

**IASbaba's Daily Prelims Test [Day 37]**

**Topic- Polity - Administration of Special Areas; Federal System; Inter-State Relations, Environment and Current Affairs**

**1. When the Union government gives a 'Special Status' to a particular State, what does it imply?**

1. The budget deficit of a State will be bridged by the Union Government
2. Subsequently large percentage of the Central assistance will be grants-in-aid
3. The Union government meets entire expenditure of the State during the period of 'Special Status'
4. The extent of loan as a percentage of total assistance will be high

**Solution (2)**

Special status to States means that a large percentage of the Central assistance will be in the form of grants-in-aid compared to loan for development. While the loans have to be repaid to the lender, the grant-in-aid has not to be re-paid. There are no special provisions for them (Special Category States (SCS)) in the constitution

**2. Consider the following statements:**

1. A tribal advisory council can be established either in a scheduled area or in a state having scheduled tribes but not both.
2. Laws applicable to scheduled areas come under the Fifth schedule.
3. In India, scheduled areas are those which are inhabited by the indigenous minority.

**Select the correct answer using the given codes below:**

1. 2 and 3 Only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 1 and 2 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Solution (4)**

Each state having scheduled areas has to establish a tribes advisory council to advise on welfare and advancement of the scheduled tribes. It is to consist of 20 members, three-fourths of whom are to be the representatives of the scheduled tribes in the state legislative

assembly. A similar council can also be established in a state having scheduled tribes but not scheduled areas therein, if the president so directs.

**3. In the Indian Constitution, which one of the following comes under the concurrent list?**

- 1) Trade Unions
- 2) Gambling
- 3) Prisons
- 4) Insurance

**Solution (1)**

The Parliament has exclusive powers to make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in the **Union List**. This list has at present **100 subjects** - defence, banking, foreign affairs, currency, atomic energy, **insurance**, communication, inter-state trade and commerce, census, audit etc.

The state legislature has 'in normal circumstances' exclusive powers to make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in the **State List**. This has at present **61 subjects** like public order, police, public health and sanitation, agriculture, **prisons**, local government, fisheries, markets, theaters, **gambling** etc.

Both, the Parliament and state legislature can make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in the **Concurrent List**. This list has at present **52 subjects** like criminal law and procedure, civil procedure, marriage and divorce, population control and family planning, electricity, labour welfare, **trade Unions**, economic and social planning, drugs, newspapers, books and printing press etc.

**4. Which of the following federal principles are not found in Indian federation?**

1. Federal government can redraw the boundaries of the Indian Union by forming new states.
2. Bifurcation of the Judiciary between the federal and the State government
3. The Union cannot be destroyed by any state seceding from the Union at its will.
4. The Federal and the State government have their own officials to administer their respective law and functions.

**Select the correct answer using the given codes below:**

1. 2 and 4
2. 1 and 3
3. 2 Only

4. 2 and 3

**Solution (1)**

India has a single integrated Judiciary, hence there is nothing like bifurcation of the Judiciary between the federal and the State government in India. There are central officials (IAS, IPS officers) also working in the State who plays a key role in implementation of the State Laws. Article 1, describes India as a 'Union of States' which implies two things: one, Indian Federation is not the result of an agreement by the states; and two, no state has the right to secede from the federation.

**5. Consider the following statements with regard to Zonal Council:**

1. Zonal Councils owe their origin to the parliament
2. The creation of Zonal Councils was a logical outcome of the reorganisation of the States on a linguistic basis
3. It can be used as an instrument to resist separatist tendencies
4. They make recommendations on social and economic planning of the states.

**Select the correct answer using the given codes below:**

1. 2 and 4
2. 1 and 2
3. 1, 2 and 3
4. 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Solution (4)**

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. It can be used as an instrument to resist separatist tendencies of linguism and provincialism. 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.

**6. The authority to declare an area to be a scheduled area rests with the**

1. Governor
2. President

3. Commission of Scheduled Castes and Tribes
4. Parliament

**Solution (2)**

The president is empowered to declare an area to be a scheduled area. He can also increase or decrease its area, alter its boundary lines, rescind such designation or make fresh orders for such redesignation on an area in consultation with the governor of the state concerned.

**7. With reference to the Finance Commission of India, which of the following statements is correct?**

1. It is a quasi-judicial body
2. It is constituted by the Parliament every fifth year
3. It ensures transparency in financial administration
4. Specific grants for the welfare of the scheduled tribes are based on the recommendation of the Finance Commission

**Select the correct answer using the given codes below:**

1. 1 only
2. 1 and 2
3. 1 and 4
4. 2 and 3

**Solution (3)**

Article 280 provides for a Finance Commission as a quasi-judicial body. It is constituted by the President every fifth year or even earlier. The Constitution provides for specific grants for promoting the welfare of the scheduled tribes in a state or for raising the level of administration of the scheduled areas in a state including the State of Assam. The statutory grants under Article 275 (both general and specific) are given to the states on the recommendation of the Finance Commission.

**8. In the Indian Constitution, Article 263 provides for Inter-State Council. Which of the statement[s] are correct with regard to Inter-State Council?**

1. It was set up based on the recommendation on Sarkaria Commission
2. The President is authorized to set -up the council based on interest of the public
3. Prime Minister is the chairman of the council.

**Select the correct answer using the given codes below:**

1. 2 Only
2. 1 Only
3. 2 and 3
4. 1, 2 and 3

**Solution (4)**

The Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State Relations (1983–87) made a strong case for the establishment of a permanent Inter-State Council under Article 263 of the Constitution. The for Inter-State Council was set-up based on the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission.

Article 263 contemplates the establishment of an Inter-State Council to effect coordination between the states and between Centre and states. Thus, the President can establish such a council if at any time it appears to him that the public interest would be served by its establishment.

**9. Which of the following trends in the working of the political system reflects its federal spirit?**

1. Discussions over Goods and Services Tax
2. Issue of Aadhar card
3. The emergence of regional parties
4. Land Acquisition Act, 2013
5. Arbitrary removal of Governor by the President

**Select the correct answer using the given codes below:**

1. 1 Only
2. 1 and 3
3. 1, 3 and 4
4. 1, 2, and 5

**Solution (2)**

Discussions over Goods and Services Tax and the emergence of regional parties represent a true spirit of federalism.

However Land Acquisition Act, 2013, issue of Aadhar card, arbitrary removal of Governor by the President are against the federal spirit.

Land Acquisition comes under concurrent list. The Centre has made a law (Land Acquisition Act, 2013 ) overriding the hitherto powers enjoyed by the State in terms of acquisition of

Land and compensation. This has been one of the major controversies over the Land Acquisition Act, 2013. Hence it is against the federal spirit of the Constitution.

The aim of Aadhar card is to provide an identity to an individual. It is mainly used to identify the beneficiary; it has nothing to do with the federal spirit.

**10. According to the Constitution of India, if the Parliament makes a law based on the request of two or more states, then such a law**

1. Can be amended or repealed only by the Parliament
2. Can be amended or repealed only by the concerned States
3. Can be amended or repealed either by the Parliament or the concerned States
4. Can be amended or repealed only by the Parliament with consent of the concerned States

**Solution (1)**

A law so enacted applies only to those states which have passed the resolutions. However, any other state may adopt it afterwards by passing a resolution to that effect in its legislature. Such a law can be amended or repealed only by the Parliament and not by the legislatures of the concerned states.

**11. A recent study shows that Indian Delta's are sinking rapidly and presented some peculiar facts for this. What are the possible reasons for the same?**

1. Groundwater Mining
2. Artificial levees
3. Large dams putting more sediments into rivers
4. Rise in sea level

**Select the correct codes**

1. 2, 3 and 4
2. 1 and 2
3. 1, 2, 3 and 4
4. 1, 2 and 3

Solution- 2

[http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/indian-deltas-are-sinking/article5892566.ece?utm\\_source=MostPopular&utm\\_medium=Environment&utm\\_campaign=WidgetPromo](http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/indian-deltas-are-sinking/article5892566.ece?utm_source=MostPopular&utm_medium=Environment&utm_campaign=WidgetPromo)

**12. Consider the following statements regarding Seagrass.**

1. They are non flowering plants
2. They reproduce by pollination and seeding out seeds
3. They are also used as fertilizers
4. The major seagrass meadows in India exist along the southwest coast in the lagoons of islands from Lakshadweep in the Arabian Sea.

**Select the correct code**

1. 1 and 4
2. 2 and 3
3. 1, 2 and 4
4. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution- 2

They are angiosperm (flowering plants). The major seagrass meadows in India exist along the south east coast- Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay

**13. Consider the following about 'Mammals'**

1. They can be oviparous (egg laying)
2. They are warm blooded
3. They don't have milk producing glands

**Select the correct code**

1. 1 and 2
2. 2 and 3
3. Only 2
4. 1 and 3

Solution- 1

Mammals have milk producing glands. Most mammals are viviparous, giving birth to live young. However, the five species of monotreme, the platypuses and the echidnas, lay eggs.