

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

12th to 18th June, 2023

*HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

FORUMIAS



Indian Polity – Constitutional Features

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding amendment of the Constitution:

1. States can introduce the Constitutional Amendment Bill.
2. Article 368 of the Constitution deals with the amendment 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: B

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

It states that the Parliament may, in exercise of its constituent power, amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any provision of the Constitution in accordance with the procedure **laid down for the purpose.**

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) The “basic structure” of the Constitution was coined by judiciary in which of the following case?

- A. K Gopalan Case
- a) Golaknath Case
- b) Kesavananda Bharati case
- c) Minerva Mills Case

ANS: C

Explanation: The Parliament cannot amend those provisions which form the ‘basic structure’ of the Constitution. This was ruled by the Supreme Court in the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Which of the following provision/s is/are comes under amendment simple majority?

1. Admission or establishment of new states
2. Abolition or creation of legislative councils in states
3. Quorum in Parliament

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

These provisions include:

- Admission or establishment of new states.
- Formation of new states and alteration of areas, boundaries or names of existing states.
- Abolition or creation of legislative councils in states.
- Second Schedule—emoluments, allowances, privileges and so on of the president, the governors, the Speakers, judges, etc.
- Quorum in Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Which of the following is/are come/s under “Basic structure” of the constitution?

1. Supremacy of the Constitution
2. Secular character of the Constitution
3. Federal character of the Constitution

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: From the various judgements, the following have emerged as ‘basic features’ of the Constitution or elements of the ‘basic structure’ of the constitution:

- Supremacy of the Constitution
- Sovereign, democratic and republican nature of the Indian polity
- Secular character of the Constitution
- Separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary
- Federal character of the Constitution

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) In which of the following country/countries west minister model is/are followed?

1. Britain
2. Japan
3. Canada

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 parliamentary government is also known as cabinet government or responsible government or Westminster model of government and is prevalent in Britain, Japan, Canada, and India among others.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) The ministers are collectively responsible to the Parliament in general and to the Lok Sabha in particular relates to which of the following?

- a) Article 74
- b) Article 75
- c) Article 76
- d) Article 77

ANS: B

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) Which of the following is NOT a feature of Parliamentary system?

- a) Single Executive
- b) Majority Party Rule
- c) Collective Responsibility
- d) Double Membership

ANS: A

Explanation:

Parliamentary System	Presidential System
Features: <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Dual executive.2. Majority party rule3. Collective responsibility.4. Political homogeneity5. Double membership.6. Leadership of prime minister.7. Dissolution of Lower House.8. Fusion of powers.	Features: <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Single executive.2. President and legislators elected separately for a fixed term.3. Non-responsibility4. Political homogeneity may not exist.5. Single membership6. Domination of president.7. No dissolution of Lower House.8. Separation of powers.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) The Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution related to?

- a) Role of Speaker
- b) Anti Defection Law
- c) Division of Powers
- d) Emergency Provisions

ANS: C

Explanation: The Constitution divided the powers between the Centre and the states in terms of the Union List, State List and Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule.

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The Union List consists of 98 subjects (originally 97), the State List 59 subjects (originally 66) and the Concurrent List 52 subjects (originally 47).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) The famous "Pench National Park" is often seen in news located at?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: In the heart of India, Madhya Pradesh, Pench National Park is located in the districts of Seoni and Chhindwara.

- Named after the pristine River Pence which flows through the park, Pench National Park is one of the most popular wildlife reserves in India.
- The park also has its mention in the famous story of 1894, 'The Jungle Book', penned down by the renowned English Author Rudyard Kipling.
- The story was worldwide applauded, and hence, the national park became one of the popular national parks in the world in the 1970s and also a prominent tourist attraction in India.
- Since then, every year oodles of wildlife buffs flock to this place just to spot the famous characters of the book, Akela (The Indian Wolf), Raksha (the female Wolf), Baloo (Sloth Bear), and the vicious Shere Khan (Royal Bengal Tiger).

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The "Singalila National Park" is often seen in news located at?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) West Bengal
- c) Assam
- d) Madhya Pradesh

ANS: B

Explanation: Singalila National Park is a National park of India located on the Singalila Ridge at an elevation of more than 2300 metres above sea level, in the Darjeeling district of West Bengal.

It is well known for the trekking route to Sandakphu that runs through it.

Source: FORUMIAS

Indian Polity – Parliament & State Legislature

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Part V of the Indian Constitution deals the legislative organ of the Union government.
2. President is not an integral Part of the Parliament.

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 Parliament is the legislative organ of the Union government. It occupies a pre-eminent and central position in the Indian democratic political system due to adoption of the parliamentary form of government, also known as 'Westminster' model of government.

- Articles 79 to 122 in Part V of the Constitution deal with the organisation, composition, duration, officers, procedures, privileges, powers and so on of the Parliament.
- Though the President of India is not a member of either House of Parliament and does not sit in the Parliament to attend its meetings, he is an integral part of the Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Which of the following is/are part of the Parliament of India?

1. The President
2. The Council of States
3. The House of the 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).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The President can nominate 24 members to the Rajya Sabha.
2. The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the 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: D

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Which of the following is/are demerit/s of the system of proportional representation?

1. It is a low cost affair.
2. It does not give any scope for organizing by-elections.
3. It promotes minority thinking and group interests.

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 system of proportional representation has the following demerits:

- It is highly expensive.
- It does not give any scope for organising by-elections.
- It eliminates intimate contacts between voters and representatives.
- It promotes minority thinking and group interests.
- It increases the significance of party system and decreases that of voter.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Which of the following ground/s is/are the disqualification of person for being elected as a member of Parliament?

1. If he holds any office of profit under the Union or state government.
2. If he voluntary gives up the membership of the political party on whose ticket he is elected to the House.
3. If he votes or abstains from voting in the House contrary to any direction given by his political party.

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 also lies down that a person shall be disqualified from being a member of Parliament if he is so disqualified on the ground of defection under the provisions of the Tenth Schedule. A member incurs disqualification under the defection law:

- if he voluntary gives up the membership of the political party on whose ticket he is elected to the House;
- if he votes or abstains from voting in the House contrary to any direction given by his political party;
- if any independently elected member joins any political party; and
- if any nominated member joins any political party after the expiry of six months.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) The tenth schedule of the Indian Constitution is related to?

- a) Defection
- b) Scheduled Languages
- c) Formation of Zonal Councils
- d) Tribal Sub – Plan

ANS: A

Explanation: The question of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is decided by the Chairman in the case of Rajya Sabha and Speaker in the case of Lok Sabha (and not by the president of India).

In 1992, the Supreme Court ruled that the decision of the Chairman/ Speaker in this regard is subject to judicial review.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) A House can declare the seat of a member vacant if he is absent from all its meetings for a period of?

- a) 45 days
- b) 60 days
- c) 90 days
- d) 120 days

ANS: B

Explanation: A House can declare the seat of a member vacant if he is absent from all its meetings for a period of sixty days without its permission.

In computing the period of sixty days, no account shall be taken of any period during which the House is prorogued or adjourned for more than four consecutive days.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Which of the following oath/affirmation taken by the member of a Parliament?

1. To bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India.
2. To uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India.
3. To faithfully discharge the duty upon which he is about to enter.

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: Every member of either House of Parliament, before taking his seat in the House, has to make and subscribe to an oath or affirmation before the President or some person appointed by him for this purpose.

In his oath or affirmation, a Member of Parliament swears:

- to bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India;
- to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India; and
- to faithfully discharge the duty upon which he is about to enter.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) Which of the following is/are correct about Lok Sabha Speaker?

1. He dissolve the House.
2. He does not vote in the first instance.
3. He maintains order and decorum in 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: C

Explanation: The Speaker of the Lok Sabha derives his powers and duties from three sources, that is, the Constitution of India, the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha, and Parliamentary Conventions (residuary powers that are unwritten or unspecified in the Rules).

Altogether, he has the following powers and duties:

- He maintains order and decorum in the House for conducting its business and regulating its proceedings. This is his primary responsibility and he has final power in this regard.
- He is the final interpreter of the provisions of (a) the Constitution of India, (b) the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha, and (c) the parliamentary precedents, within the House.

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- He adjourns the House or suspends the meeting in absence of a quorum. The quorum to constitute a meeting of the House is one-tenth of the total strength of the House.
- He does not vote in the first instance. But he can exercise a casting vote in the case of a tie.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) The “Bhagwan Mahavir National Park” is often seen in news located at?

- a) Goa
- b) Karnataka
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Andhra Pradesh

ANS: A

Explanation: Bhagwan Mahavir National Park: Also known as Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary, sprawling over a whopping area of 240 square km, this is one of the most popular nature reserves and National Parks to visit in Goa.

- Located near the well – known and serene Dudhsagar Waterfalls, this national park is renowned for its unspoiled and undisturbed vegetation.
- Mainly the vegetation cover here constitutes moist deciduous, tropical evergreen, and semi-green forests.

Source: FORUMIAS

Indian Polity – Executive

Q.1) Which of the following is/are NOT part of Union Executive?

1. The Vice Chairman of Niti Aayog.
2. The council of ministers.
3. The attorney general 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 Union executive consists of the President, the VicePresident, the Prime Minister, the council of ministers and the attorney general of India.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Who among the following is act as the symbol of unity, integrity and solidarity of the nation?

- a) The President
- b) The Prime Minister
- c) The Vice President
- d) The Speaker

ANS: A

Explanation: The President is the head of the Indian State. He is the first citizen of India and acts as the symbol of unity, integrity and solidarity of the nation.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Which of the following is/are come/s under the executive power/s of President?

1. He appoints the prime minister and the other ministers.
2. He appoints the attorney general of India and determines his remuneration.
3. He can make rules for more convenient transaction of business of the State government.

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 executive powers and functions of the President are:

- All executive actions of the Government of India are formally taken in his name.
- He can make rules specifying the manner in which the orders and other instruments made and executed in his name shall be authenticated.

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- He can make rules for more convenient transaction of business of the Union government, and for allocation of the said business among the ministers.
- He appoints the prime minister and the other ministers. They hold office during his pleasure.
- He appoints the attorney general of India and determines his remuneration. The attorney general holds office during the pleasure of the President.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Which of the following is/are the legislative function/s of the President?

1. He can address the Parliament at the commencement of the first session after each general election and the first session of each year.
2. He can summon or prorogue the Parliament and dissolve the Lok Sabha.
3. He can send messages to the Houses of Parliament, whether with respect to a bill pending in the Parliament or otherwise.

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

- He can summon or prorogue the Parliament and dissolve the Lok Sabha. He can also summon a joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament, which is presided over by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
- He can address the Parliament at the commencement of the first session after each general election and the first session of each year.
- He can send messages to the Houses of Parliament, whether with respect to a bill pending in the Parliament or otherwise.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding about President:

1. No demand for a grant can be made except on his recommendation.
2. He can promulgate ordinances when the Parliament is not in session.

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

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The President can promulgate ordinances when the Parliament is not in session.

- These ordinances must be approved by the Parliament within six weeks from its reassembly.
- He can also withdraw an ordinance at any time.
- No demand for a grant can be made except on his recommendation.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Which of the following Veto Power is not enjoyed the President of India?

- a) Pocket Veto
- b) Qualified Veto
- c) Absolute Veto
- d) Suspensive Veto

ANS: B

Explanation: The President of India is vested with three– absolute veto, suspensive veto and pocket veto.

There is no qualified veto in the case of Indian President; it is possessed by the American President.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) The Article 123 is often seen in news related to which of the following?

- a) Grant in Aid
- b) Ordinance Power
- c) Annual Financial Statement
- d) Motion of Thanks

ANS: B

Explanation: Article 123 of the Constitution empowers the President to promulgate ordinances during the recess of Parliament.

These ordinances have the same force and effect as an act of Parliament, but are in the nature of temporary laws.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) The “D.C. Wadhwa case” is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Ordinance Power
- b) Primary Health Care
- c) Judicial Review
- d) Right to Education

ANS: A

Explanation: the Supreme Court in the D.C. Wadhwa case (1987) pointed out that between 1967–1981 the Governor of Bihar promulgated 256 ordinances and all these were kept in force for periods ranging from one to fourteen years by promulgation from time to time.

- The court ruled that successive repromulgation of ordinances with the same text without any attempt to get the bills passed by the assembly would amount to violation of the Constitution and the ordinance so repromulgated is liable to be struck down.
- It held that the exceptional power of law-making through ordinance cannot be used as a substitute for the legislative power of the state legislature.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) The Article 72 of Indian Constitution is related to which of the following?

- a) Military powers of the President
- b) Financial Powers of the President
- c) Pardoning powers of the President
- d) None

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.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) The "Mathikettan Shola National Park" is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Goa
- c) Pondicherry
- d) Kerala

ANS: D

Explanation: Mathikettan Shola National Park is a 12.82 km² national park in Poopara village of Udumbanchola taluk in Idukki district of Kerala state, South India. It notified area national park in 21 November 2003.

Source: FORUMIAS

Indian Polity – Executive

Q.1) Which of the following is/are participate in the election of Vice President?

1. Elected members of the Parliament
2. Nominated members of the Parliament
3. Members of the State Legislative Assemblies

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 Vice-President, like the president, is elected not directly by the people but by the method of indirect election.

He is elected by the members of an electoral college consisting of the members of both Houses of Parliament.

Thus, this Electoral College is different from the Electoral College for the election of the President in the following two respects:

- It consists of both elected and nominated members of the Parliament (in the case of president, only elected members).
- It does not include the members of the state legislative assemblies (in the case of President, the elected members of the state legislative assemblies are included).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Which of the following is/are the qualification/s to become Vice President of India?

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

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution has clear guidelines for the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.
2. Article 75 says that the Prime Minister shall be appointed 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: B

Explanation: The Constitution does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.

Article 75 says only that the Prime Minister shall be appointed by the president.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Who among the following was/were first appointed as Prime Minister and later asked to prove his/her majority in the Lok Sabha?

1. Charan Singh
2. P. V. Narasimha Rao
3. Deva Gowda

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: In 1980, the Delhi High Court held that the Constitution does not require that a person must prove his majority in the Lok Sabha before he is appointed as the Prime Minister.

- The President may first appoint him the Prime Minister and then ask him to prove his majority in the Lok Sabha within a reasonable period.
- For example, Charan Singh (1979), V.P. Singh (1989), Chandrasekhar (1990), P.V. Narasimha Rao (1991), A.B. Vajpayee (1996), Deve Gowda (1996), I.K. Gujral (1997) and again A.B. Vajpayee (1998) were appointed as Prime Ministers in this way.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Who among the following Prime Minister/s was/were from the Rajya Sabha?

1. Indira Gandhi
2. Dewa Gowda
3. Manmohan Singh

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: Constitutionally, the Prime Minister may be a member of any of the two Houses of parliament.

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- For example, three Prime Ministers, Indira Gandhi (1966), Deve Gowda (1996) and Manmohan Singh (2004), were members of the Rajya Sabha.
- In Britain, on the other hand, the Prime Minister should definitely be a member of the Lower House (House of Commons).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The term of the Prime Minister is not fixed.
2. The salary and allowances of the Prime Minister are determined 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: A

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) Which of the following is/are the power/s of Prime Minister?

1. The President can appoint only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Prime Minister.
2. He allocates and reshuffles various portfolios among the ministers.
3. He presides over the meeting of council of ministers and influences its decisions.

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 enjoys the following powers as head of the Union council of ministers:

- He recommends persons who can be appointed as ministers by the president. The President can appoint only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Prime Minister.
- He allocates and reshuffles various portfolios among the ministers.
- He can ask a minister to resign or advise the President to dismiss him in case of difference of opinion.

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- He presides over the meeting of council of ministers and influences its decisions.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Which of the following organization/s is/are chaired (chairman) by the Prime Minister?

1. NITI Aayog
2. Inter – State Council
3. National Water Resources Council

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 chairman of the NITI Ayog (which succeeded the planning commission), National Integration Council, Inter-State Council, National Water Resources Council and some other bodies.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) The “Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Assam
- b) West Bengal
- c) Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Nagaland

ANS: C

Explanation: Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary lies in the foothills of the Eastern Himalaya, in the East Kameng District of Arunachal Pradesh.

- It was given its status in 1977 and was earlier part of the Khellong Forest Division. It was declared a tiger reserve in 2002.
- The habitat is comprised of lowland semi-evergreen, evergreen and Eastern Himalayan broadleaf forests.
- Over 300 species of flowering plants (angiosperms) have been recorded in the lowland areas of the park. It is also abundant in orchids.
- The Pakhui Tiger Reserve (PTR) is home to large cats like the tiger, leopard and the clouded leopard, and canids like the wild dog and Asiatic jackal.
- The elephant, barking deer, Indian bison and sambar deer are the most commonly spotted herbivores here.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR) is often seen in news located at?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- d) Andhra Pradesh

ANS: B

Explanation: The Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR) in Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu is one of the protected areas having diverse flora and fauna.

This region has got vegetation types which gradually changes from dry thorn forest to dry deciduous.

Source: FORUMIAS

Indian Polity – Executive

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the Council of Ministers:

1. The Council of Ministers aid and advise the President in the exercise of his functions.
2. The advice tendered by Ministers to the President shall not be inquired into in any court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

- However, the President may require the Council of Ministers to reconsider such advice and the President shall act in accordance with the advice tendered after such reconsideration.
- The advice tendered by Ministers to the President shall not be inquired into in any court.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Which of the following constitutional amendment act made the provision that the Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Lok Sabha?

- a) 61st Constitutional Amendment Act
- b) 71st Constitutional Amendment Act
- c) 81st Constitutional Amendment Act
- d) 91st Constitutional Amendment Act

ANS: D

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. A member of either house of Parliament belonging to any political party who is disqualified on the ground of defection shall also be disqualified to be appointed as a minister.
2. The council of ministers shall be collectively responsible 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: A member of either house of Parliament belonging to any political party who is disqualified on the ground of defection shall also be disqualified to be appointed as a minister.

- This provision was also added by the 91st Amendment Act of 2003.
- The ministers shall hold office during the pleasure of the President.
- The council of ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. All executive action of the Government of India shall be expressed to be taken in the name of the President.
2. The President shall make rules for the more convenient transaction of the business of the Government of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Article 77: All executive action of the Government of India shall be expressed to be taken in the name of the President.

- Orders and other instruments made and executed in the name of the President shall be authenticated in such manner as may be specified in rules to be made by the President.
- Further, the validity of an order or instrument which is so authenticated shall not be called in question on the ground that it is not an order or instrument made or executed by the President.
- The President shall make rules for the more convenient transaction of the business of the Government of India, and for the allocation among Ministers of the said business.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Which of the following is/are the oath/s of office & secrecy administer by the President to minister?

1. To bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India.
2. To uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India.
3. To faithfully and conscientiously discharge the duties of his office.

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Which of the following is/are role/s of cabinet?

1. It is the highest decision-making authority in our politico-administrative system.
2. It is the chief policy formulating body of the Central government.
3. It is the supreme executive authority of the Central government.

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 role of the Cabinet:

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding cabinet committees:

1. They are extra – constitutional feature.
2. They are set up by the President according to the exigencies of the time and requirements of the situation.

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 following are the features of Cabinet Committees:

- They are extra-constitutional in emergence. In other words, they are not mentioned in the Constitution.
- However, the Rules of Business provide for their establishment. They are of two types—standing and ad hoc.
- The former are of a permanent nature while the latter are of a temporary nature. The ad hoc committees are constituted from time to time to deal with special problems.
- They are disbanded after their task is completed. They are set up by the Prime Minister according to the exigencies of the time and requirements of the situation.
- Hence, their number, nomenclature, and composition vary from time to time.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Which of the following cabinet committee is headed by the Home Minister?

- a) The Political Affairs Committee
- b) The Economic Affairs Committee
- c) The Appointments Committee
- d) The 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.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) The “Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary” is often seen in news located at?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary is a bird sanctuary in Tirupati district, Andhra Pradesh, India, near the village of Nelapattu.

- It has an area of 458.92 hectares. It is an important breeding site for spot-billed pelicans.
- Nelapattu has two major plant communities, Barringtonia swamp forests and southern dry evergreen scrub.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Bhitarkanika National Park” is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Kerala
- b) Karnataka
- c) Odisha
- d) West Bengal

ANS: C

Explanation: Bhitarkanika National Park is a 145 km² large national park in northeast Kendrapara district in Odisha in eastern India.

- It was designated on 16 September 1998 and obtained the status of a Ramsar site on 19 August 2002.
- The area is also been designated as second Ramsar site of the State after the Chilika Lake.

Source: FORUMIAS

Indian Polity – Executive

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The parliamentary form of government emphasizes on the interdependence between the legislative and executive organs.
2. The presidential form of government, lays stress on the separation of legislative and executive organs.

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 parliamentary form of government emphasizes on the interdependence between the legislative and executive organs.

- Hence, we have the 'President-in-Parliament' like the 'Crown-inParliament' in Britain.
- The presidential form of government, on the other hand, lays stress on the separation of legislative and executive organs.
- Hence, the American president is not regarded as a constituent part of the Congress.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. The representatives of states in the Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of state legislative assemblies.
2. The seats are allotted to the states in the Rajya Sabha on the basis of population.

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 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.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The representatives of each union territory in the Rajya Sabha are indirectly elected by members of an electoral college specially constituted for the purpose.
2. Only two of nine Union Territories have representation in 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: 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.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. The president nominates 12 members to the Rajya Sabha from people who have special knowledge.
2. The American Senate has no nominated members.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The president 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: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. The representatives of states in the Lok Sabha are directly elected by the people from the territorial constituencies in the states.
2. The Constitution has empowered the Parliament to prescribe the manner of choosing the representatives of the union territories in 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 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.
- The Constitution has empowered the Parliament to prescribe the manner of choosing the representatives of the union territories in the Lok Sabha.
- Accordingly, the Parliament has enacted the Union Territories (Direct Election to the House of the People) Act, 1965, by which the members of Lok Sabha from the union territories are also chosen by direct election.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Which of the following statements is/are correct about territorial constituencies?

1. Each state is allotted a number of seats in the Lok Sabha in such a manner that the ratio between that number and its population is the same for all states.
2. Each state is divided into territorial constituencies in such a manner that the ratio between the population of each constituency and the number of seats allotted to it is the same throughout the state.
3. It is apply to a state having a population of less than six millions.

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: For the purpose of holding direct elections to the Lok Sabha, each state is divided into territorial constituencies. In this respect, the Constitution makes the following two provisions:

- Each state is allotted a number of seats in the Lok Sabha in such a manner that the ratio between that number and its population is the same for all states.
- This provision does not apply to a state having a population of less than six millions.
- Each state is divided into territorial constituencies in such a manner that the ratio between the population of each constituency and the number of seats allotted to it is the same throughout the state.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) Which of the following constitutional amendment deals with territorial adjustments regarding elections?

1. 42nd Constitutional Amendment
2. 44th Constitutional Amendment
3. 51st Constitutional Amendment

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: After every census, a readjustment is to be made in (a) allocation of seats in the Lok Sabha to the states, and (b) division of each state into territorial constituencies.

- Parliament is empowered to determine the authority and the manner in which it is to be made.
- Accordingly, the Parliament has enacted the Delimitation Commission Acts in 1952, 1962, 1972 and 2002 for this purpose.
- The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 froze the allocation of seats in the Lok Sabha to the states and the division of each state into territorial constituencies till the year 2000 at the 1971 level.
- This ban on readjustment was extended for another 25 years (ie, upto year 2026) by the 84th Amendment Act of 2001, with the same objective of encouraging population limiting measures.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. There are two kinds of proportional representation, namely, single transferable vote system and list system.
2. In India, the list system is adopted for the election of members to the Rajya Sabha and state legislative council.

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 system of proportional representation aims at removing the defects of territorial representation.

- Under this system, all sections of the people get representation in proportion to their number.
- Even the smallest section of the population gets its due share of representation in the legislature.
- There are two kinds of proportional representation, namely, single transferable vote system and list system.

- In India, the first kind is adopted for the election of members to the Rajya Sabha and state legislative council and for electing the President and the Vice-President.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. The Rajya Sabha is a permanent body and not subject to dissolution.
2. One – fifth of its members retire every second year.

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 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 renomination any number of times.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) The "Balimela Dam" is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Odisha
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Bihar

ANS: A

Explanation: Balimela Dam is a joint project of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh Governments and the inflow into Balimela Reservoir is shared between the two states.

- The Balimela Reservoir is located in Malkangiri district, Odisha, India on the river Sileru which is a tributary of the Godavari River.
- The gross storage capacity of Balimela reservoir is 3610 million cubic meters.
- Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Odisha states entered into agreements to construct Balimela dam as a joint project and share the Sileru river waters available equally at Balimela dam site.
- Odisha developed the 360 MW power house by diverting the Balimela waters to the Potteru sub-river basin.

Source: The Hindu

Indian Polity – Revision

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding Lok Sabha Speaker:

1. He is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all then members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
2. 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.

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: Lok Sabha Speaker is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all then members of the Lok Sabha.

- Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days' advance notice.
- 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.
- 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.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) The Speaker of the Lok Sabha derives his powers and duties from which of the following source/s?

1. The Constitution of India
2. The Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business
3. Parliamentary Conventions

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 Speaker of the Lok Sabha derives his powers and duties from three sources, that is, the Constitution of India, the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha, and Parliamentary Conventions (residuary powers that are unwritten or unspecified in the Rules).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) How much strength of the Sabha (Quorum) is needed to conduct a meeting?

- a) 1/5th of the House
- b) 1/4th of the House
- c) 1/10th of the House
- d) 1/3rd of the House

ANS: C

Explanation: Speaker of the Lok Sabha adjourns the House or suspends the meeting in absence of a quorum.

The quorum to constitute a meeting of the House is one-tenth of the total strength of the House.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) The tenth schedule of the constitution is often seen in news related to?

- a) Panchayat Raj
- b) Defections
- c) Finance Commission
- d) Union Public Service Commission

ANS: B

Explanation: Lok Sabha Speaker decides the questions of disqualification of a member of the Lok Sabha, arising on the ground of defection under the provisions of the Tenth Schedule.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) The motion to remove Lok Sabha Speaker can be considered and discussed only when it has the support of at least?

- a) 10 Members
- b) 20 Members
- c) 50 Members
- d) 100 Members

ANS: C

Explanation: Lok Sabha Speaker is provided with a security of tenure.

- He can be removed only by a resolution passed by the Lok Sabha by a special majority (ie, a majority of all the then members of the House) and not by an ordinary majority (ie, a majority of the members present and voting in the House).
- This motion of removal can be considered and discussed only when it has the support of at least 50 members.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

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

1. He is elected by the Lok Sabha itself from amongst its members.
2. The date of election of the Deputy Speaker is fixed 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: A

Explanation: Like the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker is also elected by the Lok Sabha itself from amongst its members.

- He is elected after the election of the Speaker has taken place. The date of election of the Deputy Speaker is fixed by the Speaker.
- Whenever the office of the Deputy Speaker falls vacant, the Lok Sabha elects another member to fill the vacancy.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) The institutions of Speaker and Deputy Speaker originated in India under the provisions of the?

- a) Indian Councils Act, 1909
- b) The Government of India Act, 1919
- c) The Government of India Act, 1935
- d) The India independence Act, 1947

ANS: B

Explanation: The institutions of Speaker and Deputy Speaker originated in India in 1921 under the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1919 (Montague-Chelmsford Reforms). At that time, the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker were called the President and Deputy President respectively and the same nomenclature continued till 1947.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. The presiding officer of the Rajya Sabha is known as the Chairman.
2. The President of India is the ex-officio Chairman of the 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: The presiding officer of the Rajya Sabha is known as the Chairman. The vice-president of India is the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

During any period when the Vice-President acts as President or discharges the functions of the President, he does not perform the duties of the office of the Chairman of Rajya Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) The "Vettangudi Bird Sanctuary" is recently seen in news located at?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Vettangudi Bird Sanctuary is near Thirupathur and Madurai. The Vettangudi Bird Sanctuary is located at a distance of 51 kms from Madurai on Madurai – Melur-Tiruppathur road, in Sivaganga District.

- It is located in Vettangudipatti and Periya Kollukudipatti village of Tiruppathur Taluk, Sivaganga District.
- This sanctuary covers an area of 40 hectares and covers the tanks of Vettangudi, Periyakollukudi and Chinna Kollukkudi villages.
- The Vettangudi Bird sanctuary is the natural habitat of winter migratory birds. It is a breeding habitat for Grey Herons, Darters, Spoonbills, White Ibis, Asian Open Bill Stork and Night Herons.
- It has also attracted Painted stork, Little Cormorant, Little Egret, Intermediate Egret, Cattle Egret, Common Teal, Spot Bill Ducks and Pintail.
- This is a safe place for roosting, breeding and feeding. There is a considerable diversity in their nesting and feeding behavior.
- The best time to visit would be between November and February when the weather is pleasant and you get to see thousands of migratory birds.

Source: FORUMIAS