

ForumIAS

F

Prelims Marathon

2nd Week, February, 2026

HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

FORUMIAS



INDEX

Historical Background of the Indian Constitution.....	2
Making of the Constitution	6
Making of the Constitution and Preamble.....	10
Union and Its Territory and Citizenship.....	14
Fundamental Rights (Article 12-35).....	19



Historical Background of the Indian Constitution

1. With reference to the Company Rule in India, consider the following statements:

1. The British government initially exerted control over the East India Company through the Court of Directors, the governing body of the Company.
2. The Company's territories in India were for the first time called the 'British possessions in India' under the Charter Act of 1833.
3. Throughout the period of Company Rule, the British Crown exercised direct administrative control over the civil and military affairs of the Company through a Secretary of State.

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. The Regulating Act of 1773 required the Court of Directors to report on its revenue, civil, and military affairs in India to the British Treasury.

Statement 2: Incorrect. The Company's territories were first called 'British possessions in India' under **Pitt's India Act of 1784**, not 1833.

Statement 3: Incorrect. During the Company Rule, the Crown exercised control via the Board of Control (established in 1784). The office of the **Secretary of State** was only created after the Company Rule ended, by the Government of India Act of 1858.

2. Consider the following statements regarding the Regulating Act of 1773:

1. It laid the foundations of central administration in India by making the Governors of Bombay and Madras Presidencies subordinate to the Governor-General of Bengal.
2. It provided for the establishment of a Supreme Court at Calcutta, comprising a Chief Justice and three other judges.
3. It prohibited the servants of the Company from engaging in any private trade but allowed them to accept small "ceremonial" presents from the natives.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. This was the first step toward centralization, as previously the three presidencies were independent of one another.

Statement 2: Correct. The Supreme Court was established in 1774 at Fort William, Calcutta.

Statement 3: Incorrect. The Act prohibited the servants of the Company from engaging in any private trade and **strictly forbade** the acceptance of any presents or bribes from the natives without exception.

3. With reference to the Amending Act of 1781, consider the following statements:

1. It exempted the Governor-General and the Council from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court for acts done by them in their official capacity.
2. It also exempted the Supreme Court to have jurisdiction over all the inhabitants of Calcutta and personal law of the defendants.
3. It empowered the Governor-General-in-Council to frame regulations for the Provincial Courts and Councils.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. This was done to settle the conflict between the Executive and the Judiciary.

Statement 2: Incorrect. It mandated that the Supreme Court was to have jurisdiction over all the inhabitants of Calcutta, but it was required to administer the personal law of the defendants.

The court had to apply Hindu Law to Hindus and Mohammedan Law to Muslims.

Statement 3: Correct. Appeals from Provincial Courts were to go to the Governor-General-in-Council rather than the Supreme Court.

4. Regarding the Act of 1786, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was specifically enacted to persuade Lord Cornwallis to accept the post of Governor-General of Bengal.
2. It gave the Governor-General the power to override the decision of his council in extraordinary cases and also made him the Commander-in-Chief.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Cornwallis placed two demands before accepting the post: the power to override his council and the position of Commander-in-Chief.

Statement 2: Correct. Both these demands were codified in the Act of 1786.

5. Consider the following statements regarding the Charter Act of 1793:

1. It extended the overriding power given to Lord Cornwallis over his council to all future Governor-Generals and Governors of Presidencies.
2. It mandated that the members of the Board of Control and their staff were henceforth to be paid out of the British Exchequer.
3. It forbade the Governor-General and Governors from leaving India without permission, and such a departure was treated as a resignation.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. It regularized the overriding powers of the executive.

Statement 2: Incorrect. The Act mandated that they were to be paid out of the **Indian revenues**, not the British Exchequer.

Statement 3: Correct. This was a restrictive clause to ensure continuous supervision.

6. With reference to the Charter Act of 1813, consider the following statements:

1. It abolished the trade monopoly of the East India Company in India, thereby opening Indian trade to all British merchants.
2. It allowed Christian missionaries to come to India for the purpose of enlightening the people.
3. It provided for a financial grant of one lakh rupees annually to be spent on the education of Indians.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. However, the Company's monopoly over trade in tea and trade with China was still maintained.

Statement 2: Correct. This was the first legal permission for missionaries to operate in India.

Statement 3: Correct. This was the first time the British government acknowledged a responsibility for the education of the Indian people.

7. Regarding the Charter Act of 1833, consider the following statements:

1. It made the Governor-General of Bengal the Governor-General of India and vested in him all civil and military powers.
2. It ended the activities of the East India Company as a commercial body, making it a purely administrative body.
3. It successfully introduced a system of open competition for the selection of civil servants, allowing Indians to hold any office under the Company.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Lord William Bentinck became the first Governor-General of India.

Statement 2: Correct. The Company now held territories in India "in trust for His Majesty."

Statement 3: Incorrect. While the Act **attempted** to introduce open competition (Section 87), this provision was negated following strong opposition from the Court of Directors. Open competition was only successfully introduced in the **Charter Act of 1853**.

8. Consider the following statements regarding the Charter Act of 1853:

1. It separated, for the first time, the legislative and executive functions of the Governor-General's Council.
2. It introduced local representation in the Indian (Central) Legislative Council.
3. It renewed the Charter of the Company for a fixed period of 20 years, ensuring its commercial stability.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. It added six new members called Legislative Councilors to the council.

Statement 2: Correct. Out of the six new members, four were appointed by the local governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, and Agra.

Statement 3: Incorrect. Unlike previous Charter Acts, it **did not** specify any particular period for the renewal of the Company's rule. This was a clear indication that Company rule could be terminated by Parliament at any time.

9. With reference to the Pitt's India Act of 1784, consider the following statements:

1. It established a system of 'Double Government' by creating the Board of Control to manage political affairs.
2. The Board of Control was empowered to supervise and direct all operations of the civil and military government of the British possessions in India.
3. It reduced the number of members in the Governor-General's Council from four to three.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Commercial affairs remained with the Court of Directors, while political affairs went to the Board of Control.

Statement 2: Correct. This gave the British Government direct control over the Company's administration.

Statement 3: Correct. This reduction (to 3 members including the GG) was intended to make it easier for the Governor-General to exercise his casting vote and dominate the council.

10. Regarding the Indian Councils Act of 1861, consider the following statements:

1. It initiated the process of decentralization by restoring the legislative powers to the Bombay and Madras Presidencies.
2. It empowered the Governor-General to issue ordinances, but without the concurrence of the legislative council, during an emergency.
3. It gave a statutory recognition to the 'portfolio' system, introduced by Lord Canning in 1859.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. This reversed the centralizing trend that started with the Regulating Act of 1773.

Statement 2: Incorrect. It empowered the Governor-General to issue ordinances, the concurrence of the legislative council, during an emergency. The life of such an ordinance was six months.

Statement 3: Correct. Under this, a member of the GG's Council was made in charge of one or more departments and was authorized to issue final orders on behalf of the Council.

Making of the Constitution

1. Consider the following statements regarding the Indian Councils Act of 1892:

1. It increased the number of additional (non-official) members in the Central and Provincial Legislative Councils but maintained the official majority in them.
2. It provided for the first time for the association of Indians with the executive councils of the Governor-General and Governors.
3. It increased the functions of legislative councils and gave them the power of discussing the budget and addressing questions to the executive.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** While non-official members increased, the British ensured they kept the majority to control voting.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The association of Indians with **Executive Councils** was introduced by the Indian Councils Act of 1909 (Satyendra Prasad Sinha was the first Indian to join the GG's Executive Council).
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The 1892 Act was a significant expansion of the powers of the councils, although the power to vote on the budget was still not granted.

2. With reference to the Indian Councils Act of 1909, consider the following statements:

1. It allowed the provincial legislative councils to have a non-official majority, marking a departure from the Central Legislative Council structure.
2. It introduced a system of communal representation for Muslims by accepting the concept of 'separate electorate'.
3. It allowed members to ask supplementary questions but cannot move resolutions on the budget.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** While the Center retained an official majority, provinces were allowed to have a non-official majority.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Lord Minto came to be known as the 'Father of Communal Electorate'.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** It allowed members to ask supplementary questions and move resolutions on the budget (except for certain excluded items). This further enlarged the deliberative functions of the Legislative Councils at both levels.

3. Regarding the Government of India Act of 1919, consider the following statements:

1. It introduced dyarchy in the provinces by dividing provincial subjects into two parts—transferred and reserved.
2. It introduced, for the first time, bicameralism and direct elections in the country.
3. It extended the principle of communal representation by providing separate electorates for Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, Tribals and Europeans.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Dyarchy (from the Greek word *di-arche* meaning double rule) was introduced at the provincial level.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Indian Legislative Council was replaced by a bicameral legislature consisting of an Upper House (Council of State) and a Lower House (Legislative Assembly).
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Does not include tribals. While 1909 started it for Muslims, 1919 extended it significantly to other minorities.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Communal Award' announced by Ramsay MacDonald:

1. Its primary objective was to extend the principle of separate electorates to the depressed classes (scheduled castes) to prevent Hindu political unity.
2. It was a direct outcome of the failure of Indian leaders to agree on a communal settlement during the First Round Table Conference.

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Gandhi saw this as a "divide and rule" tactic to separate the depressed classes from the Hindu fold perpetually.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** It was a direct outcome of the failure of Indian leaders to agree on a communal settlement during the Second Round Table Conference. Since the parties couldn't agree, the British Prime Minister intervened with his own scheme of representation.

5. With reference to the Government of India Act of 1935, consider the following statements:

1. It provided for the establishment of an All-India Federation consisting of provinces and princely states as units, although this part never came into operation.
2. It Introduced dyarchy in the provinces and introduced 'provincial autonomy' in its place.
3. It introduced dyarchy at the Center, whereby federal subjects were divided into reserved and transferred subjects.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Federation never materialized because the Princely States did not join.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** It made provinces autonomous units of administration in their own defined spheres. It abolished dyarchy in the provinces and introduced 'provincial autonomy' in its place
- **Statement 3: Correct.** This was a complex feature where the Governor-General administered reserved subjects (Defense, External Affairs) with the help of councilors not responsible to the legislature.

6. Regarding the technical features of the Indian Independence Act of 1947, consider the following statements:

1. It continued the office of the Viceroy and provided, for each dominion, a Governor-General who was to be appointed by the British King on the advice of the dominion cabinet.
2. It empowered the Constituent Assemblies of the two dominions to frame and adopt any constitution for their respective nations and to repeal any act of the British Parliament.
3. It terminated British paramountcy over the princely states and tribal areas from August 15, 1947.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The Governor-General became a constitutional (titular) head. It abolished the office of the Viceroy and provided, for each dominion, a Governor-General who was to be appointed by the British King on the advice of the dominion cabinet.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** This made the Constituent Assemblies fully sovereign bodies.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Princely states were given the freedom to join either dominion or remain independent.

7. With reference to the demand for a Constituent Assembly in India, consider the following statements:

1. The idea of a Constituent Assembly for India was put forward for the first time by M.N. Roy, a pioneer of the communist movement, in 1934.
2. The Indian National Congress officially demanded a Constituent Assembly to frame the Constitution of free India at its Lahore session in 1929.

3. The British Government accepted the demand for the first time in principle through the 'August Offer' of 1940.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** M.N. Roy was the first to formalize this specific demand.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The Indian National Congress (INC) officially demanded a Constituent Assembly to frame the Constitution of free India for the first time in **1935**. This followed the initial, non-official proposal by M.N. Roy in 1934. The demand was further formalized at the **Lucknow session in April 1936**, presided over by Jawaharlal Nehru, which insisted on a constitution framed without outside interference. Congress reiterated this demand throughout the late 1930s.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Facing the pressure of WWII, the British issued the August Offer, admitting that Indians should primarily decide their own constitution.

8. Consider the following statements regarding the composition of the Constituent Assembly:

1. The total strength of the Constituent Assembly was to be 389, as per the scheme formulated by the Cabinet Mission Plan.
2. Seats allocated to each British province were divided among three main communities—Muslims, Sikhs, and General—in proportion to their population.
3. The representatives of the Princely States were to be elected by the people of those states through a limited franchise.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** 296 seats were for British India and 93 for Princely States.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** This was to ensure communal representation within the provincial quota.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The representatives of the Princely States were to be **nominated** by the heads of the Princely States, not elected. Thus, the assembly was a partly elected and partly nominated body.

9. Consider the following pairs regarding the Constituent Assembly:

- I. **Constitutional Advisor:** B.N. Rau
II. **Secretary to the Assembly:** H.V.R. Iyengar
III. **Chief Draftsman:** S.N. Mukherjee

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
(b) Only two pairs
(c) All three pairs

(d) None

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair I: Correct.** Sir B.N. Rau was appointed as the legal advisor.
- **Pair II: Correct.** H.V.R. Iyengar was the Secretary.
- **Pair III: Correct.** S.N. Mukherjee was the chief draftsman of the constitution in the Constituent Assembly.

10. With reference to the 'Objectives Resolution' moved in the Constituent Assembly, consider the following factual statements:

1. It was moved by Jawaharlal Nehru on December 13, 1946, during the first session of the Assembly.
2. It declared that all power and authority of the Sovereign Independent India and its constitution are derived from the British Crown.
3. The resolution was unanimously adopted by the Assembly on January 22, 1947.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** It laid down the fundamentals and philosophy of the constitutional structure.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The resolution declared that all power and authority are derived **from the people of India**, not the British Crown.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Its modified version forms the Preamble of the present Constitution.

Making of the Constitution and Preamble

1. Consider the following pairs:

Committee	Chairman
I. Credentials Committee	Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar
II. House Committee	B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya
III. Committee on Chief Commissioners' Provinces	B.L. Mitter
IV. Ad-hoc Committee on the National Flag	Rajendra Prasad

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
(b) Only two pairs
(c) Only three pairs

(d) All four pairs

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair I: Correct.** Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar headed the Credentials Committee.
- **Pair II: Correct.** B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya was the Chairman of the House Committee.
- **Pair III: Incorrect.** The Committee on Chief Commissioners' Provinces was chaired by **B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya**, not B.L. Mitter.
- **Pair IV: Correct.** Dr. Rajendra Prasad headed the Ad-hoc Committee on the National Flag.

2. With reference to the Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The committee was established on August 29, 1947, and consisted of a total of nine members including the Chairman.
2. N. Madhava Rau joined the committee following the resignation of B.L. Mitter due to ill health.
3. T.T. Krishnamachari was an original member of the committee since its inception.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The committee consisted of **seven members** (Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, N. Gopaldaswamy Ayyangar, Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, Dr. K.M. Munshi, Syed Mohammad Saadullah, N. Madhava Rau, and T.T. Krishnamachari).
- **Statement 2: Correct.** N. Madhava Rau replaced B.L. Mitter.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** T.T. Krishnamachari joined the committee only in 1948 after the death of **D.P. Khaitan**.

3. The "Experts Committee of the Congress" was appointed in 1946 to prepare material for the Constituent Assembly. Who among the following was NOT a member of this committee?

- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru
(b) K.T. Shah
(c) Humayun Kabir
(d) B.N. Rau

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- The committee included Jawaharlal Nehru (Chairman), M. Asaf Ali, K.M. Munshi, N. Gopaldaswamy Ayyangar, K.T. Shah, D.R. Gadgil, Humayun Kabir, and K. Santhanam.
- **B.N. Rau** was the **Constitutional Advisor** to the Constituent Assembly, not a member of the Congress Experts Committee.

4. Who among the following was NOT a member of the Constituent Assembly of India?

- (a) Dakshayani Velayudhan
(b) Begum Aizaz Rasul
(c) Sarala Devi Chaudhurani

(d) Annie Mascarene

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- There were 15 women members in the Constituent Assembly. These included Dakshayani Velayudhan (the only Dalit woman), Begum Aizaz Rasul (the only Muslim woman), and Annie Mascarene.
- **Sarala Devi Chaudhurani**, while a prominent feminist and nationalist, was **not** a member of the Constituent Assembly.

5. Which of the following is NOT a salient feature of the Indian Constitution?

- (a) A synthesis of Parliamentary Sovereignty and Judicial Supremacy.
(b) A Presidential form of Government at the Union level to ensure stability.
(c) An Integrated as well as Independent Judiciary.
(d) Universal Adult Franchise without any communal representation.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- The Indian Constitution provides for a **Parliamentary form of Government** (Westminster model) both at the Centre and in the States, based on the principle of cooperation and coordination between the legislative and executive organs. It specifically rejected the Presidential system of the USA. All other options are well-established salient features.

6. Consider the following statements regarding the significance of the Preamble:

1. According to K.M. Munshi, the Preamble is the "horoscope of our sovereign democratic republic."
2. Sir Ernest Barker described the Preamble as the "Key-note" to the Constitution and even printed it at the beginning of his book, *Principles of Social and Political Theory*.
3. The Preamble acts as a source of power to the legislature and also serves as a prohibition upon the powers of the legislature.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 & 2: Correct.** These are famous quotes by constitutional experts emphasizing the Preamble's role as the soul/philosophy of the Constitution.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The Preamble is **neither a source of power to the legislature nor a prohibition** upon the powers of the legislature. It is non-justiciable.

7. With reference to the legal status of the Preamble, consider the following analytical statements:

1. In the *Berubari Union* case (1960), the Supreme Court held that the Preamble is a part of the Constitution and can be used to interpret ambiguous provisions.
2. In the *Kesavananda Bharati* case (1973), the Court reversed its earlier stand and held that the Preamble is an integral part of the Constitution.
3. The Preamble was enacted by the Constituent Assembly after the rest of the Constitution was already enacted to ensure its conformity with the document.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** In the *Berubari Union* case, the SC specifically stated that the Preamble is **NOT** a part of the Constitution.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Court held it is a part and that the "Basic Structure" of the Constitution is found in the noble expressions of the Preamble.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** This unique procedural fact reinforces the Preamble's status as a part of the Constitution.

8. Regarding the amendment of the Preamble, consider the following statements:

1. The Preamble can be amended under Article 368, provided that the "Basic Features" or fundamental elements contained in it are not altered.
2. The Preamble has been amended twice since the commencement of the Constitution to include the words 'Socialist', 'Secular', and 'Integrity'.
3. The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act (1976) added three new words to the Preamble.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** As per the *Kesavananda Bharati* ruling.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The Preamble has been amended **only once** (by the 42nd Amendment).
- **Statement 3: Correct.** It added 'Socialist', 'Secular', and 'Integrity'.

9. Consider the following factual statements regarding the nature of the Indian State:

1. India's 'Sovereignty' implies that while it is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, the British Crown remains the symbolic head of the Indian State.
2. Indian 'Socialism' is a 'Democratic Socialism' which aims to end poverty, ignorance, and inequality of opportunity through a mixed economy.
3. The Indian concept of 'Secularism' is embodied in the 'Positive Concept', where all religions have the same status and support from the state.

Which of the statements given above and their implications are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** India is a Republic. The Commonwealth membership is a "voluntary association" and does not affect India's sovereignty in any way. The British Crown has no role in the Indian State.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Unlike 'State Socialism', India follows a blended model.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Unlike the Western (negative) concept of total separation, India supports all religions equally.

10. With reference to the ideals of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity in the Preamble, consider the following statements:

1. The Preamble secures to all citizens 'Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith, and worship' which are enforceable in a court of law through Fundamental Rights.
2. 'Equality' in the Preamble embraces three dimensions: civic, political, and economic.
3. 'Fraternity' in the Preamble was intended to ensure both the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** These liberties are the basis of the Fundamental Rights (Articles 19, 25-28).
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Civic (Art 14-18), Political (Art 325-326), and Economic (Art 39 - DPSP).
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The word 'Integrity' was added to the fraternity clause by the 42nd Amendment to emphasize that the nation is indivisible.

Union and Its Territory and Citizenship

1. With reference to Article 1 of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. The phrase 'Union of States' was preferred by the Drafting Committee to 'Federation of States' to indicate that the Indian Federation is not the result of an agreement by the states.
2. The 'Territory of India' is a wider expression than the 'Union of India', as the former includes not only the states but also union territories and territories that may be acquired by the Government of India at any time.
3. Indian Constitution is Unitary in form as Article 1 describe India as a federation, highlighting its indestructible nature despite the destructibility of the constituent units.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Dr. Ambedkar stated this preference to clarify that states have no right to secede from the union.

Statement 2: Correct. 'Union of India' includes only the states that are members of the federal system, whereas 'Territory of India' includes the total landmass over which India exercises sovereignty.

Statement 3: Incorrect. While the Indian Constitution is federal in form, Article 1 does not describe India as a federation, highlighting its indestructible nature despite the destructibility of the constituent units. This is why India is often described as an "indestructible Union of destructible states."

2. Consider the following factual statements regarding the Parliament's power under Article 3:

1. A bill seeking to create a new state or alter boundaries can be introduced in either House of Parliament only on the prior recommendation of the President.
2. The President must refer the bill to the state legislature concerned for expressing its views within a specified period, and the President is bound by the views expressed by that state legislature.
3. Any law made for the reorganisation of states under Article 3 is not to be considered as an amendment of the Constitution under Article 368.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. This is a mandatory procedural requirement.

Statement 2: Incorrect. While the President must refer the bill to the State Legislature for their views, the President (or Parliament) is **not bound** by the views of the state legislature and may accept or reject them.

Statement 3: Correct. Such laws can be passed by a simple majority and a continuous ordinary legislative process.

3. With reference to the 100th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2015, consider the following statements:

1. The amendment was enacted to give effect to the acquiring of certain territories by India and the transfer of certain other territories to Bangladesh in pursuance of the Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) of 1974.
2. According to the Supreme Court in the *Shankri Prasad Case*, the power of Parliament to diminish the area of a state under Article 3 does not cover cession of Indian territory to a foreign country.
3. The exchange involved the transfer of 111 enclaves to Bangladesh, while India received 51 enclaves from Bangladesh.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. It resolved a decades-old border dispute.

Statement 2: Incorrect. According to the Supreme Court in the *Berubari Union Case*, the power of Parliament to diminish the area of a state under Article 3 does not cover cession of Indian territory to a foreign country. The SC held that cession of territory requires a Constitutional Amendment under Article 368.

Statement 3: Correct. This was the physical scale of the swap aimed at straightening the international border.

4. Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the creation of the following states in India?

1. Haryana
2. Maharashtra
3. Nagaland
4. Manipur

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 2-3-1-4
- (b) 2-1-3-4
- (c) 3-2-1-4
- (d) 2-3-4-1

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Maharashtra:** Created in 1960 (separated from Bombay).
- **Nagaland:** Created in 1963.
- **Haryana:** Created in 1966 (separated from Punjab).
- **Manipur:** Created in 1972 (along with Tripura and Meghalaya).

5. Consider the following statements regarding the laws made by Parliament under Article 3:

1. Article 2 authorizes the Parliament to form a new state by separation of territory from any state or by uniting two or more states.
2. Parliament can increase or diminish the area of any state or alter the name of any state without the consent of the concerned state.
3. A law made under Article 3 can provide for the amendment of the First and Fourth Schedules of the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Incorrect. Article 3 authorizes the Parliament to form a new state by separation of territory from any state or by uniting two or more states. This provides the Parliament with total "internal re-drawing" power.

Statement 2: Correct. As established in the *Babulal Parate vs State of Bombay* case.

Statement 3: Correct. This is facilitated by Article 4 to ensure the schedules reflect the new state names and Rajya Sabha seat allocations.

6. Regarding the formation of new states, which of the following statements accurately describes the constitutional process?

1. The Bill can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha.
2. If the State Legislature fails to express its views within the time limit set by the President, the Parliament can proceed with the bill.
3. Once the State Legislature has expressed its views on the original bill, any subsequent substantive amendment to the bill in Parliament requires a fresh reference to the State Legislature.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Incorrect. It can be introduced in **either House** of Parliament.

Statement 2: Correct. The Parliament is not required to wait indefinitely for the state's view.

Statement 3: Incorrect. It is **not necessary** to make a fresh reference to the state legislature every time an amendment to the bill is proposed and accepted in the Parliament.

7. Consider the following table regarding Reorganisation Commissions:

Commission	Year of Report	Key Recommendation
I. Dhar Commission	1948	Reorganisation on Administrative convenience rather than linguistic factor.
II. JVP Committee	1949	Formally rejected language as the basis for reorganisation.
III. Fazl Ali Commission	1955	Accepted language as the sole basis for reorganisation of states.

How many of the above rows are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one row
- (b) Only two rows
- (c) All three rows
- (d) None of the rows

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Row I: Correct.** S.K. Dhar commission prioritized administrative viability.
- **Row II: Correct.** JVP (Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel, Pattabhi Sitaramayya) Committee also rejected the linguistic factor due to security concerns post-partition.
- **Row III: Incorrect.** While Fazl Ali Commission accepted language as a basis, it **rejected the theory of 'one language-one state'**. It emphasized that the unity of India should be the primary consideration.

8. With reference to Article 4 of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. It declares that laws made under Article 2 (admission of new states) and Article 3 (alteration of existing states) are not to be deemed as amendments of the Constitution under Article 368.
2. It allows for the passing of such laws by a simple majority and the ordinary legislative process.
3. It ensures that any such law contains provisions for the supplemental, incidental, and consequential matters including representation in Parliament.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 & 2: Correct.** This makes the Indian Union flexible and the map of India changeable by a simple parliamentary majority.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** It specifically empowers Parliament to adjust the number of seats in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha to accommodate new or altered states.

9. Consider the following factual statements regarding Single Citizenship and its implications:

1. Despite being a federal polity like the USA, India provides for only a single citizenship to promote fraternity and unity.
2. The Constitution of India provides for certain exceptions where the Parliament can prescribe residence within a state as a condition for certain employments.
3. Under Article 16, the State can discriminate against a citizen on the ground of 'residence' for the purpose of special concessions like lower fees in educational institutions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. This is a unique feature of Indian Federalism to prevent provincialism.

Statement 2: Correct. Under Article 16(3), Parliament (not state legislatures) can prescribe residence requirements for certain jobs.

Statement 3: Incorrect. Article 15 prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or **place of birth**, but it **does not mention 'residence'**. Therefore, residence-based benefits in education are constitutionally valid.

10. Regarding the acquisition of citizenship under the Citizenship Act, 1955, consider the following statements:

1. A person born in India on or after January 26, 1950, but before July 1, 1987, is a citizen of India by birth irrespective of the nationality of his parents.
2. For citizenship by Naturalisation, a person must have resided in India for a period of 12 months immediately preceding the date of application and for 11 years out of the preceding 14 years.
3. The Government of India may terminate the citizenship of an Indian citizen if they have been ordinarily resident out of India for five years continuously.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. This was the initial *Jus Soli* (Right of Soil) principle before it was tightened by later amendments.

Statement 2: Correct. These are the standard quantitative requirements for naturalisation (reduced for certain categories under the CAA 2019).

Statement 3: Incorrect. Citizenship can be terminated by loss of residence if the person is resident out of India for **seven years** continuously, not five years.

Fundamental Rights (Article 12-35)

1. Consider the following statements regarding the features of Fundamental Rights (FRs) in the Indian Constitution:

1. Most of the FRs are available against the arbitrary action of the State, while some are also available against the actions of private individuals.
2. They are not sacrosanct or permanent, as Parliament can curtail or repeal them through an ordinary act of Parliament.
3. FRs are justiciable, allowing persons to move the courts for their enforcement, but the Supreme Court can only be reached through the appellate jurisdiction in case of FR violation.

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** FRs like Article 17 (untouchability) and Article 24 (child labor) are available against private individuals.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** Parliament can curtail them only by a **Constitutional Amendment Act**, not an ordinary act.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Under Article 32, a person can move the Supreme Court **directly** (Original Jurisdiction).

2. With reference to Article 14 of the Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. The concept of 'Equality Before Law' is of British origin and represents a negative connotation as it implies the absence of special privileges.
2. 'Equal Protection of Laws' is an American concept that emphasizes the positive notion of equal treatment under equal circumstances.
3. Article 14 permits 'class legislation' but forbids 'reasonable classification' of persons, objects, and transactions by the law.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** It is a declaration of equality of all persons before the law.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** It implies that like should be treated alike.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** It is the exact opposite—Article 14 **forbids class legislation** but **permits reasonable classification**.

3. According to A.V. Dicey, the 'Rule of Law' constitutes three fundamental pillars. Consider the following statements regarding their application in India:

1. Absence of arbitrary power: No man can be punished except for a distinct breach of law.
2. Equality before the law: Equal subjection of all citizens to the ordinary law of the land administered by ordinary law courts.
3. Primacy of the rights of the individual: The Constitution is the result of the rights of the individual as defined and enforced by the courts.

Which of the statements given above is/are applicable to the Indian System?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 & 2: Correct.** These are fully adopted in India.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** In India, the **Constitution is the source** of individual rights, whereas in the British system (Dicey's view), the individual rights are the source of the Constitution.

4. Consider the following pairs regarding exceptions to Article 14:

Provision	Exception Status
I. Article 361	The President or Governor is not answerable to any court for the exercise of their official duties.
II. Article 105	No member of Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said in Parliament.
III. Article 31-C	Laws made by the state for implementing Directive Principles in Article 39(b) or (c) cannot be challenged on the ground of violation of Article 14.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
(b) Only two pairs
(c) All three pairs
(d) None

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair I: Correct.** Article 361 provides immunity to the President/Governors.
- **Pair II: Correct.** This ensures parliamentary privilege and freedom of speech within the house.
- **Pair III: Correct.** The Supreme Court held: "Where Article 31-C comes in, Article 14 goes out."

5. Consider the following statements regarding Article 15:

1. Article 15(1) prohibits the State from discriminating against any citizen on grounds **only** of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth, or any of them.
2. Article 15(2) provides that no citizen shall be subject to any disability or restriction with regard to access to shops, public restaurants, and wells, but this applies only against the State.
3. Articles 15(3) and 15(4) empower the State to make special provisions for women, children, and socially and educationally backward classes.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The word 'only' is crucial.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** Article 15(2) is available against **both the State and private individuals.**
- **Statement 3: Correct.** These are the "Enabling Provisions" that act as exceptions to the non-discrimination rule.

6. The general rule of non-discrimination in Article 15 is subject to four major exceptions. Which of the following is NOT one of those exceptions?

- (a) Special provisions for women and children.
- (b) Special provisions for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens.
- (c) Special provisions for the advancement of any Economically Weaker Sections (EWS).
- (d) Special provisions for the advancement of any religious minority in state-run employment.

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- Options (a), (b), and (c) are valid exceptions under Articles 15(3), 15(4)/15(5), and 15(6) respectively.
- **Option (d)** is incorrect because Article 15 does not allow discrimination in favor of religious minorities for employment; employment is governed specifically by **Article 16.**

7. With reference to the reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in educational institutions, consider the following statements:

1. The 93rd Amendment Act, 2005, empowered the State to make special provisions for backward classes in admission to all educational institutions, including private and minority educational institutions.
2. The Supreme Court in the Ashoka Kumar Thakur case (2008) upheld the validity of both the 93rd Amendment and the OBC Reservation Act.

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** It applies to private aided and unaided institutions, but **excludes minority educational institutions.**
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Court upheld the 27% quota but directed the exclusion of the "Creamy Layer."

8. Regarding the reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), consider the following statements:

1. The 103rd Amendment Act, 2019, added Article 15(6) and Article 16(6) to provide up to 10% reservation for EWS.
2. This reservation is in addition to the existing reservations and is applicable to all educational institutions, including minority educational institutions.

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** It targets citizens not covered under SC/ST/OBC quotas.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** Like OBC reservation, the EWS reservation **does not apply to minority educational institutions** covered under Article 30(1).

9. Consider the following statements regarding the application of the 'Creamy Layer' principle to Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST):

1. Originally, the 'Creamy Layer' concept was applicable only to OBCs as per the Indra Sawhney judgment (1992).
2. The Supreme Court in the Jarnail Singh case (2018) and subsequent rulings held that the 'Creamy Layer' principle should also be applied to SCs and STs for the purpose of promotion in government jobs.
3. The application of the creamy layer to SC/ST requires the State to collect quantifiable data showing the backwardness of the group.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** It was a check against well-off OBCs.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The SC ruled that the State cannot grant promotions to "creamy layer" SC/STs.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** In the Jarnail Singh case, the Court clarified that the State **does not need to collect quantifiable data** on backwardness for SC/STs, as they are presumed backward, but the creamy layer must still be excluded.

10. With reference to Article 13 of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

Prelims Marathon MCQs Compilation [Second Week] February 2026

1. The term 'law' in Article 13 includes not only permanent laws enacted by the Parliament or state legislatures but also temporary laws like ordinances and even non-legislative sources like customs having the force of law.
2. Constitutional Amendment Acts are excluded from the definition of 'law' under Article 13 as per the 24th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1971, and this position was upheld by the Supreme Court in the Kesavananda Bharati case.
3. The power of Judicial Review under Article 13 is explicitly vested only in the Supreme Court, while High Courts derive this power through the Directive Principles of State Policy.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Article 13 gives a very wide definition to "law," including statutory instruments (bye-laws, rules, regulations, notifications) and even custom or usage having the force of law.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The 24th Amendment (1971) stated that a Constitutional Amendment is not a 'law' under Article 13. The Supreme Court upheld this in the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973), clarifying that while an amendment cannot be challenged for violating an FR, it can be challenged if it violates the "Basic Structure."
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The power of Judicial Review is vested in the **Supreme Court (Article 32)** and the **High Courts (Article 226)**. It is a part of the Basic Structure and is not derived from Directive Principles.