instance, the way that a country's balance of trade initially worsens following a devaluation of its currency, then quickly recovers and finally surpasses its previous performance.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.4) Which of the following plan is associated with Harrod Domar?

- a) First five year plan
- b) Second five year plan
- c) Sixth five year plan
- d) Ninth five year plan

ANS: A

Explanation:

- The First Five-year Plan was launched in 1951 which mainly focused in the development of the primary sector.
- The First Five-Year Plan was based on the Harrod–Domar model with few modifications.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding 'Rural Infrastructure Promotion Fund' (RIPF):

1. It has been created by NABARD.
2. It has been set up with a corpus of Rs. 500crore.

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:

- NABARD has created a separate fund titled 'Rural Infrastructure Promotion Fund' (RIPF) to support programs and activities that promote rural infrastructure, with the ultimate objective of facilitating agriculture and rural development.
- RIPF has been set up with a corpus of Rs. 25 crore.
- The amount is contributed out of margin received by NABARD from a special window created under RIDF for funding the rural roads component of Bharat Nirman through National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA).

Source: [Source](#)

Q.6) Which of the following is associated with the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works?

- a) Berne Convention
- b) Paris Convention
- c) Rotterdam Convention
- d) Stockholm Convention

ANS: A

Explanation:

- The importance of intellectual property was first recognized in the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (1883) and the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works (1886).
- Both treaties are administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (1967).

Source: [Source](#)

Q.7) With reference to the Gross Domestic Product, which of the following statements is/are NOT correct?

1. It is the value of the all intermediate goods and services produced within the boundary of a nation during one year period.
2. It is calculated by adding national private consumption, gross investment, government spending and trade balance.

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:

- Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the value of the all final goods and services produced within the boundary of a nation during one year period.
- It is also calculated by adding national private consumption, gross investment, government spending and trade balance (exports-minus-imports).

Source: [Source](#)

Q.8) With reference to the capital and money markets, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The money market fulfils the requirements of funds for the period up to 364 days.
2. The capital market fulfils the requirements of funds for the period above 364 days.

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:

- Financial markets in every economy are having two separate segments today, one catering to the requirements of short-term funds and the other to the requirements of long-term funds.
- The short-term financial market is known as the money market, while the long-term financial market is known as the capital market.
- The money market fulfils the requirements of funds for the period upto 364 days (i.e., short term) while the capital market does the same for the period above 364 days (i.e., long term).

Source: [Source](#)

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the traits of “recession”:

1. General rise in demand.
2. Inflation remains higher and no signs of going down.
3. Employment rate falls.

Which of the statements above given is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation:

- Recession is somewhat similar to the phase of ‘depression’ — we may call it a mild form of depression — fatal for economies as this may lead to depression if not handled with care and in time.
- The financial crises which followed the US ‘sub-prime crisis’ in almost the whole Euro-American economies has basically brought in ‘severe recessionary’ trends there.
- Major traits of recession, to a great extent, are similar to that of depression - ‘may be summed up as follows:
- There is a general fall in demand as economic activities take a downturn;
- Inflation remains lower or/and shows further signs of falling down;
- employment rate falls/unemployment rate grows;
- Industries resort to ‘price cuts’ to sustain their business.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.10) “A graphic curve which advocates a relationship between inflation and unemployment in an economy”- describes which of the following?

- a) Phillips curve
- b) Laffer Curve
- c) Lorenz curve
- d) Gini coefficient

ANS: A

Explanation:

- Phillips curve is a graphic curve which advocates a relationship between inflation and unemployment in an economy.
- As per the curve there is a ‘trade off’ between inflation and unemployment, i.e., an inverse relationship between them.
- The curve suggests that lower the inflation, higher the unemployment and higher the inflation, lower the unemployment.
- During the 1960s, this idea was among the most important theories of the modern economists.
- This concept is known after the economists who developed it—Alban William Housego Phillips (1914–75).

Source: [Source](#)

Indian Polity

Q.1) Which of the following statements about Preamble is incorrect?

- a) Economic liberty is embodied in the preamble to the constitution of India.
- b) It reflects the mind of the makers of the Constitution of India.
- c) 'Political Justice' as one of the objectives of the Indian Constitution has been provided in the preamble.
- d) It is a part of the Constitution but has no legal effect.

ANS: A

Explanation:

Preamble:

- The 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.'
- 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.

"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 twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION".

- **Kesavananda Bharati Case:** In this case, for the first time, a bench of 13 judges was assembled to hear a writ petition.
- **The Court held that:** The Preamble of the Constitution will now be considered as part of the Constitution but won't be having any legal effect.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.2) Consider the following statements about Election of members of Rajya Sabha:

1. The procedure for election of members of Rajya Sabha has been taken from Constitution of Australia.
2. The election is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation:

- The procedure for election of members of Rajya Sabha has been taken from the Constitution of South Africa.

Composition of Rajya Sabha:

- 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.
- Representation of states:
 - 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.

Representation of Union Territories:

- The representatives of each union territory in the Rajya Sabha are indirectly elected by members of an electoral college specially constituted for the purpose.
- This election is also held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.
- Out of the nine union territories, only three (Delhi, Puducherry and Jammu & Kashmir) have representation in Rajya Sabha.
- The populations of other six union territories are too small to have any representative in the Rajya Sabha.

Nominated members:

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- The president nominates 12 members to the Rajya Sabha from people who have special knowledge or practical experience in art, literature, science and social service.
- The rationale behind this principle of nomination is to provide eminent persons a place in the Rajya Sabha without going through the process of election.
- It should be noted here that the American Senate has no nominated members.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.3) Consider the following statements Article 18 of Indian Constitution:

1. It prohibits the state from conferring any title on citizen of India only.
2. A foreigner holding any office of profit or trust under the state cannot accept any title from any foreign state in any case.

Which of the statement/s given above are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Abolition of titles:

- Article 18 abolishes titles and makes four provisions in that regard:
- It prohibits the state from conferring any title (except a military or academic distinction) on anybody, whether a citizen or a foreigner.
- It prohibits a citizen of India from accepting any title from any foreign state.
- A foreigner holding any office of profit or trust under the state cannot accept any title from any foreign state without the consent of the president.
- No citizen or foreigner holding any office of profit or trust under the State is to accept any present, emolument or office from or under any foreign State without the consent of the president.
- From the above, it is clear that the hereditary titles of nobility like Maharaja, Raj Bahadur, Rai Bahadur, Rai Saheb, Dewan Bahadur, etc, which were conferred by colonial States are banned by Article 18 as these are against the principle of equal status of all.
- In 1996, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of the National Awards– Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Sri.
- It ruled that these awards do not amount to ‘titles’ within the meaning of Article 18 that prohibits only hereditary titles of nobility.
- Therefore, they are not violative of Article 18 as the theory of equality does not mandate that merit should not be recognised.
- However, it also ruled that they should not be used as suffixes or prefixes to the names of awardees. Otherwise, they should forfeit the awards.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.4) 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: [Source](#)

Q.5) 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: [Source](#)

Q.6) 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;
- 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: [Source](#)

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: [Source](#)

Q.8) Which article of the constitution of India is a deal 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: [Source](#)

Q.9) 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.
- 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: [Source](#)

Q.10) 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: [Source](#)

Indian Polity

Q.1) Constitution –Drafting committee headed by which of the following given below person?

- a) N GopaldaswamyAyyangar
- b) AlladiKrishnaswamiAyyar
- c) K M Munshi
- d) Dr B R Ambedkar

ANS: D

Explanation:

- Among all the committees of the Constituent Assembly, the most important committee was the Drafting Committee set up on August 29, 1947.
- It was this committee that was entrusted with the task of preparing a draft of the new Constitution. It consisted of seven members. They were:
 - Dr B R Ambedkar (*Chairman*)
 - N GopaldaswamyAyyangar
 - AlladiKrishnaswamiAyyar
 - Dr K M Munshi
 - Syed Mohammad Saadullah
 - N Madhava Rau (He replaced B L Mitter who resigned due to ill-health)
 - T TKrishnamachari (He replaced D P Khaitan who died in 1948).

Source:[Source](#)

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to features of parliamentary government in India:

1. Presence of Nominal and Real executives
2. Majority party rule
3. Membership of ministers in the legislature
4. Dissolution of upper house

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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

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- 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: [Source](#)

Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to 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 political justice denotes what 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: C

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.
- 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.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.4) The framers of the constitution made Directive Principles of State Policy are Non-Justifiable. Consider the following reasons:

1. The country did not possess sufficient financial resources to implement them.
2. Lack of political will
3. The presence of vast diversity and backwardness in the country

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation:

- The framers of the Constitution made the Directive Principles non-justifiable and legally non-enforceable because:
- The country did not possess sufficient financial resources to implement them.
- The presence of vast diversity and backwardness in the country would stand in the way of their implementation.
- The newly born independent Indian State with its many preoccupations might be crushed under the burden unless it was free to decide the order, the time, the place and the mode of fulfilling them.
- The Constitution makers, therefore, taking a pragmatic view, refrained from giving teeth to these principles.
- They believed more in an awakened public opinion rather than in court procedures as the ultimate sanction for the fulfillment of these principles.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to presidential system of government:

1. The American President is both the head of the State and the head of government
2. He can be removed by the Congress except by impeachment for a grave unconstitutional act.

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 features of the American presidential system of government are as follows:
- The American President is both the head of the State and the head of government. As the head of State, he occupies a ceremonial position. As the head of government, he leads the executive organ of government.
- The President is elected by an electoral college for a fixed tenure of four years. He cannot be removed by the Congress except by impeachment for a grave unconstitutional act.

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- The President governs with the help of a cabinet or a smaller body called Kitchen Cabinet'. It is only an advisory body and consists of non-elected departmental secretaries. They are selected and appointed by him, are responsible only to him, and can be removed by him any time.
- The President and his secretaries are not responsible to the Congress for their acts. They neither possess membership in the Congress nor attend its sessions.
- The President cannot dissolve the House of Representatives-the lower house of the Congress.
- The doctrine of separation of powers is the basis of the American presidential system. The legislative, executive and judicial powers of the government are separated and vested in the three independent organs of the government.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.6) Consider the following statements about National Legal Services Authority (NALSA):

1. It is a constitutional body under Article 39A of the constitution.
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: [Source](#)

Q.7) Consider the following statements about Cantonment Board:

1. A cantonment board is created by Central government but administered by the state government.
2. Both the elected members and nominated members hold office for a term of five years.
3. The executive officer of the cantonment board is appointed by the president of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation:

- A cantonment board is established for municipal administration for civilian population in the cantonment area. It is set up under the provisions of the Cantonments Act of 2006—a legislation enacted by the Central government.
- It works under the administrative control of the defense ministry of the Central government. Thus, unlike the above four types of urban local bodies, which are created and administered by the state government, a cantonment board is created as well as administered by the Central government.
- A cantonment board consists of partly elected and partly nominated members. The elected members hold office for a term of five years while the nominated members (i.e., ex-officio members) continue so long as they hold the office in that station.
- The military officer commanding the station is the ex-officio president of the board and presides over its meetings. The vice president of the board is elected by the elected members from amongst themselves for a term of five years.
- The functions performed by a cantonment board are similar to those of a municipality. These are statutorily categorised into obligatory functions and discretionary functions. The sources of income include both, tax revenue and non-tax revenue.
- The executive officer of the cantonment board is appointed by the president of India. He implements all the resolutions and decisions of the board and its committees. He belongs to the central cadre established for the purpose.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to adjournment motion:

1. It is introduced in the Parliament for a definite matter of urgent public importance.
2. It needs the support of 50 members to be admitted.
3. Rajya Sabha is also permitted to make use of the adjournment motion

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: Adjournment Motion:

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- It is introduced in the Parliament to draw attention of the House to a definite matter of urgent public importance, and needs the support of 50 members to be admitted.
- As it interrupts the normal business of the House, it is regarded as an extraordinary device.
- It involves an element of censure against the government and hence RajyaSabha is not permitted to make use of this device. The discussion on an adjournment motion should last for not less than two hours and thirty minutes.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.9) 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: [Source](#)

Q.10) 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.

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- 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: [Source](#)

Indian Polity

Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to Tribal Advisory Council (TAC):

1. Each state having scheduled areas has to establish a tribal advisory council
2. It is to consist of 20 members, three-fourths of whom are to be the women representatives of the scheduled tribes in the state assembly

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

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Tribes Advisory Council:

Each state having scheduled areas has to establish a tribal advisory council to advice on welfare and advancement of the scheduled tribes. It is to consist of 20 members, three-fourths of whom are to be the representatives of the scheduled tribes in the state legislative assembly. A similar council can also be established in a state having scheduled tribes but not scheduled areas therein, if the president so directs.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to military powers of President:

1. He is supreme commander of defense forces
2. He can declare a war or conclude peace

Which of the following codes below given is/are NOT correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation:

- He is the supreme commander of the defence forces of India.
- In that capacity, he appoints the chiefs of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. He can declare war or conclude peace, subject to the approval of the Parliament.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to presidential system of government:

1. The American President is both the head of the State and the head of government
2. He cannot be removed by the Congress except by impeachment for a grave unconstitutional act.

Which of the following codes below given is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation:

- The features of the American presidential system of government are as follows:
- The American President is both the head of the State and the head of government. As the head of State, he occupies a ceremonial position.
- As the head of government, he leads the executive organ of government. The President is elected by an electoral college for a fixed tenure of four years.
- He cannot be removed by the Congress except by impeachment for a grave unconstitutional act. The President governs with the help of a cabinet or a smaller body called 'Kitchen Cabinet'.
- It is only an advisory body and consists of non-elected departmental secretaries. They are selected and appointed by him, are responsible only to him, and can be removed by him any time.
- The President and his secretaries are not responsible to the Congress for their acts. They neither possess membership in the Congress nor attend its sessions.
- The President cannot dissolve the House of Representatives-the lower house of the Congress. The doctrine of separation of powers is the basis of the American presidential system.
- The legislative, executive and judicial powers of the government are separated and vested in the three independent organs of the government.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to National Emergency (Article 352):

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 following above statements is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation:

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- 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 cabinet³. 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: [Source](#)

Q.5) In which of the following cases a member has to vacate his seat in the Parliament?

1. If his election is declared void by the court.
2. If he is expelled by the House.
3. If he is appointed to the office of governor of a state.

Choose the correct option from codes below given:

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

ANS: D

Explanation:

A member has to vacate his seat in the Parliament:

- if his election is declared void by the court;
- if he is expelled by the House;
- if he is elected to the office of President or Vice-President; and
- if he is appointed to the office of governor of a state.
- If a disqualified person is elected to the Parliament, the Constitution lays down no procedure to declare the election void.
- This matter is dealt by the Representation of the People Act (1951), which enables the high court to declare an election void if a disqualified candidate is elected.
- The aggrieved party can appeal to the Supreme Court against the order of the high court in this regard

Source: [Source](#)

Q.6) Which of the following Article of Indian Constitution related to implementing the International law and treaty obligations?

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

ANS: D

Explanation:

- To promote international peace and security and maintain just and honorable relations between nations; to foster respect for international law and treaty obligations, and to encourage settlement of international disputes by arbitration (Article 51).

Source: [Source](#)

Q.7) Consider the following statements with respect to “Zonal Councils”:

1. Zonal Councils are established under States Reorganization Act, 1956.
2. Act divided the country into six zonal councils.
3. The Prime Minister is the chairman of the zonal councils.

Which of the following codes below given is/are NOT correct?

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

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.
- Each zonal council consists of the following members:
 - (a) Home minister of Central government.
 - (b) Chief Ministers of all the States in the zone.
 - (c) Two other ministers from each state in the zone.
 - (d) Administrator of each union territory in the zone. The home minister of Central government is the common chairman of the five zonal councils. Each chief minister acts as a vice-chairman of the council by rotation, holding office **for a period of one year at a time.**

Source: [Source](#)

Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to “Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities”:

1. The Constitution of India did not make any provision with respect to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.
2. Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 related to Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.
3. He is appointed President on the recommendation of Appointment Committee.

Which of the following codes below given is/are NOT correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation:

- The Constitution of India did not make any provision with respect to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities¹.
- Later, the States Reorganisation Commission (1953-55) made a recommendation in this regard. Accordingly, the Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 inserted a new Article 350-B in Part XVII of the Constitution².
- This article contains the following provisions:
 - There should be a Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities. He is to be appointed by the President of India.
 - It would be the duty of the Special Officer to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under the Constitution.
 - He would report to the President upon those matters at such intervals as the President may direct. The President should place all such reports before each House of Parliament and send to the governments of the states concerned.
- It must be noted here that the Constitution does not specify the qualifications, tenure, salaries and allowances, service conditions and procedure for removal of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.9) Consider the following statements with respect to “Zero Hour”:

1. The time immediately following the Question Hour in the House has come to be popularly known as the Zero Hour.
2. At present, twenty matters per day as per their priority in the ballot are allowed to be raised during "Zero Hour".

Which of the following codes below given is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

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Statement 1 is correct:

- The time immediately following the Question Hour and laying of papers and before any listed business is taken up in the House has come to be popularly known as the 'Zero Hour'.
- As it starts around 12 noon, this period is euphemistically termed as 'Zero Hour'. For raising matters during the 'Zero Hour' in Lok Sabha, Members give notice between 8.30 a.m. and 9.00 a.m. every day to the Speaker stating clearly the subject which they consider to be important and wish to raise in the House.
- It is, of course, for the Speaker to allow or not to allow for raising such matters in the House. The term 'Zero Hour' is not formally recognised in our parliamentary procedure.

Statement 2 is correct:

- At present, twenty matters per day as per their priority in the ballot are allowed to be raised during "Zero Hour".
- The order in which the matters will be raised is decided by the Speaker at his/her discretion. In the first phase, 5 matters of urgent national and international importance, as decided by the Chair, are taken up after Question Hour and laying of papers, etc.
- In the second phase, the remaining admitted matters of urgent public importance are taken up after 6.00 P.M. or at the end of the regular business of the House.
- However, since there is no provision in the rules regarding 'Zero Hour', hence there is no maximum limit on the number of matters that can be raised on any given day.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.10) Consider the following statements with respect to "Leader of the Opposition":

1. Only Lok Sabha has Leader of the Opposition.
2. The leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha got the statutory recognition in 1977.

Which of the following codes below given is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect:

- In each House of Parliament, there is the "Leader of the Opposition".
- The leader of the largest Opposition party having not less than one-tenth seats of the total strength of the House is recognised as the leader of the Opposition in that House.

Statement 2 is correct:

- In a parliamentary system of government, the leader of the opposition has a significant role to play.
- His main functions are to provide a constructive criticism of the policies of the government and to provide an alternative government.
- Therefore, the leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha were accorded statutory recognition in 1977.

Source: [Source](#)

Indian Polity

Q.1) Which of the following is/are “legislative powers” of President in India?

1. He can summon or prorogue and dissolve the Lok Sabha.
2. He can preside over the joint sitting of both the houses of Parliament.
3. He can address the Parliament at the commencement of the first session of each year.

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

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

Ans C

Explanation: Legislative powers of President.

- 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.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.2) Which of the following are contained in the form of oath of the Governor of India?

1. To faithfully execute the office
2. To preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and the law
3. To devote himself to the service and well-being of the state
4. To uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India

Select the correct answer using the code 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 A

Explanation:

Oath of the Governor: Before entering upon his office, the governor has to make and subscribe to an oath or affirmation. In his oath, the governor swears:

- to faithfully execute the office;
- to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and the law; and
- to devote himself to the service and well-being of the people of the state.
- The oath of office to the governor is administered by the chief justice of the concerned state high court and in his absence, the senior-most judge of that court available.
- Every person discharging the functions of the governor also undertakes the similar oath or affirmation.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.3) Which of the following is/are 'unitary features' of Indian union?

1. Single Constitution
2. Integrated Judiciary
3. Flexibility of Constitution

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 Indian Constitution also contains a large number of unitary or non-federal features, viz., a strong Centre, single Constitution, single citizenship, flexibility of Constitution, integrated judiciary, appointment of state governor by the Centre, all-India services, **emergency provisions, and so on.**

Source: [Source](#)

Q.4) With reference to the 'Preamble', which of the following words is/are found in the Original Preamble?

1. Justice
2. Liberty
3. Fraternity
4. Socialist

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS C

Explanation:

- The Preamble is called the introduction letter of the Indian Constitution.
- The preamble was amended by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1976, in which three new words Socialist, Secular, and Integrity were added.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.5) 'Article 267' of Indian Constitution is related to which of the following?

- a) Consolidated fund of India
- b) Public Account of India
- c) Contingency fund of India
- d) National Disaster Fund of India

ANS C

Explanation:

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- The Constitution of India provides for the following three kinds of funds for the Central government:
 - Consolidated Fund of India (Article 266)
 - Public Account of India (Article 266)
 - Contingency Fund of India (Article 267)

Source: [Source](#)

Q.6) Which of the following Amendment Act of Indian Constitution is also known as “Mini-Constitution” of India?

- a) 23rd Amendment Act, 1969
- b) 35th Amendment Act, 1974
- c) 42nd Amendment Act, 1976
- d) 44th Amendment Act, 1978

ANS C

Explanation:

- 42nd Amendment Act, 1976 is one of the most important amendments to the Indian Constitution. It was enacted by Indian National Congress headed by Indira Gandhi then.
- Due to the large number of amendments this act has brought to the Indian Constitution, it is also known as ‘Mini-Constitution.’

Source: [Source](#)

Q.7) With reference to the “Indra Sawhney Case”, which of the following elements was declared as Basic feature/structure of Indian Constitution?

1. Rule of Law.
2. Supremacy of the Constitution.
3. Welfare state.

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:

- In Indra Sawhney Case (1992) (popularly known as the Mandal Case), the Supreme Court declared “Rule of Law” is the Basic Structure/element of Indian Constitution.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.8) With reference to the “Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)”, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The UPSC consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the president of India.
2. The Constitution authorizes the Parliament to determine the conditions of service of the chairman and other members of the Commission.

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: Union Public Service Commission.

Statement 1 is correct:

- 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.

Source: [Source](#)

Q.9) Which of the following committee/committees comes under the Standing Committees to enquire of Rajya Sabha?

1. Committee on Petitions.
2. Committee of Privileges.
3. Rules Committee.

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:

- 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
- Ethics Committee
- Committees to scrutinise 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: [Source](#)

Q.10) The “Ananthsayanam Ayyangar Committee, Justice Venkatchaliah Commission, Balkrishna Sidke Renke and Idate Commission” related to which of the following?

- De-notified tribes
- Education
- Primary health
- Rural women empowerment

ANS: A

Explanation:

- The committees/commissions related to De-notified/criminal tribes.
- The Ananthsayanam Ayyangar Committee (gave a comprehensive report on how CTA worked throughout India), the CTA was repealed in August 1949 and former “criminal tribes” were de-notified in 1952, when the Act was replaced with the Habitual Offenders Act, 1952 of Government of India.
- In 2002, Justice Venkatchaliah Commission recommended for strengthening the programmes for economic and educational development of De-Notified Tribes (DNTs).
- National Commission for De-notified Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes was constituted in 2005 under the chairmanship of Balkrishna Sidke Renke, to study the socio-economic conditions of these groups.
- Another National Commission for De-notified Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes chaired by Bhiku Ramji Idate was constituted in 2015 for a three-year period. It submitted its report viz “Voices of the Denotified, Nomadic & SemiNomadic Tribes” in 2018.

Source: [Source](#)

Geography

Q.1) Which of the following statement is true about konkan coast?

1. It extends from Mumbai to South Karnataka.
2. Annual range of temperature is high.
3. It receives rainfall by the Arabian Sea branch of Southwest monsoon.

Which of the given below code is correct?

- 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. So, Statement 2 is incorrect.

Source: NCERT

Q.2) Consider the following statement about saline soils of India:

1. Saline soils contain a larger proportion of sodium, potassium and magnesium.
2. Saline soils are also known as Urvara

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: India has varied relief features, landforms, climatic realms and vegetation types. These have contributed in the development of various types of soils in India. In ancient times, soils used to be classified into two main groups – Urvara and Usara, which were fertile and sterile, respectively.

Saline Soils

They are also known as Usara soils. Saline soils contain a larger proportion of sodium, potassium and magnesium, and thus, they are infertile, and do not support any vegetative growth. They have more salts, largely because of dry climate and poor drainage. They occur in arid and semi-arid regions, and in waterlogged and swampy areas. Their structure ranges from sandy to loamy. They lack in nitrogen and calcium. Saline soils are more widespread in

western Gujarat, deltas of the eastern coast and in Sunderban areas of West Bengal. In the Rann of Kutch, the Southwest Monsoon brings salt particles and deposits there as a crust. Seawater intrusions in the deltas promote the occurrence of saline soils. In the areas of intensive cultivation with excessive use of irrigation, especially in areas of green revolution, the fertile alluvial soils are becoming saline. Excessive irrigation with dry climatic conditions promotes capillary action, which results in the deposition of salt on the top layer of the soil. In such areas, especially in Punjab and Haryana, farmers are advised to add gypsum to solve the problem of salinity in the soil.

Source: NCERT

Q.3) The Kuroshio is a North flowing Ocean current on the West side of the North Pacific Ocean. Which one among the following statements regarding this is Not correct?

- a) It is similar to the, Gulf Stream in the North Atlantic Ocean
- b) It transports warm tropical water northward towards the Polar region
- c) The warm water of the Kuroshio Current sustains the coral reefs of Japan
- d) It begins off the coast of Japan and flows northward

ANS: D

Explanation: THE KUROSHIO IS a warm northeasterly ocean current off the coast of JAPAN. This current is also called the gulf stream of the Pacific or Japan Current. Kuroshio means—the black stream in Japanese, named after the deep ultramarine color of the high salinity water, which is found flowing north of the current's axis. The Kuroshio originates from the greater part of North Equatorial current, which divides east of the PHILIPPINES. The Kuroshio is the current running from Formosa to about 35 degrees N latitude. It continues directly as a warm current known as the Kuroshio Extension, from there it is continues as the North Pacific current. Water enters the Kuroshio over a broad front, 621 mi (1,000 km) in width, which then accelerates and narrows. A narrow band less than 62 mi (100 km) in width and about .6 mi (1 km) of maximum depth runs for 1,864 mi (3,000 km) along the western edge of the Pacific, between the Philippines and the east coast of Japan. A narrow, intense flow persists for 930 mi to 1,240 mi (1,500 to 2,000 km) after the current leaves Japan's east coast, after which there is a marked drop in velocity. Here, there is no land boundary on the left hand side to generate a fractional boundary layer.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Physiological density is the total population divided by total area.
- 2. Agricultural density is the total agricultural population divided by net cultivable area.

Which of the statements above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Density of population is expressed as number of persons per unit area. It helps in getting a better understanding of the spatial distribution of population in relation to land.

The density of population, is a crude measure of human and land relationship. To get a better insight into the human-land ratio in terms of pressure of population on total cultivable land, the physiological and the agricultural densities should be found out which are significant for a country like India having a large agricultural population.

Physiological density = total population / net cultivated area

Agricultural density = total agricultural population / net cultivable area

Agricultural population includes cultivators and agricultural labourers and their family members.

Agricultural density is the ratio between only the agricultural population and the total cultivated area. Therefore, the agricultural density is expressed in terms of agricultural population per unit of cultivated area. It has proved to be a useful index of man-land relationship in primarily an agrarian context.

Physiological density is a ratio between total population and total cultivable land. It is expressed in terms of persons/km² of cultivable land. The correct picture of the human pressure on land is derived by physiological density. Thus, when compared with arithmetic density, physiological density is defined a method of calculating man-land ratio:

$$\text{Population Density} = \frac{\text{Total population}}{\text{Net cultivable area}}$$

Source: NCERT

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Stalactites rise up from the floor of the caves.
2. Stalagmites are structures formed from mineral deposits that hang from caves.

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

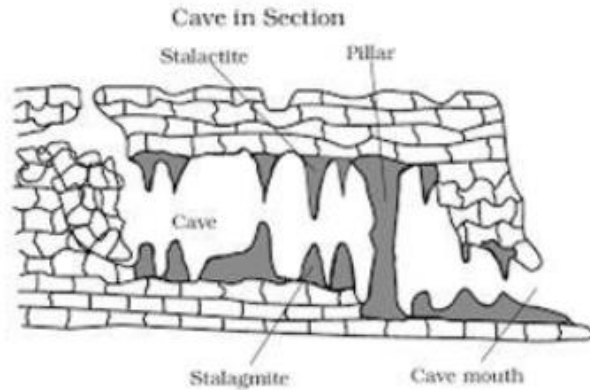
ANS: D

Explanation: Stalactite and Stalagmite are depositional landforms in a cave. A stalactite is an icicle-shaped formation that hangs from the ceiling of a cave, and is produced by precipitation of minerals from water dripping through the cave ceiling. Most stalactites have pointed tips.

A stalagmite is an upward-growing mound of mineral deposits that have precipitated from water dripping onto the floor of a cave. Most stalagmites have rounded or flattened tips.

There are many other types of mineral formations found in caves. For example, flowstones are deposits of minerals from water flowing over the floor or walls of a cave. As layers of flowstone become thicker, their shape becomes rounded. Well-defined crystals growing underwater in cave pools are known as pool spar.

Some deposits are named based on their appearance, such as a showerhead, which is a hollow cone-shaped formation, narrow above and broad below. Showerheads are generally only found in tropical caves. A conulite is a —splash cupl that forms when water dripping rapidly through the cave ceiling flings aside loose particles on the cave floor.



Source: NCERT

Q.6) Which of the following given below is not a depositional landform by glaciers?

- a) Cirque
- b) Moraines
- c) Eskers
- d) Drumlins

ANS: A

Explanation: Moraines, eskers, drumlins, etc., are some examples of glacial depositional landforms. Although glaciers cover only a small part of the Earth's surface today and are constantly retreating due to climate change, the situation was very different in the past. Scientists believe that there were times when nearly the entire surface of the Earth was under ice and snow. The glacial erosional and depositional features visible on the surface of the Earth today serve as proof of the above fact.

Moraine: A moraine is another glacial depositional feature. It consists of accumulated rocks, dirt, and other debris that have been deposited by a glacier. The size of deposits in moraines varies from tiny particles of sand to large boulders. The deposits accumulate on the surface in an unstratified manner without any type of sorting. Moraines are commonly occurring glacial landforms and are often seen in the Himalayan and Alpine mountain regions, Greenland, etc.

Drumlin: Drumlins are depositional landforms formed by a glacier. A drumlin appears in the form of an elongated hill, a shape that can be compared with that of an inverted spoon or an egg buried partly. Drumlins are formed when glaciers move across till or rock debris. They mostly occur in flat lowland areas and extend in a direction parallel to the glacial flow. The drumlins are high and steep at glacier side and tapering and smooth on the lee slope. These landforms are usually found in clusters and often impede the movement of flowing water bodies. Thus, swamps and lake are formed between these landforms. Drumlins are common in Ireland.

Esker: An esker is also a depositional landform formed by glacial action. It exists as a long narrow ridge that wind along a glacial valley or canyon. Due to their peculiar shape, these landforms are often compared to railway embankments. Eskers are usually several kilometers long. They are made up of layers of gravel and sand. Eskers are formed when glacial channels running beneath, within or above a glacier, deposit sediments along their length of flow. Eskers usually form at the terminal region of glaciers where the flow of the glacier is sluggish in nature and is loaded with sediments. The Eiscir Riada is one of the best-known examples of a system

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of eskers. It runs for a distance of about 200 km covering nearly the entire width of Ireland from Galway to Dublin.

Cirques, U-shaped valleys, hanging valleys, etc, are some examples of erosional landforms formed by glacial action.

Source: NCERT

Q.7) Consider the following statement about plate tectonic:

1. Juan De Fuca plate is present in Southern Atlantic Ocean.
2. Arabian Plate is oceanic plate.
3. Nazca plate is between South America and Pacific plate.

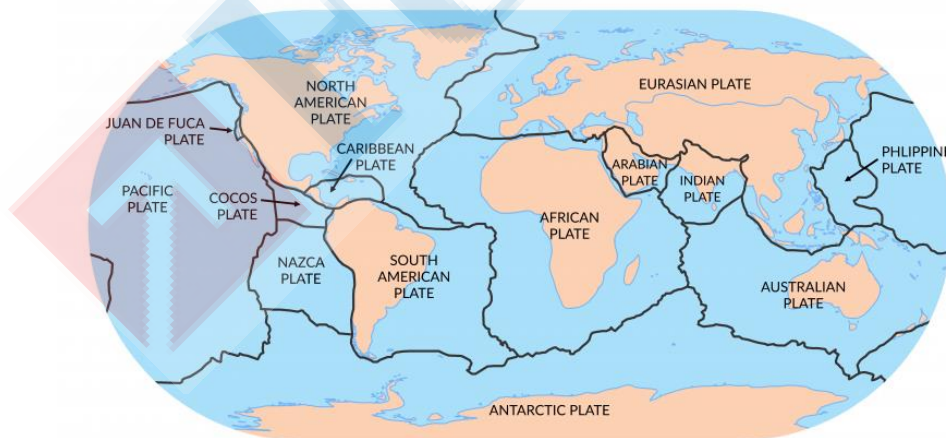
Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Tectonic plates are gigantic segments of rock that are in constant motion relative to each other. They make up the lithosphere, which is the Earth's crust and mantle. Tectonic Plates consist of oceanic and continental crusts. Oceanic crust is made of seas and oceans while continental crust is made of the land mass. Tectonic Plates form either divergent, transform, or convergent boundaries when they come into contact. Volcanoes, rift-valleys, mountain ranges, and earthquakes are the results of the movement of tectonic plates in relation to each other and occur at their tectonic boundaries. The movement of tectonic plates is fueled by convection taking place due to the heat in the Earth's mantle. There are major and minor tectonic plates. There are a total of seven plates which cover nearly 95% of the world's surface.

The seven major plates include the African, Antarctic, Eurasian, North American, South American, India-Australian, and the Pacific plates. Some of the minor plates include the Arabian, Caribbean, Nazca, Cocos, Juan De Fuca, Caroline and Scotia plates.



Source: NCERT

Q.8) Which among the following is not a rapid mass movement of rocks or debris?

- a) Earthflow
- b) Creep
- c) Avalanche
- d) Landslide

ANS: B

Explanation: Mass Movements

These 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.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Consider the following statements with respect to black soils:

1. Black soils also called as regur soils
2. It covers the areas of Punjab, Rajasthan and Maharashtra
3. The black soils are made up of extremely coarse material

Which of the following codes given below is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Black soils are black in colour and are also known as regur soils. Black soil is ideal for growing cotton and is also known as black cotton soil. It is believed that climatic conditions along with the parent rock material are the important factors for the formation of black soil. This type of soil is typical of the Deccan trap (Basalt) region spread over northwest Deccan plateau and is made up of lava flows. They cover the plateaus of Maharashtra, Saurashtra, Malwa, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh and extend in the south east direction along the Godavari and the Krishna valleys. The black soils are made up of extremely fine i.e. clayey material. They are well-known for their capacity to hold moisture. In addition, they are rich in soil nutrients, such as calcium carbonate, magnesium, potash and lime. These soils are generally poor in phosphoric contents. They develop deep cracks during hot weather, which helps in the proper aeration of the soil. These soils are sticky when wet and difficult to work on unless tilled immediately after the first shower or during the pre-monsoon period.

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Consider the following statements with respect to “Himalayan Yew”:

1. Chemical compound called ‘taxol’ is extracted from this tree, and it has been successfully used to treat some cancer
2. This tree is abundantly found in Western Ghats

Which of the following codes given below is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Himalayan Yew (*Taxus wallachiana*) is a medicinal plant found in various parts of Himachal Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh. A chemical compound called ‘taxol’ is extracted from the bark, needles, twigs and roots of this tree, and it has been successfully used to treat some cancers – the drug is now the biggest selling anti-cancer drug in the world. The species is under great threat due to over-exploitation. In the last one decade, thousands of yew trees have dried up in various parts of Himachal Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh.

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