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ANSWERS & EXPLANATION

GENERAL STUIDES (P) TEST – 2665 (2019)

Q 1.B

- The composition of the NITI Aayog is as follows:
  - **Chairperson: The Prime Minister of India**
  - **Governing Council: Chairman- Prime Minister; It comprises the Chief Ministers of all the States, Chief Ministers of Union Territories with Legislatures (i.e., Delhi and Puducherry) and Lt. Governors of other Union Territories. Hence, only 1 and 2 are correct.**
  - Regional Councils: These are formed to address specific issues and contingencies impacting more than one state or a region. These are formed for a specified tenure. These are convened by the Prime Minister and comprises of the Chief Ministers of States and Lt. Governors of Union Territories in the region. These are chaired by the Chairperson of the NITI Aayog or his nominee.
  - Special Invitees: Experts, specialists and practitioners with relevant domain knowledge as special invitees nominated by the Prime Minister.
  - Full-time Organisational Framework: It comprises, in addition to the Prime Minister as the Chairperson:
    - Vice-Chairperson: He is appointed by the Prime Minister. He enjoys the rank of a Cabinet Minister.
    - Members: Full-time. They enjoy the rank of a Minister of State.
    - Part-time Members: Maximum of 2, from leading universities, research organisations and other relevant institutions in an ex-officio capacity. Part-time members would be on a rotation.
    - Ex-Officio Members: Maximum of 4 members of the Union Council of Ministers to be nominated by the Prime Minister.
    - Chief Executive Officer: He is appointed by the Prime Minister for a fixed tenure, in the rank of Secretary to the Government of India.
    - Secretariat: As deemed necessary.

Q 2.B

- During the 1940s, several efforts were on to solve the ongoing constitutional crisis, basically due to Jinnah wanting the Congress to accept his idea of Two-nation theory. In the course of time, some individuals also tried to come up with constitutional proposals. C. Rajagopalachari, the veteran Congress leader, prepared a formula for Congress-League cooperation. It was a tacit acceptance of the League's demand for Pakistan. Gandhi supported the formula. The **main points in CR Plan** were:
  - Muslim League to endorse Congress demand for independence.
  - League to cooperate with Congress in forming a provisional government at centre.
  - After the end of the war, the entire population of **Muslim majority areas** in the North-West and North-East India to **decide by a plebiscite,** whether or not to form a separate sovereign state.
  - In case of acceptance of partition, agreement to be made **jointly for safeguarding defence, commerce, communications**, etc.

  Hence, option (b) is not correct.

Q 3.D

- The Union ministry of health and family welfare has launched the National Health Resource Repository (NHRR), the first ever registry in the country registry of authentic, standardised and updated geo-spatial

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data of all public and private healthcare. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is the project technology partner for providing data security.

- It will now be possible to provide comprehensive data on all private and public health establishments and other resources, including Railways, Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), defence and petroleum healthcare establishments. Under the Collection of Statistics Act 2008, more than 20 lakh healthcare establishments such as **hospitals, doctors, clinics, diagnostic labs, pharmacies and nursing homes** would be enumerated under this census, which will capture data on more than 1,400 variables.
- Some key benefits of the NHRR project are to create a reliable, unified registry of country's healthcare resources showing the distribution pattern of health facilities and services between cities and rural areas. **Hence the correct answer is option (d).**

Q 4.A

- As a Presiding officer, the powers and functions of the Chairman in the Rajya Sabha are similar to those of the Speaker in the Lok Sabha. However, the Speaker has two special powers which are not enjoyed by the Chairman:
  - **The Speaker decides whether a bill is a money bill or not and his decision on this question is final. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
  - The Speaker presides over a joint sitting of two Houses of Parliament.
  - However, under Article 100 of Indian Constitution, **Chairman and Speaker shall have and exercise the a casting vote in case of equality of votes in their repective Houses. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - As in case of the **Speaker, the salaries and allowances of the Chairman are also fixed by the Parliament. They are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India** and thus are not subject to the annual vote of Parliament. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 5.D

- **Pair 1 is matched correctly:** Vande **Mataram** is a Bengali poem written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1870s, which he included in his 1881 novel Anandamath.
- **Pair 2 is matched correctly: Amar Sonar Bangla** is the national anthem of Bangladesh. An Ode to Mother Bengal, it was written by Rabindranath Tagore during the Swadeshi movement in 1905.
- **Pair 3 is matched correctly: New Lamps for Old**, authored by Aurobindo Ghosh was originally published in 1893 as nine articles in the Indu Prakash a Bombay daily newspaper.

Q 6.B

- PRL Advance Radial-velocity Abu-sky Search" (PARAS) spectrograph: PARAS is an **echelle spectrograph** (with resolution of 60,000) designed and developed by the members of the Astronomy and Astrophysics Division of Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad. It is the first of its kind spectrograph in Asia, which can measure the mass of a planet going around a star. Very few spectrographs exist around the world that can do such precise measurements.
- The primary aim of PARAS is to **search for planets (exoplanets)** around a sample of 100s of Dwarf main-sequence G,K,M type stars within a volume of 100pc using the Simultaneous ThAr calibration technique.
- Recently, in an epic Indian discovery, a team from the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, using the PARAS spectrograph has spotted for the first time a distant planet six times bigger than Earth and revolving around a Sun-like star about 600 light years away. Both the planet and the star have been named EPIC.

Q 7.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** Concessional Financing Scheme (CFS) is aimed at **supporting Indian Entities bidding for strategically important infrastructure projects abroad** since 2015-16. Prior to the introduction of CFS, Indian entities were not able to bid for large projects abroad since the cost of financing was very high for them and bidders from other countries such as China, Japan, Europe and US were able to provide credit at superior terms, i.e., lower interest rate and longer tenures which works to the advantage of bidders from those countries.Since the objectives of the Scheme continue to be relevant, **the government recently approved to extend the Scheme for another five years from 2018 to 2023.**

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- **Statement 2 is correct: The Scheme is operated through the Export-Import Bank of India,** which raises resources from the market to provide concessional finance. Government of India (GoI) provides counter guarantee and interest equalization support of 2% to the EXIM Bank.

Q 8.A

- **Unique Identification Authority of India** – It is a statutory body, established under Aadhaar act, 2016. Hence, it comes within the definition of 'State' under Article 12
- **Goods and Services Tax Network** – It is a non-profit, non-government entity. However, it is entrusted with discharging public functions. It is the sole agency responsible for administering good and service tax. Hence, it works as an instruments of State and comes within the definition of 'State' under Article 12.
- **State Bank of India** – It is a statutory body, established under State Bank of India Act, 1955. Hence, it comes within the definition of 'State' under Article 12
- Article 12 of the Indian constitution defines the following components as a state -:
- The Government of India or the Central government and the Parliament of India that is the houses of Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.
- The state based governments and legislative bodies.
- Local Authorities like municipalities, panchayat, port trusts etc.
- All other authorities that are present in Indian Territory or are operating under the supervision of Indian governments. However, this provision is vague and has led to numerous judicial interpretation from time to time. Thus, State has been defined to include all its agencies. Also, even a private agency working as an instrument of the State falls within the meaning of the 'State'

Q 9.D

- A high level committee **headed by A. J. Paulraj** was constituted by the government **to outline a road map for 5G telecom services.** The major recommendations of the Committee include -:
  - Free bandwidth during a fixed time frame for trials.
  - Promulgation of regulatory guidelines by March, 2019
  - Fiscal support for trials, equipment makers' capital expenditure.
  - Special attention for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS).
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 10.A

- **NEHRU REPORT (1928):** As an answer to Lord Birkenhead's challenge, an All Parties Conference met in February 1928 and appointed a subcommittee under the chairmanship of Motilal Nehru to draft a constitution. This was the **first major attempt by the Indians to draft a constitutional framework for the country.** The committee included Tej Bahadur Sapru, Subhash Bose, M.S.Aney, Mangal Singh, Ali Imam, Shuab Qureshi and G.R. Pradhan as its members. The report was finalised by August 1928. The recommendations of the Nehru Committee were unanimous except in one respect—while the majority favoured the "dominion status" as the basis of the Constitution, a section of it wanted "complete independence" as the basis, with the majority section giving the latter section liberty of action

  Major Recommendations —
  - **Dominion status**
  - **not separate electorates, but joint electorates** with reserved seats for minorities.
  - linguistic provinces.
  - 19 fundamental rights including universal adult franchise and equal rights for women
  - responsible government at centre and in provinces.
  - the future link-up of British India with the princely states on a federal basis.
  - the central government to be headed by a governor-general, appointed by the British Government but paid out of Indian revenues, who would act on the advice of the central executive council responsible to the Parliament.
  - Complete dissociation of state from religion • Full protection to cultural and religious interests of Muslims

  Hence, only statement 1 is correct.

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Q 11.C

- Trained by specialists from India and abroad, a unit of 36 women constables from northeastern states has been inducted into the Delhi police.
- **Delhi police thus became the first police force in the country to have an all-women SWAT team.**
- The **maximum numbers of members (13) are from Assam** and five each from Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Manipur.
- They are trained in the Israeli Krav Maga, an unarmed combat style, and equipped with MP5 submachine guns and Glock 21 pistols.
- They were rated better than their male counterparts by their trainers at Police Training College in Jharoda Kalan.
  These commandos will be stationed at strategic locations in central and south Delhi.
- Amid intel inputs of women fidayeens planning to target the capital, this all-women unit would helm the security apparatus around Red Fort and India Gate as well.
- **Many of them would be posted in anti-terror vans called Parakram.**

Q 12.D

- **HARTOG COMMITTEE (1929):** An increase in number of schools and colleges had led to deterioration of education standards. A Hartog Committee was set up to report on development of education. Its main recommendations were as follows: Emphasis should be given to primary education but there need be no hasty expansion or compulsion in education. Only deserving students should go in for high school and intermediate stage, while average students should be diverted to vocational courses after VIII standard. For improvements in standards of university education, admissions should be restricted.
- **WARDHA SCHEME OF BASIC EDUCATION (1937):** Zakir Hussain committee formulated a detailed national scheme for basic education in the light of the resolutions passed at National Conference on Education in October 1937 in Wardha. The main principle behind this scheme was 'learning through activity'. It was based on Gandhi's ideas published in a series of articles in the weekly Harijan. The scheme had the following provisions: Inclusion of a basic handicraft in the syllabus. First seven years of schooling to be an integral part of a free and compulsory nationwide education system (through mother tongue). Teaching to be in Hindi from class II to VII and in English only after class VIII. Ways to be devised to establish contact with the community around schools through service. The basic premise was that only through such a scheme could India be an independent and non-violent society. This scheme was child-centered and cooperative.
- **SERGEANT PLAN OF EDUCATION : 1944:** The Sergeant Plan (Sergeant was the educational advisor to the Government) was worked out by the Central Advisory Board of Education in 1944.Major recommendations: Pre-primary education for 3-6 years age group; free, universal and compulsory elementary education for 6-11 years age group; high school education for 11-17 years age group for selected children• University course of 3 years after higher secondary; high schools to be of two types: (i) academic and (ii) technical and vocational. Adequate technical, commercial and arts education. Abolition of an intermediate course. Liquidation of adult illiteracy in 20 years. Stress on teachers' training, physical education, education for the physically and mentally handicapped. The objective was to create within 40 years, the same level of educational attainment as prevailed in England. Although a bold and comprehensive scheme, it proposed a methodology for implementation.
- **Hence all the options are correct.**

Q 13.B

- **Pair 1 is not correctly matched:** The East India Association was organised by Dadabhai Naoroji in 1866 in London to discuss the Indian question and influence public men in England to promote Indian welfare.
- The Indian League was started in 1875 by Sisir Kumar Ghosh with the object of "stimulating the sense of nationalism amongst the people" and of encouraging political education.
- **Pair 2 is correctly matched:** The Indian Association of Calcutta (also known as the Indian National Association) superseded the Indian League and was founded in 1876 by younger nationalists of Bengal led by Surendranath Banerjea and Ananda Mohan Bose, who were getting discontented with the conservative and pro-landlord policies of the British Indian Association.

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- **Pair 3 is not correctly matched:** The Bombay Presidency Association was started by Badruddin Tyabji, Pherozshah Mehta and K.T. Telang in 1885. The Poona Sarvajanik Sabha was founded in 1867 by Mahadeo Govind Ranade and others, with the object of serving as a bridge between the government and the people.

Q 14.C

- The origin of this committee can be traced to the standing financial committee set up in 1921. The first Estimates Committee in the post independence era was constituted in 1950 on the recommendation of John Mathai, the then finance minister. Originally, it had 25 members but in 1956 its membership was raised to 30.
- **All the thirty members are from Lok Sabha only. The Rajya Sabha has no representation in this committee.** These members are elected by the Lok Sabha every year from amongst its own members, according to the principles of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The functions of the committee includes:
  - To report what economies, improvements in organisation, efficiency and administrative reform consistent with the policy underlying the estimates, can be affected
  - To suggest alternative policies in order to bring about efficiency and economy in administration.
  - To examine whether the money is well laid out within the limits of the policy implied in the estimates. i.e. it examines the estimates included in the budget and suggests economies in public expenditure. However, **it examines the budget estimates only after they have been voted by the Parliament, and not before that. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - To suggest the form in which the estimates are to be presented to Parliament.

Q 15.A

- 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.
  - **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.

  Hence all the statements are correct.

Q 16.D

- Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is a system that powers multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application (of any participating bank), merging several banking features, seamless fund routing & merchant payments into one hood. It also caters to the "Peer to Peer" collect request which can be scheduled and paid as per requirement and convenience.
- **Statement 1 is correct**: National Payments Corporation of India is the umbrella organization for all retail payments in the country. **It also manages the UPI platform** that facilitates instant fund transfer between two bank accounts on a mobile platform without requiring details of the beneficiary's bank account.
- **Statements 2 and 3 are correct:** An upgraded version of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), UPI 2.0 has been launched recently. It has introduced the following features for the first time -: **Allowing customers to link their overdraft account to UPI; Creation of one-time mandates and pre-authorisation of transactions for payment at a later date; Checking the invoice sent by merchant prior to making payment** and Introduction of quick response (QR) code feature for better security.

Q 17.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** Blue Bond is a pioneering financial instrument designed to **support sustainable marine and fisheries projects.**

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- **Statement 2 is correct: Republic of Seychelles has launched the world's first sovereign blue bond.** The bond raised 15 million USD from international investors. Thus, it demonstrates the potential for countries to harness capital markets for financing the sustainable use of marine resources. The World Bank assisted in developing the blue bond and reaching out to the potential investors.

Q 18.A

- The **Ministry of Culture**, Government of India has introduced a new scheme namely 'Seva Bhoj Yojna' with a total outlay of Rs. 325.00 Crores for Financial Years 2018-19 and 2019-20. The scheme envisages providing monetary support to Charitable Religious Institutions. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- They will be reimbursed the Central Government share of Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) and Integrated Goods and Service Tax (IGST) so as to lessen the financial burden for **providing Food/Prasad/Langar (Community Kitchen)/Bhandara free of cost without any discrimination to Public/Devotees. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The Charitable Religious Institutions such as Temples, Gurudwara, Mosque, Church, Dharmik Ashram, Dargah, Matth, Monasteries etc. which have been in existence for at least five years before applying for financial assistance/grant and who serve free food to at least 5000 people in a month and such institutions covered under Section 10(23BBA) of the Income Tax Act or Institutions registered as Society under Societies Registration Act (XXI of 1860) or as a Public Trust under any law for the time being in force of statuary religious bodies constituted under any Act or institutions registered under Section 12AA of Income Tax Act shall be eligible for grant under the scheme. Ministry of Culture will register the eligible charitable religious institutions for a time period ending with finance commission period and subsequently the registration may be renewed by the Ministry, subject to the performance evaluation of the institutions.

Q 19.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** Even after continuous efforts, Annie Besant was not able to succeed in getting the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League to support her decision to set up Home Rule Leagues. The Home Rule Leagues were started by Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Annie Besant in May 1916 and September 1916 respectively. While the Lucknow Session of Indian National Congress took place in December 1916. Also, no such Home Rule Resolution was ever passed by the Congress.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Members of Gokhale's Servants of India Society were not permitted to become members of the League. Though they were encouraged to add their weight to the demand for Home Rule by undertaking lecture tours and publishing pamphlets.

Q 20.A

- The **73rd Amendment Act, 1992** defines all these terms in the following manner:
  - **Panchayat means an institution (by whatever name called) of self-government for rural areas.**
  - Village means a village specified by the governor by public notification to be a village for this purpose, and includes a group of villages so specified.
  - **Intermediate level means a level between the village and district levels specified by the governor by public notification for this purpose.**
  - **District means a district in a state.**

Q 21.D

- **Statement 1 is correct:** M.A. Jinnah came back to India after becoming a Barrister in 1906 as a secular, liberal nationalist, a follower of Dadabhai Naoroji. On his return, he immediately joined the Congress and acted as Dadabhai's secretary at the Calcutta session of the Congress in 1906 He was an opponent of the Muslim League then being founded. The Aga Khan, the first president of the League, was to write later that Jinnah was 'our toughest opponent in 1906'.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** At this session, Naoroji in his presidential address declared that the goal of the Indian National Congress was 'self-government or Swaraj like that of the United Kingdom or the Colonies.'
- **Statement 3 is correct:** At this session, a resolution supporting the programme of swadeshi, boycott and national education was passed at this session.

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Q 22.D

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Indian Social Conference was founded by Mahadev Govind Ranade and Raghunath Rao and it met annually from its first session in Madras in 1887 at the same time and venue as the Indian National Congress.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It focussed attention on the social issues of importance. It was formed as the Indian National Congress did not want to include social reforms in its deliberations and decided to form a separate body for such purpose.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The conference advocated inter-caste marriages, opposed polygamy and kulinism. It launched the 'Pledge Movement' to inspire people to take a pledge against child marriage.

Q 23.A

- The National Commission for Scheduled Castes is vested with the power to regulate its own procedure.
- **The Commission, while investigating any matter or inquiring into any complaint, has all the powers of a civil court trying a suit** and in particular in respect of the following matters: **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath;
  - requiring the discovery and production of any document;
  - receiving evidence on affidavits;
  - requisitioning any public record from any court or office;
  - issuing summons for the examination of witnesses and documents; and
  - any other matter which the President may determine.
- The Central government and the state governments are required to consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting the SCs.
- The Commission is also required to discharge similar functions with regard to the other backward classes (OBCs) and the Anglo-Indian Community as it does with respect to the SCs. In other words, **the Commission has to investigate all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the OBCs and the Anglo-Indian Community** and report to the President upon their working. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- The commission presents an annual report to the President. It can also submit a report as and when it thinks necessary. The President places all such reports before the Parliament, along with a memorandum explaining the action taken on the recommendations made by the Commission. The memorandum should also contain the reasons for the non-acceptance of any of such recommendations. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 24.C

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Article 358 of Indian Constitution says that proclamation of National Emergency on the grounds of external aggression or war, automatically suspends the Fundamental rights under Article 19 for entire duration of emergency.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Fundamental rights contained in Article 19 can be suspended only through Presidential order when the national emergency is declared on the ground of armed rebellion.

Q 25.A

- **Right to equality is given under Article 14 of Indian Constitution.** It is one of the fundamental right. It ensure the guarantees to every person the right to equality before law & equal protection of the laws. **It is not only the right of Indian citizens but also right of non-citizens.**This means that every person, who lives within territory of India, has the equal right before the law or equal protection of laws.
- **Right to reside and settle any part of Indian territory and Right to practise any trade or business are enshrined in the article 19 of the Constitution of India. Both these rights are confined to citizens only not available to non-citizen.**

Q 26.A

- **The NHRC has no power to punish the violators of human rights, nor to award any relief including monetary relief to the victim. Hence statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is not correct.**

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- **Its recommendations are not binding on the concerned government or authority.** But, it should be informed about the action taken on its recommendations within one month. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- The commission has limited role, powers and jurisdiction with respect to the violation of human rights by the members of the armed forces. In this sphere, the commission may seek a report from the Central government and make its recommendations. The Central government should inform the Commission of the action taken on the recommendations within three months.
- The commission submits its annual or special reports to the Central government and to the state government concerned. These reports are laid before the respective legislatures, along with a memorandum of action taken on the recommendations of the commission and the reasons for nonacceptance of any of such recommendations.

Q 27.D

- **Option 1 is correct:** The Regulating Act of 1773 designated the governor of Bengal as the 'Governor-General of Bengal'. It also made the governors of Bombay and Madras presidencies subordinate to the governor-general of Bengal, unlike earlier, when the three presidencies were independent of one another.
- **Option 2 is correct:** The Charter Act of 1833 designated the Governor-General of Bengal as the 'Governor-General of India'. Also, it deprived the governors of Bombay and Madras presidencies of their legislative powers. The Governor-General of India was given exclusive legislative power for entire British India.
- The Indian Councils Act of 1861 initiated the process of decentralization by restoring the legislative powers to the Bombay and Madras Presidencies. It thus reversed the centralizing tendency that started from the Regulating Act of 1773 and reached its climax under the Charter Act of 1833.
- **Option 3 is not correct:** The Indian Councils Act of 1892 did not have any provision related to the centralization of power. The policy of legislative devolution started by the Indian Councils Act of 1861 resulted in the grant of almost complete internal autonomy to the provinces in 1937.

Q 28.B

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 provided that the Fundamental rights under Article 20 and 21 can not be suspended during the National emergency.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 introduced a new provision to put restraint on the power of Parliament to extend a proclamation of President's Rule beyond one year. Thus, it provided that, beyond one year, the President's Rule can be extended by six months at a time only when the following two conditions are fulfilled:
  - a proclamation of National Emergency should be in operation in the whole of India, or in the whole or any part of the state.
  - **the Election Commission must certify** that the general elections to the legislative assembly of the concerned state cannot be held on account of difficulties. A proclamation of President's Rule may be revoked by the President at any
- **Statement 3 is not correct**: A proclamation of national emergency may be applicable to the entire country or only a part of it. The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 enabled the president to limit the operation of a National Emergency to a specified part of India.

Q 29.A

- Although the chairman and members of a SPSC are appointed by the Governor, they can be removed only by the President (and not by the Governor).
- The President can remove them on the same grounds and in the same manner as he can remove a chairman or a member of the UPSC. Thus, he can remove him under the following circumstances:
  - **If he is adjudged as an insolvent (i.e., has gone bankrupt)**; or
  - If he engages, during his term of office, in any paid employment outside the duties of his office; or
  - If he is, in the opinion of the President, unfit to continue in office by reason of infirmity of mind or body.
- **In addition to these, the President can also remove the chairman or any other member of SPSC for misbehaviour.** However, in this case, the President has to refer the matter to the Supreme Court for an enquiry.
- **Hence option (a) is correct.**

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Q 30.C

- Rights are the claims that are recognised by the state through endorsement of laws and policies.Rights placed an obligations upon State to act in certain kind of ways. For instance right to life obliges the State to make laws that protect individual from injury by others. Rights also placed certain constraints upon State action for example police required to produce arrest warrant before arresting an individual.
- Rights not only placed obligation on State but they also placed obligation upon each of us. Rights require the respect for the other's rights also which means the individual can not deprive others of their rights. Hence, Rights are claim of person over the fellow beings also.
- **Hence, both the staements are correct.**

Q 31.D

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has finalised a plan called Pariwartan to revitalise stressed power sector assets. It has identified projects with a total debt of around Rs 1.8 trillion as part of the scheme.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under the scheme government has planned to warehouse stressed power projects totalling 25,000 megawatts (MW) under an asset management and rehabilitation company (AMRC) jointly owned by the financial institutions (Power finance corporation and lending banks) to protect the value of the assets and prevent their distress sale under the insolvency and bankruptcy code till demand for power picks up.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Power sector has emerged as one of the major source for Non-performing assets (NPAs) in the banking sector owing to stalled projects and lack of demand. Pariwartan will lead to a situation where the AMRC will manage the projects. The AMRC will charge a fee and help complete projects that are stranded for lack of funds. Thus, this will lead to re-starting of projects and consequently lead to reduction in NPAs in the banking sector.

Q 32.C

- Under the Advisory Jurisdiction of Supreme Court (Article 143), the President can seek the opinion of the Supreme Court in the two categories of matters:(a) On any question of law or fact of public importance which has arisen or which is likely to arise. Here the Supreme Court may tender or may refuse to tender its opinion to the president.(b) On any dispute arising out of any **pre-constitution treaty**, agreement, covenant, engagement, sanad or other similar instruments. The **Supreme Court 'must' tender its opinion to the president. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- In both the cases, the **opinion expressed by the Supreme Court is only advisory** and not a judicial pronouncement. Hence, it is not binding on the president. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- However, it facilitates the government to have an authoritative legal opinion on a matter to be decided by it.

Q 33.A

- Appointment of additional and acting Judges is dealt under Article 224. An **additional Judge** means a person appointed as an additional Judge under **clause (1) of article 224** of the Constitution.
- An **acting Judge** means a person appointed as an additional Judge under **clause (2) of article 224** of the Constitution. An **additional judge** of a high court can be appointed by President when:
  - **There is a temporary increase in the business of the high court. Hence statement is 1 is correct.**
  - **There are arrears of work in the high court.**They are appointed for a temporary period not exceeding two years. An acting judge of a high court can be appointed by the President when a judge of that high court (other than the chief justice) is:
    - Unable to perform the duties of his office due to an absence or any other reason. **Hence statement is 2 is not correct.**
    - Appointed to act temporarily as chief justice of that high court. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
    - An acting judge holds office until the permanent judge resumes his office. **Thus an additional judge is appointed to cope with the workload whereas an acting judge is appointed in a casual vacancy.**
    - Both the additional or acting judge cannot hold office after attaining the age of 62 years.

Hence option (a) is the correct answer.

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Q 34.C

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Only elected members of Parliament vote in President's election. While both elected and nominated participate in the election of Vice-President.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Nominated members vote in the impeachment/removal of both President and Vice-President.

Q 35.C

- The Secretary of State, Montague, made a historic declaration in the House of Commons, On 20 August, 1917 in which he stated: 'The policy of His Majesty's Government . . . is that of the **increasing association of Indians in every branch of the administration and the gradual development of self-governing institutions**, with a view to the progressive realization of responsible government in India as an integral part of the British Empire." **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- This statement was in marked contrast to that of Lord Morley who, while introducing the Constitutional Reforms in 1909, had stated categorically that these reforms were in no way intended to lead to self-government. The importance of Montague's Declaration was that after this the demand for Home Rule or self-government could no longer be treated as seditious. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- This did not, however, mean that the British Government was about to grant self-government. The accompanying clause in the statement which clarified that the nature and the timing of the advance towards responsible government would be decided by the Government alone gave it enough leeway to prevent any real transfer of power to Indian hands for a long enough time. The Indian leaders objected as no specific time frame was given.

Q 36.B

- The revolt of 1857 marks a turning point in the history of India. It led to changes in the system of administration and the policy of the Government.
  - The direct responsibility for the administration of the country was assumed by the British Crown and Company rule was abolished. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - The era of annexations and expansion ended and the British promised to respect the dignity and rights of the native princes. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
  - The Indian states were henceforth to recognise the paramountcy of the British Crown and were to be treated as parts of a single charge.
  - The Army, which was at the forefront of the outbreak, was thoroughly reorganised and British military policy came to be dominated by the idea of "division and counterpoise".
  - Having decided to side with the reactionary elements of Indian society, the British withdrew support to social reforms, which they felt had aroused the wrath of orthodox sections against them. Also, by encouraging caste and communal consciousness, the British helped the reactionary forces. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 37.B

- **Partial Credit enhancement means improving the credit rating of a bond.** For example, if a bond is rated BBB, credit enhancement, which is basically an assurance of repayment by another entity, can improve the rating to AA. This is done to provide an additional source of assurance or guarantee to service the bond.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently allowed banks to offer partial credit enhancement to corporate bonds. It is available for bonds issued by companies for funding infrastructure projects.
- It has now allowed banks to provide credit enhancement up to 20% of the total bond issue. This means banks (one or many together) can assure repayment of dues related to a bond issue up to 20% of the value.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 38.A

- Original constitution didn't contain fundamental duties. The Fundamental Duties of Indian Citizens(Part IV-A) were added as Article 51-A by the 42nd Amendment, 1976 on the recommendation of **Swaran Singh Committee**. These duties set in part IV-A of the Constitution, concern individuals and the nation. Originally 10 Fundamental Duties, 11th Fundamental Duty was added by the 86th Amendment in 2002. At Present we have 11 Fundamental Duties.

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- The Fundamental Duties are defined as the moral obligations of all citizens to help promote a spirit of patriotism and to uphold the unity of India. The idea for Fundamental Duties has been taken from erstwhile USSR.
- **Justice Verma Committee was constituted in 1998** which submitted its report in October 1999. The committee reported that "duty to vote at elections, actively participate in the democratic process of governance and pay taxes should be included in Article 51A of the Constitution."
  Justice Verma Committee Report (1999) on operationalization of fundamental duties observed: "Education is a sub-system of the total social system and it is in this context that the recommendations stated in this chapter should be viewed. Of course, a long-term strategy for developing a value-based society can come only through the instrumentality of right education and training".Unfortunately, the Justice Verma Committee's recommendation on the fundamental duties has not been implemented.
- Till 1979, the approach to estimate poverty was traditional i.e. lack of income. It was later decided to measure poverty precisely as starvation i.e. in terms of how much people eat. This approach was first of all adopted by the **YK Alagh Committee's recommendation in 1979**whereby, the people consuming less than 2100 calories in the urban areas or less than 2400 calories in the rural areas are poor. The logic behind the discrimination between rural and urban areas was that the rural people do more physical work. Moreover, an implicit assumption was that the states would take care of the health and education of the people. Thus, YK Alagh eventually defined the first poverty line in India.

Q 39.C

- Attorney General for India is appointed by the President under Article 76 of the Indian Constitution. The President shall appoint a person who is qualified to be appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court to be Attorney General for India. In the performance of his official duties, the Attorney General has the right of audience in all courts in the territory of India. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- 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. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- 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 not correct.**

Q 40.C

- The Attlee Government announced in February 1946 the decision to send a high-powered mission of three British Cabinet members (Pethick Lawrence, Secretary of State for India; Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade; and A.V. Alexander, First Lord of Admiralty to India to find out ways and means for a negotiated, peaceful transfer of power to India. The mission reached Delhi on March 24, 1946. It had prolonged discussions with Indian leaders of all parties and groups on the issues of—
  (i) interim government, (ii) principles and procedures for framing a new Constitution giving freedom to India.
  - As the Congress and the League could not come to an agreement on the fundamental issue of the unity or partition of India, the mission put forward its own plan for the solution of the constitutional problem in May 1946.
  - Cabinet Mission Plan—Main Points

  (i) Rejection of the demand for a full-fledged Pakistan, because—
  the Pakistan so formed would include a large non-Muslim population-38% in the North-West and 48% in the North-East; the very principle of communal self-determination would claim separation of Hindu-majority Western Bengal and Sikh- and Hindu dominated 'Ambala and Jullundur divisions of Punjab (already some Sikh leaders were demanding a separate state if the country was partitioned); deep-seated regional ties would be disturbed if Bengal and Punjab were partitioned; partition would entail economic and administrative problems, for instance, the problem of communication between the western and eastern parts of Pakistan; the division of armed forces would be dangerous.
  (ii) Grouping of existing provincial assemblies into three sections—
  Section-A: Madras, Bombay, Central Provinces, United Provinces, Bihar and Orissa (Hindu-majority provinces). Section-B: Punjab, North-West Frontier Province and Sindh (Muslim majority provinces). Section-C: Bengal and Assam (Muslim-majority provinces).

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(iii) Three-tier executive and legislature at provincial, section and union levels. A constituent assembly to be elected by provincial assemblies by proportional representation (voting in three groups—General, Muslims, Sikhs). In the constituent assembly, members from groups A, B and C were to sit separately to decide the constitution for provinces and if possible, for the groups also. Then, the whole constituent assembly (all three sections A, B, and C combined) would sit together to formulate the Union constitution. A common center would control defense, communication and external affairs. Communal questions in the central legislature were to be decided by a simple majority of both communities present and voting. **Provinces were to have full autonomy and residual powers.** Princely states were no longer to be under paramountcy of British Government They would be free to enter into an arrangement with successor governments or the British Government. After the first general elections, a province was to be free to come out of a group and after 10 years, a province was to be free to call for a reconsideration of the group or the Union constitution. **an interim government to be formed from the constituent assembly. Hence statement (c) is incorrect.**

Q 41.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 had frozen the total number of seats in the assembly of each state and the division of such state into territorial constituencies till the year 2000 at the 1971 level. This ban on readjustment has been extended for another year (i.e., upto year 2026) by the 84th Amendment Act of 2001 with the same objective of encouraging population limiting measures.The 87th Amendment Act of 2003 provided for the delimitation of constituencies on the basis of 2001 census and not 1991 census. However, this can be done without altering the total number of seats in the assembly of each state.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The maximum strength of the council is fixed at one-third of the total strength of the assembly and the minimum strength is fixed at 40. It means that the size of the council depends on the size of the assembly of the concerned state. This is done to ensure the predominance of the directly elected House (assembly) in the legislative affairs of the state. **Though the Constitution has fixed the maximum and the minimum limits, the actual strength of a Council is fixed by Parliament**
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Of the total number of members of a legislative council:
  - **1/3 are elected by the members of local bodies in the state like municipalities, district boards, etc.,**
  - 1/12 are elected by graduates of three years standing and residing within the state,
  - 1/12 are elected by teachers of three years standing in the state, not lower in standard than secondary school,
  - **1/3 are elected by the members of the legislative assembly of the state from amongst persons who are not members of the assembly, and**
  - .the remainder are nominated by the Governor from amongst persons who have a special knowledge or practical experience of literature, science, art, cooperative movement and social service.
  - Thus, 5/6 of the total number of members of a legislative council are indirectly elected and 1/6 are nominated by the Governor.

Q 42.B

- **The World Sanskrit Conference is organized by the International Association of Sanskrit Studies.** The association was formed as a result of the 1972 International Sanskrit Conference that was sponsored by India's central government with collaboration from UNESCO.
- The Conference is being held in various countries across the globe once in every three years and so far it has been held thrice in India. The purpose of this conference is to promote, preserve and practice the Sanskrit language all over the world by the people.
- Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar inaugurated the 17th World Sanskrit Conference in Vancouver, Canada.

Q 43.B

- At the Calcutta Session of Congress (December 1928), the Nehru Report was approved but the younger elements led by Nehru, Subhash and Satyamurthy expressed their dissatisfaction with the dominion status as the goal of Congress and considered as a step backward. Not only were the Muslim League, the Hindu Mahasabha and the Sikh communalists unhappy about the Nehru Report. The younger section of the

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Congress led by **Jawaharlal Nehru** and **Subhash Bose** were angered and rejected the Congress' modified goal and jointly set up the **Independence for India League**.

- They demanded that the Congress adopt purna swaraj or complete independence as its goal. The first meeting of the Independence league was held at Delhi, where a Central Council of 20 members was formed to help the organization of its works in the respective province. Maulana Abdul Bari from Bihar became its member .
- The Independence of India Leaguers decided not to participate in the framing of the constitution and proposed the Congress to consider proper and necessary steps in favour of complete independence. They were keenly interested in the settlement of the communal problem and agreed with the point of view which was recommended by Nehru Committee report and of the All Parties Conference at Lucknow. R.C Dutt was an economic critic and was not related with Independence for India League. **Hence, only options 1 and 2 are correct.**

Q 44.D

- In India, all citizens irrespective of the state in which they are born or reside enjoy the same political and civil rights of citizenship all over the country and no discrimination is made between them.
- However, this general rule of absence of discrimination is subject to some exceptions, viz,
  - The Parliament (under Article 16) can prescribe residence within a state or union territory as a condition for certain employments or appointments in that state or union territory. Accordingly, the Parliament enacted the Public Employment (Requirement as to Residence) Act, 1957.**Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - The Constitution (under Article 15) prohibits discrimination against any citizen on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth and not on the ground of residence. This means that the state can provide special benefits or give preference to its residents in matters that do not come within the purview of the rights given by the Constitution to the Indian citizens. For example, a state may offer concession in fees for education to its residents. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - The freedom of movement and residence (under Article 19) is subjected to the protection of interests of any schedule tribe. In other words, the right of outsiders to enter, reside and settle in tribal areas is restricted. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  - In the case of Jammu and Kashmir, the state legislature is empowered to define the persons who are permanent residents of the state and confer any special rights and privileges in matters of employment under the state government, acquisition of immovable property in the state etc

Q 45.D

- Of the total number of members of a Legislative Council:
  - One-third are elected by the members of local bodies in the state like Municipalities, district boards etc
  - **One-twelfth are elected by graduates of three years standing and residing within the state**
  - One-twelfth are elected by teachers of three years standing in the state. Not lower in standard than secondary school.
  - One-third are elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly of the state from amongst persons who are not members of the Assembly
  - Remaining (One-sixth) are nominated by the Governor from amongst persons who have a special knowledge or practical experience of literature, science, art, cooperative movement, and social service.
- **The Governor has the power to nominate one member from the Anglo Indian community as he/she deems fit if he/she is of the opinion that they are not adequately represented in the Assembly. But there is no such provision in respect to Legislative Council.**
- **The Constitution provides for reservation of seats in Legislative Assembly for Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the basis of their population. However, there is no provision of reservation in Legislative Councils.**

Hence, statements 2 and 3 are not correct but statement 1 is correct.

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Q 46.A

- Deputy Speaker is elected by the Lok Sabha from amongst its members. **The date of election of the Deputy Speaker is decided by the Speaker.**

Q 47.D

- The power to initiate an amendment to the Constitution lies with the Parliament. **The state legislatures can initiate a bill or proposal for amending the Constitution in one case, that is, passing a resolution requesting the Parliament for the creation or abolition of legislative councils in the states.** Here also, the Parliament can either approve or disapprove such a resolution or may not take any action on it. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **The Constitution does not prescribe the time frame within which the state legislatures should ratify or reject an amendment submitted to them.** Also, it is silent on the issue whether the states can withdraw their approval after according the same. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 48.D

- If a disqualified person is elected to the Parliament, the Constitution lays down no procedure to declare the election void. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- This matter is dealt by the Representation of the People Act (1951), which enables the high court to declare an election void if a disqualified candidate is elected. The aggrieved party can appeal to the Supreme Court against the order of the high court in this regard. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 49.B

- The concept of **Equal Protection of law has been given in Article 14** of our Constitution which implies:
  - equality of treatment under equal circumstances.
  - the similar application of the same laws to all persons who are similarly situated
  - the like should be treated alike without any discrimination.
- Thus it is a positive concept, which **allows state to take affirmative actions to uplift weaker sections of society.** The reservation policy of government in favour of backward class citizens in public employment and in educational institutions is justifiable under the doctrine of equal protection of law. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Doctrine of Rule of Law states law is supreme no person is above the law of land. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

Q 50.B

- Provincial election was held in 1937 under the Act of 1935. Congress ministries were formed in July 1937 in seven out of eleven provinces. Congress ministry did try to improve the condition of people within their provinces. **They undertook positive measures in several fields:**
- They promoted civil liberties, **repealed restrictions on press and radical organization**, permitted trade unions and peasant organization to function and grow, **curbed the power of police and released political prisoners including a large number of revolutionary terrorists.**
- They passed agrarian legislation dealing with tenancy rights, security of tenure, rent reduction and relief and protection to the peasant debtors.

Q 51.B

- The Constitution **allows Hindi, English or any language declared as the official language of the state** for transacting business in the state legislature.
- T**he presiding officer of the House can allow a member to address the House in his mother-tongue.**

Q 52.D

- Following the Treaty of Allahabad (1765), Robert Clive set up the infamous Dual Government in Bengal wherein the Company acquired the real power, while the responsibility of administration rested on the Nawab of Bengal. As the diwan, the Company was authorised to collect revenues of the province, while through the right to nominate the deputy subahdar it was in a position to control the nizamat or the police and judicial powers. The deputy subahdar could not be removed without the consent of the Company.

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- The dual government system held a great advantage for the British-they had power without responsibility. The Nawab and his officials were responsible for administration, but they had no power to discharge it.
- The system had many weaknesses that ultimately led to administrative breakdown. The peasantry of Bengal suffered greatly due to the decline of agriculture and arbitrary revenue demands. Trade and commerce were disrupted, and the industry and skills ruined. In 1772, as soon as Warren Hastings was appointed the Governor of Bengal, Dual Government was abolished and Bengal was brought under direct control of the Britishers.

Q 53.D

- **Statements 1 and 2 are not correct:** The World Agriculture Prize has been launched to recognize the individuals who have served the humanity through agriculture. It has been established by **the Indian Council of Food and Agriculture.** It will consist of a single of $100,000. **The first ever World Agriculture Prize has been bestowed upon Prof. M.S. Swaminathan.**

Q 54.B

- During the Non-Cooperation Movement, Gandhi ji was arrested in March 1922 after the Chauri Chaura incident. It led to disintegration, disorganisation and demoralisation among nationalist ranks. A debate started among Congressmen on what to do during the transition period, i.e., the passive phase of the movement.There were two distinct ideologies prevailing at this time. Those who advocated constructive work through social activities were dubbed as 'no-changers' and other who advocated political activities through council entry were known as Swarajists (pro changers). One section led by C.R. Das, Motilal Nehru and Ajmal Khan. C.R Das and Motilal Nehru resigned from the presidentship and secretaryship respectively of the Congress and announced the formation of Congress-Khilafat Swarajya Party, with C.R. Das as the president and Motilal Nehru as one of the secretaries. Hence their disagreements were with the 'No-changers'. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- It wanted an end to the boycott of legislative councils so that the nationalists could enter them to expose the basic weaknesses of these assemblies and use these councils as an arena of political struggle to arouse popular enthusiasm. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q 55.A

- **The correct answer is option (a) : The National Institute for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog has developed the Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) to enable effective water management in Indian states in the face of this growing crisis.**
- It is a major step towards creating a culture of databased decision-making for water in India, which can encourage 'competitive and cooperative federalism' in the country's water governance and management. It is a tool for water measurement, management and improvement. It is the first comprehensive collection of country-wide water data in India.
- It is based on the following broad 9 sectors (with 28 sub indicators):

Indicator sectors and weights

No.	Sectors	Weights
1	Source augmentation and restoration of waterbodies	5
2	Source augmentation (Groundwater)	15
3	Major and medium irrigation—Supply side management	15
4	Watershed development—Supply side management	10
5	Participatory irrigation practices—Demand side management	10
6	Sustainable on-farm water use practices—Demand side management	10
7	Rural drinking Water	10
8	Urban water supply & sanitation	10
9	Policy and governance	15
	Total	**100**

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Q 56.C

- **Single-use plastics, often also referred to as disposable plastics, are commonly used for plastic packaging** and include items intended to be used only once before they are thrown away or recycled.
  - Plastic packaging is almost exclusively single-use, especially in business-to-consumer applications.
  - According to the industry body FICCI, 43 per cent of India's plastics are used in packaging and are single-use plastics.
- Large amounts of single-use plastics are improperly discarded in dumpsites, in the environment, or burned out of necessity as cooking fuel, especially in countries with inadequate waste management systems and limited public awareness.
- **Only a small percentage is disposed of properly in sanitary landfills, and an even smaller portion is recycled.**
  - Less than 1% of all single use plastics items are recycled.
- **Thrown away, single-use plastics items begin to break down into smaller particles, becoming microplastics (less than 5mm) over time.**
  - Microplastics are known to act as sponges, attracting and absorbing persistent organic pollutants.
- India has announced that it will eliminate all single-use plastics by 2022.

Q 57.D

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** The Treaty of Seringapatam was signed in 1792 after Tipu Sultan was defeated in the third Anglo-Mysore war against the combined for force of the English, the Marathas, and the Nizam. The fourth Anglo-Mysore war took place in 1799.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** Under this treaty of 1792, nearly half of the Mysorean territory was taken over by the victors. Baramahal, Dindigul and Malabar went to the English, while the Marathas got the regions surrounding the Tungabhadra and its tributaries and the Nizam acquired the areas from the Krishna to beyond the Pennar.
- Besides, a war damage of three crore rupees was also taken from Tipu. Half of the war indemnity was to be paid immediately while the rest was to be given in instalments, for which Tipu's two sons were taken as hostages by the English.

Q 58.C

- **Swami Vivekananda**(1863-1902) was the great disciple of Ramakrishna Paramhansa(1834-1886). He popularised the latter's religious message and tried to put it in a form suited to the needs of contemporary Indian society.
- Swami Vivekananda stressed social action. **Knowledge unaccompanied by action in the actual world in which we lived was useless**, he said.
- He **condemned the caste system and the Hindu emphasis on rituals, ceremonies**, and superstitions, and urged the people to imbibe the spirit of liberty, equality, and free thinking.
- In 1896, **Vivekananda founded the Ramakrishna Mission** to carry on humanitarian relief and social work. The Mission had many branches in different parts of the country and carried on social service by opening schools, hospitals, and dispensaries, orphanages, libraries, etc. It laid emphasis not on personal salvation but on social good or social service.

Q 59.C

- The validity of the Twenty-fifth Amendment was challenged in Kesavananda Bharati v. the State of Kerala along with the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-ninth Amendments. The Court overruled Golaknath case judgment and declared that Article 368 did not enable Parliament to alter the basic structure or framework of the Constitution.
- The Parliament under Article 368 can amend any part of the Constitution including the Fundamental Rights but without affecting the 'basic structure' of the Constitution. However, the Supreme Court is yet to define or clarify as to what constitutes the 'basic structure' of the Constitution. From the various judgements, the following have emerged as elements of the 'basic structure' of the constitution:
  - **Supremacy of the Constitution**
  - Sovereign, democratic and republican nature of the Indian polity
  - Secular character of the Constitution
  - Separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary
  - Federal character of the Constitution

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- Unity and integrity of the nation
- Welfare state (socio-economic justice)
- **Judicial review**
- Freedom and dignity of the individual
- Parliamentary system
- Rule of law
- **Harmony and balance between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles**
- Principle of equality
- Free and fair elections
- **Independence of Judiciary**
- Limited power of Parliament to amend the Constitution
- Effective access to justice
- Principles (or essence) underlying fundamental rights.
- Powers of the Supreme Court under Articles 32, 136, 141 and 142
- Powers of the High Courts under Articles 226 and 227

Q 60.D

- In the Government of India Act of 1919 there was a provision which read that the British Government would appoint at the end of ten years a Royal Commission to investigate into the working of the constitution and report upon such change as may be found necessary.Consequently, the **Simon Commission was appointed in 1928,** which was purely a parliamentary commission **excluding Indian** members. The Indian National Congress, therefore, opposed the Commission and carried on a great agitation against it throughout the country. There was a chorus of protest by all Indians against the appointment of an all-white, seven-member Indian Statutory Commission, popularly known as the Simon Commission (after the name of its chairman Sir John Simon), on November 8, 1927. The commission was **to recommend** to the Government **whether India was ready for further constitutional reforms and on what lines.** (Although constitutional reforms were due only in 1929, the Conservative Government, then in power in Britain, feared defeat by the Labour Party and thus did not want to leave the question of the future of Britain's most priced colony in "irresponsible Labour hands".) The Conservative Secretary of State, Lord Birkenhead, who had constantly talked of the inability of Indians to formulate a concrete scheme of constitutional reforms which had the support of wide sections of Indian political opinion, was responsible for the appointment of the Simon Commission.
- Thus,Simon Commission Came in 1928 t**o explore possibility of further constitutional advance in India.** It was boycotted by Indians because no Indian represented in the commission.
  Hence, statement (d) is correct.

Q 61.B

- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has been implementing the 'National Policy and Action Plan' since 2015 to combat Left Wing Extremism (LWE). It had categorized 106 districts in 10 states as Left Wing Extremism affected.
- These districts were covered under the **Security Related Expenditure Scheme (SRE)** of the MHA for the purpose of reimbursement of security related expenditure like transportation, communication, hiring of vehicles, **stipend for surrendered Maoists**, temporary infrastructure for forces etc. to the states.
- Recently, the Ministry undertook a comprehensive exercise in consultation with the States to review the affected districts in order to ensure that the deployment of resources is in sync with the changed ground reality. Accordingly, from April, 2018, 44 districts have been excluded and 08 new districts have been added to the list of SRE districts.
- In order to counter Maoist efforts to expand their influence in the tribal areas at the tri-junction of Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, **three districts of Kerala have been included in the list of SRE Districts.**
- Despite the fact that there is hardly any violence in the new districts, the move is pre-emptive.
- **As a result of the exercise, 90 districts in 11 States are now covered by the Scheme, down from 126.** The list of 'Most Affected Districts' has been pruned to 30, down from 36. The revised categorization is a more realistic representation of the actual LWE scenario.
- However, the MHA has received requests from Punjab and Gujarat police that security-related expenditure given to the Naxal violence-affected states should also be extended to others affected by Maoists activities in urban areas.

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Q 62.A

- **Statement 1 is correct:** UMANG provides a single **platform for all Indian Citizens to access pan India e-Gov services ranging from Central to Local Government bodies** and other citizen centric services.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** UMANG (Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance) is envisaged to make e-governance . It is developed **by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and National e-Governance Division (NeGD)** to drive Mobile Governance in India.
- UMANG intends to provide major services offered by Central and State Government departments, Local bodies and other utility services from private organizations. It **provides a unified approach where citizens can install one application to avail multiple government services.**

Q 63.D

- **Naujawan Bharat Sabha : 1926:** Bhagat Singh founded the **Naujawan Bharat Sabha (1926)** in Punjab as an open wing of revolutionaries to carry out political work among the youth, peasants and workers, and it was to open branches in villages. Bhagat and Sukhdev also organised the Lahore Students' Union for open, legal work among students. Bhagat and his comrades realised that a revolution meant organisation and development of a mass movement of the exploited and the suppressed sections by the revolutionary intelligentsia. **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched**
- **All India Kisan Congress Sabha : 1936:** This sabha was founded in Lucknow in **April 1936 with Swami Sahjanand Saraswati** as the president and N.G. Ranga as the general secretary. A kisan manifesto, which was adopted in August, contained radical demands, such as the abolition of zamindari, graduated income tax on agricultural income, granting of occupancy rights to all tenants and scaling down of interest rates and debt was issued and a periodical under Indulal Yagnik started. The AIKS and the Congress held their sessions in Faizpur in 1936. The Congress manifesto (especially the agrarian policy) for the 1937 provincial elections was strongly influenced by the AIKS agenda. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- **Congress Socialist Party : 1934:** The Congress Socialist Party was formed in 1934 as a leftwing pressure group inside the Indian National Congress, with the twin objective of achievement of complete independence in the sense of separation from the British Empire, and the establishment of a Socialist society. The founding fathers of the C.S.P. were mostly middle-class intellectuals who had come under the influence both of nationalism and socialism.Peasant movement activists and Young Socialists, the most prominent of whom were **Jayaprakash Narayan**, Ashok Mehta, Achyuta Patwardhan, Yusuf Meherally, S.M. Joshi and N.G. Goray, latter on joined by some senior Congressmen from the Kashi Vidyapith, Acharya Narendra Deva, Shri Sampurnananda and Shri Sriparakas, met in Patna in May 1934 and formed the new Party. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

Q 64.D

- It is the duty of the Commission to receive and inquire into a complaint from any person:
  - who has not been able to submit an information request because of non-appointment of a Public Information Officer;
  - **who has been refused information that was requested;**
  - **who has not received response to his information request within the specified time limits;**
  - who thinks the fees charged are unreasonable;
  - **who thinks information given is incomplete, misleading or false; and**
  - any other matter relating to obtaining information.

  Hence, all statements are correct.

Q 65.D

- British subjects in 1873 had been exempted from trial by Indian magistrates. A bill introduced by the Law member C.P. Ilbert on 2 February 1883 proposed to give Indian district magistrates and sessions judges the power to try European offenders in the mofussil as they already did in the presidency towns. Immediately, the whole European community began an agitation to oppose the bill. The bill was withdrawn in January 1884. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The bill was not opposed by the Indians. The bitter controversy deepened antagonism between the British and Indians and was a prelude to the formation of the Indian National Congress. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

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Q 66.A

- Article 360 empowers the president to proclaim a Financial Emergency if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen due to which the financial stability or credit of India or any part of its territory is threatened. The satisfaction of the president in declaring a Financial Emergency is not beyond judicial review. **Hence statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is not correct.**
- A proclamation declaring financial emergency must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within two months from the date of its issue. However, if the proclamation of Financial Emergency is issued at a time when the Lok Sabha has been dissolved or the dissolution of the Lok Sabha takes place during the period of two months without approving the proclamation, then the proclamation survives until 30 days from the first sitting of the Lok Sabha after its reconstitution, provided the Rajya Sabha has in the meantime approved it. **Once approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the Financial Emergency continues indefinitely till it is revoked. This implies two things:**
  - **there is no maximum period prescribed for its operation. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
  - repeated parliamentary approval is not required for its continuation.

Q 67.C

- The consequences of the proclamation of a Financial Emergency are as follows
  - The executive authority of the Centre extends
    - to directing any state to observe such canons of financial propriety as are specified by it; and
    - to directions as the President may deem necessary and adequate for the purpose.
  - Any such direction may include a provision requiring
    - the reduction of salaries and allowances of all or any class of persons serving in the state; and
    - **the reservation of all money bills or other financial bills for the consideration of the President after they are passed by the legislature of the state.**
  - The President may issue directions for the reduction of salaries and allowances of
    - all or any class of persons serving the Union; and
    - the judges of the Supreme Court and the high court.
- The Governor can reserve certain types of bills passed by the state legislature for the consideration of the President. So when a bill is reserved by the Governor for the consideration of the President, the President has three alternatives (Under Article 201 of the Constitution):
  - He may give his assent to the bill, or
  - **He may withhold his assent to the bill (i.e absolute veto), or**
  - He may direct the governor to return the bill (if it is not a money bill) for the reconsideration of the state legislature. If the bill is passed again by the state legislature with or without amendments and presented again to the President for his assent, the President is not bound to give his assent
- **Hence, both the statements are correct.**

Q 68.A

- Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) was a revolutionary organisation **inspired by socialist ideas**. Also known as, Hindustan Socialist Republican Army,it was established in 1928 at Feroz Shah Kotla New Delhi **by the younger revolutionaries Chandrasekhar Azad, Bhagat Singh**, Sukhdev and others.
- **The manifesto of HSRA was written by Bhagwati Charan Vohra**. With an aim to organise an armed revolution to overthrow the colonial government and establish in its place a Federal Republic of United States of India whose basic principle would be **adult franchise. Hence Statements 1 and 3 are correct.**
- The HSRA decided to work under a collective leadership and adopted socialism as its official goal. **Hence Statement 2 is not correct.**
- Previously it was known as Hindustan Republican Association (HRA) whose written constitution and published manifesto titled The Revolutionary was produced as a witness in the Kakori conspiracy case of 1925.

Q 69.A

- **Delhi Manifesto:** On November 2, 1929 a conference of prominent national leaders issued a Delhi Manifesto which put forward certain conditions for attending the Round Table Conferences
- Delhi Proposals: The proposals made by the Muslim league to incorporate into the making of the constitution
- Delhi Pact: Also called the Gandhi-Irwin pact signed between the Congress and the British government.

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Q 70.B

- The Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) was launched on December 23, 1993 as a programme for Members of Parliament (MPs) to recommend development projects in their constituencies. The MP may recommend capital works projects in sectors such as infrastructure development, public health, sanitation, and water.
- Under the scheme, each MP has the choice to suggest to the District Collector for works to the tune of Rs.5 Crores per annum to be taken up in his/her constituency. At the district level, district authority is responsible for overall coordination and supervision of the works. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Lok Sabha MPs can recommend projects in their constituencies while Rajya Sabha MPs can apply funds for projects anywhere in their state. Nominated members of Parliament can use MPLADS anywhere in India. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The scheme is administered by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), which formulates the guidelines, releases funds, and monitors implementation. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- Recently, Central Information Commission (CIC) has recommended that the Chairperson of Rajya Sabha and Speaker of Lok Sabha to consider various measures for making the utilisation of funds under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) more transparent and accountable by "imposing liabilities for dereliction of those duties and breach of rules and regulations".

Q 71.C

- **The features described above are of Quit India movement.**The Quit India Resolution was ratified at AICC Meeting (Gowalia Tank, Bombay) on August 8, 1942. Meeting resolved to:
  - **demand an immediate end to British rule in India.**
  - declare commitment of free India to defend itself against all types of Fascism and imperialism.
  - form a provisional Government of India after British withdrawal.
  - sanction a civil disobedience movement against British rule.
- Gandhi was named the leader of the struggle. **All front-ranking leaders of the Congress, including Gandhi, were arrested in the early morning of 9 August and this was followed by unprecedented mass fury that goes by the name of "August Revolution" in nationalist legends.**
- **Parallel governments were established at many places such as Ballia, Tamluk, Satara etc.**

Q 72.A

- 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.
  - 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 2 is not correct.**
  - Further, **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 3 is not correct.**

Q 73.A

- Tebhaga movement occured in Bengal in the aftermath of Bengal Famine of 1943. It gradually cuminated into support of a longstanding demand of the sharecroppers for two-thirds share of the produce, instead of the customary half. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- In Tebhaga movement, women participation was very much limited due to the resistance from communist party. Women's leadership could emerge only when the leadership of the Communist Party "abstained".

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The trade unions in general, although they mobilised working class women, ignored women's issues, which were "subsumed within male or general working-class interests. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

- The Bengal Land Revenue Commission, popularly known as the Floud Commission, had made recommendations of tebhaga— two-thirds' share—to the bargardars, the share croppers also known as bagehasi or adhyar, instead of the one-half share. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 74.B

- **Policy of Equal Federation: 1935-1947 :** The Indian Princes were invited at the Round Table Conferences during 1930-31. In the Federal structure proposed for the whole of India by the Government of India Act, 1935, a Federal Assembly with seat-sharing scheme in which 125 out of 375 seats for the princes and the Council of States with 104 out of 160 seats for, the princes. Under its scheme, an **All-India federation,** which was subject to ratification by states **representing more than half of the population and entitled to more than half of the seats in the Council of States.**
- The Federation of India was to come into existence only when rulers of states representing not less than one- half of the total population of the states and entitled to not less than half of the seats (i.e., 52) allotted to the states in the upper chamber of the Federal Legislature agreed to join the Federation.This scheme never came into existence and after the outbreak of World War II (September 1939) and it was dropped altogether.**Hence, only option (b) is correct.**

Q 75.D

- The Age of Consent Act 1891 raised the age of consummation of marriage (garbhadhan), and not marriage, from ten to twelve. The Act of 1860 had prohibited consummation for a Hindu girl of marriage below ten years of age.
- The Act was opposed by conservative and obscurantist elements and a section of nationalist leadership who argued that the foreign rulers had no right to interfere with the religious and social customs of the Indians. In Maharashtra the opposition to the Act was led by Bal Gangadhar Tilak and his Poona Sarvajanik Sabha in alliance with the Poona revivalists. As early as 1885 Tilak had been organizing meetings to oppose government intervention in marriage customs and now he proposed that education rather than legislation was the most legitimate method of eradicating the evil.
- **Hence neither statement 1 nor 2 is correct.**

Q 76.C

- **Article 124 (4)** of the Indian Constitution provides that **a Judge of the Supreme Court shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the President** passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than twothirds of the members of that House present and voting has been presented to the President in the same session **for such removal on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.**
- **Article 217(1)(b)** provides that a Judge may be removed from his office by the President in the manner provided in clause (4) of Article 124 for the removal of a Judge of the Supreme Court. Thus, **a judge of a high court can be removed in the same manner and on the same grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court.**
- A judge of Supreme Court/High Court shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the President passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by the majority of the total members of the House and by the majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the House present and voting has been presented to the President in the same session for such removal on the ground of proved misbehavior or incapacity
- **Hence, both the statements are correct.**

Q 77.B

- 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. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The conditions of service of the chairman or a member, though determined by the President, cannot be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

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- 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.
- 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. **Hence statement 3 is correct**.
- 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).

Q 78.D

- In the Lahore Congress of 1929, the congress sanctioned for Civil disobedience movement and the National Flag was unfurled near the banks of the Ravi river. Gandhi inaugurated the campaign on 12 March 1930, by embarking along with a band of 78 followers on a 241 mile march from Ahmedabad to the village of Dandi (in Navasari district) on the sea-coast and thus began an all-India campaign of the breach of salt laws.
- The British government unleashed the harshest repression the Congress had yet known. In Bihar, Bengal, Gujarat and United Province mostly, a campaign was organised for **refusal to pay chowkidara tax or No-Chowkidari Tax** and, a call was given for resignation of chowkidars and influential members of chowkidari Panchayat who appointed these chowkidars. This campaign was particularly successful in Monghyr, Saran and Bhagalpur. The Government retaliated with beatings, torture and confiscation of property. In Bengal, Anti-chowkidara tax and anti-union board tax campaign here was met with repression and confiscation of property. In Gujarat, The impact was felt in Anand, Borsad and Nadiad areas, in Kheda district, Bardoli in Surat district and Jambusar in Bharuch district. A determined no-tax movement was organised here which included refusal to pay, land revenue.
- On May 21, 1930, **Sarojini Naidu, Imam Sahib and Manilal (Gandhi's son) took up the unfinished task** of leading a raid on **Dharsana Salt** Works.The **Dharsana Satyagrahis** were unarmed and peaceful crowd but were met with a brutal lathicharge which left 2 dead and 320 injured. This new form of salt satyagraha was eagerly adopted by people in Wadala (Bombay),Karnataka (Sanikatta Salt Works), Andhra, Midnapore, Balasore, Puri and Cuttack.
- **In Assam**, J.R. Cunningham, the then powerful director of public information of Assam, issued a circular, which came to be known as **"Cunningham Circular"** in **1930**, imposing a blanket ban on any anti-British and pro-swadeshi activity by students. He also ordered them to sign an undertaking to the effect that they would have to quit their schools and colleges if they participated in anti-government demonstrations or movements. Refusing to oblige, thousands of students throughout Assam left their institutions of learning. There were about 400 such students in Guwahati alone. A group of philanthropists came to the rescue of these students and decided to start a swadeshi school in the city on the lines of national schools being established in Calcutta, Sylhet, Habiganj, Karimganj, Silchar and elsewhere in the country. **Hence, All the Options are Correct.**

Q 79.A

- Article 110 of the Constitution deals with the definition of money bills. It states that a bill is deemed to be a money bill if it contains 'only' provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters:
  - The imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax;
  - The **regulation of the borrowing of money by the Union government**; **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - The custody of the Consolidated Fund of India or the contingency fund of India, the payment of moneys into or the withdrawal of money from any such fund;
  - The **appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Fund of India; Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - Declaration of any expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India or increasing the amount of any such expenditure;
  - The receipt of money on account of the Consolidated Fund of India or the public account of India or the custody or issue of such money, or the audit of the accounts of the Union or of a state; or
  - Any matter incidental to any of the matters specified above.

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- **But a Bill shall not be deemed to be a Money Bill by reason only** that it provides for the imposition of fines or other pecuniary penalties, or for the demand or payment of fees for licences or fees for services rendered, or by reason that it provides for the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or **regulation of any tax by any local authority or body for local purposes. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 80.C

- **Article 16 of the Constitution states that there shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matter of public employment or appointment to any office under the State. This right comes under Right to equality (14-18).**
- It also prohibits the State from discriminating against citizens on grounds of only religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth or residence or any of them in respect of any employment or office under the State.
- **Hence the correct answer is option (c).**

Q 81.A

- The revolutionaries in northern India were the first to emerge out of the mood of frustration and reorganize under the leadership of the old veterans, Ramprasad Bismil, Jogesh Chatterjea and **Sachindranath Sanyal whose Bandi Jiwan** served as a textbook to the revolutionary movement.
- They met in Kanpur in October 1924 and **founded the Hindustan Republican Association (or HSRA)** to organize armed revolution to overthrow colonial rule and establish in its place a Federal Republic of the United States of India whose basic principle would be adult franchise. The party members contacted students. They contacted soldiers stationed especially at Mian Mir (Lahoare), Jalandhar, Firozpur, Peshawar, Jhelum, Rawalpindi, Mardan, Kohat, Bannu, Ambala, Meerut,. Kanpur and Agra cantonments. The soldiers were generally in sympathy with the movement. Many party workers joined the army with a view to obtaining arms and ammunition. Contacts were also established with Bengal revolutionaries such as Rash Behari Bose whose close companions were Sachin Sanyal and Vishnu Ganesh Pingle. Pingle acted as a link between the Ghadr party and Bengalis.
- In 1908, Barrah dacoity was organized by Dacca Anushilan under Pulin Das. Rashbehari Bose and **Sachin Sanyal staged a spectacular bomb attack on Viceroy Hardinge** while he was making his official entry into the new capital in a procession through Chandni Chowk in Delhi in December 1912.Inflamed by the outbreak of the world War-I, the **Ghadr leader**s decided to launch a violent attack on British rule in India. They urged fighters to go to India. Kartar Singh Saraba. and Raghubar Dayal Gupta left for India. Bengal revolutionaries were contacted; Rashbehari Bose and **Sachin Sanyal were asked to lead the movement.** Political dacoities were committed to raise funds. Aided by the Defence of India Rules, 1915 Sachin Sanyal was transported for life. **Hence, option (a) is correct.**

Q 82.C

- The Communal Award was announced by the British Prime Minister, Ramsay MacDonald, in August 1932. This was another expression of the British policy of divide and rule.The Communal Award declared the depressed classes also to be minorities, and entitled them to separate electorates. The Muslims, Sikhs and Christians had already been recognised as minorities.
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 83.A

- Though the first session of Congress took place in Bombay in 1885 under the presidentship W.C. Bonnerji, the constitution of Congress was framed later. The Constitution of the Congress was first framed during the Madras session of 1908 under the presidentship of Rash Behari Ghosh. A new constitution was adopted during the Nagpur Session of 1920 under the presidentship of C. Vijayaraghavachariar. **Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- At the Madras session of 1927 under the presidentship of M.A. Ansari, the Independence Resolution was adopted. This is not to be confused with the Purna Swaraj Resolution which was adopted in the Lahore session of 1929 under the presidentship of Jawaharlal Nehru. **Hence pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- The first session of Congress to take place in a village was the Faizpur session of 1936 under the presidentship of Jawaharlal Nehru. **Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

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- At the Haripura session of 1938 under the presidentship of Subhash Chandra Bose, the National Planning Committee was set up under the chairmanship of Jawaharlal Nehru.

Q 84.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** The land revenue system of Permanent Settlement was introduced by Charles Cornwallis in 1793 who was the Governor General of Bengal at that time.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It was introduced to ensure regular flow of revenue for the East India Company. Also, under the system, the entrepreneurs could feel sure of earning a profit from their investment, since the state would not siphon it off by increasing its claim. The process, officials hoped, would lead to the emergence of a class of yeomen farmers and rich landowners who would have the capital and enterprise to improve agriculture. Nurtured by the British, this class would also be loyal to the Company.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** It failed as the Zamindars regularly failed to pay the revenue demand and unpaid balances accumulated. It was because of initial demands were very high. Also, the Permanent Settlement initially limited the power of the zamindar to collect rent from the ryot and manage his zamindari.

Q 85.B

- **SIMON COMMISSION REPORT: June,1930** Lord Bikenhead, the Secretary of State for India announced in the Parliament for the appointment 'of a Parliamentary Commission or Royal Commission or Statutory Commission popularly known as the Simon Commission on November 8, 1927, with Sir John Simon as its chairman. This "all-white Commission" had to report about the functioning of the Constitution and recommended 20 further reforms contained no mention of dominion status and was in other ways also a regressive document, further upset even moderate political opinion.The report of the Commission, published in June, 1930.
- **NEHRU REPORT (1928)** As an answer to Lord Birkenhead's challenge, an All Parties Conference met in February 1928 and appointed a sub-committee under the chairmanship of Motilal Nehru to draft a constitution. This was the first major attempt by the Indians to draft a constitutional framework for the country. The committee included Tej Bahadur Sapru, Subhash Bose, M.S.Aney, Mangal Singh, Ali Imam, Shuab Qureshi and G.R. Pradhan as its members. The report was finalized by August 1928. The recommendations of the Nehru Committee were unanimous except in one respect—while the majority favored the "dominion status" as the basis of the Constitution, a section of it wanted "complete independence" as the basis, with the majority section giving the latter section liberty of action It was the First Indian effort to draft a constitutional scheme.

  Recommendations —
  - Dominion status , not separate electorates, but joint electorates with reserved seats for minorities. linguistic provinces. 19 fundamental rights including universal adult franchise and equal rights for women, responsible government at center and in provinces.

  DELHI PROPOSALS : 1927 Though the process of drafting a constitutional framework was begun enthusiastically and unitedly by political leaders, communal differences crept in and the Nehru Report got involved in controversies over the issue of communal representation. Earlier, in December 1927, a large number of Muslim leaders had met at Delhi at the Muslim League session and evolved four proposals for Muslim demands to be incorporated in the draft constitution. These proposals, which were accepted by the Madras session of the Congress (December 1927), came to be known as the **'Delhi Proposals'.**

  Major Proposals:
  - joint electorates in place of separate electorates with reserved seats for Muslims; one-third representation to Muslims in Central Legislative Assembly; •representation to Muslims in Punjab and Bengal in proportion to their population; formation of three new Muslim majority provinces— Sindh, Baluchistan and North-West Frontier Province.

  AUGUST OFFER : 1940 Hitler's astounding success and the fall of Belgium,Holland and France put England in a conciliatory mood. To get Indian cooperation in the war effort, the viceroy announced the August Offer(August 1940). Major proposals:
  - Dominion status as the objective for India. Expansion of viceroy's executive council. Setting up of a constituent assembly after the war. Indians would decide the constitution according to their social, economic and political conceptions, subject to fulfillment of the obligation of the Government

regarding defence, minority rights, treaties with states, all India services. • no future constitution to be adopted without the consent of minorities.

The Congress rejected the August Offer.

Q 86.A

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Lack **of support from the French government** and the company at the crucial juncture was a major factor in the failure of Duleix against Clive. The French government was anxious to retain its possessions in North America. By the Treaty of Aix-La-Chappelle which brought an end to the first Anglo-French war, France to return the English possessions in India in exchange of return of the French possessions in North America.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** The English Company profited a lot from the trade in Bengal and its resources from Bengal proved to be a decisive factor in its victory over the French company. However, the French company too had a toe hold in Bengal in the form of its settlement in Chandernagore.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** The French were the last among the European powers to arrive in India; but they were the first to conceive the ambitious project of building a territorial empire in India. It was the French Governor General Dupleix who first showed the way of intervening in disputes of the Indian rulers and thereby acquiring political control over vast territories.

Q 87.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** Under the Rules of Rajya Sabha, the Chairman nominates from amongst the members a panel of Vice-Chairpersons.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Any one of the members of the panel can preside over the House in the absence of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman. He has the same powers as the Chairman when so presiding. He holds office until a new panel of vice-chairpersons is nominated. A member of the panel of vice chairpersons cannot preside over the House, when the office of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman is vacant. During such time, the Chairman's duties are to be performed by such member of the House as the President may appoint for the purpose.

Q 88.C

- The Constitution clearly provided a threefold distribution of legislative powers between the Union Government and the State Governments. Thus, it contains three lists:
  - **Union List** includes subjects of national importance such as defence of the country, foreign affairs, banking, communications and **currency**. They are included in this list because we need a uniform policy on these matters throughout the country. The Union Government alone can make laws relating to the subjects mentioned in the Union List.
  - **State List** contains subjects of State and local importance such as police, trade, commerce, **agriculture** and irrigation. The State Governments alone can make laws relating to the subjects mentioned in the State List.
  - **Concurrent List** includes subjects of common interest to both the Union Government as well as the State Governments, such as education, forest, trade unions, **marriage**, adoption and succession. Both the Union as well as the State Governments can make laws on the subjects mentioned in this list. If their laws conflict with each other, the law made by the Union Government will prevail.
  - **Hence, only pair 1 is correctly matched.**

Q 89.D

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** When Sir Syed came to know in 1887 that the forthcoming session of the Indian National Congress at Madras was to be presided by Badruddin Tayyabji, he could not remain silent and in order to combat the influence of the congress he set up the United Indian Patriotic Association in 1888 in which members of both communities could take part. It was actively supported by Raja Shiv Prasad of Banaras.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** The main object of it was to counter act the activities of the congress, to inform the British parliament of the steps being, taken all over India and moreover, to make the English understand that Muslims were not taking part in the Indian National Congress.

Q 90.B

- The discussion at the Third Round Table Conference resulted in a White Paper in 1934 containing proposals incorporated in a Bill and presented to the Parliament for passage. This came to be known as the

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Government of India Act of 1935 and was passed by the British Parliament. The 1935 Act was the second installment of constitutional reforms passed by British Parliament for implementing the ideal of responsible government in India. The Act of 1935 envisaged a federal form of government and as such was a radical departure from its predecessors.The Government of India Act, 1935 proposed a Federal Assembly with 125 out of 375 seats for the princes and the Council of States with 104 out of 160 seats for,the princes, under its scheme of an all-India federation, which was subject to ratification by states representing more than half of the population and entitled to more than half of the seats in the Council of States

- **Major Provisions of Government of India Act, 1935:**
  - Introduced federation and provincial autonomy; the envisaged federation never came into being.
  - **The federal subjects were divided into** two fold **categories of Reserved and Transferred subjects.**
  - The bicameral central legislatures to consist of Federal Assembly and Council of State.
  - **It abolished the council of India, established by the Government of India Act of 1858. The secretary of state for India was provided with a team of advisors in its place.**
  - The **system of Dyarchy** (as introduced in GoI Act, 1919) was done away with in Provinces
  - Three-fold division of legislative power (federal, provincial and concurrent lists).

Hence, only statements 1 and 3 are correct

Q 91.B

- **INDIGO REVOLT : 1859-1860**
  In Bengal, the indigo planters, nearly all Europeans, exploited the local peasants by forcing them to grow indigo on their lands instead of the more paying crops like rice. The planters forced the peasants to take advance sums and enter into fraudulent contracts which were then used against the peasants. The anger of the peasants exploded in 1859, led by **Digambar Biswas and Bishnu Biswas** of Nadia district, they decided not to grow Indigo under duress and resisted the physical pressure of the planters and their lathiyals (retainers) backed by police and the courts. The ryots replied by going on a rent strike by refusing to pay the enhanced rents and by physically resisting the attempts to evict them. Gradually, they learned to use the legal machinery and initiated legal action supported by fund collection. The Bengali intelligentsia played a significant role by supporting the peasants' cause through newspaper campaigns, organization of mass meetings, preparing memoranda on peasants' grievances and supporting them in legal battles. The Government appointed an **Indigo commission** to inquire into the problem of indigo cultivation. Based on its recommendations, the Government issued a notification in November 1860 that the ryots could not be compelled to grow indigo and that it would ensure that all disputes were settled by legal means. But, the planters were already closing down factories and indigo cultivation was virtually **wiped out from Bengal by the end of 1860.**
- **KISAN SABHA MOVEMENT : 1919-1922**
  After the 1857 revolt, the Awadh taluqdars had got back their lands. This strengthened the hold of the taluqdars or big landlords over the agrarian society of the province. The majority of the cultivators were subjected to high rents, summary evictions (bedakhali), illegal levies, renewal fees or nazrana. The First World War had hiked the prices of food and other necessities. This worsened the conditions of the UP peasants. Mainly due to the efforts of the Home Rule activists, kisan sabhas were organised in UP. The UP Kisan Sabha was set up in February 1918 by **Gauri Shankar Mishra** and Indra Dwivedi. Madan Mohan Malaviya supported their efforts. By June 1919, the UP Kisan Sabha had 450 branches. In October 1920, the Awadh Kisan Sabha came into existence because of differences in nationalist ranks. From the earlier forms of mass meetings and mobilization, the patterns of activity changed rapidly in January 1921 to the looting of bazaars, houses, granaries and clashes with the police. The centres of activity were primarily the districts of Rai Bareilly, Faizabad and Sultanpur. The movement declined soon, partly due to government repression and partly because of the passing of the Awadh Rent (Amendment) Act.
- **EKA MOVEMENT : 1921-1922**
  Eka Movement, Towards the end of 1921, peasant discontent resurfaced in some northern **districts of the United Provinces**—Hardoi, Bahraich, Sitapur. The issues involved were high rents-50 per cent higher than the recorded rates,oppression of thikadars in charge of revenue collection and practice of share-rents. The meetings of the Eka or the Unity Movement involved a symbolic religious ritual in which the assembled peasants vowed that they would
  - pay only the recorded rent but would pay it on time;
  - not leave when evicted;

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- refuse to do forced labour;
- give no help to criminals
- abide by panchayat decisions.

The grassroot leadership of the Eka Movement came from **Madari Pasi** and other low-caste leaders, and many small zamindars.By March 1922, severe repression by authorities brought the movement to an end.

BARDOLI SATYAGRAHA : 1928

The Bardoli taluqa in Surat district had witnessed intense politicization after the coming of Gandhi on the national political scene. The movement sparked off in January 1926 when the authorities decided to increase the land revenue by 30 per cent. The Congress leaders were quick to protest and a Bardoli Inquiry Committee was set up to go into the issue. The committee found the revenue hike to be unjustified. In February 1926, **Vallabhbhai Patel was called to lead the movement**. The women of Bardoli gave him the title of "Sardar". Under Patel, the Bardoli peasants resolved to refuse payments of the revised assessment until the Government appointed an independent tribunal or accepted the current amount as full payment. Special emphasis was placed on the mobilization of women. K.M. Munshi and Lalji Naranji resigned from the Bombay Legislative Council in support of the movement. By August 1928, massive tension had built up in the 'area. There were prospects of a railway strike in Bombay. Gandhi reached Bardoli to stand by in case of any emergency. The Government was looking for a graceful withdrawal now. It set the condition that first the enhanced rent be, paid by all the occupants (not actually done). Then, a committee went into the whole affair and found the revenue hike to be unjustified and recommended a rise of 6.03 per cent only.

Hence, only 2 and 4 are correctly matched.

Q 92.A

- Government of India had, in January 2016, approved the establishment of **two National Centres for Ageing-one each at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, and the Madras Medical College, Chennai** under the **tertiary level component of National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE).**
- Both the centres are expected to be Centres of Excellence in the field of Geriatric Care in the country.
- The functions of the National Centres will be (i) Health care delivery; (ii) Training of health professionals; (iii) Research activities along with 200 bedded in-patient services.
- **So, they will provide state of art clinical care to the elderly population and shall play a key role in guiding research in the field of geriatric medicine and related specialties**. **Hence statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Centres will also be key training facilities for under graduate and post graduate courses.
- The basic objective is to upscale the health-care activities at tertiary level so that specialised health-care can be given to the elderly as they suffer from higher prevalence of disease burden including multiple chronic disease with disability and other mental health problems.
- The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of the National Centre for Ageing at AIIMS in June, 2018.

Q 93.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** The scheme is aimed at addressing the criticality of ground-water resources in the country. It aims to improve ground water management in priority areas in the country through community participation. The priority areas identified under the scheme fall in the states of Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The scheme emphasizes community participation in groundwater management. It envisages active participation of the communities in various activities such as formation of Water User Associations, monitoring and disseminating ground water data, water budgeting, preparation and implementation of Gram-Panchayat wise water security plans and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities related to sustainable ground water management.
- **Statement 3 is correct**: The World Bank has approved Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABHY), a Rs.6000 crore Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. The scheme is to be implemented over a period of five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23, with World Bank assistance.

Q 94.B

- Gandhiji's political activism between 1894 to 1906 may be classified as the 'Moderate" phase of the struggle of the South African Indians.

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- During this phase, **he concentrated on petitioning and sending memorials to the South African legislatures,** the Colonial Secretary in London and the British Parliament. During this phase Gandhiji voiced his protest against the oppression faced by the Indian community and **gave wide publicity to their demands through the press. He wrote letters to the Natal Advertiser.** He started a paper called Indian Opinion. The second phase of struggle that in South Africa, which began in 1906, was characterized by the use of the method of passive resistance or civil disobedience, which Gandhiji named Satyagrah.
- **Gandhiji began the first of his seventeen fast unto death on 15 March 1918, in Ahmedabad and not in South Africa.**

Q 95.A

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The fundamental principle underlying the working of Parliamentary system of government is the principle of collective responsibility. It means that all the ministers own joint responsibility to the Lok Sabha for all their acts of omission and commission. They work as a team and swim or sink together. When the Lok Sabha passes a no-confidence motion against the Council of Minister, all the ministers have to resign including those ministers who are from the Rajya Sabha.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** The notion of Collective responsibility of Council of Ministers is provided by the Constitution under Article 75 which clearly states that the Council of Ministers is Collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha. Thus, it is both provided for in the Constitution as well a practice borne out of parliamentary convention.

Q 96.B

- Gloriosa superba is the **State flower of Tamil Nadu.** It contains 24 types of alkaloids (nitrogenous organic compounds) and 10 non-alkaloidal medicinal compounds, is widely used in **native medicinal compositions and in the treatment of gout and as a pain killer in allopathic medicine.**
- The plant is widely cultivated in Tiruchi, Karur, Ariyalur, Dindigul, Namakkal, Erode and Coimbatore districts in Tamil Nadu. In Tiruchi district, the plant is cultivated in more than 250 acres of land in Thuraiyur and Vaiyambadi areas. The cultivation of Gloriosa superba has started to spread in recent years because of its high demand, higher rate of returns and resistance to vagaries of monsoon. A kg of this flower costs Rs. 3420. The chemical, Colchicine, extracted from the seeds, is used in treating joint pains and rheumatism.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 97.D

- Some of the powers and functions of the Election Commission are:
  - To determine the territorial areas of the electoral constituencies throughout the country on the basis of the Delimitation Commission Act of Parliament.
  - **To prepare and periodically revise electoral rolls** and to register all eligible voters. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - To notify the dates and schedules of elections and to scrutinise nomination papers.
  - To grant recognition to political parties and allot election symbols to them.
  - **To act as a court for settling disputes related to granting of recognition to political parties and allotment of election symbols to them. Hence statement 3 is correct.**
  - To appoint officers for inquiring into disputes relating to electoral arrangements.
  - To determine the code of conduct to be observed by the parties and the candidates at the time of elections.
  - To prepare a roster for publicity of the policies of the political parties on radio and TV in times of elections.
  - **To advise the President on matters relating to the disqualifications of the members of Parliament. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - To advise the Governor on matters relating to the disqualifications of the members of state legislature.
  - To cancel polls in the event of rigging, booth capturing, violence and other irregularities.
  - To request the President or the Governor for requisitioning the staff necessary for conducting elections.
- To supervise the machinery of elections throughout the country to ensure free and fair elections.
- To advise the president whether elections can be held in a state under president's rule in order to extend the period of emergency after one year.

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- To register political parties for the purpose of elections and grant them the status of national or state parties on the basis of their poll performance.

Q 98.A

- **The Zonal Councils are the statutory (and not the constitutional) bodies.** They are established by an Act of the Parliament, that is, States Reorganisation Act of 1956. The act divided the country into five zones (Northern, Central, Eastern, Western and Southern) and provided a zonal council for each zone. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Each zonal council consists of the following members:
  - Home Minister of Central government.
  - Chief Ministers of all the States in the zone.
  - Two other ministers from each state in the zone.
  - Administrator of each union territory in the zone.
- **The Home Minister of Central government is the common chairman of the five zonal councils. Each chief minister acts as a vice-chairman of the council by rotation, holding office for a period of one year at a time. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- **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. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- **Other Related information:** The North Eastern States i.e. (i) Assam (ii) Arunachal Pradesh (iii) Manipur (iv) Tripura (v) Mizoram (vi) Meghalaya and (vii) Nagaland are not included in the Zonal Councils and their special problems are looked after by the North Eastern Council, set up under the North Eastern Council Act, 1972. The State of Sikkim has also been included in the North Eastern Council vide North Eastern Council (Amendment) Act, 2002 notified on 23rd December, 2002. Consequently, action for exclusion of Sikkim as member of Eastern Zonal Council has been initiated by Ministry of Home Affairs.

Q 99.A

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Lord Cornwallis is known as the Father of Civil Services in India. He introduced Covenant Civil Services (Higher Civil Services) which were different from the Un-covenanted Civil Services (Lower Civil Services).
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** In 1800, Lord Wellesley (not Lord William Bentick) set up the Fort William College for training of new recruits. In 1806 Wellesley's college was disapproved by the Court of Directors and instead the East India College was set up at Haileybury in England to impart two years' training to the recruits.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** In 1878-79, Lord Lytton introduced the Statutory Civil Services consisting of one-sixth of covenanted posts to be filled by Indians of high families through nominations by local governments subject to approval by the secretary of State and the viceroy. But the system failed and was abolished.

Q 100.B

- **The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA)** has recently released its report, **"The Global State of Democracy Index (GSoD)".**
- The report attempts to assess the state of democracy in the world by looking at the trends in democratisation from 1975 to 2017. It cover a series of important indicators for the report which include -:
  - Representative Government
  - Fundamental Rights
  - Checks on the Government
  - Impartial Administration
  - Participatory Engagement
- The report puts Indian democracy as moderately well. It recognizes the positive role of Election Commission's Systematic Voters Education for Electoral Participation Programme and role of Independent Judiciary, increased role of Civil Society participation.
- However, there has been a significant dip in the country's record on Civil liberties, Personal integrity and security, Freedom of association, Media integrity, Gender equality and basic Welfare.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

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