

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

28th August to 3rd September, 2023

*HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

FORUMIAS



Polity – Centre & State Relations

Q.1) Which of the following power/s is/are divided between centre and states?

1. Legislative
2. Executive
3. Judiciary

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, being federal in structure, divides all powers (legislative, executive and financial) between the Centre and the states.

However, there is no division of judicial power as the Constitution has established an integrated judicial system to enforce both the Central laws as well as state laws.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. Part XI of the Constitution deal with the legislative relations between the Centre and the states.
2. Article 243 related to central legislative power.

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 245 to 255 in Part XI of the Constitution deal with the legislative relations between the Centre and the states.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The Parliament can make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India.
2. The Parliament alone can make extraterritorial legislation.

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 defines the territorial limits of the legislative powers vested in the Centre and the states in the following way:

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- (i) The Parliament can make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India. The territory of India includes the states, the union territories, and any other area for the time being included in the territory of India.
- (ii) A state legislature can make laws for the whole or any part of the state. The laws made by a state legislature are not applicable outside the state, except when there is a sufficient nexus between the state and the object.
- (iii) The Parliament alone can make 'extraterritorial legislation'. Thus, the laws of the Parliament are also applicable to the Indian citizens and their property in any part of the world.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) The Constitution provides for a three-fold distribution of legislative subjects between the Centre and the states – related to?

- a) Fourth Schedule
- b) Fifth Schedule
- c) Sixth Schedule
- d) Seventh Schedule

ANS: D

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Which of the following is/are come/s under union list?

- 1. Banking
- 2. Census
- 3. Audit

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 Parliament has exclusive powers to make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in the Union List.

This list has at present 98 subjects (originally 97 subjects) like defence, banking, foreign affairs, currency, atomic energy, insurance, communication, inter-state trade and commerce, census, audit and so on.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Which of the following is/are come/s under concurrent list?

1. Education
2. Forests
3. Weights & Measures

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 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 transferred five subjects to Concurrent List from State List, that is, (a) education, (b) forests, (c) weights and measures, (d) protection of wild animals and birds, and (e) administration of justice; constitution and organization of all courts except the Supreme Court and the high courts.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The power to make laws with respect to residuary subjects is vested in the Parliament.
2. The 101st Amendment Act of 2016 has made a special provision with respect to goods and services tax.

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 101st Amendment Act of 2016 has made a special provision with respect to goods and services tax.

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Which of the following act/s was/were passed under request of state/s?

1. Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972
2. Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
3. Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976

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: When the legislatures of two or more states pass resolutions requesting the Parliament to enact laws on a matter in the State List, then the Parliament can make laws for regulating that matter.

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Some examples of laws passed under the above provision are Prize Competition Act, 1955; Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972; Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976; and Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994.

Source: Laxmikanth's Policy

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. The Parliament can establish a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states.
2. The chairman and members of the JSPSC are 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: C

Explanation: The Parliament can establish a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states on the request of the state legislatures concerned.

The chairman and members of the JSPSC are appointed by the president.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) Part XII of Indian Constitution deals with?

- a) Legislative relations
- b) Executive relations
- c) Judicial Relations
- d) Financial relations

ANS: D

Explanation: Articles 268 to 293 in Part XII of the Constitution deal with Centre state financial relations.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Polity – President

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Part V of the Constitution deal with the Union executive.
2. Article 52 deals with the President of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Articles 52 to 78 in Part V of the Constitution deal with the Union executive.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Which of the following is/are part of union executive?

1. The President
2. The Prime minister
3. The Attorney General 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: 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.3) The electoral college of President consists of?

1. The elected members of both the Houses of Parliament.
2. The elected members of the legislative assemblies of the states.
3. The elected members of the legislative assemblies of the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry.

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 elected not directly by the people but by members of electoral college consisting of:

- the elected members of both the Houses of Parliament;
- the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the states; and

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- the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

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

1. He should be a citizen of India.
2. He should have completed 35 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: D

Explanation: A person to be eligible for election as President should fulfill the following qualifications:

- He should be a citizen of India.
- He should have completed 35 years of age.
- He should be qualified for election as a member of the Lok Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Which of the following is/are executive power/s of the President?

1. All executive actions of the Government of India are formally taken in his name.
2. He appoints the prime minister and the other ministers.
3. He appoints the attorney general of India and determines his remuneration.

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 executive powers and functions of the President are:

- (a) All executive actions of the Government of India are formally taken in his name.
- (b) He can make rules specifying the manner in which the orders and other instruments made and executed in his name shall be authenticated.
- (c) He can make rules for more convenient transaction of business of the Union government, and for allocation of the said business among the ministers.
- (d) He appoints the prime minister and the other ministers. They hold office during his pleasure.
- (e) 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.6) Which of the following is/are legislative power/s of President?

1. He can summon or prorogue the Parliament and dissolve the Lok Sabha.
2. He can summon a joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament.
3. He can address the Parliament at the commencement of the first session after each general election.

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.

(a) 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.

(b) He can address the Parliament at the commencement of the first session after each general election and the first session of each year.

(c) 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.7) The "Article 123" of Indian Constitution deals with?

- a) Primary Health
- b) Defense Powers of Prime Minister
- c) Ordinance power of President
- d) Constitutional Remedies

ANS: C

Explanation: Article 123 deals with the ordinance-making power of the President.

- President has many legislative powers and this power is one of them.
- He can only promulgate the ordinance under these circumstances: When both the houses and either of the houses are not in session.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Which of the following is/are the financial power/s of President?

1. Money bills can be introduced in the Parliament only with his prior recommendation.
2. He causes to be laid before the Parliament the annual financial statement.
3. No demand for a grant can be made except on his recommendation.

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 financial powers and functions of the President are:

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- (a) Money bills can be introduced in the Parliament only with his prior recommendation.
(b) He causes to be laid before the Parliament the annual financial statement (ie, the Union Budget).
(c) No demand for a grant can be made except on his recommendation.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. President seeks advice from the Supreme Court on any question of law or fact.
2. The advice tendered by the Supreme Court is not binding on 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 President can seek advice from the Supreme Court on any question of law or fact. However, the advice tendered by the Supreme Court is not binding on the President.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. The international treaties and agreements are negotiated and concluded on behalf of the President.
2. The President is the supreme commander of the defense forces 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: The international treaties and agreements are negotiated and concluded on behalf of the President.

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Polity – Vice President and Prime Minister

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding vice president Electoral College:

1. It consists of both elected and nominated members of the Parliament.
2. It does not include the members of the state legislative assemblies.

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: Vice President Electoral College is different from the Electoral College for the election of the President in the following two respects:

1. It consists of both elected and nominated members of the Parliament (in the case of president, only elected members).
2. 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) Consider the following statements:

1. All doubts and disputes in connection with election of the VicePresident are inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court whose decision is final.
2. The election of a person as Vice-President cannot be challenged on the ground that the electoral college was incomplete

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: All doubts and disputes in connection with election of the VicePresident are inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court whose decision is final.

The election of a person as Vice-President cannot be challenged on the ground that the Electoral College was incomplete (i.e., existence of any vacancy among the members of Electoral College).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Which of the following is/are the qualification/s of Vice President?

1. He should be a citizen of India.
2. He should have completed 35 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: B

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

1. He should be a citizen of India.
2. He should have completed 35 years of age.
3. He should be qualified for election as a member of the Rajya Sabha.
4. 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.4) Consider the following statements:

1. The nomination of a candidate for election to the office of Vice-President must be subscribed by at least 50 electors as proposers and 50 electors as seconders.
2. Every candidate has to make a security deposit of ₹50,000 in the Reserve Bank of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: the nomination of a candidate for election to the office of Vice-President must be subscribed by at least 20 electors as proposers and 20 electors as seconders.

Every candidate has to make a security deposit of ₹15,000 in the Reserve Bank of India.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Consider the following condition/s lay down by the constitution of India for vice president's office:

1. He should not be a member of either House of Parliament or a House of the state legislature.
2. He should not hold any other office of profit.

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 lays down the following two conditions of the Vice-President's office:

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- He should not be a member of either House of Parliament or a House of the state legislature.
- If any such person is elected Vice-President, he is deemed to have vacated his seat in that House on the date on which he enters upon his office as Vice-President.
- He should not hold any other office of profit.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The Vice-President holds office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office.
2. The Vice – President can resign from his office at any time by addressing the resignation letter to 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 Vice-President holds office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office.

- However, he can resign from his office at any time by addressing the resignation letter to the President.
- He can also be removed from the office before completion of his term.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.
2. Article 75 says only 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: C

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.
- However, this does not imply that the president is free to appoint any one as the Prime Minister.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Which of the following is/are provision/s of oath of prime 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 the Prime Minister enters upon his office, the president administers to him the oaths of office and secrecy. In his oath of office, the Prime Minister swears:

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, and
4. 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.9) Which of the following is/are power/s of prime minister?

1. He recommends persons who can be appointed as ministers by the president.
2. He allocates and reshuffles various portfolios among the ministers.
3. He can ask a minister to resign or advise the President to dismiss him in case of difference of opinion.

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:

1. 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.
2. He allocates and reshuffles various portfolios among the ministers.
3. He can ask a minister to resign or advise the President to dismiss him in case of difference of opinion.
4. He presides over the meeting of council of ministers and influences its decisions.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) Which of the following is/are power/e enjoy by the prime minister in lower house?

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:

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.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Polity – Governor & Chief Minister

Q.1) Which of the following is/are part of state executive?

1. Governor
2. Chief Minister
3. Vice – Governor

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: Part VI of the Constitution deals with the government in the states.

- Articles 153 to 167 in Part VI of the Constitution deal with the state executive.
- The state executive consists of the governor, the chief minister, the council of ministers and the advocate general of the state.
- Thus, there is no office of vice-governor (in the state) like that of Vice-President at the Centre.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Which constitutional amendment facilitated the appointment of the same person as a governor for two or more states?

- a) 1st constitutional amendment
- b) 7th constitutional amendment
- c) 24th constitutional amendment
- d) 42nd constitutional amendment

ANS: B

Explanation: Usually, there is a governor for each state, but the 7th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 facilitated the appointment of the same person as a governor for two or more states.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Governor is appointed by the president by warrant under his hand and seal.
2. The office of governor of a state is an independent constitutional office.

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 governor is neither directly elected by the people nor indirectly elected by a specially constituted electoral college as is the case with the president.

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- He is appointed by the president by warrant under his hand and seal. In a way, he is a nominee of the Central government.
- But, as held by the Supreme Court in 1979, the office of governor of a state is not an employment under the Central government.
- It is an independent constitutional office and is not under the control of or subordinate to the Central government.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Which of the following is/are conditions/s of the governor office?

1. He should not be a member of either House of Parliament or a House of the state legislature.
2. He should not hold any other office of profit.
3. He is entitled without payment of rent to the use of his official residence.

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 lays down the following conditions for the governor's office:

1. He should not be a member of either House of Parliament or a House of the state legislature. If any such person is appointed as governor, he is deemed to have vacated his seat in that House on the date on which he enters upon his office as the governor.
2. He should not hold any other office of profit.
3. He is entitled without payment of rent to the use of his official residence (the Raj Bhavan).
4. He is entitled to such emoluments, allowances and privileges as may be determined by Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. A governor holds office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office.
2. The term of five years is subject to the pleasure of 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: A governor holds office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office.

However, this term of five years is subject to the pleasure of the President. Further, he can resign at any time by addressing a resignation letter to the President.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Which of the following is/are executive power/s of governor?

1. He appoints the chief minister and other ministers.
2. He can make rules for more convenient transaction of the business of a state government.
3. He can make rules specifying the manner in which the Orders and other instruments made and executed in his name shall be authenticated.

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 executive powers and functions of the Governor are:

1. All executive actions of the government of a state are formally taken in his name.
2. He can make rules specifying the manner in which the Orders and other instruments made and executed in his name shall be authenticated.
3. He can make rules for more convenient transaction of the business of a state government and for the allocation among the ministers of the said business.
4. He appoints the chief minister and other ministers. They also hold office during his pleasure. There should be a Tribal Welfare minister in the states of Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha appointed by him. The state of Bihar was excluded from this provision by the 94th Amendment Act of 2006.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) Which of the following is/are legislative power/s of governor?

1. He can summon or prorogue the state legislature and dissolve the state legislative assembly.
2. He can address the state legislature at the commencement of the first session after each general election and the first session of each year.
3. He can send messages to the house or houses of the state legislature, with respect to a bill pending in the legislature 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: A governor is an integral part of the state legislature. In that capacity, he has the following legislative powers and functions:

1. He can summon or prorogue the state legislature and dissolve the state legislative assembly.
2. He can address the state legislature at the commencement of the first session after each general election and the first session of each year.
3. He can send messages to the house or houses of the state legislature, with respect to a bill pending in the legislature or otherwise.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Chief Minister.
2. Article 164 only says that the Chief Minister shall be appointed by the governor.

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 does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Chief Minister.

- Article 164 only says that the Chief Minister shall be appointed by the governor.
- However, this does not imply that the governor is free to appoint any one as the Chief Minister.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) Which of the following is/are the power/s of chief minister?

1. The governor appoints only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Chief Minister.
2. He allocates and reshuffles the portfolios among ministers.
3. He presides over the meetings of the 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 Chief Minister enjoys the following powers as head of the state council of ministers:

- (a) The governor appoints only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Chief Minister.
- (b) He allocates and reshuffles the portfolios among ministers.
- (c) He can ask a minister to resign or advise the governor to dismiss him in case of difference of opinion.
- (d) He presides over the meetings of the council of ministers and influences its decisions.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

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

- a) Gujarat
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Punjab

ANS: A

Explanation: Blackbuck National Park is a national park in India located at Velavadar in the Bhavnagar District of Gujarat state, India.

Established in 1976 in the Bhal region of Saurashtra, the park is located around 42 km from the district headquarters city of Bhavnagar.

Source: FORUMIAS

Polity – Parliament

Q.1) Part V of the Indian Constitution related to which of the following?

- State legislature
- Parliament
- Local Government
- Finance Commission

ANS: B

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- 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.3) Fourth Schedule of the Constitution deals with which of the following?

- Allocation of seats in parliament
- Allocation of seats in Rajya Sabha
- Anti defection
- Elections to local bodies

ANS: B

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's Polity

Q.4) 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.
- For example, Uttar Pradesh has 31 members while Tripura has 1 member only.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Which of the following union territories is/are have the representation in Rajya Sabha?

1. Delhi
2. Puducherry
3. Jammu & Kashmir

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 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.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Which of the following constitutional amendment had reduced the voting age from 21 to 18?

- a) 24th constitutional amendment
- b) 42nd constitutional amendment
- c) 44th constitutional amendment
- d) 61st constitutional amendment

ANS: D

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's Polity

Q.7) Which of the following is/are the demerit/s of proportional representation?

- 1. It is highly expensive.
- 2. It does not give any scope for organizing by-elections.
- 3. It eliminates intimate contacts between voters and representatives.

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 system of proportional representation has the following demerits:

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. The Rajya Sabha is a permanent body and not subject to dissolution.
2. The President is authorized to dissolve the Lok Sabha at any time even before the completion of five years and this cannot be challenged in a court of law.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Rajya Sabha (first constituted in 1952) is a continuing chamber, that is, it is a permanent body and not subject to dissolution.

- Unlike the Rajya Sabha, the Lok Sabha is not a continuing chamber.
- Its normal term is five years from the date of its first meeting after the general elections, after which it automatically dissolves.
- However, the President is authorized to dissolve the Lok Sabha at any time even before the completion of five years and this cannot be challenged in a court of law.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) Which of the following is/are the qualification/s for membership of parliament?

1. He must be a citizen of India.
2. He must be not less than 30 years of age in the case of the Lok Sabha.
3. He must possess other qualifications prescribed by 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: A

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

1. He must be a citizen of India.
2. 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
3. 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.
4. He must possess other qualifications prescribed by Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) The “Tenth Schedule” of Indian constitution deal with which of the following?

- a) State legislature
- b) Anti defection
- c) Local Government
- d) Finance Commission

ANS: B

Explanation: The 10th Schedule of the Indian Constitution (which talks about the anti-defection law) is designed to prevent political defections prompted by the lure of office or material benefits or other like considerations.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Polity – Parliament

Q.1) Which of the following disqualification/s of a parliamentarian is/are come/s under Representation of People Act (1951)?

1. He must not have been found guilty of certain election offences or corrupt practices in the elections.
2. He must not have failed to lodge an account of his election expenses within the time.
3. If he is an un-discharged insolvent.

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 Parliament has laid down the following additional disqualifications in the Representation of People Act (1951):

1. He must not have been found guilty of certain election offences or corrupt practices in the elections.
2. He must not have been convicted for any offence resulting in imprisonment for two or more years. But, the detention of a person under a preventive detention law is not a disqualification.
3. He must not have failed to lodge an account of his election expenses within the time.
4. He must not have any interest in government contracts, works or services.
5. He must not be a director or managing agent nor hold an office of profit in a corporation in which the government has at least 25 per cent share.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Which of the following disqualification/s is/are covered under ground of defection?

1. If he voluntary gives up the membership of the political party on whose ticket he is elected to the House.
2. If he votes or abstains from voting in the House contrary to any direction given by his political party.
3. If any independently elected member joins any 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: D

Explanation: A member incurs disqualification under the defection law:

1. If he voluntary gives up the membership of the political party on whose ticket he is elected to the House;
2. If he votes or abstains from voting in the House contrary to any direction given by his political party;
3. If any independently elected member joins any political party; and

4. If any nominated member joins any political party after the expiry of six months.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The question of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is decided by the Speaker in the case of Lok Sabha.
2. The decision of Speaker comes under judicial review.

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

- a) 30 days
- b) 60 days
- c) 90 days
- d) 180 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.5) Consider the following statements:

1. The salaries and allowances of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha are determined by President.
2. They are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India and thus are not subject to the annual vote of 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: B

Explanation: The salaries and allowances of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha and the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha are also determined by Parliament.

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They are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India and thus are not subject to the annual vote of Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The office of 'whip' is based on the conventions of the parliamentary government.
2. Every political party, whether ruling or Opposition has its own whip in 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: C

Explanation: The office of 'whip', on the other hand, is mentioned neither in the Constitution of India nor in the Rules of the House nor in a Parliamentary Statute.

- It is based on the conventions of the parliamentary government.
- Every political party, whether ruling or Opposition has its own whip in the Parliament.
- He is appointed by the political party to serve as an assistant floor leader.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. The president from time to time summons each House of Parliament to meet.
2. The gap between two sessions of Parliament cannot be more than six months.

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 from time to time summons each House of Parliament to meet.

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- But, the maximum gap between two sessions of Parliament cannot be more than six months.
- In other words, the Parliament should meet at least twice a year.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. Adjournment sine die means terminating a sitting of Parliament for an indefinite period.
2. The power of adjournment as well as adjournment sine die lies with 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: Adjournment sine die means terminating a sitting of Parliament for an indefinite period.

- In other words, when the House is adjourned without naming a day for reassembly, it is called adjournment sine die.
- The power of adjournment as well as adjournment sine die lies with the presiding officer of the House.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding zero hour:

1. It starts immediately after the question hour and lasts until the agenda for the day.
2. It is an informal device available to the members of the Parliament to raise matters without any prior notice.

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.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Polity – Revision

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. President can promulgate ordinances when the Parliament is not in session.
2. President can legislate by making regulations when the Puducherry assembly is suspended or dissolved.
3. President cannot withdraw ordinance.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: B

Explanation: 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.
- He can make regulations for the peace, progress and good government of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Ladakh.
- In the case of Puducherry also, the President can legislate by making regulations but only when the assembly is suspended or dissolved.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) "Article 123 of the Constitution" is often seen in news related to?

- a) State Legislative Council
- b) Ordinance power of President
- c) Inter State Council
- d) National Integration Council

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.3) "Article 72 of the Constitution" is recently seen in news related to?

- a) Pardoning powers of President
- b) Military powers of President
- c) Motion of Thanks
- d) Dissolution of Lok Sabha

ANS: A

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

1. Punishment or sentence is for an offence against a Union Law;

2. Punishment or sentence is by a court martial (military court); and
3. Sentence is a sentence of death.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. Vice President acts as the ex-officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha.
2. Vice President can act as President only for a maximum period of six months.
3. The office of Indian Vice President resembles the Canadian Vice Presidents Office.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: B

Explanation: Vice-President acts as the ex-officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha.

- In this capacity, his powers and functions are similar to those of the Speaker of Lok Sabha.
- In this respect, he resembles the American vicepresident who also acts as the Chairman of the Senate—the Upper House of the American legislature.
- He can act as President only for a maximum period of six months within which a new President has to be elected.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Which of the following Prime Ministers are appointed by President and then ask them to prove his majority in the Lok Sabha within a reasonable period?

1. Charan Singh
2. Narendra Modi
3. Indira Gandhi

How many of them given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: A

Explanation: 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. Vajyapee (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.6) Which of the following is/are role/s played by Prime Minister?

1. He is the chairman of the NITI Aayog.
2. He plays a significant role in shaping the foreign policy of the country.
3. He is the chief spokesman of the Union 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 Prime Minister plays various roles. These are:

1. He 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.
2. He plays a significant role in shaping the foreign policy of the country.
3. He is the chief spokesman of the Union government.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) Which of the following Chief Minister/s became Prime Minister?

1. Narendra Modi
2. P.V. Narasimha Rao
3. Indira Gandhi

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: Six people—Morarji Desai, Charan Singh, V.P. Singh, P.V. Narasimha Rao, H.D. Deve Gowda and Narendra Modi—became Prime Ministers after being Chief Ministers of their respective States.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding council of ministers:

1. The ministers shall hold office during the pleasure of the President.
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: The Council of 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.9) Consider the following statements:

1. Cabinet Committees are not mentioned in the Constitution.
2. They are set up by the Prime Minister according to the exigencies of the time and requirements of the situation.
3. They are of two types—standing and ad hoc.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: The following are the features of Cabinet Committees:

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.10) Which of the following committees are headed by Prime Minister?

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

How many of them given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: B

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

1. The Political Affairs Committee deals with all policy matters pertaining to domestic and foreign affairs.
2. The Economic Affairs Committee directs and coordinates the governmental activities in the economic sphere.
3. Appointments Committee decides all higher level appointments in the Central Secretariat, Public Enterprises, Banks and Financial Institutions.
4. 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's Polity