



QUESTION 1.

The role of CAG is to uphold the Constitution of India and the laws of Parliament in the field of financial administration, with reference to this consider the following statements:

1. The CAG has more freedom with regard to audit of expenditure than with regard to audit of receipts, stores and stock.
2. In addition to this legal and regulatory audit, the CAG cannot conduct the propriety audit.
3. The CAG has no control over the issue of money from the Consolidated Fund of India.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Role of Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG):

- The role of CAG is to uphold the Constitution of India and the laws of Parliament in the field of financial administration. The accountability of the executive (i.e., council of ministers) to the Parliament in the sphere of financial administration is secured through audit reports of the CAG.
- The CAG is an agent of the Parliament and conducts audit of expenditure on behalf of the Parliament. Therefore, he is responsible only to the Parliament.
- The CAG has more freedom with regard to audit of expenditure than with regard to audit of receipts, stores and stock. "Whereas in relation to expenditure he decides the scope of audit and frames his own audit codes and manuals, he has to proceed with the approval of the executive government in relation to rules for the conduct of the other audits." **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- The CAG has 'to ascertain whether money shown in the accounts as having been disbursed was legally available for and applicable to the service or the purpose to which they have been applied or charged and whether the expenditure conforms to the authority that governs it'.
- In addition to this legal and regulatory audit, the CAG can also conduct the propriety audit, that is, he can look into the 'wisdom, faithfulness and economy' of government expenditure and comment on the wastefulness and extravagance of such expenditure. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect).**

- However, unlike the legal and regulatory audit, which is obligatory on the part of the CAG, the propriety audit is discretionary.
- The secret service expenditure is a limitation on the auditing role of the CAG. In this regard, the CAG cannot call for particulars of expenditure incurred by the executive agencies, but has to accept a certificate from the competent administrative authority that the expenditure has been so incurred under his authority
- The Constitution of India visualizes the CAG to be Comptroller as well as Auditor General. However, in practice, the CAG is fulfilling the role of an Auditor-General only and not that of a Comptroller.
- In other words, 'the CAG has no control over the issue of money from the Consolidated Fund and many departments are authorized to draw money by issuing cheques without specific authority from the CAG, who is concerned only at the audit stage when the expenditure has already taken place'. **(Hence statement 3 is correct).**
- In this respect, the CAG of India differs totally from the CAG of Britain who has powers of both Comptroller as well as Auditor General. In other words, in Britain, the executive can draw money from the public exchequer only with the approval of the CAG.

QUESTION 2.

With reference to safeguard and the Independence of CAG consider the following statements:

1. He is barred from holding any government office after completion of tenure.
2. His salary and other service conditions are determined by the Parliament.
3. His administrative expenses are charged from the contingency Fund of India.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

The Constitution has made the following provisions to safeguard and ensure the independence of CAG:



- He is provided with the security of tenure. He can be removed by the President only in accordance with the procedure mentioned in the Constitution. Thus, he does not hold his office till the pleasure of the President, though he is appointed by him.
 - He is not eligible for further office, either under the Government of India or of any state, after he ceases to hold his office. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**
 - His salary and other service conditions are determined by the Parliament. His salary is equal to that of a judge of the Supreme Court. **(Hence statement 2 is correct).**
 - Neither his salary nor his rights in respect of leave of absence, pension or age of retirement can be altered to his disadvantage after his appointment.
 - The conditions of service of persons serving in the Indian Audit and Accounts Department and the administrative powers of the CAG are prescribed by the President after consultation with the CAG.
 - The administrative expenses of the office of the CAG, including all salaries, allowances and pensions of persons serving in that office are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India. Thus, they are not subject to the vote of Parliament. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect).**
- Note- No minister can represent the CAG in Parliament (both Houses) and no minister can be called upon to take any responsibility for any actions done by him.

QUESTION 3.

Consider the following statements with reference to duties and power of CAG:

1. President of India prescribes the duties, exercise and power of CAG.
2. Except Contingency Fund of India, CAG audits and reports on all expenditure from the accounts including Public Accounts of the Union and of the states. 374078
3. He submits his audit reports relating to the accounts of the Centre to Speaker of Lok Sabha.

How many of above statements is/are *not* correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Duties and power of Comptroller and Auditor General of India:

The Constitution (Article 149) authorises the **Parliament** to prescribe the duties and powers of the CAG in relation to the accounts of the Union and of the states and of any other authority or body. Accordingly, the Parliament enacted the CAG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) act, 1971. This Act was amended in 1976 to separate accounts from audit in the Central government. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect).**

The duties and functions of the CAG as laid down by the Parliament and the Constitution are:

- He audits the accounts related to all expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India, consolidated fund of each state and consolidated fund of each union territory having a Legislative Assembly.
- He audits all expenditure from the Contingency Fund of India and the Public Account of India as well as the contingency fund of each state and the public account of each state. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect).**
- He audits all trading, manufacturing, profit and loss accounts, balance sheets and other subsidiary accounts kept by any department of the Central Government and state governments.
- He audits the receipts and expenditure of the Centre and each state to satisfy him-self that the rules and procedures in that behalf are designed to secure an effective check on the assessment, collection and proper allocation of revenue.
- He audits the receipts and expenditure of the following:
 - o All bodies and authorities substantially financed from the Central or state revenues;
 - o Government companies; and
 - o Other corporations and bodies, when so required by related laws.
- He audits all transactions of the Central and state governments related to debt, sinking funds, deposits, advances, suspense accounts and remittance business. He also audits receipts, stock accounts and others, with approval of the President, or when required by the President.
- He audits the accounts of any other authority when requested by the President or Governor. For example, the audit of local bodies.
- He advises the President with regard to prescription of the form in which the accounts of the Centre and the states shall be kept (Article 150).
- He submits his audit reports relating to the accounts of the Centre to President, who shall, in turn, place them before both the Houses of Parliament (Article 151). **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect).**
- He submits his audit reports relating to the accounts of a state to governor, who shall, in turn, place them before the state legislature (Article 151).
- He ascertains and certifies the net proceeds of any tax or duty (Article 279). His certificate is final. The 'net proceeds' means the proceeds of a tax or a duty minus the cost of collection.
- He acts as a guide, friend and philosopher of the Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament.



· He compiles and maintains the accounts of state governments. In 1976, he was relieved of his responsibilities with regard to the compilation and maintenance of accounts of the Central Government due to the separation of accounts from audit, that is, departmentalisation of accounts.

QUESTION 4.

Consider the following statements with reference to CAG:

1. Comptroller and Auditor General of India control the entire financial system of the country.
2. Finance Minister represents Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General in the Parliament.
3. He advises the President about prescription of the form in which the accounts of the Centre and the states shall be kept.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG):

· The Constitution of India (Article 148) provides for an independent office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG). He is the head of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department.

· CAG is the guardian of the public purse and controls the entire financial system of the country at both the levels-the Centre and the state. His duty is to uphold the Constitution of India and laws of Parliament in the field of financial administration. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**

· No minister can represent the CAG in Parliament (both Houses) and no minister can be called upon to take any responsibility for any actions done by him. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect).**

· He advises the President about prescription of the form in which the accounts of the Centre and the states shall be kept (Article 150). President prescribes format of accounts to keep. **(Hence statement 3 is correct).**



QUESTION 5.

Consider the following statements with reference to appointment and term of Attorney General of India:

1. He must be a person who is qualified to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court.
2. The term of office of the Attorney General of India is not fixed.
3. Article 88 of the constitution ensure the procedure and grounds to remove Attorney General of India.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

The Constitution (Article 76) has provided for the office of the Attorney General for India'.

Appointment and term of the Attorney General for India.

The Attorney General (AG) is appointed by the president.

· He must be a person who is qualified to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court. In other words, he must be a citizen of India and he must have been a judge of some high court for five years or an advocate of some high court for ten years or an eminent jurist, in the opinion of the president. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**

· The term of office of the AG is not fixed by the Constitution. **(Hence statement 2 is correct).**

· Further, the Constitution does not contain the procedure and grounds for his removal. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect).**

· He holds office during the pleasure of the president. This means that he may be removed by the president at any time.

· He may also quit his office by submitting his resignation to the president. Conventionally, he resigns when the government (council of ministers) resigns or is replaced, as he is appointed on its advice.

· The remuneration of the AG is not fixed by the Constitution. He receives such remuneration as the president may determine.



QUESTION 6.

Consider the following statement regarding Attorney General of India:

1. He is the Indian government's chief legal advisor, and is primary lawyer in the Supreme Court of India.
2. He remains the Member of Parliament even after the dissolution of Cabinet.
3. He appears on behalf of the Government of India in all cases in the Supreme Court in which the Government of India is concerned.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

The Attorney General of India is the Indian government's chief legal advisor, and is primary lawyer in the Supreme Court of India. He can be said to be the lawyer from government's side. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**

He is appointed by the President of India under Article 76(1) of the Constitution and holds office during the pleasure of the President.

Attorney general is not a member of Parliament. He resigns when the government (council of ministers) resigns or is replaced, as he is appointed on its advice. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect).**

Duties and Functions of the Attorney General of India:

As the chief law officer of the Government of India, the duties of the AG include the following:

- To give advice to the Government of India upon such legal matters, which are referred to him by the president.
- To perform such other duties of a legal character that are assigned to him by the president.
- To discharge the functions conferred on him by the Constitution or any other law.

The President has assigned the following duties to the Attorney General of India:

- To appear on behalf of the Government of India in all cases in the Supreme Court in which the Government of India is concerned. **(Hence statement 3 is correct).**
- To represent the Government of India in any reference made by the president to the Supreme Court under Article 143 of the Constitution.
- To appear (when required by the Government of India) in any high court in any case in which the Government of India is concerned.

QUESTION 7.

Consider the following statements with reference to Rights and limitations of Attorney General of India:

1. He should not advise or hold a brief against the Government of India.
2. He should not defend accused person in criminal prosecution without permission of the Government of India.
3. He is a government servant who gives advice to the Government upon legal matter which is referred to him by the President.

How many of above statements is/are *not* correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Rights and limitations of Attorney General {AG}

In the performance of his official duties, the Attorney General has the right of audience in all courts in the territory of India. Further, he has the right to speak and to take part in the proceedings of both the Houses of Parliament or their joint sitting and any committee of the Parliament of which he may be named a member, but without a right to vote. He enjoys all the privileges and immunities that are available to a Member of Parliament

Following limitations are placed on the Attorney General in order to avoid any complication and conflict of duty:

- He should not advise or hold a brief against the Government of India. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**



- He should not advise or hold a brief in cases in which he is called upon to advise or appear for the Government of India.
- He should not defend accused persons in criminal prosecutions without the permission of the Government of India. **(Hence statement 2 is correct).**
- He should not accept appointment as a director in any company or corporation without the permission of the Government of India.
- However, the Attorney General is not a full-time counsel for the Government. He does not fall in the category of government servants. Further, he is not debarred from private legal practice. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect).**

QUESTION 8.

Consider the following Government Post:

1. Attorney General of India.
2. Solicitor General of India.
3. Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.

How many of above is/are Constitutional post?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Constitutional Posts means it finds mention in Constitution of India.

Attorney General of India: The Constitution (Article 76) has provided for the office of the Attorney General for India. He is the highest law officer in the country. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**

Solicitor General of India:

- In addition to the Attorney General, there are other law officers of the Government of India.
- They are the solicitor general of India and additional solicitor general of India.

- They assist the Attorney General in the fulfillment of his official responsibilities.
- It should be noted here that only the office of the Attorney General is created by the Constitution.
- In other words, Article 76 does not mention about the solicitor general and additional solicitor general. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**
- The Attorney General is not a member of the Central cabinet. There is a separate law minister in the Central cabinet to look after legal matters at the government level.

Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities:

- Originally, the Constitution of India did not make any provision with respect to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities. Later, the States Re-organisation Commission (1953-55) made a recommendation in this regard. Accordingly, the Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 inserted a new Article 350-B in Part XVII of the Constitution. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- This article contains the following provisions:
 - o There should be a Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities. He is to be appointed by the President of India.
 - o It would be the duty of the Special Officer to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under the Constitution. He would report to the President upon those matters at such intervals as the President may direct. The President should place all such reports before each House of Parliament and send to the governments of the states concerned.

QUESTION 9.

Consider the following characteristics of democratic elections:

1. Citizens have the right to choose from several candidates or parties that can run for the election without any restriction.
2. Institute elections on regular basis.
3. Non-disclosure of the voting preference of the citizen i.e. which political party or for which particular candidate a citizen has voted.

How many of above statements is/are not correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Explanation

Marks: 0/1.00



Solution (d)

Explanation:

Features of Democratic Elections

- Every adult citizen should be able to choose. This means that every adult citizen should have one vote and each vote shall carry equal weight.
- Elections should offer choices to the people. There should be various political parties and candidates to choose from. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**
- The choice of selecting the rulers should be offered at regular intervals. In India, elections are normally held after every five years. **(Hence statement 2 is correct).**
- The most preferred candidate should get elected. In India, we follow the first past the post system, i.e. the candidate who secures the maximum number of valid votes is declared a winner.
- Elections should be held in free and fair manner and people should be in a position to cast their votes without fear or favour. This is ensured through non-disclosure of the voting preference of the citizen i.e. which political party or for which particular candidate a citizen has voted. **(Hence statement 3 is correct).**

QUESTION 10.

An absentee ballot is a vote cast by someone who is unable or unwilling to attend the official polling station or to which the voter is normally allocated. India does not have an absentee ballot system for all citizens except in few exceptions. Which of the following constitute these exceptions?

1. Armed personnel and Government employees employed outside state.
2. Non-Resident Indians (NRIs).
3. Voters under preventive detention.
4. Voters on election duty.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)



Explanation:

Absentee Ballot System

There are six different categories of voters entitled to use the postal ballot:

- Service voters like armed personnel and Govt. employees employed outside state, **(Hence 1 is correct)**
- Special voters,
- Wives of service voters and special voters,
- Voters subjected to preventive detention, **(Hence 3 is correct)**
- Voters on election duty and **(Hence 4 is correct)**
- Notified voters.

In August 2010, Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill-2010 which allows voting rights to NRI's was passed. With this NRI's will now be able to vote in Indian elections but have to be physically present at the time of voting. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 11.

Consider the following statements regarding the removal process of the Election Commissioners:

1. The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from his office in the same manner and on the same grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court.
2. He is removed from office through a motion adopted by Parliament on grounds of 'proven misbehavior or incapacity'.
3. Any other Election Commissioner or a Regional Commissioner cannot be removed from the office except on the recommendation of the President.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:



Election Commission of India (ECI)

- It is an autonomous constitutional authority responsible for administering Union and State election processes in India.
- Article 324 to 329 of the constitution deals with powers, function, tenure, eligibility, etc. of the commission and the member.

Articles related to Elections

- **Article 324:** Superintendence, direction and control of elections to be vested in an Election Commission.
- **Article 325:** No person to be ineligible for inclusion in, or to claim to be included in a special, electoral roll on grounds of religion, race, caste or sex.
- **Article 326:** Elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assemblies of States to be on the basis of adult suffrage.
- **Article 327:** Power of Parliament to make provision with respect to elections to Legislatures.
- **Article 328:** Power of Legislature of a State to make provision with respect to elections to such Legislature.
- **Article 329:** Bar to interference by courts in electoral matters.

Structure of the ECI

- Originally, it had only one Election Commissioner but after the Election Commissioner Amendment Act 1989, it has been made a multi-member body.
- Presently, it consists of one Chief Election Commissioner and two Election Commissioners.
- At the state level, it is assisted by Chief Electoral Officer, who is an IAS rank Officer.

Appointment and tenure

- The President appoints Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners.
- They have a fixed tenure of six years, or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
- They enjoy the same status and receive salary and perks as available to Judges of the Supreme Court of India.

The procedure of Removal

- The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from office only through a process of removal similar to that of a Supreme Court judge for by Parliament. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**
- Judges of High Courts and Supreme Court, CEC, Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) may be removed from office through a motion adopted by Parliament on grounds of 'proven misbehavior or incapacity'. **(Hence statement 2 is correct).**



- Removal requires a special majority of 2/3rd members present and voting supported by more than 50% of the total strength of the house.
- Any other Election Commissioner or a Regional Commissioner cannot be removed from office except on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect).**

QUESTION 12.

With respect to Elections in India, consider the following statements:

1. There is only one general electoral roll for every territorial constituency for election to both Parliament and State Legislatures.
2. The Constitution declares that the validity of any law relating to the delimitation of constituencies or the allotment to such constituencies cannot be questioned in any court.
3. Election petitions are triable only in High Court alone.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

- There is only one general electoral roll for every territorial constituency for election to both Parliament and State Legislatures. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**
- The Constitution declares that the validity of any law relating to the delimitation of constituencies or the allotment to such constituencies cannot be questioned in any court. The decision of the Delimitation Commission is final and binding. **(Hence statement 2 is correct).**
- An Election petition is a procedure for inquiring into the validity of the election results of Parliamentary or local government elections. In other words, it is a means under law to challenge the election of a candidate in a Parliamentary, Assembly or local election.
- Election petitions are filed in the High Court of the particular state in which the election was conducted. Therefore, only the High Courts have the original jurisdiction on deciding on election petitions. Such jurisdiction shall be exercised ordinarily by the Single Judge of the High Court and



Chief Justice shall from time to time assign one or more Judges for that purpose. **(Hence statement 3 is correct).**

QUESTION 13.

Consider the following statements:

1. Administrative expenditure of Election Commission is charged upon The Consolidated Fund of India.
2. Election Commission has the powers of superintendence, direction and control of the elections to both the Houses of the State Legislature.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

- Administrative expenditure of the Election Commission is not charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect).**
- The expenditure of other independent constitutional bodies like the Commission i.e. the Supreme Court, Comptroller & Auditor General, Union Public Service Commission is charged/non-vote able expenditure.
- Article 324 (1)- The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of the electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to Parliament and to the Legislature of every State and of elections to the offices of President and Vice-President held under this Constitution shall be vested in an Election Commission. **(Hence statement 2 is correct).**

QUESTION 14.

Consider the following statements:

1. State funding of elections has been recommended by Dinesh Goswami Committee.
2. Political parties can receive cash donation up to Rs.20, 000.



3. Electoral bonds can be issued by RBI only.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Funding of Elections:

· Dinesh Goswami Committee (1990) was concerned with electoral reforms. It suggested providing state funding in kind to political parties. It also suggested that a candidate should not be allowed to contest election from more than two constituencies. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**

· Political party can receive cash donation up to Rs.2,000. Any donations above Rs 2,000 would have to be made either through cheques or through digital means. Earlier political parties could receive cash donations to the tune of Rs 20,000. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect).**

· State Bank of India is authorized to issue and encash these bonds. These bonds can be purchased by those wanting to donate to political parties through banks and other financial institutions. These bonds can then be redeemed by only registered political parties. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect).**

QUESTION 15.

Consider the following pairs with respect to the election system:

1. Alternative Vote (AV): It is a preferential system where the voter ranks the candidates in order of preference.
2. First-Past-the-Post System: It allows governments to be formed that have a clear mandate from the electorate.
3. Open Party List system: Voters indicate a party preference on their ballot and preferences among individual candidates within that party also.

How many of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- a) Only one



- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Election System

· **Alternative vote (AV)** is also called as instant runoff method of election in which voters rank candidates in order of preference. During counting of first preference votes, if any candidate secures more than 50 percent of the total number of votes polled, he would be declared as elected. If none is able to secure clear majority, the candidate with the least number of votes will be eliminated. His second preference votes are distributed among others. This procedure is continued till one of the candidates clears the threshold of 50 percent of vote plus one. **(Hence pair 1 is correctly matched).**

· **The first -past -the-post system (FPTP)** is a simple voting method, in which the voters of a defined territorial constituency cast their votes in single preference to the candidates. This is direct election method. The candidate who secures majority of votes than others (need not 50 percent) has been declared as elected. Therefore, in this voting method the voters give clear mandate to the government elected, unlike the proportional system in which candidates are elected in multiple members and indirectly. **(Hence pair 2 is correctly matched).**

· In **open list systems**, voters not only indicate a party preference on their ballot, but also give preferences among individual candidates within that party. Proponents of open list systems believe that by allowing voters to choose among individual candidates within a party, the candidates will be more responsive to the concerns of the voters than the demands of the party leaders. **(Hence pair 3 is correctly matched).**

QUESTION 16.

Consider the following directives can be used by the Election commission of India to ensure "Free and Fair" elections to India?

1. The election manifesto should be in consonance with the Model Code of Conduct.
2. Manifesto should broadly reflect the financial implications and fiscal burden of the promises made in the manifesto to bring transparency.
3. ECI has power to declare the elections of a candidate null and void on the grounds of corruption even after the election process is over.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Model code of conduct and Election manifesto:

The Constitution under Article 324 mandates the Election Commission, to conduct elections inter alia to the Parliament and the State Legislatures. Having due regard to the above directions of the Supreme Court and after consultation with the Political Parties, the Commission, in the interest of free and fair elections, hereby directs that Political Parties and Candidates while releasing election manifestos for any election to the Parliament or State Legislatures, shall adhere to the following guidelines:-

- The election manifesto shall not contain anything repugnant to the ideals and principles enshrined in the Constitution and further that it shall be consistent with the letter and spirit of other provisions of Model Code of Conduct. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**
- In the interest of transparency, level playing field and credibility of promises, it is expected that manifestos also reflect the rationale for the promises and broadly indicate the ways and means to meet the financial requirements for it. Trust of voters should be sought only on those promises which are possible to be fulfilled. **(Hence statement 2 is correct).**
- High court declares the elections of a candidate null and void on the grounds of corruption even after the election process is over. ECI is competent authority to file its allegations and evidences before the court of law. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect).**

QUESTION 17.

Consider the following statements regarding The Returning Officer of a Parliamentary or Assembly Constituency:

1. The Returning Officer of a Parliamentary or Assembly Constituency is responsible for the conduct of elections.
2. The Election Commission of India nominates an officer of government or a local authority as a Returning Officer in consultation with the Governor.
3. He is responsible for preparation of electoral rolls for a Parliamentary/Assembly Constituency.

How many of above statements is/are correct?



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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Returning Officer

· The Returning Officer of a Parliamentary or assembly constituency is responsible for the conduct of elections in the Parliamentary or assembly constituency concerned. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**

· It is necessary for a candidate to make and subscribe an oath or affirmation before an officer authorised by the Election Commission. For any particular election, the authorised persons are, principally, the Returning Officer and the Assistant Returning Officer for the constituency.

· After the polling has finished, the votes are counted under the supervision of Returning Officers and Observers appointed by the Election Commission. After the counting of votes is over, the Returning Officer declares the name of the candidate, to whom the largest number of votes has been given, as the winner and as having been returned by the constituency to the concerned House.

· The Election Commission of India nominates or designates an officer of the Government or a local authority as the Returning Officer for each of the assembly and parliamentary constituencies in consultation with the State Government/ Union Territory Administration. **(Hence statement 2 is correct).**

Electoral Registration Officer

· The Election Commission of India, in consultation with the state / UT government, appoints an officer of the government or the local authorities as the Electoral Registration Officer.

· The Election Commission of India also appoints one or more Assistant Electoral Registration Officers to assist the Electoral Registration Officer in the performance of his functions in the matter of preparation/revision of electoral rolls.

· The Electoral Registration Officer is responsible for the preparation of electoral rolls for a Parliamentary/assembly constituency not the returning officer. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect).**

QUESTION 18.



Consider the following statements regarding the 'Model Code of Conduct' evolved by Election commission:

1. The Model Code lays down broad guidelines as to how the political parties and candidates should conduct themselves during the election campaign.
2. The Model Code of Conduct comes immediately into effect after announcement of elections.
3. The Model Code also prescribes guidelines for the ruling party either at the Centre or in the state.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Model Code of Conduct

· The Model Code lays down broad guidelines as to how the political parties and candidates should conduct themselves during the election campaign. It is intended to maintain the election campaign on healthy lines, avoid clashes and conflicts between political parties or their supporters and to ensure peace and order during the campaign period and thereafter, until the results are declared. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**

· The Commission normally announces the schedule of elections in a major press conference a few weeks before the formal process is set in motion. The Model Code of Conduct for guidance of candidates and political parties comes immediately into effect after such announcement. **(Hence statement 2 is correct).**

· During the election campaign, the political parties and contesting candidates are expected to abide by a Model Code of Conduct evolved by the Election Commission on the basis of a consensus among political parties.

· The Model Code also prescribes guidelines for the ruling party either at the Centre or in the state to ensure that a level field is maintained and that no cause is given for any complaint that the ruling party has used its official position for the purposes of its election campaign. **(Hence statement 3 is correct).**

QUESTION 19.



The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of all elections to the municipalities is vested in the:

- a) District Planning Committee (DPC)
- b) Election Commission of India
- c) State Department of Urban Affairs
- d) State Election Commission

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

Elections to the Municipalities

- The state legislature makes provision with respect to all matters relating to elections to the municipalities. But, the conduct of elections is vested with the State Election Commission. **(Hence option (d) is correct answer).**
- DPC consolidates the plans prepared by panchayats and municipalities in the district, and prepares a draft plan for district as a whole.
- ECI conducts elections at the Union and state levels.
- State Department of urban affairs deals with the Executive Functions of Municipalities

QUESTION 20.

With reference to the 'proxy voting in elections', consider the following statements:

1. Proxy voting enables a registered elector to transfer their voting authority to a chosen representative.
2. In India, proxy voting is currently accessible to both armed forces personnel and non-resident Indians (NRIs).

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation



Solution (a)

Explanation:

- Under proxy voting, a registered elector can delegate his voting power to a representative. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**
- The People's Representative Act of India was amended in 2003 to permit armed forces personnel to appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf.
- A bill was passed by the Lok Sabha to allow proxy voting for NRIs (Non-Resident Indians), but it lapsed due to the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. As a result, **proxy voting is currently not allowed for NRI voters. (Hence statement 2 is incorrect).**
- An NRI can vote in the constituency where their place of residence, as mentioned in the passport, is located. However, they must vote in person and present their original passport at the polling station to establish their identity.
- Voting rights for NRIs were introduced in 2011 through an amendment to the Representation of the People Act 1950.

QUESTION 21.

With reference to the Electronic Voting Machine (EVM), consider the following statements:

1. EVMs were used for the first time in general elections on a state-wide level in Goa.
2. EVMs help eliminate the risk of invalid or disputed votes, reducing election disputes and petitions.
3. The use of EVMs significantly decreases printing expenses as only one sheet of ballot paper is needed per polling station.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

- An Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) is a device used to record votes electronically, replacing the traditional paper-based ballot system.



- EVMs were first used experimentally in selected constituencies during the elections to the Assemblies of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Delhi in 1998.
- In 1999, EVMs were used for the first time in general elections on a state-wide level in Goa. **(Hence statement 1 is correct).**
- Tamper-proof electronic voting machines are used by the Election Commission to ensure free and fair elections.
- An EVM consists of two components: the control unit and the balloting unit, which are connected by a cable.
- The control unit is kept with the presiding officer or polling officer, while the balloting unit is placed in the voting compartment for voters to cast their ballots.
- The identity of the voter is verified by the polling officer.
- Instead of issuing a paper ballot, the polling officer presses the Ballot Button on the EVM to enable voting.
- The EVM displays a list of candidate names and/or symbols along with a button for each candidate.
- Voters can cast their vote by pressing the button next to the candidate's name.
- An EVM has a maximum capacity of 2,000 votes.
- If an EVM fails, it is replaced with a new one, and the votes cast up to that point are saved in the control unit's memory.
- The result can be stored in the control unit's memory until it is deleted or cleared.
- EVMs help eliminate the risk of invalid or disputed votes, reducing election disputes and petitions. **(Hence statement 2 is correct).**
- Compared to the traditional system, EVMs speed up the voting process.
- EVMs reduce the use of paper, leading to environmental benefits by saving trees.
- The use of EVMs significantly decreases printing expenses as only one sheet of ballot paper is needed per polling station. **(Hence statement 3 is correct).**

QUESTION 22.

With reference to the 'Delimitation Commission', consider the following statements:

1. Delimitation is the process of redrawing boundaries of Lok Sabha and state Assembly seats to reflect changes in population.
2. It consists of a retired Supreme Court judge, the Chief Election Commissioner, and the State Election Commissioners.



3. Recently, the Delimitation Commission has designated nine Assembly Constituencies as reserved seats for Scheduled Tribes (STs), comprising six in the Jammu region and three in the Valley.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Delimitation commission:

- Recently, a commission appointed by the Central Government submitted its final report on the delimitation of Assembly and parliamentary constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir.
- **Delimitation is the process of redrawing boundaries of Lok Sabha and state Assembly seats to reflect changes in population . (Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- The main objective of delimitation is to ensure equal representation by segmenting the population.
- The process of delimitation involves the enactment of a Delimitation Act by the Parliament after each Census, as stated in Article 82.
- Once the Act is in force, a Delimitation Commission is set up by the Union government. Similar commissions were constituted in 1952, 1963, and 1973 under their respective acts.
- In 1976, the 42nd Constitutional Amendment halted the delimitation process until 2001.
- In 2002, based on the 2001 Census, a delimitation commission was established to adjust the boundaries of existing Lok Sabha and Assembly seats and determine the number of reserved seats.
- The 84th Constitutional Amendment in 2002 froze the delimitation process until at least 2026.
- **The Delimitation Commission consists of a retired Supreme Court judge, the Chief Election Commissioner, and the State Election Commissioners. (Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- The commission's responsibilities include determining the number and boundaries of constituencies to ensure nearly equal population distribution and identifying reserved seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.



- The commission's orders are final and cannot be questioned before any court to avoid delaying elections indefinitely.
- According to the final Delimitation Order, once notified by the Central Government, there will be 43 Assembly Constituencies in the Jammu region and 47 in the Kashmir region (previously: Jammu-37, Kashmir-43, Ladakh-4, POK-24).
- **Nine Assembly Constituencies have been reserved for Scheduled Tribes (STs), with six in the Jammu region and three in the Valley . (Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- The region will have five Parliamentary Constituencies, with each Parliamentary Constituency comprising 18 Assembly Constituencies.

QUESTION 23.

The question of disqualification of the Members of the Parliament, according to Representation of Peoples Act 1951, has to be decided by:

- a) Election Commission, in consultation with the Speaker and Chairman of the House.
- b) Speaker and Chairman of the House, in consultation with the Election Commission.
- c) The President, in consultation with the Election Commission.
- d) Supreme Court

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Representation of Peoples Act 1951:

- The Representation of People Act, 1951 is an act of Parliament of India to provide for the conduct of elections of the Houses of Parliament, the qualifications and disqualifications for membership of those Houses, the corrupt practices and other offences at or in connection with such elections and the decision of doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with such elections.
- The Parliament has laid down the disqualification in Representation of Peoples Act 1951. In such cases President's decision is final. However, he should obtain the opinion of the Election Commission and act accordingly.
- In case of disqualification on grounds of defection, the matter will be decided by speaker in Lok Sabha and chairman in Rajya Sabha as the case may be.

(Hence option (c) is correct answer)



QUESTION 24.

Consider the following statements in regard to 'Pressure Groups':

1. Pressure groups contribute towards determining the political structure of society and form of government.
2. Pressure groups provide a stabilizing mechanism at political level and perform system maintenance functions.
3. Pressure groups are the representatives of economically and socially weaker sections of society only.

How many of above statements is/are *not* correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Pressure Groups

- The different types of pressure groups found in India are business groups, trade unions, peasant groups, student groups, teachers' association, caste and religious associations, women's associations, etc.
- Pressure group is a group of people who are organised actively for promoting or defending their common interest.
- The term 'pressure group' is used as the group attempts to bring a change in the public policy by exerting pressure on the government.
- Pressure Groups are also known as Interest Groups or Vested Groups.
- There is large number of formal /informal groups that influence the polity of any country, right from the formation of government itself to day to-day governance issues. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- Superficially all the formal & informal associations collectively could be termed 'Interest Groups' as all of them have certain vested interests related to the general governance of the country.



- Interest groups are numerous and of many kinds but whenever they become active in order to achieve their interests by their attempts of influencing the public affairs at administrative or legislative level, they are termed Pressure groups.
- Pressure groups are sometimes referred to as 'Anonymous Empire' & 'legislation behind legislature' due to their strong presence and influence in the polity.
- One of the characteristic features of any pressure group is that they try to manipulate governmental affairs without any intention to have any direct control over it which is one thing that differentiates it from a political party, thus stabilizing mechanism at political level and performing system maintenance functions. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- Pressure Groups represent all sections and not merely the weaker sections. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 25.

With reference to the Representation of People's Act (RPA), consider the following statements:

1. The Supreme Court ruled that false information about a candidate's educational qualifications will be considered as a corrupt practice under the RPA Act of 1951.
2. In the 2022 case of S. Subramaniam Balajivs State of Tamil Nadu, the Supreme Court ruled that promises of freebies cannot be classified as a corrupt practice.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

- The Supreme Court has recently ruled that providing false information about a candidate's educational qualifications is **not considered a corrupt practice under** the Representation of People's Act (RPA) of 1951 . **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**
- The court observed that voters in India do not base their decisions on a candidate's educational qualifications.

· The case originated from a petition challenging a 2017 ruling by the Allahabad High Court, which stated that false information about educational qualifications does not impede the free exercise of electoral rights.

· The petition argued that the candidate committed corrupt practices by not disclosing liabilities and accurate educational qualifications in the nomination affidavit.

· The Supreme Court declared the petition as "null and void," stating that providing false information about qualifications does not fall under the corrupt practices defined in Sections 123(2) and 123(4) of the RPA, 1951.

· **In the S. Subramaniam Balajivs State of Tamil Nadu case in 2022**, the Supreme Court held that promises of freebies cannot be considered a corrupt practice. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

· The Representation of the People Act, 1951 regulates elections, including qualifications, disqualifications, and provisions to curb corrupt practices and other offenses.

· The Act ensures transparency by requiring candidates to declare assets, liabilities, and election expenses.

· It prohibits corrupt practices such as booth capturing and bribery to ensure the legitimacy and fairness of elections.

· The Act also establishes eligibility criteria for political parties to receive electoral bonds, promoting transparency in electoral funding.

QUESTION 26.

Consider the following statements regarding the Anti-Defection Law in India:

1. If any nominated member joins any political party after the expiry of six months, is exempted from disqualification.
2. If a member goes out of his party as a result of a merger of the party with another party will be disqualified.
3. The question of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is decided by the President.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)**Explanation:**

Disqualification on Ground of Defection

The Constitution lays down that a person shall be disqualified from being a member of Parliament if he is so disqualified on the ground of defection under the provisions of the Tenth Schedule. A member incurs disqualification under the defection law:

· **Members of Political Parties:** A member of a House belonging to any political party becomes disqualified for being a member of the House,

o If he voluntarily gives up his membership of such political party; or

o If he votes or abstains from voting in such house contrary to any direction issued by his political party without obtaining the prior permission of such party and such act has not been condoned by the party within 15 days.

From the above provision, it is clear that a member elected on a party ticket should continue in the party and obey the party directions.

· **Independent Members:** An independent member of a House (elected without being set up as a candidate by any political party) becomes disqualified to remain a member of the House if he joins any political party after such election.

· **Nominated Members:** A nominated member of a House becomes disqualified for being a member of the House if he joins any political party after the expiry of six months from the date on which he takes his seat in the House. This means that he may join any political party within six months of taking his seat in the House without inviting this disqualification. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**

The question of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is decided by the Chairman in the case of Rajya Sabha and Speaker in the case of Lok Sabha (and not by the president of India). In 1992, the Supreme Court ruled that the decision of the Chairman/Speaker in this regard is subject to judicial review. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**

Exceptions

The above disqualification on the ground of defection does not apply in the following two cases:

· If a member goes out of his party as a result of a merger of the party with another party. A merger takes place when two-thirds of the members of the party have agreed to such merger. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

· If a member, after being elected as the presiding officer of the House, voluntarily gives up the membership of his party or rejoins it after he ceases to hold that office. This exemption has been provided in view of the dignity and impartiality of this office.

· It must be noted here that the provision of the Tenth Schedule pertaining to exemption from disqualification in case of split by one-third members of legislature party has been deleted by the 91st Amendment Act of 2003. It means that the defectors have no more protection on grounds of splits.



QUESTION 27.

Which of the statements is/are the major disadvantages of Anti-Defection Law?

1. It interferes with the member's freedom of speech and expression by curbing dissent against party policies.
2. By preventing parliamentarians from changing parties, it enhances the accountability of the government to the Parliament and the people.

Choose the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Anti-Defection Law

The 10th Schedule to the Constitution, popularly referred to as the 'Anti-Defection Law,' was inserted by the 52nd Amendment in 1985.

A member would incur a disqualification under paragraph 2 (1) (a) when he "voluntarily gives up his membership of a party" and under 2 (1) (b) when he/she votes (or abstains from voting) contrary to the directive issued by the party.

In another judgment in the case of Rajendra Singh Rana vs. Swami Prasad Maurya and Others, the Supreme Court held that the act of giving a letter requesting the Governor to call upon the leader of the other side to form a Government itself would amount to an act of voluntarily giving up membership of the party on whose ticket the said members had got elected.

Advantages:

- Provides stability to the government by preventing shifts of party allegiance.
- Ensures that candidates elected with party support and on the basis of party manifestoes remain loyal to the party policies. Also promotes party discipline.

Disadvantages:

- Interferes with the member's freedom of speech and expression by curbing dissent against party policies. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

· By preventing parliamentarians from changing parties, it reduces the accountability of the government to the Parliament and the people. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 28.

Consider the following statements with respect to differences and similarities between political parties and pressure groups?

1. Both use all political means to capture power and consolidate their position to realize their goals.
2. Both have well trained cadres engaged in continuous political mobilization of masses.
3. Both present a definite vision for the future and work for a long-range programme rather than immediate problems.
4. Both have social base whose interest it protects and promote.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Political Parties and Pressure Groups

Differences

· Pressure groups do not intend to capture power but to influence government policy. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**

· While the Pressure groups seek to exert influence, political parties seek to win power.

· Pressure groups are not cadre based. The members of a pressure group have shared interests and common causes. They may have different ideologies and party preferences despite being members of same group. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

· The political parties are associations of individuals sharing common values and preferences.

- Pressure groups are formed to solve their immediate problems. Political parties are formed on ideological lines and they continuously engage in mobilisation of the masses with aim to capture the power and consolidate their position to attain or realise their ideological goals.
- While the pressure groups have narrow issue focus, most political parties have broad issue focus as well as a vision for the future.
- Pressure groups are relatively temporary than the political parties and work for immediate problems. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**
- Pressure groups remain confined to a select group of people, unlike political parties which engage in mass mobilization.

Similarities

- Both the pressure groups and political parties are main medium through which the public's views, interests are channelled to government through their respective social bases. **(Hence statement 4 is correct)**
- Both of them carry out representation, facilitate political participation and contribute to the policy process.
- In some circumstances, the political parties may act like a pressure group. This generally occurs when these parties adopt pragmatic approach and degenerate to the level of a pressure group to extract benefits for their party leaders and members.

QUESTION 29.

Consider the following statements about the working of pressure groups in India:

1. Pressure groups do contest elections and try to possess political rights.
2. Article 32 has been widely used by the pressure groups in India to meet their demands.
3. Like NGOs, pressure groups also need to file report under FCRA Act.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

- The term 'pressure group' originated in the T USA. A pressure group is a group of people who are organised actively for promoting and defending their common interest. It is so called as it attempts to bring a change in the public policy by exerting pressure on the government. It acts as a liaison between the government and its members.
- The pressure groups are also called interest groups or vested groups. They are different from the political parties in that they neither contest elections nor try to capture political power. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**
- They are concerned with specific programmes and issues and their activities are confined to the protection and promotion of the interests of their members by influencing the government.
- The pressure groups influence the policy-making and policy-implementation in the government through legal and legitimate methods like lobbying, correspondence, publicity, propagandising, petitioning, public debating, maintaining contacts with their legislators and so forth.
- However, sometimes they resort to illegitimate and illegal methods like strikes, violent activities and corruption which damages public interest and administrative integrity.
- According to Odegard, pressure groups resort to three different techniques in securing their purposes.
- First, they can try to place in public office persons who are favourably disposed towards the interests they seek to promote. This technique may be labelled electioneering.
- Second, they can try to persuade public officers, whether they are initially favourably disposed toward them or not, to adopt and enforce the policies that they think will prove most beneficial to their interests. This technique may be labelled lobbying.
- Third, they can try to influence public opinion and thereby gain an indirect influence over government, since the government in a democracy is substantially affected by public opinion. This technique may be labelled propagandizing'.
- Article 32 provides for constitutional remedies. It allows for filing PILs by pressure groups. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- Foreign contribution regulation Act (FCRA) is applicable for all the civil society entities who have been receiving foreign funding for various purposes. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

QUESTION 30.

“These pressure groups are organized to fulfill specific interests with limited goals. These groups include trade unions, business organizations, and industry-specific such as the Maratha Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Indian Chamber of Commerce, and trade unions like AITUC (All India Trade Union Congress). Student associations like Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) also fall under this category as they advocate for specific student-related concerns and interests”.

Which type of pressure groups is described in the above paragraph?

- a) Associational Pressure Groups



- b) Institutional Pressure Groups
- c) Anomic Pressure Groups
- d) Non-Associational Pressure Groups

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Types of Pressure Groups:

Institutional Pressure Groups:

- Comprised of professionally employed individuals who may work for the government but seek to influence it in favor of their interests.
- Examples include the IAS Association, IPS Association, State civil services association, and Bar councils.

Associational Pressure Groups:

- Organized to fulfill specific interests with limited goals.
 - Examples include trade unions, business organizations, and various industry-specific associations such as the Maratha Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Indian Chamber of Commerce, and specific trade unions like AITUC (All India Trade Union Congress).
 - Student associations like Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) also fall under this category.
- (Hence option (a) is correct answer)**

Anomic Pressure Groups:

- These groups emerge suddenly in politics as a result of specific instances such as riots, demonstrations, assassinations, etc.
- For instance, the India against Corruption movement later transformed into lobbying within the Delhi Power structure.

Non-Associational Pressure Groups:

- Based on kinship, lineage, ethnic, regional, status, and class affiliations.
- These groups seek to protect interests based on individuals, families, and religious leaders.
- Non-associational pressure groups often have informal organizations.
- Examples include caste groups, language groups, and other similar affiliations.



QUESTION 31.

With reference to the Pressure Groups in India, consider the following pairs:

1. Business Groups: Federation of All India Food Grain Dealers Association.
2. Professional Groups: Indian Medical Association
3. Caste Groups: Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh

How many of the above given pairs is/are correctly matched?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Pressure Groups in India:

Business Groups:

· Examples include the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Maratha Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI), and the Federation of **All India Food Grain Dealers Association. (Hence pair 1 is correctly matched)**

Trade Unions:

· Notable trade unions are the All-India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) and the Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC).

Professional Groups:

· Prominent professional groups include **the Indian Medical Association (IMA)** and the Bar Council of India (BCI), as well as the IPS Association. **(Hence pair 2 is correctly matched)**

Agrarian Groups:

· All India Kisan Sabha, Bharatiya Kisan Union, and Shetkari Sanghatna are some examples of agrarian groups.

Student Organizations:

· Akhil Bhartiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), All India Students Federation (AISF), and National Students Union of India (NSUI) are prominent student organizations.



Religious Groups:

· **Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh (RSS)**, Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), and Jamaat-e-Islami are examples of religious groups. **(Hence pair 3 is incorrectly matched)**

Caste Groups:

· Dalit Panther, Harijan Sevak Sangh, and Nadar Caste Association are examples of caste-based groups.

Linguistic Groups:

· Tamil Sangh, Andhra Maha Sabha, and Sambhaji Brigade are linguistic groups advocating for regional languages.

Tribal Groups:

· National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN), Tribal National Volunteers (TNU) in Tripura, United Mizo federal org, and Tribal League of Assam are tribal groups advocating for tribal rights and representation.

Ideology-based Groups:

· Narmada Bachao Andolan, Chipko Movement, Women's Rights Organizations, and India Against Corruption are examples of groups formed around specific ideologies.

Recent Supreme Court's Views:

- The Supreme Court recognizes the importance of civil society and interest groups in the functioning of democracy.
- The court highlighted the role of healthy non-governmental organizations in reducing the burden on the judiciary and holding the executive accountable.
- The Public Interest Litigation (PIL) system was introduced in response to the growth of such groups in the 1980s.

QUESTION 32.

Consider the following statements with reference to the Comparison of NGOs with SHGs:

1. NGOs address public issues at state and national levels, while SHGs support specific groups facing common issues.
2. NGOs and SHGs must be legally registered and comply with the provisions of specific acts like the Companies Act, Indian Trust Act, or the Societies Act.
3. NGOs receive funding from the public, companies, volunteers, and foreign sources regulated by the Overseas Exchange Management Act of 1999, while SHGs are supported by their members who pool funds from their contributions.



4. NGOs operate on a large scale to improve lives through various efforts, while SHGs work on a smaller scale to address the needs of their members using pooled funds.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Difference between NGOs and SHGs:

Role:

- NGOs: Address issues and provide assistance to the general public on state and national levels.
- SHGs: Provide aid and support to a small or specific group of people facing common issues .
(Hence statement 1 is correct)

Structure:

- NGOs: Governed by specific acts such as the Companies Act, Indian Trust Act, or the Societies Act. Must be legally registered and comply with the provisions of the respective act.
- **SHGs: Not governed by a single legislation or act but formed based on mutual consent under Article 19(1) of the Indian Constitution . (Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

Funding:

- NGOs: Receive funding from the general public, companies, volunteers, and may also receive foreign funding regulated by the Overseas Exchange Management Act of 1999.
- SHGs: Supported solely by the members who form the group, pooling funds from their contributions **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

Working:

- NGOs: Operate on a large scale, aiming to improve the lives of a wide population through various efforts and welfare services.
- SHGs: Operate on a smaller scale, usually in rural or impoverished areas, focusing on helping their members by addressing their needs and utilizing the pooled funds. **(Hence statement 4 is correct)**

Members:

- NGOs: Comprised of volunteers and members from diverse backgrounds.
- SHGs: Typically consist of women or individuals from the same locality with similar socioeconomic needs and backgrounds.

In summary, NGOs have a broader reach, legal structure, and diverse funding sources to address societal issues on a larger scale. On the other hand, SHGs operate within a smaller community, rely on member contributions for funding, and focus on providing targeted assistance to a specific group of people facing common challenges.

QUESTION 33.

Which of the following modes of corruption has been identified by the Central Vigilance Commission?

1. Borrowing of money from contractors/firms having official dealing with officers.
2. Losses to the government by negligence or otherwise.
3. Production of forged certificate of age of birth / community.
4. Acceptance of gifts.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

The Central Vigilance Commission- Modes of Corruption

The Central Vigilance Commission has identified following modes of corruption:

- Acceptance of substandard stores/works.
- Misappropriation of public money and misappropriation of stores.
- Incurring pecuniary obligations of persons with whom the public servants have official dealings.
- Borrowings money from contractors/firms having official dealings with officers. **(Hence 1 is correct)**



- Showing favours to contractors and firms.
- Losses to the government by negligence or otherwise. **(Hence 2 is correct)**
- Claiming of false travelling allowance, house rent, etc.
- Possession of disproportionate assets.
- Causing loss to government by negligence or otherwise.
- Production of forged certificate of age of birth / community. **(Hence 3 is correct)**
- Purchase of immovable property, etc. without prior permission or intimation.
- Abuse of official position/powers.
- Acceptance of gifts. **(Hence 4 is correct)**

QUESTION 34.

With reference to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), consider the following statements:

1. The Government established the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) as a statutory body in 1964.
2. The Ministry of Home Affairs exercises control and oversees the operations of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

Establishment and Composition:

- The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) was established by the Government in February 1964 . **(Not as statutory body) (Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**
- It is located in New Delhi and consists of a Central Vigilance Commissioner and a maximum of two Vigilance Commissioners.



· The 18th Central Vigilance Commission was constituted in June 2021, with Suresh N. Patel as the Chairman.

Purpose and Role:

· The CVC was set up based on the recommendations of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption, headed by Shri K. Santhanam.

· Its role is to advise and guide Central Government agencies in matters related to vigilance.

Apex Vigilance Institution:

· The CVC is considered the apex vigilance institution, independent of any executive authority.

· It monitors all vigilance activities under the Central Government and provides guidance to various authorities in Central Government organizations for planning, executing, reviewing, and reforming their vigilance work.

Statutory Status:

· **The CVC obtained "statutory status" on August 25, 1998, through an Ordinance promulgated by the President.**

· The Central Vigilance Commission Act 2003 was passed by the Parliament, giving it legal backing and receiving the President's assent in 2003.

Independence and Responsibility:

· **The CVC is not controlled by any Ministry or Department and operates as an independent body accountable to the Parliament . (Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

· It has been designated by the Government as the "Designated Agent" to receive written complaints regarding allegations of corruption or misuse of office as per the Government of India Resolution on "Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informer".

QUESTION 35.

Which of the following is true about the Whistleblowers Act 2011?

- a) It only applies to government employees.
- b) It only protects whistleblowers who disclose financial irregularities.
- c) It provides legal protection to whistleblowers who report corruption and wrongdoing.
- d) It requires whistleblowers to reveal their identity publicly.

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:**Whistle Blowers Act (2011)**

In order to establish a mechanism to receive complaints relating to disclosure on any allegation of corruption or wilful misuse of power of discretion against any public servant and to inquire or cause an inquiry into such disclosures and to provide adequate safeguards against victimization of the persons making such complaint, the Government introduced "The Public Interest Disclosure and Protection to Persons Making the Disclosure Bill, 2010" in the Lok Sabha on 26.08.2010.

The salient features of the Whistle Blowers Protection Act (2011) are as follows:

- The Act provides a mechanism for protecting the identity of whistle blowers (a term given to people who expose corruption). People who expose corruption in Government or irregularities by public functionaries can now be free of any fear of victimization.
- The Act also provides for a system to encourage people to disclose information about corruption or the wilful misuse of power by public servants, including ministers.
- As per the Act, a person can make a public interest disclosure on corruption before a competent authority - which is at present the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). The government, by notification, can appoint any other body for receiving such complaints about corruption.
- The Act, however, lays down punishment of up to two years in prison and a fine of up to Rs 30,000 for false or frivolous complaints.
- The Act says that every disclosure shall be made in good faith and the person making the disclosure shall provide a personal declaration stating that he reasonably believes that the information disclosed by him and the allegation contained therein is substantially true.
- Disclosures can be made in writing or by email message in accordance with the procedure as may be prescribed and contain full particulars and be accompanied by supporting documents, or other material.
- However, no action shall be taken on a disclosure if it does not indicate the identity of the complainant or public servant or if "the identity of the complainant or public servant is found to be incorrect."
- Information related to national security has been kept out of the purview of the Act. The Act is not applicable to Jammu and Kashmir, the armed forces and the Special Protection Group mandated to provide security to the Prime Minister and former prime ministers, among others.

QUESTION 36.

Consider the following steps that have been initiated by the government:

1. Suo-moto declaration of information on notice boards and websites.
2. Lokpal and Lokayukta Act.
3. Discretionary power given to the government officials.



4. Giving statutory backing to the Citizens' Charter.

How many of above steps has/have been initiated by the government to bring transparency in the system?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Transparency initiatives

· Suo-moto declaration of information on notice boards and websites. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

· The Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013, commonly known as The Lokpal Act, is an anti-corruption Act of Indian Parliament in India which "seeks to provide for the establishment of the institution of Lokpal to inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries and for matters connecting them". Lokpal would deal with complaints against ministers and secretaries at central and state levels, and the Lokayukta would deal with the complaints against other specified higher officials. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

· Discretionary powers led to officials not giving information or reason behind their actions or inactions. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**

· Statutory backing has not been given to the Citizens' Charter as Right of Citizens for time-bound delivery of Goods and Services and Redressal of their Grievances Bill, 2011 has been lapsed. **(Hence statement 4 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 37.

Consider the following statements regarding Jurisdiction of Lokpal according to the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013 includes:

1. All categories of public servants including group A, B, C, D officers and employees of government.
2. Institutions partly or fully financed by government.
3. All entities receiving donations from foreign source in context of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) in excess of Rs 10 lakh.



4. Institutions aided by the government.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

Jurisdiction of Lokpal

The following come under the jurisdiction of Lokpal:

- Prime Minister of India, under certain conditions
- All ministers of the Union
- Members of Parliament except for matters related to Article 105 of Constitution. (That is anything said or a vote given by him in Parliament)
- Group 'A' or Group 'B' officers and Group 'C' or Group 'D' officials. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- Any person who is or has been in-charge (director/ manager/secretary) of anybody/ society set up by central act or any other body financed/controlled by central government. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- All entities receiving donations from foreign source in context of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) in excess of Rs 10 lakh. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- Any other person involved in act of abetting, bribe giving or bribe taking.
- Institutions aided by the government do not fall under the purview of Lokpal. **(Hence statement 4 is correct)**

QUESTION 38.

With reference to the Lokpal, consider the following statements:

1. The Parliamentary panel report states that the Lokpal has not prosecuted anyone for corruption so far.



2. The Lokpal is a constitutionally mandated body established through the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act of 2013.

3. The Lokpal's jurisdiction does not extend to include the President, Vice President, and Prime Minister.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

According to the recent report by the Parliamentary panel on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law, and Justice, the **Lokpal has not initiated any prosecutions for corruption as of now**. (Hence statement 1 is correct)

About Lokpal

· Lokpal is a **statutory body established** under the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013. (Hence statement 2 is incorrect)

· The act requires the creation of Lokpal at the Union level and Lokayukta at the state level.

· The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act of 2013 aims to improve the existing legal and institutional frameworks to ensure better implementation of the obligations stated in the United Nations Convention Against Corruption.

· **Jurisdiction of the Lokpal includes:**

· **Prime Minister, Ministers, and Members of Parliament**. (Hence statement 3 is incorrect)

· Officers and officials belonging to Groups A, B, C, and D of the Central Government.

· Chairpersons, members, officers, and directors of boards, corporations, societies, trusts, or autonomous bodies established by an Act of Parliament or funded by the Union or State government.

· Any society, trust, or body receiving foreign contributions exceeding ₹10 lakh.

Composition of Lokpal:

· The Lokpal consists of a Chairperson and a maximum of eight Members, with fifty percent of the Members being judicial Members.

- Fifty percent of the Lokpal members are required to be from SC, ST, OBCs, minorities, or women.
- The appointment of the Chairperson and Members is done by the President based on the recommendations of a Selection Committee.
- The term of office for the Chairperson and every Member is five years or until they reach the age of 70, whichever comes earlier.
- The salary and allowances for the Chairperson are equivalent to those of the Chief Justice of India, while other Members receive the same as a Judge of the Supreme Court.
- The President can refer a case of misbehavior to the Supreme Court for the removal of the Chairperson or any Member, either on their own accord or if 100 MPs sign a petition requesting their removal.
- If the Supreme Court, after conducting an inquiry, finds the charges to be true, the Chairperson or Member should be removed by the President.
- Upon ceasing to hold office, the Chairperson and every Member are ineligible for reappointment as the Chairperson or a Member of the Lokpal.
- They are also ineligible for certain assignments or appointments such as diplomatic assignments, becoming an administrator of a Union territory, or other appointments mandated by law to be made by the President.
- Complaints filed under the Lokpal Act must be in the prescribed format and relate to an offense under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, committed by a public servant.
- There are no restrictions on who can make a complaint under the Lokpal Act.
- The Lokpal comprises two major wings: the Inquiry wing and the prosecution wing.

QUESTION 39.

Although the Right To Information (RTI) Act is applicable to both the Union and state governments, the field situation varies from state to state. Consider the following steps which should be adopted to improve the system as per RTI Act:

1. In normal course, information to an applicant shall be supplied within 30 days from the receipt of application by the public authority.
2. The Act also requires every public authority to computerize their records for wide dissemination and to proactively deliver certain categories of information
3. The CIC alone is entrusted with the task of monitoring effective implementation of the RTI Act in all public authorities.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one



- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Right to Information (RTI)

· Right to Information (RTI) is an Act of the Parliament of India to provide for setting out the practical regime of the right to information for citizens and replaces the erstwhile Freedom of information Act, 2002.

· Under the provisions of the Act, any citizen of India may request information from a “public authority” (a body of Government or “instrumentality of State”) which is required to reply expeditiously or within thirty days.

· In normal course, information to an applicant shall be supplied within 30 days from the receipt of application by the public authority. If information sought concerns the life or liberty of a person, it shall be supplied within 48 hours. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

· A National Coordination Committee (NCC) must be set up to carry out impact evaluation of the implementation of the Act.

· The Act also requires every public authority to computerize their records for wide dissemination and to proactively deliver certain categories of information so that the citizens need minimum recourse to request for information formally. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

· The CIC and the SICs may be entrusted with the task of monitoring effective implementation of the Right to Information Act in all public authorities. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 40.

Consider the following statements about the comparison between Citizen’s Charter and Right to Information Act (RTI):

1. RTI has exceptions and Citizen’s Charter usually don’t.
2. RTI is a statutory obligation while Citizen’s Charter is a voluntary act.
3. Both are intended to provide better delivery of services.
4. RTI provisions vary according to the vision of the organization but Citizen’s Charter is same for all.

How many of above statements is/are correct?



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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

RTI Act

- Right to Information Act 2005 mandates timely response to citizen requests for government information.
- It is an initiative taken by Department of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions to provide a- RTI Portal Gateway to the citizens for quick search of information on the details of first Appellate Authorities, PIOs etc.
- Right to Information Act is to empower the citizens, promote transparency and accountability in the working of the Government, contain corruption, and make our democracy work for the people in real sense.
- Unlike citizen's charter there are 22 organisations which are exempted under RTI Act like Intelligence Bureau, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, Directorate of Enforcement, Narcotics Control Bureau, Aviation Research Centre, Special Frontier Force etc. but cases related to corruption and Human Rights Violation are not exempted. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

Citizen Charter

- A Citizen's Charter is basically a set of commitments made by an organization regarding the standards of service which it delivers. It is an instrument which seeks to make an organization transparent, accountable and citizen friendly like RTI. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- Citizen charters vary among organizations which depend upon the type of service delivery.
- The Citizen's Charter and Grievance Redressal Bill 2011 also known as The Right of Citizens for Time Bound Delivery of Goods and Services and Redressal of their Grievances Bill, 2011 or Citizens Charter Bill was proposed by Indian central legislation. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- It was tabled by the Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, in Lok Sabha in December 2011. The bill lapsed due to dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha. Therefore citizen charter has no statutory backing unlike RTI.
- Citizen Charters are different for different organizations, Whereas RTI act and its provisions are same for all. **(Hence statement 4 is incorrect)**



QUESTION 41.

Which of the following powers does the Central Information Commission possess?

- a) Suo-moto power to order investigations.
- b) Authority to examine any record held by a public authority.
- c) Power to compel public authorities to follow its rulings.
- d) All of the above.

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

Central Information Commission (CIC):

Central Information Commission (CIC) is an independent body established under the Right to Information Act (2005) to ensure transparency and accountability in government operations.

Here are the key points:

Composition:

- CIC consists of a Chief Information Commissioner and up to ten Information Commissioners.
- Appointments are made by the President on the advice of a committee that includes the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and a Union Cabinet Minister chosen by the Prime Minister.
- Eligibility criteria include expertise in various fields and restrictions on political affiliations and profit-making positions.

Powers and Functions:

- CIC receives and investigates complaints regarding information requested under the RTI Act.
- It has the authority to order investigations and possesses summoning and document-requiring powers similar to a civil court.
- The Commission can inquire into complaints related to non-response, incomplete or misleading information, unreasonable fees, and more.
- CIC can compel public authorities to comply with its rulings, such as granting access to information, appointing Public Information Officers, and improving record management policies.
- The Commission has the jurisdiction to examine any record held by a public authority and requires their cooperation.

- It submits an annual report to the Government of India on the Act's implementation, which is presented to both Houses of Parliament.
- The Central Information Commission (CIC) possesses the following powers:
 - **Suo-moto power to order investigations:** The CIC has the authority to initiate investigations on its own accord, without the need for a complaint or request. If there are reasonable grounds, it can order an investigation into any matter related to the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005.
 - **Authority to examine any record held by a public authority:** The CIC has the jurisdiction to examine any record held by a public authority. This means that during the course of an investigation or inquiry, the Commission has the right to access and review all relevant records and documents held by a public authority.
 - **Power to compel public authorities to follow its rulings:** The CIC has the authority to issue rulings or orders to public authorities regarding the implementation of the RTI Act. It can compel public authorities to comply with its rulings, which may include granting access to requested information, appointing a Public Information Officer, publishing information, modifying record management policies, or providing training on the right to information.

(Hence option (d) is correct)

QUESTION 42.

Consider the following statements with respect to Composition of The National Human Rights Commission:

1. The commission is a multi-member body consisting of a chairman and six members.
2. The chairman should be a retired chief justice of India.
3. The chairman and members hold office for a term of five years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Composition of the National Human Rights Commission



· The commission is a multi-member body consisting of a chairman and four members. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**

· The chairman should be a retired chief justice of India, and members should be serving or retired judges of the Supreme Court, a serving or retired chief justice of a high court and two persons having knowledge or practical experience with respect to human rights. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

· In addition to these full-time members, the commission also has four ex-officio members-the chairmen of the National Commission for Minorities, the National Commission for SCs, the National Commission for STs and the National Commission for Women.

· The chairman and members are appointed by the president on the recommendations of a six-member committee consisting of the prime minister as its head, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, leaders of the Opposition in both the Houses of Parliament and the Central home minister.

· Further, a sitting judge of the Supreme Court or a sitting chief justice of a high court can be appointed only after consultation with the chief justice of India.

· The chairman and members hold office for a term of five years or until they attain the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**

· After their tenure, the chairman and members are not eligible for further employment under the Central or a state government.

QUESTION 43.

Which of the following are the members of the selection committee for the Chairman of National Human Rights Commission of India?

1. Prime Minister
2. Speaker of the Lok Sabha
3. Chief justice of India.
4. Leader of opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
5. Union Home Minister

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00



Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

The chairman and members are appointed by the president on the recommendation of a six member committee consisting of the:-

- Prime minister as its head
- Speaker of the Lok Sabha
- Deputy chairman of Rajya Sabha
- Union Home Minister
- Leader of opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

(Hence 1, 2, 4 and 5 are correct)

Chief Justice of India is not a member of the selection committee for the chairman of National Human Rights Commission of India. **(Hence 3 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 44.

Consider the following statements with respect to National Human Rights Commission (NHRC):

1. The commission is responsible for protecting and promoting rights to life, liberty, equality, and dignity guaranteed by the Constitution.
2. The Commission has the power to receive evidence through affidavits, requisition public records, issue witness examination commissions, and exercise authority over other matters as prescribed by law.
3. Suggestions of the commission are legally binding; it is mandatory for the relevant government or body to notify the commission regarding any actions implemented in response to its recommendations.
4. NHRC has the authority to address human rights violations committed by entities, whether they are public or private parties.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) Three only
- d) All four

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation**Solution (b)****Explanation:****National Human Rights Commission (NHRC):**

- NHRC is a statutory body established under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- It serves as the watchdog of human rights in the country.
- **The commission is responsible for protecting and promoting rights to life, liberty, equality, and dignity guaranteed by the Constitution or international covenants . (Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- The current Chairman of NHRC is Arun Kumar Mishra.

Powers of the Commission relating to Inquiries:

- The Commission possesses powers similar to a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, while investigating complaints.
- These powers include summoning witnesses, examining them under oath, and requesting the production of documents.
- **The Commission can receive evidence through affidavits, requisition public records, and issue commissions for witness examination.**
- **It also has authority over any other matter prescribed by law. (Hence statement 2 is correct)**

Role of National Human Rights Commission:

- The commission primarily fulfills advisory functions.
- It lacks the authority to punish human rights violations or provide monetary assistance to victims.
- **While its suggestions are not enforceable** , the relevant government or body must notify the commission of any actions taken in response to its recommendations. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**
- The commission's jurisdiction over human rights violations by armed forces is limited, but it can request reports and offer recommendations to the Central Government in such cases.
- It presents annual or special reports to the Central Government and state governments, including a summary of actions taken on its recommendations.

Limitations of NHRC:

- **NHRC cannot take action against human rights violations by private parties. (Hence statement 4 is incorrect)**
- Its recommendations are not legally binding.



- The commission lacks the power to penalize authorities that fail to implement its recommended orders.
- NHRC's jurisdiction over cases involving the armed forces is restricted.
- It does not have jurisdiction over cases older than one year, anonymous or vague cases, frivolous cases, and cases related to service matters.

QUESTION 45.

Which of the following National commissions/Central Bodies falls under Ministry of Personnel?

1. Central Information Commission
2. Union Public Service Commission
3. Staff Selection Commission
4. Central Vigilance Commission
5. Central Bureau of Investigation
6. National Commission for Minorities

Choose the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6
- b) 1, 2, 3 and 6
- c) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
- d) 1, 2, 3, and 5

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Sl no	Commission/Body	Falls Under
1	Central Information Commission	Ministry of Personnel
2	Finance Commission	Ministry of Finance



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Module ...:

3	Union Public Service Commission	Ministry of Personnel
4	Inter-State Council	Ministry of Home Affairs
5	Staff Selection Commission	Ministry of Personnel
6	National Commission for SCs	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
7	National Commission for STS	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
8	Central Vigilance Commission	Ministry of Personnel
9	Zonal Councils	Ministry of Home Affairs
10	Central Bureau of Investigation	Ministry of Personnel
11	National Investigation Agency	Ministry of Home Affairs
12	Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities	Ministry of Minority Affairs
13	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights	Ministry of Women and Child Development
14	National Commission for Backward Classes	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
15	Central Commissioner for Disabled Persons	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
16	Central Social Welfare Board	Ministry of Women and Child Development
17	North Eastern Council	Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region
18	Central Administrative Tribunal	Ministry of Personnel

19	National Commission for Minorities	Ministry of Minority Affairs
20	National Human Rights Commission	Ministry of Home Affairs
21	National Commission for women	Ministry of Women and Child Development

QUESTION 46.

Consider the following statements regarding language of the judiciary and texts of Laws:

1. Hindi translation of acts, ordinances and bye laws published under the authority of the President are deemed to be authoritative text.
2. President can authorize the use of Hindi for the judgment, decrees and orders passed by the high court of the state.
3. Supreme Court hears only those who petition or appeal in either Hindi or English.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Language of the Judiciary and Texts of Laws:

The Constitutional provisions dealing with the language of the courts and legislation are as follows:

- Until Parliament provides otherwise, the following are to be in the English language only:
 - o All proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every high court.
 - o The authoritative texts of all bills, acts, ordinances, orders, rules, regulations and bye-laws at the Central and state levels.
- However, the governor of a state, with the previous consent of the president, can authorise the use of Hindi or any other official language of the state, in the proceedings in the high court of the

state, but not with respect to the judgements, decrees and orders passed by it. In other words, the judgements, decrees and orders of the high court must continue to be in English only (until Parliament otherwise provides). **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

· Similarly, a state legislature can prescribe the use of any language (other than English) with respect to bills, acts, ordinances, orders, rules, regulations or bye-laws, but a translation of the same in the English language is to be published.

The Official Language Act of 1963 lays down that Hindi translation of acts, ordinances, orders, regulations and bye-laws published under the authority of the president are deemed to be authoritative texts. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

Every bill introduced in the Parliament is to be accompanied by a Hindi translation. Similarly, there is to be a Hindi translation of state acts or ordinances in certain cases.

The act also enables the governor of a state, with the previous consent of the President, to authorize the use of Hindi or any other official language of the state for judgements, decrees and orders passed by the high court of the state but they should be accompanied by an English translation. For example, Hindi is used in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan for this purpose.

The Parliament has not made any provision for the use of Hindi in the Supreme Court. Hence, the Supreme Court hears only those who petition or appeal in English. In 1971, a petitioner insisted on arguing in Hindi a habeas corpus petition in the Supreme Court. But the Court cancelled his petition on the ground that the language of the Court was English and allowing Hindi would be unconstitutional. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 47.

Consider the following statements regarding Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT):

1. Central Administrative Tribunal was setup in 1950.
2. Members of CAT are taken from both Judicial and Administrative stream.
3. CAT is provided under Article-323A of the Constitution.

How many of above statements is/are *not* correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Central Administrative Tribunals

- The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) was set up under Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1985 with the principal bench at Delhi and additional benches in different states. At present, it has 17 regular benches, 15 of which operate at the principal seats of High Courts and the remaining two at Jaipur and Lucknow. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**
- The CAT is a multi-member body consisting of a Chairman and Members. Earlier, the CAT consisted of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members. With the amendment in Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 in 2006, the members have been given the status of judges of High Courts.
- At present (2016), the sanctioned strength of the Chairman is one and sanctioned strength of the Members is 65.
- They are drawn from both judicial and administrative streams and are appointed by the president. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- They hold office for a term of five years or until they attain the age of 65 years, in case of chairman and 62 years in case of members, whichever is earlier.
- The CAT is not bound by the procedure laid down in the Civil Procedure Code of 1908. It is guided by the principles of natural justice.
- In pursuance of Article 323 A, the Parliament has passed the Administrative Tribunals Act in 1985. The act authorizes the Central government to establish one Central Administrative Tribunal and the State Administrative Tribunals. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

QUESTION 48.

Consider the following statement with respect to PIL:

1. Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer and Justice P.N. Bhagwati were the pioneers of the concept of PIL.
2. Under PIL only that person whose rights are infringed alone can move the court for the remedies.
3. One of the real purposes of PIL is to facilitating effective access to justice to the socially and economically weaker sections of the society.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation**Solution (b)****Explanation:**

The concept of Public Interest Litigation (PIL) originated and developed in the USA in the 1960s. In the USA, it was designed to provide legal representation to previously unrepresented groups and interests. It was undertaken in recognition of the fact that the ordinary marketplace for legal services fails to provide such services to significant segments of the population and to significant interests. Such groups and interests include the poor, environmentalists, consumers, racial and ethnic minorities, and others."

In India, the PIL is a product of the judicial activism role of the Supreme Court. It was introduced in the early 1980s. Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer and Justice P.N. Bhagwati were the pioneers of the concept of PIL. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

PIL is also known variously as Social Action Litigation (SAL), Social Interest Litigation (SIL) and Class Action Litigation (CAL).

Meaning of PIL

· The introduction of PIL in India was facilitated by the relaxation of the traditional rule of 'locus standi'. According to this rule, only that person whose rights are infringed alone can move the court for the remedies, whereas, the PIL is an exception to this traditional rule. Under the PIL, any public-spirited citizen or a social organisation can move the court for the enforcement of the rights of any person or group of persons who because of their poverty or ignorance or socially or economically disadvantaged position are themselves unable to approach the court for the remedies. Thus, in a PIL, any member of the public having 'sufficient interest' can approach the court for enforcing the rights of other persons and redressal of a common grievance. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

· The Supreme Court has defined the PIL as "a legal action initiated in a court of law for the enforcement of public interest or general interest in which the public or a class of the community have pecuniary interest or some interest by which their legal rights or liabilities are affected."2

· PIL is absolutely necessary for maintaining the rule of law, furthering the cause of justice and accelerating the pace of realisation of the constitutional objectives. In other words, the real purposes of PIL are:

o Vindication of the rule of law,

o Facilitating effective access to justice to the socially and economically weaker sections of the society, and **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

o Meaningful realisation of the fundamental rights.

QUESTION 49.



In 1998, the Supreme Court formulated a set of guidelines to be followed for entertaining letters or petitions received by it as PIL. With this regard which of the following letters or petitions will be entertained as PIL?

1. Bonded labour matters.
2. Service matter and those pertaining to pension and gratuity.
3. Petitions against atrocities on women.
4. Harassment by police and death in police custody.
5. Admission to medical and other educational institutions.

Choose the correct answer using code given below:

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Scope of PIL

In 1998, the Supreme Court formulated a set of guidelines to be followed for entertaining letters or petitions received by it as PIL. These guidelines were modified in 1993 and 2003. According to them, the letters or petitions falling under the following categories alone will ordinarily be entertained as PIL:

- Bonded labour matters. **(Hence 1 is correct)**
- Neglected children.
- Non-payment of minimum wages to workers and exploitation of casual workers and complaints of violation of Labour Laws (except in individual cases).
- Petitions from jails complaining of harassment, for pre-mature release and seeking release after having completed 14 years in jail, death in jail, transfer, release on personal bond, speedy trial as a fundamental right.
- Petitions against police for refusing to register a case, harassment by police and death in police custody. **(Hence 4 is correct)**
- Petitions against atrocities on women, in particular harassment of bride, bride-burning, rape, murder, kidnapping, etc. **(Hence 3 is correct)**



- Petitions complaining of harassment or torture of villagers by co-villagers or by police from persons belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes and economically backward classes.
- Petitions pertaining to environmental pollution, disturbance of ecological balance, drugs, food Salt adulteration, maintenance of heritage and culture, antiques, forest and wild life and other matters of public importance.
- Petitions from riot-victims.
- Family pension.

The cases falling under the following categories will not be entertained as PIL:

- Landlord-tenant matters.
- Service matter and those pertaining to pension and gratuity. **(Hence 2 is incorrect)**
- Complaints against Central/State Government departments and Local Bodies except those relating to item numbers. (1)-(10) above.
- Admission to medical and other educational institutions. **(Hence statement 5 is incorrect)**
- Petitions for early hearing of cases pending in High Courts and Subordinate Courts.

QUESTION 50.

Consider the following statements about Public Interest Litigation (PIL):

1. Under PIL, litigations are taken from those parties that are affected directly or indirectly however, not on suo-moto basis.
2. To avoid misuse of the PIL, Court should be fully satisfied that substantial public interest is involved before entertaining the petition.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Public Interest Litigation (PIL):

The introduction of PIL in India was facilitated by the relaxation of the traditional rule of 'locus standi'. According to this rule, only that person whose rights are infringed alone can move the court for the remedies, whereas, the PIL is an exception to this traditional rule. In PIL, any member of the public having 'sufficient interest' can approach the court for enforcing the rights of other persons and redressal of a common grievance.

The judiciary, including Supreme Court, entertained litigation from those parties that were affected directly or indirectly by it. It means that even people, who are not directly involved in the case, may bring to the notice of the Court matters of public interest. Courts can also take *Suo Motu* cognizance of the matter. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**

Supreme Court laid down the following guidelines for checking the misuse of the PIL:

- The court must encourage genuine and bona fide PIL and effectively discourage and curb the PIL filed for extraneous considerations.
- Instead of every individual Judge devising his own procedure for dealing with PIL, it would be appropriate for each High Court to properly formulate rules for encouraging the genuine PIL filed and discouraging PIL filed with oblique motives.
- The Court should prima facie verify the credentials of the petitioner before entertaining the PIL.
- The Court shall be prima facie satisfied regarding the correctness of the contents of petition before entertaining the PIL.
- The Court should be fully satisfied that substantial public interest is involved before entertaining the petition. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- The Court should ensure that the petition which involves larger public interest, gravity and urgency must be given priority over other petitions.
- The Court before entertaining the PIL must ensure that the PIL is aimed at redressal of genuine public harm and public injury. The Court should also ensure that there is no personal gain, private motive or oblique motive behind filing PIL.
- The Court should also ensure that the petition filed by busybodies for extraneous and ulterior motives must be discouraged by imposing exemplary costs or adopting similar novel methods to curb frivolous petitions and the petitions filed for extraneous considerations.

QUESTION 51.

With reference to the Law Commission, consider the following statements:

1. The Law Commission is a constitutional body established through an amendment to the Constitution of India.
2. The Law Ministry holds the position of an ex-officio member of the Law Commission.
3. The Commission is headed by a retired Supreme Court judge or Chief Justice of a High Court.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?



- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

- The Law Commission is currently functioning without a Chairperson.
- It is an executive body established by an order of the Government of India . **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**
- The Commission was originally constituted in 1955 and is re-constituted every three years.
- The First Law Commission of Independent India was established in 1955 under the Chairmanship of M. C. Setalvad.
- The commission consists of a full-time chairperson, four full-time members, including a member-secretary, and **ex-officio members from the Law Ministry. (Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- It may also have up to five part-time members.
- **The Commission is headed by a retired Supreme Court judge or Chief Justice of a High Court. (Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- Its roles include conducting research in law, reviewing existing laws, making reforms, and proposing new legislation.
- It also conducts studies and research to improve the justice delivery systems, such as reducing delays, ensuring speedy disposal of cases, and reducing the cost of litigation.

QUESTION 52.

Which of the following statements best describes the difference between judicial and quasi-judicial bodies?

- a) Judicial bodies consist of judges appointed by the government, while quasi-judicial bodies consist of experts appointed by specialized agencies
- b) Judicial bodies have the authority to make legally binding decisions, while quasi-judicial bodies do not have legal authority.
- c) Judicial bodies have jurisdiction over a wide range of legal disputes, while quasi-judicial bodies focus on specific areas such as environmental protection or human rights.
- d) None of the above



Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

- Quasi-judicial refers to decision-making processes carried out by governmental or administrative bodies, rather than courts, with the power to make legally binding decisions.
- These bodies operate similarly to courts, following established legal principles and procedures, and the decision-maker is expected to be impartial.
- Examples of quasi-judicial bodies in India include SEBI, CAT, NGT, CIC, NHRC, and TRAI.
- Key differences between judicial and quasi-judicial bodies include the composition of decision-makers, nature of proceedings, and focus of jurisdiction.
- Judicial bodies have the authority to interpret and apply the law, while quasi-judicial bodies **have decision-making authority but with less legal authority** . (Hence option (b) is incorrect)
- Judicial bodies consist of judges or magistrates appointed or elected, while quasi-judicial bodies **may include judges** and experts **appointed by the government** or specialized agencies. (Hence option (a) is incorrect)
- Judicial proceedings are typically more formal, while quasi-judicial proceedings may be less formal but still adhere to set procedures and rules of evidence.
- **Judicial bodies have jurisdiction over a wide range of legal disputes, while quasi-judicial bodies often have a more specialized focus in areas like environmental protection, human rights, or labor relations** . (Hence option (c) is correct)

QUESTION 53.

Consider the following statements with respect to Territorial Extent of Central and State Legislation:

1. The Parliament can make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India.
2. A state legislature can make laws for the whole or any part of the state.
3. The Parliament can also make extra- territorial legislation.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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



Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Territorial Extent of Central and State Legislation

The Constitution defines the territorial limits of the legislative powers vested in the Centre and the states in the following way:

- The Parliament can make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India. The territory of India includes the states, the union territories, and any other area for the time being included in the territory of India. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- A state legislature can make laws for the whole or any part of the state. The laws made by a state legislature are not applicable outside the state, except when there is a sufficient nexus between the state and the object. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- The Parliament alone can make 'extra-territorial legislation'. Thus, the laws of the Parliament are also applicable to the Indian citizens and their property in any part of the world. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

The Constitution places certain restrictions on the plenary territorial jurisdiction of the Parliament. In other words, the laws of Parliament are not applicable in the following areas:

- The President can make regulations for the peace, progress and good government of the four Union Territories-the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. A regulation so made has the same force and effect as an act of Parliament. It may also repeal or amend any act of Parliament in relation to these union territories.
- The governor is empowered to direct that an act of Parliament does not apply to a scheduled area in the state or apply with specified modifications and exceptions.
- The Governor of Assam may likewise direct that an act of Parliament does not apply to a tribal area (autonomous district) in the state or apply with specified modifications and exceptions. The President enjoys the same power with respect to tribal areas (autonomous districts) in Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

QUESTION 54.

For implementation of decisions made at the international conference or associations, Parliament can make law:

- a) With necessary ratification of minimum fifty percent of States.
- b) Without consent of any State.
- c) With necessary consent of all the States and Union Territories.



d) With necessary guidance of United Nations.

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Parliamentary Legislation in the state field:

The distribution of legislative powers between the Centre and the states is to be maintained in normal times. But, in abnormal times, the distribution is either modified or suspended. In other words, the Constitution empowers the Parliament to make laws on any matter enumerated in the State List **Without consent of any State** under the following five extraordinary circumstances:

- **When Rajya Sabha Passes a Resolution:** If the Rajya Sabha declares that it is necessary in the national interest that Parliament should make laws on a matter in the State List, then the Parliament becomes competent to make laws on that matter.
- **During a National Emergency:** The Parliament acquires the power to legislate with respect to matters in the State List, while a proclamation of national emergency is in operation.
- **When States Make a Request:** When the legislatures of two or more states pass resolutions requesting the Parliament to enact laws on a matter in the State List, then the Parliament can make laws for regulating that matter. A law so enacted applies only to those states which have passed the resolutions. However, any other state may adopt it afterwards by passing a resolution to that effect in its legislature. Such a law can be amended or repealed only by the Parliament and not by the legislatures of the concerned states.
- **To Implement International Agreements:** The Parliament can make laws on any matter in the State List for implementing the international treaties, agreements or conventions. This provision enables the Central government to fulfil its international obligations and commitments. (**Hence option (b) is correct answer**)
- **During President's Rule:** When the President's rule is imposed in a state, the Parliament becomes empowered to make laws with respect to any matter in the State List in relation to that state.

QUESTION 55.

In context of the power provided by the Constitution to the Parliament to reorganize the states, consider the following statements:

1. Such laws do not require a special majority but can be passed by a simple majority.
2. Views of the concerned state legislature/ UT are binding on the President.
3. In case of Union Territory reorganization, reference need to be made to concerned legislature to ascertain its views.



How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Parliament's Power to Reorganization of the states:

Article 3 authorizes the Parliament to:

Form a new state by separation of territory from any state or by uniting two or more states or parts of states or by uniting any territory to a part of any state,

- o Increase the area of any state,
- o Diminish the area of any state,
- o Alter the boundaries of any state, and
- o Alter the name of any state.

However, Article 3 lays down two conditions in this regard:

- A bill contemplating the above changes can be introduced in the Parliament only with the prior recommendation of the President; and
- Before recommending the bill, the President has to refer the same to the state legislature concerned for expressing its views within a specified period.
- Such laws do not require a special majority but can be passed by a simple majority. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- Further, the power of Parliament to form new states includes the power to form a new state or union territory by uniting a part of any state or union territory to any other state or union territory.
- Further, it is not necessary to make a fresh reference to the state legislature every time an amendment to the bill is moved and accepted in Parliament
- It is thus clear that the Constitution authorizes the Parliament to form new states or alter the areas, boundaries or names of the existing states without their consent.
- In other words, the Parliament can redraw the political map of India according to its will.



· Hence, the territorial integrity or continued existence of any state is not guaranteed by the Constitution. Therefore, India is rightly described as 'an indestructible union of destructible states'

· The President (or Parliament) is not bound by the views of the state legislature and may either accept or reject them, even if the views are received in time. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

· Further, it is not necessary to make fresh references to the state legislature every time an amendment to the bill is move and accepted in Parliament.

· In case of a union territory, no reference need be made to the concerned legislature to ascertain its views and the Parliament can itself take any action as it deems fit. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 56.

Consider the following statements with respect to financial relations between Center and State:

1. Stamp duties
2. Duties of Excise on Medicinal and Toilet Preparations.
3. Taxes on the Sale or Purchase of Newspapers.
4. Taxes on Railways Fares and Freights.

How many of the above duties are levied by the Union but collected and appropriated by the State?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Distribution of tax revenues.

Taxes levied by the center but collected and appropriated by the states are mentioned in the Article 268.

This category includes, the following taxes and duties:



· Stamp duties on the bills of exchange, cheques, promissory notes, policies of insurance, transfer of shares and others. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

· Excise duties on medicinal and toilet preparations containing alcohol and narcotics. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

The power of imposing taxes on the Sale or Purchase of Newspapers exclusively lies in the domain of center according to union list (entry 92). Therefore, center levies, collects and appropriates. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**

Taxes on Railways Fares and Freight comes under union list (entry 89). So, the power of taxation is vested in center exclusively. **(Hence statement 4 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 57.

Constitution makes a provision for the mutual delegation of function between the Center and the State which can take place either under an agreement or by legislation between the Center and the State:

1. The President may entrust State with any of the executive function of the Centre with the consent of State Government.
2. Parliament may entrust State Government any of the executive functions of the Center, without the consent of the State Government.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Mutual Delegation of Functions between the Centre and the States:

- The distribution of legislative powers between the Centre and the States is rigid. Consequently, the Centre cannot delegate its legislative powers to the states and a single state cannot request the Parliament to make a law on a state subject.
- The distribution of executive power in general follows the distribution of legislative powers. But, such a rigid division in the executive sphere may lead to occasional conflicts between the two.



Hence, the Constitution provides for inter-government delegation of executive functions in order to mitigate rigidity and avoid a situation of deadlock.

· Accordingly, the President may, with the consent of the state government, entrust to that government any of the executive functions of the Centre. Conversely, the Governor of a state may, with the consent of the Central government, entrust to that government any of the executive functions of the state. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

· This mutual delegation of administrative functions may be conditional or unconditional.

· The Constitution also makes a provision for the entrustment of the executive functions of the Centre to a state without the consent of that state. But, in this case, the delegation is by the Parliament and not by the president. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

· Thus, a law made by the Parliament on a subject of the Union List can confer powers and impose duties on a state, or authorize the conferring of powers and imposition of duties by the Centre upon a state (irrespective of the consent of the state concerned). Notably, the same thing cannot be done by the state legislature.

· From the above, it is clear that the mutual delegation of functions between the Centre and the state can take place either under an agreement or by legislation. While the Centre can use both the methods, a state can use only the first method.

QUESTION 58.

There are extra-constitutional devices to promote cooperation and coordination between the Centre and the states. Which of the following are them?

1. The NITI Aayog.
2. The Central Council of Health
3. The Central Council of Indian Medicine.
4. Central Council of Homoeopathy.
5. The Central Family Welfare Council.
6. The University Grants Commission.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- b) 1, 3 and 5
- c) 1, 3, 5 and 6
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)**Explanation:****Extra-Constitutional Devices**

In addition to the constitutional devices, there are extra-constitutional devices to promote cooperation and coordination between the Centre and the states. These include a number of advisory bodies and conferences held at the Central level.

The non-constitutional advisory bodies include

- The Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog), the National Development Council, **(Hence 1 is correct)**
- The National Integration Council,
- the Central Council of Health, **(Hence 2 is correct)**
- the 10 Central Council of Local Government and Urban Development,
- The Zonal Councils,
- The North-Eastern Council,
- The Central Council of Indian Medicine, **(Hence 3 is correct)**
- Central Council of Homoeopathy, **(Hence 4 is correct)**
- The Central Family Welfare Council, **(Hence 5 is correct)**
- The Transport Development Council,
- The University Grants Commission and so on. **(Hence 6 is correct)**

The important conferences held either annually or otherwise to facilitate Centre-state consultation on a wide range of matters are as follows:

- The governors' conference (presided over by the President).
- The chief ministers' conference (presided over by the prime minister).
- The chief secretaries' conference (presided over by the cabinet secretary).
- The conference of inspector-general of police.
- The chief justices' conference (presided over by the chief justice of India).
- The conference of vice-chancellors.
- The home ministers' conference (presided over by the Central home minister).
- The law ministers' conference (presided over by the Central law minister).



QUESTION 59.

Consider the following statements with reference to Inter-State Water related issues:

1. It is the part of Concurrent list under the seventh Schedule of the constitution.
2. Parliament can provide that no court shall exercise jurisdiction over any such dispute.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Inter-State Water Dispute

- Interstate water related issues are part of Union list under the seventh Schedule of the constitution; entry 56 of Union list enables the Union to deal with interstate rivers if Parliament legislates for this purpose. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**
- Article 262 of the Constitution provides for the adjudication of inter-state water disputes. It makes two provisions:
 - Parliament may by law provide for the adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to the use, distribution or control of the waters of, or in, any inter- State River or river valley.
 - Parliament may also provide that neither the Supreme Court nor any other court shall exercise jurisdiction in respect of any such dispute or complaint as is referred to in Clause (1). **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

QUESTION 60.

With reference to the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, consider the following statements:

1. The Inter-State Water Disputes Act empowers the Central government to establish a tribunal for resolving inter-state water disputes.
2. The tribunal's decision is legally binding, and no court, including the Supreme Court, can intervene in disputes referred to the tribunal under this Act.



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

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

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

- Article 262 of the Constitution deals with the adjudication of inter-state water disputes and contains two provisions.
- The first provision empowers Parliament to pass a law for the resolution of disputes or complaints related to the use, distribution, and control of inter-state river waters and river valleys.
- The second provision allows Parliament to specify that neither the Supreme Court nor any other court can exercise jurisdiction over such disputes or complaints.
- In accordance with Article 262, Parliament has enacted two laws: the River Boards Act (1956) and the Inter-State Water Disputes Act (1956).
- The River Boards Act facilitates the establishment of river boards to regulate and develop inter-state rivers and river valleys. These boards are formed by the Central government upon the request of concerned state governments and serve as advisory bodies.
- **The Inter-State Water Disputes Act grants authority to the Central government to establish an ad tribunal to resolve disputes between two or more states pertaining to inter-state river waters or river valleys . (Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- **The tribunal's decision is considered final and binding on the disputing parties, and neither the Supreme Court nor any other court can intervene in matters referred to the tribunal under this Act. (Hence statement 2 is correct)**

QUESTION 61.

Consider the following pairs with reference to the Distribution of Tax Revenues:

1. Article 268 : The central government imposes taxes, while the responsibility of collecting and appropriating them lies with the state governments
2. Article 269 : The central government levies and collects taxes, but the collection is carried out by the states



3. Article 270 : Taxation is carried out by the central government, but the resulting revenue is divided between the federal government and the states.

How many of the above given pairs is/are correctly matched?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Distribution of Tax Revenues:

Tax Imposition and Collection:

- The central government imposes taxes, while the responsibility of collecting and appropriating them lies with the state governments (Article 268). **(Hence statement 1 is correctly matched)**
- Taxes such as stamp duty and excise duty are collected by the states and deposited into their consolidated fund.

Taxes on Interstate Commerce:

- The federal government levies and collects taxes, but the collection is carried out by the states (Article 269). **(Hence statement 2 is correctly matched)**
- Taxes on the sale or purchase of items in interstate commerce, excluding newspapers, are an example.
- The proceeds from these taxes are deposited into the state's consolidated fund.

Distribution of Taxes:

- While taxes are levied and collected by the federal government, they are divided between the federal government and the states (Article 270). **(Hence statement 3 is correctly matched)**
- This category includes all taxes, except those mentioned above, as well as surcharges and cess.
- The distribution of these taxes is determined by the President, based on the recommendations of the Finance Commission.

State-Imposed Taxes:

- Certain taxes are solely the responsibility of the states and are imposed, collected, and retained by them.



· These taxes are listed in the state list and include taxes on agricultural income, alcohol excise duty, taxes on professions, and ceilings.

QUESTION 62.

With reference to the Distribution of Non-Tax Revenues, consider the following statements:

1. The main sources of non-tax revenue for the central government include irrigation, forests, fisheries, escheat, and lapse.
2. The statutory grants, which are annually charged to India's Consolidated Fund, are distributed equally among the states.
3. The central and state governments have the authority to grant funds for any public purpose, but only if it falls within their respective legislative jurisdictions.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

Distribution of Non-Tax Revenues:

Non-Tax Revenues for the Centre:

· The main sources of non-tax revenue for the central government include **postal and telegraph services, railroads, banking, broadcasting, coinage and currency**, central public sector enterprises, escheat, and lapse. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**

Non-Tax Revenues for the States:

· The principal sources of non-tax revenue for the states include irrigation, forests, fisheries, state public sector enterprises, escheat, and lapse.

Grants-in-Aid to the States:

Statutory Grants:

· Article 275 of the Constitution enables the parliament to provide grants to states in need of financial assistance, rather than to all states.



· The amount of these grants may vary for different states, and they are charged to India's Consolidated Fund annually . (Hence statement 2 is incorrect)

· The distribution of these grants is based on the recommendations of the Finance Commission.

Discretionary Grants:

· Both the central and state governments have the power under Article 282 to issue grants for any public purpose, **even if it falls outside their legislative jurisdiction** . (Hence statement 3 is incorrect)

· The central government has no obligation to provide these grants, and the decision is entirely at its discretion.

Other Grants:

· The Constitution allows for one-time donations for specific purposes.

· For example, grants were provided instead of export duties on jute and jute products for the states of Assam, Bihar, Odisha, and West Bengal.

· These grants were to be distributed over ten years from the beginning of the constitution, as recommended by the Finance Commission.

QUESTION 63.

With reference to the Punchhi Commission, consider the following statements:

1. The Commission aimed to enhance cooperation between the central and state governments through constitutional review and recommendations.
2. The Commission outlined criteria for appointing governors, including being a non-resident of the state and a non-political figure uninvolved in local politics.
3. As per the recommendations of the Commission, governors should hold five-year tenure and can be removed following a procedure similar to that for the removal of the Chief Justice of India.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:**Punchhi Commission:**

- The Punchhi Commission, officially known as the Commission on Centre-State Relations, was a **constitutional review commission established in India to examine and recommend measures to enhance cooperation and strengthen the relationship between the central government and the state governments. (Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- The commission, headed by Justice Madan Mohan Punchhi, presented its report in 2010, providing valuable insights and suggestions on various aspects of centre-state relations, including the role of governors, parliamentary primacy, appointment procedures, and intergovernmental cooperation.
- The recommendations of the Punchhi Commission aimed to ensure a balanced and harmonious functioning of the federal structure in India and facilitate effective governance at both the central and state levels.
- It stipulated several requirements to be considered when appointing governors:
 - o **He should be well-known in some fields.**
 - o **He should be a non-resident of the state.**
 - o **He should be a non-political figure who is not involved in local politics. (Hence statement 2 is correct)**
 - o He should not have been involved in politics in the recent past.
- Governors have five-year tenure and can be removed through the impeachment procedure.
- Parliamentary primacy should be exercised with caution by the Union in subjects entrusted to the states.
- **The procedure for impeachment of the president could be extended to governors. (Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**
- Governors should ensure that the Chief Minister demonstrates majority on the floor of the House within a specific time frame.
- The Bommai case rules should be considered when deciding situations related to the President's rule.
- The Inter-State Council should be utilized more frequently to promote cooperation between the central and state governments.

QUESTION 64.

Consider the following statements with respect to Composition of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC):



1. The UPSC consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the president of India.
2. The chairman and members of the Commission hold office for a term of five years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Composition UPSC

- The UPSC consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the president of India. The Constitution, without specifying the strength of the Commission has left the matter to the discretion of the president, who determines its composition. Usually, the Commission consists of nine to eleven members including the chairman. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- Further, no qualifications are prescribed for the Commission's membership except that one-half of the members of the Commission should be such persons who have held office for at least ten years either under the Government of India or under the government of state.
- The Constitution also authorizes the president to determine the conditions of service of the chairman and other members of the Commission.
- The chairman and members of the Commission hold office for a term of **six years** or until they attain the age of **65 years**, whichever is earlier. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**
- However, they can relinquish their offices at any time by addressing their resignation to the President.
- They can also be removed before the expiry of their term by the president in the manner as provided in the Constitution.
- The President can appoint one of the members of the UPSC as an acting chairman in the following two circumstances:
 - o When the office of the chairman falls vacant: or
 - o When the chairman is unable to perform his functions due to absence or some other reason.
- The acting chairman functions till a person appointed as chairman enters on the duties of the office or till a person appointed as chairman enters on the duties of the office or till the chairman is able resume his duties.



QUESTION 65.

Consider the following statements with respect to Union Public Service Commission:

1. The salaries, allowances and pensions of the chairman and members of the UPSC are charged on the Public Accounts of India.
2. The chairman or a member of UPSC is eligible for reappointment for the second term.
3. UPSC recommends criteria for reservation of seats for appointments of backward classes in the Government.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

Independence and impartial functioning of the UPSC:

The Constitution has made the following provisions to safeguard and ensure the independent and impartial functioning of the UPSC:

- The chairman or a member of the UPSC can be removed from office by the president only in the manner and on the grounds mentioned in the Constitution. Therefore, they enjoy security of tenure.
- The conditions of service of the chairman or a member, though determined by the president, cannot be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.
- The entire expenses including the salaries, allowances and pensions of the chairman and members of the UPSC are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India. Thus, they are not subject to vote of Parliament. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**
- The chairman of UPSC (on ceasing to hold office) is not eligible for further employment in the Government of India or a state.
- A member of UPSC (on ceasing to hold office) is eligible for appointment as the chairman of UPSC or a State Public Service Commission (SPSC), but not for any other employment in the Government of India or a state.



· The chairman or a member of UPSC is (after having completed his first term) not eligible for reappointment to that office (i.e., not eligible for second term) **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

Limitations of the UPSC:

The following matters are kept outside the functional jurisdiction of the UPSC. In other words, the UPSC is not consulted on the following matters:

- While making reservations of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens. (**Hence statement 3 is incorrect**)
- While taking into consideration the claims of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in making appointments to services and posts.
- With regard to the selections for chairmanship or membership of commissions or tribunals, posts of the highest diplomatic nature and a bulk of group C and group D services.
- With regard to the selection for temporary or officiating appointment to a post if the person appointed is not likely to hold the post for more than a year.

The president can exclude posts, services and matters from the purview of the UPSC. The Constitution states that the president, in respect to the all-India services and Central services and posts may make regulations specifying the matters in which, it shall not be necessary for UPSC to be consulted. But all such regulations made by the president shall be laid before each House of Parliament for at least 14 days. The Parliament can amend or repeal them.

QUESTION 66.

Consider the following statement regarding All India Services:

1. A new All India Services can be created only by an act of parliament.
2. The All-India services are controlled jointly by the Central and the state governments.
3. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel is regarded as the 'Father of all-India Services'.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

**Explanation:**

All India Services

- A New All India Services can be created only by an act of parliament. The Parliament can create new All-India Services (including an All-India Judicial Service), if the Rajya Sabha passes a resolution declaring that it is necessary or expedient in the national interest to do so. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- The All-India services are controlled jointly by the Central and State governments. The ultimate control lies with the Central government while the immediate control is vested in the state governments. Any disciplinary action (imposition of penalties) against these officers can only be taken by the Central government. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- At present, there are three All-India services. They are:
 - o Indian Administrative Service (IAS)
 - o Indian Police Service (IPS)
 - o Indian Forest Service (IFS)
- In 1947, the Indian Civil Service (ICS) was replaced by IAS, and the Indian Police (IP) was replaced by IPS and were recognised by the Constitution as all-India services. In 1966, the Indian Forest Service was established as the third all-India service.
- The All-India Services Act of 1951 authorised the Central government to make rules in consultation with the state governments for the regulation of recruitment and service conditions of the members of All-India services. The members of these services are recruited and trained by the Central government but are assigned to different states for work. They belong to different state cadres; the Centre having no cadre of its own in this regard.
- They serve the Central government on deputation and after completing their fixed tenure they go back to their respective states. The Central government obtains the services of these officers on deputation under the well-known tenure system.
- It must be noted here that irrespective of their division among different states, each of these All-India services form a single service with common rights and status and uniform scales of pay throughout the country. Their salaries and pensions are met by the states.
- In All India Services, IAS is managed and controlled by the Ministry of personnel, IPS is managed and controlled by the Ministry of Home affairs and IFoS is managed and controlled by the Ministry of Environment.
- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was the chief protagonist of all-India services in the Constituent Assembly. Hence, he came to be regarded as the 'Father of all-India Services'. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

QUESTION 67.

Consider the following statements:

1. Gandhiji's idea of Zonal Council came to reality in 1956.
2. Objective of setting up of Zonal Councils was to establish co-operation amongst the States for speedy execution of development projects.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Zonal Councils

The idea of creation of Zonal Councils was mooted by the first Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in 1956 when during the course of debate on the report of the States Re-organization Commission, he suggested that the States proposed to be reorganized may be grouped into four or five zones having an Advisory Council 'to develop the habit of cooperative working' among these States. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**

The main objectives of setting up of Zonal Councils are as under:

- To achieve an emotional integration of the country.
- To help in arresting the growth of acute state-consciousness, regionalism, linguism and particularistic trends.
- To help in removing the after-effects of separation in some cases so that the process of reorganization, integration and economic advancement may synchronize.
- To enable the Centre and states to cooperate with each other in social and economic matters and exchange ideas and experience in order to evolve uniform policies.
- To cooperate with each other in the successful and speedy execution of major development projects. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- To secure some kind of political equilibrium between different regions of the country

QUESTION 68.

Consider the following statements regarding the organizational structure of the Zonal Councils:



- a) These Zonal Councils are statutory bodies.
- b) Prime Minister is the Chairman of each of these Councils.
- c) For each of the Zonal Councils, Chief Secretaries and another officer/Development Commissioner nominated by each of the States included in the Zone.
How many of above statements is/are correct?
- d) Only one
- e) Only two
- f) All three
- g) None

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

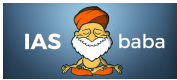
Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Zonal councils:

- Zonal councils are statutory bodies established by the states reorganization act 1956. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- The act divided the country into five zones (Northern, Central, Eastern, Western and Southern) and provided a zonal council for each zone.
- While forming these zones, several factors have been taken into account which includes: the natural divisions of the country, the river systems and means of communication, the cultural and linguistic affinity and the requirements of economic development, security and law and order.
- Each zonal council consists of the following members:
 - o Chairman - The Union Home Minister is the Chairman of each of these Councils. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**
 - o Vice Chairman - The Chief Ministers of the States included in each zone act as Vice-Chairman of the Zonal Council for that zone by rotation, each holding office for a period of one year at a time.
 - o Members - Chief Minister and two other Ministers as nominated by the Governor from each of the States and two members from Union Territories included in the zone.
 - o For each of the Zonal Councils, Chief Secretaries and another officer/Development Commissioner nominated by each of the States included in the Zone. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- Besides, the following persons can be associated with the zonal council as advisors (i.e., without the right to vote in the meetings):
 - o A person nominated by the Planning Commission;
 - o Chief Secretary of the government of each state in the zone; and



o Development commissioner of each state in the zone.

The zonal councils aim at promoting cooperation and coordination between states, union territories and the Centre. They discuss and make recommendations regarding matters like economic and social planning, linguistic minorities, border disputes, inter-state transport, and so on. They are only deliberative and advisory bodies.

QUESTION 69.

Match the following with Zonal Council and their Head Quarters

Name	Head Quarters
1. Northern Zonal Council	A. Mumbai
2. Central Zonal Council	B. Kolkata
3. Eastern Zonal Council	C. Prayagraj
4. Western Zonal Council	D. Chennai
5. Southern Zonal Council	E. New Delhi

Choose the correct answer using the code below

- a) 1-E, 2-B, 3-A, 4-C, 5-D
- b) 1-E, 2-C, 3-B, 4-A, 5-D
- c) 1-E, 2-A, 3-B, 4-D, 5-C
- d) 1-E, 2-A, 3-C, 4-B, 5-D

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Zonal councils are statutory bodies established by the states reorganization act 1956. The act divided the country into five zones (Northern, Central, Eastern, Western and Southern) and provided a zonal council for each zone.

While forming these zones, several factors have been taken into account which includes: the natural divisions of the country, the river systems and means of communication, the cultural and linguistic affinity and the requirements of economic development, security and law and order.

	Name	Members	Headquarters
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1	Northern Zonal Council	Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi, and Chandigarh	New Delhi
2	Central Zonal Council	Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh	Prayagraj
3	Eastern Zonal Council	Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Odisha	Kolkata
4	Western Zonal Council	Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	Mumbai
5	Southern Zonal Council	Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry	Chennai

(Hence option (b) is correct answer)

QUESTION 70.

Consider the following statements with respect to responsibilities of Governor of Arunachal Pradesh under Article 371-H:

1. Governor exercises his individual judgment which is independent of Council of Ministers.
2. This special responsibility of Governor ceases when the President so directs.
3. Governor should establish a Regional Council for the Tuensang district and make rules for the compositions and service conditions of the member of council.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:



Special Provisions for Arunachal Pradesh Governor:

- In discharge of his responsibilities Governor does not exercises his individual judgment independent of Council of Ministers. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**
- This special responsibility of Governor cease when the President so directs. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- Governor should establish a Regional Council for the Tuensang district and make rules for the compositions, qualifications and service conditions of the member of council. This provision accounts for the state of Nagaland and not for Arunachal Pradesh. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- Under Article 371-H, the Constitution made the special provision for Arunachal Pradesh, by assigning Governor of Arunachal Pradesh special responsibilities for law and order in the state. The Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly is to consist of not less than 30 members.

QUESTION 71.

Consider the following pairs with reference to articles related to special provisions:

1. Article 371A: Special provision with respect to the state of Nagaland
2. Article 371B: Special provision with respect to the state of Assam
3. Article 371C: Special provision with respect to the state of Manipur
4. Article 371D: Special provisions with respect to the state of Sikkim
5. Article 371H: Special provision with respect to the state of Mizoram

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched:

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Articles 371 to 371-J in Part XXI of the constitution contain special provisions for twelve states' viz., Maharashtra, Gujarat, Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Sikkim, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa and Karnataka. The intention behind them is to meet the aspirations of the people of backward regions of the states or to protect the cultural and economic

interests of the tribal people of the states or to deal with the disturbed law and order condition in some parts of the states or to protect the interests of the local people of the states.

Originally, the constitution did not make any special provisions for these states. They have been incorporated by the various subsequent amendments made in the context of reorganisation of the states or conferment of statehood on the Union Territories.

Articles Related to Special Provisions for some States:

Article	Subject-matter
371.	Special provision with respect to the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat
371A.	Special provision with respect to the state of Nagaland
371B.	Special provision with respect to the state of Assam
371C.	Special provision with respect to the state of Manipur
371D.	Special provisions with respect to the state of Andhra Pradesh or the state of Telangana
371E.	Establishment of Central University in Andhra Pradesh
371F	Special provisions with respect to the state of Sikkim
371G.	Special provision with respect to the state of Mizoram
371H.	Special provision with respect to the state of Arunachal Pradesh
371-I.	Special provision with respect to the state of Goa
371J.	Special provisions with respect to the state of Karnataka

(Hence option (b) is correct answer)

QUESTION 72.



Consider the following statements with reference to Administration of Tribal areas:

1. The provisions for the administration of tribal areas are found in eighth Schedule.
2. Each Autonomous district has a district council.
3. The district and regional councils are empowered to assess and collect land revenue.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Administration of Tribal Areas

The Constitution, under Sixth Schedule, contains special provisions for the administration of tribal areas in the four north-eastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram. The rationality behind the special arrangements in respect of only these four states lies in the following:

The various features of administration contained in the Sixth Schedule are as follows:

- The tribal areas in the four states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram have been constituted as autonomous districts. But, they do not fall outside the executive authority of the state concerned.
- The governor is empowered to organise and reorganise the autonomous districts. Thus, he can increase or decrease their areas or change their names or define their boundaries and so on.
- If there are different tribes in an autonomous district, the governor can divide the district into several autonomous regions.
- Each autonomous district has a district council consisting of 30 members, of whom four are nominated by the governor and the remaining 26 are elected on the basis of adult franchise. The elected members hold office for a term of five years (unless the council is dissolved earlier) and nominated members hold office during the pleasure of the governor. Each autonomous region also has a separate regional council. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- The district and regional councils administer the areas under their jurisdiction. They can make laws on certain specified matters like land, forests, canal water, shifting cultivation, village administration, inheritance of property, marriage and divorce, social customs and so on. But all such laws require the assent of the governor.



· The district and regional councils within their territorial jurisdictions can constitute village councils or courts for trial of suits and cases between the tribes. They hear appeals from them. The jurisdiction of high court over these suits and cases is specified by the governor.

· The district council can establish, construct or manage primary schools, dispensaries, markets, ferries, fisheries, roads and so on in the district. It can also make regulations for the control of money lending and trading by non-tribals. But, such regulations require the assent of the governor.

· The district and regional councils are empowered to assess and collect land revenue and to impose certain specified taxes. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

· The acts of Parliament or the state legislature do not apply to autonomous districts and autonomous regions or apply with specified modifications and exceptions".

· The governor can appoint a commission to examine and report on any matter relating to the administration of the autonomous districts or regions. He may dissolve a district or regional council on the recommendation of the commission.

Fifth Schedule deals with provisions relating to the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes. The tribal areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are separately dealt with and provisions for their administration are to be found in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 73.

Consider the following statements with respect to the National Commission for Minorities:

1. It is a constitutional institution.
2. Total six religious communities have been designated as minority communities by the Union Government in India's Gazette.
3. It evaluates the progress of the development of Minorities under the Union and States.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

National Commission for Minorities

- The National Commission for Minorities (NCM) was established by the Union Government in 1992 under the National Commission for Minorities Act. It is a statutory body. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**
- According to the statute, the Commission would be made up of a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, and five members who will be nominated by the Central Government from among persons of eminence, talent, and integrity, with five members, including the Chairperson, being from minority communities.
- Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Zoroastrians (Parsis), and Jains are six religious communities that have been designated as minority communities by the Union Government in India's Gazette. Sikhs, Buddhists, Parsis, Christians, and Muslims were the first five religious communities to be notified in 1993; later in 2014, the Jains were added. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

Functions:

- To evaluate the progress of the development of minorities under the Union and states. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- To monitor the working of safeguards provided in the Constitution and in union and state laws.
- To make recommendations for effective implementation of safeguards for the protection of minority interests.
- To look into, and take up, specific complaints regarding deprivation of rights and safeguards of minorities.
- To get problems of discrimination against minorities studied, and recommend ways to remove them.

QUESTION 74.

With reference to the Border Dispute Resolution, consider the following statements:

1. Recently Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, have achieved a significant resolution to a decades-long border dispute.
2. Article 263 empowers the Home Minister to establish an Inter-state Council, serving as a platform for consultation and discussion between states and the central government to address disputes.
3. The Inter-state Council is tasked with investigating and discussing subjects of common interest among states and the Union.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) One only



- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Assam and Arunachal Pradesh Border Dispute Resolution:

Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, **with the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, have reached a resolution on a long-standing border dispute**. The agreement signed between the two states marks a significant milestone in settling the contentious issue that persisted for more than five decades. It specifically addresses the status of 123 villages situated in the overlapping areas of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

- The disputed area encompasses 123 villages spread across 12 districts of Arunachal Pradesh and eight districts of Assam.
- The MoU states that there will be no addition of new claim areas or villages beyond these 123 villages in the future.
- The resolution process has resulted in the settlement of disputes over 34 villages.
- 37 villages were resolved through the Namsai Declaration in July 2022.
- An understanding has been reached for the remaining 71 villages, where Arunachal Pradesh will cede one village to Assam, receive 60 villages from Assam, and 10 villages will remain with Assam.
- The efforts to resolve the dispute began with the formation of 12 regional committees in 2022, comprising representatives from both states.
- The suggestions put forth by these committees have been accepted by both Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

Methods for Resolving Inter-state Disputes:

Judicial Redressal:

- The Supreme Court, exercising its original jurisdiction, resolves disputes between states. Article 131 grants the Supreme Court exclusive authority to handle such disputes.
- The Supreme Court can adjudicate disputes:
 - Between the Government of India and one or more states.
 - Between the Government of India and any state(s) on one side, and one or more other states on the other.
 - Between two or more states.



Inter-state Council:

· **Article 263 empowers the President to establish an Inter-state Council to address disputes between states . (Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

· The Inter-state Council serves as a platform for discussion and consultation between states and the central government.

· The council is responsible for:

· Inquiring into and providing advice on disputes that have arisen between states.

· **Investigating and discussing subjects in which some or all of the states, or the Union and one or more states, have a common interest. (Hence statement 3 is correct)**

· Making recommendations on such subjects and suggestions for better coordination of policy and action concerning those subjects.

Zonal Councils:

· Zonal Councils are statutory bodies established under the States Reorganisation Act of 1956.

· Their primary objective is to promote cooperation and coordination between states, union territories, and the central government.

· Zonal Councils operate as deliberative and advisory bodies, facilitating discussions and recommendations on inter-state matters.

QUESTION 75.

Consider the following statements regarding National Commission for Scheduled Castes:

1. It consists of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and three other members who are appointed by the President.
2. It investigates and monitors all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the SCs.
3. The Central and the State governments are required to consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting the SCs.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation**Solution (c)****Explanation:**

National Commission for Schedule Castes

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs) is a constitutional body in the sense that it is directly established by Article 338 of the Constitution.

The separate National Commission for SCs came into existence in 2004. It consists of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and three other members. They are appointed by the President. Their conditions of service and tenure of office are also determined by the President. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

The commission presents an annual report to the President. The President places all such reports before the Parliament. The President also forwards any report of the Commission pertaining to a state government to the state Governor. The Governor places it before the state legislature, not the president.

The functions of the Commission are:

- To investigate and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the SCs and to evaluate their working; **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- To inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the SCs.
- To participate and advise on the planning process of socio-economic development of the SCs and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union or a state.
- To present to the President, annually and at such other times as it may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards.
- To make recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or a state for the effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socioeconomic development of the SCs.
- To discharge such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare and development and advancement of the SCs as the president may specify.
- The Central government and the state governments are required to consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting the SCs. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

QUESTION 76.

Consider the following statements which include the jurisdiction of CBI investigation:

1. Cases involving employees of Central Public-Sector Undertakings and Public- Sector Banks.
2. Multi-agency or international cases.



3. Multi-state organized crime.
4. Cases concerning affairs of the Central and State government.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

Jurisdiction of CBI investigation

- Offences related to the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 falls under the supervision of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) and in other matters with the Department of Personnel and Training (DOPT) in the Ministry of Personnel, Pension and Grievances of the Government of India.
- CBI investigates cases which are essentially against Central Government employees, financial interests of the Central government, breach of Central Laws, fraud, cheating embezzlement relating to companies involving large funds, similar offences committed by organised gangs or criminals affecting several states. Also, cases involving employees of Central Public-Sector Undertakings and Public-Sector Banks. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- It also looks into cases having interstate and international ramifications and involving several official agencies where, from all angles, it is considered necessary that a single investigating agency should be in charge of the investigation. **(Hence statement 2 and 3 are correct)**
- CBI can investigate offences under state concerned only with states consent or under the orders of Supreme Court or high court. **(Hence statement 4 is correct)**

QUESTION 77.

With reference to the Non-Constitutional Bodies, consider the following statements:

1. Non-constitutional bodies are organizations or entities not mentioned in the Indian Constitution and derive their powers from laws enacted by the Indian Parliament.
2. Non-constitutional bodies can be categorized as statutory or non-statutory based on their source of powers and functions
3. NITI Aayog and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) are among the statutory bodies



How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Non-Constitutional Bodies:

· Non-Constitutional bodies are institutions or organizations that are not mentioned in the constitution or granted constitutional status.

· They can be established through either laws or executive resolutions, known as statutory and non-statutory bodies, respectively.

· **Non-constitutional bodies derive their powers from laws passed by the Indian Parliament .**

· Examples of non-constitutional bodies include the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), NITI Aayog, and the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

· **A non-constitutional body refers to an organization or entity that is not specifically mentioned in the Indian Constitution . (Hence statement 1 is correct)**

· Unlike constitutional bodies, non-constitutional bodies do not possess powers derived from the Indian Constitution.

· The powers of non-constitutional bodies typically originate from laws enacted by the Indian Parliament.

· For instance, the Central Information Commission (CIC) is a non-constitutional body deriving its powers from parliamentary legislation.

· Non-constitutional bodies can also receive their authority through executive resolutions issued by the Indian government, as exemplified by the NITI Aayog.

Types of Non-Constitutional Bodies:

· Non-constitutional bodies can be broadly classified into two categories based on how they derive their powers and functions: **Statutory Bodies, Non-Statutory Bodies (Hence statement 2 is correct)**

Statutory Bodies:



- Statutory bodies are institutions whose powers are usually derived from laws passed by the Indian Parliament.
- Examples of statutory bodies include the Central Information Commission (CIC) and Lokpal and Lokayukta.
- Statutory bodies can be further categorized based on their role:
 - Regulatory Bodies: These government entities have autonomous authority to regulate and supervise specific aspects of human activity.
 - Examples: Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).
 - Quasi-Judicial Bodies: These non-judicial authorities, such as Commissions or Tribunals, have the power to interpret laws but with a narrower scope than a court.
 - Example: National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

Non-Statutory Bodies:

- Non-statutory bodies are institutions whose powers and functions are not derived from any specific laws.
- Instead, they obtain their authority from executive orders and resolutions.
- **Examples of non-statutory bodies include NITI Aayog and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). (Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 78.

NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog, the body to replace the Planning Commission, was established on January 1, 2015. Consider the following statements about the major objectives of NITI Aayog:

1. It aims to foster cooperative federalism through state initiatives and mechanisms.
2. It aims to develop plans at the village level and scale them up to higher levels of government.
3. It will focus on technology up-gradation and capacity building in order to implement programmes and initiatives.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00



Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

NITI Aayog

The NITI Aayog, like that of the Planning Commission, was also created by an executive resolution of the Government of India (i.e., Union Cabinet). Hence, it is also neither a constitutional body nor a statutory body. In other words, it is a non-constitutional or extra constitutional body (i.e., not created by the Constitution) and a non-statutory body (not created by an Act of the Parliament).

NITI Aayog is the premier policy 'Think Tank' of the Government of India, providing both directional and policy inputs. While designing strategic and long-term policies and programmes for the Government of India, NITI Aayog also provides relevant technical advice to the Centre and States.

The objectives of the NITI Aayog are mentioned below:

- To evolve a shared vision of national development priorities, sectors and strategies with the active involvement of States in the light of national objectives.
- The vision of the NITI Aayog will then provide a framework 'national agenda' for the Prime Minister and the Chief Ministers to provide impetus to.
- To foster cooperative federalism through structured support initiatives and mechanisms with the States on a continuous basis, recognising that strong States make a strong nation. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- To develop mechanisms to formulate credible plans at the village level and aggregate these progressively at higher levels of government. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- To ensure, on areas that are specifically referred to it, that the interests of national security are incorporated in economic strategy and policy.
- To pay special attention to the sections of our society that may be at risk of not benefitting adequately from economic progress.
- To design strategic and long-term policy and programme frameworks and initiatives, and monitor their progress and their efficacy. The lessons learnt through monitoring and feedback will be used for making innovative improvements, including necessary mid-course corrections.
- To provide advice and encourage partnerships between key stakeholders and national and international likeminded think tanks, as well as educational and policy research institutions.
- To create a knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurial support system through a collaborative community of national and international experts, practitioners and other partners.
- To offer a platform for resolution of intersectoral and inter-departmental issues in order to accelerate the implementation of the development agenda.

- To maintain a state-of-the-art Resource Centre, be a repository of research on good governance and best practices in sustainable and equitable development as well as help their dissemination to stake-holders.
- To actively monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes and initiatives, including the identification of the needed resources so as to strengthen the probability of success and scope of delivery.
- To focus on technology upgradation and capacity building for implementation of programmes and initiatives. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- To undertake other activities as may be necessary in order to further the execution of the national development agenda, and the objectives mentioned above.

QUESTION 79.

Consider the following statements regarding Finance Commission of India:

1. Its members are not eligible for reappointment.
2. The Constitution authorizes the Parliament to determine the qualifications of the members of the commission.
3. It makes recommendations to the President of India on the distribution of the net proceeds of taxes to be shared between the Centre and the states.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Finance Commission of India:

· Article 280 of the Constitution of India provides for a Finance Commission as a quasi-judicial body. It is constituted by the President of India every fifth year or at such earlier time as he considers necessary.

· The finance Commission consists of a chairman and four other members to be appointed by the president. They hold office for such period as specified by the president in his order. They are eligible for reappointment. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**

· The Constitution authorizes the Parliament to determine the qualifications of the members of the commission and the manner in which they should be selected. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

Functions:

· The Finance Commission is required to make recommendations to the President of India on the following matters:

· The distribution of the net proceeds of taxes to be shared between the Centre and the states, and the allocation between the states of the respective shares of such proceeds. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

· The principles that should govern the grants-in-aid to the states by the Centre (i.e., out of the consolidated fund of India).

· The measures needed to augment the consolidated fund of a state to supplement the resources of the panchayats and the municipalities in the state on the basis of the recommendations made by the state finance commission.

· Any other matter referred to it by the president in the interests of sound finance.

QUESTION 80.

What are major reason for the lack of empowerment and development of local self-government?

1. Despite the mandatory constitutional injunctions, it took years, and in some cases a decade, to even constitute local governments and hold elections.
2. Some legislators at times tend to act as 'executives', intervening in transfers and postings, sanctioning of local bodies' contracts and tenders, etc.
3. Civil servants are reluctant to effectively empower local governments while State governments, legislators have made many efforts in this direction.

Choose the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

Local Self Government

· Local government is the government at the village and district level. The disadvantages of Local Self-Government are discussed below-

· Despite the mandatory constitutional injunctions, it took years, and in some cases a decade, to even constitute local governments and hold elections. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

· **Finance Scarcity:** The one of the most common problems which is faced by the local bodies is the scarcity of finance and funds. When compared to their functions, their source of income is insignificant. Their main source of income includes different type of taxes. However, most of the income generating taxes is levied by the union and state governments and, the taxes collected by the urban bodies are not sufficient to cover the expenses of the services provided.

· **Unplanned urbanization:** Urbanization is the facet of the development and it is on the ascendance. The municipal authorities are not able to cope with the increasing demands of the people, both quantitatively and qualitatively. The situation is deteriorating due to the rural in rush in cities and hence, at times these has converted in slums.

· **Excessive State Control:** Although the Act of 1993 guarantees higher autonomy than the pre-1992 condition, but still the de facto relationship-control over local bodies has not changed in considerable amount, excluding corporations. The department of local government and the state director of local bodies of various states did not seems to have taken any significant initiative for relaxation of control or devolution of powers in this account. The state governments have the ability to supersede and break up metropolitan bodies in specific situations.

· Some legislators at times tend to act as 'executives', intervening in transfers and postings, sanctioning of local bodies' contracts and tenders, etc. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

· **Low Effectiveness:** In perspective of insufficient accounts, the local bodies does not possess the capacity to satisfy their necessities. Therefore, they face a continuous outcry from the government as well as public.

· **Multiplicity of Agencies:** A huge criticism is levelled against the introduction of single purpose agencies. These are influenced by bureaucrats, which goes against the basic principle of democracy. The examples are state transport corporation, water supply department, state electricity board etc. These bodies function directly under the supervision of the state government and are not accountable to local government.

· State governments, legislators and Civil servants all are reluctant to effectively empower local governments. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 81.

With reference to the Panchayati Raj System in India, consider the following statements:

1. Panchayati Raj was Constitutionalized through the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act.
2. Balwant Rai Mehta Committee was set up to examine the working of the Community Development Program.
3. Panchayati Raj is based on the concept of democratic decentralization.



How many of above is/are Constitutional post?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

Panchayati Raj System

· The term Panchayati Raj in India signifies the system of rural local self-government. It has been established in all the states of India by the Acts of the state legislatures to build democracy at the grass root level. It is entrusted with rural development. It was constitutionalized through the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**

· In January 1957, the Government of India appointed a committee to examine the working of the Community Development Programme (1952) and the National Extension Service (1953) and to suggest measures for their better working. The chairman of this committee was Balwant Rai G Mehta. The committee submitted its report in November 1957 and recommended the establishment of the scheme of 'democratic decentralization', which ultimately came to be known as Panchayati Raj. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

· The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 added a new Part-IX to the Constitution of India. This part is entitled as 'The Panchayats' and consists of provisions from Articles 243 to 243O.

· The act gives a constitutional status to the Panchayati Raj Institutions. It has brought them under the purview of the justiciable part of the Constitution.

· The state governments are under constitutional obligation to adopt the new Panchayati raj system in accordance with the provisions of the act.

· The act is a significant landmark in the evolution of grass root democratic institutions in the country. It transfers the representative democracy into participatory democracy. It is a revolutionary concept to build democracy at the grass root level in the country. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

QUESTION 82.

According to 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, the chairperson of the Panchayat at the village level is elected in which of the following manner?

- a) He is directly elected by the people.

- b) He is indirectly elected by amongst the elected members of Panchayat.
- c) It has been left to state legislature to determine the mode of election.
- d) He is nominated by the gram sabha from amongst its members.

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

73rd Constitutional amendment Act

- All the members of panchayats at the village, intermediate and the district levels shall be elected directly by the people.
- Further, the chairpersons of panchayats at the intermediate and the district levels shall be elected indirectly - by and from amongst the elected members thereof.
- However, the chairperson of a panchayat at the village level shall be elected in such manner as the state legislature determines.

(Hence option (c) is correct answer)

QUESTION 83.

The 97th Amendment Act of 2011 is concerned with which of the following aspects of cooperative societies?

1. Democratic control
2. Autonomous functioning
3. Professional management

Choose the correct answer using the codes below.

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

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

The 97th Amendment (cooperative societies)

- The Constitution (Ninety Seventh Amendment) Act 2011 relating to the co-operatives is aimed to encourage economic activities of cooperatives which in turn help progress of rural India. It is expected to not only **ensure autonomous** and **democratic functioning of cooperatives**, but also the **accountability of the management** to the members and other stakeholders. **(Hence 1, 2 and 3 are correct)**
- It makes Right to form cooperatives as a fundamental right.
- Reservation of one seat for SC/ST and two seats for women on the board of every co-operative society.
- Cooperatives could set up agency which would oversee election.
- Uniformity in the tenure of Cooperative Board of Directors.
- Provisions for incorporation, regulation and winding up of co-operative societies based on the principles of democratic process and specifying the maximum number of directors as twenty-one.
- Providing for a fixed term of five years from the date of election in respect of the elected members of the board and its office bearers;
- Providing for a maximum time limit of six months during which a board of directors of co-operative society could be kept under suspension;
- Providing for independent professional audit;
- Providing for right of information to the members of the co-operative societies;
- Empowering the State Governments to obtain periodic reports of activities and accounts of co-operative societies; which have individuals as members from such categories;
- Providing for offences relating to cooperative societies and penalties in respect of such offences.

QUESTION 84.

Which of the following officials, measures land and keep land records of a village?

- a) Block Development Officer
- b) Patwari
- c) GramSevak
- d) Panchayat Samiti

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation



Solution (b)

Explanation:

· **The Patwari / Village Accountant** are an administrative government position found in rural parts of the Indian sub-continent. The duties are to maintain Village revenue account and village land records. He is basically village accountant officer in revenue administration at the village level. Patwari is responsible for a group of villages. The Patwari maintains and updates the records of the village. **(Hence option (b) is correct answer)**

· **The Block Development Officer** is the official in charge of the block. Block Development Officers monitor the implementation of all the programs related to planning and development of the blocks.

· **The gram sevak** is appointed by the government and is responsible for the administrative functioning of the panchayat in the village. He assists the development officers and panchayat in proper administration. He does not maintain or measure or land records.

· **Panchayat Samiti** is a block level organization and comes in the second-tier structure of PRIs. It oversees issues with Gram Panchayats. It does not measure, keep or maintain land records.

QUESTION 85.

Consider the following statements regarding the functions of Panchayat Secretary:

1. Issuing resident ship certificates to the villagers
2. To execute the resolution passed by the Panchayat body
3. Preparation of budget and Annual Administration Report of the Panchayat
4. Managing the office of the Panchayat

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Functions of Panchayat secretary



- A Panchayat secretary keeps the record of the proceedings of the Gram Sabha and Panchayat.
- Resident ship certificate is not issued by the panchayat secretary, it is issued by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate/Tehsildar's office/Revenue Department/District Collector's Office, or any other authority as specified in the State/UT of your residence. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**
- He shall implement the resolutions of the Gram Panchayat and of the Committees thereof. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- He will be responsible for all office work like Preparation of budget and Annual Administration Report; keeping all records of the Panchayat in safe custody and producing of all records to the authorities as and when required. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- He is in charge of the office of the Panchayat and works under supervision of Pradhan and manages the office of panchayat. The duties/functions of the Panchayat. **(Hence statement 4 is correct)**

QUESTION 86.

At the Central level, the subject of 'Urban Local Government' is dealt by which of the following ministries?

1. Ministry of Home Affairs
2. Ministry of Urban Development
3. Ministry of Defence

Choose the correct answer using the codes below.

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

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

Urban Local Government

- The system of urban government was constitutionalised through the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992.

· At the Central level, the subject of “urban local government” is dealt with by the following three ministries:

- o Ministry of Urban Development, created as a separate ministry in 1985;
- o Ministry of Defence in the case of cantonment boards;
- o And Ministry of Home Affairs in the case of Union Territories.

· Ministry of Home affairs deal with the subject of urban local government in case of Union territories. **(Hence 1 is correct)**

· Ministry of Urban Development deals with developmental role of Urban Local Government. **(Hence 2 is correct)**

· Cantonment Boards work under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence or the Central government. Thus, unlike some other types of urban local bodies, which are created and administered by the state government, a cantonment board is created as well as administered by the Central government. **(Hence 3 is correct)**

QUESTION 87.

Consider the following with reference to the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Act:

1. The act gave a constitutional status to the Panchayati Raj institutions.
2. This act has added a new directive principle of state policy under Part IV exhorting the state governments to promote self-government.
3. The act institutionalizes planning at the local level.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

· The act gave a constitutional status to the Panchayati Raj institutions. This means the state governments are under constitutional obligation to adopt the new Panchayati Raj system in accordance with the provisions of the act. Consequently, neither the formation of Panchayats nor

the holding of elections at regular intervals depends on the will of the state government any more. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

· The act has given a practical shape to Article 40 which already existed. Article 40 says that, "The State shall take steps to organise village panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government." This article forms a part of the Directive Principles of State Policy. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

· The 74th Amendment Act provides for District Planning Committee to consolidate plans prepared by Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

QUESTION 88.

Consider the followings about Local Self-government:

1. Local Self-government was declared a provincial subject under the Government of India Act of 1935.
2. Lord Ripon's Resolution of 1882 has been hailed as the 'Magna Carta' of local self-government.
3. First Municipal Corporations in India were setup under the British.

How many of above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Local Government

Local self-government was declared a provincial subject under the Government of India Act of 1935 under the provincial autonomy scheme introduced by the Government of India Act 1935. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

Lord Ripon's Resolution of 1882 has been hailed as the 'Magna Carta' of local self- governments. He is called as the father of local self-governments in India. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

In 1687-88, the first municipal corporation in India was set up at Madras. In 1726, the municipal corporations were set up in Bombay and Calcutta. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

The major events in the context of local governments are as follows: -

- In 1687-88, the first municipal corporation in India was set up at Madras.
- In 1726, the municipal corporations were set up in Bombay and Calcutta.
- Lord Mayo's Resolution of 1870 on financial decentralisation visualised the development of local self-government institutions.
- Lord Ripon's Resolution of 1882 has been hailed as the 'Magna Carta' of local self-governments. He is called as the father of local self-governments in India.
- The Royal Commission on decentralization was appointed in 1907 and it submitted its report in 1909.
- Under the dyarchical scheme introduced in Provinces by the Government of India Act of 1919, local self-government became a transferred subject under the charge of a responsible Indian minister.
- In 1924, the Cantonments Act was passed by the Central legislature.
- Under the provincial autonomy scheme introduced by the Government of India Act of 1935, local self-government was declared a provincial subject.

QUESTION 89.

With reference to the recent Manipur Violence, which of the following is the appropriate reason:

- a) Long-standing demand by the Meitei people for a Scheduled Tribe status under the Indian Constitution.
- b) Separate statehood demanded by Meitei people resulting in clash with state government.
- c) Religious riots during festival.
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Manipur Violence:

- Recent violence in Manipur is a result of disputes over land and special privileges, leading to divisions between religious and ethnic communities in the state.
- Protests by tribal against the Meitei community have resulted in 54 deaths, including the mob killing of an Indian Revenue Services officer and the shooting of a police commando in his village.



- Even an MLA from the ruling BJP, belonging to the Kuki tribal community, was attacked by the protestors, necessitating the intervention of the army with shoot-at-sight orders to control the riots.
- The protests were triggered by recent events but ultimately stem from deep-seated divisions within Manipuri society, where different groups compete for benefits and rights.
- The 'Tribal Solidarity March' organized by various tribes, including Nagas and Kukis, was in response to the **demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status by the Meitei community**, as directed by the Manipur High Court.
- During the march, **an armed mob allegedly attacked members of the Meitei community, resulting in retaliatory attacks in the valley districts**, escalating the violence across the state.
- The government's eviction of Kuki villages encroaching on a protected forest area added to the already tense situation and fueled animosity against the Meitei community.

Understanding the Conflict in Manipur

- Manipur, like the rest of the northeastern region, is composed of diverse communities with a history of mistrust towards one another.
- The Meiteis constitute slightly over half of the population, while tribal communities, including Kukis and Nagas, make up nearly 40% (Kukis: 25%, Nagas: 15%).
- Meiteis predominantly reside in the Imphal valley, while tribal communities inhabit the hilly districts.
- Meiteis are primarily Hindu but also follow ancient animist beliefs, with a minority Meitei Pangal population practicing Islam.
- **Previous conflicts between Meitei Hindus and Muslims occurred in 1993.**
- Meiteis generally have higher education levels and greater representation in business and politics compared to Kukis and Nagas.

QUESTION 90.

With reference to the cooperative federalism in India, consider the following statements:

1. Cooperative federalism represents a harmonious partnership between the central government and states, characterized by the shared execution of governmental functions.
2. NITI Aayog promotes cooperative federalism through collaborative policy-making, center-state dialogue, state incentives, and monitoring.
3. In reality it diminishes the democracy through the consolidation of power and disregarding the diverse needs and aspirations of the population.



4. The Finance Commission, established under Article 280, is a constitutional provision that supports cooperative federalism.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

- Recently Prime Minister's emphasis on cooperative federalism in India
- **Cooperative federalism signifies a balanced relationship between the union and states, with joint government functions . (Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- The Indian constitution includes provisions for cooperation between the central and state governments.
- **NITI Aayog serves as a platform for promoting cooperative federalism, facilitating collaborative policy-making, center-state dialogue** , incentivizing states, and monitoring and evaluation. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

Importance of cooperative federalism in India:

- Addressing regional disparities for inclusive and balanced development.
- Effective implementation of policies through cooperation between central and state governments.
- Fair sharing of resources to ensure development opportunities for all states.
- **Strengthening democracy by decentralizing power and considering diverse needs . (Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**
- Collaboration on emerging issues such as national security, disaster management, and environmental protection.

Constitutional provisions supporting cooperative federalism:

- 7th schedule for demarcating central, state, and concurrent lists.
- All India Services under Article 312.
- Integrated judicial system for enforcing laws.



- Inter-State Council under Article 263 for discussing common interests.
- Full Faith and Credit Clause under Article 261 for recognition of public acts and records.
- Zonal councils for coordination.
- **Finance Commission under Article 280** for financial resource distribution. **(Hence statement 4 is correct)**
- GST Council under Article 279A for decision-making on GST implementation.

QUESTION 91.

Consider the following statements with reference to the National Panchayati Raj Day:

1. Every Year, National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated on 24th April.
2. The year 2023 marks the 30th anniversary of the 73rd and 74th Amendment to the Indian Constitution.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Why in news?

· The year 2023 marks the 30th anniversary of the 73rd and 74th Amendment to the Indian Constitution, which established local self-governments in rural and urban areas, creating a three-tier federal structure. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

· National Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated on 24th April in collaboration with the Government of Madhya Pradesh, with various initiatives and programs being inaugurated by the Prime Minister. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**

About Democratic Decentralisation in India:

· Democratic decentralization in India refers to the devolution of power, resources, and decision-making authority from the central government to local governments, such as panchayats and municipalities.



· The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts of 1992 introduced democratic decentralization in India.

Steps taken to strengthen PRIs in India:

· Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) aims to develop and strengthen the capacities of PRIs to be more responsive to local development needs.

· e-Gram Swaraj is a web-based portal that integrates planning, accounting, and monitoring functions of Gram Panchayats.

· **People's Plan Campaign (PPC) facilitates the creation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans** (GPDs) and provides a platform to showcase the status of government flagship schemes .

· Backward Regions Grants Fund (BRGF) provides untied funds for critical infrastructure and development requirements in identified backward districts.

· National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj offers capacity building programs for rural development functionaries and elected representatives of PRIs.

· National Panchayat Awards recognize best-performing Panchayats based on various criteria and indicators.

· SWAMITVA Scheme aims to provide property cards to village household owners, empowering PRIs with accurate data on land ownership.

QUESTION 92.

With reference to the 'SVAMITVA Scheme', consider the following statements:

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, aims to provide residential property documentation and Property Cards to rural household owners, ensuring the 'record of rights' for their properties.
2. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is the Nodal Ministry for implementation of the scheme.
3. The scheme will not allow the villagers to use the property as a financial asset for taking loans and other economic and financial benefits.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)**Explanation:****SVAMITVA Scheme**

· Prime Minister has launched the programme of physical distribution of Property Cards under the SVAMITVA scheme. **The Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas (SVAMITVA) is a Central Sector Scheme**, which was launched in April 2020 to provide the 'record of rights to document the residential properties' to village household owners in rural areas and issue Property Cards. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**

· **The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) is the Nodal Ministry for implementation of the scheme. In the States, the Revenue Department / Land Records Department will be the Nodal Department** and shall carry out the scheme with support of State Panchayati Raj Department. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

Benefits:

· 'SVAMITVA Scheme' will help in strengthening the Panchayati Raj system for which efforts are underway for the past 6 years.

· **The scheme will allow the villagers to use the property as a financial asset for taking loans and other economic and financial benefits**. **(Hence statement 3 is incorrect)**

· The scheme is being implemented in a phased manner over a period of four years (2020-2024) and would eventually cover around 6.62 lakh villages of the country.

· In Phase-I people from 763 villages of 6 states, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Karnataka will be the beneficiary of the 'SVAMITVA'scheme.

· About one lakh property owners will be able to download property cards from the link received through SMS on their mobile phones. The respective state governments will distribute physical cards.

QUESTION 93.

With reference to the Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2022, consider the following statements:

1. As per the bill, there is a provision to potentially increase the number of wards from 250 to 272.
2. The bill stipulates that the determination of the total number of councilor seats and reserved seats for Scheduled Caste (SC) members will be done by the Centre.
3. According to the bill, the transfer of power and property entails that all properties and rights of the former corporations will be transferred to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?



- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

President approves the Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2022, merging three Delhi MCDs.

About the Bill:

· Merging 3 MCDs: The East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC), North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC), and South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) will be re-unified.

· **Reduction in ward numbers:** The number of wards may be reduced from 272 to 250. **(Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**

· **Allocation of seats:** The total number of councilor seats and reserved seats for Scheduled Caste (SC) members shall be determined by the Centre and not exceeds 250. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

· Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD): The unified body may be named MCD, absorbing liabilities, employees, and revenue sources of the SDMC, EDMC, and NDMC.

· **Transfer of power and property:** All properties and rights of the former corporations will transfer to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

· Constitutionality: The Bill aligns with the Constitution, granting the Centre authority to enact laws in the Union Territory of Delhi.

Need for the Bill:

· Financial difficulties: Trifurcation caused financial constraints, leading to delayed payments and salaries for MCD employees.

· 2022 MCD election: The bill's approval initiates the delimitation process, paving the way for the scheduled MCD election.

· Resource planning: Unification allows better resource utilization and strategic planning.

Significance of MCD reunification:

· Integration and efficiency: Unifying the three corporations creates a well-equipped, transparent, and efficiently governed entity.

· Optimal resource utilization: Ensures robust mechanisms for resource optimization.



- Improved governance: Enhances transparency and enables efficient delivery of civic services.

QUESTION 94.

With reference to the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA Act), consider the following statements:

1. The enactment of the PESA Act was a result of the recommendations made by the Dilip Singh Bhuria Committee.
2. It is mandatory for every village to form independent Gram Sabha comprising individuals whose names are included in the electoral rolls for the Panchayat at the village level.
3. Every Panchayat is required to allocate reserved seats based on the community population, with the Chairperson positions at all levels reserved for Scheduled Tribes (STs).

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act or PESA Act

A one-day National Conference was recently held to observe the 25th anniversary of the enactment of PESA, as part of the AzadiKaAmritMahotsav.

About the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act or PESA Act, 1996:

- The PESA Act was passed in 1996 based on the recommendations made by the **Dilip Singh Bhuria Committee** . **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- It is referred to as a 'Constitution within the Constitution' because it extends the provisions of Panchayati Raj (Part IX) of the Constitution to the Fifth Schedule areas of 10 States, as outlined in clause (1) of Article 244, with certain modifications and exceptions.
- The Act acknowledges the significance of the Gram Sabha and the community in these areas and instructs the state government to empower and delegate authority directly to the Gram Sabha and Panchayats.
- Government of India Ministry of Panchayati Raj:



· **Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Panchayati Raj**

· Note: According to Article 243M of the Constitution, the Fifth Schedule areas are exempted from Part IX of the Constitution. However, Parliament has the authority to extend the provisions to the Scheduled and Tribal Areas through legislation, without amending the Constitution.

· The PESA Act applies to 10 states: Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Telangana.

Provisions of the PESA Act:

· All State Legislation regarding Panchayats must align with the customary law, social and religious practices, and traditional resource management practices of the community.

· **Each village must establish a separate Gram Sabha composed** of individuals listed in the electoral rolls for the village-level Panchayat. **(Hence statement 2 is correct)**

· Each Gram Sabha is responsible for safeguarding and preserving the people's traditions, customs, cultural identity, community resources, and customary methods of dispute resolution.

· Every Panchayat must have reservations for seats in proportion to the population of the community (with a minimum of 50%), and **the Chairperson positions at all levels must be reserved for STs (Scheduled Tribes)** . **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

QUESTION 95.

The Rural Area Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (RADPFI) guidelines aim to improve e-governance through the implementation of:

- a) Block chain technology
- b) Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- c) Social media platforms
- d) Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI)

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

Revised RADPFI Guidelines released by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj

· **Typology of Villages:** The guidelines emphasize understanding the different characteristics of villages such as population, agro-climatic zones, hill areas, disaster occurrence, urban-peri-urban areas, proximity to national and state highways (NH/SH), and resilience strategies as suggested by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).

- **Development Land Use Standards:** The guidelines address the need for different development land use standards based on the varied characteristics of different areas. This approach aims to facilitate the planned spatial development of rural areas according to their specific requirements.
- **Community-Based Planning:** The guidelines advocate for the Village Town Planning Scheme (VPS) through collaborative planning involving the participation of the local community. This approach ensures that the development plans align with the needs and aspirations of the villagers.
- **Planning for Environmental Benefit and Disaster Preparedness:** The guidelines emphasize incorporating environmental considerations and disaster preparedness measures into the development plans. This helps in promoting sustainable practices, protecting the environment, and enhancing resilience against natural disasters.
- **Integration with Funding Commissions:** The guidelines emphasize linking the rural area development plans with the 15th Finance Commission (15th CFC) and respective State Finance Commissions (SFCs). This integration ensures alignment with financial resources and facilitates effective implementation of the plans.
- **Enhancing E-Governance through Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI):** The guidelines aim to improve e-governance by leveraging spatial data infrastructure. This involves utilizing geospatial data and technology to enhance decision-making, monitoring, and effective governance in rural areas. **(Hence option (d) is correct)**
- **Utilizing Digital Tools like SVAMITVA:** The guidelines highlight the use of digital tools such as SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas) for managing the Abadi area (residential areas) and linking them to land records. This digitization process simplifies land ownership records and helps in effective land management.

QUESTION 96.

Consider the following statements with respect India's investigative agencies:

1. The establishment of India's investigative agencies was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.
2. These agencies, governed by the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946, are established as statutory bodies.
3. The agencies' main objective is to combat corruption, economic crimes, and violent offenses through meticulous investigation and prosecution in public life.
4. The ED, headquartered in New Delhi and established in 1956, is a specialized financial investigation agency under the Ministry of Home affairs.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) Only three



d) All four

Correct Answer: B

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (b)

Explanation:

India's investigative agencies:

· The establishment of **India's investigative agencies was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption (1962-64). (Hence statement 1 is correct)**

· These agencies serve as the nodal police agency in India, coordinating investigations on behalf of Interpol member countries.

· Their motto is "Industry, Impartiality, and Integrity."

· These agencies **are not statutory or constitutional bodies** but are governed by the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**

· The primary focus of these agencies is **to combat corruption in public life and to address economic and violent crimes through meticulous investigation and prosecution**. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

· They also play a crucial role in combating cyber and high technology crimes.

· The Lokpal Act, 2014 provided for the appointment of the director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) through a high-powered committee comprising the Prime Minister, Chief Justice of India (CJI), and the leader of the opposition.

· In 2021, two ordinances were promulgated by the President to extend the tenures of the directors of the CBI and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for up to five years, from the previous fixed tenure of two years.

· These agencies provide assistance to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) and the Lokpal.

· The ED, established in 1956 with its headquarters in New Delhi, is a specialized financial investigation agency operating under the **Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance**. **(Hence statement 4 is incorrect)**

QUESTION 97.

Consider the following statements with respect to the eGramSwaraj - Government eMarketplace (GeM) integration:

1. The aim is to facilitate direct procurement of goods and services through GeM by Panchayats using the eGramSwaraj platform.



2. Panchayats will have access to doorstep delivery of quality assured goods at standardized and competitive rates through the integration.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: C

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (c)

Explanation:

eGramSwaraj - Government eMarketplace integration:

· eGramSwaraj (eGS) was launched on April 24, 2020, on National Panchayati Raj Day as a comprehensive solution for Panchayats' day-to-day operations, covering planning to online payments.

· eGramSwaraj has achieved nearly 100% adoption across the country, with over 2.3 lakh Gram Panchayats and Traditional Local Bodies using it for online payments.

· Over 1.35 lakh crore payments have been made through eGramSwaraj, primarily using central finance commission grants and funds for XV FC grants (worth Rs. 2.5 lakh crores).

· In FY 2022-23, Panchayats across India spent nearly Rs. 50,000 crores online through eGramSwaraj, with payments made directly to vendor accounts via the Public Finance Management System (PFMS).

· Initially, while expenditures were done online, the procurement process was still conducted offline through traditional methods like tenders.

· Responding to the request of many Panchayats and the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), it was decided to integrate the procurement process into eGramSwaraj.

· MoPR and Government eMarketplace (GeM) collaborated to carry out the technical integration between eGramSwaraj and GeM applications.

· The objective is to enable Panchayats to procure goods and services through GeM using the eGramSwaraj platform directly. (Hence statement 1 is correct)

· This integration aims to extend the benefits of online procurement through GeM to the lowest level of governance, beyond Central/State Government Ministries and Departments.

· Since Panchayats are already familiar with using eGramSwaraj, the procurement process through GeM will be an extension of their existing online work and fund management.

Salient features of the eGramSwaraj - Government eMarketplace integration:



- Existing User Base: The integration aims to increase the existing user base of Government eMarketplace (GeM) from nearly 60,000 to more than 3 lakhs gradually.
- Transparency in Procurement: The integration brings transparency to the procurement process of Panchayats by making it digital, addressing a significant demand raised by Panchayats.
- Encouragement of Local Vendors: Panchayats primarily procure goods from local vendors such as Proprietors, Self-Help Groups, and Cooperatives. The integration encourages these vendors to register on GeM, providing them with opportunities to sell online and access new markets.
- Mitigation of Audit Objections: By following the General Financial Rules (GFR) through GeM usage, the integration helps mitigate audit objections related to procurement.
- Improved Contract Awards and Payments: The integration ensures that contracts are awarded based on compliance, eliminating arbitrary awards. Compliant vendors can expect timely payments for their goods and services.
- **Doorstep Delivery of Quality Goods: Panchayats will have access to doorstep delivery of quality assured goods at standardized and competitive rates through the integration . (Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- Capacity Building: The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has undertaken major capacity building initiatives. Trainings have been conducted at both the Central and State levels. GeM has appointed business facilitators in all states to provide guidance and support to Panchayat users.

QUESTION 98.

With reference to the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), consider the following statements:

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs enforces the FCRA, which governs the receipt of foreign funding by voluntary organizations in India.
2. Non-compliance with the FCRA can lead to penalties such as show-cause notices and suspension/termination of foreign financing licenses for NGOs.
3. The 2016 revisions to the FCRA, 2010 excluded donations from foreign firms with 50% ownership to non-profit organizations, political parties etc.

How many of the above given statements is/are *not* correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)**Explanation:****Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 2010:**

- The FCRA regulates foreign funding received by voluntary organizations in India and is enforced by **the Ministry of Home Affairs. (Hence statement 1 is incorrect)**
- The act ensures that foreign contributions are utilized for the stated purpose for which they were obtained.
- NGOs are required to submit annual reports to the Ministry of Home Affairs. These reports include details such as the amount of foreign contributions received, the source of the contributions, the methods by which they were obtained, the purpose for which they were received, and how they were utilized.
- **Non-compliance with the FCRA can lead to penalties imposed by the government. For instance, if NGOs fail to submit annual returns, they may receive a show-cause notice and their foreign financing licenses may be suspended or terminated. (Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- In 2016, the government made revisions to the FCRA, 2010. **The definition of foreign source was modified to exclude donations from foreign firms with 50% ownership to non-profit organizations, political parties**, candidates running for office, publications, government personnel, and other entities. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- These regulations aim to ensure transparency, accountability, and proper utilization of foreign contributions by NGOs operating in India. They provide a framework for monitoring and regulating foreign funding to prevent misuse and ensure that the funds are used for their intended purposes.

QUESTION 99.

With reference to the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), consider the following statements:

1. The FSSAI is a statutory organization under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, responsible for regulating and supervising food safety to safeguard public health.
2. FSSAI comprises a Chairperson and twenty-two members, ensuring one-third representation of women.
3. Heart Attack Rewind is an initiative by FSSAI, aiming to eliminate trans-fat in India by 2022 through a mass media campaign.

How many of the above given statements is/are *not* correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only



- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: D

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (d)

Explanation:

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

- FSSAI is a statutory organization under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.
- It is responsible for regulating and supervising food safety to safeguard public health . **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- Established in September 2008, FSSAI ensures safe and wholesome food for consumers.
- FSSAI consolidates various prior legislations related to food safety.
- The term "food law" encompasses legislation governing food production, trade, handling, safety, quality, and relevant aspects of food commerce.

Composition of FSSAI

- **FSSAI consists of a Chairperson and twenty-two members, with one-third representation of women. (Hence statement 2 is correct)**
- The Chairperson is appointed by the Central Government.
- Scientific Committees, Panels, and Central Advisory Committee assist FSSAI in setting standards and coordination.
- Enforcement responsibility lies with State Food Safety Commissioners.

Initiatives by FSSAI

- **Heart Attack Rewind: A mass media campaign aimed at eliminating trans-fat in India by 2022. (Hence statement 3 is correct)**
- Clean Street Food: Educating Street food vendors about FSS Act 2006 and assisting their social and economic development.
- FSSAI-CHIEFS: Collaboration to promote food safety collaborations between industry, scientific community, and academia.
- Swasth Bharat Yatra: A nationwide cycling movement to raise awareness about safe and nutritious food.
- Jaivik Bharat Portal: Regulatory portal on organic food jointly developed by FSSAI, APEDA, and PGS-India.



- Food Fortification Resource Centre: Established to support food fortification efforts.
- Diet4Life: Spreading awareness about metabolic disorders.
- Save Food, Share Food, Share Joy: Encouraging food donation to reduce wastage and connect organizations with those in need.
- The Eat Right India Movement: Joint effort by the government and FSSAI to ensure safe, healthy, and sustainable food for all.
- Eat Right Station Certification: Recognizing railway stations that meet food safety criteria in delivering safe and wholesome food to passengers.

QUESTION 100.

With reference to the District Planning Committee (DPC), consider the following statements:

1. The composition, functions, and the method of election of members and chairpersons are determined by the state legislature.
2. According to the 74th CAA Act, a majority of $2/3^{\text{rd}}$ of the committee members must be elected from among the elected members of panchayats and municipalities.
3. The representation of these members is based on the ratio of rural and urban population in the district.

How many of the above given statements is/are *not* correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

Correct Answer: A

Your Answer: Unanswered

Marks: 0/1.00

Explanation

Solution (a)

Explanation:

District Planning Committee (DPC):

- A district planning committee is established at the district level in every state.
- Its purpose is to consolidate development plans created by panchayats and municipalities.
- The DPC is responsible for preparing a draft development plan for the entire district.



- The **state legislature determines** the committee's composition, functions, and the manner in which members and chairpersons are elected. **(Hence statement 1 is correct)**
- The 74th CAA Act mandates that **4/5th of the committee members** must be elected by the elected members of panchayats and municipalities from among themselves. **(Hence statement 2 is incorrect)**
- The representation of these members is based on the ratio of rural and urban population in the district. **(Hence statement 3 is correct)**

Metropolitan Planning Committee (MPC):

- The Metropolitan Planning Committee (MPC) is responsible for preparing a draft development plan.
- According to the 74th CAA Act, 2/3rd of the MPC members are elected by the elected members of municipalities and chairpersons of panchayats within the metropolitan region.
- The state legislature determines the committee's composition, functions, and the manner in which members and chairpersons are elected.
- The representation of these members is based on the ratio of rural and urban population in the district.



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