

ForumIAS

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## Prelims Marathon

5<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022

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*HISTORY  
ECONOMICS  
POLITY  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

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FORUMIAS



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## *Polity- Parliament and State Government*

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**Q.1) Which of the following is/are consist/s of Parliament?**

1. The President
2. The Council of States
3. The House of People

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

- 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 Polity

**Q.2) "Fourth Schedule" of the constitution is related to which of the following?**

- a) Territorial Jurisdiction of states
- b) Forms of oath and affirmation
- c) Allocation of seats for States and Union Territories in the Rajya Sabha
- d) Official languages

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Fourth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha to the states and union territories.

**Source:** Laxmikanth Polity

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding Lok Sabha:**

1. The maximum strength of Lok Sabha is fixed at 552.
2. The president can nominate two members from the Anglo-Indian community to the Lok Sabha.

**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 maximum strength of the Lok Sabha is fixed at 552. Out of this, 530 members are to be the representatives of the states, 20 members are to be the representatives

of the union territories and 2 members are to be nominated by the president from the AngloIndian community.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.4) Which constitutional amendment act reduced the voting age from 21 to 18 years?**

- a) 56<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act
- b) 60<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act
- c) 61<sup>st</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act
- d) 69<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The representatives of states in the Lok Sabha are directly elected by the people from the territorial constituencies in the states. 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 Polity**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding Rajya Sabha:**

1. It is subjected to dissolution.
2. The retiring members of Rajya Sabha are not eligible for re-election and re-nomination.

**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:** 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.
- 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 re-nomination any number of times.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.6) Which of the following is/are qualification/s of a person to be chosen as member of the Parliament?**

1. He must be not less than 30 years of age in the case of both Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha.
2. He must be registered as an elector for a parliamentary constituency.
3. He must be a citizen of India.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Constitution lays down the following qualifications for a person to be chosen a member of the Parliament:

- He must be a citizen of India.
- He must make and subscribe to an oath or affirmation before the person authorised by the election commission for this purpose. In his oath or affirmation, he swears (a) To bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India (b) To uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India
- He must be not less than 30 years of age in the case of the Rajya Sabha and not less than 25 years of age in the case of the Lok Sabha.
- He must possess other qualifications prescribed by Parliament.

The Parliament has laid down the following additional qualifications in the Representation of People Act (1951).

- He must be registered as an elector for a parliamentary constituency. This is same in the case of both, the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha.
- The requirement that a candidate contesting an election to the Rajya Sabha from a particular state should be an elector in that particular state was dispensed with in 2003.
- In 2006, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of this change.
- He must be a member of a scheduled caste or scheduled tribe in any state or union territory, if he wants to contest a seat reserved for them. However, a member of scheduled castes or scheduled tribes can also contest a seat not reserved for them.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding Speaker of Lok Sabha:**

1. Whenever the Lok Sabha is dissolved, the Speaker immediately vacates his office.
2. He is the guardian of powers and privileges of the members, the House as a whole and its committees.

**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 a resolution for the removal of the Speaker is under consideration of the House, he cannot preside at the sitting of the House, though he may be present.

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- However, he can speak and take part in the proceedings of the House at such a time and vote in the first instance, though not in the case of an equality of votes.
- It should be noted here that, whenever the Lok Sabha is dissolved, the Speaker does not vacate his office and continues till the newly-elected Lok Sabha meets.
- The Speaker is the head of the Lok Sabha, and its representative. He is the guardian of powers and privileges of the members, the House as a whole and its committees.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding state legislative council:**

1. Only six states have bicameral legislatures.
2. The Constitution provides for the abolition or creation of legislative councils in 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: C**

**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.
- The Constitution provides for the abolition or creation of legislative councils in states.
- Accordingly, the Parliament can abolish a legislative council (where it already exists) or create it (where it does not exist), if the legislative assembly of the concerned state passes a resolution to that effect.
- Such a specific resolution must be passed by the state assembly by a special majority, that is, a majority of the total membership of the assembly and a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the assembly present and voting.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding state legislative assembly:**

1. Its maximum strength is fixed at 600 and minimum strength at 60.
2. The governor can nominate two members from the Anglo-Indian community.

**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 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. It means that its strength varies from 60 to 500 depending on the population size of the state.
- However, in case of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Goa, the minimum number is fixed at 30 and in case of Mizoram and Nagaland; it is 40 and 46 respectively.

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- Further, some members of the legislative assemblies in Sikkim and Nagaland are also elected indirectly.
- The governor can nominate one member from the Anglo-Indian community, if the community is not adequately represented in the assembly.
- Originally, this provision was to operate for ten years (ie, up to 1960). But this duration has been extended continuously since then by 10 years each time.
- Now, under the 95th Amendment Act of 2009, this is to last until 2020.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.10) “Article 123” of Indian Constitution is related to which of the following?**

- a) Ordinance powers of President
- b) Annual Financial Statement
- c) Motion of Thanks
- d) Summoning of Joint Sitting

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Article 123 deals with the ordinance making power of the President. President has many legislative powers and this power is one of them.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**



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## *Polity – Executive (Union and State)*

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding pardoning powers of President:**

1. Article 72 of the Constitution empowers the President to grant pardons.
2. The pardoning power of the President is independent of the Judiciary.

**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:** 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.

The pardoning power of the President is independent of the Judiciary; it is an executive power. But, the President while exercising this power does not sit as a court of appeal.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.2) Which of the following is/are power/s of the prime minister?**

1. He advises the President with regard to summoning and proroguing of the sessions of the Parliament.
2. He can recommend dissolution of the Lok Sabha to President at any time.
3. He announces government policies on the floor of the House.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Prime Minister is the leader of the Lower House. In this capacity, he enjoys the following powers:

- He advises the President with regard to summoning and proroguing of the sessions of the Parliament.
- He can recommend dissolution of the Lok Sabha to President at any time.
- He announces government policies on the floor of the House.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.3) “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” – is added by which of the following amendment act?**

- a) 76<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act
- b) 86<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act
- c) 91<sup>st</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act
- d) 95<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act

**ANS: C**

**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 Polity**

**Q.4) Which of the following cabinet committee is NOT headed by Prime Minister?**

- a) Political Affairs Committee
- b) Economic Affairs Committee
- c) Appointments Committee
- d) Parliamentary Affairs Committee

**ANS: D**

**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 Polity**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding leader of the opposition:**

1. The leader of the largest Opposition party having not less than one-third seats of the total strength of the House is recognized as the leader of the Opposition in that House.
2. The leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha were accorded statutory recognition in 1977.

**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 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.



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- 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.
- They are also entitled to the salary, allowances and other facilities equivalent to that of a cabinet minister.
- It was in 1969 that an official leader of the opposition was recognized for the first time. The same functionary in USA is known as the 'minority leader'.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.6) How many number of members required to presenting in the House before it can transact any business?**

- a) One – fifth of the house
- b) One – tenth of the house
- c) One – third of the house
- d) Half of the house

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Quorum is the minimum number of members required to be present in the House before it can transact any business.

- It is one- tenth of the total number of members in each House including the presiding officer.
- It means that there must be at least 55 members present in the Lok Sabha and 25 members present in the Rajya Sabha, if any business is to be conducted.
- If there is no quorum during a meeting of the House, it is the duty of the presiding officer either to adjourn the House or to suspend the meeting until there is a quorum.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding zero hour:**

1. It is not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure.
2. It starts immediately after the question hour and lasts until the agenda for the day.

**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:** Unlike the question hour, the zero hour is not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure.

- Thus it is an informal device available to the members of the Parliament to raise matters without any prior notice.
- The zero hour starts immediately after the question hour and lasts until the agenda for the day (ie, regular business of the House) is taken up.
- In other words, the time gap between the question hour and the agenda is known as zero hour.

- It is an Indian innovation in the field of parliamentary procedures and has been in existence since 1962.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.8) Which of the following provision/s is/are part of money bill?**

1. The imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax.
2. The regulation of the borrowing of money by the Union government.
3. The appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Fund of India.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Article 110 of the Constitution deals with the definition of money bills. It states that a bill is deemed to be a money bill if it contains 'only' provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters:

- The imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax;
- The regulation of the borrowing of money by the Union government;
- The custody of the Consolidated Fund of India or the contingency fund of India, the payment of moneys into or the withdrawal of money from any such fund;
- The appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Fund of India;
- Declaration of any expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India or increasing the amount of any such expenditure;

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding joint sitting of the houses:**

1. The president can summon both the Houses to meet in a joint sitting.
2. The provision of joint sitting is applicable to ordinary bills, financial bills and money bills.

**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 president can summon both the Houses to meet in a joint sitting for the purpose of deliberating and voting on the bill.

- It must be noted here that the provision of joint sitting is applicable to ordinary bills or financial bills only and not to money bills or Constitutional amendment bills.
- In the case of a money bill, the Lok Sabha has overriding powers, while a Constitutional amendment bill must be passed by each House separately.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.10) Which of the following is/are come/s under charged expenditure?**

1. Emoluments and allowances of the President and other expenditure relating to his office.
2. Salaries, allowances and pensions of the judges of the Supreme Court.
3. Pensions of the judges of high courts.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The budget consists of two types of expenditure—the expenditure ‘charged’ upon the Consolidated Fund of India and the expenditure ‘made’ from the Consolidated Fund of India.

The charged expenditure is non-votable by the Parliament, that is, it can only be discussed by the Parliament, while the other type has to be voted by the Parliament.

The list of the charged expenditure is as follows:

- Emoluments and allowances of the President and other expenditure relating to his office.
- Salaries and allowances of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
- Salaries, allowances and pensions of the judges of the Supreme Court.
- Pensions of the judges of high courts.
- Salary, allowances and pension of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

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## *Polity – Judiciary: Supreme Court, High Courts, Subordinate Courts*

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Indian Constitution has established an integrated judicial system.
2. The integrated judicial system adopted from the Indian Independence Act 1947.

**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:** Unlike the American Constitution, 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.
- 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 Polity**

**Q.2) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Supreme Court of India was inaugurated on November 26, 1949.
2. Part V of the Constitution deal with the organization, independence, jurisdiction, powers, procedures and so on of the Supreme 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: B**

**Explanation:** The Supreme Court of India was inaugurated on January 28, 1950. It succeeded the Federal Court of India, established under the Government of India Act of 1935.

- However, the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is greater than that of its predecessor. This is because; the Supreme Court has replaced the British Privy Council as the highest court of appeal.
- Articles 124 to 147 in Part V of the Constitution deal with the organisation, independence, jurisdiction, powers, and procedures and so on of the Supreme Court.
- The Parliament is also authorised to regulate them.

**Source: Laxmianth Polity**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding appointment of judges:**

1. The judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the president.
2. The judges of the High Court are appointed by the Governor.

**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 judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the president. The chief justice is appointed by the president after consultation with such judges of the Supreme Court and high courts as he deems necessary.

- The judges of a high court are appointed by the President. The chief justice is appointed by the President after consultation with the chief justice of India and the governor of the state concerned.
- For appointment of other judges, the chief justice of the concerned high court is also consulted.
- In case of a common high court for two or more states, the governors of all the states concerned are consulted by the president.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.4) Which of the following is/are qualification/s to appoint as judge of the Supreme Court?**

1. He should have been a judge of a High Court for seven years.
2. He should have been an advocate of a High Court for ten years.
3. He should be a distinguished jurist in the opinion of the president.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: C**

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

- He should be a citizen of India.
- He should have been a judge of a High Court (or high courts in succession) for five years; or
- He should have been an advocate of a High Court (or High Courts in succession) for ten years; or
- 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 Polity**



**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding tenure of judges:**

1. The Constitution has not fixed the tenure of a judge of the Supreme Court.
2. He can be removed from his office by the President on the recommendation of the Prime Minister.

**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 Constitution has not fixed the tenure of a judge of the Supreme Court. However, it makes the following three provisions in this regard:

- He holds office until he attains the age of 65 years. Any question regarding his age is to be determined by such authority and in such manner as provided by Parliament.
- He can resign his office by writing to the president.
- He can be removed from his office by the President on the recommendation of the Parliament.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.6) Which of the following is/are come/s under original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court?**

1. The dispute between the Centre and one or more states.
2. The dispute between the Centre and any state or states on one side and one or more other states on the other side.
3. The dispute between two or more states.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**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.

In the above federal disputes, the Supreme Court has exclusive original jurisdiction. Exclusive means, no other court can decide such disputes and original means, the power to hear such disputes in the first instance, not by way of appeal.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.7) Which of the following is/are come/s under the appellate jurisdiction?**

1. Appeals in constitutional matters.
2. Appeals in criminal matters.
3. Appeals by special leave.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** 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 Polity**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding High Court:**

1. The institution of high court originated in India in 1935.
2. The Constitution of India provides for a high court for 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: B**

**Explanation:** The institution of high court originated in India in 1862 when the high courts were set up at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.

- In 1866, a fourth high court was established at Allahabad. In the course of time, each province in British India came to have its own high court.
- After 1950, a high court existing in a province became the high court for the corresponding state.
- The Constitution of India provides for a high court for each state, but the Seventh Amendment Act of 1956 authorized the Parliament to establish a common high court for two or more states or for two or more states and a union territory.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding qualifications of a person to appoint judge of a high court:**

1. He should have held a judicial office in the territory of India for ten years.
2. He should have been an advocate of a high court for ten 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 person to be appointed as a judge of a high court, should have the following qualifications:

- He should be a citizen of India.
- He should have held a judicial office in the territory of India for ten years; or
- He should have been an advocate of a high court (or high courts in succession) for ten years.

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

Moreover, unlike in the case of the Supreme Court, the Constitution makes no provision for appointment of a distinguished jurist as a judge of a high court.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.10) “Article 142” often seen in news is related to which of the following?**

- a) Enforcement of decrees and orders of Supreme Court and orders
- b) Power of President to consult Supreme Court
- c) Civil and judicial authorities to act in aid of the Supreme Court
- d) Law declared by Supreme Court to be binding on all courts

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Article 142 provides discretionary power to the Supreme Court as it states that the Supreme Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction may pass such decree or make such order as is necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

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## *Polity – Constitutional Bodies*

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding election commission of India:**

1. It is a permanent and an independent body established by the Constitution of India.
2. The appointment of the chief election commissioner and other election commissioners shall be made by the 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: C**

**Explanation:** The Election Commission is a permanent and an independent body established by the Constitution of India directly to ensure free and fair elections in the country.

- The Election Commission shall consist of the chief election commissioner and such number of other election commissioners, if any, as the president may from time to time fix.
- The appointment of the chief election commissioner and other election commissioners shall be made by the president.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.2) Which of the following election/s is/are conducted by election commission of India?**

1. Parliament
2. Panchayats
3. Municipalities

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Article 324 of the Constitution provides that the power of superintendence, direction and control of elections to parliament, state legislatures, the office of president of India and the office of vice-president of India shall be vested in the election commission.

- Thus, the Election Commission is an all-India body in the sense that it is common to both the Central government and the state governments.
- It must be noted here that the election commission is not concerned with the elections to panchayats and municipalities in the states.
- For this, the Constitution of India provides for a separate State Election Commission.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.3) Which of the following is/are the function/s of election commission of India?**

1. To determine the territorial areas of the electoral constituencies throughout the country on the basis of the Delimitation Commission Act of Parliament.
2. To grant recognition to political parties and allot election symbols to them.
3. To act as a court for settling disputes related to granting of recognition to political parties and allotment of election symbols to them.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The powers and functions of the Election Commission with regard to elections to the Parliament, state legislatures and offices of President and Vice-President can be classified into three categories, viz, 1. Administrative 2. Advisory 3. Quasi-Judicial In detail, these powers and functions are:

- To determine the territorial areas of the electoral constituencies throughout the country on the basis of the Delimitation Commission Act of Parliament.
- To prepare and periodically revise electoral rolls and to register all eligible voters.
- To notify the dates and schedules of elections and to scrutinize nomination papers.
- To grant recognition to political parties and allot election symbols to them.
- To act as a court for settling disputes related to granting of recognition to political parties and allotment of election symbols to them.
- To appoint officers for inquiring into disputes relating to electoral arrangements.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding union public service commission (UPSC):**

1. Part XIV of the Constitution is related to UPSC.
2. The chairman and members of the Commission hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 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:** Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) is the central recruiting agency in India. It is an independent constitutional body in the sense that it has been directly created by the Constitution.

- Articles 315 to 323 in Part XIV of the Constitution contain elaborate provisions regarding the composition, appointment and removal of members along with the independence, powers and functions of the UPSC.
- 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 Polity**



**Q.5) Which of the following provision/s is/are related to union public service commission (UPSC)?**

1. The chairman or a member of the UPSC can be removed from office by the president only.
2. The entire expenses including the salaries, allowances and pensions of the chairman and members of the UPSC are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
3. The chairman of UPSC is eligible for further employment in the Government of India.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Constitution has made the following provisions to safeguard and ensure the independent and impartial functioning of the UPSC:

- The chairman or a member of the UPSC can be removed from office by the president only in the manner and on the grounds mentioned in the Constitution. Therefore, they enjoy security of tenure.
- The conditions of service of the chairman or a member, though determined by the president, cannot be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.
- The entire expenses including the salaries, allowances and pensions of the chairman and members of the UPSC are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India. Thus, they are not subject to vote of Parliament.
- The chairman of UPSC (on ceasing to hold office) is not eligible for further employment in the Government of India or a state.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.6) Which of the following is/are outside the functional jurisdiction of UPSC?**

1. While making reservations of appointments or posts in favor of any backward class of citizens.
2. While taking into consideration the claims of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in making appointments to services and posts.
3. With regard to the selection for temporary or officiating appointment to a post if the person appointed is not likely to hold the post for more than a year.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The following matters are kept outside the functional jurisdiction of the UPSC. In other words, the UPSC is not consulted on the following matters:

- While making reservations of appointments or posts in favor of any backward class of citizens.
- While taking into consideration the claims of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in making appointments to services and posts.

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- With regard to the selections for chairmanship or membership of commissions or tribunals, posts of the highest diplomatic nature and a bulk of group C and group D services.
- With regard to the selection for temporary or officiating appointment to a post if the person appointed is not likely to hold the post for more than a year.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC):**

1. The constitution has the provision for the establishment of a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states.
2. JSPSC is a statutory and not a constitutional 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.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.8) "Article 280" is often seen in news is related to which of the following?**

- a) Finance commission
- b) Inter – State Council
- c) Zonal Council
- d) Comptroller and Auditor General

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Article 280 of the Constitution of India provides for a Finance Commission as a quasi judicial body.

It is constituted by the president of India every fifth year or at such earlier time as he considers necessary

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.9) Who among the following is/are can be selected as member/s of finance commission?**

1. A judge of high court or one qualified to be appointed as one.
2. A person who has specialized knowledge of finance and accounts of the government.
3. A person who has special knowledge of economics.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The chairman should be a person having experience in public affairs and the four other members should be selected from amongst the following:

- A judge of high court or one qualified to be appointed as one.
- A person who has specialized knowledge of finance and accounts of the government.
- A person who has wide experience in financial matters and in administration.
- A person who has special knowledge of economics.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.10) “The 101st Amendment Act” is often seen in news is related to?**

- a) GST council
- b) Finance Commission
- c) Election Commission
- d) Union Public Service Commission

**ANS: A**

**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.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

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## *Polity – Non Constitutional Bodies*

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “NITI Aayog”:**

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It 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: B**

**Explanation:** On the 13th of August, 2014, the Modi Government scrapped the 65- year-old Planning Commission and announced that it would be replaced by a new body.

- Accordingly, on January 1, 2015, the NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) was established as the successor to the planning commission.
- However, it must be noted here that the 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 Polity**

**Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding national human rights commission:**

1. It is a statutory body established through the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
2. The chairperson of the commission should be a retired chief justice of India or a judge of the Supreme 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: C**

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

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- 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 at least one should be a woman) having knowledge or practical experience with respect to human rights.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.3) Which of the following is/are function/s of national human rights commission?**

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

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.4) Which of the following is NOT correct regarding state human rights commission?**

- a) The State Human Rights Commission is a multi-member body consisting of a chairperson and four members.
- b) The chairperson should be a retired Chief Justice or a Judge of a High Court.
- c) The chairperson and members are appointed by the Governor.
- d) The chairperson and members hold office for a term of three years or until they attain the age of 70 years.

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The State Human Rights Commission is a multi-member body consisting of a chairperson and two members.



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- The chairperson should be a retired Chief Justice or a Judge of a High Court and members should be a serving or retired judge of a High Court or a District Judge in the state with a minimum of seven years experience as District Judge and a person having knowledge or practical experience with respect to human rights.
- The chairperson and members are appointed by the Governor on the recommendations of a committee consisting of the chief minister as its head, the speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the state home minister and the leader of the opposition in the Legislative Assembly.
- In the case of a state having Legislative Council, the chairman of the Council and the leader of the opposition in the Council would also be the members of the committee.
- Further, a sitting judge of a High Court or a sitting District Judge can be appointed only after consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court of the concerned state.
- The chairperson and members hold office for a term of three years or until they attain the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.
- They are eligible for re-appointment. After their tenure, the chairperson and members are not eligible for further employment under a state government or the Central government.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.5) The Central Information Commission is often seen in news was established in?**

- a) 2001
- b) 2002
- c) 2004
- d) 2005

**ANS: D**

**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 Central Information Commission is a high-powered independent body which inter alia looks into the complaints made to it and decides the appeals.
- It entertains complaints and appeals pertaining to offices, financial institutions, public sector undertakings, etc., under the Central Government and the Union Territories.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.6) The chairman and members of the commission are appointed by the President on the recommendation of a committee consisting of?**

1. Prime Minister
2. Leader of the opposition in Lok Sabha
3. Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the President

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: B**

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

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- 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 Polity**

**Q.7) Which of the following commission/s is/are fall/s under the purview of Ministry of Personnel?**

1. Central Information Commission
2. Central Vigilance Commission
3. National Investigation Agency

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

Sl. No.	Commission / Body	Falls Under
1.	Central Information Commission	Ministry of Personnel
2.	Finance Commission	Ministry of Finance
3.	Union Public Service Commission	Ministry of Personnel
4.	Inter-State Council	Ministry of Home Affairs
5.	Staff Selection Commission	Ministry of Personnel
6.	National Commission for SCs	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

7.	National Commission for STs	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
8.	Central Vigilance Commission	Ministry of Personnel
9.	Zonal Councils	Ministry of Home Affairs
10.	Central Bureau of Investigation	Ministry of Personnel
11.	National Investigation Agency	Ministry of Home Affairs
12.	Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities	Ministry of Minority Affairs

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.8) Which of the following committee was recommended to establish Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)?**

- a) Sarkaria Commission
- b) Punchhi Commission
- c) Santhanam Committee
- d) Rajamannar Committee

**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 Polity**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)”:**

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It derives its powers from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.

**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 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 Polity**

**Q.10) The institution of Ombudsman was first created in which of the following country?**

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

**ANS: A**

**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 Polity**

## *Polity - Elections*

**Q.1) Which of the following is/are condition/s to be recognized as a nationalist party?**

1. If it secures six per cent of valid votes polled in any four or more states at a general election to the Lok Sabha or to the legislative assembly.
2. If it wins four seats in the Lok Sabha from any state or states.
3. If it is recognized as a state party in six states.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** At present (2019), a party is recognized as a national party if any of the following conditions is fulfilled:

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

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.2) Which of the following is/are condition/s to be recognized as a state party?**

1. If it secures six per cent of the valid votes polled in the state at a general election to the legislative assembly.
2. If it secures six per cent of the valid votes polled in the state at a general election to the Lok Sabha.
3. If it wins six per cent of seats in the legislative assembly at a general election to the legislative assembly.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** At present (2019), a party is recognised as a state party in a state if any of the following conditions is fulfilled:

- If it secures six per cent of the valid votes polled in the state at a general election to the legislative assembly of the state concerned; and, in addition, it wins 2 seats in the assembly of the state concerned; or

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- If it secures six per cent of the valid votes polled in the state at a general election to the Lok Sabha from the state concerned; and, in addition, it wins 1 seat in the Lok Sabha from the state concerned; or
- If it wins three per cent of seats in the legislative assembly at a general election to the legislative assembly of the state concerned or 3 seats in the assembly, whichever is more; or
- If it wins 1 seat in the Lok Sabha for every 25 seats or any fraction thereof allotted to the state at a general election to the Lok Sabha from the state concerned; or
- If it secures eight per cent of the total valid votes polled in the state at a General Election to the Lok Sabha from the state or to the legislative assembly of the state. This condition was added in 2011.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding electoral system in India:**

1. Only one general electoral roll for every territorial constituency for election to the Parliament and the state legislatures.
2. Part XVII of the Constitution is related to provisions of electoral system.

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

- 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.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO):**

1. The Chief Electoral Officer of a state is authorized to supervise the election work in the state.
2. The President nominates or designates an Officer of the Government of the state as the Chief Electoral Officer.

**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 Chief Electoral Officer of a state/ Union Territory is authorized to supervise the election work in the state/Union Territory subject to the overall superintendence, direction and control of the Election Commission.



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The Election Commission of India nominates or designates an Officer of the Government of the state / Union Territory as the Chief Electoral Officer in consultation with that State Government / Union Territory Administration.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.5) What is the maximum time limit to conduct elections after dissolution of Lok Sabha?**

- a) Six months
- b) One year
- c) Eighteen months
- d) Two years

**ANS: A**

**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.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.6) "Article 327" is related to which of the following?**

- a) No person to be ineligible for inclusion in, or to claim to be included in a special, electoral roll on grounds of religion, race, caste or sex.
- b) Elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assemblies of states to be on the basis of adult suffrage.
- c) Power of Parliament to make provision with respect to elections to Legislatures.
- d) Bar to interference by courts in electoral matters.

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

Article No.	Subject-matter
324.	Superintendence, direction and control of elections to be vested in an Election Commission
325.	No person to be ineligible for inclusion in, or to claim to be included in a special, electoral roll on grounds of religion, race, caste or sex
326.	Elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assemblies of states to be on the basis of adult suffrage
327.	Power of Parliament to make provision with respect to elections to Legislatures
328.	Power of Legislature of a state to make provision with respect to elections to such Legislature
329.	Bar to interference by courts in electoral matters
329A.	Special provision as to elections to Parliament in the case of Prime Minister and Speaker (Repealed)

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.7) Which of the following provision/s is/are covered under the Representation of the People Act, 1950?**

1. It was enacted to provide for the allocation of seats in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils of States.
2. The act sought to confer on the President the powers to delimit, after consultation with the Election Commission.
3. The act provided for the registration of electors for Parliamentary Constituencies and for the Assembly and Council Constituencies.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Representation of the People Act, 1950, was enacted to provide for the allocation of seats in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils of States.

- The Act also sought to confer on the President the powers to delimit, after consultation with the Election Commission, the various constituencies for the purpose of elections to fill seats in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils of States.
- The Act further provided for the registration of electors for Parliamentary Constituencies and for the Assembly and Council Constituencies, and the qualifications and disqualifications for such registration.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.8) Which of the following provision/s is/are covered under the Representation of the People Act, 1951?**

1. Notification of general elections.
2. Administrative machinery for the conduct of elections.
3. Conduct of elections.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The provisions for the actual conduct of elections to the Houses of Parliament and to the House or Houses of the Legislature of each State, the qualifications and disqualifications for the membership of these Houses, the corrupt practices and other election offences, and the decision of election disputes were all left to be made in a subsequent measure.

In order to provide for these provisions, the Representation of the People Act, 1951 was enacted.

Broadly speaking, this Act contains provisions relating to the following electoral matters:

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- Qualifications and disqualifications for membership of Parliament and State Legislatures
- Notification of general elections
- Administrative machinery for the conduct of elections
- Registration of political parties
- Conduct of elections
- Free supply of certain material to candidates of recognized political parties
- Disputes regarding elections

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.9) “Dinesh Goswami committee” is often seen in news is related to?**

- a) Electoral reforms
- b) Parliamentary to Presidential system
- c) Ordinance reforms
- d) Constitutional amendment process

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** In 1990, the National Front Government headed by V.P. Singh appointed a committee on electoral reforms under the chairmanship of Dinesh Goswami, the then Law Minister.

- The Committee was asked to study the electoral system in detail and suggest measures for remedying the drawbacks within it.
- The Committee, in its report submitted in 1990 itself, made a number of proposals on electoral reforms.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.10) “Part XIV – A” is often seen in news is related to?**

- a) Tribunals
- b) Electoral process
- c) GST council
- d) Panchayat & Gram Sabha

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 added a new Part XIV-A to the Constitution. This part is entitled as ‘Tribunals’ and consists of only two Articles–Article 323 A dealing with administrative tribunals and Article 323 B dealing with tribunals for other matters.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

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## *Polity - Revision*

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**Q.1) “Acworth Committee Report” is related to which of the following?**

- a) Railways
- b) Corruption in administration
- c) Finance commission
- d) Electoral reforms

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Railway Budget was separated from the General Budget in 1924 on the recommendations of the Acworth Committee Report (1921).

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.2) Which of the following provision/s of budget in the Constitution of India is/are correct?**

1. No demand for a grant shall be made except on the recommendation of the President.
2. No money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under appropriation made by law.
3. Parliament can reduce or abolish a tax but cannot increase it.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Constitution of India contains the following provisions with regard to the enactment of budget:

- The President shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for that year.
- No demand for a grant shall be made except on the recommendation of the President.
- No money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under appropriation made by law.
- No money bill imposing tax shall be introduced in the Parliament except on the recommendation of the President, and such a bill shall not be introduced in the Rajya Sabha.
- No tax shall be levied or collected except by authority of law.
- Parliament can reduce or abolish a tax but cannot increase it.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.3) Which of the following is/are come/s under the purview of charged expenditure?**

1. Emoluments and allowances of the President of India.
2. Salaries and allowances of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.
3. Salaries, allowances and pensions of the judges of the Supreme Court.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The budget consists of two types of expenditure—the expenditure ‘charged’ upon the Consolidated Fund of India and the expenditure ‘made’ from the Consolidated Fund of India.

The charged expenditure is non-votable by the Parliament, that is, it can only be discussed by the Parliament, while the other type has to be voted by the Parliament.

The list of the charged expenditure is as follows:

- Emoluments and allowances of the President and other expenditure relating to his office.
- Salaries and allowances of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
- Salaries, allowances and pensions of the judges of the Supreme Court.
- Pensions of the judges of high courts.
- Salary, allowances and pension of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
- Salaries, allowances and pension of the chairman and members of the Union Public Service Commission.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.4) “It represents the disapproval of the policy underlying the demand. It states that the amount of the demand be reduced to Re 1” is related to?**

- a) Policy Cut Motion
- b) Economy Cut Motion
- c) Token Cut Motion
- d) Budget Motion

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Policy Cut Motion: It represents the disapproval of the policy underlying the demand.

- It states that the amount of the demand be reduced to Re 1.
- The members can also advocate an alternative policy.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**



**Q.5) Which of the following fund/s comes under the purview of “Article 266”?**

1. Consolidated Fund of India
2. Public Account of India
3. Contingency Fund of India

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** 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: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.6) Which of the following is/are judicial function/s of the parliament?**

1. It can impeach the President for the violation of the Constitution.
2. It can remove the Vice-President from his office.
3. It can punish its members or outsiders for the breach of its privileges or its contempt.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The judicial powers and functions of the Parliament include the following:

- It can impeach the President for the violation of the Constitution.
- It can remove the Vice-President from his office.
- It can recommend the removal of judges (including chief justice) of the Supreme Court and the high courts, chief election commissioner, comptroller and auditor general to the president.
- It can punish its members or outsiders for the breach of its privileges or its contempt.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.7) Which of the following is/are exclusive or special powers of Rajya Sabha?**

1. It can authorize the Parliament to make a law on a subject enumerated in the State List.
2. It can authorize the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the Centre and states.
3. A resolution for the removal of the vice-president can be introduced only in the Rajya Sabha.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Rajya Sabha has been given four exclusive or special powers that are not enjoyed by the Lok Sabha:

- It can authorize the Parliament to make a law on a subject enumerated in the State List (Article 249).
- It can authorize the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the Centre and states (Article 312).
- It alone can initiate a move for the removal of the vicepresident. In other words, a resolution for the removal of the vice-president can be introduced only in the Rajya Sabha and not in the Lok Sabha (Article 67).
- If a proclamation is issued by the President for imposing national emergency or president's rule or financial emergency at a time when the Lok Sabha has been dissolved or the dissolution of the Lok Sabha takes place within the period allowed for its approval, then the proclamation can remain effective even if it is approved by the Rajya Sabha alone (Articles 352, 356 and 360).

**Source: Laxmikanth** Polity

**Q.8) Which of the following statement is NOT correct?**

- a) Parliamentary privileges are special rights, immunities and exemptions enjoyed by the two Houses of Parliament, their committees and their members.
- b) The Constitution has also extended the parliamentary privileges to those persons who are entitled to speak and take part in the proceedings of a House of Parliament or any of its committees.
- c) The parliamentary privileges extend to the president who is also an integral part of the Parliament.
- d) Parliamentary privileges can be classified into two broad categories collective privileges & Individual privileges.

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Parliamentary privileges are special rights, immunities and exemptions enjoyed by the two Houses of Parliament, their committees and their members.

- They are necessary in order to secure the independence and effectiveness of their actions.
- Without these privileges, the Houses can neither maintain their authority, dignity and honour nor can protect their members from any obstruction in the discharge of their parliamentary responsibilities.
- The Constitution has also extended the parliamentary privileges to those persons who are entitled to speak and take part in the proceedings of a House of Parliament or any of its committees.

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- These include the attorney general of India and Union ministers. It must be clarified here that the parliamentary privileges do not extend to the president who is also an integral part of the Parliament.
- Parliamentary privileges can be classified into two broad categories: 1. those that are enjoyed by each House of Parliament collectively, and 2. those that are enjoyed by the members individually.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding Public Accounts Committee:**

1. It was set up first in 1921 under the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1919.
2. It consists of 22 members, 17 from Lok Sabha and 5 from Rajya Sabha.

**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:** Public Accounts committee was set up first in 1921 under the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1919 and has since been in existence.

- At present, it consists of 22 members (15 from the Lok Sabha and 7 from the Rajya Sabha).
- The members are elected by the Parliament every year from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**

**Q.10) Which of the following statement regarding Estimates Committee is NOT correct?**

- a) The origin of this committee can be traced to the standing financial committee set up in 1921.
- b) The first Estimates Committee in the post-independence era was constituted in 1950 on the recommendation of Jawaharlal Nehru.
- c) All members of Estimates Committee are from Lok Sabha only.
- d) A minister cannot be elected as a member of the committee.

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The origin of estimates committee can be traced to the standing financial committee set up in 1921.

- The first Estimates Committee in the post-independence era was constituted in 1950 on the recommendation of John Mathai, the then finance minister.
- Originally, it had 25 members but in 1956 its membership was raised to 30. All the thirty members are from Lok Sabha only. The Rajya Sabha has no representation in this committee.
- These members are elected by the Lok Sabha every year from amongst its own members, according to the principles of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote. Thus, all parties get due representation in it.
- The term of office is one year. A minister cannot be elected as a member of the committee. The chairman of the committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst its members and he is invariably from the ruling party.

**Source: Laxmikanth Polity**