

ForumIAS

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# Prelims Marathon

1<sup>st</sup> Week July, 2025

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HISTORY  
ECONOMICS  
POLITY  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

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## State Legislature

1. Consider the following statements regarding the passage of an ordinary bill in a State with a bicameral legislature:

1. The Legislative Council can delay an ordinary bill for a maximum of four months.
2. There is a constitutional provision for a joint sitting of both Houses to resolve a deadlock over such a bill.

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

**Answer: A) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- The Legislative Council can delay the bill for **three months** initially. If the Assembly re-passes the bill and sends it again, the Council can delay it for **one more month**, making a **total of four months**.
- Unlike Parliament, the **State Legislature does not have a provision for a joint sitting** to resolve disagreements between the two Houses.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

2. Consider the following statements regarding Money Bills in the State Legislature:

1. A Money Bill can be introduced only in the Legislative Assembly and only with the prior recommendation of the Governor.
2. The Legislative Council can amend a Money Bill but must return it within 14 days.
3. The Governor can return a Money Bill to the Legislative Assembly for reconsideration.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- A Money Bill can **only be introduced in the Legislative Assembly** and **only with the Governor's recommendation**.
- The Legislative Council **cannot amend** a Money Bill. It can **only make recommendations** and must return it within **14 days**.
- The **Governor cannot return** a Money Bill to the Assembly for reconsideration. He may **give assent, withhold assent, or reserve it for the President**, but cannot return it.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

3. Consider the following statements regarding the legislative procedure for ordinary bills in the **State Legislature**:

1. The Legislative Assembly can override the Legislative Council by passing the bill for the second time.
2. The Constitution provides for a joint sitting of the two Houses of the State Legislature to resolve a deadlock.
3. If a bill originating in the Legislative Council is rejected by the Assembly, it is considered to be passed after six months.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- The **Legislative Assembly can override** the Council by passing the bill **again**. If the Council rejects or does not act within one month, the bill is **deemed passed**.
- The **Constitution does not provide** for a **joint sitting** of the two Houses in a **State Legislature** (unlike Parliament).
- If a bill **originates in the Legislative Council** and is **rejected by the Assembly**, the **bill ends and becomes dead**. There is **no six-month waiting** like in Parliament.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

4. Consider the following statements regarding the **Legislative Council in a State**:

1. The Legislative Council has equal powers with the Legislative Assembly in approving ordinances issued by the Governor.
2. Ministers in a state can be members of either House, but are collectively responsible only to the 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

**Answer: A) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- The Legislative Council and Assembly are **equal in approving ordinances** issued by the Governor.
- While ministers can be from **either House**, they are **collectively responsible only to the Legislative Assembly**, not the Council.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

5. Consider the following statements regarding the Legislative Council in a State:

1. The Legislative Council can delay an ordinary bill passed by the Assembly for a maximum of four months.
2. The Council has equal powers with the Assembly in voting on the demands for grants during the budget session.

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

Answer: A) 1 only

Explanation:

- The Legislative Council can **delay an ordinary bill** for a **maximum of four months—three months initially** and **one month** if re-passed by the Assembly.
- The Council **cannot vote** on the demands for grants. This is an **exclusive power** of the Legislative Assembly.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

6. Consider the following statements regarding the privileges of the State Legislature:

1. The Advocate-General and state ministers enjoy the same privileges during legislative proceedings as the members of the State Legislature.
2. The Governor also enjoys legislative privileges as he is an integral part of the State 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

Answer: A) 1 only

Explanation:

- The **Advocate-General** and **state ministers**, though not always members of the legislature, enjoy the **same privileges** when participating in legislative proceedings.
- While the **Governor is an integral part** of the State Legislature, **he does not enjoy the legislative privileges** granted to the Houses or their members.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

7. Consider the following statements regarding the **individual privileges of members of a State Legislature**:

1. A member cannot be arrested in any case—civil or criminal—during the session of the State Legislature and 40 days before and after the session.
2. Members enjoy freedom of speech in the House and are not liable to court proceedings for anything said or voted in 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

Answer: B) 2 only

Explanation:

- Members **cannot be arrested in civil cases** during the session and **40 days before and after** it. However, this **does not apply to criminal or preventive detention cases**.
- Members have **freedom of speech** in the legislature and are **not liable to court proceedings** for anything said or any vote given in the House or its committees, **subject to constitutional and procedural rules**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

8. Consider the following statements regarding the Cabinet in a State Government:

1. The Cabinet is the supreme decision-making body in the politico-administrative system of a state.
2. Cabinet Committees in a state are formed by the Governor and are of two types—Standing and Ad hoc.

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

Answer: A) 1 only

Explanation:

- The Cabinet is the **real and highest decision-making authority** in the state and plays a central role in administration, legislation, finance, and crisis management.
- **Cabinet Committees are formed by the Chief Minister**, not the Governor. They may be **standing (permanent)** or **ad hoc (temporary)** depending on administrative needs.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

9. With reference to the **Legislative Council in Indian states**, consider the following statements:

1. The Legislative Council cannot vote on demands for grants and has only the right to discuss the budget.
2. The Council's existence can be abolished by the Parliament if the concerned State Legislative Assembly passes a resolution to that effect.
3. The Legislative Council has equal status with the Legislative Assembly in the ratification of a Constitutional Amendment Bill.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The **Legislative Council can only discuss the budget**; it **cannot vote** on the **demands for grants**, which is an **exclusive privilege of the Assembly**.
- The **Legislative Council can be abolished by Parliament** through a law passed on the basis of a **resolution adopted by the State Legislative Assembly with a special majority**.
- The **Legislative Council has no effective role** in the **ratification of Constitutional Amendment Bills**. That function is performed by **State Legislative Assemblies**, and **the will of the Assembly prevails**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)



10. With reference to the **privileges of State Legislatures in India**, consider the following statements:

1. Members of the State Legislature enjoy immunity from arrest in both civil and criminal cases during the session and 40 days before and after its sitting.
2. The courts are prohibited from inquiring into the proceedings of a House or its committees.
3. The Advocate General and State Ministers are entitled to legislative privileges as they can participate in House proceedings.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B. 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- Members are **immune from arrest only in civil cases**, not **criminal or preventive detention cases**, during the session and **40 days before and after**.
- **Courts cannot inquire** into the **proceedings** of a House or its **committees**, maintaining the **autonomy of the legislature**.
- Since **Ministers and the Advocate General** have the **right to speak and participate** in House proceedings, they also **enjoy legislative privileges** (though they cannot vote unless members).

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

## Supreme Court

1. With reference to the **judicial system in India**, consider the following statements:

1. India has a unified judiciary that enforces both central and state laws.
2. The system of integrated judiciary in India was adopted from the Government of India Act, 1935.
3. It was inaugurated on January 26, 1950, replacing the Federal Court of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3**

**Explanation:**

- India has a **unified judicial system**—the same judiciary enforces **both central and state laws**.
- This system was **adopted from the Government of India Act, 1935**, which laid the foundation for such a structure.
- The **Supreme Court was inaugurated on January 28, 1950**, not January 26.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

Here is a **UPSC Prelims-style MCQ** (Multiple Choice Question) with **three statements** based on the information you provided:

2. Consider the following statements regarding the **Supreme Court of India**:

1. The Constitution of India prescribes a minimum age limit for appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court.
2. The recommendation of the Chief Justice of India for appointment of other judges is binding on the President only when supported by a majority of a collegium of four seniormost judges.
3. A judge of the Supreme Court can be removed from office by the President after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a special majority.

Which of the above statements is/are **correct**?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- The Constitution does **not prescribe any minimum age** for appointment as a Supreme Court judge. The qualifications relate to experience as a judge, advocate, or a distinguished jurist.
- As per the **Third Judges Case (1998)**, the Chief Justice of India must consult a **collegium of four seniormost judges**, and the recommendation must be supported by a majority (i.e., at least three out of five including CJI) for it to be binding.
- A judge of the Supreme Court can be removed **only by the President**, and that too **after** an address by **both Houses of Parliament** passed with a **special majority** (majority of total membership + two-thirds of those present and voting).

**Source: laxmikant (Polity)**

3. Consider the following statements about **special appointments in the Supreme Court**:

1. An ad hoc judge is appointed by the President when there is a vacancy among permanent judges.
2. A retired judge can be asked to work as a Supreme Court judge, but he is not considered a regular judge.
3. An acting Chief Justice is appointed when the Chief Justice is absent, unable to work, or the post is vacant.

Which of the above statements is/are **correct**?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 2 only

**Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- An **ad hoc judge** is **not appointed by the President**. He is **appointed by the Chief Justice of India** (with the President's consent) when there are **not enough judges** to hold court, **not just because of a vacancy**.
- A **retired judge** can be called back for a short time, but is **not treated as a full-time or regular judge**.
- An **acting Chief Justice** is appointed **if the Chief Justice is absent**, sick, or the position is empty.

**Source: laxmikant (Polity)**

4. Consider the following statements regarding the **Supreme Court of India**:

1. The Chief Justice of India can change the seat of the Supreme Court to another place, but only with the approval of the President.
2. Constitutional cases are heard by a bench of at least five judges, while other cases are usually heard by at least three judges.

Which of the above statements is/are **correct**?

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

**Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2**



**Explanation:**

- As per the Constitution, the **seat of the Supreme Court is Delhi**, but the **Chief Justice of India** can appoint another place as the seat, **with the President's approval**.
- **Constitutional cases** (like those referred by the President under Article 143) are heard by a **bench of at least five judges**, while **other cases** are usually decided by **at least three judges**.

**Source: laxmikant (Polity)**

5. Consider the following statements regarding the **independence of the Supreme Court**:

1. The salaries and expenses of Supreme Court judges are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India and are not subject to voting in Parliament.
2. After retirement, Supreme Court judges are allowed to practice in High Courts or tribunals.
3. The Parliament cannot reduce the powers and jurisdiction of the Supreme Court but can increase them.

Which of the above statements is/are **correct**?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 1 and 3 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- The **expenses of the Supreme Court** (including judges' salaries) are **charged on the Consolidated Fund of India**, so they **cannot be voted on** by Parliament. This protects financial independence.
- **Retired Supreme Court judges are banned** from practicing law in any court or before any authority in India. This prevents post-retirement influence or bias.
- The **Parliament cannot reduce** the powers or jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. It **can only increase** them if needed.

**Source: laxmikant (Polity)**

6. Consider the following statements about the **original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court**:

1. The Supreme Court has exclusive power to decide disputes between the Centre and one or more states.
2. A private citizen can directly file a suit against the Centre or a state under the Supreme Court's original jurisdiction.
3. The Supreme Court's original jurisdiction does not cover inter-state water disputes or commercial disputes between the Centre and states.

Which of the above statements is/are **correct**?

- (a) 1 only  
(b) 1 and 3 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- The **Supreme Court has exclusive original jurisdiction** to resolve disputes between the Centre and one or more states, or between states.
- **Private citizens cannot file suits** under this jurisdiction. It is only for **federal disputes between governments**.
- **Inter-state water disputes**, commercial disputes, and other listed exceptions are **excluded** from the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

**Source: laxmikant (Polity)**

7. Consider the following statements regarding the **writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court**:

1. The Supreme Court and High Courts both can issue writs for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights.
2. The writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is wider than that of the High Courts.
3. The Supreme Court can issue writs only for enforcing Fundamental Rights, while High Courts can issue writs for other purposes too.

Which of the above statements is/are **correct**?

- (a) 1 only  
(b) 1 and 3 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- Both the **Supreme Court and High Courts** can issue writs for enforcing **Fundamental Rights**.
- The **writ jurisdiction of High Courts is wider** than the Supreme Court's, because High Courts can issue writs **for other legal purposes** too, not just Fundamental Rights.
- The **Supreme Court can issue writs only** to enforce Fundamental Rights. High Courts can issue writs for **Fundamental Rights and other legal purposes** (like legal duties under statutes).

**Source: laxmikant (Polity)**

8. Consider the following statements regarding the **Appellate Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court**:

1. In criminal cases, if a High Court reverses an acquittal and gives a death sentence, appeal to the Supreme Court is allowed as a matter of right.
2. The Supreme Court can hear appeals in civil and constitutional matters only if the High Court certifies that the case involves a substantial question of law.
3. The Supreme Court can grant special leave to appeal from any judgment of any court or tribunal in the country, including court-martial.

Which of the above statements is/are **correct**?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1 and 2 only

**Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- If a **High Court reverses an acquittal and gives a death sentence**, the **accused can appeal to the Supreme Court as a matter of right**, without needing a certificate.
- In **civil and constitutional matters**, a **certificate from the High Court** is needed saying that the case involves a **substantial question of law** important enough for the Supreme Court to decide.
- The **Supreme Court cannot grant special leave** to appeal against decisions of a **military tribunal or court-martial**. All other courts and tribunals are included, but military courts are excluded.

**Source: laxmikant (Polity)**

9. Consider the following statements about the powers of the **Supreme Court of India**:

1. The opinion given by the Supreme Court under Article 143 is binding on the President.
2. As a Court of Record, the Supreme Court can punish for contempt of itself as well as of lower courts and tribunals.
3. The Supreme Court must give its opinion to the President if the matter relates to a pre-constitutional treaty or agreement.

Which of the above statements is/are **correct**?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation):**

- The opinion given by the Supreme Court under Article 143 is **advisory**, not binding. The President **may or may not follow it**.
- As a **Court of Record**, the Supreme Court can **punish for contempt** of itself **and** of High Courts, subordinate courts, and tribunals across India.
- If the reference under Article 143 relates to a **pre-constitutional treaty or agreement**, the Supreme Court is **required** to give its opinion to the President.

**Source: laxmikant (Polity)**

10. Consider the following statements regarding **Advocates practicing in the Supreme Court of India**:

1. Senior Advocates can appear without an Advocate-on-Record in the Supreme Court.
2. Only **Advocates-on-Record** are entitled to file documents and act for a party in the Supreme Court.
3. Other Advocates can appear and argue cases in the Supreme Court but cannot file any documents before the Court.

Which of the above statements is/are **correct**?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Senior Advocates** must appear with an **Advocate-on-Record** in the Supreme Court and cannot appear without one.
- Only **Advocates-on-Record** can file documents, appear, or act for a party in the Supreme Court.
- **Other Advocates** can argue cases in the Supreme Court but cannot **file any documents** before the Court.

## High Court

1. **Consider the following statements regarding the appointment of High Court judges in India:**

1. The strength of a High Court is fixed by the Constitution and cannot be altered without a Constitutional Amendment.
2. The Chief Justice of a High Court is appointed by the President after consulting the Chief Justice of India and the Governor of the concerned state.

**Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?**

- A. 1 only  
B. 2 only  
C. Both 1 and 2  
D. Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: B. 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- The Constitution **does not specify the strength** of a High Court. It leaves this decision to the **discretion of the President**, who determines it from time to time based on workload. Hence, no Constitutional Amendment is required to alter the strength.
- The **Chief Justice of a High Court** is appointed by the **President** after **consultation with the Chief Justice of India and the Governor** of the concerned state, as per constitutional practice upheld by the judiciary.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

**2. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement I:** The Constitution of India allows the appointment of a distinguished jurist as a judge of a High Court.

**Statement II:** The qualifications for appointment as a judge of a High Court include being a citizen of India and either holding a judicial office for 10 years or being an advocate in a High Court for 10 years.

**Which one of the following is correct?**

- A. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- B. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- C. Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct
- D. Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect

**Answer: C. Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct**

**Explanation:**

- The Constitution does not provide for the appointment of a distinguished jurist as a judge of a High Court (this provision exists only for the Supreme Court).
- It accurately lists the constitutional qualifications for a High Court judge: Must be a **citizen of India** and must have **held judicial office in India for 10 years** or been an **advocate of a High Court for 10 years**

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

**3. Consider the following statements about the removal of a High Court judge:**

- 1. A High Court judge can be removed by the President after a special majority of both Houses of Parliament supports the removal.
- 2. The only grounds for removal are proved misbehaviour or incapacity.
- 3. The removal procedure for High Court judges is different from that of Supreme Court judges.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- A High Court judge can be removed only after **both Houses of Parliament** pass the motion with a **special majority**, and then the **President issues the removal order**.
- The **only two grounds** for removal are **proved misbehaviour or incapacity**.
- The removal procedure is the **same** for judges of the **High Court and the Supreme Court**.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

4. Consider the following statements regarding the appointment of an Acting Chief Justice of a High Court:

1. The President can appoint a judge of a High Court as Acting Chief Justice only when the Chief Justice retires.
2. A judge can be appointed as Acting Chief Justice when the Chief Justice is temporarily absent or unable to perform duties.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B. 2 only

Explanation:

- Appointment of an Acting Chief Justice is not **limited to retirement**. It also includes situations where the Chief Justice is **absent temporarily** or **unable to perform duties**.
- The **President can appoint** an Acting Chief Justice when the **Chief Justice is temporarily absent** or **unable to discharge duties**, apart from when the **office is vacant**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

5. Consider the following statements:

1. An additional judge in a High Court can be appointed by the President for a period not exceeding two years to clear arrears of work.
2. A retired judge appointed temporarily to a High Court enjoys all powers of a judge but is not considered a regular judge of that court.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C. Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- The President can appoint an **additional judge** for up to **two years** in case of **arrears** or **temporary increase in work** in the High Court.
- A **retired judge** acting temporarily has **all the powers and privileges** of a judge but is **not deemed to be a permanent judge** of that High Court.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

6. Consider the following statements:

**Statement I:** The salaries and allowances of High Court judges are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.

**Statement II:** This is done to ensure the independence of the High Court from the control of the state legislature.

Which one of the following is correct?

- A. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- B. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- C. Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct
- D. Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect



**Answer: C. Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct**

**Explanation:**

- The salaries and allowances of High Court judges are charged on the Consolidated Fund of the respective state, not the Consolidated Fund of India. Only pensions of High Court judges are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
- The idea of charging salaries on the Consolidated Fund (non-votable) is indeed to ensure judicial independence by shielding the judiciary from financial control of the legislature.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

**7. Consider the following statements:**

1. Only the High Courts of Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, and Delhi exercise original civil jurisdiction in cases of higher pecuniary value.
2. High Courts can hear matters related to wills, marriage, divorce, and contempt of court under their original jurisdiction.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: C. Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation:**

- Only the High Courts of Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, and Delhi have original civil jurisdiction in matters of higher pecuniary value.
- High Courts have original jurisdiction in cases related to wills, marriage, divorce, company law, and contempt of court.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

**8. Consider the following statements:**

1. High Courts can issue writs not only for the enforcement of fundamental rights but also for the enforcement of ordinary legal rights.
2. The writ jurisdiction of the High Court under Article 226 is narrower than that of the Supreme Court under Article 32.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: A. 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- Article 226 empowers High Courts to issue writs for the enforcement of both fundamental rights and ordinary legal rights ("for any other purpose").
- The writ jurisdiction of High Courts is wider than that of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court under Article 32 can issue writs only for fundamental rights, whereas High Courts can do so for both fundamental and other legal rights.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**



9. Consider the following statements:

1. A High Court can hear second appeals in civil cases only when a substantial question of law is involved.
2. A death sentence awarded by a Sessions Court must be confirmed by the High Court even if no appeal is filed by the convicted person.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C. Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- A **second appeal in civil matters** lies to the High Court **only on questions of law**, not on facts. This is clearly provided under its appellate jurisdiction.
- A **death sentence** passed by a Sessions or Additional Sessions Court **must be confirmed by the High Court, regardless of whether the convicted person files an appeal** or not.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

10. Consider the following statements:

1. The High Court can exercise supervisory jurisdiction over military tribunals functioning within its territorial limits.
2. The High Court's control over subordinate courts includes administrative matters like posting, promotion, and disciplinary control of judges below the rank of district judge.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B. 2 only

Explanation:

- The High Court's **supervisory jurisdiction does not extend to military courts or tribunals**.
- The High Court **has administrative control** over the **judicial service of the state (excluding district judges)** — including **posting, promotion, leave, transfer, and discipline**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

## Governor

1. With reference to the **appointment of Governors in India**, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor is appointed by the President and holds an independent constitutional office.
2. The Constitution requires the President to consult the Chief Minister of the concerned state before appointing a 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

**Answer: A. 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- The **Governor** is appointed by the President under Article 155 of the Constitution. The Supreme Court has clarified that the Governor is not an agent of the Central Government, and instead, occupies an independent constitutional position.
- The **Constitution does not mandate that the President consult the Chief Minister** before appointing a Governor. While it may happen informally as a political courtesy, it is not a constitutional requirement.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

2. With reference to the **office of the Governor in India**, consider the following statements:

1. A Governor cannot be a member of Parliament or a State Legislature while in office.
2. The emoluments and allowances of a Governor cannot be reduced during their term of office.
3. The oath of office to the Governor is administered by the Chief Justice of India.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- A **Governor is not allowed to hold membership of either House of Parliament or any state legislature**. If such a person is appointed, their seat is automatically vacated.
- The Constitution ensures that the **emoluments and allowances of a Governor cannot be diminished** during their tenure.
- The **Chief Justice of the concerned State High Court**, not the Chief Justice of India, administers the oath of office to the Governor.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

3. With reference to the **veto powers of the Governor in India**, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor enjoys both suspensive and absolute veto with respect to ordinary bills.
2. The Governor has the power to reserve a state bill for the consideration of the President.
3. If a state bill is reserved for the President, the Governor has no further role in its enactment.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B. 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- The **Governor enjoys only a *suspensive veto*** with respect to ordinary bills — if a bill is returned and passed again, he **must give assent**. He **does not enjoy an *absolute veto*** in this case.
- The Governor can **reserve any state bill for the consideration of the President**, especially in cases involving constitutional issues or matters requiring central oversight.
- Once the **Governor reserves a bill**, he has **no further role** in the process. The bill's enactment **depends entirely on the President's decision**.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

4. With reference to the **executive powers of the Governor in India**, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor appoints the State Election Commissioner, but can remove him at his discretion.
2. The Governor appoints the Advocate General of the State, who holds office during the Governor's pleasure.
3. The Governor can recommend the imposition of President's Rule in the state to the President.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B. 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- While the **Governor appoints** the State Election Commissioner, **he cannot remove** him at his discretion. The **State Election Commissioner can only be removed in the same manner and on the same grounds as a High Court judge, i.e., by the President**, not the Governor.
- The **Governor appoints the Advocate General** of the State, and he **holds office during the pleasure of the Governor**, with his remuneration also determined by the Governor.
- The Governor can **recommend the imposition of constitutional emergency (President's Rule)** in a state to the President under Article 356.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

5. With reference to the **legislative powers of the Governor in India**, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor can return a money bill to the state legislature for reconsideration.
2. The Governor can nominate a member of the Anglo-Indian community to the State Legislative Assembly.
3. The Governor can promulgate ordinances when the state legislature is not in session, which must be approved within six weeks of reassembly.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 2 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A. 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- A **money bill cannot be returned** by the Governor for reconsideration. It must either be **given assent** or **withheld** — **no provision exists for returning a money bill**.
- The Governor has the power to **nominate one member of the Anglo-Indian community** to the State Legislative Assembly if he/she believes the community is not adequately represented.
- The Governor can **promulgate ordinances** when the state legislature is not in session. Such ordinances must be **approved within six weeks** of the legislature's reassembly.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

6. With reference to the **financial powers of the Governor in India**, consider the following statements:

1. A Money Bill can be introduced in the State Legislature only with the prior recommendation of the Governor.
2. The Governor can authorize withdrawals from the Contingency Fund of the state to meet unforeseen expenditures.
3. The Governor constitutes the State Finance Commission every five years to review the financial position of Panchayats and Municipalities.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3**

**Explanation:**

- As per **Article 207**, Money Bills in the state can be introduced **only with the prior recommendation of the Governor**.
- The Governor is empowered to **make advances out of the Contingency Fund of the state** to meet **unforeseen expenditures**.
- The Governor constitutes a **State Finance Commission** every **five years** to assess and improve the **financial position of Panchayats and Municipalities**, as mandated by the **73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments**.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

7. With reference to the **judicial powers of the Governor in India**, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor can pardon any person convicted under a state law, to the extent permitted by the executive power of the state.
2. The Governor appoints district judges in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.
3. The Governor is consulted by the President while appointing judges to the High Court of the concerned state.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B. 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- The Governor has the power to **grant pardons, reprieves, respites, and remissions of punishment** under laws related to matters within the **executive power of the state** (Article 161).
- The Governor **appoints district judges** in consultation with the **State High Court**, **not** the Chief Justice of India.
- The **President consults the Governor** of the concerned state while **appointing judges to the High Court** under Article 217.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

8. With reference to the **constitutional position of the Governor in India**, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor is constitutionally bound to act on the advice of the Council of Ministers in all matters, without exception.
2. The Constitution allows the Governor to act in his discretion in certain specific situations, such as reserving a bill for the President's consideration.
3. Unlike the President, ministerial advice is not constitutionally binding on the Governor.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B. 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- The Governor is **not constitutionally bound in all matters** to act on the advice of the Council of Ministers. There are **explicit provisions** for acting in **discretion** in certain situations.
- The Constitution provides for **discretionary powers** of the Governor in certain matters, such as **reserving a bill for the President's consideration, recommending President's Rule**, etc.
- Unlike the President (after the **42nd Amendment**), the **Governor is not constitutionally bound** to act on ministerial advice in all cases. **Article 163** allows discretion in certain functions.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

9. With reference to the **pardoning powers of the President and the Governor in India**, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor can pardon a death sentence awarded under state law.
2. The President can grant a pardon in cases of court-martial, but the Governor cannot.
3. Both the President and the Governor can suspend, remit or commute a death sentence.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B. 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- The **Governor cannot pardon a death sentence**, even under state law. Only the **President** has the power to grant a **pardon** for a death sentence. The Governor can only **suspend, remit, or commute** it.
- The **President** has the power to **grant pardons and other relief** in cases involving **court-martial (military court)**. The **Governor does not have** this power.
- **Both** the President and the Governor can **suspend, remit, or commute** a **death sentence**, but **only the President can pardon it**.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

10. With reference to the **ordinance-making power of the Governor in India**, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor can issue an ordinance only when he is satisfied that immediate action is necessary and the State Legislature is not in session.
2. The Governor can issue an ordinance only on the advice of the Council of Ministers headed by the Chief Minister.
3. The Governor does not require any instruction from the President to issue any ordinance.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- The Governor can promulgate an ordinance **only when the State Legislature is not in session and he is satisfied** that circumstances exist which require **immediate action**.
- The ordinance-making power of the Governor is **not discretionary**. He **must act on the advice** of the **Council of Ministers headed by the Chief Minister**.
- The **Governor does need the President's instructions** in **three specific cases**, such as when the provisions of the proposed ordinance would require prior sanction or would otherwise be invalid without Presidential assent.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**



## Subordinate Courts

1. With reference to the constitutional provisions regarding subordinate courts in India, consider the following statements:

1. The appointment of district judges in a state is made by the Governor in consultation with the State Public Service Commission.
2. A person already in the service of the Central or State Government is not eligible for appointment as a district judge.

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

**Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- The Governor appoints district judges **in consultation with the High Court**, not the State Public Service Commission.
- A person already in the service of the Central or State Government is not eligible to be appointed as a district judge.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

2. With reference to the control and classification of subordinate courts under the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. The High Court has control over the posting, promotion, and leave of all judges in the state, including district judges.
2. The term 'district judge' includes judges of city civil courts, sessions courts, and small cause courts.

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

**Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- The High Court has control over subordinate courts **excluding** district judges (i.e., over posts **inferior** to district judge). Control over **district judges** involves the Governor in consultation with the High Court
- The term 'district judge' includes various posts such as judge of a city civil court, additional district judge, joint district judge, assistant district judge, chief judge of a small cause court, etc.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

3. With reference to the structure and jurisdiction of subordinate courts in India, consider the following statements:

1. The District Judge has both original and appellate jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters and also functions as the Sessions Judge.
2. The Chief Judicial Magistrate can impose any sentence, including capital punishment, subject to confirmation by the High Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (a) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- The District Judge is the highest judicial authority in the district and functions as the Sessions Judge when dealing with criminal cases. He has both original and appellate jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters.
- Only the **Sessions Judge** can impose life imprisonment or capital punishment, **not** the Chief Judicial Magistrate. The Chief Judicial Magistrate can impose imprisonment **up to seven years** only.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

4. With reference to the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), consider the following statements:

1. NALSA was constituted under Article 39A of the Constitution to monitor and implement legal aid programmes across the country.
2. Victims of trafficking and industrial disasters are eligible for free legal services under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

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

**Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- NALSA was constituted under the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987**, **not directly under Article 39A** (though Article 39A provides the constitutional basis for free legal aid).
- Victims of trafficking, industrial disasters, and other vulnerable groups are eligible for free legal services under the Act.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

**5. With reference to Lok Adalats in India, consider the following statements:**

1. Lok Adalats can settle disputes only after they have been formally brought before a court of law.
2. Lok Adalats are based on Gandhian principles and aim to provide an informal, inexpensive, and speedy resolution of disputes through conciliation and negotiation.

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

**Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- Lok Adalats can settle both **pending cases** and **pre-litigation disputes** (i.e., cases not yet brought before a court).
- Lok Adalats are indeed based on **Gandhian principles** and offer an **alternative dispute resolution** mechanism focused on **amicable settlement** through **negotiation and conciliation**, in an **informal and cost-effective manner**.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

**6. With reference to the functioning of Lok Adalats in India, consider the following statements:**

1. The award passed by a Lok Adalat is binding on the parties and is non-appealable.
2. Lok Adalats strictly follow the Civil Procedure Code and the Indian Evidence Act during the proceedings.

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

**Answer: (a) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- The **award of a Lok Adalat** is **binding**, has the **status of a civil court decree**, and is **non-appealable**, ensuring finality of settlement.
- Lok Adalats offer **procedural flexibility** and do **not strictly apply** the Civil Procedure Code or Evidence Act. This is what allows for **speedy and informal resolution** of disputes.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

**7. With reference to Permanent Lok Adalats (PLAs), consider the following statements:**

1. Permanent Lok Adalats have jurisdiction over public utility services and can decide disputes even if parties fail to reach a settlement.
2. Once a matter is referred to a Permanent Lok Adalat, the parties can still approach a regular court for the same dispute.

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

**Answer: (a) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- Permanent Lok Adalats deal with disputes related to **public utility services** and can **decide the matter on merits** if conciliation fails.
- Once an application is made to a PLA, **no party can invoke the jurisdiction of any court** in respect of that dispute.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

8. Consider the following statements about the Family Courts Act, 1984:

**Statement I:** Family Courts deal with cases like divorce, child custody, maintenance, and guardianship.

**Statement II:** Parties in Family Courts have an automatic right to be represented by a lawyer in all cases.

Which one is correct?

- (a) Both statements are correct and Statement II explains Statement I
- (b) Both statements are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

Answer: (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect

Explanation:

- Family Courts handle issues related to marriage, child custody, maintenance, and similar matters.
- In Family Courts, parties **do not have an automatic right** to be represented by a lawyer. The court may allow a lawyer **only if necessary for justice**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

9. With reference to the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, consider the following statements:

1. Gram Nyayalayas were established to provide speedy and affordable justice to rural citizens at their doorstep.
2. The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 was enacted on the directions of the recommendations of the Law Commission's 114th Report.

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- The main objective of Gram Nyayalayas is to bring **speedy, inexpensive, and accessible justice** to people, especially in **rural areas**.
- The Act was **not enacted solely on the Supreme Court's directions** under Article 39A. It was based largely on the **recommendations of the Law Commission's 114th Report**, and aligns with **Article 39A**, but was a **legislative initiative**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

10. With reference to the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, consider the following statements:

1. Gram Nyayalayas are mobile courts that exercise both civil and criminal jurisdiction and aim to promote conciliation between parties.
2. The presiding officer of a Gram Nyayalaya is appointed by the High Court and functions with the powers of a District Judge.

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

**Answer: (a) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- Gram Nyayalayas **function as mobile courts**, have **civil and criminal jurisdiction**, and aim for **conciliation** using conciliators.
- The **presiding officer (Nyayadhikari)** is appointed by the **State Government in consultation with the High Court**, and they function as **Judicial Magistrates of First Class**, **not** District Judges.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

## Inter-state relations

1. With reference to Article 262 of the Indian Constitution and related laws, consider the following statements:

1. Parliament is empowered to legislate on the adjudication of inter-state river water disputes.
2. The Supreme Court has exclusive jurisdiction over inter-state water disputes once a tribunal gives its verdict.

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

**Answer: (a) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- Article 262(1) of the Constitution allows **Parliament to make laws for adjudication** of inter-state water disputes. Accordingly, the **Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956** was enacted.
- Article 262(2) **explicitly permits Parliament to exclude the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and all other courts** in such disputes. The Inter-State Water Disputes Act enforces this by stating that once a **tribunal is constituted and gives its decision, no court can intervene**.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

2. With reference to the Inter-State Council as mentioned in Article 263 of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. The Inter-State Council can be established by the President if it appears that public interest would be served.
2. The Council has the power to give binding decisions on legal disputes between states.
3. The Council can make recommendations to improve coordination of policy and action between the Centre and states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only**

Explanation:

- Article 263 empowers the **President to establish an Inter-State Council** if it appears to him that doing so would serve public interest. He also has the authority to define its duties, organisation, and procedures.
- The Inter-State Council's role is **advisory**, not adjudicatory. It can **enquire into and advise** on inter-state disputes, but it **cannot give binding decisions** like the Supreme Court under Article 131.
- One of the explicitly mentioned functions of the Council is **making recommendations** to improve **coordination of policy and action** between the Centre and the states on subjects of common interest.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

3. **With reference to the Inter-State Council, consider the following statements:**

1. It was established in 1990 based on the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission.
2. The Prime Minister is the Chairman of the 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

**Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2**

Explanation:

- The **Sarkaria Commission (1983-87)** strongly recommended the establishment of a **permanent Inter-State Council** under Article 263. Acting on this recommendation, the **V. P. Singh Government established the Inter-State Council in 1990**.
- The **Prime Minister is the Chairman** of the Inter-State Council. Other members include Chief Ministers of States and UTs with legislatures, Administrators of UTs without legislatures, Governors of states under President's Rule, and nominated Central Ministers.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**



4. With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. The final judgments of civil courts in one state are enforceable in any other part of India without the need for a fresh suit.
2. Article 301 guarantees absolute freedom of inter-state trade and commerce, with no restrictions permitted under any circumstances.
3. A state legislature can impose reasonable restrictions on intra-state trade, but only with the prior sanction of the President.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only**

Explanation:

- Under the **“Full Faith and Credit” clause**, final civil judgments from courts in one part of India are **automatically executable anywhere in India—no fresh suit is required**. However, this applies **only to civil** and **not criminal** cases.
- Article 301 guarantees freedom of trade, commerce, and intercourse **throughout India**, but this freedom is **not absolute**. Articles **302–305** allow for **reasonable restrictions** by Parliament or State Legislatures in the **public interest**.
- A **State Legislature** can indeed impose **reasonable restrictions** on trade within or into its territory **in public interest, but only with the previous sanction of the President**.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

5. With reference to the Zonal Councils in India, consider the following statements:

1. Zonal Councils are constitutional bodies created under Article 263 of the Constitution.
2. The Home Minister of India is the common Chairman of all Zonal Councils.
3. Zonal Councils have powers to adjudicate inter-state disputes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b) 2 only**

Explanation:

- Zonal Councils are **statutory bodies**, not constitutional. They were established under the **States Reorganisation Act, 1956, not under Article 263**.
- The **Union Home Minister** is the **common Chairman** of all the five Zonal Councils—Northern, Southern, Eastern, Western, and Central.
- Zonal Councils are **deliberative and advisory bodies**. They do **not have adjudicatory powers**. They can only discuss and make **recommendations** on matters like border disputes, economic planning, and inter-state coordination.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

6. With reference to the **North-Eastern Council (NEC)**, consider the following statements:

1. It is a constitutional body established under Article 263 of the Constitution.
2. Its functions include preparing a coordinated regional plan and reviewing security measures in the region.
3. Sikkim is also a member of the North-Eastern Council.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only**

Explanation:

- The **North-Eastern Council is a statutory body, not a constitutional body**. It was established by a **separate Act of Parliament—the North-Eastern Council Act, 1971, and not under Article 263**.
- NEC functions include **formulating a coordinated regional plan and reviewing security and public order measures** taken by member states in the region.
- Though **Sikkim** was not an original member, it was later **included as a member of NEC**, along with the other seven North-Eastern states (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura).

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

7. With reference to the Inter-State Council established under Article 263 of the Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. The Inter-State Council is a Constitutional body established under Article 263 of the Constitution of India.
2. Its members include CMs of States/UTs with legislatures, UT Administrators, Governors under President's Rule, and 6 Union Ministers.

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

**Answer: C. Both 1 and 2**

Explanation:

- The **Inter-State Council is a constitutional body** provided for under **Article 263** of the Indian Constitution. It is meant to **facilitate coordination between states and between the Centre and states** on policy and administrative issues.
- As per the composition approved by the government:
  - **Chief Ministers of all States**
  - **Chief Ministers of Union Territories with legislatures** (e.g., Delhi, Puducherry)
  - **Administrators of Union Territories without legislatures**
  - **Governors of States under President's Rule**
  - **Six Union Ministers of Cabinet rank** nominated by the Prime Minister

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

**8. With reference to the National Development Council (NDC), consider the following statements:**

1. The NDC was established by an Act of Parliament in 1952.
2. It serves as the apex body for decision-making and deliberations on development matters in India.
3. The NDC is neither a constitutional body nor a statutory body.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B. 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- The NDC was **not established by an Act of Parliament**. It was created by an **executive resolution** in 1952 and thus is **not statutory**.
- The NDC functions as the **apex body for decision-making and deliberation on development matters**.
- The NDC is **neither a constitutional nor a statutory body**, making it an **executive (non-legal) body**.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

**9. With reference to the constitutional provisions governing inter-state relations in India, consider the following statements:**

1. Article 262 empowers Parliament to prohibit the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and High Courts in matters related to inter-state river water disputes.
2. Articles 301 to 307, under Part XIII of the Constitution, aim to ensure freedom of trade, commerce, and intercourse throughout the territory of India, subject to reasonable restrictions.

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

**Answer: C. Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation:**

- **Article 262** gives **Parliament the power** to provide by law for the **adjudication of disputes relating to inter-state rivers and river valleys**. It also allows Parliament to **exclude the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and High Courts** in such disputes, as done in the **Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956**.
- **Articles 301 to 307** fall under **Part XIII** of the Constitution, which deals with **Trade, Commerce and Intercourse within the Territory of India**.
  - **Article 301** guarantees freedom of trade and commerce across the country.
  - However, **Articles 302–305** allow for **reasonable restrictions** in the interest of public interest, national security, or state welfare.

**Source: Laxmikant (Polity)**

**10. With reference to the constitutional provisions on inter-state trade and commerce, consider the following statements:**

1. Article 303 places restrictions on the legislative powers of both the Union and the States with regard to trade and commerce.
2. Article 307 empowers Parliament to establish an authority to ensure proper implementation of provisions related to inter-state trade.

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

Answer: C. Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- Article 303 restricts the **legislative powers** of both the **Union and States** from making any law that gives **preferential treatment to one state over another** or **discriminates between states** in matters of trade and commerce. However, exceptions are allowed by Parliament.
- Article 307 allows Parliament to set up an authority to oversee and implement the trade-related provisions in Articles 301 to 304.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)