

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

4th Week June, 2025

HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

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Central Government- President

1. With reference to the election of the President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The nominated members of Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies do not participate in the election of the President.
2. The value of the vote of an MP is the same across both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and is derived from the total votes assigned to all elected MLAs of states.
3. The election of the President follows the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

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

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

Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- Nominated members of both Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies (as well as State Legislative Councils) do not participate in the presidential election.
- The value of an MP's vote is calculated by dividing the total value of votes of all elected MLAs by the total number of elected MPs (from both Houses). This value is the same for each MP regardless of the House.
- As per Article 55- The election is conducted by proportional representation through the single transferable vote (STV) system.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

2. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched with reference to the pardoning powers under Article 72 of the Indian Constitution?

Type of Clemency Power	Description
1. Pardon	Removes both conviction and sentence completely
2. Commutation	Substitution of a heavier punishment with a lighter one
3. Remission	Temporary stay of execution, especially of a death sentence
4. Reprieve	Reduction of sentence without altering its character

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3 only

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Pardon** – It removes both sentence and conviction, fully absolving the convict.
- **Commutation**- It means changing one form of punishment into a lighter one (e.g., death sentence to life imprisonment).
- **Remission** -It refers to reducing the duration of sentence without changing its nature, not a stay of execution.
- **Reprieve**-It means a temporary stay of execution, especially to allow time for a pardon appeal. The description matches reprieve, not remission.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

3. With reference to the conditions of the President's office in India, consider the following statements:

1. A person elected as President must resign from membership of Parliament or State Legislature before entering office.
2. The emoluments and allowances of the President, once fixed by Parliament, cannot be reduced during his term of office.
3. The President is immune from civil and criminal proceedings for all acts, official or personal, during his tenure without any exception.

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 person elected as President is deemed to have vacated their seat in Parliament or State Legislature on entering office. They **must not hold any legislative seat** during their tenure.
- The President's emoluments and allowances **cannot be reduced** during the term of office, ensuring independence and dignity of the office.
- The President is **immune from criminal proceedings** during the term, even for personal acts. However, **civil proceedings** for personal acts can be initiated **after giving two months' notice**. So there is an exception.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

4. With reference to the term and impeachment of the President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The President may continue to hold office beyond five years until a duly elected successor assumes charge.
2. The process of impeachment can be initiated in either House of Parliament and requires a simple majority in both Houses to succeed.
3. Nominated members of Parliament can participate in the impeachment process, but elected members of State Legislative Assemblies cannot.

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

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The President can continue in office **even after the completion of the five-year term** until the **newly elected President assumes office**.
- The impeachment process requires a **two-thirds majority** of the **total membership** of both Houses, not a simple majority.
- **Nominated members of Parliament can** participate in the **impeachment** process. However, **elected MLAs of states and UTs, who take part in the election, do not participate in impeachment**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

5. With reference to the vacancy in the office of the President of India, consider the following statements:

1. If the vacancy arises due to the expiration of the President's term, the Vice-President automatically discharges the functions of the President until a new President is elected.
2. If the President resigns, dies, or is removed, the election to fill the vacancy must be held within six months.
3. When the Vice-President or Chief Justice of India is acting as President, they enjoy all powers, immunities, and privileges of the President.

Which of the above statements 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:

- When the President's **term expires**, the **President continues** in office **until the new President assumes charge**. The **Vice-President does not act as President** in this case. There is **no interregnum**.
- If the **President vacates office** due to **resignation, removal, death, or otherwise**, a new election **must be held within six months**.
- When the **Vice-President, Chief Justice of India, or seniormost SC judge** acts as President, they are entitled to **all the powers, immunities, and privileges** of the President.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

6. With reference to the executive powers of the President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The President can seek information regarding Union administration and legislative proposals directly from the Prime Minister.
2. The President appoints the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Governors of States, and members of the Election Commission.
3. The President cannot allocate business among ministers; this power lies exclusively with the Prime Minister.

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:

- The President **can seek information** related to the **administration and legislative proposals** from the Prime Minister.
- The President **appoints** the **CAG, Governors, and Election Commissioners**, among others.
- The President **can make rules** for the **transaction of business and allocation of business** among ministers. This is a **constitutional power**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

7. With reference to the legislative powers of the President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The President can return a Money Bill to Parliament for reconsideration if he disagrees with it.
2. The President can nominate members to both the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha.
3. It is obligatory for the President to give assent to a state bill if it is passed again by the state legislature after being returned for reconsideration.

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

- (a) 2 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) None

Answer: (B) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The President **cannot return a Money Bill** to Parliament. He can either **give assent** or **withhold assent**, but **cannot return it** for reconsideration.

- The President **nominates 12 members** to the **Rajya Sabha** (from fields like literature, science, art, and social service) and **2 Anglo-Indian members** to the **Lok Sabha** (**though this provision was abolished by the 104th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019 — it was valid earlier**).
- Unlike in the case of Union Bills, the President is **not obligated** to give assent to a **state bill** even if it is passed again by the legislature and sent back after reconsideration.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

8. With reference to the financial powers of the President of India, consider the following statements:

1. Money Bills can be introduced in either House of Parliament with the President's prior approval.
2. The President can authorize advances from the Contingency Fund of India to meet unforeseen expenditure.
3. The President constitutes a Finance Commission every five years to recommend revenue distribution between the Centre and the states.

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:

- A **Money Bill** can only be introduced in the **Lok Sabha**, not in either House. Also, it **requires the President's prior recommendation**. So the part about "either House" makes the statement wrong.
- The President can **authorize advances from the Contingency Fund of India** to meet any **unforeseen expenditure**.
- The President **constitutes a Finance Commission every five years to recommend distribution of financial resources** between the Centre and the states.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

9. With reference to the powers of the President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The President can grant pardon or commute death sentences, but only on the advice of the Supreme Court.
2. The President concludes international treaties and agreements on behalf of India, but they require Parliamentary approval.
3. The President can declare war or conclude peace, subject to Parliamentary approval.

Which of the above statements 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:

- The President can grant **pardon, reprieve, remission, or commute** sentences **independently under Article 72**, especially for Union offences and death sentences. The **advice of the Supreme Court is not binding** on the President and is **not required** for exercising this power.
- The President negotiates and concludes **international treaties and agreements**, but they require **approval of the Parliament**.
- The President can **declare war or conclude peace**, but it is **subject to the approval of the Parliament**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

10. With reference to the powers of the President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The President can exercise all three types of vetoes—absolute, suspensive, and pocket—but not qualified veto.
2. The President is constitutionally bound to give assent to constitutional amendment bills passed by Parliament.

3. During a national emergency under Article 360, the President can declare war or suspend fundamental rights.

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:

- The President of India has **three types of veto powers**:
 - **Absolute Veto** (can withhold assent permanently),
 - **Suspensive Veto** (can return a non-Money Bill for reconsideration), and
 - **Pocket Veto** (can delay taking action indefinitely).The **Qualified Veto**, which can be overridden by a higher legislative majority, is **not available to the Indian President**; it exists in the USA.
- As per the **24th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1971**, the President **must give assent** to a **Constitutional Amendment Bill**. No veto applies here.
- **Article 360** relates to **Financial Emergency**, not **National Emergency** (which is under **Article 352**). Under Article 360, the President can **reduce salaries, including judges**, and **direct states to reserve money bills**, but **cannot declare war or suspend fundamental rights**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

Vice-President & Prime Minister

1. With reference to the election of the Vice-President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The Vice-President is elected by an electoral college consisting only of elected members of both Houses of Parliament.
2. The system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote is used in the election of the Vice-President.
3. Members of State Legislative Assemblies do not participate in the election of the Vice-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:

- The electoral college for the Vice-President **includes both elected and nominated members of both Houses of Parliament**, not *only elected* members. The Vice-President is elected by the system of **proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote**, with **secret ballot**, same as the President.
- **Members of State Legislative Assemblies do not participate** in the election of the Vice-President, as clarified by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's explanation.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

2. With reference to the qualifications and nomination process for the election of the Vice-President of India, consider the following statements:

1. A person must be qualified to be elected as a member of the Lok Sabha to contest the Vice-Presidential election.
2. A sitting Union Minister is eligible to contest the Vice-Presidential election as he is not considered to hold an office of profit.
3. The nomination of a candidate for Vice-President must be subscribed by at least 10 electors as proposers and 10 as seconders.

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:

- The candidate must be **qualified for election to the Rajya Sabha**, not the Lok Sabha.
- A sitting **Union Minister is not deemed to hold an office of profit**, hence is eligible to contest the Vice-Presidential election.
- The nomination must be **subscribed by at least 20 electors as proposers and 20 as seconders**, not 10.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

3. With reference to the powers and functions of the Vice-President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The Vice-President serves as the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and performs functions similar to those of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
2. In case of a vacancy in the office of the President, the Vice-President can act as President for a maximum period of one year.
3. While discharging the functions of the President, the Vice-President also continues to perform his duties as Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A. 1 only

Explanation:

- The Vice-President is the **ex-officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha** and has powers/functions similar to the **Speaker of the Lok Sabha**.
- The Vice-President can act as President for a **maximum period of six months**, not one year, until a new President is elected.
- While discharging the functions of the President, the Vice-President **does not perform** his duties as Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. These are performed by the **Deputy Chairman** during that period.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

4. With reference to the appointment of the Prime Minister of India, consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution mandates that only a member of the Lok Sabha can be appointed as the Prime Minister.
2. When no party has a clear majority in the Lok Sabha, the President can use personal discretion in appointing the Prime Minister.

3. A person who is not a member of either House of Parliament can be appointed as Prime Minister but must get elected to either House within six months.

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 Constitution **does not mandate** that the Prime Minister must be from the **Lok Sabha**. A Prime Minister **can be a member of either House**, as seen in the cases of **Indira Gandhi, Deve Gowda, and Manmohan Singh**, who were all from the **Rajya Sabha**.
- In the case of a **hung Lok Sabha**, the **President may exercise personal discretion** in appointing the Prime Minister, usually calling the leader of the largest party or coalition and asking them to prove majority support.
- As per the **1997 Supreme Court ruling**, a **non-member of Parliament** can be appointed as Prime Minister, but must **get elected to either House within six months**, else he ceases to hold office.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

5. With reference to the powers and functions of the Prime Minister of India in relation to the Council of Ministers, consider the following statements:

- 1. The President is constitutionally free to appoint any person as a minister, independent of the Prime Minister's recommendation.
- 2. The Prime Minister can advise the President to dismiss a minister in case of a difference of opinion.
- 3. The resignation or death of the Prime Minister leads to the automatic dissolution of the Council of Ministers.

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:

- The **President can appoint only those ministers who are recommended by the Prime Minister**. He is not free to appoint anyone independently.
- The Prime Minister **can advise the President to dismiss a minister** if there is a **difference of opinion**.
- The **resignation or death of the Prime Minister automatically dissolves the Council of Ministers**, unlike the resignation of any other minister which creates only a vacancy.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

6. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The Prime Minister is the principal channel of communication between the President and the Council of Ministers.

Statement II: The Constitution explicitly mandates that the Prime Minister must communicate all decisions

of the Council of Ministers to the President and submit matters for reconsideration if the President so requires.

- 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 correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
- D. Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

Answer: A. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I.

Explanation:

- The Prime Minister acts as the **chief link between the President and the Council of Ministers**, as per Article 78.
- The **Constitution mandates** under Article 78 that the Prime Minister must:
 - Communicate all Council decisions,
 - Furnish information as required by the President, and
 - Submit matters for Council reconsideration if the President so directs.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

7. Consider the following statements regarding the powers and functions of the Prime Minister of India:

Statement I: The Prime Minister can recommend the dissolution of the Lok Sabha to the President at any time.

Statement II: The Prime Minister is the constitutional head of the services and exercises command over them during emergencies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. Statement I only
- B. Statement II only
- C. Both Statement I and Statement II
- D. Neither Statement I nor Statement II

Answer: A. Statement I only

Explanation:

- The Prime Minister, as the leader of the Lok Sabha, can **recommend dissolution of the House** to the President at any time, especially in situations like loss of majority or early elections.
- The Prime Minister is described as the **political head** of the services, not the **constitutional head**. The President is the **constitutional head** and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces; the Prime Minister's role is political and administrative.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

8. With reference to the constitutional provisions related to the Council of Ministers and the Prime Minister, consider the following statements:

1. The President is bound to act on the advice of the Council of Ministers, even if he initially asks them to reconsider such advice.
2. A person disqualified under the Tenth Schedule for defection cannot be appointed as a minister.
3. A minister who is not a member of either House of Parliament can continue as minister for one year, provided he becomes a member within that period.

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:

- As per **Article 74**, the President can ask the Council of Ministers to reconsider its advice once, but after reconsideration, the **President is bound to accept** the advice.
- As per **Article 75 (as amended by the 91st Amendment Act, 2003)**, a person disqualified under the **Tenth Schedule (anti-defection law)** is also disqualified from being appointed as a minister.
- A person who is not a member of either House can remain a minister only for six months, not one year, as per **Article 75(5)**. If he does not become a member of either House within six months, he ceases to be a minister.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

9. With reference to the responsibility of Ministers under the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.
2. A minister who disagrees with a cabinet decision but continues in office violates the principle of collective responsibility.
3. The Indian Constitution does not provide for legal responsibility of ministers for the official acts of the President.

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:

- The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible only to the Lok Sabha, not to the Rajya Sabha, as per **Article 75**.
- If a minister disagrees with a cabinet decision and does not resign, it violates the principle of **collective responsibility**, which requires ministers to support all cabinet decisions both **inside and outside Parliament**.
- The Indian Constitution **does not recognize legal responsibility** of ministers for the acts of the President. **Unlike Britain, ministers are not legally liable, and courts cannot inquire into the nature of advice** tendered to the President.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

10. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The Cabinet includes only cabinet ministers and is responsible for formulating policies and decisions of national importance.

Statement II: The term "Cabinet" was inserted into the Constitution of India by the 91st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. Only Statement I
- B. Only Statement II

- C. Both Statement I and Statement II
D. Neither Statement I nor Statement II

Answer: A. Only Statement I

Explanation:

- The **Cabinet** is a **subset of the Council of Ministers**, comprising only **cabinet ministers**. It is the **real decision-making body**, formulating national policies and strategies. The term "**Cabinet**" was inserted in the Constitution by the **44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978, not** by the 91st Amendment Act. The 91st Amendment deals with **limiting the size** of the Council of Ministers and provisions related to **disqualification on grounds of defection**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

Governor and Cheif Minister

1. Consider the following:

1. Under Article 164 of the Constitution, the Chief Minister is appointed by the Governor, and the other ministers are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister.
2. As per Article 167 of the Constitution, it is the duty of the Chief Minister to furnish information relating to the state's administration and legislative proposals whenever called for by the Governor.

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:

- Article 164(a) of the Indian Constitution clearly provides that the Chief Minister shall be appointed by the Governor, and the other ministers shall be appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister. This establishes the CM's central role in forming the Council of Ministers.
- Article 167 imposes a constitutional duty on the Chief Minister to (a) communicate all decisions of the Council of Ministers to the Governor, (b) furnish any information that the Governor may call for regarding the administration, and (c) submit matters for reconsideration if the Governor so requires. This article defines the information-sharing obligations between the executive and the Governor.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

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

1. The Governor is appointed by the President and not elected either directly or indirectly.
2. As per the Constitution, the Governor must be a citizen of India and must be at least 35 years of age.
3. The President is constitutionally bound to consult the Chief Minister of the concerned state while appointing the Governor.

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: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The Governor is appointed by the President and not elected.
- These two are the only constitutional qualifications—citizenship and a minimum age of 35.
- While consultation with the Chief Minister is a convention, it is **not constitutionally mandated**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

3. With reference to the conditions of the Governor's office in India, consider the following statements:

1. A person appointed as Governor must resign from membership of Parliament or the State Legislature before assuming office.
2. The oath of office to the Governor is administered by the Chief Justice of the concerned State High Court or, in his absence, the senior-most available judge of that 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: C. Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- A Governor cannot be a Member of Parliament or State Legislature; if appointed, he is deemed to have vacated such seat.
- The Chief Justice of the State High Court (or senior-most judge in his absence)

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

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

1. The Governor appoints the Chief Minister and the State Election Commissioner.
2. The Governor can remove the members of the State Public Service Commission.
3. The Governor is required to appoint a Tribal Welfare Minister in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A. 1 only

Explanation:

- The Governor appoints the Chief Minister and the State Election Commissioner.
- Members of the State Public Service Commission can **only be removed by the President**, not the Governor.
- The 94th Constitutional Amendment **excluded Bihar** from the requirement of appointing a Tribal Welfare Minister; hence, the Governor is **not** required to appoint such a minister in Bihar.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

5. With reference to the powers and functions of the Chief Minister in Indian states, consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Minister acts as the Vice-Chairman of the Zonal Council concerned, holding the position by rotation for one year.
2. The Chief Minister can independently dissolve the State Legislative Assembly without the Governor's approval.

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 Chief Minister serves as **Vice-Chairman of the Zonal Council** by rotation for **one year**.
- The **Chief Minister can only recommend** the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly; the final act must be done by the **Governor**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

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

1. The Governor can reserve a bill for the consideration of the President if it endangers the position of the State High Court.
2. The Governor is empowered to nominate one-sixth of the members of the State Legislative Assembly from among persons with expertise in cooperative movements and social service.
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. 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 **must** reserve a bill for the President's consideration if it **endangers the position of the High Court**.
- The Governor nominates **one-sixth of the members of the State Legislative Council** (not Assembly) with special knowledge in fields like science, literature, etc.
- The Governor can promulgate ordinances when the legislature is not in session; they must be approved within **six weeks** of reassembly.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

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

1. The Governor constitutes the State Finance Commission every five years to review the financial position of Panchayats and Municipalities.
2. The Governor can introduce Money Bills in the State Legislature without any recommendation.
3. The Governor appoints district judges in consultation with the State High Court.

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 constitutes a Finance Commission every five years for Panchayats and Municipalities.
- **Money Bills require the prior recommendation of the Governor** before introduction.
- The Governor appoints, posts, and promotes district judges **in consultation with the State High Court**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

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

1. The Governor is bound by the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers in all matters, without exception.
2. The Constitution provides for both constitutional and situational discretion to the Governor in specific circumstances.

3. The decision of the Governor on whether a matter falls within his discretionary powers is final and cannot be challenged in court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 2 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 is **not bound** by the Council of Ministers in **discretionary matters** (e.g., appointment of CM in hung assembly, reservation of bills, etc.).
- The Governor enjoys **both constitutional discretion** (expressly provided in the Constitution) and **situational discretion** (arising from political circumstances).
- The Constitution states that **the Governor's decision** on whether a matter falls within his discretion is **final** and **cannot be questioned** in court.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

9. Consider the following statements regarding the appointment of the Chief Minister in Indian states:

Statement I: The Governor may appoint a person as Chief Minister even if they are not a member of the state legislature, provided the person gets elected to either House within six months.

Statement II: The Governor has absolute discretion in appointing the Chief Minister, even when a single party secures a clear majority in the legislative assembly.

Which one of the following is correct?

- A. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
B. Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
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:

- A non-legislator can be appointed as CM but must get elected to the legislature within six months.
- The Governor **must** appoint the leader of the majority party as CM when a clear majority exists; discretion is allowed **only in the absence of a clear majority**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

10. With reference to the powers of the Chief Minister in Indian states, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor appoints ministers only on the recommendation of the Chief Minister.
2. The Chief Minister is the principal channel of communication between the Governor and the State Council of Ministers.
3. The resignation of any minister, including the Chief Minister, results in the automatic dissolution of the entire Council of Ministers.

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 appoints ministers **only** on the recommendation of the Chief Minister.
- The Chief Minister acts as the **principal communication link** between the Governor and the Council of Ministers.

- The **resignation of the Chief Minister** dissolves the Council of Ministers, **but not the resignation of any other minister**, which simply creates a vacancy.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

Parliament-II

1. With reference to the **Panel of Vice-Chairpersons of the Rajya Sabha**, consider the following statements:
1. The Chairman of Rajya Sabha nominates members to the Panel of Vice-Chairpersons.
 2. A member of the panel can preside over the House only in the absence of both the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman.
 3. A member of the panel can preside over the House even when the office of the Chairman or Deputy Chairman is vacant.

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 only

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The **Chairman nominates** the panel from among the members of the Rajya Sabha.
- Members of the panel **can preside only in the absence** (i.e., temporary unavailability) of the **Chairman and Deputy Chairman**, but **not** when the posts are **vacant**.
- When the **office** (not just presence) of the **Chairman or Deputy Chairman is vacant**, **panel members cannot preside**. Instead, a **member appointed by the President** discharges the duties until the vacancy is filled.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

2. With reference to the **Leader of the House** in the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:
1. The Prime Minister is always the Leader of the House in the Lok Sabha.
 2. The Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha is nominated by the Prime Minister.
 3. The Leader of the House can nominate a Deputy Leader of the House.

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 **Prime Minister is the Leader of the House in Lok Sabha only if he is a member of it**. If not, **another minister from Lok Sabha may be nominated** by the Prime Minister.
- The **Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha is a minister and member of the Rajya Sabha**, nominated by the **Prime Minister**.
- The **Leader of the House can nominate a Deputy Leader of the House**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

3. Consider the following statements:

1. A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha does not lapse upon dissolution of the Lok Sabha.
2. The quorum required to transact business in the Rajya Sabha is one-tenth of its total membership, including the presiding officer.
3. A bill passed by both Houses but pending Presidential assent lapses on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Answer: B. Only two

Explanation:

- A bill **pending in the Rajya Sabha but not yet passed by the Lok Sabha does not lapse** on dissolution of the Lok Sabha.
- **Quorum** in the **Rajya Sabha** is **1/10th** of its total strength (i.e., 25 members), **including the presiding officer**.
- A bill **passed by both Houses but pending Presidential assent does not lapse** on dissolution.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

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

1. The privileges of Parliament and its members are codified in the Constitution and cannot be modified by ordinary legislation.
2. A Bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses on its prorogation, even if it is yet to be passed by the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation:

- Parliamentary privileges are not codified in the Constitution. They are based on constitutional provisions (Article 105 and Article 194), rules, precedents, and conventions. Parliament can define and modify them by law, but no comprehensive law has yet been enacted.
- A Bill pending in Lok Sabha does not lapse upon prorogation; it only lapses upon dissolution of the Lok Sabha. However, a bill pending in the Rajya Sabha does not lapse even after dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

5. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the code given below:

List-I (Parliamentary Device)

List-II (Feature/Purpose)

A. Question Hour

1. Informal device not mentioned in Rules of Procedure

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| B. Zero Hour | 2. Seeks an authoritative statement from a minister |
| C. Calling Attention Motion | 3. Members may ask starred or unstarred questions |
| D. Adjournment Motion | 4. Seeks to censure the government and requires support of 50 members |

Options:

- A. A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4
- B. A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4
- C. A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3
- D. A-1, B-4, C-3, D-2

Answer: (a) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Explanation:

- The **Question Hour** is the first hour of every parliamentary sitting during which members ask **starred, unstarred, or short notice questions** to ministers (and occasionally to private members).
- The **Zero Hour** is an **informal device** in parliamentary procedure. It is **not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure**, and it starts **immediately after the Question Hour**.
- The **Calling Attention Motion** is a formal device, **mentioned in the Rules**, through which a member may call the **attention of a minister** to a matter of **urgent public importance** and seek an **authoritative statement**.
- The **Adjournment Motion** is an **extraordinary device** to draw attention to a definite matter of urgent public importance. It involves an **element of censure against the government**, is allowed **only in the Lok Sabha**, and requires the **support of at least 50 members** to be admitted.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

6. With reference to parliamentary motions in India, consider the following statements:

1. A No-Confidence Motion can be introduced in the Lok Sabha only with the support of at least 50 members.
2. If the Motion of Thanks is not passed in the House, it amounts to the defeat of the government.
3. A Censure Motion, if passed, leads to the compulsory resignation of the Council of Ministers.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Answer: B. Only two

Explanation:

- A **No-Confidence Motion** requires the support of **at least 50 members** in the **Lok Sabha** to be admitted.
- If the **Motion of Thanks** (on the President's Address) is **not passed**, it is considered a **defeat of the government**, indicating loss of majority.
- A **Censure Motion**, even if passed, **does not lead to the automatic resignation** of the Council of Ministers. It is a tool to express **disapproval of a policy or action**, but not necessarily a test of majority.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

7. With reference to Public Bills and Private Bills in the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:

1. A Public Bill is introduced by a minister and reflects the policies of the ruling government.
2. A Private Bill, if rejected, may lead to the resignation of the government.
3. The introduction of a Private Bill requires a longer notice period than a Public Bill.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

Answer: B. Only two

Explanation:

- A **Public Bill** is introduced by a **minister** and reflects the **government's policy**.
- A **Private Bill**, if rejected, has **no impact on the government's confidence** in Parliament or its resignation. That applies only to **Public Bills**.
- A **Private Bill** requires a **one-month notice** for introduction, while a **Public Bill** requires only **seven days' notice**.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

8. Consider the following:

Statement I: The Chairman of the Rajya Sabha presides over the joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament when the Speaker of Lok Sabha is absent.

Statement II: The Chairman of the Rajya Sabha is not a member of either House of Parliament.

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. Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect

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

Explanation:

- In a **joint sitting of Parliament**, the **Speaker of the Lok Sabha** presides. If the Speaker is absent, the **Deputy Speaker** presides. If both are absent, the **Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha** presides. **The Chairman of Rajya Sabha (Vice President) does not preside** over a joint sitting.
- The **Chairman of Rajya Sabha** (i.e., the **Vice President of India**) is **not a member** of either House of Parliament. He is an **ex-officio presiding officer**, not an elected member of the Rajya Sabha or Lok Sabha.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

9. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The Rajya Sabha cannot amend or reject a Money Bill and must return it to the Lok Sabha within 14 days.

Statement II: The Constitution grants the Speaker of the Lok Sabha the authority to certify a Bill as a Money Bill, and this decision is final.

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 correct, but Statement II is incorrect
- D. Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

Answer: A. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I

Explanation:

- The **Rajya Sabha has no power to amend or reject a Money Bill**. It can only make **recommendations** and must return the bill to the Lok Sabha **within 14 days**. If it fails to do so, the bill is deemed passed by both Houses in the form originally passed by the Lok Sabha.
- As per **Article 110**, the **Speaker of the Lok Sabha** has the **final authority** to decide whether a bill is a **Money Bill**, and this decision **cannot be challenged** in court, in either House of Parliament, or by the President.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)

10. Consider the following statements regarding Financial Bills in the Indian Parliament:

1. All financial bills can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha and require the President's recommendation.
2. Unlike a Money Bill, a Financial Bill can be rejected or amended by the Rajya Sabha, and a joint sitting can be summoned in case of deadlock.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Both
- C. None
- D. Only two

Answer: B. Both

Explanation:

- Both **Money Bills** (Article 110) and **Financial Bills (I)** (Article 117(1)) can be **introduced only in the Lok Sabha** and **only on the recommendation of the President**.
- A **Financial Bill** is governed by the **ordinary legislative process** (unlike Money Bills). Hence, it **can be rejected or amended** by the **Rajya Sabha**, and if there is a **deadlock**, it can be resolved by a **joint sitting** of both Houses.

Source: Laxmikant (Polity)