

**Super 30 Prelims -2026 Batch.****Polity Test 03 Question Paper and Solutions****Instructions:**

1. This is test 01 under the Super Prelims Batch initiative
2. This test contains 75 questions, each question carries two marks, with negative marks of 1/3(0.67).
3. Total marks(2*75) = 150
4. You can write this test by downloading the app: RankersCave IAS Academy and joining Super 30 mentorship programme.
5. You can also write this test online by scanning the QR code below.
6. Note: this PDF contains 75 + 3 extra questions.

1. Consider the following statements:

1. The President may with the consent of the Government of a State entrust to those officers in a state, functions in relation to any matter to which the executive power of the Union extends.
2. The Governor of a State, with the consent of the Government of India, can entrust the Union Government with functions in relation to matters under which the executive power of that State extends.

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:-

Article 258 of the Indian constitution provides for the following provisions:

The President may, with the consent of the Government of a State, entrust either conditionally or unconditionally to that Government or to its officers functions in relation to any matter to which the executive power of the Union extends. (Article 258(1))

A law made by Parliament which applies in any State may, notwithstanding that it relates to a matter with respect to which the Legislature of the State has no power to

make laws, confer powers and impose duties, or authorize the conferring of powers and the imposition of duties, upon the State or officers and authorities thereof. (Article 258(2))

Whereby virtue of this article powers and duties have been conferred or imposed upon a State or officers or authorities thereof, there shall be paid by the Government of India to the State such sum as may be agreed, or, in default of agreement, as may be determined by an arbitrator appointed by the Chief Justice of India, in respect of any extra costs of administration incurred by the State in connection with the exercise of those powers and duties. (Article 258(3))

Article 258A. provides that **the Governor of a State may, with the consent of the Government of India, entrust either conditionally or unconditionally to that Government or to its officers' functions in relation to any matter to which the executive power of the State extends.**

Hence both the statements are correct.

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2. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The President shall addresses both Houses of Parliament assembled together at the start of the first session after each general election to the Lok Sabha and at the commencement of the first session of each year.**
- 2. If the Lok Sabha is adjourned sine die but not prorogued and reconvenes in the next calendar year, the President's address is not required.**

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:-

Article 87 (1) of the Constitution provides that at the commencement of the first session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first session of each year the President shall address both Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform Parliament of the causes of its summons.

When a session of Lok Sabha is not prorogued after being adjourned *sine-die* and subsequently re-convened to meet in the next calendar year, the President, in such cases, is not required to address both Houses of Parliament assembled together.

Adjournment sine die means suspending the House without assigning a day for resumption.

If the House is **not prorogued** (i.e., the session is technically still ongoing), and it reconvenes in the next calendar year, it is considered **a continuation of the same session**.

Since it is **not a new session**, **Article 87(1)** does **not require** the President to address Parliament again.

Contents of the Address

Being a statement of Policy of the Government, the Address is drafted by the Government who are responsible for its contents. It contains a review of the activities and achievements of the Government during the previous year and sets out the policies which it wishes to pursue with regard to important internal and international problems. It also indicates the main items of legislative business which are proposed to be brought during the session to be held in that year.

3. With reference to the Central Universities in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. According to the Central Universities Act 2009, the President of India shall be the Chancellor of a Central University.**
- 2. The President has the right to authorise inspections of academic and non-academic aspects of the universities.**

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:-

As per the **Central Universities Act 2009**, the President of India is the **Visitor** of *the* University. The Visitor shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made by such person or persons, as he may direct, of the University, its buildings, libraries, laboratories and equipment, and of any College or Institution maintained by the University; and also of the examinations, teaching and other work conducted or done by the University and to cause an inquiry to **be** made in like manner in respect of any matter connected with the administration or finance of the University, Colleges or Institutions.

The Chancellor shall be appointed by the Visitor in such manner as may be prescribed by the Statutes. The Chancellor shall, by virtue of his office, be the head of the university and shall, if present, preside at the Convocations of the University held for conferring degrees and meetings of the Court of the University.

4. Consider the following statements with respect to Veto powers of the President?

- 1. The President possess Absolute Veto but not suspensive veto in case of money bills of the Parliament.**
- 2. The President possess Suspensive veto in case of the money bills of the State legislatures that are reserved by the Governor for the consideration of the President.**
- 3. The President possess Suspensive veto but not absolute veto in respect of a constitutional amendment bill.**

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- a. 1 only**
- b. 2 & 3 only**
- c. 1 & 2 only**

d. All the above

Answer : A

Explanation:-

Absolute Veto – with holding assent to the bill. The bill then ends and does not become an act.

Money bills are introduced in the Parliament with the prior permission of the President. Hence, the President can either withhold the assent (absolute veto) or decide to not to act upon it (pocket veto) but cannot send it back to Parliament for reconsideration (suspensive veto). **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

Even in case of the money bills of the State legislatures that are reserved by the Governor for the consideration of the President, the President cannot ask the Governor to return the bill to State legislature for its reconsideration. i.e., the President **does not possess Suspensive veto in case of the money bills of the State legislatures. Hence statement 2 is incorrect.**

The President has no veto power in respect of a constitutional amendment bill. The 24th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1971 made it obligatory for the President to give his assent to a constitutional amendment bill. **Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**

5. Consider the following statements with reference to the election of the Indian President:

- 1. The elector under the preventive detention is not eligible to vote.**
- 2. 'None of the above' (NOTA) option on the ballot paper is available in the election.**
- 3. The provisions of the Anti-Defection Law (party whip) is applicable to the President election.**
- 4. A candidate can file maximum of 4 nomination papers with one security deposit.**
- 5. The election petition can be filed before the Supreme Court within 30 days from the date of publication of the declaration containing the name of the winning candidate.**

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2 & 5 only**
- B. 1, 3 & 5 only**
- C. 4 & 5 only**
- D. All the above**

Answer :- C

Explanation:-

1. An elector under preventive detention can cast his vote through postal ballot.
2. 'None of the above' (NOTA) option - not available in the election ballot.
3. The provisions of the Anti-Defection Law (party whip) is not applicable to the President election, as it is done through the Secret ballot.
4. A candidate can file maximum of 4 nomination papers with one security deposit of Rs. 15000.
5. The election petition can be filed before the Supreme Court within 30 days from the date of publication of the declaration containing the name of the winning candidate.

6. With reference to Ordinance making powers of President under Art 123, consider the following statements:

1. Enables the Legislature to deal with the unforeseen situations, when either or both houses of the Parliament is not in session.
2. Under exceptional circumstances, the President can issue Ordinances in case of the items listed in State list.
3. The maximum life of an ordinance is 6 months + 6 weeks.
4. Ordinance can be retrospective and can modify or repeal any act of Parliament, but cannot be issued to amend the Constitution.
5. Once an ordinance is promulgated and placed before the Parliament for its consideration, the President cannot withdraw it.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1, 2, 3 & 5 only
- B. 1, 3 & 5 only
- C. 2, 3, 4 & 5 only
- D. 3 & 4 only

Answer : D

Explanation:-

Article 123 talks about the presidential powers to promulgate ordinances. An ordinance can be promulgated if:

- a) either of the House of the Parliament is in session;
- b) And the President feels a need for immediate action.

The ordinance which is promulgated by the President will have the same effect as that of an act or law of the Parliament.

It enables the **executive** to deal with the unforeseen situation or urgent matters, when the Parliament is not in session.

The essential conditions to be met by an ordinance are:

1. It shall be presented before both the Houses of Parliament for passing when it comes to the session;
2. The ordinance shall cease to operate six weeks after the date of reassembling of the parliament; Where the Houses of Parliament are summoned to reassemble on different dates, the period of six weeks shall be reckoned from the later of those dates for the purposes of this clause.
3. The ordinance may also expire if the resolutions disapproving it are passed by both the Houses of Parliament;
4. Therefore every Ordinance issued by the president during the Recess of Parliament must be laid before both the houses of Parliament when it reassembles. If the ordinance is approved by both the houses it becomes an act and if Parliament takes no action at all, ordinance ceases to operate on expiry of 6 Weeks from reassembly of parliament.
5. It can be withdrawn at any time by the President;
6. The ordinance must be in consonance to the Constitution of India else it shall be declared void.
7. The ordinance made when both the houses are in session is void. Thus the power of the President to legislate by Ordinance is not a parallel power of legislation.
8. **Grounds of promulgation** he can make an ordinance only when he is satisfied that the circumstances exist that render it necessary for him to take immediate action.
9. In RC Cooper vs. Union of India 1970 the Supreme Court held that the president's satisfaction can be questioned in a court on the ground of malafide.
10. **Ordinance can be retrospective in nature**
11. **Constitutional amendment cannot be done through ordinance**
12. In A K Roy versus Union of India the Supreme Court held that Ordinance would be subject to the test of vagueness, arbitrariness, reasonableness and Public Interest.
13. Scope of Ordinance making power is **coextensive** with that of Legislative powers of parliament. It means that an ordinance can be issued only on those subjects on which Parliament can make laws.
14. The ordinance making power of the president is **not a discretionary power**, and he can promulgate or withdraw an ordinance **only on the advice of Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister.**

7. With reference to the election of the president of India, consider the following statements.

- 1. The value of the vote of each MLA varies from state to state.**
- 2. The value of the vote of MPs of the Lok Sabha is more than the value of the vote of MPs of the Rajya Sabha.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : A

A vote cast by each MP or MLA is not calculated as one vote.

The fixed value of each vote by an MP of the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha is 700.

Meanwhile, the vote value of each MLA differs from State to State based on a calculation that factors in its population vis-a-vis the number of members in its legislative Assembly.

As per the Constitution (Eighty-fourth Amendment) Act 2001, currently, the population of States is taken from the figures of the 1971 Census. This will change when the figures of the Census taken after the year 2026 are published.

The value of each MLA's vote is determined by dividing the population of the State by the number of MLAs in its legislative Assembly, and the quotient achieved is further divided by 1000.

Uttar Pradesh for instance, has the highest vote value for each of its MLAs, at 208. The value of one MLA's vote in Maharashtra is 175, while that in Arunachal Pradesh is just 8.

8. Which of the following is/are the function/functions of the Cabinet Secretariat?

- 1. Preparation of agenda for Cabinet Meetings**
- 2. Secretarial assistance to Cabinet Committees**
- 3. Allocation of financial resources to the Ministries.**
- 4. Assists in decision making in Government by ensuing inter-departmental coordination.**
- 5. The administrative head of the Secretariat is Cabinet Secretary.**

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 & 3 only**
- (b) 1, 2, 4 & 5 only**
- (c) 3, 4 & 5 only**
- (d) All the above.**

Answer : B

Explanation:-

The PM is the head of the secretariat but administrative head of the Secretariat is the Cabinet Secretary. The business allocated to Cabinet Secretariat under Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 includes (i) Secretarial assistance to the Cabinet and Cabinet Committees; and (ii) Rules of Business.

Cabinet secretary is the head of the civil service. He is the highest ranking civil servant and is ex-officio Chairman of the Civil Services Board; the chief of the Indian Administrative Service and head of all civil services under the rules of business of the Government of India. He also holds the 11th position in the Order of Precedence of India.

Functions of the Cabinet Secretariat

1. Secretarial assistance to Cabinet and Cabinet Committees; and Rules of Business.
2. The Cabinet Secretariat is responsible for the administration of the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961 and the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961.
3. It works in facilitating smooth transaction of business in ministries/departments of the Government by ensuring rules are followed.

9. According to the Constitution of India, it is the duty of the President of India to cause to be laid before the Parliament which of the following?

- 1. The Recommendations of the Union Finance Commission**
- 2. The Report of the Public Accounts Committee**
- 3. The Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General**
- 4. The Report of the National Commission for the Scheduled Castes**

Select the correct answer the using the codes given below:

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

Answer : C

Explanation:-

According to the Constitution of India, it is the duty of the President of India to laid the recommendations of the Union Finance Commission, reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General, National Commission for the Scheduled Castes before the Parliament.

The Report of the Public Accounts Committee is submitted to the Speaker.

10. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Chief Secretary in a State is appointed by the Governor of that State.**
- 2. The Chief Secretary in a State has a fixed tenure.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1

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

Answer : D

Explanation:-

Chief Secretary serves as head of all government staff in the state and is the Secretary of the State Cabinet of Ministers. The post of Chief Secretary is encadred within the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), meaning that only an IAS officer may hold this position. The Chief Secretary holds the same rank as a Secretary to the Government of India. By tradition the senior most IAS officer of the state cadre is chosen as the Chief Secretary but in many cases this is not so. Chief Secretary is **appointed by the Chief Minister** and **no fixed tenure** is imposed on the office but term can be extended.

11. Which of the following are the discretionary powers given to the Governor of a State?

1. Sending a report to the President of India for imposing the President's rule.
2. Appointing the Ministers
3. Reserving certain bills passed by the State Legislature for consideration of the President of India
4. Making the rules to conduct the business of the State Government

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : B

Explanation:-

Discretionary power of Governor:

The Governor of state has more discretionary powers than the President of India. He is not bound to act on the advice of the council of Ministers in certain circumstances, even he need not seek its advise.

The constitution does not specify these matters but the matters in which he can act without the advice of the council of ministers are as follows:

1. Appointment of the Chief Minister: Generally, the leader of the party with majority is appointed as the Chief Minister. But in situation where no party

- gets absolute majority, the Governor exercises his discretionary powers in appointing the Chief Minister.
2. Dismissal of a Ministry: A minister holds offices during the pleasure of the Governor. When the ministry loses support of the house, the governor will dismiss the ministry. But he cannot dismiss it until it loses majority support.
 3. Advising the President for proclamation of Emergency: The Governor advises the President to proclaim emergency when he is satisfied that the Government cannot carry on in accordance with the provisions of the constitution, under Article 356.
 4. Reservation of a bill for the consideration of the President: However, situations are mentioned in Article 200, when he will reserve the bill, yet he can use discretion regarding this matter.

12. Consider the following statements with respect to the Office of Governor:

1. **The Office of the Governor is taken from the Canadian Model.**
2. **Makes appointments of the District Judges.**
3. **Appointment and removal of the State Election Commission.**
4. **In the case of a Union Territory having a legislative setup, the Chief Minister is appointed by the Lt. Governor on the basis of majority support.**
5. **Appointment and removal of the State Public Service Commission.**

Select the incorrect answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1, 2 only
- (b) 3, 5 only
- (c) 3, 4, 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 4 only

Answer : C

Explanation:-

The Office of the Governor is taken from the **Canadian Model**.

The Governor makes appointments, postings and promotions of the District Judges in consultation with the State High Court.

In the case of a Union Territory having a legislative setup, the Chief Minister is appointed by the **President**.

State Election Commissioner:

In Article 243 K, it is mentioned that a State Election Commission consisting of a State Election Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor. Under Part IX of the Indian Constitution, Article 243K tells about State Election Commissioner. State Election Commissioner **shall only be removed from his office on the like ground as a Judge of a High Court.** Tenure of State Election Commissioner is 6 years or up to the age of 65 years.

Chairperson, State Public Service Commission:

Part XIV of the constitution deals with State Public Service Commission provisions from Article 315 to 323.

Composition- it consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the Governor of the State. The chairman and members of the commission hold office for a term of six years or 62 years of age, whichever is earlier.

Removal- **Although the Governor appoints, they can only be removed by the President of India.**

The chairman and members of the Joint Public Service Commission are appointed by President.

13. Consider the following pairs:

| | Type of Pardon | Description |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| 1 | Commutation | Changing death penalty to a life sentence |
| 2 | Remission | Changing death penalty into life imprisonment in case of pregnancy of a convict. |
| 3 | Respite | Reducing thirty years rigorous imprisonment to twenty years |
| 4 | Reprieve | Allowing delay in the execution of a sentence for a guilty |

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 4 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 1,3 and 4 only
- (d) 1,2,3and4

Answer: A

Explanation:-

Article 72 and Article 161 of the Constitution empowers the President and governor respectively to grant pardons to persons who have been tried and convicted of any offence .

The pardoning power and its types of the President includes the following:

Pardon: It means **completely absolving the person of the crime and letting him go free**. The pardoned criminal will be like a normal citizen.

Commutation: It denotes the substitution of one form of punishment for a lighter form. For example, a death sentence may be commuted to rigorous imprisonment, which in turn may be commuted to a simple imprisonment. **Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.**

Remission : It implies reducing the period of sentence without changing its character. For example, a sentence of rigorous imprisonment for two years may be remitted to rigorous imprisonment for one year. **Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.**

Respite: It denotes awarding a **lesser sentence in place of one originally awarded due to some special fact**, such as the physical disability of a convict or the pregnancy of a woman offender. **Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

Reprieve: It means a **delay allowed in the execution of a sentence**, usually a death sentence, for a guilty person to **allow him some time to apply for Presidential Pardon or** some other legal remedy to prove his innocence or successful rehabilitation. **Hence pair 4 is correctly matched.**

It should be noted that **pardoning power of Presidents is executive power** and it extends to the offences where:

1. Punishment or sentence is for an offence against a Union Law.
2. Punishment or sentence is by a court martial (military court); and
3. Sentence is a sentence of death.

While Governor

1. can grant pardons to a convicted person to which the executive power of the State extends.
2. cannot pardon sentences inflicted by court martial (military courts).
3. cannot pardon death sentence. However, the governor can suspend, remit or commute a death sentence

14. With reference to Pardoning powers of President, consider the following statements:

1. Article 72 of the Indian Constitution gives the pardoning powers to the President of India.
2. The President of India can exercise his power of pardon independent of the government.
3. The Officer of the Armed Forces can be empowered by law to suspend, remit or commute a sentence passed by a Court Martial.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:-

Art 72. Power of President to grant pardons, etc., and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases.—

(1) The President shall have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence—

- (a) in all cases where the punishment or sentence is by a Court Martial;
- (b) in all cases where the punishment or sentence is for an offence against any law relating to a matter to which the executive power of the Union extends;
- (c) in all cases where the sentence is a sentence of death.

(2) Nothing in sub-clause (a) of clause (1) shall affect the power conferred by law on any officer of the Armed Forces of the Union to suspend, remit or commute a sentence passed by a Court Martial.

(3) Nothing in sub-clause (c) of clause (1) shall affect the power to suspend, remit or commute a sentence of death exercisable by the Governor of a State under any law for the time being in force.

The President shall act on the advice of the Council of Minister and send for reconsideration of the advice once.

15. Consider the following statements with respect to Vice-President:

1. The Vice-President shall discharge the functions of the President in the event of a vacancy in the office of the President arising due to resignation, removal, death, or expiry of the incumbent President's term.
2. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the election to fill the vacancy shall be held within 6 months from the date of occurrence of the vacancy.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer : D

Explanation:-

Art 68. Time of holding election to fill vacancy in the office of Vice- President and the term of office of person elected to fill casual vacancy.—

- (1) An election to fill a vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of Vice-President shall be completed before the expiration of the term.

(2) An election to fill a vacancy in the office of Vice-President occurring by reason of his death, resignation or removal, or otherwise **shall be held as soon as possible after the occurrence of the vacancy**, and the person elected to fill the vacancy shall, subject to the provisions of article 67, be entitled to hold office for the full term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office.

It is to be noted here that the specific time frame for conduct of the election of VP is not mentioned, unlike in case of the President election (within 6 months). **Hence statement 2 is incorrect.**

The Vice-President shall discharge the functions of the President in the event of a vacancy in the office of the President arising due to resignation, removal, death. However, in case of expiration of the 5 years term of incumbent President, **the VP does not get the opportunity to act as President.** The incumbent / outgoing President shall continue to hold the office (beyond his term of 5 years), till his successor assumes charge.

Hence statement 1 is incorrect.

16. Consider the following statements with respect to removal of the Vice-President:

- 1. The resolution for removal of Vice-President can be introduced only in Rajyasabha and shall be passed by an absolute majority, with atleast 14 days advance notice and agreed to by the Loksabha.**
- 2. The grounds mentioned for removal of the VP is "violation of Constitution".**
- 3. The VP holds office for a term of 5 years and can continue to hold the office beyond the term until his successor assumes charge.**

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer : C

Explanation:-

Art 67. Term of office of Vice-President.—The Vice-President shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office:

Provided that—

- (a) a Vice-President may, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office;
- (b) a Vice-President may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Council of States passed by a **majority of all the then members of the Council (effective majority)** and agreed to by the House of the People **(simple majority)**; but no resolution for the purpose of this clause shall be

moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution; **Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**

(c) a Vice-President shall, notwithstanding the expiration of his term, continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

The Constitution does not mention any grounds for removal of the VP. **Hence statement 2 is incorrect.**

17. Consider the following statements with respect to the Prime Minister:

- 1. The term of Prime Minister is 5 years.**
- 2. The resignation of the Prime Minister automatically dissolves the Council of Ministers but not his death.**
- 3. The Prime Minister shall make rules for the more convenient transaction of the business of the Government of India, and for the allocation among Ministers of the said business.**

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer : D

Explanation:-

The term of the Prime Minister is **not fixed** and he holds office during the **pleasure of the president**. However, this does not mean that the president can dismiss the Prime Minister at any time. So long as the Prime Minister **enjoys the majority support in the Lok Sabha**, he cannot be dismissed by the President.

However, if he loses the confidence of the Lok Sabha, he must resign or the President can dismiss him. Since the Prime Minister stands at the head of the council of ministers, the other ministers cannot function when the Prime Minister resigns or dies. In other words, the **resignation or death of an incumbent Prime Minister automatically dissolves the council of ministers** and thereby generates a vacuum.

The resignation or death of any other minister, on the other hand, merely creates a vacancy which the Prime Minister may or may not like to fill.

Hence statements 1 & 2 are incorrect.

Under Art 77 (3), **President** shall make rules for the more convenient transaction of the business of the Government of India, and for the allocation among Ministers of the said business. **Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**

18. In which among the following cases does the Prime Minister advise the President?

1. Proroguing of the sessions of the Parliament
2. Dissolution of the Lok Sabha
3. Appointment of Attorney General of India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer : D

Explanation:-

Prime Minister enjoys the following powers:

1. He advises the President with regard to summoning and proroguing of the sessions of the Parliament. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
2. He can recommend dissolution of the Lok Sabha to President at any time. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
3. He advises the President with regard to the appointment of important officials like Attorney General of India, Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Chairman and members of the UPSC, election commissioners, chairman and members of the finance commission and so on. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

19. Which of the following individuals are required to subscribe to both the Oath of Office and the Oath of Secrecy before assuming their respective positions?

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Prime Minister
4. Union Ministers

- (a) 1 & 2 only
- (b) 3 & 4 only
- (c) 1, & 3 only
- (d) All the above.

Answer: B

Explanation:-

President and Vice President are required to subscribe to the Oath of Office and the Prime Minister and the Union Ministers are required to subscribe to both the Oath of Office and the Oath of Secrecy before assuming their respective positions.

The oath of the President is administered by the **Chief Justice** and the oaths of VP, PM and CoM are administered by the **President**.

20. Consider the following statements:

1. **Article 75 not only contains the principle of Collective responsibility, but also the individual responsibility of the CoM's.**
2. **The principle of collective responsibility means that if any minister disagrees with a cabinet decision and is not prepared to defend it, he must resign.**
3. **There is no provision in the Constitution for the system of legal responsibility of a minister.**
4. **In case of dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the Council of Ministers ceases to hold office.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 2, 3 & 4 only
- (b) 1, 2 & 3 only
- (c) 1, 3 & 4 only
- (d) All the above.

Answer: B

Explanation:-

Article 75 clearly states that the council of ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha. This means that all the ministers own joint responsibility to the Lok Sabha for all their acts of omission and commission. They work as a team and swim or sink together.

When the Lok Sabha passes a no-confidence motion against the council of ministers, all the ministers have to resign including those ministers who are from the Rajya Sabha. Each minister need not resign separately, the resignation of the prime minister amounts to the resignation of the entire council of ministers.

The **principle of collective responsibility** also means that the Cabinet's decisions bind all cabinet ministers (and other ministers) even if they differed in the cabinet meeting. It is the duty of every minister to stand by cabinet decisions and support them both within and outside the Parliament. **If any minister disagrees with a cabinet decision and is not prepared to defend it, he must resign.** Several ministers have resigned in the past owing to their differences with the cabinet. For example, Dr BR Ambedkar resigned because of his differences with his colleagues on the Hindu Code Bill in 1953. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Article 75 also contains the **principle of individual responsibility**. It states that the ministers hold office during the pleasure of the president, which means that the President can remove a minister even at a time when the council of ministers enjoys the confidence of the Lok Sabha.

In Britain, every order of the King for any public act is countersigned by a minister. If the order is in violation of any law, the minister would be held responsible and would be liable in the court. The legally accepted phrase in Britain is, "The king can do no wrong." Hence, he cannot be sued in any court.

In India, on the other hand, **there is no provision in the Constitution for the system of legal responsibility of a minister**. It is not required that an order of the President for a public act should be countersigned by a minister. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Even after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the **Council of Ministers does not cease to hold office**, as the President cannot exercise his executive power without the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers.

21. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The President cannot act independent of the Council of Ministers (CoM).**
- 2. The President cannot request the CoM to reconsider their advice.**
- 3. The advice tendered by Ministers to the President shall not be inquired into in any court.**

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 & 2 only**
- B. 2 & 3 only**
- C. 3 & 1 only**
- D. All the above.**

Answer : C

Explanation:-

74. Council of Ministers to aid and advise President.—

(1) There shall be a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and **advise the President who shall, in the exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice.**

Provided that the **President may require the Council of Ministers to reconsider such advice**, either generally or otherwise, and the President shall act in accordance with the advice tendered after such reconsideration.

(2) The question whether any, and if so what, advice was tendered by Ministers to the President **shall not be inquired into in any court.**

22. Consider the following statements with respect to 91st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003:

1. The total number of ministers in the Council of Ministers (CoM) including Prime Minister shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Parliament.
2. With respect to States, the number of Ministers, including Chief Minister in a State shall not be less than 15.
3. A Member of Parliament disqualified under the 10th Schedule cannot be appointed as a Minister; however, there is no bar on their appointment to any other remunerative political post.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 & 2 only
- D. All the above.

Answer : D

Explanation:-

1. The 91st Constitutional Amendment Act 2003, states that the total number of ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the **Lok Sabha** not Parliament. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**
2. A member of either house of Parliament belonging to any political party who is disqualified on the ground of defection **shall also be disqualified to be appointed as a minister.**
3. The total number of ministers, including the Chief Minister, in the Council of Ministers in a state shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Legislative Assembly of that state. But, the number of ministers, including the Chief Minister, in a state shall not be less than 12. **Hence statement 2 is incorrect.**
4. A person who is disqualified under anti-defection law (10th Schedule) shall not be appointed as a minister and to any other remunerative political post. **Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**

23. Consider the following statements with respect to Cabinet Committees:

1. They are extra constitutional and are constituted under the Transaction of Business Rules, 1961.
2. The President constitutes Standing Committees of the Cabinet and sets out the specific functions assigned to them. He can add or reduce the number of committees.
3. Any decision taken by the Cabinet Committee may be reviewed by the Cabinet.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 & 2 only
- B. 2 & 3 only
- C. 1 & 3 only
- D. All the above.

Answer : C

Explanation:-

The Prime Minister constitutes **Standing Committees of the Cabinet** and sets out the **specific functions assigned** to them. He can add or reduce the number of committees.

24. Consider the following:

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Cabinet Committees | - | Chairman (at present) |
| 1. Political Affairs | - | Defence Minister |
| 2. Parliamentary Affairs | - | Prime Minister |
| 3. Accommodation | - | Home Minister |
| 4. Investment & Growth | - | Finance Minister |

Which of the above statements is/are correctly matched?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 3 only
- D. All the above.

Answer : A

Explanation:-

These are constituted under the Transaction of Business Rules, 1961.

The cabinet makes use of the committee system to facilitate decision-making in specific areas.

These include cabinet committees on:

1. Appointments
2. Accommodation
3. Economic Affairs
4. Parliamentary Affairs
5. Political Affairs
6. Security
7. Investment and Growth
8. Skill employment and livelihood

As on date, the Political Affairs Committee, Economic Affairs Committee, Appointments Committee, Security Committee, Investment and Growth, Skill employment and livelihood are chaired by the **Prime Minister** and the Accommodation Committee is chaired by **Home Minister** and Parliamentary Affairs Committee by **Defence Minister**.

25. Which of the following statements regarding the introduction of private member's bill in the House of Parliament:

- 1. One month's notice is required for its introduction in the house.**
- 2. It is generally introduced and discussed on Fridays.**
- 3. A member cannot introduce more than four bills in the session.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : D

Explanation:-

Any Member of Parliament (MP) who is **not a Minister** is referred to as a private member. The purpose of the private member bill is to draw the government's attention to what individual MPs see as issues and gaps in the existing legal framework, which require legislative intervention.

Statement 1 is correct: A member who wants to introduce a bill has to give prior notice for the introduction of the bill which is **one month** unless the speaker allows introduction at a shorter notice. The notice is to be accompanied by a copy of the bill and explanatory statements of objectives and reasons.

Statement 2 is correct: The **last two and half hours of a sitting every Friday** are generally allotted for the transaction of "Private member's business". If there is no sitting of the house on Friday, the presiding officer may direct that two and half hours on any other day in a week may be allotted for the transaction of a private member's bill.

Statement 3 is correct: As recommended by the committee on private member's bills and resolution (3rd Lok Sabha) in their fourteenth report, **a private member cannot introduce more than four bills in the session.**

26. Which of the following circumstances may lead to the resignation of the Council of Ministers?

- 1. Passage of No-Confidence Motion in Lok Sabha**
- 2. Motion of Thanks is not passed by the House in Lok Sabha**
- 3. Money bill gets defeated in Lok Sabha.**

4. Passage of Censure Motion in Lok Sabha.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1, 3 & 4 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (d) All the above.

Answer : C

Explanation:-

The resignation of the Council of Ministers may take place under the following circumstances:

Automatic dissolution, that is, on the expiry of its tenure of five years.

Whenever the President decides to dissolve the House, when:

1. **No-Confidence Motion** is passed by the Lok Sabha. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
2. **Motion of Thanks** i.e. the address of the President at the first session after each general election and the first session of every fiscal year, is defeated in Lok Sabha. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
3. **Money Bill** gets defeated in the Lok Sabha. With regard to Money Bill, Rajya Sabha has restricted powers and can only make recommendations, which the Lok Sabha can either accept or reject. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
4. **Censure Motion** is moved for censuring the council of ministers for specific policies and actions. If it is passed in Lok Sabha, the **Council of Ministers** need not resign from the office. Hence, statement 4 is incorrect.

27. Consider the following statements with respect to the Speaker:

1. Even after dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the Speaker does not vacates his office immediately and continues till just before the first meeting of the newly elected Lok Sabha.
2. The oath of the Pro-term Speaker is administered by the outgoing Speaker.
3. The oath or affirmation of the Speaker of Lok Sabha is administered by the President.

How many of the above statements is / are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All the above.

Answer : A

Explanation:-

1. Even after dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the Speaker does not vacates his office and continues till just before the first meeting of the newly elected Lok Sabha. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
2. The Pro-term Speaker is appointed by the **President**, who also administers the oath of the pro-term speaker. **Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.**
3. Lok Sabha Speaker is one of the members of Parliament. He/she takes the oath along with other members by the pro-tem Speaker. No separate oath of affirmation is administered to him separately. Technically speaking speaker does not take any oath alone like President and Prime Minister of the country. **Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.**

28. With reference to Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. **As per the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the election of Deputy Speaker shall be held on such date as the President may fix.**
2. **The Deputy Speaker has the same power as of the Speaker when presiding over the sitting of the House and no appeal lies against his rulings.**
3. **The well-established parliamentary practice regarding the appointment of Deputy Speaker is that the motion is moved by the Speaker and duly seconded by the Prime Minister.**

How many of the above statements is / are correct?

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

Answer : A

Explanation:-**Role of Deputy Speaker in Lok Sabha**

1. In Lok Sabha, the election of Deputy Speaker is governed by Rule 8 of The Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. According to the Rule, the election "shall be held on such date as the **Speaker** may fix", and the Deputy Speaker is elected once a motion proposing his name is passed. So, **statement 1 is incorrect.**
2. Article 95(1) says: "While the office of Speaker is vacant, the duties of the office shall be performed by the Deputy Speaker". **The Deputy Speaker has the same powers as the Speaker** when presiding over a sitting of the House. All references to the Speaker in the Rules are deemed to be

references to the Deputy Speaker when he presides. **No appeal lies to the Speaker against a ruling given by the Deputy Speaker** or any person presiding over a sitting of the House in the absence of the Speaker. **So, statement 2 is correct.**

3. The well-established parliamentary practice is that a motion is moved by the **Parliamentary Affairs Minister** and duly seconded by **the treasury benches or by the opposition**, which is carried by the House. **So, statement 3 is incorrect.**

29. Consider the following with respect to the Oath or affirmation of the Members of the Parliament:

- 1. Third schedule of the constitution contain the oath of the members along with the President.**
- 2. Unless the newly elected members takes oath, they cannot vote and participate in the proceedings of the House and also not eligible to enjoy the Parliamentary privileges and immunities.**
- 3. Penalty of Rs.500 per day if he sits / votes as member in a House, without subscribing to the Oath.**
- 4. Ministers who are not yet elected to Parliament can participate and vote in the House proceedings, till 6 months or till the time he is elected to the House, whichever is earlier.**

How many of the above statements is / are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All the above.

Answer : B

Explanation:-

1. Parliamentary oath is the oath taken by the elected representatives to the parliament.
2. Need – Before the House can begin its legislative functioning, the newly elected members will have to take the oath of Members of Parliament (MP), which is provided in the Constitution.
3. Constitutional provision – The third schedule contains the text of the parliamentary oath.
4. The Third Schedule of the Indian Constitution outlines the forms of oaths and affirmations for various constitutional positions, including the Ministers, Judges, and Members of Parliament and State Legislatures. The oath of the President is under Art 60 and not part of the 3rd schedule. **Hence Statement 1 is incorrect.**
5. Article 99 states that an MP has to take her seat in the House by making and subscribing to an oath or affirmation prescribed in the Constitution to debate and vote in the parliament. **Hence Statement 2 is correct.**

6. **Exception** – An individual can become a minister without being elected to Parliament. They have six months to secure a seat in either Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha. During this time, **they can participate but not vote in House proceedings** before taking oath. **Hence Statement 4 is incorrect.**
7. **Penalty** – Article 104 of the Constitution also specifies a financial penalty (the only one in the document) of Rs 500 if a person participates or votes in House proceedings without taking an oath. **Hence Statement 3 is correct.**

30. With reference to the Joint Sitting of the Indian Parliament under Article 108 of the Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. **The Speaker of the Lok Sabha presides over the joint sitting, and in his absence, the Deputy Speaker and in his absence, Chairman of the Rajya Sabha assumes the chair.**
2. **A Joint sitting can be convened if more than six months have elapsed since one House received a bill from the other without its passage.**
3. **The President cannot exercise veto power in respect of the bill passed in the Joint sitting, as the same was called for by the President himself.**
4. **The mechanism of joint sitting is not applicable to the Money Bill, Financial Bill and Constitutional Amendment Bills.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1, 3 & 4 only
- B. 2 & 3 only
- C. 2 only
- D. All the above

Answer : C

Explanation:-

1. **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The **Chairman of the Rajya Sabha (Vice-President)** does **not** preside over a joint sitting **under any circumstance**. If the Speaker is absent, the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha or Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha may preside.
2. **Statement 2 is correct:** A deadlock is considered if **more than six months have elapsed** since the receipt of the bill by the other House without it being passed.
3. **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Event though the Joint Sitting has been called for by the President, there is no restriction on exercise of the veto powers of the President on the bill passed in the Joint sitting.
4. **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Joint sittings **do not apply to Constitutional Amendment Bills**, as they must be passed **separately by both Houses**. **Money bills** are governed by **Article 110**, and the **Lok Sabha has overriding powers; no joint sitting is held for money bills. However, there is no bar on the Financial Bills.**

31. Which of the following Expenditures are not charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India?

1. Salaries of Supreme Court and High Courts Judges.
2. Debt Charges for which the Government is liable.
3. Salary of Chairman of Rajya Sabha.
4. Expenses of the office of Comptroller and Auditor General.
5. Expenses of the office of Election Commission of India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- [A] 2, 3 and 4 only
[B] 1 and 5 only
[C] 1 and 4 only
[D] None of the above

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statements 1 and 5 are incorrect – The salaries of the high court judges are not charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India. Only their pensions are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India. The salaries and allowances of the judges, the salaries, allowances and pensions of the staff as well as the administrative expenses of a high court are charged on the Consolidated fund of the State.

The expenditure incurred by the Election Commission of India is also not charged on Consolidated Fund of India; rather it is voted by the parliament.

The disbursements charged on the Consolidated Fund or Charged Expenditures are **non-votable charges**. These charges **have to be paid whether the budget is passed or not**. The expenses under this category, among others, includes:

The **salaries and allowances and pension payable to or in respect of judges** of the Supreme Court and the pension payable to or in respect of Judges of any High Court.

Debt Charges for which the Government of India is liable including interest, sinking fund charges and redemption charges and other expenditure relating to loans and the service and redemption of debt.

The salaries and allowances of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Council of States and the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the House of People.

The **administrative expenses of the office of the Comptroller and Auditor-General** including all salaries, allowances and pensions payable to or in respect of persons serving in that office.

Hence, Statements 2, 3 and 4 are correct.

32. Which of the following Statements about the Ethics Committee in the Lok Sabha are correct?

1. Initially it was an ad-hoc Committee.
2. Only a Member of the Lok Sabha can make a complaint relating to unethical conduct of a member of the Lok Sabha.
3. This Committee cannot take up any matter which is sub-judice.

Select the 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 only

Answer : C

Explanation:-

Statement 1 is correct. The late Speaker, G M C Balayogi, constituted an ad hoc Ethics Committee in 2000, which became a permanent part of the House only in 2015.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Any person can complaint against a Lok Sabha MP, along with evidence of the alleged misconduct, and an affidavit stating that the complaint is not "false, frivolous, or vexatious". If the Member himself complains, the affidavit is not needed. The Speaker can refer to the Committee any complaint against an MP.

Statement 3 is correct. The Committee does not entertain complaints based only on media reports or on matters that are sub judice.

33. Consider the following statements with respect to the Parliamentary Committees:

1. All the Financial Committees are elected and have a tenure of 1 year.
2. There are 24 Departmentally Related Standing Committees and all the members of the Committees are nominated by the Speaker of Lok Sabha and Chairman of Rajya Sabha and their term is not fixed and continue till reconstituted.
3. The Business Advisory Committee consists of members of both the houses of the Parliament and Speaker is the ex-officio Chairperson.

Select the incorrect statement / statements using the code given below:

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

Answer : B

Explanation:-

Financial Committees

| Name of the Committee | No. of Members | Tenure | Members Nominated or Elected |
|----------------------------------|------------------|--------|------------------------------|
| Committee on Public Undertakings | 22 (15LS+7RS) | 1 year | Elected by the two House(s) |
| Estimates Committee | 30 | 1 year | Elected by the Lok Sabha |
| Public Accounts Committee | 22 (15LS+7RS) | 1 year | Elected by the two House(s) |

There are 24 Departmentally Related Standing Committees covering under their jurisdiction all the Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India. Each of these Committees consists of 31 Members - 21 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha to be nominated by the Speaker, Lok Sabha and the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, respectively. **The term of Office of these Committees does not exceed one year. Hence statement 2 is incorrect.**

| Name of the Committee | No. of Members | Tenure | Members Nominated or Elected |
|---|--------------------|--|---|
| Business Advisory Committee | 15 | Not fixed. Can continue in office till reconstituted. | Nominated by the Speaker, Lok Sabha |
| Committee of Privileges | 15 | Not fixed. Can continue in office till reconstituted. | Do |
| Committee on Absence of Members from the Sitzings of the House. | 15 | 1 year | Do |
| Committee on Empowerment of Women | 30 (20 LS+ 10 RS) | 1 year | Nominated by the Speaker, Lok Sabha and the Chairman, Rajya Sabha |
| Committee on Government Assurances | 15 | 1 year | Nominated by the Speaker, Lok Sabha |

| Name of the Committee | No. of Members | Tenure | Members Nominated or Elected |
|---|--------------------|---|--|
| Committee on Papers Laid on the Table | 15 | 1 year | Do |
| Committee on Petitions | 15 | Not fixed. Can continue in office till reconstituted. | Do |
| Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions | 15 | 1 year | Do |
| Committee on Subordinate Legislation | 15 | 1 year | Do |
| Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes | 30 (20 LS + 10 RS) | 1 year | Elected by the two House(s) |
| General Purposes Committee | Not fixed | Not fixed | Membership is ex-officio. |
| House Committee | 12 | 1 year | Nominated by the Speaker |
| Joint Committee on Offices of Profit. | 15 (10 LS + 5 RS) | For the duration of one Lok Sabha | Elected by the two Houses. |
| Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of MPs. | 15 (10 LS + 5 RS) | 1 year | Nominated by the Speaker, Lok Sabha and the Chairman, Rajya Sabha. |
| Library Committee | 9 (6 LS + 3 RS) | 1 year | Do |
| Rules Committee | 15 | Not fixed. Can continue in office till reconstituted. | Nominated by the Speaker. |

34. Consider the following statements with reference to the Estimates Committee of the Parliament:

- 1. It cannot suggest alternative policies in order to bring about efficiency in administration as there is no representation of ministers in the committee.**
- 2. It lacks the expert assistance of the CAG which is available to the Public Accounts Committee.**
- 3. The chairman of the committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst its members and he is invariably from the ruling party.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : A

Explanation:-

The origin of this committee can be traced to the standing finance committee setup in 1921. **The first Estimates Committee in the post-independence era was constituted in 1950 on the recommendation of John Mathai, the then finance minister.**

Originally, it had 25 members but in 1956 its membership was raised to 30. All the thirty members are from Lok Sabha only. The Rajya Sabha has no representation in this committee.

A minister cannot be elected as a member of the committee. **The chairman of the committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst its members and he is invariably from the ruling party.**

Hence statement 3 is correct.

The functions of the committee are:

- 1. To report what economies, improvements in organization, efficiency, and administrative reform consistent with the policy underlying the estimates, can be affected.**
- 2. To suggest alternative policies in order to bring about efficiency and economy in administration. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- 3. To examine whether the money is well laid out within the limits of the policy implied in the estimates.**
- 4. To suggest the form in which the estimates are to be presented to Parliament**

The effectiveness of the role of the committee is limited by the following:

1. It examines the budget estimates only after they have been voted by the Parliament, and not before that.
2. It cannot question the policy laid down by the Parliament.
3. Its recommendations are advisory and not binding on the ministries.
4. **It lacks the expert assistance of the CAG which is available to the Public Accounts Committee.**

Hence statement 2 is correct.

35. The Seventh Schedule of Indian Constitution provides for division of legislative powers between the Centre and the States through three lists viz. Union List, Concurrent List and State List. In this context, consider the following pairs:

| Sl. No. | Subject | The power to make laws is vested in |
|---------|--------------------|--|
| 1 | Land | Only the Parliament |
| 2 | Education | Only the State Legislatures |
| 3 | Posts & Telegraphs | Both the Parliament and State Legislature. |

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) All 3.
- d) None

Answer : D

Explanation:-

Pair 1 is incorrect. Under the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution, the subject of "land" falls under the **State List** (entry 18 of State List). So, under normal circumstances, only the **State Legislature** has the power to make laws on this subject.

Pair 2 is incorrect. Under the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution, the subject of "education" falls under the **Concurrent List** (entry 25 of Concurrent List). So, both the **Parliament and the State Legislature** have the power to make laws on this subject.

The 42nd amendment to the Constitution transferred this subject from the state list to the concurrent list.

Pair 3 is incorrect. "Posts and telegraphs; telephones, wireless, broadcasting and other like forms of communication" are listed as entry 31 of the **Union List** of the Seventh Schedule. So, only the **Parliament** can make laws on such subjects. Under this subject, the Parliament has recently enacted the Post Office Act, 2023.

36. With regard to Panel of Chairperson, Lok Sabha, which of the following statement is / are correct?

1. Panel of Chairperson is drawn from the ruling party only.
2. Panel of Chairperson is nominated by different political parties and appointed by Speaker of Lok Sabha.
3. Panel of Chairperson consist of 10 members and one of them presides over the House when both Speaker and Deputy Speaker are absent.

How many statements given above are correct

- a) 1 & 3 only
- b) 2 & 3 only
- c) 3 only.
- d) 2 only.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect- The Panel of Chairperson in Lok Sabha is not restricted to members of the ruling party. It consists of members nominated by different political parties.

Statement 2 is correct- The Panel of Chairperson is indeed nominated by different political parties, and the Speaker of Lok Sabha appoints them to their respective positions.

Statement 3 is correct- The Panel of Chairperson in Lok Sabha consists of 10 members, and one of them is appointed to preside over the House in the absence of both the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker.

37. The Parliament can make any law for whole or any part of India for implementing international treaties:

- a) with the consent of all the states
- b) with the consent of majority of states
- c) with the consent of the states concerned
- d) without the consent of any state

Answer : D

Explanation:

The Parliament can make laws on any matter in the State List for implementing the international treaties, agreements or conventions. It can be done without the consent of the states. This provision enables the Central government to fulfil its international obligations and commitments. Some examples of laws enacted under the above provision are United Nations (Privileges and Immunities) Act, 1947; Geneva Convention Act, 1960; Anti-Hijacking Act, 1982 and legislations relating to environment and TRIPS.

38. With reference to legislature in the states with a bicameral legislative system, consider the following statements about Legislative councils:

1. As per the Constitution of India the maximum size of legislative council will be 250.
2. One-third of the members of the council are elected by the members of the legislative assembly of the state from amongst persons who are not members of the Assembly.
3. One sixth of the members of the council are nominated by the President of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : C

Explanation:

The State Legislative Council is the upper house of a bicameral legislature in some Indian states, as per Article 168 of the Constitution. Its formation and functioning are governed by Article 169, which allows Parliament of India to establish or abolish a council in any Indian state.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 171(1) of the Indian Constitution specifies the strength of the **Legislative Council**. It sets the minimum number of members at **40** and the maximum at **one-third** of the total members of the **Legislative Assembly** of the respective state.

Statement 2 is correct: As per Article 171(3) of the Indian Constitution, **one-third of the members of the Legislative Council are elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State from amongst persons who are not members of the Assembly.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Article 171(5) of the Constitution allows the **Governor** of the state (not the President of India) to nominate one-sixth of the members of the **Legislative Council**. These nominees should have special knowledge or practical experience in areas such as literature, science, art, the cooperative movement, and social service.

39. Consider the following statements about Financial Emergency:

1. It cannot be imposed on a certain part of the country but applies to the whole country.
2. Once approved by the Parliament, it can be extended to any extent of time without further approval.
3. It can be revoked only by a resolution passed by the Lok Sabha.
4. All money bills of the state legislature can be reserved for consideration of the President.

5. During a Financial Emergency, the President can issue directions to reduce the salaries and allowances of all public servants, including judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts.

How many of the above given statements are incorrect?

- [A] Only one
[B] Only two
[C] Only three
[D] None

Answer: B

Explanation:-

The President under Article 360 of the constitution has the power to declare a financial emergency if he is satisfied that the financial stability or the credit of India or any part of its territory is threatened. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**

A Proclamation issued under clause-

1. **may be revoked or varied by a subsequent Proclamation;**
2. shall be laid before each House of Parliament;
3. **shall cease to operate at the expiration of two months unless before the expiration of that period it has been approved by resolutions of both Houses of Parliament.**
4. Every Proclamation to declare Financial Emergency shall be laid down before each house of Parliament and must get approval in two months from the date of issue. Provided that if at the time of the proclamation of a Financial Emergency, the Lok Sabha has been dissolved or the dissolution of the Lok Sabha takes place in the meantime (i.e. within two months from date of issue) then **must get the approval of the Rajya Sabha within 2 months**, but such proclamation shall cease to operate after 30 days from the first sitting of Lok Sabha.
5. Once the declaration of Financial Emergency is approved by both houses of Parliament, it remains in operation **till it is revoked by the President** and no maximum period is defined under the Constitution. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
6. During the period any such Proclamation is in operation, the executive authority of the Union shall extend to the giving of directions to any State to observe such canons of financial propriety as may be specified in the directions, and to the giving of such other directions as the President may deem necessary and adequate for the purpose.
any such direction may include:
 - (a) A provision requiring the reduction of salaries and allowances of all or any class of persons serving in connection with the affairs of a State;
 - (b) Provision **requiring all Money Bills or other Bills to which the provisions of Article 207 apply to be reserved for the**

consideration of the President after they are passed by the Legislature of the State; **Hence statement 4 is correct.**

- (c) It shall be competent for the President during the period any Proclamation issued under this article is in operation to issue directions for the reduction of salaries and allowances of all or any class of persons serving in connection with the affairs of the Union **including the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts (except president salary).** **Hence statement 5 is correct.**

A proclamation of Financial Emergency may be revoked by the **president** at any time by a subsequent proclamation. Such a proclamation does not require parliamentary approval. **Hence statement 3 is incorrect**

Despite, the financial crisis of 1991, **there has been no instance of financial emergency** being proclaimed in India or any territory of it thereof.

40. Which of the following does (or do) not require repeated parliamentary approval for its continuation?

- 1. National Emergency**
- 2. President's rule in a state**
- 3. Financial Emergency**

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer : C

Explanation:-

Option 1 is not correct: Under Article 352, the President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion. The proclamation of Emergency must be approved by both the Houses of the Parliament within one month from the date of its issue. Originally, the period allowed for approval by the Parliament was two months but was reduced by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978. If approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the emergency continues for six months and can be extended to an indefinite period **with the approval of the Parliament every six months.**

Option 2 is not correct: A proclamation imposing President's Rule in a state must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within two months from the date of its issue. If approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the President's Rule continues for six months⁶. It can be extended for a maximum period of three years⁷ with the approval of the Parliament, every six months.

Option 3 is correct: Article 360 empowers the president to proclaim a Financial Emergency if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen due to which the financial stability or credit of India or any part of its territory is threatened. A proclamation declaring financial emergency must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within two months from the date of its issue. Once approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the Financial Emergency continues indefinitely till it is revoked. This implies two things:

1. There is no maximum period prescribed for its operation;
2. repeated parliamentary approval is not required for its continuation.

41. With reference to Private Member's Bills and Public Bills, consider the following statements:

1. Both types of bills can be introduced in the Parliament after only seven days' notice.
2. No private member's bill has been passed by Parliament of India till date.
3. A bill introduced by an elected member of Parliament is called as public bill, while a bill introduced by a nominated member is called as private bill.
4. They are transacted every day in the last hour of sitting in the sessions.
5. A private member cannot introduce more than two Bills in a Parliamentary session.

How many of the above given statements are correct?

- [A] Only two
- [B] Only three
- [C] Only four
- [D] None

Answer: D

Explanation:-

Statement 1 is incorrect: The introduction of Public Bills in the House requires seven days' notice. The introduction of Private Bills in the House requires one month's notice.

Statement 2 is incorrect: 14 private member's bills have become law so far. The last time a private member's bill was passed by both Houses was in 1970. It was the Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Bill, 1968.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Private member's bill is introduced by any member of Parliament other than a minister while the public bill is introduced by a minister.

Statement 4 is incorrect While a government Bill can be introduced and discussed on any day, a private member's bill is **only introduced and discussed on Fridays**. However, the Speaker may "in consultation with the Leader of the House, allot any day other than a Friday for the transaction of private members' business". Also, in

case there is no sitting of the House on a Friday, the Speaker may allot the stipulated time "on any other day in the week" for private members' business.

Intimation, or notice, for such a bill along with its text has to be given a month in advance to the presiding officer of the House in question — the Speaker in Lok Sabha and the Chairperson in Rajya Sabha. However, the presiding officer may permit the bill to be introduced at a shorter notice.

Statement 5 is incorrect : The Rajya Sabha Secretariat states that a member can give a maximum of three notices for the introduction of a Private Member bill during any session while the Lok Sabha Secretariat says "a member cannot introduce more than four Bills during a session" although he or she can authorize "any other member to introduce the Bill, in which case the member who introduces the Bill becomes the member in-charge of the Bill".

42. Consider the following statements on the Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts (PAC):

1. Consists of not more than 22 Members elected from the Lok Sabha on the principle of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.
2. ascertains that money granted by Parliament has been spent by Government within the scope of the demand.
3. Scrutinizes appropriation and finance accounts of Government.
4. Examines the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

How many of the above given statements are correct?

- [A] Only one
- [B] Only two
- [C] Only three
- [D] All

Answer : C

Explanation:-

The Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts:

1. In 1950, the Public Accounts Committee consisted of 15 members and all of them belonged to the Lok Sabha. But in 1953, this number was increased to 22 with a view to give representation to Rajya Sabha.
2. All members of the Committee enjoy equal status in matter of elaboration and voting. The members from Rajya Sabha are also under the control of the Speaker of Lok Sabha insofar as their functioning in the committee is concerned. Thus at present, the twenty two members are elected every year on the basis of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.
3. The tenure of the Committee is one year. The Chairman of the Committee is appointed by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha from amongst the members of Committee.

4. The chairmanship of the Public Accounts Committee has been given to the Opposition, a practice which is considered democratic.
5. None of its members are allowed to be ministers in the government

Scope of Work:-

1. It serves as a check on the government especially with respect to its expenditure bill and its primary function is to examine the audit report of Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) after it is laid in Parliament.
2. C&AG assists the committee during the course of the investigation.
3. The main function of the committee is to ascertain whether the money granted by parliament has been spent by the government within the scope of the demand.
4. Scrutinizes appropriation and finance accounts of Government.

43. Which of the following are the methods of Parliamentary control over public finance in India?

1. Placing Annual Financial Statement before the Parliament.
2. Withdrawal of moneys from Consolidated Fund of India only after passing the Appropriation Bill.
3. Provisions of supplementary grants and vote-on-account.
4. A periodic or at least a mid-year review of programme of the Government against macroeconomic forecasts and expenditure by a Parliamentary Budget Office.
5. Introducing Finance Bill in the Parliament.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (c) 3, 4 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer : A

Explanation:-**Specific Methods of Financial Control:****Annual Financial Statement:**

According to Article 112 of the Indian Constitution, the President of India causes to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament an 'annual financial statement' containing the statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for that year.

Consolidated Fund

As mentioned in Article 113, the estimates of expenditure charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India are not submitted to the vote of Parliament, although there can be discussion on the same in either House of Parliament.

Demands for Grants

On the recommendation of the President of India, the estimates of expenditure, other than those specified for the Consolidated Fund of India, are presented to the Lok Sabha in the form of demands for grants. Under Article 113, the Lok Sabha has the power to assent to or to reject, any demand, or to assent to any demand, subject to a reduction of the amount specified.

Supplementary, Additional or Excess Grants

Article 115 of the Constitution lays down that statements showing the estimates of expenditure for the supplementary, additional or excess grants have to be presented to the Lok Sabha

Cut Motions

Cut motions are introduced to discuss the policy pursued in regard to a specific matter by the minister concerned or to ventilate grievances or to suggest economies. Each such motion has to focus on one demand and one matter only, which needs to be precisely stated. It must not relate to the expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India or make suggestions for the amendment or repeal of existing laws.

Appropriation Bill

According to Article 114 of the Constitution, when the demand for grants has been voted for, the Appropriation Bill authorises the withdrawal of the funds from the Consolidated Fund of India, as regards both the votable and the charged items. Notably, the Appropriation Bill provides an occasion for a full-fledged discussion on topics chosen by the various parties in the House.

44. With reference to the Union Government, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Department of Revenue is responsible for the preparation of Union Budget that is presented to the Parliament.**
- 2. No amount can be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India without the authorization from the Parliament of India.**
- 3. All the disbursements made from Public Account also need the authorization from the Parliament of India.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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

Answer : C

Explanation:-

The **Department of Revenue** responsible for the preparation of Union Budget that is presented to the Parliament."

- The Union Budget is a crucial financial document presented annually to the Parliament of India.
- The primary responsibility for preparing the Union Budget lies with the Budget Division of the Department of Economic Affairs, which is part of the Ministry of Finance.
- While the Department of Revenue is also part of the Ministry of Finance and plays a vital role in matters related to taxation, tax policy, and collection, it is not the department solely responsible for the overall preparation of the Union Budget framework, including expenditure planning and overall fiscal targets.

Therefore, Statement 1 is incorrect.

Withdrawals from Consolidated Fund of India

- The Consolidated Fund of India is the most important of all government accounts. All revenues received by the government, money borrowed, and receipts from loans granted by the government flow into this fund.
- Article 114(3) of the Constitution of India explicitly states: "No money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under appropriation made by law passed in accordance with the provisions of this article."
- This constitutional provision means that any expenditure from the Consolidated Fund requires the approval of Parliament through an Appropriation Act.

Therefore, Statement 2 is correct. Parliament's authorization is mandatory for withdrawals from the Consolidated Fund of India.

Disbursements from Public Account

- The Public Account of India holds funds received by the government where the government is acting as a banker, not using the money for public expenditure. Examples include provident funds, small savings deposits, reserve funds, etc.
- Money in the Public Account does not belong to the government but is held in trust for the people or entities who deposited it.
- Disbursements from the Public Account are typically withdrawals of these deposits or transfers within the account.
- According to the Constitution, payments from the Public Account do not require parliamentary authorization as they are not government expenditures

in the same way as those from the Consolidated Fund. They are essentially withdrawals of deposits.

Therefore, Statement 3 is incorrect. Disbursements from the Public Account do not require authorization from the Parliament of India.

45. Consider the following statements with reference to lapsing of bills in case of dissolution of Lok Sabha:

1. A Bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses whether originating in the Lok Sabha or transmitted to it by the Rajya Sabha.
2. A Bill passed by both Houses but returned by the President for reconsideration of Houses lapses.
3. All pending assurances that are to be examined by the Committee on Government Assurances do not lapse.

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

Answer : B

Explanation:

- When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, all business including bills, motions, resolutions, notices, petitions and so on pending before it or its committees lapse. They (to be pursued further) must be reintroduced in the newly-constituted Lok Sabha. However, some pending bills and all pending assurances that are to be examined by the Committee on Government Assurances do not lapse on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. **So, statement 3 is correct.**

The position with respect to lapsing of bills is as follows:

- A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses (whether originating in the Lok Sabha or transmitted to it by the Rajya Sabha). **So, statement 1 is correct.**
- A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses.
- A bill not passed by the two Houses due to disagreement and if the President has notified the holding of a joint sitting before the dissolution of Lok Sabha, does not lapse.
- A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha does not lapse.
- A bill passed by both Houses but pending assent of the President does not lapse.
- A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the President for reconsideration of Houses does not lapse. **So, statement 2 is not correct**

Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer.

46. Which of the following motions can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha?

- 1. Censure motion**
- 2. Adjournment motion**
- 3. No-confidence motion**
- 4. Privilege motion**
- 5. Cut motion**

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- A. 1, 2 and 4 only**
- B. 3, 4 and 5 only**
- C. 1, 2, 3 and 5 only**
- D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5**

Answer : C

Explanation :

Censure motion:

- A censure means an expression of strong disapproval or harsh criticism. It can be a stern rebuke by a legislature, generally opposition against the policies of the Government or an individual minister.
- However, it can also be passed to criticize and condemn some acts.
- **A censure motion can only be moved in Lok Sabha. So, point (1) is correct.**

Adjournment motion:

- It is introduced in the Parliament to draw the attention of the House to a definite matter of urgent public importance and needs the support of 50 members to be admitted.
- As it interrupts the normal business of the House, it is regarded as an extraordinary device. It involves an element of censure against the government and **hence Rajya Sabha is not permitted to make use of this device.**
- The discussion on an adjournment motion should last for not less than two hours and thirty minutes. **So, point (2) is correct.**

No confidence motion:

- **Article 75 of the Constitution** says that the council of ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha.
- It means that the ministry stays in office so long as it enjoys the confidence of the majority of the members of the Lok Sabha. **In other words, the Lok Sabha can remove the ministry from office by passing a no-confidence motion.** The motion needs the support of 50 members to be admitted. **It can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha. So, point 3 is correct.**

Privilege motion:

1. **In either House**, a Member of Parliament has to obtain the consent of the presiding officer — the Speaker in Lok Sabha and the Chair in Rajya Sabha — to raise a question involving a breach of privilege or contempt.
2. The Lok Sabha rule book says that a member who wishes to “raise a question of privilege has to give notice in writing to the Secretary-General before the commencement of the sitting by 10 am on the day the question is proposed to be raised”. Privilege motion can be introduced in **both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha**. So, point (4) is not correct.

Cut motion:

- The motions to **reduce the amounts of demands for grants** are called ‘Cut Motions’. The object of a cut motion is to draw the attention of the House to the matter specified therein.
- The **Rajya Sabha has no power of voting the demands**.
- The voting is confined to the votable part of the budget—the expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India is not submitted to the vote. **Only the Lok Sabha can also move motions to reduce any demand for grants**. So, point (5) is correct.

Therefore, option (c) is the correct answer.

47. With reference to the Short Duration Discussion in Parliament, consider the following statements:

1. **It enables the members of the Parliament to raise discussions on a matter of urgent public importance.**
2. **There is no formal motion before the House nor is there any voting after the discussion.**
3. **This device has been in existence since India became independent.**

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:

1. The short duration discussion is a procedural device to enable members to raise discussion on **matters of urgent public importance** without a **formal motion on a matter of urgent public importance**. It is also known as two-hour discussion as the time allotted for such a discussion should not exceed two hours. The Speaker can allot two days in a week for such discussions. **There is neither a formal motion before the house nor voting**. So, statements 1 and 2 are correct.

2. This device has been in existence since 1953. **Prior to 1953, there was no provision in the Rules for raising a discussion in the House on a matter of urgent public importance except by way of a resolution or a motion.** Whenever members wanted to draw the attention of the Government to a matter of urgent public importance, they resorted to adjournment motions. As an adjournment motion is in the nature of a censure motion, recourse to such a procedure was not considered appropriate in the new set-up, when the Government became responsible to Parliament. With a view to providing opportunities to members to discuss matters of urgent public importance, a convention was established in March, 1953 whereby members could raise discussions for short duration without a formal motion or vote thereon. The procedure has now come to form part of the Rules. **So, statement 3 is not correct.**

Therefore, option (a) is the correct answer.

48. Consider the following statements with respect to the Zonal Councils:

- 1. The Zonal Councils are the statutory bodies established by the Parliament by law.**
- 2. The Union Home Minister is the Chairman and Chief Ministers of states in each zone (serving by rotation for one year), is the Vice-Chairman of all Zonal Councils including the North Eastern Council.**
- 3. The decisions made by the Zonal Councils are not binding and the unresolved issues can be escalated to the Inter-State Council headed by the Prime Minister.**

How many of the above given statements are correct?

- A 1 only
- B 2 only
- C 3 only
- D None

Answer: A

Explanation:

Mooted by PM Jawaharlal Nehru in 1956 to address linguistic hostilities and promote cooperation.

Legal Basis: Established under [States Reorganisation Act, 1956](#) as **statutory (extra-constitutional)** advisory bodies.

Objective: Foster **coordination** among **states** and the **Centre** for economic, social and political stability.

Nature: Only **deliberative** and **advisory**, recommendations are **not binding**.

5 Zonal Councils were set up vide Part- III of the **States Re-organisation Act, 1956**. The present composition of each of these Zonal Councils is as under :

1. **Northern Zonal Council** - States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh;
2. **Central Zonal Council** - States of Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh;
3. **Eastern Zonal Council** - States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, and West Bengal;
4. **Western Zonal Council** - States of Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra and the Union Territories of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli; and
5. **Southern Zonal Council** - States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Puducherry.

The North Eastern States i.e. (i) Assam (ii) Arunachal Pradesh (iii) Manipur (iv) Tripura (v) Mizoram (vi) Meghalaya (vii) Nagaland and (viii) Sikkim are part of **North Eastern Council, set up under the North Eastern Council Act, 1972.**

Composition

- **Chairman:** **Union Home Minister** (common chairman for all Zonal Councils).
- **Vice-Chairman:** **Chief Ministers of states** in each zone, serving by rotation for one year.
- **Members:**
 - **Chief Ministers** and **two ministers from each state** in the zone.
 - **Administrators** of Union Territories in the zone.
 - **NITI Aayog representative**, Chief Secretaries and Development Commissioners as **advisors** (without voting rights).
 - Union Ministers are also invited to participate in the meetings of Zonal Councils depending upon necessity.
- **Standing Committees:** Chief Secretaries of member states discuss issues and prepare for main meetings.

North Eastern Council: Special Regional Body

- **Legal Basis:** **North Eastern Council Act, 1971** (came into force in 1972).
- **Members:** Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura and **Sikkim (added in 2002).**
- **Chairperson:** Union Home Minister.
- **Vice-Chairperson:** **Minister for Development of the North Eastern Region (DoNER).**
- **Functions:** Same as Zonal Councils; In addition to **coordinated regional planning and security review.**

Functions and Role of Zonal Councils

- **Platform for Discussion:** **Interstate** and **Centre-State issues** like border disputes, linguistic minorities, and state reorganisation.
- **Cooperative Federalism:** Facilitates collaboration on policies, schemes and economic planning.

- **Infrastructure & Development:** Discusses mining, land acquisition, industrial growth and financial aid.
- **Social Reforms:** Focuses on education, child malnutrition, school drop-out rates and healthcare.

Issue Resolution Process in Zonal Councils

1. States propose issues for discussion at the **Standing Committee level**.
2. Unresolved issues are escalated to the main **Zonal Council meeting**.
3. Consensus-based decisions are made, but **not legally binding**.

49. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the imposition of President's Rule under Article 356 of the Indian Constitution?

1. It can be imposed only on the recommendation of the Governor of the concerned state.
2. The proclamation of President's Rule must be approved by both Houses of Parliament within two months.
3. It can be extended beyond one year with the approval of Parliament and the Election Commission.

Options:

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

Answer: C) 2 and 3 only

Statement 1: Incorrect. - While the Governor's report is the most common basis, **Article 356 does not mandate it exclusively**. The President can act **even without a Governor's report**, if he is otherwise satisfied that the governance of the state cannot be carried on in accordance with the Constitution. Example: 1977 and 1980 dismissals of state governments without Governor's reports.

Statement 2: Correct. - A proclamation under Article 356 must be approved by **both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha** within **two months**. Otherwise, it ceases to operate.

Statement 3: Correct. - Normally, President's Rule can continue for **6 months at a time, up to a maximum of 3 years**.

For extension **beyond 1 year**, two conditions must be satisfied:

1. **National emergency** (Article 352) is in operation in the whole or part of India, **or**
2. **Election Commission certifies** that elections to the Legislative Assembly of the state cannot be held.

50. With reference to President's Rule in India, consider the following statements:

1. It can be imposed when the state government fails to comply with the directions of the Central Government under Article 356.
2. The Supreme Court in the S.R. Bommai case (1994) ruled that the imposition of President's Rule is subject to judicial review.
3. Under Article 355, the Union has a duty to protect every state against external aggression and internal disturbance, and ensure that governance is carried on in accordance with the Constitution; failure of this duty can be a ground for invoking Article 356.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

Options:

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

Correct Answer: B

Article 356 – President's Rule (State Emergency)

Constitutional Provision:

1. Found in **Part XVIII** of the Indian Constitution (Emergency Provisions).
2. Empowers the **President of India** to impose **President's Rule** in a state.

Grounds for Proclamation:

If the **President is satisfied** that the governance of a state cannot be carried on in accordance with the Constitution.

This satisfaction is usually based on:

1. **Governor's report**, or
2. **Other information available to the President.**

Related provisions:

Article 355 → Union's duty to protect states and ensure constitutional governance.

Article 365 → If a state fails to comply with Union directions, it can be deemed breakdown of constitutional machinery.

Approval & Duration:

1. Must be approved by **both Houses of Parliament** within **2 months**.
2. Initially valid for **6 months**.
3. Can be extended every 6 months with parliamentary approval, up to a **maximum of 3 years**.
4. **Beyond 1 year**, extension requires:

National Emergency (Art. 352) in operation, OR
Election Commission certifies that elections to the state assembly cannot be held.

Effects of President's Rule:

State legislature is **either dissolved or suspended**.
Executive powers of the state are exercised by the **President (through Governor)**.
Parliament makes laws for the state during the period.

Judicial Safeguard:

S.R. Bommai case (1994):

President's Rule is subject to **judicial review**.
Proclamation can be struck down if found **mala fide or unconstitutional**.
The majority test in the assembly must be conducted on the **floor of the House**, not decided by Governor/President.

Statement 1: **Incorrect.**

This is a **trap** — it should be **Article 365**, not 356.

Article 365 says that if a state fails to comply with Union directions, it is deemed that governance cannot be carried on according to the Constitution → ground for President's Rule. Therefore, as written, this statement is wrong.

Statement 2: **Correct.**

In **S.R. Bommai v. Union of India (1994)**, SC held that President's Rule is not beyond scrutiny. The Court can strike it down if found mala fide or unconstitutional.

Statement 3: **Correct.**

Article 355 lays a **constitutional duty** on the Union. If the Centre fails, Article 356 can be invoked to ensure constitutional governance.

51. With reference to the proclamation of National Emergency under Article 352 of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. A proclamation of National Emergency can be made by the President only on the written recommendation of the Council of Ministers.
2. The proclamation must be approved by both Houses of Parliament within **two months**, failing which it ceases to operate.
3. Once approved, it can remain in force maximum of **3 years** but must be renewed every six months by Parliament.
4. The **44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978** restricted the grounds of National Emergency to war, external aggression, and armed rebellion, replacing the earlier term "internal disturbance."

5. The Supreme Court in the **Unni Krishnan case** held that a proclamation of National Emergency is completely non-justiciable and cannot be questioned in a court of law.

Options:

- A) Only 1 option is correct
- B) Only 3 options are correct
- C) Only 4 options are correct
- D) All are correct

Correct Answer: A) Only 1 option is correct

Explanation:

Statement 1: Wrong — It should be on the **written recommendation of the Union Cabinet**, not the entire Council of Ministers (44th Amendment).

Statement 2: Wrong — Parliament must approve within **1 month**, not 2 (44th Amendment).

Statement 3: Wrong — Unlike President's Rule (max 3 years), National Emergency has **no maximum limit**; it must be renewed every 6 months but can continue indefinitely.

Statement 4: Correct — 44th Amendment replaced "internal disturbance" with **armed rebellion**, narrowing grounds for Emergency.

Statement 5: Wrong — SC ruled Emergency is **subject to judicial review** in Minerva Mills case.

52. Which of the following Statements are true?

- 1. The Attorney General of India and the Solicitor General of India are the Constitutional posts and are eligible for re-appointment.
- 2. Attorney General of India has the right of audience in all courts in the territory of India including the Lower courts.
- 3. The Attorney General of India have the right to speak and take part in either house of the Parliament but not in the Joint Sitting.
- 4. The Attorney General of India and the Solicitor General of India can be part of any Parliamentary Committee.

- A) 1, 3 Only
- B) 2, 3, 4 only
- C) 2, 3 only
- D) 2 only

Answer: D – 2 Only.

Explanation:-

Article 76 states that the President shall appoint a person who is qualified to be appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court to be Attorney-General for India. He shall give advice to the Government of India upon such legal matters, and to perform such other duties of a legal character. He is the highest law officer of the country and shall hold office during the pleasure of the President.

However, as per "The Law Officer (Conditions of Service) Rules, 1987", the Law Officers (includes Attorney-General for India, the Solicitor-General for India, Additional Solicitor-General for India), shall hold office for a term of three years and is eligible for re-appointment to that office for a further term not exceeding three years.

Hence, the post of Attorney General of India is a Constitutional Post, but the post of **Solicitor General of India is a non-Constitutional post**. Both of them comes under the general category of "Law Officers" and is eligible for re-appointment. The Solicitor General of India assists the Attorney General of India and is the 2nd highest law officer of the country. **Hence statement 1 is false.**

In the performance of his duties the Attorney-General shall have right of audience in all courts in the territory of India, which also includes the lower courts. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Article 88 states that "Every Minister and the Attorney-General of India shall have the right to speak in, and take part in the proceedings of, either House, any joint sitting of the Houses, and any committee of Parliament of which he may be named a member, but shall not by virtue of this article be entitled to vote". **Hence, statement 3 is false.**

Statement 4 is false as only the Attorney General of India can take part in the Parliamentary Committee, but not the Solicitor General of India.

53. Consider the following statements with respect to the Inter-State Council?

1.The Inter-State Council is a permanent body constituted by the President under Art 263.

2.The Standing Committee of the Interstate Council is headed by the Union Defence Minister.

3.It may inquire into and advise upon disputes arisen between States and discuss the subjects of common interest among the different States or the Union.

4.All questions which may come up for consideration of the Interstate Council at a meeting shall be decided by voting and the chairman shall have the casting vote.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1, 2 & 3 only
 - B) 3 only
 - C) 1 and 3 only
 - D) All the above.
- Correct Answer: C**

Explanation:-

Article 263 of the Constitution of India provides for the establishment of an Inter-State Council.

"263. Provisions with respect to an inter-State Council – If at any time it appears to the President that the public interests would be served by the establishment of a Council charged with the duty of –

- a) inquiring into and advising upon disputes which may have arisen between States;
- b) investigating and discussing subjects in which some or all of the States, or the Union and one or more of the States, have a common interest; or
- c) making recommendations upon any such subject and, in particular, recommendations for the better co-ordination of policy and action with respect to that subject, it shall be lawful for the President by order to establish such a Council, and to define the nature of the duties to be performed by it and its organization and procedure."

R. S. Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State Relations (1988) had recommended for constitution of a permanent Inter-State Council called the Inter-Governmental Council (IGC) under Article 263 and it shall be charged with the duties set out in clauses (b) and (c) of Article 263, other than socio-economic planning and development. **Accordingly, Inter-State Council was established by the Presidential Order known as Inter-State Council Order, 1990.**

Composition of the Council:

1. The **PM serves as the Chairperson**. Members include Chief Ministers(CMs) of all States, CMs of Union Territories having a Legislative Assembly and Administrators of UTs not having a Legislative Assembly, and 6 Union Ministers of Cabinet rank, nominated by the Prime Minister, are also part of the ISC.
2. The Presidential Order of 1990 has been amended twice, first in 1990 and then in 1996, to allow the Governor of a State under President's rule to attend the

meeting of the ISC and for the Chairman to nominate permanent invitees from amongst the other Union Ministers, respectively.

3. In the second meeting of the ISC held in 1996, the Council decided to set up a **Standing Committee** for continuous consultation and processing of matters for consideration of the Council. Accordingly, a Standing Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of the **Home Minister** and has been reconstituted from time to time with the approval of the Chairman of the Council.

All questions which may come up for consideration of the Council at a meeting shall be **decided by consensus** and the **decision the Chairman as to consensus shall be final.**

54. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The procedure for the election of members of the Rajya Sabha in the Indian Constitution is borrowed from the South African Constitution.**
- 2. The provision for the nomination of members to the Rajya Sabha is borrowed from the US Constitution.**
- 3. The Anti-Defection Law is applicable to members during the Rajya Sabha elections.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a) 1 only

Explanation

Statement 1 – Correct

The system of **proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote (STV)** for Rajya Sabha elections is borrowed from the **South African Constitution**.

Statement 2 – Incorrect

The provision for **nominated members in Rajya Sabha** (12 members nominated by the President for their expertise in literature, art, science, and social service) is **borrowed from the Irish Constitution**, not the US.

Statement 3 – Incorrect

The **Anti-Defection Law (Tenth Schedule, 1985)** applies only to voting/abstaining **inside the legislature on bills, motions, confidence votes etc.** It does **not** apply to **Rajya Sabha or Presidential elections**, as clarified by the Supreme Court.

- The anti-defection law applies when a legislator **votes or abstains in the House** (Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, or State Legislative Assembly) contrary to the direction (whip) issued by their party.
- **Elections to Rajya Sabha are not proceedings inside the House** but rather a constitutional election process conducted by the Election Commission.
- Hence, a member cannot be disqualified under the anti-defection law for defying the party whip in a **Rajya Sabha election**.

Judicial backing

- **Kuldip Nayar v. Union of India (2006)** – clarified various aspects of Rajya Sabha elections, including open ballot.
- **Ravi S. Naik v. Union of India (1994)** – explained the scope of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule, emphasizing it applies to voting/abstaining in House proceedings, not in Rajya Sabha/Presidential elections.

55. Which of the following statements is correct about the abolition or creation of the Legislative Council in States?

1. **Parliament can abolish or create a Legislative Council after a resolution is passed by the concerned Legislative Assembly.**
2. **The resolution must be passed by the State Legislative Assembly by a special majority.**
3. **The act for the creation or abolition of the council by Parliament is considered a constitutional amendment under Article 368.**
4. **Currently, 6 States have Legislative Councils.**

Options:

- (a) Only 1 statement is correct
- (b) Only 2 statements are correct
- (c) Only 3 statements are correct
- (d) All statements are correct

Answer → (c) Only 3 statements are correct

Explanation

Statement 1 – Correct

Under **Article 169**, Parliament may create or abolish a Legislative Council after the Legislative Assembly of the concerned State passes a resolution to that effect.

Statement 2 – Correct

The resolution must be passed by a **special majority** (i.e., a majority of the total membership of the Assembly and not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting).

Statement 3 – Incorrect

The Act of Parliament creating or abolishing a Legislative Council is **not a**

constitutional amendment under Article 368. It is an **ordinary law**, passed by a simple majority.

Statement 4 – Correct

As of 2025, **6 States** have Legislative Councils — Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar.

56. With reference to Parliamentary Privileges in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. The privileges of Parliament are codified in detail under Article 105 of the Constitution.**
- 2. No court has the power to inquire into proceedings of Parliament on the ground of irregularity of procedure.**
- 3. Freedom of speech in Parliament is subject to the provisions of the Constitution and cannot be questioned in a court of law.**
- 4. The power to punish for breach of privilege by imprisonment is exercised exclusively by the Supreme Court under Article 142.**

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

Options:

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

Answer Key → (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation

Statement 1 – Incorrect → Privileges are mentioned in **Article 105**, but they are not codified in detail. They remain largely **uncodified**.



Statement 2 – Correct → Under **Article 122**, courts cannot question proceedings of Parliament on grounds of **procedural irregularity**.

Statement 3 – Correct → **Freedom of speech in Parliament (Art. 105)** is **absolute inside the House** and cannot be challenged in courts, though it is subject to constitutional provisions and parliamentary rules.

Statement 4 – Incorrect → The power to punish for breach of privilege (including imprisonment) lies with **Parliament itself**, not with the Supreme Court.

Detailed Explanation

Article 105 – Powers, privileges, etc., of the Houses of Parliament and of the members and committees thereof

Clause (1): Freedom of Speech in Parliament

- Subject to the **provisions of the Constitution** and the **rules and standing orders** of Parliament,
- There shall be **freedom of speech in Parliament**.

This means MPs can speak freely in Parliament without fear of legal consequences, but must follow constitutional restrictions (e.g., Art. 121: judges' conduct cannot be discussed) and parliamentary rules.

Clause (2): Immunity of Members

- **No MP shall be liable in any court** for:
 - Anything said or any vote given in Parliament (or its committees).
 - Any publication made under the authority of Parliament (like official reports, debates, papers).

Clause (3): Other Privileges

- The powers, privileges, and immunities of:
 - Each House of Parliament, its members, and committees, **shall be such as may from time to time be defined by Parliament by law**.
 - Until so defined, they **remain the same as those enjoyed by the British House of Commons** at the commencement of the Constitution (1950). Since Parliament has not codified them yet, India still follows **uncodified**.

Clause (4): Extension to Persons with Right to Speak

- The provisions of clauses (1), (2), and (3) also apply to:
 - The Attorney-General of India, or Any other person who has the right to speak in either House or in any **committee**.

Example: AG enjoys the same freedom of speech when addressing Parliament, though he is **not a member**.

1. Privileges not fully codified (Statement 1)

- **Article 105** only gives **broad provisions**:
- Freedom of speech in Parliament.
- Immunity of MPs from legal proceedings for speeches/votes in Parliament.
- Immunity from liability in courts for parliamentary publications.
- But the **complete list of privileges** has never been codified by law.

2. Judicial non-interference (Statement 2)

- **Article 122:** Courts cannot question parliamentary proceedings for "*irregularity of procedure*."

- However, if there is **illegality or unconstitutionality**, courts can intervene (example: *Raja Ram Pal v. Speaker, Lok Sabha* (2007) — SC upheld its power of judicial review in cases of **substantive illegality**).

3. Freedom of speech in Parliament (Statement 3)

Article 105(1) & 105(2): MPs have **absolute freedom of speech in Parliament**, immune from court action.

- But it is subject to:
- **Constitutional limits** (e.g., cannot discuss judges except in impeachment – Art. 121, 211).
- **Rules of procedure** and control of **Speaker/Chairman**.
- Courts cannot question this freedom.

Key Case: *M.S.M. Sharma v. Krishna Sinha* (1959) — Parliamentary privilege of free speech prevails over Article 19(1)(a).

4. Punishment for breach of privilege (Statement 4)

- Parliament/State Legislatures can punish members or outsiders for **breach of privilege or contempt**.
- Power includes **admonition, reprimand, suspension, imprisonment**.
- This is **not an SC power under Article 142**.
- Therefore, **only Statements 2 and 3 are correct**.

57. Which one of the following suggested that the Governor should be an eminent person from outside the State and should be a detached figure without intense political links or should not have taken part in politics in the recent past?

- (a) First Administrative Reforms Commission (1966)
- (b) Rajamannar Committee (1969)
- (c) Sarkaria Commission (1983)
- (d) National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (2000)

Answer: (c)

58. With reference to Article 252 of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. Parliament can legislate on a matter in the State List if **two or more State Legislatures pass a resolution** requesting it.

2. Such a Parliamentary law automatically applies to **all States**, unless a State explicitly rejects it.
3. Any other State, apart from the initial consenting States, can later adopt the law by passing a resolution in its Legislative Assembly.
4. Once such a law is made by Parliament, **only Parliament** can amend or repeal it.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

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

Correct Answer: (a) 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct**
Parliament can legislate on State List matters if **two or more States request** it through resolutions.
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect**
Such a law applies **only to those consenting States**. Other States must **pass a resolution** to adopt it. It does **not apply automatically** to all States.
- **Statement 3 – Correct**
Any other State can later **adopt** the law by passing a resolution in its Legislative Assembly.
- **Statement 4 – Correct**
Once enacted, **only Parliament can amend or repeal** such a law. States cannot withdraw or repeal it individually.

59. Consider the following statements regarding constitutional doctrines in India:

1. The Doctrine of Eclipse implies that a law inconsistent with Fundamental Rights is void ab initio and cannot be revived even if the constitutional inconsistency is later removed.
2. The Doctrine of Repugnancy under Article 254 applies when there is a direct conflict between a Central law and a State law on a subject in the Concurrent List, in which case the Central law prevails.

3. **A State law in the Concurrent List can survive even if inconsistent with a Central law, provided it has received the assent of the President;**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c) 2 and 3 only

Explanation

- **Statement 1 (Incorrect):**
Under the Doctrine of Eclipse, an inconsistent law is not void ab initio but becomes inoperative ("eclipsed") as long as the inconsistency remains. Once the inconsistency is removed (e.g., through a constitutional amendment), the law revives and becomes operative again.
- **Statement 2 (Correct):**
Doctrine of Repugnancy (Article 254) says that if there is a direct conflict between a Central law and a State law in the Concurrent List, the Central law prevails and the State law is void to the extent of repugnancy.
- **Statement 3 (Correct):**
If a State law on a Concurrent subject has Presidential assent, it can prevail in that State even if repugnant to a Central law. However, Parliament retains the power to later amend/override it.

60. Consider the following statements regarding the **Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution**:

1. The Seventh Schedule contains **three lists** – Union List, State List, and Concurrent List – specifying the subjects on which Parliament and State Legislatures can make laws.
2. The **residuary powers** to make laws on subjects not enumerated in the Seventh Schedule **belong to the State Governments**.
3. The **State List** can be amended by Parliament with the **consent of the states concerned**.
4. Amendments to the Seventh Schedule are **made only through a constitutional amendment under Article 368**.
5. **Prisons** were moved from the State List to the Concurrent List by the **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

- (b) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
- (c) 1, 3, 4 only
- (d) All of the above

Correct Answer: (a) 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

Explanation

- Statement 1 – Correct
 - The **Seventh Schedule** divides subjects into **Union List, State List, and Concurrent List**.
- Statement 2 – Incorrect
 - **Residuary powers** belong to **Parliament (Union Government)**, under **Article 248**, not State Governments.
- Statement 3 – Correct
 - Parliament can amend the **State List with the consent of the State(s) concerned** (via Article 368).
- Statement 4 – Correct
 - Any amendment to the **Seventh Schedule** is made only through a **constitutional amendment** under Article 368.
- Statement 5 – Correct
 - The **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976**, moved **prisons** from the **State List** to the **Concurrent List**, allowing both Parliament and States to legislate.

Key Points to Remember:

- **Residuary powers** = Union, not State (Article 248).
- **Prisons** moved to Concurrent List (42nd CA).
- **State List amendments** require **state consent**; others can be done unilaterally by Parliament.
- the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976 transferred five subjects from the State List to the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule. These subjects are:
 1. Education
 2. Forests
 3. Weights and Measures
 4. Protection of Wild Animals and Birds
 5. Administration of Justice

61. With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements regarding the **Union Government's power to give directions to State Governments in normal times**:

1. The Union can give directions to a State regarding **means of communication**.
2. The Union can give directions to a State regarding **protection of railways**.
3. The Union can give directions to a State regarding providing **adequate facilities for the development of the mother tongue**.
4. The Union can give directions to a State regarding the **welfare of Scheduled Tribes (STs)**.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (d) All of the above

Correct Answer: (d) All of the above

Explanation

- **Article 257:** Parliament/Union can give directions to States in normal times regarding:
 1. **Means of communication** – roads, waterways, etc.
 2. **Protection of railways and other transport** – ensure safety and efficient functioning.
 3. **Education and language** – adequate facilities for development of **mother tongue** and promotion of education.
 4. **Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and backward classes** – policies to protect and promote welfare.
- These powers are meant to **ensure uniform development, national integration, and protection of national assets**, without infringing on State autonomy.

Key point to remember:

- **Article 257(1) & (2)** give the **Union power to direct States on certain subjects in the State List**, specifically for national interest, development, and

welfare.

62. Who among the following described India as a “quasi-federal” country?

- (a) Granville Austin
- (b) K.C. Wheare
- (c) B.R. Ambedkar
- (d) A.V. Dicey

Correct Answer: (b) K.C. Wheare

Explanation

- **K.C. Wheare**, a British constitutional expert, analyzed India's Constitution and observed that it has:

Federal features: Distribution of powers, written Constitution, rigid amendment procedure, judiciary to resolve disputes.

Unitary features: Strong Centre, residuary powers to Union, Centre's power to give directions to States, emergency provisions.

- Therefore, India is described as a “quasi-federal” or **federation with a strong unitary bias**.
- **Other options:**
 - **Granville Austin:** Cooperative Federalism
 - **B.R. Ambedkar:** Chairman of Drafting Committee; did not use the term “quasi-federal.”
 - **A.V. Dicey:** British constitutional theorist, known for “Rule of Law” and parliamentary sovereignty.

63. Consider the following statements regarding inter-government delegation of executive functions in India:

1. The President, with the consent of a state government, may entrust that state with any executive function of the Union.
2. The Governor, with the consent of the Union government, may entrust the Union with any executive function of the state.
3. Parliament can, by law, impose duties on a state government in respect of matters in the Union List even without the state's consent.

4. A state legislature, by law, can impose duties on the Union government in respect of matters in the State List.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: B. 1, 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Article 258(1) provides that the President may, with the consent of the state government, entrust to that state government functions of the Union.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** Article 258A allows the Governor, with the consent of the Union, to entrust Union authorities with functions of the state.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** Under Article 258(2), Parliament may by law confer powers or impose duties upon a state in relation to matters in the Union List, even without the state's consent.
- **Statement 4 – Incorrect:** There is **no provision** in the Constitution that allows a state legislature to impose duties on the Union government. Delegation is one-way here—from Centre to state, not vice versa.

Thus, the correct answer is **1, 2 and 3 only**.

64. Arrange the following events related to Centre–State relations in India in chronological order:

1. Anandpur Sahib Resolution
2. Rajamannar Committee Report
3. Sarkaria Commission
4. West Bengal Memorandum

A. 2 – 1 – 4 – 3

B. 1 – 2 – 3 – 4

C. 2 – 4 – 1 – 3

D. 4 – 2 – 1 – 3

Answer: A. 2 – 1 – 4 – 3

Explanation:

- **Rajamannar Committee (1969):** Appointed by DMK govt of Tamil Nadu to suggest restructuring Centre–State relations.
- **Anandpur Sahib Resolution (1973):** Akali Dal's demand for state autonomy and Sikh identity recognition.
- **West Bengal Memorandum (1977):** Submitted by Left Front govt led by Jyoti Basu demanding drastic curtailment of Union powers.
- **Sarkaria Commission (1983):** Set up by Union Govt to review Centre–State relations and recommend reforms.

Thus, the correct order is: Rajamannar → Anandpur Sahib → West Bengal Memo → Sarkaria Commission.

65. With reference to Articles 292 and 293 of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. Both the Union and the States can borrow upon the security of their respective Consolidated Funds.
2. A State may borrow from abroad only with the prior consent of the Union Government.
3. If a State is indebted to the Union, it requires the Union's consent before raising any fresh loan within India.
4. Parliament may impose restrictions on the States' borrowing powers by law, even if the State is not indebted to the Union.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

A. 1 and 3 only

B. 1, 2 and 3 only

C. 1, 3 and 4 only

D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Article 292:** Parliament may by law authorize the Union to borrow upon the security of the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI), either within India or abroad. Union can borrow without requiring consent of any State.
- **Article 293:** States may borrow within India upon the security of the Consolidated Fund of the State (CFS), within limits fixed by their legislature.
 - If a State is indebted to the Union, it must obtain the Union's consent before raising any further loan.
 - The Union can impose conditions when granting such consent.
- States cannot borrow **abroad**; only the Union can.
- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Union borrows on security of CFI (Art. 292), States on CFS (Art. 293).
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect:** States have **no power** to borrow abroad at all, even with Union consent. Only Union can.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** If a State is indebted to Union, it must obtain Union's consent before borrowing further (Art. 293(3)).
- **Statement 4 – Incorrect:** Parliament cannot restrict States' borrowing powers unless the State is indebted to the Union. There is no general overriding power.

Thus, **1 and 3 only** are correct.

66. With reference to **grants under the Constitution**, consider the following statements:

1. Grants under Article 275 are obligatory in nature, while those under Article 282 are discretionary.
2. Article 275 empowers both the Union and the States to make grants to each other for welfare schemes.
3. Article 282 permits the Union to give grants even for subjects in the State List.
4. Grants under Article 275 can be given only to States, whereas Article 282 enables grants to institutions or local bodies as well.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

✓Correct Answer: B (1, 3 and 4 only)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct**
 - Article 275 grants are **statutory/obligatory** (Union must provide to States for tribal welfare, etc.).
 - Article 282 grants are **discretionary** (Union/State *may* provide for any public purpose).
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect**
 - Article 275 empowers **only the Union to make grants to States**.
 - It does *not* allow States to give to the Union.
- **Statement 3 – Correct**
 - Article 282's "**notwithstanding clause**" allows Union to fund **State List subjects** (e.g., Swachh Bharat, MGNREGA).
- **Statement 4 – Correct**
 - Article 275 → Grants **only to States**.
 - Article 282 → Grants can go to **States, institutions, local bodies, universities, etc.**

67. With reference to the **Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council**, consider the following statements:

1. The GST Council is chaired by the Union Finance Minister and includes all State Finance Ministers as members.
2. Every decision of the GST Council requires at least a **two-thirds majority of the total membership** of the Council.
3. The Union Government's vote in the Council has a **weightage of one-third**, while the votes of all the States taken together have a **weightage of two-thirds**.

Recommendations of the GST Council are binding on both the Union and the States.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A (1 and 3 only)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct**

- Chairperson = Union Finance Minister.
- Other members = Union Minister of State for Finance/Revenue + Finance/Taxation Ministers of all States (and UTs with legislature).

- **Statement 2 – Incorrect**

- Not “two-thirds of total membership”.
- Actual rule = **75% of weighted votes of members present and voting.**

- **Statement 3 – Correct**

- Union Government’s vote = **1/3rd weightage.**
- All States + UTs with legislature combined = **2/3rd weightage.**

- **Statement 4 – Incorrect**



- GST Council recommendations are **not legally binding**; they are recommendatory.
- But in practice, they carry persuasive weight due to cooperative federalism.

68. With reference to Article 274 of the Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. A Bill that seeks to modify the distribution of taxes between the Union and the States cannot be introduced in Parliament without the prior recommendation

of the President.

2. Prior recommendation of the President is mandatory before moving an amendment in Parliament that imposes a surcharge under Article 271.
3. The requirement under Article 274 applies only to Bills, and not to amendments moved in an existing Bill.
4. Article 274 embodies the principle that the Union Executive must consent before Parliament enacts any financial law directly affecting State interests.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: B (1, 2 and 4 only)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct**
 - Bills affecting distribution of taxes (e.g., altering divisible pool rules) require **President's prior recommendation**.
- **Statement 2 – Correct**
 - Any Bill/amendment imposing surcharge under Article 271 → needs **President's recommendation**.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect**
 - Article 274 explicitly covers both **Bills and amendments**.
- **Statement 4 – Correct**
 - True: this ensures Union Executive's oversight over federal financial arrangements.

Article 274

- **No Bill or amendment affecting:**

1. Distribution of taxes between Union & States (Articles 268–279), or
2. Expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India, or
3. Power of Parliament to impose surcharges under Article 271, shall be introduced/ moved in Parliament **without prior recommendation of the President.**

69. With reference to the **Finance Commission of India (Article 280)**, consider the following statements:

1. It is constituted by the President every five years, and its recommendations are binding on the Union Government.
2. One of its constitutional functions is to recommend measures to augment the Consolidated Fund of a State to supplement the resources of Panchayats and Municipalities.
3. The President determines the qualifications of members of the Finance Commission and the manner in which they shall be selected.
4. The Finance Commission deals only with the distribution of tax revenues, not with grants-in-aid.

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

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

Correct Answer: B (2 only)

Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect**

- Finance Commission is indeed constituted every 5 years (or earlier if required), but its recommendations are **advisory, not binding**. The Union Government may accept or reject them.

- **Statement 2 – Correct**

- After the **73rd and 74th Amendments**, one of the Commission's functions is to recommend measures to **augment the Consolidated Fund of a State** to supplement resources of **Panchayats and Municipalities**.

- **Statement 3 – Incorrect**

- It is **Parliament**, not the President, that may by law determine the qualifications, conditions of service, and manner of selection of Commission members (Finance Commission Act, 1951).

- **Statement 4 – Incorrect**

- The Finance Commission deals with both **distribution of taxes** and **grants-in-aid** to States (Article 275).

Imp points

- **Advisory, not binding** (statement 1 trap).
- **73rd/74th Amendments expanded role** (statement 2 correct).
- **Parliament decides qualifications, not President** (statement 3 trap).
- **Covers grants-in-aid also** (statement 4 trap).

70. Which of the following statements are true?

1. The first Chairman of the Finance Commission of India was **K. Santhanam**.
2. The current (16th) Finance Commission Chairman is **Dr. Arvind Panagariya**.

Options:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both are correct
- D. None of the above

Correct Answer: B. 2 only

Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:**
The **first Chairman of the Finance Commission of India** (1951) was **K. C. Neogy**, not K. Santhanam.
K. Santhanam was the **Chairman of the 2nd Finance Commission (1956–1960)**.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:**
The **16th Finance Commission (2024)** has been constituted under the chairmanship of **Dr. Arvind Panagariya**.

71. With reference to the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, consider the following statements:

1. The CAG audits the accounts of both Union and State governments,
2. The reports of the CAG relating to the Union are submitted to the Parliament.
3. The conditions of service of the CAG are fixed by the President.
4. The CAG can be removed from office in the same manner and on the same grounds as a UPSC member.

Which of the above statements are correct?

Options:

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

Correct Answer: A. 1 and 3 only

Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct:**
CAG audits **Union and State accounts** (Art. 149).
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect :**
CAG reports relating to the Union are submitted to the President, not directly to Parliament. The President then lays them before Parliament. (Similarly, State reports go to the Governor.)
- **Statement 3 – Correct:**
Conditions of service of the CAG are determined by **Parliament via law** (CAG Act, 1971). Until Parliament legislates, they are prescribed by the **President** (Art. 148).
- **Statement 4 – Incorrect:**
CAG is removed in the **same manner and grounds as a Supreme Court judge** (Art. 148), not as a UPSC member.
 - UPSC member removal is by **President on specific grounds (misbehavior, insolvency, infirmity, etc.) after SC inquiry.**
 - Supreme Court judge removal needs **special majority of both Houses of Parliament.**

72. Arrange the following dignitaries in the correct order of precedence as per the official Table of Precedence in India:

1. Vice-President of India
2. Governor of a State (within his/her State)
3. Speaker of the Lok Sabha
4. Cabinet Ministers of the Union (ranked after Prime Minister)
5. Judges of the Supreme Court

Options:

- A. 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5
- B. 1 – 2 – 4 – 3 – 5
- C. 1 – 3 – 2 – 4 – 5
- D. 1 – 2 – 4 – 5 – 3

Correct Answer: B. 1 – 2 – 4 – 3 – 5

Explanation

According to the **Order of Precedence (Table of Precedence, Government of India, 1979, updated occasionally)**:

1. **Vice-President of India** – Position 2 in the table (after the President).
2. **Governor of a State (within the State)** – Position 4.
3. **Prime Minister** – Position 3 (not in the question, but for context).
4. **Cabinet Ministers of the Union** (also Chief Ministers within their States, Deputy PM, etc.) – Position 7.
5. **Speaker of Lok Sabha** – Position 6 (above Cabinet Ministers).
6. **Judges of the Supreme Court** – Position 9 (Chief Justice separately at Position 6, other SC Judges at 9).

First 10 Ranks in Order of Precedence

1. **President of India**
2. **Vice-President of India**
3. **Prime Minister**

4. **Governors of States (within their respective States)**
5. **Former Presidents**
6. **Deputy Prime Minister, Chief Justice of India, Speaker of Lok Sabha**
7. **Union Cabinet Ministers, Chief Ministers (within their States), Deputy Chairman Rajya Sabha, Deputy Speaker Lok Sabha, Leaders of Opposition**
8. **Ambassadors of foreign countries, High Commissioners, Governors outside their States**
9. **Judges of the Supreme Court (other than CJI)**
10. **Chief Election Commissioner, Comptroller & Auditor General of India**

73. Who among the following described the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) as the "*most important officer under the Constitution of India*"?

Options:

- A. B. R. Ambedkar
- B. K. M. Munshi
- C. Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- D. Vallabhbhai Patel

Correct Answer: A. B. R. Ambedkar

Explanation

- During the Constituent Assembly Debates, **Dr. B. R. Ambedkar** highlighted the centrality of the CAG in ensuring **accountability of the executive to the legislature**.
- He called the CAG the "*most important officer under the Constitution*" because:
 1. CAG safeguards the **public purse**.
 2. Ensures **legislative control over executive spending**.
 3. Provides **independent audit** of Union and State finances.
- This underlines CAG's role as the **guardian of the nation's finances**.

74. With reference to the classification of Financial Bills under the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. A Bill under Article 117(1) can be introduced in either House of Parliament.
2. A Bill under Article 117(3) does not contain any matter of a Money Bill but involves expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India.
3. The President's recommendation is mandatory for introduction of both Article 117(1) and Article 117(3) Bills.
4. The Rajya Sabha has equal powers as the Lok Sabha in the case of Article 117(1) Bills.

Select the correct statements:

Options:

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

Correct Answer: C. 2 3 and 4 only

Explanation

Statement 1 – Incorrect

- 117(1) Financial Bill (I) contains *Money Bill matters + other matters*.
- Hence, like a Money Bill, it can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha.
☐ Not in either House.

Statement 2 – Correct

- 117(3) Financial Bill (II) has no Money Bill matter, but does involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India.
☐ So it is correct.

Statement 3 – Correct

- President's recommendation is mandatory for:
 - 117(1) Bills → because they contain Money Bill provisions.
 - 117(3) Bills → because they involve expenditure from CFI.☐ So this is correct.

Statement 4 – Correct

- 117(1) Financial Bill (I) is not a Money Bill.
- Therefore, once introduced in Lok Sabha, the Rajya Sabha has equal powers (can reject/amend like in an ordinary bill).
 So this is also correct.

☐ Summary Table

| Feature | Money Bill (Art. 110) | Financial Bill (I) – Art. 117(1) | Financial Bill (II) – Art. 117(3) |
|---------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | |

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Contains Money Bill matters? | Yes | Yes + other provisions | No |
| Other provisions included? | No | Yes | Yes |
| Expenditure from CFI? | Possible | Possible | Always |
| Introduction | Lok Sabha only | Lok Sabha only | Either House |
| President's recommendation | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Rajya Sabha powers | Limited (advisory only) | Equal to LS | Equal to LS |

75. With reference to the Cabinet Committees of the Government of India, consider the following statements:

1. There are currently eight Cabinet Committees at the Union level.
2. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs is headed by the Finance Minister.
3. The Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs is headed by the Home Minister.

Which of the above statements are correct?

Options:

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. None of the above

Correct Answer: A. 1 only

Explanation

Statement 1 – Correct.

As per recent reconstitution (July 2024), there are eight Cabinet Committees.

Statement 2 – Incorrect.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) is chaired by the Prime Minister, not the Finance Minister.

Statement 3 – Incorrect.

The Parliamentary Affairs committee is currently headed by the Defence Minister (Rajnath Singh). It is *not* headed by the Home Minister.

Cabinet Committees and Their Heads

1. Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) → Prime Minister
2. Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) → Prime Minister
3. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) → Prime Minister
4. Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs → Rajnath Singh (Defence Minister)
5. Cabinet Committee on Accommodation → Amit Shah (Home Minister)
6. Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA) → Prime Minister
7. Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth → Prime Minister
8. Cabinet Committee on Skill, Employment and Livelihood → Prime Minister

**76 Consider the following statements:**

1. Adjournment sine die means termination of a session of the House by an order made by the President.
2. The notification for the prorogation of the session is issued by the presiding officer of the house.
3. Prorogation does not affect the bills pending before the House.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- A. 1 & 2 only
- B. 2 & 3 only
- C. 1 & 3 only
- D. None

Answer : A

Explanation:-

Statement 1 is incorrect. Adjournment sine die means terminating a sitting of Parliament for an indefinite period. In other words, when the House is adjourned without naming a day for reassembly, it is called adjournment sine die. The power of adjournment as well as adjournment sine die lies with the presiding officer of the House.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The power of prorogation of the house is with the President of India (not speaker). The President can summon, prorogue both the houses of Parliament and can dissolve the Lok Sabha.

Statement 3 is correct. Under Article 107 (3) of the Constitution, a bill pending in Parliament shall not lapse by reason of the prorogation of the Houses.

77 Which of the following periods are considered as Recess?

- 1. Interval between the Prorogation of the house and the re-assembly of the new session.**
- 2. Interval between the Adjournment sine die and the re-assembly of the new session.**
- 3. Interval between the Adjournment and the re-assembly of the new session.**

- A. 1 & 2 only
B. 1 & 3 only
C. All the above
D. 1 only.


Answer: D

Explanation:-

Summoning of Parliament:

Summoning is the process of **calling all members of the Parliament** to meet. The **President** summons each House of the Parliament from time to time. The gap between two sessions of the Parliament cannot **exceed 6 months**, which means the Parliament meets at least **two times in one year**.

Adjournment & Adjournment sine die:

 Adjournment **terminates the sitting of the House** which meets again at the time appointed for the next sitting. The postponement may be for a specified time such as hours, days or weeks. If the meeting is terminated without **any definite time/ date fixed for the next meeting**, it is called **Adjournment sine die**. The power of Adjournment & Adjournment sine die lies with the **Presiding Officer**.

Prorogation & Recess:

Prorogation is the end of a session. A prorogation puts an **end to a session**. The time between the **Prorogation and reassembly is called Recess**. Prorogation is the end of session and **not the dissolution of the house** (in case of Lok Sabha, as Rajya Sabha does not dissolve).

Quorum:

Quorum refers to the **minimum number of the members** required to be present for conducting a meeting of the house. The Constitution has fixed **one-tenth strength as quorum for both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha**. Thus, to conduct a sitting of **Lok Sabha**, there should be at least **55 members present** while to conduct a sitting of **Rajya Sabha**, there should be at least **25 members present**.

78. With reference to the Delimitation Commission consider the following statements:

- 1.The orders of the Delimitation Commission can only be challenged in Supreme Court.**
- 2.When the orders of the Delimitation Commission are laid before the Lok Sabha or State Legislative Assembly, they cannot effect any modification in the orders.**
- 3.In addition to the Chief Election Commissioner, the State Election Commissioners are also part of the Commission.**
- 4.In case of difference of opinion among members of the Commission, the opinion of the majority prevails.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 & 2 only
- (b) 3 & 4 only
- (c) 2, 3 & 4 only
- (d) All the above

Ans: C

Explanation:-

What is Delimitation?

About:

- Delimitation means the **process of fixing the number of seats and boundaries** of territorial constituencies in each State for the Lok Sabha and Legislative assemblies.
 - It also includes determining the seats to be reserved for in these houses.
- This 'delimitation process' is performed **by the**
- That is set up under an act of Parliament.

- Delimitation Commissions have been set up four times — **1952, 1963, 1973 and 2002** under the Acts of 1952, 1962, 1972 and 2002.

The first delimitation exercise was carried out by the President (with the help of the Election Commission) in 1950-51.

What is the Delimitation Commission?

Appointment:

- The Commission is appointed by the **President of India** and works in collaboration

Composition:

- Retired
- Respective **State Election Commissioners**

Functions:

- To **determine the number and boundaries of constituencies** to make the population of all constituencies nearly equal.
- To identify seats reserved for wherever their population is relatively large.

Powers:

- In **case of a difference** of opinion among members of the Commission, the **opinion of the majority prevails**.
- The Delimitation Commission in India is a high-power body **whose orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court**.

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