

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

4th Week, March, 2026

HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
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GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

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Panchayati Raj and Local Governance

1. With reference to the history of local self-governance in India, which of the following events occurred earliest?

- (a) The issuance of Lord Ripon's Resolution on local self-government.
- (b) The appointment of the Royal Commission on Decentralisation.
- (c) The establishment of the first Municipal Corporation in India at Madras.
- (d) The enactment of the first Cantonments Act by the British.

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Madras Municipal Corporation:** Established in 1688 (First in India).
 - **Lord Ripon's Resolution: 1882** (Ripon is known as the Father of Local Self-Government).
 - **Royal Commission on Decentralisation: 1907** (Chaired by C.E.H. Hobhouse).
 - **Cantonments Act:** While various regulations existed, the major comprehensive Act was in **1924**.

2. Consider the following statements regarding the duration of Municipalities under the 74th Amendment Act, 1992:

1. Every municipality is provided a five-year term from the date of its first meeting.
2. A municipality constituted upon the dissolution of an existing one before its full term shall continue only for the remainder of the period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

As per Article 243U. If a municipality is dissolved, elections must be held within 6 months. The new body does not get a fresh 5-year term; it only serves the remaining time of the dissolved body.

3. With reference to Municipal Corporations in India, consider the following statements:

1. They are created for the administration of large cities such as Delhi, Mumbai, and Kolkata.
2. The administration of all Municipal Corporations within a single state is governed by one common uniform Act.
3. Every Municipal Corporation consists of three distinct authorities: the Council, the Standing Committees, and the Commissioner.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** They are meant for large urban areas.

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- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Municipal Corporations are created by special acts of state legislatures (or Parliament for UTs). There is often a separate act for each major corporation (e.g., the Mumbai Municipal Corporation Act).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** These three authorities form the organizational core.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the authorities of a Municipal Corporation:

1. The Council is headed by a Mayor, who serves as the chief executive officer of the corporation.
2. Standing Committees are established to handle specific functions like health or education because the Council is too large for detailed deliberation.
3. The Municipal Commissioner is generally a member of the IAS and is appointed by the State Government.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Mayor is the formal head and presiding officer of the Council, but the Municipal Commissioner is the executive head (Chief Executive).
- **Statements 2 and 3 are correct:** Standing Committees deal with working details, and the Commissioner is the state-appointed executive authority.

5. Consider the following statements regarding the composition of Municipalities:

1. All seats in a municipality are filled by persons chosen by direct election from the territorial constituencies.
2. A member of the Rajya Sabha registered as an elector within the state is automatically a member of all municipalities within 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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Direct election is the mandatory constitutional requirement for seats.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The State Legislature *may* provide for the representation of MP/MLAs in a municipality, but it is not automatic. Furthermore, a Rajya Sabha member would only be represented in a municipality where they are registered as an elector, not any or all municipalities in the state.

6. With reference to the District Planning Committee (DPC) under Article 243ZD, consider the following statements:

1. Its primary mandate is to consolidate the developmental plans prepared by the Panchayats and the Municipalities in the district.
2. One-fifth of the DPC are indirectly elected by the elected members of the district's Panchayats and Municipalities.
3. The Constitution mandates that the District Collector shall be the ex-officio Chairperson of the DPC.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** This is the core functional definition of the DPC.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Only four-fifths (80%) of the members are elected by the local body members. The remaining members are nominated as per state law.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The manner of choosing the Chairperson is decided by the State Legislature. It is not constitutionally mandated to be the Collector.

7. Which of the following matters are included in the 12th Schedule of the Constitution of India, which lists the functional items for Municipalities?

1. Regulation of land-use and construction of buildings.
2. Roads and bridges.
3. Vital statistics including registration of births and deaths.
4. Regulation of slaughterhouses and tanneries.

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation: All four items are among the 18 functional items listed in the 12th Schedule (Article 243W) introduced by the 74th Amendment Act.

8. Consider the following statements regarding the administration of Municipalities:

1. The State Legislature may authorize a municipality to levy, collect, and appropriate specific taxes and duties.
2. The audit of municipal accounts is conducted directly by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India.
3. The State Election Commission is responsible for the conduct of all elections to the municipalities.

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under Article 243X.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Article 243Z states that the State Legislature makes provisions for the maintenance and auditing of accounts. The CAG is not mandated by the 74th Amendment to audit them directly, though some states may involve the AG.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** Article 243ZA vests the power of municipal elections in the State Election Commission.

9. Consider the following statements regarding the 74th Amendment Act:

1. The provisions of the Act do not automatically apply to the Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas mentioned in Article 244.
2. Courts are barred from interfering in the validity of any law relating to the delimitation of constituencies or the allotment of seats to such constituencies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct (Article 243ZC):** The act doesn't apply to Scheduled/Tribal areas or the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council.
- **Statement 2 is correct (Article 243ZG):** This bar on court interference is intended to prevent delays in the election process.

10. With reference to the reservation of seats in Municipalities (Article 243T), which of the following statements is correct?

- (a) Seats are reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in a fixed ratio of 15% and 7.5% respectively.
- (b) The reservation for women must be at least one-half of the total number of seats.
- (c) The provision of reservation for the offices of Chairpersons for SCs and STs is left to the discretion of the State Legislature.
- (d) The Constitution provides for the mandatory reservation of seats for Other Backward Classes (OBCs).

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(a) is incorrect:** Reservation for SC/ST is in proportion to their population in the municipal area.
- **(b) is incorrect:** The minimum reservation for women is one-third, not one-half.
- **(c) is correct:** While seat reservation for SC/ST/Women is mandatory, the reservation for the offices of Chairpersons for SC/ST is determined by the State Legislature.
- **(d) is incorrect:** OBC reservation is voluntary (discretionary) for the state legislature.

Municipality and Special Provisions in Constitution

1. Consider the following statements regarding the Metropolitan Planning Committee (MPC):

1. It is a constitutional body mandated by Article 243ZD for every metropolitan area having a population of 10 lakhs or more.
2. Two-thirds of the members of an MPC are elected by the elected members of the Municipalities and Chairpersons of the Panchayats in that metropolitan area.
3. The committee is responsible for preparing the draft development plan for the metropolitan area and forwarding it to the State Government.

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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Article 243ZE mandates the creation of MPCs in large urban clusters (10 Lakh+ population).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Constitution specifies the 2/3rd elective quota from local bodies (Panchayats and Municipalities) in proportion to the population ratio.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Its primary output is a "Draft Development Plan" which considers shared priorities between local bodies.

2. Consider the following statements regarding the financial resources of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in India:

1. Internal Revenue of a municipality consists exclusively of tax revenues such as property tax and profession tax.
2. Devolution refers to the mandatory sharing of net proceeds of state taxes with municipalities based on recommendations of the State Finance 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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Internal revenue includes Non-Tax Revenue as well, such as user charges (water, sanitation), rent from municipal properties, and fees for building plans.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Devolution is a top-down transfer of funds from the State's consolidated fund to local bodies, as mandated by the State Finance Commission.

3. With reference to the Central Council of Local Government, consider the following statements:

1. It was established by an order of the President of India under Article 263 of the Constitution.
2. It is an advisory body chaired by the Prime Minister of India.
3. Its composition includes the Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs and the State Ministers for Local Self-Government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It was established in 1954 under Article 263 (Inter-State Council provisions).

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is chaired by the Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs (formerly the Minister for Local Self-Government).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It serves as a coordinating body between the Centre and States regarding urban and local issues.

4. Consider the following statements regarding Co-operative Societies in India:

1. The subject of Co-operative Societies falls under the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule.
2. They are defined as democratic organizations where members participate in policy formulation and decision-making.
3. The 97th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2011 elevated them to a status similar to Panchayati Raj 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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Co-operative societies is a **State Subject** (Entry 32 of the State List). Only Multi-State Cooperatives fall under the Union List.
- **Statements 2 & 3 are correct:** They are recognized as voluntary, member-controlled institutions and were given constitutional protection via the 97th Amendment.

5. The 97th Constitutional Amendment Act made which of the following changes to the Constitution of India?

1. It added Co-operative Societies after unions in Article 19(1)(c), making the right to form them a Fundamental Right.
2. It inserted a new Directive Principle of State Policy (Article 43B) for the promotion of co-operative societies.
3. It added a new Part IX-B to the Constitution containing Articles 243ZH to 243ZT.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

All three statements accurately describe the components of the 97th Amendment. It aimed to provide professional management and democratic control to cooperatives.

6. Consider the following statements regarding the Board of Directors of a Co-operative Society under Part IX-B:

1. The maximum number of directors in a co-operative society shall not exceed 21.
2. The term of office of elected members of the board is five years from the date of election.
3. The State Legislature must provide for the reservation of two seats for women and one seat for SCs/STs on the board.

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

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Article 243ZJ fixes the cap at 21.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The term is 5 years, and elections must be completed before the term expiry.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** This reservation is mandatory for boards having individuals as members.

7. Regarding the governance of Co-operative Societies, consider the following:

1. The Board of a co-operative society can be kept under suspension for an indefinite period if it fails to conduct elections.
2. Every co-operative society must get its accounts audited within six months of the close of the financial year.
3. The provisions of Part IX-B apply to Multi-State Co-operative societies with the modification that State Government is read as Central Government.

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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The maximum period of suspension is **6 months** (1 year for Co-operative Banks). Indefinite suspension is not permitted.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Audit and General Body meetings must be conducted within 6 months of the financial year end.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Article 243ZR ensures the same principles apply to Multi-State Cooperatives under Central jurisdiction.

8. Consider the following statements with regard to the Anti-Defection Law:

1. The Presiding Officer of the House can take suo moto cognisance of a member's defection to initiate disqualification.
2. As per the Tenth Schedule, the Presiding Officer must decide on a disqualification petition within a fixed period of three months.
3. The Supreme Court in the Kihoto Hollohan case (1992) held that the Speaker acts as a tribunal, and the decision is subject to judicial review.

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

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is NOT correct:** The Presiding Officer cannot act suo moto. A petition must be filed by another member of the House.
- **Statement 2 is NOT correct:** The Tenth Schedule prescribes no time limit. However, the Supreme Court has recently observed that it should ideally be decided within 3 months.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Speaker's decision is final but open to judicial review on grounds of mala fides or perversity.

9. With regard to the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. All members of the Lok Sabha are directly elected on the basis of Universal Adult Suffrage.
2. The Fourth Schedule of the Constitution provides for the allocation of seats in the Lok Sabha among the States and UTs.
3. The Constitution (106th Amendment) Act, 2023, provides for 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Post-removal of Anglo-Indian nominations, all members are now directly elected.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Fourth Schedule deals with seat allocation in the **Rajya Sabha**, not the Lok Sabha.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam reserves 1/3rd of seats for women for a period of 15 years.

10. Consider the following situations involving a Member of Parliament:

1. A member resigns from their political party after being elected as the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha.
2. An independent member joins a political party six months after taking their seat.
3. A nominated member joins a political party four months after becoming a member.
4. A member voluntarily gives up party membership because their party merged with another party (supported by 2/3rd members).

How many of the above situations will attract disqualification under the Tenth Schedule?

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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Situation 1: No Disqualification.** Speakers/Deputy Speakers are exempt if they resign to maintain neutrality.
- **Situation 2: Attracts Disqualification.** An independent member cannot join any party.
- **Situation 3: Attracts Disqualification.** A nominated member must join a party within 6 months.
- **Situation 4: No Disqualification.** Mergers with 2/3rd majority are exempt.

Special Provisions in Constitution

1. The bifurcated constitutional status of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) was established by which amendment?

- (a) 65th Constitutional Amendment Act
- (b) 89th Constitutional Amendment Act
- (c) 102nd Constitutional Amendment Act
- (d) 92nd Constitutional Amendment Act

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Originally, Article 338 provided for a combined commissioner. The 89th Amendment Act of 2003 bifurcated the combined National Commission for SCs and STs into two separate bodies: The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (Article 338) and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (Article 338-A).

2. Autonomous Districts can be established under the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution in how many of the following states?

- 1. Assam
- 2. Manipur
- 3. Meghalaya
- 4. Nagaland
- 5. Tripura

Select the correct answer:

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The Sixth Schedule (Article 244(2)) applies specifically to the tribal areas of four North-Eastern states, often remembered by the acronym AMTM: Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram. Manipur and Nagaland are not covered under the Sixth Schedule (Nagaland is covered under Article 371A). Autonomous District Councils (ADCs), have much higher autonomy than the 5th Schedule areas. They can make laws on land, forests, and inheritance, and even have their own regional courts.

3. Consider the following statements regarding the legislative powers over Union Territories (UTs):

- 1. Parliament has the power to legislate on any subject in any of the three lists, including the State List, for the Union Territories.
- 2. In UTs with a local legislature, a law made by the local assembly automatically prevails over a Parliamentary law in case of a conflict regarding a State List subject.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: As per Article 246(4), grants Parliament the power to legislate on any subject—including those in the State List—for any part of India not included in a State, such as Union Territories.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Because the legislative power of Parliament over UTs is supreme. Even if a UT has its own legislature (like Delhi or Puducherry), Parliamentary law prevails over the local law in case of inconsistency.

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

1. The power to declare an area as a "Scheduled Area" and alter its boundaries rests with the President of India.
2. The Governor of the state is empowered to direct that a particular Act of Parliament or the State Legislature does not apply to a Scheduled Area.
3. The jurisdiction of the High Court is excluded from Scheduled Areas to protect tribal customs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Presidential prerogative.

Statement 2 is correct: Governor's discretionary power in 5th Schedule areas.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The High Court and Supreme Court maintain full jurisdiction over Scheduled Areas just like any other part of the state.

5. Regarding the Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996, which of the following are mandatory provisions?

1. Reservation of the post of Chairperson at all levels of Panchayats for Scheduled Tribes.
2. Granting ownership of Minor Forest Produce to the Gram Sabha or Panchayats.
3. Mandatory consultation with the Gram Sabha before land acquisition for development projects.

Select the correct answer:

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

PESA was enacted to "extend" the 73rd Amendment to 5th Schedule areas with modifications to protect tribal interests.

Statement 1 is correct: The 73rd Amendment (Panchayati Raj) didn't automatically apply to 5th Schedule areas to protect tribal customs. PESA was enacted to bridge this.

Statement 2 is correct: To ensure tribal leadership isn't diluted, all Chairperson posts (at all levels) must be reserved for Scheduled Tribes.

Statement 3 is correct: Gram Sabha empowered to manage local resources, prevent land alienation, and manage Minor Forest Produce.

6. Which of the following amendments require ratification by the legislatures of at least half of the states?

1. Changes to the Seventh Schedule (Distribution of legislative powers).
2. Amendment of Fundamental Rights.
3. Changes to the representation of states in Parliament (Fourth Schedule).
4. Admission or establishment of new states (First Schedule).

Select the correct answer:

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Under Article 368, amendments affecting the federal character of the Constitution require state ratification. This includes the Seventh Schedule (List 1) and Fourth Schedule (List 3). Fundamental Rights (List 2) require a special majority but *not* state ratification. Admission of new states (List 4) is done by a simple majority and is not deemed an amendment under Article 368.

7. Which part of the Constitution of India contains the specific provision for the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive?

- (a) Article 14 under Fundamental Rights
- (b) Article 50 under Directive Principles of State Policy
- (c) Seventh Schedule under the Union List
- (d) Article 123 under the Legislative Powers of the President

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Article 50 of the DPSP directs the State to take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive in the public services of the State. This is a crucial feature for ensuring the independence of the judiciary.

8. Consider the following statements regarding the official languages of the States in India:

1. A State Legislature can only adopt a language as its official language if it is already included in the Eighth Schedule.
2. The State Legislature has the authority to choose any one or more languages used in the state as its official language.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: A state is not restricted to the Eighth Schedule; for example, Kokborok is an official language in Tripura but is not in the 8th Schedule.

Statement 2 is correct: as per Article 345; A State Legislature is free to adopt any language as its official language, even if that language is not part of the 22 languages in the 8th Schedule.

9. With reference to the Ninth Schedule, consider the following statements:

1. It was introduced during the Prime Ministership of Jawaharlal Nehru to protect land reform laws.
2. Currently, any law placed in the Ninth Schedule enjoys absolute immunity from judicial review.
3. Adding a law to the Ninth Schedule requires a Constitutional Amendment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Added by the 1st Amendment (1951) by Jawaharlal Nehru to prevent land reform laws from being tied up in court.

Statement 2 is incorrect: the Supreme Court in the I.R. Coelho case (2007) ruled that laws placed in the 9th Schedule after April 24, 1973, are open to judicial review if they violate the "Basic Structure."

Statement 3 is correct: since the Schedule itself is part of the Constitution, adding items to it requires an amendment.

10. Which of the following languages is NOT recognized under the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India?

- (a) Konkani
- (b) Santhali
- (c) English
- (d) Sindhi

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Despite being an official subsidiary language of the Union and the primary language of the higher judiciary, English is not among the 22 languages listed in the Eighth Schedule. Konkani was added by the 71st Amendment; Santhali by the 92nd; and Sindhi by the 21st.

Special Provisions in Constitution

1. Consider the following statements regarding the Basic Structure of the Constitution:

1. A Constitutional Amendment that places a law in the Ninth Schedule can be challenged if it violates the basic structure.
2. Ordinary legislation enacted by Parliament is immune from being challenged on the grounds of violating the basic structure.

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:** In the I.R. Coelho vs. State of Tamil Nadu (2007) case, the Supreme Court ruled that while the Ninth Schedule provides a protective umbrella, any law added to it after April 24, 1973 (the date of the Kesavananda Bharati judgment) is subject to judicial review. If it violates the "Basic Structure," it can be struck down.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The doctrine of Basic Structure applies to both Constitutional Amendments and ordinary laws. No act of the legislature can override the fundamental features of the Constitution.

2. How can an amendment to any of the lists in the Seventh Schedule (Union, State, or Concurrent List) of the Constitution of India be initiated and enacted?

(a) By a majority of the total membership of each House of Parliament.

(b) By a majority of the total membership of each House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting.

(c) By a majority of the total membership of each House and a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting, followed by ratification by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States.

(d) By a majority of the total membership of each House and a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting, followed by ratification by the Legislatures of not less than two-thirds of the States.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Under Article 368, there are three categories of amendments. The one applicable to the Seventh Schedule requires:

1. **Special Majority in Parliament:** The bill must be passed in each House (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) by a majority of the total membership of that House AND by a majority of not less than **two-thirds** of the members of that House present and voting.
2. **State Ratification:** Since this amendment affects the powers of the States, it also requires the consent of the Legislatures of not less than one-half (50%) of the States by a simple resolution before the Bill is presented to the President for assent.

The Constitution only requires consent from one-half of the states, not two-thirds. Requiring two-thirds of the states would make the process unnecessarily rigid, whereas one-half ensures a sufficient federal consensus.

3. With reference to the Council of States, consider the following statements:

1. The allocation of seats to the States and Union Territories is governed by the provisions of the Fifth Schedule.
2. Representatives of each State are elected by the elected members of the Legislative Assembly through a system of proportional representation.

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 is incorrect:** The Fourth Schedule explicitly lists the number of seats allocated to each State and Union Territory (based on population).

· **Statement 2 is correct:** Under Article 80, the election is indirect. Members of the State Legislative Assemblies (MLAs) use the Single Transferable Vote (STV) system to elect representatives to the Rajya Sabha.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the evolution of tribal administration:

1. The Sixth Schedule (Amendment) Act, 1988, introduced specific administrative modifications for the State of Assam.
2. The Sixth Schedule (Amendment) Act, 1995, applied modifications to the tribal areas of Tripura and Mizoram.

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: (d)

Explanation:

The Sixth Schedule is dynamic. The 1988 Amendment provided more autonomy to District Councils in Assam (Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills). The 1995 Amendment similarly empowered the Autonomous District Councils in Mizoram (Chakma, Mara, and Lai districts) and Tripura (TTAADC) to improve self-governance.

5. Which of the following were features of the Sixth Schedule (Amendment) Act, 2003?

1. It included the Bodoland Territorial Areas District (BTAD) in the list of tribal areas for Assam.
2. It created the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) as an autonomous self-governing body.
3. It provided for legal safeguards to protect the rights of non-tribals in the BTC area.

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:

The 2003 Amendment was a result of the Bodo Accord. It established the BTC with wide-ranging legislative and executive powers. Unlike other Sixth Schedule areas, this amendment explicitly included safeguards to ensure that the land and property rights of non-tribal residents were not adversely affected by the new autonomous structure.

6. The Fifth Schedule (Amendment) Act, 1976, provided which of the following powers to the President?

1. The power to increase the area of a designated Scheduled Area in a state.
2. The power to redefine or rescind the boundaries of a Scheduled Area in consultation with the State Chief Minister.

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:** Administration of Scheduled Areas (5th Schedule) is a high-level executive function. The 1976 Amendment clarified that the President is the final authority for the spatial definition of these areas.
- **Statement 2 incorrect:** While the Governor reports on the administration, only the President can increase, decrease, or rescind the Scheduled status of an area. The President of India holds the power to redefine, increase, decrease, or rescind the boundaries of a Scheduled Area. This action is taken under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution and must be done in consultation with the Governor of the respective state, not specifically the Chief Minister

7. Arrange the following events in their correct chronological order:

1. Inclusion of the Ninth Schedule in the Constitution.
2. Reorganisation of the State of Punjab.
3. Formation of the first non-Congress government at the Centre.
4. Passing of the Anti-Defection Bill (52nd Amendment).

Select the correct answer:

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

1. **Ninth Schedule:** 1951 (1st Amendment Act).
2. **Punjab Reorganisation:** 1966 (Separation of Haryana and Punjab).
3. **First Non-Congress Govt:** 1977 (Morarji Desai - Janata Party).
4. **Anti-Defection Bill:** 1985 (52nd Amendment Act).

8. Match List I (Schedule) with List II (Content) and select the correct answer using the codes given below:

List-I (Schedule)	List-II (Content)
A. Third Schedule	1. Powers and responsibilities of Municipalities
B. Seventh Schedule	2. Distribution of powers between Union and States
C. Ninth Schedule	3. Forms of Oaths and Affirmations
D. Twelfth Schedule	4. Validation of certain Acts (Land Reforms)

Codes (A-B-C-D):

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation::

1. **A-3:** The **Third Schedule** contains the forms of oath for Union/State ministers, MPs/MLAs, Judges, and the CAG.
2. **B-2:** The **Seventh Schedule** (Article 246) divides legislative subjects into the Union, State, and Concurrent Lists.

3. **C-4:** The **Ninth Schedule** was added by the 1st Amendment (1951) primarily to protect land reform laws from judicial review.
4. **D-1:** The **Twelfth Schedule** (74th Amendment) lists 18 functional items for Urban Local Bodies (Municipalities).
5. Allocation of seats belongs to the Fourth Schedule.

9. Match the following provisions with their respective Schedules in the Constitution:

List-I (Provisions)	List-II (Schedules)
A. Tribal areas in AMTM States	1. Second Schedule
B. All-India Services	2. Fifth Schedule
C. Control of Scheduled Areas/Tribes	3. Sixth Schedule
D. Comptroller and Auditor-General	4. Seventh Schedule

Codes (A-B-C-D):

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

1. **A-3:** The **Sixth Schedule** specifically governs tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.
2. **B-4:** **All-India Services** (IAS, IPS, IFoS) are listed under Entry 70 of the Union List in the **Seventh Schedule**.
3. **C-2:** The **Fifth Schedule** deals with the administration of Scheduled Areas and Tribes in states other than the AMTM states.
4. **D-1:** The **Second Schedule** specifies the provisions relating to the emoluments, allowances, and privileges of the **CAG**, Judges, and the President.

10. Match the Constitutional Provision with the specific Part or Schedule where it is contained:

List-I (Provision)	List-II (Contained In)
A. Administration of Tribal Areas	1. Part V of the Constitution
B. Official Language of the Union	2. Part XIII of the Constitution
C. Trade and Commerce within India	3. Part XVII of the Constitution
D. The Union Executive	4. Sixth Schedule of the Constitution

Codes (A-B-C-D):

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

1. **A-4:** Provisions for the administration of Tribal Areas in the North-East are found in the **Sixth Schedule**.
2. **B-3:** **Part XVII** (Articles 343–351) deals with the Official Languages of the Union and the States.

3. **C-2: Part XIII** (Articles 301–307) governs Trade, Commerce, and Intercourse within the territory of India.
4. **D-1: Part V** (Articles 52–151) covers "The Union," including the Executive (President, VP, Council of Ministers), Parliament, and the Judiciary.

Special Provisions in Constitution

1. Consider the following statements regarding Special Category Status (SCS) in India:

1. The Constitution of India does not contain specific provisions under Part XXI for the grant of Special Category Status to economically lagged states.
2. The criteria for identifying SCS states include hilly terrain, strategic border locations, and non-viable state finances.
3. The 16th FC did not remove the Special Category (SCS) distinction; rather, it continued the 14th/15th FC approach of doing away with distinct special status by treating states more equally while discontinuing revenue deficit grants.

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:** SCS is not a constitutional provision. It was an administrative classification introduced by the 5th Finance Commission in 1969 based on the Gadgil Formula.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The criteria involve geographical and socio-economic hurdles: hilly/difficult terrain, low population density/tribal population, strategic border locations, and economic/financial backwardness.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The 16th FC did not explicitly remove the Special Category (SCS) distinction in the manner described; rather, it continued the 14th/15th FC approach of doing away with distinct special status by treating states more equally while discontinuing revenue deficit grants (a key benefit for SCS states).

2. Consider the following statements regarding the languages of the Union:

1. Article 343 declares Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language, but allows the continued use of English for all official purposes for an indefinite period.
2. The President is constitutionally required to appoint a commission at the end of five years from the commencement of the Constitution to report on the progressive use of Hindi.
3. The Official Languages Act (1963) was amended in 1967 to mandate the use of both English and Hindi for certain specific official purposes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Article 343 allowed English for only 15 years (until 1965). It is the Parliament, through the Official Languages Act, that extended its use indefinitely.
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** Article 344 mandates a Commission at 5 and 10 years to recommend the progressive use of Hindi and restrictions on English.
 - **Statement 3 is correct:** The 1967 amendment ensured that for certain documents (like resolutions, general orders, rules, etc.), both Hindi and English must be used.

3. Consider the following statements regarding the Fazl Ali Commission:

1. It recommended the reorganization of states by accepting the one Language, one state principle in its absolute form.
2. It identified the preservation and strengthening of the unity and security of India as the primary factor for the reorganization of states.

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 is incorrect:** While the commission accepted language as a basis for reorganization, it rejected the One Language, One State theory, stating that a state cannot be formed solely on linguistic grounds without considering administrative and economic viability.
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** It laid down four major factors: Unity/Security of India, Linguistic/Cultural homogeneity, Financial/Administrative viability, and Planning/Promotion of welfare.

4. Consider the following statements regarding linguistic provisions in the Constitution:

1. Under Article 345, a State Legislature is restricted to adopting only those languages listed in the Eighth Schedule as its official language.
2. While a State Governor may authorize the use of a state language in High Court proceedings with the President's consent, this does not apply to the judgments or decrees passed by that Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Article 345 gives states the freedom to adopt any language (or Hindi) as their official language. It does not have to be an Eighth Schedule language.
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** Under Article 348, the Governor can authorize the use of Hindi or a state language for High Court *proceedings*, but judgments, decrees, and orders must remain in English unless Parliament provides otherwise.

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

- (a) It provided for the establishment of a Parliamentary Committee to review the progress of Hindi for Union purposes.
- (b) It mandated that English must be used for all communication between the Union and a state that has not adopted Hindi as its official language.
- (c) It ensures that every Bill introduced in the Parliament is accompanied by an authoritative Hindi translation.
- (d) It is the constitutional source that first established Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language of the Union.

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Statement (d) incorrect: Hindi in the Devanagari script was established as the official language by Article 343 of the Constitution itself, not by the 1963 Act. The 1963 Act was intended to facilitate the continued use of English beyond the 15-year constitutional limit.

6. Through which Constitutional Amendment Act was the Sindhi language incorporated into the Eighth Schedule?

- (a) 21st Amendment Act of 1967
- (b) 42nd Amendment Act of 1976
- (c) 71st Amendment Act of 1992
- (d) 92nd Amendment Act of 2003

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

The Eighth Schedule originally had 14 languages. Sindhi was added as the 15th language by the 21st Amendment Act of 1967.

7. Regarding the criteria for 'Classical Language' status in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. The language must possess ancient early texts or recorded history spanning a period of 1,500–2,000 years.
- 2. There must be a clear discontinuity between the classical language and its later forms or its offshoots.
- 3. In 2024, the Union Cabinet approved Marathi, Bengali, Pali, and Prakrit as new classical languages.

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 is correct:** High antiquity is a primary requirement.
 - **Statement 2 is correct:** The criteria specifically mention that the classical language may be distinct from its modern form, and there can be a discontinuity between the two.
 - **Statement 3 is correct:** In a landmark 2024 decision, Marathi, Bengali, Assamese, Pali, and Prakrit were all granted classical status.

8. The Constitution (71st Amendment) Act, 1992, amended the Eighth Schedule to include which of the following languages?

- 1. Konkani

2. Manipuri
3. Nepali
4. Maithili

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation: The 71st Amendment added three languages: Konkani, Manipuri, and Nepali. Maithili was added later by the 92nd Amendment in 2003 Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, Santhali.

9. Under which of the following Constitution Amendment Acts were four languages added to the Eighth Schedule, raising the total number of languages to 22?

- (a) 90th Amendment Act
- (b) 91st Amendment Act
- (c) 92nd Amendment Act
- (d) 93rd Amendment Act

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation: The 92nd Amendment Act of 2003 added Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, and Santhali. This was the largest single addition to the schedule, bringing the total count from 18 to 22.

10. Match List I (Article) with List II (Provision) and select the correct answer:

List I (Article)	List II (Provision)
A) Art 16(2)	1. Right to property (Legal/Authority of law)
B) Art 29(2)	2. Prohibition of discrimination in public employment
C) Art 30(1)	3. Minorities' right to establish educational institutions
D) Art 31(1)	4. Non-discrimination in state-aided educational admissions

Codes (A-B-C-D):

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Art 16(2):** No citizen shall be discriminated against for employment under the state on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, or residence.
 - **Art 29(2):** Specifically protects citizens from being denied admission to state-run/aided educational institutions on grounds of religion, race, caste, or language.
 - **Art 30(1):** Grants all minorities (religious or linguistic) the right to establish and administer educational institutions.
 - **Art 31(1):** Originally the Right to Property (no person deprived of property save by authority of law). While Art 31 was repealed as a Fundamental Right, the provision remains as Art 300A.

Non-Constitutional Bodies

1. Consider the following statements regarding the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC):

1. The recommendations made by the Commission to the government are mandatory and binding.
2. The Commission is barred from inquiring into any matter after the expiry of one year from the date on which the act of violation is alleged to have been committed.
3. The Commission has the power to inquire into violations of human rights committed by public servants.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Statement 1 incorrect: NHRC recommendations are advisory in nature; the government is not bound to accept them.

Statement 2 correct: the NHRC has a timeframe of one year to initiate an inquiry.

Statement 3 is correct: its primary mandate is to check human rights violations by public servants or through their negligence.

2. With reference to the composition of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), consider the following statements:

1. The Chairperson must be a person who has been a Chief Justice of India or a Judge of the Supreme Court.
2. The Selection Committee for NHRC members is headed by the Union Home Minister.
3. The Chairpersons of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) and the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) are ex-officio members of the NHRC.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1 correct: (per 2019 amendment).

Statement 2 incorrect: The Prime Minister chairs the selection committee.

Statement 3 correct: the list of ex-officio members includes chairpersons of NCBC, NCPCR, NCW, NCSC, NCST, NCM, and the Chief Commissioner for PwDs.

3. Consider the following statements regarding the State Human Rights Commission (SHRC):

1. The Chairperson and members of the SHRC are appointed by the Governor of the state.
2. A person can hold the office of Chairperson or member of SHRC for a term of 5 years or until the age of 70 years.
3. The SHRC can inquire into violations of human rights only in respect of matters listed in the State List and Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Explanation:

Statement 1 correct: The Chairperson and members of the State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) are appointed by the Governor of the state. These appointments are made based on the recommendations of a special selection committee, and the members can only be removed by the President of India, not the Governor.

Statement 2 incorrect: The term is 3 years or 70 years of age.

Statement 3 correct: SHRC jurisdiction is limited to subjects in the State List (List II) and Concurrent List (List III).

4. Consider the following statements regarding the functions of the National Commission for Women:

1. It possesses the authority to take *suo moto* notice of matters relating to the deprivation of women's rights.
2. It is empowered to fund litigation involving issues affecting a large body of women.
3. It does not have power to fund litigation for issues affecting a large body of women.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statements 1 and 2 are correct functions of the NCW. While investigating matters, the commission possesses the powers of a civil court, including summoning witnesses and examining documents.

Statement 3 incorrect: Under Section 10 of the NCW Act, it is empowered to fund litigation for issues affecting a large body of women.

5. How many of the following are statutory bodies in India?

1. National Medical Commission
2. National Statistical Commission
3. National Commission for Women
4. Bar Council of India

Select the correct answer:

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two

- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

All four are statutory bodies (established by an Act of Parliament).

1. NMC Act, 2019.
2. Established via government resolution but functions under the Collection of Statistics Act.
3. NCW Act, 1990.
4. Advocates Act, 1961.

6. With reference to the Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalat (PMLA), consider the following statements:

1. Decisions rendered by the PMLA have the legal status of a court decree and are final and binding on all parties.
2. The NCW continues to be the sole funding agency for PMLA sessions to ensure free legal aid for women.
3. No appeal lies to any court against the award made by a PMLA.

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1 correct: Lok Adalat awards are deemed civil court decrees and are non-appealable.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The NCW discontinued direct funding in 2014-15, with the focus shifting to Nari Adalats under Mission Shakti.

Statement 3 correct: Under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, awards passed by a Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalat (PMLA) are final, binding, and deemed to be a decree of a civil court. Consequently, no appeal lies to any court against the award. Challenges are only possible through writ petitions (Article 226/227) on limited grounds like fraud

7. Consider the following statements as per the Constitution of India:

1. The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children from the age of birth until 14 years as a Fundamental Right.
2. Providing opportunities for education to a child between 6 and 14 years is a Fundamental Duty of the parent or guardian.
3. The directive to provide early childhood care for children until they complete 6 years of age is a non-justiciable provision.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 21A covers 6 to 14 years, not from birth.

Statement 2 is correct: (Article 51A(k)).

Statement 3 is correct: it is a DPSP (Article 45) and thus non-justiciable in court.

8. With reference to the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body that defines a child as any person up to the age of 18 years.
2. The GHAR (Go Home and Re-unite) portal is an initiative launched by the NCPCR for the restoration and repatriation of children.
3. It was established under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1 correct: It defines a child as any person up to the age of 18 years

Statement 2 correct: GHAR portal to digitally monitor & track restoration and repatriation of children as per protocols under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

Statement 3 incorrect: NCPCR was established under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, not the JJ Act.

9. Regarding the powers of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), consider the following statements:

1. While inquiring into any matter, the Commission has the powers of a Civil Court trying a suit under the Code of Civil Procedure.
2. The Commission has the authority to issue summons for the examination of witnesses but cannot require the discovery and production of any document.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: According to Section 14 of the CPCR Act, 2005, the commission has the powers of a civil court, specifically for:

- Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining them on oath.
- Requiring the discovery and production of any document.
- Receiving evidence on affidavits.
- Requisitioning any public record or copy from any court or office.
- Issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents.

After an inquiry, it can recommend initiating prosecution or providing interim relief.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Commission can require the discovery and production of any document, receive evidence on affidavits, and requisition public records.

10. Consider the following statements regarding the additional functions of the NCPCR:

1. The Commission is mandated to monitor the implementation of the POCSO Act, 2012, and the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.
2. It monitors the designation of Special Courts, appointment of Special Public Prosecutors, and formulation of state-level guidelines.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Monitoring both Acts is a specific mandate.

Statement 2 is correct: It monitors the designation of Special Courts, appointment of Special Public Prosecutors, and formulation of state-level guidelines. It also runs the POCSO e-Box to receive complaints.