

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

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HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

FORUMIAS



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Non-Constitutional Bodies

1. Consider the following statements regarding the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities:

1. It is a constitutional office, with the officer being appointed by the President of India.
2. The officer's mandate includes investigating safeguards provided to both religious and linguistic minorities under the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under Article 350B, there shall be a Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities appointed by the President.
 - **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Special Officer's jurisdiction is restricted solely to linguistic minorities. Matters relating to religious minorities are handled by the National Commission for Minorities (a statutory body).

2. With reference to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities, consider the following statements:

1. The original Constitution of India (1950) did not contain provisions for this office.
2. The Constitution specifies a detailed procedure for the removal of the Special Officer, similar to that of a Supreme Court Judge.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Article 350B was inserted by the 7th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1956, following the recommendations of the States Reorganisation Commission.
 - **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Constitution does not specify the qualifications, tenure, or removal procedure for this officer. He serves during the pleasure of the President.

3. Which of the following statements regarding the Fundamental Rights of minorities in educational matters are correct?

1. Minorities have the right to both establish and administer educational institutions.
2. This right is absolute and cannot be subjected to any government regulation.
3. Reasonable restrictions can be imposed by the State to ensure academic standards and prevent maladministration.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

• **Statement 1 is correct:** Under Article 30, all minorities have the right to establish and administer educational institutions.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** No right is absolute. The Supreme Court has consistently held that the State can regulate these institutions to ensure efficiency, transparency, and health/sanitation.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Regulations aimed at promoting excellence and preventing financial mismanagement are considered valid.

4. Under the provisions of the Constitution of India, a community can be recognized as a minority based on which of the following criteria?

- (a) Religion only
- (b) Language only
- (c) Both Religion and Language
- (d) Religion, Language, and Caste

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Article 30(1) specifically mentions: All minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. The Constitution does not recognize minorities based on race or caste.

5. Which of the following bodies recommended the establishment of the office of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities?

- (a) Administrative Reforms Commission
- (b) Swaran Singh Committee
- (c) States Reorganisation Commission
- (d) Sarkaria Commission

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The States Reorganisation Commission (1953–1955) recommended that safeguards for linguistic minorities should be provided. This led to the 7th Amendment Act, which created Article 350B.

6. What is the correct chronological order of the following Commissions established for the welfare of weaker sections?

1. Kaka Kalelkar Commission
2. Mandal Commission
3. National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Constitutional status)
4. National Commission for Minorities (Statutory status)

Select the correct order:

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

1. **Kaka Kalelkar Commission (First OBC Commission):** 1953.
2. **Mandal Commission (Second OBC Commission):** 1979.
3. **National Commission for SCs and STs:** Given constitutional status via the 65th Amendment in 1990.
4. **National Commission for Minorities:** Established as a statutory body in 1992.

7. Regarding the Central Information Commission (CIC), consider the following statements:

1. It consists of a Chief Information Commissioner and not more than ten Information Commissioners.
2. Following the 2019 Amendment, the Chief Information Commissioner holds office for a term of five years.
3. The salary of the Chief Information Commissioner is currently the same as that of the Chief Election Commissioner.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The RTI Act, 2005 limits the number of ICs to ten.
 - **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The RTI (Amendment) Act, 2019 removed the fixed 5-year tenure. The term is now as prescribed by the Central Government (currently 3 years).
 - **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The 2019 Amendment empowered the Central Government to determine salaries. They are no longer automatically equated to Election Commissioners.

8. With reference to the Right to Information Act, consider the following statements:

1. It empowers the Central Government to determine the term of office and service conditions of the CIC and ICs at both Central and State levels.
2. It mandates that the salary of the Central IC must be equivalent to that of an Election Commissioner.

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 is correct:** The 2019 amendment shifted the power to determine tenure, salaries, and service conditions of CIC/ICs (Central and State) to the Central Government.
 - **Statement 2 is incorrect:** This was the provision in the original 2005 Act, but it was repealed by the 2019 Amendment.

9. Consider the following statements regarding the Central Information Commission (CIC):

1. It is a statutory body with jurisdiction over all Central Public Authorities.
2. It has the power to impose monetary penalties on officers for malafide denial of information.
3. It can initiate an inquiry on a matter suo moto if there are reasonable grounds.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Established under the RTI Act, 2005.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Section 20 of the RTI Act allows the Commission to impose a penalty of ₹250 per day (up to ₹25,000).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The CIC has the power to inquire into any matter suo moto (on its own motion) where it feels there is a failure to comply with the Act.

10. The salaries, allowances, and other service conditions of the State Chief Information Commissioner and State Information Commissioners are determined by:

- (a) The Governor of the State
- (b) The President of India
- (c) The Central Government
- (d) The State Legislature

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Prior to 2019, these were fixed by the RTI Act. After the RTI (Amendment) Act, 2019, the power to determine the salaries and terms of office for both the Central Information Commission and the State Information Commissions was vested in the Central Government.

Non-Constitutional Bodies

1. Consider the following statements regarding the role of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC):

1. The CVC advises the Central Government regarding the appointment of the Director of Prosecution in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
2. The Central Vigilance Commissioner serves as the Chairperson of the committee that recommends the appointment of the Director of the CBI.

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:** Under the CVC Act 2003, the Central Government appoints the Director of Prosecution in the CBI on the recommendation of the CVC.
- **Statement 2 incorrect:** The Director of the CBI is recommended by a committee consisting of the Prime Minister (Chair), the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, and the Chief Justice of India (or a SC Judge). The Central Vigilance Commissioner is not a member of the committee that selects the CBI Director (though they are involved in selecting other senior officers in the CBI).

2. With reference to the Central Vigilance Commission, consider the following statements:

1. It is an executive body established under Article 323.
2. The Central Vigilance Commissioner and Vigilance Commissioners are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.

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

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 incorrect:** It is an independent statutory body. It was originally set up by an executive resolution in 1964 and granted statutory status by the CVC Act, 2003.
- **Statement 2 correct:** the members are appointed by the President after recommendation by a committee comprising the PM, the Home Minister, and the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha.

3. Which of the following are statutory functions of the Central Vigilance Commission?

1. Exercising superintendence over the functioning of the Delhi Special Police Establishment (CBI) in all criminal matters.
2. Reviewing the progress of applications pending with competent authorities for sanction of prosecution under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.
3. Conducting inquiries into complaints received under the Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers (PIDPI) Resolution.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (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 CVC exercises superintendence over the CBI only insofar as it relates to the investigation of offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. It does not have superintendence over the CBI for general crimes (murder, etc.).
- **Statements 2 and 3 correct:** These are direct statutory functions of the Commission to ensure the efficiency of anti-corruption drives and whistle-blower protection.

4. The jurisdiction of the Central Vigilance Commission extends to which of the following categories of officials?

1. All members of the All India Services, regardless of whether they serve the Union or the States.
2. Officers of the rank of Scale V and above in Public Sector Banks.
3. Officers in Grade D and above in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and NABARD.
4. Managers and above in General Insurance Companies.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 incorrect:** CVC only has jurisdiction over members of All India Services serving in connection with the affairs of the Union. For those serving the States, the respective State Vigilance Commissions apply.
- **Statements 2, 3, and 4 correct:** They reflect the technical grade-level cut-offs for the CVC's jurisdiction over financial and insurance institutions as per official CVC guidelines.

5. Consider the following statements regarding the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI):

1. It is an attached office of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. The Director of the CBI is provided with a security of tenure of not less than two years.
3. It acts as the National Central Bureau of Interpol in India.

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 CBI functions under the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), which is under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
- **Statement 2 correct:** Ensured by the CVC Act and various SC rulings. This tenure is mandated by the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946 (as amended in 2003) to ensure functional independence and protection from arbitrary removal.
- **Statement 3 correct:** the CBI coordinates all investigations on behalf of Interpol member countries in India.

6. Consider the following statements regarding the legal powers of the CBI:

1. The CBI can take over the investigation of a case registered in a State only with the consent of the concerned State Government.
2. The Supreme Court and High Courts can order the CBI to investigate a crime anywhere in the country without the consent of the State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Under the DSPE Act, 1946, the CBI requires the consent of the State to exercise its powers there. However, the Constitutional Courts (SC and HC) have the power to direct the CBI to investigate a case even without State consent to ensure a fair trial and justice (Supreme Court ruling in State of West Bengal vs. Committee for Protection of Democratic Rights).

7. Which of the following is not a function performed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)?

1. Investigating cases of professional criminals with national and international ramifications.
2. Direct investigation of terror attacks on nuclear installations and bomb blasts across India.
3. Maintenance of crime statistics and dissemination of criminal information.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Function 2 (Terrorism, bomb blasts, hijacking, nuclear attacks) is the primary mandate of the National Investigation Agency (NIA), which was specifically created for this purpose after the 2008 Mumbai attacks. The CBI focuses on corruption, economic offences, and special crimes. Function 3 is performed by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).

8. With reference to the administrative arrangements between the CBI and State Police forces, consider the following statements:

1. The CBI exclusively investigates cases concerning Central Government employees, even if State employees are involved.
2. The State Police forces take up cases involving Central Government employees if the case is substantially concerned with State affairs.

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: While the CBI (via DSPE Act, 1946) primarily investigates Central Government employees, the Supreme Court ruled in Jan 2026 that State police/ACBs can legally investigate corruption cases against Central Government employees, and concurrent jurisdiction exists.

Statement 2 correct: While the CBI (under the DSPE Act, 1946) typically handles cases against central employees, this does not exclude the jurisdiction of state police to investigate cognizable offences.

To avoid duplication, an administrative arrangement exists:

- DSPE handles cases substantially concerning Central Govt affairs/employees.
- State Police handles cases substantially concerning State Govt affairs/employees.
- Both agencies have concurrent powers, but generally, the CBI handles employees of Central Public Sector Undertakings and statutory bodies.

9. Consider the following statements regarding the administration of the Delhi Special Police Establishment (CBI):

1. The Director of the CBI is responsible for the administration of the DSPE as its Inspector-General of Police.
2. Since 2003, the superintendence of the DSPE vests in the Central Government for all matters including those under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

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:** the Director of CBI holds the dual role of head of the organization and IG of the DSPE.
- **Statement 2 incorrect:** While the CVC Act of 2003 vested the superintendence of the DSPE in the Central Government for most matters, it specifically carved out an exception for corruption cases. For investigations of offences alleged to have been committed under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, the superintendence vests in the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), not the Central Government.

10. Consider the following statements regarding the powers of the Central Information Commission (CIC):

1. The CIC has the authority to initiate an inquiry suo moto into any matter if there are reasonable grounds for the same.
2. The Commission has the power to secure compliance with its decisions from the public authority, including awarding compensation to the complainant.

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: (c)

Explanation:

Both statements are correct under the RTI Act, 2005. The CIC is a quasi-judicial body. It can investigate complaints on its own (suo moto) and has various powers to enforce the Act, such as imposing penalties on officials or requiring the public authority to compensate the applicant for any loss suffered.

Non-Constitutional Bodies

1. Consider the following statements regarding the jurisdiction of the Lokpal:

1. Its authority extends to the Council of Ministers, including the Prime Minister of India, with certain subject-matter exclusions.
2. Only institution that are fully financed by the Government of India falls under its investigative purview.
3. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that receive foreign contributions exceeding a specified limit under FCRA are subject to Lokpal's jurisdiction.

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:

Under the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013, the jurisdiction is broad.

- **Statement 1 correct:** It includes the PM, though investigations into the PM regarding international relations, security, public order, and atomic energy/space are restricted.
- **Statement 2 incorrect:** It covers any body/trust/society established by a Central Act or financed/controlled by the Central Govt.
- **Statement 3 correct:** NGOs receiving foreign aid above ₹10 lakh per year (under FCRA) or receiving govt grants above ₹1 crore are covered.

2. Consider the following statements regarding the Lokpal of India:

1. The salary and service conditions of the Chairperson of the Lokpal are equivalent to those of the Chief Justice of India.
2. The Chairperson and members hold office for a term of three years or until they attain the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.
3. All administrative expenditures of the Lokpal, including salaries, are "charged" upon the Consolidated Fund of India.

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 Chairperson's salary/allowances are same as the CJI; for members, they are same as a Supreme Court Judge.
- **Statement 2 incorrect:** The tenure is strictly 5 years or 70 years of age.
- **Statement 3 correct:** To ensure independence, the expenses are "charged" (not put to vote in Parliament), similar to the Supreme Court or UPSC.

3. With reference to the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Prime Minister is not entirely immune from investigations conducted by the Lokpal.

Statement-II: The Lokpal has the power to proceed *suo-moto* (on its own motion) against any public servant without a formal complaint.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct but Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement-I correct:** the PM is within jurisdiction.
- **Statement-II incorrect:** Unlike some other bodies, the Lokpal cannot initiate an inquiry *suo-moto*. It can only act on a complaint received from a person.

4. How many of the following functionaries are members of the selection committees for BOTH the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and the Lokpal?

1. Union Home Minister
 2. Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha
 3. Speaker of the Lok Sabha
 4. Chief Justice of India
- (a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All the four

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Lokpal Selection Committee:** PM (Chair), Speaker (LS), LoP (LS), CJI (or nominee), and an eminent jurist.
- **NHRC Selection Committee:** PM (Chair), Speaker (LS), LoP (LS), LoP (RS), Deputy Chairman (RS), and **Union Home Minister**.
- Only the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha (along with the PM) are common to both committees. The CJI is NOT on the NHRC committee; the Home Minister is NOT on the Lokpal committee.

5. Which of the following institutions have been established to check corruption and misconduct among public servants in India?

1. Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)
2. Lokpal
3. Special Police Establishment (SPE)
4. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation: All four are part of the integrity framework. The SPE was the predecessor to the CBI (created via the DSPE Act, 1946). The CVC provides vigilance administration, and the Lokpal acts as the supreme anti-corruption ombudsman.

6. Consider the following statements:

1. The Lokpal Bill was for the first time presented during the fourth Loksabha in 1968 in the Parliament.
2. The NCWRC (2000-2002) in its report recommended that the constitution be amended to incorporate a provision making it obligatory on the state governments to set up the institution of Lokayukta.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Following the ARC's recommendations, the **Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill** was introduced for the first time in the **Fourth Lok Sabha in 1968**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Commission observed that while some states had established Lokayuktas (starting with Odisha in 1970 and Maharashtra in 1971), there was a lack of uniformity across the country.

7. Which of the following entities/matters are specifically under the purview of the Lokpal?

1. Matters related to a Minister's conduct inside the Parliament (such as voting or statements).
2. All entities receiving donations under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) above a specified threshold.
3. All Group A, B, C, and D officers of the Central Government.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (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 is incorrect:** Because the Lokpal does not have jurisdiction over anything said or any vote given by a Member of Parliament inside the House (Article 105 protection).
- **Statements 2 and 3 are correct** as per the 2013 Act.

8. Consider the following statements regarding the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013:

1. The Act mandates that every state must establish the office of Lokayukta within one year of the Act's commencement.
2. The Act grants the Central Government the power to directly appoint the Lokayukta for any state that fails to meet this deadline.

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 is correct:** the Act required states to set up Lokayuktas within one year.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** the Central Government cannot appoint a State Lokayukta. The states must pass their own laws and follow their own appointment procedures (though the Act provides a model).

9. Which of the following crimes fall under the investigative jurisdiction of the National Investigation Agency (NIA)?

1. Human trafficking
2. Counterfeit currency or bank notes
3. Cyber-terrorism
4. Offences under the Anti-Hijacking Act

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

The NIA's Scheduled Offences were expanded by the 2019 Amendment. It now includes human trafficking, counterfeit currency, cyber-terrorism, prohibited arms (Arms Act), and crimes related to atomic energy and hijacking.

10. With reference to the NIA (Amendment) Act, 2019, consider the following statements:

1. It empowers the Central Government to direct the NIA to investigate scheduled offences committed outside India, provided they affect Indian citizens or interests.
2. It allows State Governments to designate existing Sessions Courts as "Special Courts" for the trial of offences under the NIA 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: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 correct:** The 2019 amendment gave NIA extra-territorial jurisdiction.
- **Statement 2 incorrect:** To speed up trials, the amendment allowed the Centre and States to designate Sessions Courts as Special Courts, whereas earlier, only specifically established "Special Courts" could hear these cases.

Non-Constitutional Bodies

1. Consider the following statements regarding the Disaster Management (DM) Act, 2005:

1. The Act provides the legal basis for the constitution of both the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) and the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).
2. The National Executive Committee (NEC), designed to assist the NDMA, is chaired by the Union Home Secretary.
3. The NDMA has the statutory authority to ensure that different Central Ministries integrate disaster prevention measures into their developmental plans.

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 is correct:** Sections 46 and 48 of the DM Act, 2005, mandate the creation of the NDRF and SDRF respectively. While the Finance Commission recommends the funding ratio, the funds are statutory creations of the Act.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Union Home Minister is the Chairperson of the NDMA, but the Union Home Secretary is the ex-officio Chairperson of the National Executive Committee (NEC).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** One of the core functions of the NDMA under the Act is to lay down guidelines to be followed by different Ministries or Departments of the Central Government for the purpose of integrating the measures for prevention of disaster or the mitigation of its effects in their development plans and projects.

2. With reference to the Bar Council of India (BCI) and the Advocates Act, 1961, consider the following statements:

1. The Bar Council of India is a statutory body established to maintain professional standards and regulate legal education.
2. The Attorney General of India and the Solicitor General of India serve as ex-officio members of the Council.
3. An appeal against the disciplinary order of a State Bar Council lies directly with the Supreme Court of India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It is a statutory body (not constitutional) created under the Advocates Act, 1961.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** These two are the ex-officio members, while others are elected from State Bar Councils.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** An appeal against a State Bar Council's disciplinary committee first goes to the Bar Council of India (BCI). An appeal to the Supreme Court is only possible against an order passed by the BCI.

3. With reference to the State Bar Councils under the Advocates Act, 1961, consider the following statements:

1. A person currently in full-time salaried employment is ineligible for enrollment as an advocate.
2. The State Bar Council possesses the statutory power to remove an advocate's name from its roll on grounds of professional misconduct.
3. The elected members of a State Bar Council hold office for a term of five years.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** BCI rules generally prohibit full-time salaried employees from practicing law to maintain the independence of the profession.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under Section 35, the disciplinary committee of the State Bar Council can reprimand, suspend, or remove an advocate from the roll.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The term of office of the elected members of a State Bar Council is 5 years from the date of publication of the election results.

4. Regarding the categories of legal practitioners in the Supreme Court, consider the following statements:

1. A Senior Advocate is prohibited from filing a Vakalatnama or appearing without a junior advocate/Advocate-on-Record.
2. An Advocate-on-Record (AoR) is the only category of legal practitioner authorized to file any matter or document before the Supreme Court.
3. An active Advocate-on-Record can be designated as a Senior Advocate, provided they have 10 years of standing.

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under Supreme Court Rules, Senior Advocates cannot file Vakalatnamas, cannot stay in acting matters, and must be assisted by another advocate.
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** Only an AoR can file a case or a document in the SC. Other advocates can only plead (argue) upon being instructed by an AoR.
 - **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Upon being designated as a Senior Advocate, an advocate must give up their AoR status, as Senior Advocates are restricted from doing on-record filing work.

5. Consider the following statements regarding the Law Commission of India:

1. It is a non-statutory, executive body constituted by the Government of India from time to time.
2. Its primary mandate is to review and recommend the repeal of obsolete laws and suggest legal reforms.
3. The recommendations made by the Law Commission are binding on the Union Cabinet.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It is neither a constitutional nor a statutory body. It is an executive body created by a government notification.
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** Its main function is legal reform and identifying laws that are no longer needed.
 - **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Its reports are advisory. The government may or may not accept the recommendations.

6. Consider the following statements regarding the Delimitation Commission:

1. It is a statutory body appointed by the President of India and works in collaboration with the Election Commission.
2. The orders issued by the Commission have the force of law and cannot be called into question before any court.

3. The Commission was last constituted under the Delimitation Act, 1973.

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 is correct:** It is appointed by the President under a Delimitation Act passed by Parliament.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under Article 82, once the orders are laid before the Lok Sabha or Vidhan Sabha, they cannot be modified or challenged in court.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The last full Delimitation Commission was constituted in 2002 (headed by Justice Kuldeep Singh). A specific commission was formed in 2020 for J&K and certain NE states.

7. Match the following Delimitation Commissions with their respective Chairpersons/Features:

List I (Year/Act)	List II (Chairperson/Context)
A. 1952 Commission	1. Justice Kuldeep Singh
B. 2002 Commission	2. Redrawing boundaries of J&K UT
C. 2020 Commission	3. First Delimitation exercise
D. 1973 Commission	4. Justice J.L. Kapur

Select the correct code (A-B-C-D):

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Delimitation Commissions have been set up four times: 1952, 1963, 1973, and 2002. The 2020 commission (headed by Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai) was a special exercise for J&K and four North-Eastern states. Justice Kuldeep Singh headed the 2002 commission.

8. With respect to Cooperative Societies under the 97th Amendment Act, consider the following statements:

1. The maximum number of directors in a cooperative society board is limited to 21.
2. The Act mandates a reservation of two seats for women and one seat for SC/STs on the board.
3. In a cooperative society, voting rights are proportional to the share capital contributed by the member.

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 is correct:** Article 243ZJ limits the number of directors to 21.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Reservation for SC/ST (1 seat) and Women (2 seats) is mandatory.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Cooperatives follow the principle of One Member, One Vote regardless of the number of shares held, to ensure democratic control.

9. Consider the following statements regarding the 97th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2011:

1. It made the right to form cooperative societies a Fundamental Right under Article 19.
2. It inserted a new Directive Principle of State Policy (Article 43B) for the promotion of cooperative societies.
3. The subject of 'Cooperative Societies' is placed in the Union List to ensure uniform Central regulation.

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: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 & 2 are correct:** The 97th Amendment added Article 19(1)(c), Article 43B, and Part IXB.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** 'Cooperative Societies' is a State Subject (Entry 32, List II). Multi-State Cooperative Societies fall under the Union List, but general cooperatives are under state jurisdiction. (Note: The SC struck down Part IXB as applied to state cooperatives in 2021 due to lack of state ratification, but it remains valid for Multi-State cooperatives).

10. The Representation of the People Act, 1950, provides for which of the following matters?

1. The allocation of seats in the House of the People and State Legislative Assemblies.
2. The preparation of electoral rolls and qualifications of voters.
3. The conduct of elections and adjudication of election disputes.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- The 1950 Act deals with the pre-election stage: allocation of seats, delimitation procedure, and registration of voters (electoral rolls).
 - The 1951 Act deals with the actual conduct of elections, qualifications/disqualifications of candidates, corrupt practices, and election disputes.

Non-Constitutional Bodies

1. Which one of the following statements is not correct regarding the Official Languages Act, 1963?

- (a) It mandated the creation of a Parliamentary Committee to review the progress of Hindi for official Union purposes.
- (b) It stipulated that English must be used for communication between the Union and states that have not adopted Hindi as their official language.
- (c) It requires that every Bill introduced in Parliament must be accompanied by an authoritative Hindi translation.
- (d) It was the primary instrument that first introduced Hindi in Devanagari script as the official language of the Union.

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Statement (d) is incorrect because Article 343 of the Constitution itself introduced Hindi in Devanagari script as the official language of the Union. The Official Languages Act, 1963, was enacted to provide for the continued use of English for official purposes even after the 15-year period (1965) specified in the Constitution.

2. Consider the following statements regarding the official language of the States:

1. A State Legislature is not restricted to choosing only those languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution as its official language.
2. The Constitution of India limits a State Legislature to declaring only one language as the official language of that State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: States can choose any language (several North-Eastern states have English, which is not in the 8th Schedule).

Statement 2 is incorrect: States can declare one or more languages as official. For example, Bihar has Hindi and Urdu.

3. Consider the following statements:

1. Only the Parliament has the power to provide for the use of any language other than English in the proceedings of the Supreme Court.
2. The Governor of a State, with the previous consent of the President, can authorize the use of Hindi or any other official language in the proceedings of the High Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Under Article 348, English is the language of the SC and HCs until Parliament provides otherwise. For High Courts, Article 348(2) allows the Governor (with President's consent) to authorize Hindi or another language for proceedings, though judgments/orders must still be in English unless Parliament changes the law.

4. With reference to Classical Languages in India, consider the following statements:

1. The primary criterion for status is high antiquity of early texts over a period of 1500–2000 years.
2. Once a language is notified as Classical, the Center provides for a Center of Excellence for Studies in Classical Languages.
3. Malayalam and Odia were among the first three languages to be accorded this status.

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 is correct: To be declared "Classical," a language must prove a recorded history of at least 1,500 to 2,000 years. This is established through: a body of ancient literature or recorded texts considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers. The literary tradition must be original and not borrowed from another speech community (e.g., it shouldn't be a mere derivative of another language).

Statement 2 are correct: The Central Government establishes a Center of Excellence for Studies in Classical Languages (usually under the Central Institute of Indian Languages).

Statement 3 is incorrect: The first three were Tamil (2004), Sanskrit (2005), and Telugu/Kannada (2008). Malayalam (2013) and Odia (2014) were added later. As of late 2024, the list has been expanded to include Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese, and Bengali.

5. Match the following Articles of the Constitution with their respective provisions:

Article	Provision

A. Article 341	1. Special procedure for language related to certain laws.
B. Article 350A	2. Facilities for instruction in mother-tongue at primary stage.
C. Article 347	3. Special provision relating to language spoken by a section of the population.
D. Article 349	4. Language to be used in representations for redress of grievances.

Which of the following is the correct tricky match (identifying the correct pair)?

- (a) A - 4
- (b) B - 2
- (c) C - 1
- (d) D - 3

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

1. Article 350A (added by the 7th Amendment) mandates facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage.
2. Article 347 relates to language spoken by a section of the population.
3. Article 349 relates to special procedures for enacting laws related to language.
4. Article 341 empowers the President of India to specify the castes, races, or tribes which shall be deemed to be Scheduled Castes (SCs) in relation to a particular State or Union Territory.

6. Consider the following statements regarding the All-India Services:

1. Members of the All-India Services hold office during the pleasure of the President of India.
2. A member of an All-India Service can be dismissed from service by the Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission.

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 is correct: Article 310 of the Indian Constitution enshrines the Doctrine of Pleasure, stating that members of the defence services, Civil Services of the Union, All-India Services, or those holding civil posts under the Union, hold office during the pleasure of the President.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Under Article 311, no member can be dismissed or removed by an authority subordinate to that by which they were appointed. Since they are appointed by the President, only the President (Executive) can dismiss them, not the UPSC (which is an advisory/recruiting body).

7. With reference to All-India Services, consider the following statements:

1. The Rajya Sabha alone can initiate the creation of a new All-India Service through a resolution supported by two-thirds of the members present and voting.
2. The creation of the All-India Judicial Service (AIJS) requires a formal Constitutional Amendment under Article 368.
3. Parliament is empowered to regulate the recruitment and service conditions of persons appointed to these services.

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 is correct: Article 312 of the Indian Constitution empowers Parliament to create new All-India Services (AIS) common to the Union and States, including an All-India Judicial Service (AIJS).

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 312 specifies that a law creating an AIS (including AIJS) is not deemed to be an amendment for the purposes of Article 368. Statement 3 is correct (All India Services Act, 1951).

8. For how many of the following bodies are the Chairperson or members appointed by the Governor, but can be removed ONLY by the President?

1. State Public Service Commission
2. State Election Commission
3. State Human Rights Commission
4. State Information Commission

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The Chairperson/members of the SPSC, SEC, and SHRC are appointed by the Governor but removed only by the President. For the State Information Commission, both the appointment and removal are done by the Governor (as per the RTI Act).

9. With reference to the Joint Public Service Commission (JPSC), which of the following statements are not correct?

1. It is a constitutional body created directly by the Constitution of India.

2. Its members hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years.
3. The Commission presents its annual report to the President of India.

Select the correct answer:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: JPSC is a statutory body created by an Act of Parliament on the request of state legislatures.

Statement 2 is correct (same as SPSC).

Statement 3 is incorrect: JPSC presents its report to the Governors of the concerned states, who then lay them before the state legislatures.

10. Which of the following is not a unitary (non-federal) feature of the Indian Constitution?

- (a) Single Constitution for Union and States
- (b) Emergency Provisions
- (c) All-India Services
- (d) Bicameralism

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Bicameralism (having two houses) is a federal feature because the Upper House (Rajya Sabha) represents the states at the center. Single Constitution, Emergency Provisions, and All-India Services are unitary features as they strengthen the central government's control over the states.

Rights and Liabilities of the Government and Special Provisions

for Some States

1. Consider the following statements regarding legal proceedings against government officials in India:

1. Judicial officers enjoy absolute immunity from civil liability for acts performed in the discharge of their official duties.
2. The State is vicariously liable for all tortious acts committed by its employees, irrespective of whether the act was performed in a sovereign or non-sovereign capacity.

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 is correct:** Under the Judicial Officers Protection Act (1850), judicial officers are immune from civil liability for acts done in good faith during their official duty.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** In India, the State can still plead Sovereign Immunity. While the State is liable for torts in non-sovereign functions (like running a railway), it is generally not held liable for torts committed by employees during sovereign functions (like maintenance of law and order or military activities), though this doctrine is narrowing through judicial activism.

2. Which of the following are recognized as Consumer Rights under the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019?

1. Right to be protected against the marketing of hazardous goods.
2. Right to be assured of access to a variety of goods at competitive prices.
3. Right to seek redressal against unfair trade practices.
4. Right to file a class-action suit under "Product Liability."

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The 2019 Act defines six consumer rights:

- (i) Right to Safety,
- (ii) Right to be Informed,
- (iii) Right to Choose,
- (iv) Right to be Heard,
- (v) Right to seek Redressal, and
- (vi) Right to Consumer Awareness.

The 2019 Act also introduced the concept of Product Liability, allowing consumers to claim compensation from manufacturers/sellers for damages caused by defective products.

3. Which of the following statements is not correct?

- (a) The President specifies the castes, races, or tribes to be deemed as Scheduled Castes in relation to a State or Union Territory.
- (b) The President alone has the exclusive power to notify the list of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs) for the purposes of both the Central and State lists.
- (c) Following recent judicial and constitutional developments, States have the power to provide for sub-classification within the Scheduled Castes for reservation purposes.
- (d) The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) must be consulted on all major policy matters affecting Scheduled Tribes, though its advice is not binding.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement (b) is incorrect:** While the 102nd Amendment initially suggested the President has exclusive power, the 105th Constitutional Amendment Act (2021) clarified that State Governments and Union Territories have the power to prepare and maintain their own lists of SEBCs (State List), independent of the Central List.
- A landmark 7-judge bench of the Supreme Court (2024) ruled that States can sub-classify SCs to provide more benefits to "more backward" groups within the category.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC):

1. The NCBC was accorded constitutional status via the 102nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2018, which inserted Article 338B.
2. The composition, tenure, and conditions of service of the members of the NCBC are determined by the President of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The NCBC, originally a statutory body, became a constitutional body under Article 338B through the 102nd Amendment (not the 100th).
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** According to Article 338B, the President determines the rules regarding the number of members (currently a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and three other members) and their service conditions.

5. Consider the following statements regarding the representation of States in Indian Legislatures:

1. Uttar Pradesh possesses the highest number of seats in the Rajya Sabha.
2. Madhya Pradesh has the largest number of Lok Sabha seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes (STs).
3. Maharashtra has the second-highest number of Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha) seats in India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** UP has 31 seats in Rajya Sabha (the highest).
 - **Statement 2 is incorrect:** While Jharkhand has many, Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of Lok Sabha seats reserved for STs (6 seats).
 - **Statement 3 is incorrect:** West Bengal (294) is second after UP (403). Correction: West Bengal actually has more seats than Maharashtra (288). Therefore, only two statements (1 and 2) are generally the focus of such comparisons.
(Note: UP=403, WB=294, Maharashtra=288).

6. With reference to the National Integration Council (NIC), consider the following statements:

1. It was established in 1961 following a recommendation from the National Integration Conference to combat communalism and regionalism.
2. Its membership includes the Prime Minister, Union Ministers, Chief Ministers of all States, and leaders of recognized political parties.
3. The NIC is a statutory body mandated by law to meet at least twice a year.

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 and 2 are correct:** The NIC is an extra-constitutional, extra-statutory body chaired by the PM.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** It is not a statutory body, and it has no fixed mandate for meeting frequency. In fact, it has met very sporadically over the last few decades.

7. Regarding the special provisions for states under Part XXI of the Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. Under Article 371A, no Act of Parliament concerning Naga religious or social practices applies to Nagaland unless approved by the State Legislative Assembly.
2. The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh has a special responsibility with respect to law and order, and he can exercise individual judgment in this regard.
3. The Goa Legislative Assembly must consist of not less than 40 members as per Article 371-I.

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

All statements are correct. Article 371A (Nagaland) protects Naga customary law. Article 371H (Arunachal Pradesh) gives the Governor special powers for law and order. Article 371-I (Goa) sets the assembly strength at a minimum of 40.

8. With reference to Article 371-B of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. It was inserted by the 22nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1969.
2. It empowers the President to provide for the constitution of a committee of the Assam Legislative Assembly consisting of members elected from tribal areas.
3. The Governor of Assam has a special responsibility to ensure the functioning of this committee.

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:

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct:** Article 371-B was added by the 22nd Amendment to facilitate the creation of an autonomous state within Assam (which later led to Meghalaya).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Article empowers the President to provide for the committee's constitution and functions; it does not explicitly assign special responsibility for law and order to the Governor.

9. Under the Special Provisions of the Constitution (Articles 371 to 371-J), which of the following Governors has a special responsibility for the establishment of separate development boards for specific regions?

- (a) Governor of Assam
- (b) Governor of Nagaland
- (c) Governor of Maharashtra and Gujarat
- (d) Governor of Manipur

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Under Article 371, the President may provide that the Governors of Maharashtra and Gujarat have special responsibility for the establishment of separate development boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada (Maharashtra), and Saurashtra and Kutch (Gujarat).

10. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched regarding the minimum number of members in the State Legislative Assembly as per Special Provisions?

- 1. Mizoram : 40 members (Article 371G)
- 2. Goa : 40 members (Article 371-I)
- 3. Sikkim : 32 members (Article 371F)

Select the correct answer:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

All are correct. While the general rule is a minimum of 60 members (Article 170), these states have specific exceptions: Mizoram and Goa are set at 40, while Sikkim is set at 32.

Political Parties

1. Consider the following statements regarding the differences between the Indian and British political systems:

- 1. Unlike the British system, the sovereignty of Parliament is restricted in India by a written Constitution and judicial review.
- 2. In India, ministers are not legally required to countersign the official acts of the Head of the State, unlike the practice in Britain.
- 3. In both systems, the Speaker of the House is conventionally required to resign from their political party upon election to maintain strict neutrality.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** In Britain, Parliament is supreme; in India, the Constitution is supreme.
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** In Britain, every order of the Monarch is countersigned by a minister who is then legally responsible. India does not follow this system of legal responsibility for ministers.
 - **Statement 3 is incorrect:** In Britain, the Speaker resigns from the party. In India, while the Speaker is expected to be impartial, there is no such mandatory convention or requirement to resign from the party.

2. The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) are considered fundamental to the governance of the country because:

1. They facilitate the courts in examining and determining the constitutional validity of a law.
2. They serve as a common political manifesto for all parties, ensuring continuity in socio-economic goals despite changes in government.
3. They provide a yardstick for the electorate to evaluate the performance of the government.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation: DPSPs are non-justiciable but fundamental in the governance of the country.

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Supreme Court has ruled that in determining the constitutionality of any law, if the court finds the law seeks to give effect to a DPSP, it may consider such law to be reasonable.
- **Statement 2 and 3 are correct:** They provide a baseline social and economic order that any party in power is expected to pursue, acting as a guide for both the rulers and the ruled.

3. Consider the following statements regarding political party funding and election expenditure in India:

1. While there are strict statutory limits on the expenditure of individual candidates, there is no legal cap on the amount a political party can spend during elections.
2. Currently, there is a statutory cap of 7.5% of the average net profits of the preceding three years on corporate contributions to political parties.

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 is correct:** Section 77 of the RPA, 1951, limits candidate spending, but political parties have no such ceiling.
 - **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The 7.5% cap on corporate donations was removed by the Finance Act, 2017. Companies can now theoretically donate any amount of their profit to political parties.

4. Consider the following information categories:

1. Candidate's Serial Number
2. Candidate's Name
3. Candidate's Photograph
4. Party Symbol

How many of the above are visible to the voter on a Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slip during the 7-second window?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The VVPAT slip displays the Serial Number, Name of the Candidate, and the Symbol of the party/candidate. It does not contain the candidate's photograph or any identity details of the voter to maintain the secrecy of the ballot.

5. If India were to transition from the 'First Past The Post' (FPTP) system to a Proportional Representation (PR) system for Lok Sabha elections, which of the following are the most likely consequences?

1. A closer correlation between the percentage of total votes polled by a party and the number of seats it wins.
2. An increased likelihood of multi-party coalition governments due to the difficulty of a single party securing a clear majority.
3. Enhanced representation for smaller, geographically dispersed interest groups and minority parties.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Under FPTP, a party can win a majority of seats with only 30-35% of votes (as seen in India). PR ensures seats match vote share. However, PR often leads to fragmented legislatures where no single party wins a majority, making coalitions inevitable.

6. According to the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, which of the following conditions is/are sufficient for a political party to be recognized as a 'National Party'?

1. It secures at least 6% of valid votes in four or more states in a Lok Sabha or Assembly election, and wins 4 seats in the Lok Sabha from any state.
2. It wins 2% of seats in the Lok Sabha at a general election, and these candidates are elected from at least three different states.
3. It is recognized as a 'State Party' in at least four states.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

These are the three distinct criteria for National Party status. Fulfilling any one of these is sufficient. Note that for condition 3, the party must be recognized in four states, not two.

7. A Nationally Recognized political party in India enjoys which of the following statutory or administrative benefits?

1. Exclusive use of a reserved election symbol throughout the country.
2. Entitlement to two sets of electoral rolls free of cost during the revision of rolls.
3. Provision of government-subsidized land or buildings for party headquarters in the national capital.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Recognized parties (National and State) get several benefits. National parties get a symbol reserved across India; State parties get it reserved within that state. They also get free electoral rolls, broadcast time on AIR/Doordarshan, and the ability to have up to 40 "Star Campaigners" whose travel costs aren't added to candidate accounts.

8. Consider the following statements regarding the Election Commission of India (ECI):

1. The Supreme Court has ruled that the ECI lacks the power to de-register a political party on the grounds of violating the Constitution or its own internal bylaws.
2. The determination of the election schedule and the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) are within the exclusive jurisdiction of the ECI.

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: (c)

Explanation:

• **Statement 1 is correct:** While ECI can register a party under Section 29A of RPA 1951, it does not have the power to de-register it (except in very limited cases like fraud or being declared unlawful by the Center).

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The ECI has plenary powers under Article 324 to schedule elections and manage the MCC.

9. In how many of the following scenarios does a Member of Parliament (MP) face "automatic" or immediate disqualification from their seat?

1. Conviction by a criminal court for an offence with a sentence of two years or more.
2. Resignation from their political party to join the State Legislative Assembly.
3. Voluntary relinquishment of membership of the political party that gave them the ticket.
4. Casting a vote in the House contrary to the directions (Whip) issued by the party.

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Scenario 1:** Per the Lily Thomas judgment, an MP is disqualified immediately upon conviction for 2+ years.
 - **Scenario 2:** Resigning to join the State Assembly is a vacancy, but not disqualification.
 - **Scenarios 3 and 4:** These fall under the 10th Schedule (Anti-Defection). Disqualification is NOT automatic; it must be decided by the Presiding Officer (Speaker/Chairman).

10. Which of the following actions will trigger disqualification proceedings under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution?

1. An independent member of the House joins a political party after the election.
2. A nominated member joins a political party after the expiry of six months from the date of taking their seat.
3. A member voluntarily gives up the membership of their party because the party decided to sit in the opposition.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Independents cannot join any party.
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** Nominated members have a 6-month window to join a party; after that, it's a violation.
 - **Statement 3 is correct:** Voluntarily giving up membership for any political reason (other than a merger of 2/3rds of the party) attracts defection.
 - A Speaker resigning from their party to maintain neutrality is an exception and does not attract the 10th Schedule.