

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

1st week February, 2024

*HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Index

Centre – State Relations	2
Central Government – President.....	6
Vice – President and Prime Minister	10
Governor and Chief Minister.....	14
Parliament – I	19
Parliament – II.....	23
Revision	26

Centre – State Relations

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

1. Judicial
2. Legislative
3. Financial

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Constitution divides the legislative powers between the Centre and the states with related to both the territory and the subjects of legislation.
2. The Constitution provides for the parliamentary legislation in the state field under five extraordinary situations.

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: Like any other Federal Constitution, the Indian Constitution also divides the legislative powers between the Centre and the states with respect to both the territory and the subjects of legislation.

Further, the Constitution provides for the parliamentary legislation in the state field under five extraordinary situations as well as the centre's control over state legislation in certain cases.

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.3) Which of the following statement/s is/are correct about the territorial limits of the legislative powers vested in the Centre and the states?

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

- (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

Q.4) Which of the following subject/s is/are come/s under union list?

1. Currency
2. Insurance
3. Census

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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 defense, banking, foreign affairs, currency, atomic energy, insurance, communication, inter-state trade and commerce, census, audit and so on.

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.5) Which of the following subject/s was/were transferred from state list to concurrent list under 42nd Amendment Act of 1976?

1. Education
2. Forests
3. Weights and Measures

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

Q.6) Which constitutional amendment act made a special provision with respect to goods and services tax?

- A. Forty second
- B. Forty fourth
- C. Ninety first
- D. One hundred and one

ANS: D

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

Accordingly, the Parliament and the state legislature have power to make laws with respect to goods and services tax imposed by the Union or by the State.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Which of the following law/s was/were passed under the request of one or more states to centre?

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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.

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

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.8) On which of the following matter/s Centre is empowered to give directions to the states?

1. The measures to be taken for the protection of the railways within the state.
2. The provision of adequate facilities for instruction in the mother tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups in the state.
3. The drawing up and execution of the specified schemes for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the state.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Centre is empowered to give directions to the states with regard to the exercise of their executive power in the following matters:

- (i) the construction and maintenance of means of communication (declared to be of national or military importance) by the state;
- (ii) the measures to be taken for the protection of the railways within the state;
- (iii) the provision of adequate facilities for instruction in the mothertongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups in the state; and
- (iv) The drawing up and execution of the specified schemes for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the state.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) In which of the following year the Indian Forest Service (IFS) was created?

- a) 1951
- b) 1966
- c) 1972
- d) 1976

ANS: B

Explanation: In 1947, Indian Civil Service (ICS) was replaced by IAS and the Indian Police (IP) was replaced by IPS and was recognized by the Constitution as All-India Services.

In 1966, the Indian Forest Service (IFS) was created as the third All-India Service.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Which article of the Constitution authorizes the Parliament to create new All-India Services on the basis of a Rajya Sabha resolution to that effect?

- a) 301
- b) 305
- c) 312
- d) 324

ANS: C

Explanation: Article 312 of the Constitution authorizes the Parliament to create new All-India Services on the basis of a Rajya Sabha resolution to that effect.

Source: Laxmikanth

Central Government – President

Q.1) Which of the following is/are consists of “union executive”?

1. The President
2. The Prime Minister
3. The Attorney General of India

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Union executive consists of the President, the Vice President, the Prime Minister, the council of ministers and the attorney general of India.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Which part of Indian constitution deals with the “union executive”?

- a) Part III
- b) Part V
- c) Part IX
- d) Part XI

ANS: B

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

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) The Electoral College for the election of the 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 Pondicherry.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.4) Which of the following is/are qualification/s to become the 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.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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.
- 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.

A sitting President or Vice-President of the Union, the Governor of any state and a minister of the Union or any state is not deemed to hold any office of profit and hence qualified as a presidential candidate.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Which of the following condition/s is/are lays down by the Constitution towards 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.
3. He is entitled to such emoluments, allowances and privileges as may be determined by Parliament.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Constitution lays down the following conditions of the President'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 elected as President, he is deemed to have vacated his seat in that House on the date on which he enters upon his office as President.
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 Rastrapathi Bhavan).
4. He is entitled to such emoluments, allowances and privileges as may be determined by Parliament.
5. His emoluments and allowances cannot be diminished during his term of office.

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The President can be removed from office by a process of impeachment for violation of the Constitution.
2. The impeachment charges can be initiated by either House 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: C

Explanation: The President can be removed from office by a process of impeachment for 'violation of the Constitution'.

- However, the Constitution does not define the meaning of the phrase 'violation of the Constitution'.
- The impeachment charges can be initiated by either House of Parliament.
- These charges should be signed by one-fourth members of the House (that framed the charges), and a 14 days' notice should be given to the President.
- After the impeachment resolution is passed by a majority of two-thirds of the total membership of that House, it is sent to the other House, which should investigate the charges.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Which of the following is/are executive powers and functions 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.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

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

1. He can summon or prorogue the Parliament and dissolve the Lok Sabha
2. He can address the Parliament 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 Houses of Parliament, whether with respect to a bill pending in the Parliament or otherwise.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

Q.9) Which of the following is/are financial power/s and function/s of the President?

1. Money bills can be introduced in the Parliament only with his prior recommendation.
2. No demand for a grant can be made except on his recommendation.
3. He can make advances out of the contingency fund of India to meet any unforeseen expenditure.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The financial powers and functions of the President are:

- (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.
- (d) He can make advances out of the contingency fund of India to meet any unforeseen expenditure.
- (e) He constitutes a finance commission after every five years to recommend the distribution of revenues between the Centre and the states.

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. The President can seek advice from the Supreme Court on any question of law or fact.
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 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.

The President 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.

Source: Laxmikanth

Vice – President and Prime Minister

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The Vice-President occupies the second highest office in the country.
2. The Vice-President's office is modeled on the lines of the French Vice-President.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Vice-President occupies the second highest office in the country.

- He is accorded a rank next to the President in the official warrant of precedence.
- This office is modeled on the lines of the American Vice-President.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) The Electoral College for the election of the Vice-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 Pondicherry.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: A

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

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

He is elected by the members of an electoral college consisting of the members of both Houses of Parliament. Thus, this Electoral College is different from the Electoral College for the election of the President in the following two respects:

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. All doubts and disputes in connection with election of the Vice-President 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 Vice-President 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).
- If the election of a person as Vice-President is declared void by the Supreme Court, acts done by him before the date of such declaration of the Supreme Court are not invalidated (i.e., they continue to remain in force).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which of the following is/are qualification/s to become the 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.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.5) 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. A formal impeachment is not required for Vice-President Removal.

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. A formal impeachment is not required for his removal.
- He can be removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the Rajya Sabha and agreed to by the Lok Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The President is the head of the State while Prime Minister is the head of the government.
2. The Constitution does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.

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: In the scheme of parliamentary system of government provided by the constitution, the President is the nominal executive authority (de jure executive) and Prime Minister is the real executive authority (de facto executive).

- In other words, president is the head of the State while Prime Minister is the head of the government.
- The Constitution does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.7) Which of the following was/were appointed as Prime Minister by the President and asked them to prove their majority in the Lok Sabha within a reasonable period?

1. Charan Singh
2. P.V. Narasimha Rao
3. Manmohan Singh

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Which of the following Prime Minister/s is/are from Rajya Sabha?

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Constitutionally, the Prime Minister may be a member of any of the two Houses of parliament. For example, three Prime Ministers, Indira Gandhi (1966), Deve Gowda (1996) and Manmohan Singh (2004), were members of the Rajya Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which of the following power/s is/are enjoys by the Prime Minister as head of the Union council of ministers?

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.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Prime Minister enjoys the following powers as head of the Union council of ministers:

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

- He recommends persons who can be appointed as ministers by the president. The President can appoint only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Prime Minister.
- He allocates and reshuffles various portfolios among the ministers.
- He can ask a minister to resign or advise the President to dismiss him in case of difference of opinion.
- He presides over the meeting of council of ministers and influences its decisions.
- He guides, directs, controls, and coordinates the activities of all the ministers.
- He can bring about the collapse of the council of ministers by resigning from office.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Which of the following power/e is/are enjoys by Prime Minister as leader of the 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.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth

Governor and Chief Minister

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Part VI of the Constitution deals with the government in the states.
2. The governor is the chief executive head of the state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Constitution of India envisages the same pattern of government in the states as that for the Centre, that is, a parliamentary system.

- 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 governor is the chief executive head of the state. But, like the president, he is a nominal executive head (titular or constitutional head).

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

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

- a) First constitutional amendment
- b) Seventh constitutional amendment
- c) Twenty fourth constitutional amendment
- d) Forty second 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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Governor is appointed by the president by warrant under his hand and seal.
- 2. The office of Governor is an independent constitutional office and is not under the control of or subordinate to 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 governor is neither directly elected by the people nor indirectly elected by a specially constituted electoral college as is the case with the president.

- 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

Q.4) Which of the following conditions laid down by Constitution for Governor'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.
- 3. He is entitled without payment of rent to the use of his official residence.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Constitution lays down the following conditions for the governor's office:

- 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.

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

- He should not hold any other office of profit.
- He is entitled without payment of rent to the use of his official residence (the Raj Bhavan).
- He is entitled to such emoluments, allowances and privileges as may be determined by Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Which of the following is/are executive power/s and function/s of the governor?

1. All executive actions of the government of a state are formally taken in his name.
2. He appoints the chief minister and other ministers.
3. He appoints the advocate general of a state and determines his remuneration.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The executive powers and functions of the Governor are:

- All executive actions of the government of a state are formally taken in his name.
- He can make rules specifying the manner in which the Orders and other instruments made and executed in his name shall be authenticated.
- 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.
- 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 Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha appointed by him. The state of Bihar was excluded from this provision by the 94th Amendment Act of 2006.
- He appoints the advocate general of a state and determines his remuneration. The advocate general holds office during the pleasure of the governor.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Which of the following is/are legislative power/s and function/s of the 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.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: A governor is an integral part of the state legislature. In that capacity, he has the following legislative powers and functions:

- He can summon or prorogue the state legislature and dissolve the state legislative assembly.

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

- He can address the state legislature at the commencement of the first session after each general election and the first session of each year.
- 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

Q.7) Which of the following article of Indian constitution says that the Chief Minister shall be appointed by the governor?

- a) Article 141
- b) Article 152
- c) Article 159
- d) Article 164

ANS: D

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.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Which of the following powers is/are enjoyed by the Chief Minister as head of the state council of ministers?

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 can ask a minister to resign or advise the governor to dismiss him in case of difference of opinion.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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.
- (e) He guides, directs, controls and coordinates the activities of all the ministers.

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.9) Which of the following function/s is/are performed by the Chief Minister?

1. He is the chairman of the State Planning Board.
2. He acts as a vice-chairman of the concerned zonal council.
3. He is a member of the Inter-State Council and the Governing Council of NITI Aayog.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Chief Minister also performs the following functions:

- (a) He is the chairman of the State Planning Board.
- (b) He acts as a vice-chairman of the concerned zonal council by rotation, holding office for a period of one year at a time.
- (c) He is a member of the Inter-State Council and the Governing Council of NITI Aayog, both headed by the prime minister.
- (d) He is the chief spokesman of the state government.
- (e) He is the crisis manager-in-chief at the political level during emergencies.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. The term of the Chief Minister is not fixed and he holds office during the pleasure of the governor.
2. The salary and allowances of the Chief Minister are determined 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: A

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

- However, this does not mean that the governor can dismiss him at any time.
- He cannot be dismissed by the governor as long as he enjoys the majority support in the legislative assembly.
- The salary and allowances of the Chief Minister are determined by the state legislature.
- In addition to the salary and allowances, which are payable to a member of the state legislature, he gets a sumptuary allowance, free accommodation, travelling allowance, medical facilities, etc.

Source: Laxmikanth

Parliament – I

Q.1) Which of the following is/are come/s under the Part – V of Indian Constitution?

1. Composition of the Parliament
2. Privileges of the Parliament
3. Powers of the Parliament

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. In 1974, the Hindi names 'Rajya Sabha' and 'Lok Sabha' were adopted by the Council of States and the House of People respectively.
2. The President of India is not a member of either House 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: Under the Constitution, the Parliament of India consists of three parts viz, the President, the Council of States and the House of the People.

- In 1954, the Hindi names 'Rajya Sabha' and 'Lok Sabha' were adopted by the Council of States and the House of People respectively.
- Though the President of India is not a member of either House of Parliament and does not sit in the Parliament to attend its meetings, he is an integral part of the Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

- Hence, we have the 'President-in-Parliament' like the 'Crown-in Parliament' 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

Q.4) Which schedule of the constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha to the states and union territories?

- a) First schedule
- b) Fourth schedule
- c) Seventh schedule
- d) Ninth schedule

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The representatives of states in the Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of state legislative assemblies.

- The election is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.
- The seats are allotted to the states in the Rajya Sabha on the basis of population.
- Hence, the number of representatives varies from state to state.

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.6) Which of the following Union Territory/Territories is/are represented in Rajya Sabha?

1. Delhi
2. Ladakh
3. Yanam

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Out of the nine union territories, only three (Delhi, Puducherry and Jammu & Kashmir) have representation in Rajya Sabha.

The populations of other six union territories are too small to have any representative in the Rajya Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The maximum strength of the Lok Sabha is fixed at 545.
2. The representatives of states in the Lok Sabha are directly elected by the people from the territorial constituencies in the states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The maximum strength of the Lok Sabha is fixed at 552.

- Out of this, 530 members are to be the representatives of the states, 20 members are to be the representatives of the union territories and 2 members are to be nominated by the president from the Anglo-Indian community.
- At present, the Lok Sabha has 545 members.
- The representatives of states in the Lok Sabha are directly elected by the people from the territorial constituencies in the states.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) The Constitutional Provision for “holding direct elections to Lok Sabha, each state is divided into territorial constituencies” is not applicable to?

- a) State having a population of less than six million.
- b) State having a population of less than ten million.
- c) State having a population of less than fifteen million.
- d) State having a population of less than twenty million.

ANS: A

Explanation: For the purpose of holding direct elections to the Lok Sabha, each state is divided into territorial constituencies.

- Each state is allotted a number of seats in the Lok Sabha in such a manner that the ratio between that number and its population is the same for all states.

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

- This provision does not apply to a state having a population of less than six millions.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) In which of the following year/s is/are the Parliament enacted the delimitation commission act?

1. 1952
2. 1992
3. 2002

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

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

- Parliament is empowered to determine the authority and the manner in which it is to be made.
- Accordingly, the Parliament has enacted the Delimitation Commission Acts in 1952, 1962, 1972 and 2002 for this purpose.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Which of the following was the first constitutional amendment act froze the allocation of seats in the Lok Sabha to the states and the division of each state into territorial constituencies?

- a) First constitutional amendment act
- b) Seventh constitutional amendment act
- c) Forty second constitutional amendment act
- d) Forty fourth constitutional amendment act

ANS: C

Explanation: The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 froze the allocation of seats in the Lok Sabha to the states and the division of each state into territorial constituencies till the year 2000 at the 1971 level.

- This ban on readjustment was extended for another 25 years (ie, up to year 2026) by the 84th Amendment Act of 2001, with the same objective of encouraging population limiting measures.
- The 84th Amendment Act of 2001 also empowered the government to undertake readjustment and rationalization of territorial constituencies in the states on the basis of the population figures of 1991 census.
- Later, the 87th Amendment Act of 2003 provided for the delimitation of constituencies on the basis of 2001 census and not 1991 census.
- However, this can be done without altering the number of seats allotted to each state in the Lok Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth

Parliament – II

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution has adopted the system of proportional representation for Rajya Sabha.
2. The Constitution has adopted the system of First-past-the-post system for 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: Though the Constitution has adopted the system of proportional representation in the case of Rajya Sabha, it has not preferred the same system in the case of Lok Sabha. Instead, it has adopted the system of territorial representation (First-past-the-post system) for the election of members to the Lok Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Which of the following is/are demerit/s of proportional representation system of voting?

1. It is highly expensive.
2. It eliminates intimate contacts between voters and representatives.
3. It increases the significance of party system and decreases that of voter.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding:

1. The Rajya Sabha is a permanent body and not subject to dissolution.
2. The Constitution has not fixed the term of office of members of the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: 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.

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

The Constitution has not fixed the term of office of members of the Rajya Sabha and left it to the Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. The Lok Sabha is a continuing chamber.
2. The President is authorized to dissolve the Lok Sabha at any time even before the completion of five years.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: 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

Q.5) Which of the following is/are qualification/s to become Member of Parliament?

1. He must be a citizen of India.
2. He must be not less than 25 years of age in the case of the Rajya Sabha and not less than 30 years of age in the case of the Lok Sabha.
3. He must possess other qualifications prescribed by Parliament.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

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 authorized 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

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.6) Which of is/are disqualification/s of Member of Parliament under 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 failed to lodge an account of his election expenses within the time.
3. He must not have any interest in government contracts, works or services.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Which schedule of the constitution deals with disqualification of a Member of Parliament?

- a) Fourth schedule
- b) Sixth schedule
- c) Eighth schedule
- d) Tenth schedule

ANS: D

Explanation: The Constitution also lays down that a person shall be disqualified from being a member of Parliament if he is so disqualified on the ground of defection under the provisions of the Tenth Schedule.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) The question of disqualification for Lok Sabha members under the Tenth Schedule is decided by?

- a) President
- b) Prime Minister
- c) Speaker
- d) Attorney General

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

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.9) A House can declare the seat of a member vacant if he is absent from all its meetings for a period of?

- Fifteen days
- Thirty days
- Forty five days
- Sixty days

ANS: D

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.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- Members of both House of Parliament salaries and allowances are determined by Parliament.
- In 1954, the Parliament enacted the Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Members of either House of Parliament are entitled to receive such salaries and allowances as may be determined by Parliament, and there is no provision of pension in the Constitution.

- However, Parliament has provided pension to the members.
- In 1954, the Parliament enacted the Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act.

Source: Laxmikanth

Revision

Q.1) Which of the following member/s salaries and allowances is/are determined by parliament?

- Speaker
- Deputy Speaker
- Chairman of Rajya Sabha

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- None

ANS: C

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.

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: A

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Speaker is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all then members of the Lok Sabha, Such a resolution can be moved only after giving advance notice?

- a) 14 days
- b) 28 days
- c) 60 days
- d) 90 days

ANS: A

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. Speaker is the guardian of powers and privileges of the members, the House as a whole and its committees.
2. Speaker's decision in all Parliamentary matters is final.

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 the head of the Lok Sabha, and its representative.

- He is the guardian of powers and privileges of the members, the House as a whole and its committees.
- He is the principal spokesman of the House, and his decision in all Parliamentary matters is final.
- He is thus much more than merely the presiding officer of the Lok Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.5) The Speaker of the Lok Sabha derives his powers and duties from which of the following source/s?

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

3. 1 only
4. 2 only
5. Both 1 and 2
6. Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: A

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Who among the following is the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha?

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

ANS: C

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth

Prelims Marathon Compilation February [First Week] 2024

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. The Speaker decides whether a bill is a money bill or not and his decision on this question is final.
2. The Speaker presides over a joint sitting of two Houses 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: C

Explanation: As a presiding officer, the powers and functions of the Chairman in the Rajya Sabha are similar to those of the Speaker in the Lok Sabha.

However, the Speaker has two special powers which are not enjoyed by the Chairman:

1. The Speaker decides whether a bill is a money bill or not and his decision on this question is final.
2. The Speaker presides over a joint sitting of two Houses of Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) What are the minimum seats needed to become the leader of the largest Opposition party?

- a) One – third seats of total strength of the house
- b) One – fifth seats of total strength of the house
- c) One – tenth seats of total strength of the house
- d) One – fourth seats of total strength of the house

ANS: C

Explanation: In each House of Parliament, there is the 'Leader of the Opposition'.

The leader of the largest Opposition party having not less than one-tenth seats of the total strength of the House is recognized as the leader of the Opposition in that House.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. Every political party, whether ruling or Opposition has its own whip in the Parliament.
2. Whip is appointed by the political party to serve as an assistant floor leader.

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 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.
- He is charged with the responsibility of ensuring the attendance of his party members in large numbers and securing their support in favor of or against a particular issue.

Source: Laxmikanth