

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

11th to 17th September, 2023

*HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

FORUMIAS



Polity – Local Government

Q.1) Arrange the following event/s in chronological order:

1. Community Development Programme
2. National Extension Service
3. Balwant Rai Mehta Committee

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: In January 1957, the Government of India appointed a committee to examine the working of the Community Development Programme (1952) and the National Extension Service (1953) and to suggest measures for their better working. The chairman of this committee was Balwant Rai G Mehta.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Which of the following was/were the recommendation/s of Balwant Rai G Mehta committee?

1. Establishment of a three-tier panchayati raj system.
2. The village panchayat should be constituted with directly elected representatives.
3. The district collector should be the chairman of the zila parishad.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Balwant Rai G Mehta committee submitted its report in November 1957 and recommended the establishment of the scheme of 'democratic decentralisation', which ultimately came to be known as Panchayati Raj. The specific recommendations made by it are:

1. Establishment of a three-tier panchayati raj system—gram panchayat at the village level, panchayat samiti at the block level and zila parishad at the district level. These tiers should be organically linked through a device of indirect elections.
2. The village panchayat should be constituted with directly elected representatives, whereas the panchayat samiti and zila parishad should be constituted with indirectly elected members.
3. All planning and development activities should be entrusted to these bodies.
4. The panchayat samiti should be the executive body while the zila parishad should be the advisory, coordinating and supervisory body.
5. The district collector should be the chairman of the zila parishad.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Which of the following state was the first to establish panchayat raj system?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Andhra Pradesh

ANS: C

Explanation: Rajasthan was the first state to establish Panchayati Raj. The scheme was inaugurated by the prime minister on October 2, 1959, in Nagaur district.

Rajasthan was followed by Andhra Pradesh, which also adopted the system in 1959. Thereafter, most of the states adopted the system.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Which of the following was/were the recommendation/s of Ashok Mehta Committee?

- 1. The three-tier system of panchayati raj should be replaced by the two-tier system.
- 2. A district should be the first point for decentralization under popular supervision below the state level.
- 3. Zila parishad should be the executive body and made responsible for planning at the district level.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: In December 1977, the Janata Government appointed a committee on panchayati raj institutions under the chairmanship of Ashok Mehta. Its main recommendations were:

- 1. The three-tier system of panchayati raj should be replaced by the two-tier system, that is, zila parishad at the district level, and below it, the mandal panchayat consisting of a group of villages with a total population of 15,000 to 20,000.
- 2. A district should be the first point for decentralization under popular supervision below the state level.
- 3. Zila parishad should be the executive body and made responsible for planning at the district level.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Which of the following is/are the feature/s of 73rd amendment act, 1992?

- 1. Act added Part-IX to the Constitution of India.
- 2. Article 243 has provisions related to local governance.
- 3. Tenth schedule added to the constitution.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: 73rd amendment act has added a new Part-IX to the Constitution of India.

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- This part is entitled as 'The Panchayats' and consists of provisions from Articles 243 to 243 O.
- In addition, the act has also added a new Eleventh Schedule to the Constitution. This schedule contains 29 functional items of the panchayats.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Article 40 of the Indian constitution related to?

- a) Finance commission
- b) Local governance
- c) Political parties
- d) Elections

ANS: B

Explanation: Article 40 of the Constitution which says that, "The State shall take steps to organise village panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government." This article forms a part of the Directive Principles of State Policy.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. 73rd constitutional amendment act provides for a Gram Sabha as the foundation of the panchayati raj system.
2. Gram Sabha is a body consisting of persons registered in the electoral rolls of a village comprised within the area of Panchayat at the village level.

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 73rd constitutional amendment act provides for a Gram Sabha as the foundation of the panchayati raj system.

- It is a body consisting of persons registered in the electoral rolls of a village comprised within the area of Panchayat at the village level.
- Thus, it is a village assembly consisting of all the registered voters in the area of a panchayat.
- It may exercise such powers and perform such functions at the village level as the legislature of a state determines.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding 73rd amendment act, 1992:

1. Act provides for a three-tier system of panchayati raj in every state.
2. But a state having a population not exceeding 20 lakh may not constitute panchayats at the intermediate level.

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: 73rd amendment act provides for a three-tier system of panchayati raj in every state, that is, panchayats at the village, intermediate, and district levels.

- Thus, the act brings about uniformity in the structure of panchayati raj throughout the country.
- However, a state having a population not exceeding 20 lakh may not constitute panchayats at the intermediate level.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. 73rd amendment act provides for the reservation of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in every panchayat.
2. 73rd amendment act provides for the reservation of not less than one-third of the total number of seats for women.

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 73rd amendment act provides for the reservation of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in every panchayat (i.e., at all the three levels) in proportion of their population to the total population in the panchayat area.

Further, the state legislature shall provide for the reservation of offices of chairperson in the panchayat at the village or any other level for the SCs and STs.

The act provides for the reservation of not less than one-third of the total number of seats for women (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging the SCs and STs).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) The famous "Indravati National Park" often seen in news related to?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Indravati National Park is a national park located in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh state in India.

The park derives its name from the Indravati River, which flows from east to west and forms the northern boundary of the reserve with the Indian state of Maharashtra.

Source: FORUMIAS

Polity – Scheduled Areas & Local Government & U/T

Q.1.) Consider the following statements regarding State Election Commission:

1. It consists of a state election commissioner to be appointed by the President.
2. The state legislature may make provision with respect to all matters relating to elections to the panchayats.

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 superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of all elections to the panchayats shall be vested in the state election commission.

- It consists of a state election commissioner to be appointed by the governor.
- The state legislature may make provision with respect to all matters relating to elections to the panchayats.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Which of the following is/are under eleventh schedule of Indian Constitution?

1. Agriculture
2. Fisheries
3. Minor Forest Produce

How many of the given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

1. Agriculture, including agricultural extension
2. Land improvement, implementation of land reforms, land consolidation and soil conservation
3. Minor irrigation, water management and watershed development
4. Animal husbandry, dairying and poultry
5. Fisheries
6. Social forestry and farm forestry
7. Minor forest produce

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Which of the following is/are compulsory provision/s of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (1992)?

1. Organisation of Gram Sabha in a village or group of villages.
2. Establishment of panchayats at the village, intermediate and district levels.
3. Direct elections to all seats in panchayats at the village, intermediate and district levels.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The compulsory (obligatory or mandatory) provisions (features) of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (1992) or the Part IX of the Constitution:

1. Organisation of Gram Sabha in a village or group of villages.
2. Establishment of panchayats at the village, intermediate and district levels.
3. Direct elections to all seats in panchayats at the village, intermediate and district levels.
4. Indirect elections to the post of chairperson of panchayats at the intermediate and district levels.
5. Voting rights of the chairperson and other members of a panchayat elected directly or indirectly.
6. 21 years to be the minimum age for contesting elections to panchayats.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. The provisions of Part IX of the constitution relating to the Panchayats are not applicable to the Fifth Schedule areas.
2. The state may extend these provisions to such areas, subject to such exceptions and modifications as it may specify.

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 provisions of Part IX of the constitution relating to the Panchayats are not applicable to the Fifth Schedule areas.

- However, the Parliament may extend these provisions to such areas, subject to such exceptions and modifications as it may specify.
- Under this provision, the Parliament has enacted the "Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act", 1996, popularly known as the PESA Act or the Extension Act.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Which of the following state/s have fifth scheduled area/s?

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Tamil Nadu
3. Karnataka

How many of the given above are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: At present (2019), ten states have Fifth Schedule Areas.

- These are: Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Chhatisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan.
- All the ten states have enacted requisite compliance legislations by amending the respective Panchayati Raj Acts.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Which of the following is/are the objective/s of PESA Act?

1. To provide self-rule for the bulk of the tribal population
2. To safeguard and to preserve the traditions and customs of tribal communities
3. To evolve a suitable administrative framework consistent with traditional practices

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The objectives of the PESA Act are as follows:

1. To extend the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution relating to the panchayats to the scheduled areas with certain modifications
2. To provide self-rule for the bulk of the tribal population
3. To have village governance with participatory democracy and to make the gram sabha a nucleus of all activities
4. To evolve a suitable administrative framework consistent with traditional practices
5. To safeguard and to preserve the traditions and customs of tribal communities
6. To empower panchayats at the appropriate levels with specific powers conducive to tribal requirements
7. To prevent panchayats at the higher level from assuming the powers and authority of panchayats at the lower level of the gram sabha

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) “Article 1 of the Constitution”, have how many category/categories of territory/territories?

1. Territories of the states
2. Union territories
3. Territories that may be acquired by the Government of India at any time

How many of the given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Article 1 of the Constitution, the territory of India comprises three categories of territories: (a) territories of the states; (b) union territories; and (c) territories that may be acquired by the Government of India at any time.

At present, there are twenty-nine states, seven union territories and no acquired territories.

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

Q.8) Which of the following part of Indian constitution deals with union territories?

- a) Part V
- b) Part VII
- c) Part VIII
- d) Part X

ANS: C

Explanation: Articles 239 to 241 in Part VIII of the Constitution deal with the union territories. Even though all the union territories belong to one category, there is no uniformity in their administrative system.

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. Every union territory is administered by the President acting through an administrator appointed by him.
2. An administrator of a union territory is an agent 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: Every union territory is administered by the President acting through an administrator appointed by him.

An administrator of a union territory is an agent of the President and not head of state like a governor.

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

Q.10) Which of the following union territory/territories have legislature?

1. Puducherry
2. Delhi
3. Jammu & Kashmir

How many of the given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Union Territories of Puducherry (in 1963), Delhi (in 1992) and Jammu and Kashmir (in 2019) are provided with a legislative assembly and a council of ministers headed by a chief minister.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Polity – Constitutional Bodies

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Election Commission is a non-permanent and an independent body.
2. Election commission draws its powers from constitution to conduct free and fair elections in the country.

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

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

ANS: A

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Under article 324 of Indian constitution, election commission has the power to conduct election for?

1. The Parliament
2. The state legislature
3. The Presidential election

How many of the given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding election commission:

1. The chief election commissioner is provided with the security of tenure.
2. The service conditions of the chief election commissioner cannot be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.
3. Any other election commissioner or a regional commissioner cannot be removed from office except on the recommendation of the chief election commissioner.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Article 324 of the Constitution has made the following provisions to safeguard and ensure the independent and impartial functioning of the Election Commission:

1. The chief election commissioner is provided with the security of tenure. He cannot be removed from his office except in same manner and on the same grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court.
2. The service conditions of the chief election commissioner cannot be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.
3. Any other election commissioner or a regional commissioner cannot be removed from office except on the recommendation of the chief election commissioner.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Which of the following is/are power/s and duty/duties of election commission?

1. To determine the territorial areas of the electoral constituencies throughout the country on the basis of the Delimitation Commission Act of Parliament.
2. To prepare and periodically revise electoral rolls and to register all eligible voters.
3. To notify the dates and schedules of elections and to scrutinise nomination papers.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The powers and functions are:

1. To determine the territorial areas of the electoral constituencies throughout the country on the basis of the Delimitation Commission Act of Parliament.
2. To prepare and periodically revise electoral rolls and to register all eligible voters.
3. To notify the dates and schedules of elections and to scrutinise nomination papers.
4. To grant recognition to political parties and allot election symbols to them.
5. To act as a court for settling disputes related to granting of recognition to political parties and allotment of election symbols to them.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Part XIV of the Indian constitution is related to which of the following?

- a) UPSC
- b) Election commission
- c) Finance commission
- d) CAG

ANS: A

Explanation: Part XIV of the Constitution contain elaborate provisions regarding the composition, appointment and removal of members along with the independence, powers and functions of the UPSC.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The UPSC consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the president of India.
2. The Constitution fixed the strength of the Commission.

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 UPSC consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the president of India.

The Constitution, without specifying the strength of the Commission has left the matter to the discretion of the president, who determines its composition.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) For which of the following service/s, UPSC is/are conduct/s examination/s?

1. All India Services
2. Central Services
3. Public services of the centrally administered territories

How many of the given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: UPSC conducts examinations for appointments to the all-India services, Central services and public services of the centrally administered territories.

Source: Laxmikant's Polity

Q.8) Which of the following constitutional body is called as watch-dog of merit system in India?

- a) UPSC
- b) CAG
- c) Election Commission
- d) Finance commission

ANS: A

Explanation: The Constitution visualises the UPSC to be the ‘watch-dog of merit system’ in India.

It is concerned with the recruitment to the all-India services and Central services–group A and group B and advises the government, when consulted, on promotion and disciplinary matters.

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

Q.9) Which of the following is/are created directly by the constitution?

- 1. Union Public Service Commission
- 2. State Public Service Commission
- 3. Joint State Public Service Commission

How many of the given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: While the UPSC and the SPSC are created directly by the Constitution, a JSPSC can be created by an act of Parliament on the request of the state legislatures concerned.

Thus, a JSPSC is a statutory and not a constitutional body.

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

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

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Assam
- c) Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Sikkim

ANS: C

Explanation: Namdapha National Park is a 1,985 km² large protected area in Arunachal Pradesh of Northeast India. The park was established in 1983.

With more than 1,000 floral and about 1,400 faunal species, it is a biodiversity hotspot in the Eastern Himalayas.

Source: FORUMIAS

Polity – Constitutional Bodies

Q.1) The article 280 of Indian constitution is related to which of the following?

- CAG
- UPSC
- Finance commission
- Election commission

ANS: C

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding financial commission:

- It is a quasi judicial body.
- It is a permanent body.

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

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

ANS: B

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- The Finance Commission consists of a chairman and four other members to be appointed by the president.
- They are not eligible for reappointment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Finance Commission consists of a chairman and four other members to be appointed by the president.

- They hold office for such period as specified by the president in his order.
- They are eligible for reappointment.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Which of the following is/are recommendation/s made by every finance commission to President?

1. The distribution of the net proceeds of taxes to be shared between the Centre and the states.
2. The principles that should govern the grants-in-aid to the states by the Centre.
3. The measures needed to augment the consolidated fund of a state to supplement the resources of the panchayats.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Finance Commission is required to make recommendations to the president of India on the following matters:

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) The 101st amendment act is related to which of the following?

- a) Finance commission
- b) GST council
- c) Interstate council
- d) National Integration council

ANS: B

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

- The smooth and efficient administration of this tax requires co-operation and coordination between the centre and the states.
- In order to facilitate this consultation process, the amendment provided for the establishment of Goods and Services Tax Council or the GST Council.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Which of the following is/are member/s of the GST council?

1. The Union Finance Minister
2. The Union Minister of State in-charge of Revenue or Finance
3. The Chief Minister of State

How many of the given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Council is a joint forum of the centre and the states and consists of the following members:

- (a) The Union Finance Minister as the Chairperson
- (b) The Union Minister of State in-charge of Revenue or Finance
- (c) The Minister in-charge of Finance or Taxation or any other Minister nominated by each state government

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) The "Article 338" of Indian constitution is related to?

- a) National Commission for Scheduled Castes
- b) National Commission for Women
- c) National Commission for Minorities
- d) National Human Rights Commission

ANS: A

Explanation: The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs) is a constitutional body in the sense that it is directly established by Article 338 of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Which constitutional amendment act divided the national commission for sc's and st's?

- a) 1st constitutional amendment
- b) 7th constitutional amendment
- c) 65th constitutional amendment
- d) 89th constitutional amendment

ANS: D

Explanation: The 89th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2003 bifurcated the combined National Commission for SCs and STs into two separate bodies, namely, National Commission for Scheduled Castes (under Article 338) and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (under Article 338-A).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) Which of the following is/are function/s of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes?

1. To investigate and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the SCs and to evaluate their working.
2. To inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the SCs.
3. To present to the President, annually and at such other times as it may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The functions of the Commission are:

- (a) To investigate and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the SCs and to evaluate their working;
- (b) To inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the SCs;
- (c) To participate and advise on the planning process of socioeconomic development of the SCs and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union or a state;
- (d) To present to the President, annually and at such other times as it may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

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

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Periyar National Park, also known as Periyar Tiger Reserve, is in the mountainous Western Ghats of Kerala, southern India.

- This wildlife sanctuary is home to tigers and a significant elephant population, as well as rare lion-tailed macaques, sambar deer, leopards and Indian bison.
- In the park's north, Periyar Lake is popular for boat rides. Farther north, spice plantations surround the town of Kumily.

Source: FORUMIAS

Polity – Constitutional Bodies

Q.1) The quorum of GST council consists of?

- a) 1/10th members
- b) 1/3rd members
- c) ½ members
- d) 1/5th members

ANS: C

Explanation: The decisions of the GST Council are taken at its meetings. One-half of the total number of members of the Council is the quorum for conducting a meeting.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Which of the following is/are function/s of GST council?

1. The taxes, cesses and surcharges levied by the centre, the states and the local bodies that would get merged in GST
2. The goods and services that may be subjected to GST or exempted from GST.
3. The threshold limit of turnover below which goods and services may be exempted from GST.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Council is required to make recommendations to the centre and the states on the following matters:

- (a) The taxes, cesses and surcharges levied by the centre, the states and the local bodies that would get merged in GST.
- (b) The goods and services that may be subjected to GST or exempted from GST.
- (c) Model GST Laws, principles of levy, apportionment of GST levied on supplies in the course of inter-state trade or commerce and the principles that govern the place of supply.
- (d) The threshold limit of turnover below which goods and services may be exempted from GST.
- (e) The rates including floor rates with bands of GST.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding reports of National commission for Scheduled Castes:

1. The commission presents an annual report to the president.
2. The President places all such reports before the Parliament, along with a memorandum explaining the action taken.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The National commission for Scheduled Castes presents an annual report to the president. It can also submit a report as and when it thinks necessary.

- The President places all such reports before the Parliament, along with a memorandum explaining the action taken on the recommendations made by the Commission.
- The memorandum should also contain the reasons for the non-acceptance of any of such recommendations.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Which of the following is/are power/s of National commission for Scheduled Castes?

1. It can summon and enforce the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath.
2. It can receive evidence on affidavits.
3. It has all powers of civil court.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Commission, while investigating any matter or inquiring into any complaint, has all the powers of a civil court trying a suit and in particular in respect of the following matters:

- (a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath;
- (b) requiring the discovery and production of any document;
- (c) receiving evidence on affidavits;
- (d) requisitioning any public record from any court or office;
- (e) issuing summons for the examination of witnesses and documents; and
- (f) any other matter which the President may determine.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) The “Article 338A” of Indian constitution is related to?

- a) National commission for Scheduled Tribes
- b) National Commission for Women
- c) National Commission for Minorities
- d) National Human Rights Commission

ANS: A

Explanation: The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (STs) is a constitutional body in the sense that it is directly established by Article 338-A of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

Q.6) 102nd constitutional amendment is related to which of the following?

- a) National commission for Scheduled Tribes
- b) National Commission for Women
- c) National Commission for Minorities
- d) National Commission for OBC’s

ANS: D

Explanation: The 102nd Amendment Act of 2018 conferred a constitutional status on the Commission for OBC’s. For this purpose, the amendment inserted a new Article 338-B in the constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

Q.7) The famous “mandal case” is related to which of the following?

- a) Backward classes
- b) Primary health
- c) Higher education
- d) Women empowerment

ANS: A

Explanation: In the Mandal case judgement (1992), the Supreme Court directed the central government to constitute a permanent statutory body to examine the complaints of under-inclusion, over-inclusion or non-inclusion of any class of citizens in the list of backward classes.

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

Q.8) The famous “Article 350B” of Indian constitution deals with?

- a) Special officer for linguistic minorities
- b) National Commission for Women
- c) National Commission for Minorities
- d) National Commission for OBC’s

ANS: A

Explanation: Originally, the Constitution of India did not make any provision with respect to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.

- Later, the States Re-organization Commission (1953–55) made a recommendation in this regard.
- Accordingly, the Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 inserted a new Article 350- B in Part XVII of the Constitution

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

Q.9) Which of the following is/are regional office/s of Special officer for linguistic minorities?

1. Chennai
2. Belgaum
3. Allahabad

How many of the given above are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Commissioner has his headquarters at Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh).

- He has three regional offices at Belgaum (Karnataka), Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Kolkata (West Bengal).
- Each is headed by an Assistant Commissioner.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) The famous "Bandhavgarh tiger reserve" is recently seen in news located at?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Karnataka
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Uttar Pradesh

ANS: A

Explanation: The number of tiger reserves in Madhya Pradesh stands at six.

The names of the tiger reserves in Madhya Pradesh are Kanha Tiger reserve, Bandhavgarh Tiger reserve, Panna Tiger reserve, Pench Tiger Reserve, Sanjay Dubri Tiger Reserve, and Satpura Tiger Reserve.

Source: FORUMIAS

Polity – Non - Constitutional Bodies

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

1. It was established as the successor to the planning commission.
2. It was created by an executive resolution¹ 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: On the 13th of August, 2014, the Modi Government scrapped the 65- year-old Planning Commission and announced that it would be replaced by a new body.

- Accordingly, on January 1, 2015, the NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) was established as the successor to the planning commission.
- However, it must be noted here that the NITI Aayog, like that of the Planning Commission, was also created by an executive resolution of the Government of India (i.e., Union Cabinet).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Who among the following is the chairman of NITI Aayog?

- a) President
- b) Prime Minister
- c) Home Minister
- d) Finance Minister

ANS: B

Explanation: The Prime Minister is the chairman of NITI Aayog.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Which of the following is/are the function/s of NITI Aayog?

1. Design policy and programme framework.
2. Foster co-operative federalism.
3. Monitoring and evaluation.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The various functions performed by the NITI Aayog can be divided into four main heads:

1. Design policy and programme framework.
2. Foster co-operative federalism.

3. Monitoring and evaluation.
4. Think-tank, and Knowledge and Innovation Hub.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Which of the following is/are the principle/s of NITI Aayog?

1. Antyodaya
2. Inclusion
3. Demographic dividend

How many of the given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: In carrying out the functions, the NITI Aayog is guided by the following principles:

1. Antyodaya: Prioritize service and uplift of the poor, marginalized and downtrodden, as enunciated in Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay's idea of 'Antyodaya'.
2. Inclusion: Empower vulnerable and marginalized sections, redressing identity based inequalities of all kinds—gender, region, religion, caste or class.
3. Village: Integrate our villages into the development process, to draw on the vitality and energy of the bedrock of our ethos, culture and sustenance.
4. Demographic dividend: Harness our greatest asset, the people of India; by focusing on their development, through education and skilling, and their empowerment, through productive livelihood opportunities.
5. People's Participation: Transform the developmental process into a people-driven one, making an awakened and participative citizenry—the driver of good governance.
6. Governance: Nurture an open, transparent, accountable, proactive and purposeful style of governance, transitioning focus from Outlay to Output to Outcome.
7. Sustainability: Maintain sustainability at the core of our planning and developmental process, building on our ancient tradition of respect for the environment.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding National Human Rights Commission:

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It is the watchdog of human rights in the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

- It was established in 1993 under a legislation enacted by the Parliament, namely, the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

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- The commission is the watchdog of human rights in the country, that is, the rights relating to life, liberty, equality and dignity of the individual guaranteed by the Constitution or embodied in the international covenants and enforceable by courts in India.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding National Human Rights Commission:

1. It is a multi-member body consisting of a chairperson and five members.
2. The chairperson should be a retired chief justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

The chairperson should be a retired chief justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court and members should be a serving or retired judge of the Supreme Court, a serving or retired chief justice of a high court and three persons (out of which atleast one should be a woman) having knowledge or practical experience with respect to human rights.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.7) Which of the following is/are the function/s of National Human Rights Commission?

1. To inquire into any violation of human rights or negligence in the prevention of such violation.
2. To intervene in any proceeding involving allegation of violation of human rights pending before a court.
3. To visit jails and detention places to study the living conditions of inmates and make recommendation thereon.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The functions of the National Human Rights Commission are:

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

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding National Human Rights Commission:

1. Its headquarters is at Allahabad.
2. It is vested with the power to regulate its own procedure.

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 commission's headquarters is at Delhi and it can also establish offices at other places in India.

- It is vested with the power to regulate its own procedure.
- It has all the powers of a civil court and its proceedings have a judicial character.
- It may call for information or report from the Central and state governments or any other authority subordinate thereto.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.9) In which of the following year Central Information Commission was established?

- a) 2000
- b) 2004
- c) 2005
- d) 2008

ANS: C

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

It was constituted through an Official Gazette Notification under the provisions of the Right to Information Act (2005).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

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

- a) West Bengal
- b) Odisha
- c) Assam
- d) Uttar Pradesh

ANS: A

Explanation: Gorumara National Park is a National Park in northern West Bengal, India.

- Located in the Dooars region of the Himalayan foothills, it is a medium-sized park with grasslands and forests.
- Gorumara National Park was established in 1992. It is primarily known for its population of Indian rhinoceros.

Source: FORUMIAS

Polity – Revision

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding central information commission:

1. The Commission consists of a Chief Information Commissioner and not more than ten Information Commissioners.
2. They 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 Commission consists of a Chief Information Commissioner and not more than ten Information Commissioners.

- The Commission, when constituted initially, had five commissioners including the Chief Information Commissioner.
- At present (2019), the Commission has six Information Commissioners apart from the Chief Information Commissioner.
- They are appointed by the President on the recommendation of a committee consisting of the Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding tenure and service of Chief Information Commissioner:

1. The Chief Information Commissioner shall hold office for such term as prescribed by the Central Government or until they attain the age of 65 years.
2. They are eligible for reappointment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Chief Information Commissioner and an Information Commissioner shall hold office for such term as prescribed by the Central Government or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. They are not eligible for reappointment.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.3) Which of the following organization was created on the recommendation of Santhanam?

- a) CAG
- b) CVC
- c) ED
- d) CIC

ANS: B

Explanation: The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) was established on the recommendations of the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding Central Vigilance Commission (CVC):

1. It is the main agency for preventing corruption in the Central government.
2. It was established in 1964 by an executive resolution of the Central government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

- It was established in 1964 by an executive resolution of the Central government.
- Later, in 2003, the Parliament enacted a law conferring statutory status on the CVC.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was set up in 1963 by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. The establishment of the CBI was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

- Later, it was transferred to the Ministry of Personnel and now it enjoys the status of an attached office.
- The establishment of the CBI was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962–1964).

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.6) Which of the following organization has the motto of “Industry, Impartiality and Integrity”?

- a) CBI
- b) CVC
- c) ED
- d) CAG

ANS: A

Explanation: The Motto of CBI: Industry, Impartiality and Integrity.

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was constituted in 2018.
2. It is the central counter-terrorism law enforcement agency in the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

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

It is the central counter-terrorism law enforcement agency in the country.

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA):

1. The NDMA consists of a chairperson and other members, not exceeding nine.
2. The Prime Minister is the ex-officio chairperson of the NDMA.

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

- The Prime Minister is the ex-officio chairperson of the NDMA.
- The other members are nominated by the chairperson of the NDMA.

Source: Laxmikanth’s Polity

Q.9) Consider the following statements National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA):

1. The NDMA is the apex body for disaster management in the country.
2. It works under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Defense Affairs.

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 NDMA is the apex body for disaster management in the country. It works under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity

Q.10) The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) was constituted in which of the following year?

- a) 1999
- b) 2001
- c) 2005
- d) 2008

ANS: C

Explanation: The NDMA was constituted in 2005 by an Executive Order of the Government of India. Subsequently, the NDMA was notified in 2006 under the provisions of the Act.

Source: Laxmikanth's Polity