

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

2nd week July, 2024

HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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Indian Polity

Indian Constitution: Historical Underpinnings, Evolution & Making of the Constitution, Features, Significant Provisions

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding "Regulating Act of 1773":

1. It was the first step to control and regulate the affairs of the East India Company in India.
2. It laid the foundations of central administration in 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: Regulating Act of 1773 was of great constitutional importance as

- (a) it was the first step taken by the British Government to control and regulate the affairs of the East India Company in India;
- (b) it recognized, for the first time, the political and administrative functions of the Company; and
- (c) it laid the foundations of central administration in India.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Which of the following act was known as "act of settlement"?

- a) Regulating Act of 1773
- b) Amending Act of 1781
- c) Pitt's India Act of 1784
- d) Act of 1786

ANS: B

Explanation: In a bid to rectify the defects of the Regulating Act of 1773, the British Parliament passed the Amending Act of 1781, also known as the Act of Settlement.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Which of the following statements is/are correct about "Charter Act of 1813"?

1. The Indian trade was thrown open to all British merchants.
2. It asserted the sovereignty of the British Crown over the Company's territories in India.
3. It allowed the Christian missionaries to come to India for the purpose of enlightening the people.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The features of Charter Act of 1813 were as follows:

- It abolished the trade monopoly of the company in India i.e., the Indian trade was thrown open to all British merchants. However, it continued the monopoly of the company over trade in tea and trade with China.

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- It asserted the sovereignty of the British Crown over the Company's territories in India.
- It allowed the Christian missionaries to come to India for the purpose of enlightening the people.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding "Charter Act of 1853":

1. It introduced an open competition system of selection and recruitment of civil servants.
2. It introduced, for the first time, local representation in the Indian Legislative Council.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Charter Act of 1853: This was the last of the series of Charter Acts passed by the British Parliament between 1793 and 1853. It was a significant constitutional landmark.

- It separated, for the first time, the legislative and executive functions of the Governor-General's council. It provided for addition of six new members called legislative councilors to the council.
- It introduced an open competition system of selection and recruitment of civil servants.
- It introduced, for the first time, local representation in the Indian (Central) Legislative Council.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding "Government of India Act of 1935":

1. It provided for the establishment of an All-India Federation consisting of provinces and princely states as units.
2. It continued dyarchy in the provinces.

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: Government of India Act of 1935: The Act marked a second milestone towards a completely responsible government in India. It was a lengthy and detailed document having 321 Sections and 10 Schedules.

- It provided for the establishment of an All-India Federation consisting of provinces and princely states as units. The Act divided the powers between the Centre and units in terms of three lists—Federal List (for Centre, with 59 items), Provincial List (for provinces, with 54 items) and the Concurrent List (for both, with 36 items).
- It abolished dyarchy in the provinces and introduced 'provincial autonomy' in its place. The provinces were allowed to act as autonomous units of administration in their defined spheres.
- It provided for the adoption of dyarchy at the Centre. Consequently, the federal subjects were divided into reserved subjects and transferred subjects.

Source: Spectrum

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Q.6) Who among the following for the first time put forward the idea of a Constituent Assembly for India?

- a) Sardar Vallabhai Patel
- b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- c) M.N. Roy
- d) M K Gandhi

ANS: C

Explanation: It was in 1934 that the idea of a Constituent Assembly for India was put forward for the first time by M.N. Roy, a pioneer of communist movement in India.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding composition of “Constituent Assembly”:

- 1. It was completely elected body.
- 2. Seats allocated to each British province were to be divided among the three principal communities.

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 Constituent Assembly was constituted in November 1946 under the scheme formulated by the Cabinet Mission Plan.

- Seats allocated to each British province were to be divided among the three principal communities— Muslims, Sikhs and General (all except Muslims and Sikhs), in proportion to their population.
- The Constituent Assembly was to be a partly elected and partly nominated body.
- Moreover, the members were to be indirectly elected by the members of the provincial assemblies, who themselves were elected on a limited franchise.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “Constituent Assembly”:

- 1. The Constituent Assembly held its first meeting on December 9, 1946.
- 2. The Muslim League joined the meeting.

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 Constituent Assembly held its first meeting on December 9, 1946. The Muslim League boycotted the meeting and insisted on a separate state of Pakistan.

The meeting was, thus, attended by only 211 members. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha, the oldest member, was elected as the temporary President of the Assembly, following the French practice.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.9) Who among the following headed the “Provincial Constitution Committee”?

- a) Jawaharlal Nehru
- b) J.B. Kripalani
- c) Sardar Patel
- d) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

ANS: C

Explanation: Major Committees:

1. Union Powers Committee - Jawaharlal Nehru
2. Union Constitution Committee -Jawaharlal Nehru
3. Provincial Constitution Committee -Sardar Patel
4. Drafting Committee - Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Which of the following amendment act known as “Mini-Constitution”?

- a) Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act
- b) Twenty – third Constitutional Amendment Act
- c) Forty – second Constitutional Amendment Act
- d) Forty – fourth Constitutional Amendment Act

ANS: C

Explanation: It should be noted at the outset that a number of original features of the Constitution (as adopted in 1949) have undergone a substantial change, on account of several amendments, particularly 7th, 42nd, 44th, 73rd, 74th, 97th and 101st Amendments.

In fact, the 42nd Amendment Act (1976) is known as ‘Mini-Constitution’ due to the important and large number of changes made by it in various parts of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

The Preamble, the Union and its Territory, Citizenship

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution of India is the lengthiest of all the written Constitutions of the world.
2. The structural part of the Constitution is derived from the Government of India Act of 1935.

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: Constitutions are classified into written, like the American Constitution, or unwritten, like the British Constitution.

- The Constitution of India is the lengthiest of all the written Constitutions of the world. It is a very comprehensive, elaborate and detailed document.
- The structural part of the Constitution is, to a large extent, derived from the Government of India Act of 1935.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.2) Which of the following were features of the federation?

1. Strong centre
2. Written constitution
3. Flexibility of constitution

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Constitution of India establishes a federal system of Government. It contains all the usual features of a federation, viz., two Governments, division of powers, written Constitution, supremacy of Constitution, rigidity of Constitution, independent judiciary and bicameralism.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Which of the following were features of parliamentary government in India?

1. Presence of nominal and real executives
2. Collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature
3. Membership of the ministers in the legislature

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The features of parliamentary government in India are: (a) Presence of nominal and real executives; (b) Majority party rule, (c) Collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature, (d) Membership of the ministers in the legislature, (e) Leadership of the Prime Minister or the Chief Minister, (f) Dissolution of the lower House (Lok Sabha or Assembly).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which of the following country was the first to begin with a Preamble?

- a) Australia
- b) Austria
- c) Armenia
- d) USA

ANS: D

Explanation: The American Constitution was the first to begin with a Preamble. Many countries, including India, followed this practice.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “Preamble”:

1. It is based on the Objectives Resolution.
2. It was drafted and moved by Dr. B R Ambedkar.

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 Preamble to the Indian Constitution is based on the ‘Objectives Resolution’, drafted and moved by Pandit Nehru, and adopted by the Constituent Assembly.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Which of the following words were added to preamble by forty – fourth Constitutional Amendment Act?

1. Socialist
2. Secular
3. Integrity

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The Preamble has been amended by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act (1976), which added three new words–Socialist, Secular and Integrity.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Which of the following is not a device of direct democracy?

- a) Referendum
- b) Emergency
- c) Recall
- d) Initiative

ANS: B

Explanation: Democracy is of two types–direct and indirect. In direct democracy, the people exercise their supreme power directly as is the case in Switzerland.

- There are four devices of direct democracy, namely, Referendum, Initiative, Recall and Plebiscite.
- In indirect democracy, on the other hand, the representatives elected by the people exercise the supreme power and thus carry on the government and make the laws.
- This type of democracy, also known as representative democracy, is of two kinds–parliamentary and presidential.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.8) Which of the following words are found in the Article 1 of Indian Constitution?

1. Bharat
2. India
3. Princely states

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Article 1 describes India, that is, Bharat as a 'Union of States' rather than a 'Federation of States'. This provision deals with two things: one, name of the country; and two, type of polity.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which of the following states have special provisions under Part XXI?

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Sikkim
3. Goa

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The provisions of the Constitution pertaining to the states are applicable to all the states in the same manner.

However, the special provisions (under Part XXI) applicable to the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Sikkim, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa and Karnataka override the general provisions relating to the states as a class.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Which of the following provision/s is/are covered under Article 2 of Indian Constitution?

1. The power to admit into the Union of India new states.
2. The power to establish new states.
3. The formation of or changes in the existing states of the Union of India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Article 2 empowers the Parliament to 'admit into the Union of India, or establish, new states on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit'.

- Thus, Article 2 grants two powers to the Parliament: (a) the power to admit into the Union of India new states; and (b) the power to establish new states.

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- The first refers to the admission of states which are already in existence, while the second refers to the establishment of states which were not in existence before.
- Notably, Article 2 relates to the admission or establishment of new states that are not part of the Union of India.

Source: Laxmikanth

Fundamental Rights

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “fundamental rights”:

1. They are guaranteed by the Constitution to all persons without any discrimination.
2. They are meant for promoting the ideal of political democracy.

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 Fundamental Rights are guaranteed by the Constitution to all persons without any discrimination.

- They uphold the equality of all individuals, the dignity of the individual, the larger public interest and unity of the nation.
- The Fundamental Rights are meant for promoting the ideal of political democracy.
- They prevent the establishment of an authoritarian and despotic rule in the country, and protect the liberties and freedoms of the people against the invasion by the State.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. The Fundamental Rights are guaranteed and protected by the Constitution.
2. The Fundamental Rights operate as limitations on the tyranny of the executive and arbitrary laws of the legislature.

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 Fundamental Rights operate as limitations on the tyranny of the executive and arbitrary laws of the legislature. In short, they aim at establishing ‘a government of laws and not of men’.

- The Fundamental Rights are named so because they are guaranteed and protected by the Constitution, which is the fundamental law of the land.
- They are ‘fundamental’ also in the sense that they are most essential for the all-round development (material, intellectual, moral and spiritual) of the individuals.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The right to property was deleted from the list of Fundamental Rights by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976.
2. The right to property made a legal right under Article 300-A in Part XII of the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The right to property was deleted from the list of Fundamental Rights by the 44th Amendment Act, 1978.

It is made a legal right under Article 300-A in Part XII of the Constitution. So at present, there are only six Fundamental Rights.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which of the following statements is/are correct about fundamental rights?

1. The state can impose reasonable restrictions on them.
2. All of them are available against the arbitrary action of the state.
3. They are defended and guaranteed by the Supreme 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 Fundamental Rights guaranteed by the Constitution are characterized by the following:

1. Some of them are available only to the citizens while others are available to all persons whether citizens, foreigners or legal persons like corporations or companies.
2. They are not absolute but qualified. The state can impose reasonable restrictions on them. However, whether such restrictions are reasonable or not is to be decided by the courts. Thus, they strike a balance between the rights of the individual and those of the society as a whole, between individual liberty and social control.
3. All of them are available against the arbitrary action of the state. However, some of them are also available against the action of private individuals.
4. Some of them are negative in character, that is, place limitations on the authority of the State, while others are positive in nature, conferring certain privileges on the persons.
5. They are justifiable, allowing persons to move the courts for their enforcement, if and when they are violated.
6. They are defended and guaranteed by the Supreme Court.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.5) Which of the following article is related to “martial law”?

- a) Article 22
- b) Article 31
- c) Article 33
- d) Article 34

ANS: D

Explanation: Martial law means ‘military rule’ imposed under abnormal circumstances to restore order (Article 34). It is different from the imposition of national emergency.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Which of the following is/are covered under article 13 of Indian Constitution?

- 1. Permanent laws enacted by the Parliament or the state legislatures.
- 2. Temporary laws like ordinances issued by the president or the state governors.
- 3. Statutory instruments in the nature of delegated 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 term ‘law’ in Article 13 has been given a wide connotation so as to include the following:

- (a) Permanent laws enacted by the Parliament or the state legislatures;
- (b) Temporary laws like ordinances issued by the president or the state governors;
- (c) Statutory instruments in the nature of delegated legislation (executive legislation) like order, bye-law, rule, regulation or notification; and
- (d) Non-legislative sources of law, that is, custom or usage having the force of law.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Which of the following article of Indian Constitution related to “Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment”?

- a) Article 13
- b) Article 14
- c) Article 15
- d) Article 16

ANS: D

Explanation: Article 16 provides for equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters of employment or appointment to any office under the State.

No citizen can be discriminated against or be ineligible for any employment or office under the State on grounds of only religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth or residence.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.8) The famous “Mandal Commission” related to which of the following?

- a) Backward Classes Commission
- b) Agriculture
- c) Economic reforms
- d) Right to live

ANS: A

Explanation: In 1979, the Morarji Desai Government appointed the Second Backward Classes Commission under the chairmanship of B.P. Mandal, a Member of Parliament, in terms of Article 340 of the Constitution to investigate the conditions of the socially and educationally backward classes and suggest measures for their advancement.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which of the following article of Indian Constitution related to “untouchability”?

- a) Article 17
- b) Article 19
- c) Article 31
- d) Article 33

ANS: A

Explanation: Article 17 abolishes ‘untouchability’ and forbids its practice in any form. The enforcement of any disability arising out of untouchability shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Which of the following right/s is/are covered under Right to freedom?

- 1. Speech and expression
- 2. Assemble peaceably and without arms
- 3. Form associations or unions

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Article 19 guarantees to all citizens the six rights. These are:

- (i) Right to freedom of speech and expression.
- (ii) Right to assemble peaceably and without arms.
- (iii) Right to form associations or unions or co-operative societies.10a
- (iv) Right to move freely throughout the territory of India.
- (v) Right to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India.
- (vi) Right to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.

Source: Laxmikanth

Directive Principles & Fundamental Duties

Q.1) The framers of the constitution borrowed the directive principles from which of the following constitution?

- a) French
- b) Irish
- c) British
- d) Dutch

ANS: B

Explanation: The framers of the Constitution borrowed this idea from the Irish Constitution of 1937, which had copied it from the Spanish Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Which of the following provisions is/are considered under “Conscience of the Constitution”?

- 1. Fundamental rights
- 2. Directive principles
- 3. Fundamental duties

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The Directive Principles along with the Fundamental Rights contain the philosophy of the Constitution and is the soul of the Constitution. Granville Austin has described the Directive Principles and the Fundamental Rights as the Conscience of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) In which of the following act, the instruments of instructions are enumerated?

- a) Indian councils act, 1909
- b) Government of India act, 1919
- c) Government of India act, 1935
- d) Independence act, 1947

ANS: C

Explanation: The Directive Principles resemble the ‘Instrument of Instructions’ enumerated in the Government of India Act of 1935.

- In the words of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, ‘the Directive Principles are like the instrument of instructions, which were issued to the Governor-General and to the Governors of the colonies of India by the British Government under the Government of India Act of 1935.
- What is called Directive Principles is merely another name for the instrument of instructions. The only difference is that they are instructions to the legislature and the executive’.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “directive principles”:

1. They are justiciable in nature.
2. They are compelled to implement by the government.

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

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Directive Principles are non-justiciable in nature, that is, they are not legally enforceable by the courts for their violation.

Therefore, the government (Central, state and local) cannot be compelled to implement them.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Which of the following is/are covered under article 39 of Indian Constitution?

1. Right to adequate means of livelihood for all citizens.
2. Prevention of concentration of wealth and means of production.
3. Make provision for just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Socialist principles reflect the ideology of socialism. They lay down the framework of a democratic socialist state, aim at providing social and economic justice, and set the path towards welfare state. They direct the state to secure

- (a) The right to adequate means of livelihood for all citizens;
- (b) The equitable distribution of material resources of the community for the common good;
- (c) Prevention of concentration of wealth and means of production;
- (d) Equal pay for equal work for men and women;
- (e) Preservation of the health and strength of workers and children against forcible abuse; and
- (f) Opportunities for healthy development of children (Article 39).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Which of the following article direct the state to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living of people and to improve public health?

- a) Article 41
- b) Article 42
- c) Article 45
- d) Article 47

ANS: D

Explanation: To raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living of people and to improve public health (Article 47).

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.7) Which of the following subject/s is/are covered under Gandhian principles of directive principles?

1. Panchayats
2. Cottage industries
3. Cooperative societies

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Gandhian Principles: These principles are based on Gandhian ideology.

They represent the programme of reconstruction enunciated by Gandhi during the national movement. In order to fulfill the dreams of Gandhi, some of his ideas were included as Directive Principles. They require the State:

1. To organize village panchayats and endow them with necessary powers and authority to enable them to function as units of self-government (Article 40).
2. To promote cottage industries on an individual or cooperation basis in rural areas (Article 43).
3. To promote voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control and professional management of cooperative societies (Article 43B).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Which of the following world's constitutions contain a list of Fundamental duties?

1. India
2. USA
3. France

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Fundamental Duties in the Indian Constitution are inspired by the Constitution of erstwhile USSR.

Notably, none of the Constitutions of major democratic countries like USA, Canada, France, Germany, and Australia and so on specifically contain a list of duties of citizens.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) The famous "Sardar Swaran Singh Committee" associated with which of the following?

- a) Preamble
- b) Fundamental rights
- c) Directive principles
- d) Fundamental duties

ANS: D

Explanation: In 1976, the Congress Party set up the Sardar Swaran Singh Committee to make recommendations about fundamental duties, the need and necessity of which was felt during the operation of the internal emergency (1975–1977).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Through which constitutional amendment act, “the fundamental duty to provide opportunities for education to his child or ward between the age of six and fourteen years” is added to fundamental duties?

- a) Twenty third
- b) Forty second
- c) Forty fourth
- d) Eighty sixth

ANS: D

Explanation: According to Article 51A, it shall be the duty of every citizen of India to provide opportunities for education to his child or ward between the age of six and fourteen years.

This duty was added by the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002.

Source: Laxmikanth

Amendment of Constitution & Basic Structure of the Constitution

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Part XX of the Constitution deals with the powers of Parliament to amend the Constitution and its procedure.
2. The Parliament cannot amend those provisions which form the ‘basic structure’ of the Constitution.

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

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

ANS: C

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

- It states that the Parliament may, in exercise of its constituent power, amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any provision of the Constitution in accordance with the procedure laid down for the purpose.
- However, the Parliament cannot amend those provisions which form the ‘basic structure’ of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Which of the following article of Indian Constitution deals with amendment procedure of the constitution?

- a) Article 2
- b) Article 13
- c) Article 368
- d) Article 392

ANS: C

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

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.3) Which of the following statements is/are correct about procedure of amendment of constitution?

1. An amendment of the Constitution can be initiated only in Parliament.
2. The bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member.
3. To introduce constitutional amendment bill require prior permission of the president.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The procedure for the amendment of the Constitution as laid down in Article 368 is as follows:

1. An amendment of the Constitution can be initiated only by the introduction of a bill for the purpose in either House of Parliament and not in the state legislatures.
2. The bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member and does not require prior permission of the president.
3. The bill must be passed in each House by a special majority, that is, a majority of the total membership of the House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of the House present and voting.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) In which of the following way/s is/are the constitution can be amended?

1. By simple majority of the Parliament.
2. By special majority of the Parliament.
3. By special majority of the Parliament and the ratification of one-third of the state legislatures.

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 can be amended in three ways:

- (a) Amendment by simple majority of the Parliament,
- (b) Amendment by special majority of the Parliament, and
- (c) Amendment by special majority of the Parliament and the ratification of half of the state legislatures.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Which of the following provision/s of Indian constitution is/are amended by simple majority?

1. Admission or establishment of new states.
2. Abolition or creation of legislative councils in states.
3. Second Schedule.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

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

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Which of the following provision/s of Indian constitution is/are amended by special majority?

1. Fundamental rights
2. Directive principles
3. Delimitation of constituencies

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The majority of the provisions in the Constitution need to be amended by a special majority of the Parliament, that is, a majority of the total membership of each House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of each House present and voting.

- The expression 'total membership' means the total number of members comprising the House irrespective of fact whether there are vacancies or absentees
- The provisions which can be amended by this way includes: (i) Fundamental Rights; (ii) Directive Principles of State Policy; and (iii) All other provisions which are not covered by the first and third categories.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Which of the following provision/s of Indian constitution is/are amended by special majority of Parliament and Consent of States?

1. Election of the President and its manner.
2. Supreme Court and high courts.
3. Goods and Services Tax Council.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Those provisions of the Constitution which are related to the federal structure of the polity can be amended by a special majority of the Parliament and also with the consent of half of the state legislatures by a simple majority.

The following provisions can be amended in this way:

1. Election of the President and its manner.
2. Extent of the executive power of the Union and the states.
3. Supreme Court and high courts.
4. Distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the states.

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5. Goods and Services Tax Council.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Which of the following feature/s is/are considered as basic structure of Indian Constitution?

1. Supremacy of the Constitution
2. Secular character of the Constitution
3. Separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

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

1. Supremacy of the Constitution
2. Sovereign, democratic and republican nature of the Indian polity
3. Secular character of the Constitution
4. Separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary
5. Federal character of the Constitution

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) The "Quorum in Parliament" is amended through which of the following procedure?

- a) Simple majority
- b) Special majority
- c) Special majority in parliament with states consent
- d) Both A and C

ANS: A

Explanation: The Quorum in Parliament is amended through simple majority.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) The "Part IVA" of Indian Constitution related to which of the following?

- a) Preamble
- b) Fundamental rights
- c) Directive principles
- d) Fundamental duties

ANS: D

Explanation: The Fundamental Duties mentioned in Part IVA of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

Emergency provisions

Q.1) The famous “Verma Committee” related to which of the following?

- a) Preamble
- b) Fundamental Rights
- c) Directive Principles
- d) Fundamental Duties

ANS: D

Explanation: The Verma Committee on Fundamental Duties of the Citizens (1999) identified the existence of legal provisions for the implementation of some of the Fundamental Duties.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Which of the following part of Indian Constitution related to emergency provisions?

- a) Part XII
- b) Part XV
- c) Part XVIII
- d) Part XX

ANS: C

Explanation: Emergency provisions are contained in Part XVIII of the Constitution, from Articles 352 to 360.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Which of the following is/are reasons for incorporation of emergency provisions in the Constitution?

1. safeguard the sovereignty
2. security of the country
3. Safeguarding the constitution

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The rationality behind the incorporation of these provisions in the Constitution is to safeguard the sovereignty, unity, integrity and security of the country, the democratic political system, and the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. During an Emergency, the Central government becomes all powerful and the states go into the total control of the Centre.
2. During an Emergency, the Central government converts the federal structure into a unitary one without a formal amendment of the Constitution.

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

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

ANS: D

Explanation: During an Emergency, the Central government becomes all powerful and the states go into the total control of the Centre.

- It converts the federal structure into a unitary one without a formal amendment of the Constitution.
- This kind of transformation of the political system from federal during normal times to unitary during Emergency is a unique feature of the Indian Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Which of the following article of Indian Constitution related to "President Rule"?

- a) Article 350
- b) Article 352
- c) Article 356
- d) Article 358

ANS: C

Explanation: An Emergency due to the failure of the constitutional machinery in the states (Article 356). This is popularly known as 'President's Rule'.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.
2. President can declare a national emergency even before the actual occurrence of war or external aggression or armed rebellion.

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

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Under Article 352, the President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.

It may be noted that the president can declare a national emergency even before the actual occurrence of war or external aggression or armed rebellion, if he is satisfied that there is an imminent danger.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.7) Which of the following constitutional amendment substituted the words armed rebellion for internal disturbance?

- a) Twenty - third
- b) Forty - second
- c) Forty - fourth
- d) Sixty - fifth

ANS: C

Explanation: Originally, the Constitution mentioned 'internal disturbance' as the third ground for the proclamation of a National Emergency, but the expression was too vague and had a wider connotation. Hence, the 44th Amendment Act of 1978 substituted the words 'armed rebellion' for 'internal disturbance'.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Article 358 deals with the suspension of the Fundamental Rights guaranteed by Article 19.
2. Article 359 authorizes the president to suspend the right to move any court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights during a National Emergency.

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

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Article 358 deals with the suspension of the Fundamental Rights guaranteed by Article 19, while Article 359 deals with the suspension of other Fundamental Rights (except those guaranteed by Articles 20 and 21).

Article 359 authorizes the president to suspend the right to move any court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights during a National Emergency.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which article of Indian constitution imposes a duty on the Centre to ensure that the government of every state is carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution?

- a) Article 351
- b) Article 355
- c) Article 356
- d) Article 358

ANS: B

Explanation: Article 355 imposes a duty on the Centre to ensure that the government of every state is carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.10) Which of the following article of Indian Constitution deals with “financial emergency”?

- a) Article 351
- b) Article 353
- c) Article 358
- d) Article 360

ANS: D

Explanation: Article 360 empowers the president to proclaim a Financial Emergency if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen due to which the financial stability or credit of India or any part of its territory is threatened.

Source: Laxmikanth

Revision

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Charter Act of 1833”:

1. It made the Governor-General of Bengal as the Governor General of India.
2. Lord Canning was the first Governor-General of India.

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 features of Charter Act of 1833 were as follows:

- It made the Governor-General of Bengal as the Governor General of India and vested in him all civil and military powers.
- Thus, the act created, for the first time, Government of India having authority over the entire territorial area possessed by the British in India.
- Lord William Bentick was the first Governor-General of India.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Which of the act ended the system of double Government by abolishing the Board of Control and Court of Directors?

- a) Charter Act of 1853
- b) Government of India Act of 1858
- c) Indian Councils Act of 1861
- d) Indian Councils Act of 1892

ANS: B

Explanation: Government of India Act of 1858 ended the system of double Government by abolishing the Board of Control and Court of Directors.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.3) Which of the following act created the office of “Secretary of State for India”?

- a) Charter Act of 1853
- b) Government of India Act of 1858
- c) Indian Councils Act of 1861
- d) Indian Councils Act of 1892

ANS: B

Explanation: Government of India Act of 1858 created a new office, Secretary of State for India, vested with complete authority and control over Indian administration.

The secretary of state was a member of the British Cabinet and was responsible ultimately to the British Parliament.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Which of the following event/s took place on 24th January 1950?

- 1. Adopted the national flag
- 2. Adopted the national anthem
- 3. Adopted the national song

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: In addition to the making of the Constitution and enacting of ordinary laws, the Constituent Assembly also performed the following functions:

- It ratified the India’s membership of the Commonwealth in May 1949.
- It adopted the national flag on July 22, 1947.
- It adopted the national anthem on January 24, 1950.
- It adopted the national song on January 24, 1950.
- It elected Dr. Rajendra Prasad as the first President of India on January 24, 1950.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Who among the following headed the “Union Constitution Committee”?

- a) B R Ambedkar
- b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- c) Sardar Patel
- d) M K Gandhi

ANS: B

Explanation: Union Constitution Committee was headed by Jawaharlal Nehru.

Source: Laxmikanth

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Q.6) Which of the following are non – federal features?

1. Single Constitution
2. Single Citizenship
3. Emergency Provisions

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The Indian Constitution also contains a large number of unitary or non-federal features, viz., a strong Centre, single Constitution, single citizenship, flexibility of Constitution, integrated judiciary, appointment of state governor by the Centre, all-India services, and emergency provisions and so on.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The term 'secular' was added to Indian Constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976.
2. The Indian Constitution embodies the positive concept of secularism.

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 term 'secular' too was added by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976.

- However, as the Supreme Court said in 1974, although the words 'secular state' were not expressed mentioned in the Constitution, there can be no doubt that Constitution makers wanted to establish such a state and accordingly Articles 25 to 28 (guaranteeing the fundamental right to freedom of religion) have been included in the constitution.
- The Indian Constitution embodies the positive concept of secularism ie, all religions in our country (irrespective of their strength) have the same status and support from the state.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Which of the following fundamental rights of Indian Constitution ensure "civic equality"?

1. Equality before the law.
2. Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.
3. Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The following provisions of the chapter on Fundamental Rights ensure civic equality:

(a) Equality before the law (Article 14).

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- (b) Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth (Article 15).
- (c) Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment (Article 16).
- (d) Abolition of untouchability (Article 17).
- (e) Abolition of titles (Article 18).

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Which of the following powers given article 3 of Indian Constitution to parliament?

1. To form a new state by separation of territory from any state.
2. To increase the area of any state.
3. To diminish the area of any state.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Article 3 authorizes the Parliament to:

- (a) form a new state by separation of territory from any state or by uniting two or more states or parts of states or by uniting any territory to a part of any state;
- (b) Increase the area of any state;
- (c) Diminish the area of any state;
- (d) Alter the boundaries of any state; and
- (e) Alter the name of any state.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Which of the following part of Indian Constitution related to Citizenship?

- A. Part II
- B. Part VII
- C. Part IX
- D. Part XI

ANS: A

Explanation: The Constitution deals with the citizenship from Articles 5 to 11 under Part II. However, it contains neither any permanent nor any elaborate provisions in this regard.

Source: Laxmikanth