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Q.1) The Supreme Court judgement in 'Bijoe Emmanuel & Ors vs State of Kerala & Ors' is concerned with

- a) Basic structure of the constitution
- b) Right to healthy and pollution-free environment
- c) Provided basic definitions of sexual harassment at the workplace
- d) None of the above

Q.1) Solution (d)

The 1986 Supreme Court judgment in Bijoe Emmanuel vs. State of Kerala dealing with the expulsion of three children who belonged to the Jehovah's Witnesses sect, for refusing to sing the national anthem in school, said this was contrary to fundamental rights of free speech and freedom to practise their religion.

Source: http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/why-make-a-show-of-patriotism-sc-judge/article19908827.ece

Q.2) Consider the following statements

- 1. Governor of an Indian state draws ordinance making power from Article 213 of the constitution.
- 2. Article 123 of Constitution gives legislative power to President

Select the correct statements

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

Article 123 of Constitution

• It gives legislative power to President. He can issue ordinances when Parliament is in recess i.e. not in session if there is urgent need to have a law on some urgent public matter.

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- The ordinance has similar effect to an act of parliament. However, every ordinance must be laid and approved by both houses of the parliament within 6 weeks from the reassembling
- If not placed and approved by both houses of the parliament after reassembling it becomes invalid or lapses.

Governor of an Indian state draws ordinance making power from Article 213 of the constitution. This article empowers the governor to promulgate ordinance on urgent matter during recess of legislature. To issue an ordinance, the governor must be satisfied with the circumstances that make it necessary for him / her to take immediate action.

Governor cannot promulgate an ordinance in any of the three situations give below:

- If the ordinance has the provisions which of embodied in a bill would require president's sanction.
- If the ordinance has the provisions which the governor would reserve as a bill containing them for the president's sanction.
- If an act of the state legislature has the same provisions that would be invalid without the assent of the president.

Source: http://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/colonial-rajasthan-ordinance-vasundhara-raje-criminal-laws-govt-officials-investigation-4903373/

Q.3) Consider the following statements about '123 Agreement'

- 1. It is Civil Nuclear agreement signed between India and Japan
- 2. India agreed to separate its civil and military nuclear facilities and to place all its civil nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards

Select the correct statements

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

Q.3) Solution (b)

The bilateral "Agreement for Co-operation between the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy"

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has been done in view of the requirement for the US side under Section 123 of its Atomic Energy Act 1954. Hence it is also popularly known as the 123 Agreement.

The framework for this agreement was a July 18, 2005, joint statement by then Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and then U.S. President George W. Bush, under which India agreed to separate its civil and military nuclear facilities and to place all its civil nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards and, in exchange, the United States agreed to work toward full civil nuclear cooperation with India. This U.S.-India deal took more than three years to come to fruition as it had to go through several complex stages, including amendment of U.S. domestic law, especially the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, a civil-military nuclear Separation Plan in India, an India-IAEA safeguards (inspections) agreement and the grant of an exemption for India by the Nuclear Suppliers Group, an export-control cartel that had been formed mainly in response to India's first nuclear test in 1974. In its final shape, the deal places under permanent safeguards those nuclear facilities that India has identified as "civil" and permits broad civil nuclear cooperation, while excluding the transfer of "sensitive" equipment and technologies, including civil enrichment and reprocessing items even under IAEA safeguards. On August 18, 2008 the IAEA Board of Governors approved, and on February 2, 2009, India signed an India-specific safeguards agreement with the IAEA. After India brought this agreement into force, inspections began in a phased manner on the 35 civilian nuclear installations India has identified in its Separation Plan. The deal is seen as a watershed in U.S.-India relations and introduces a new aspect to international nonproliferation efforts. On August 1, 2008, the IAEA approved the safeguards agreement with India, after which the United States approached the Nuclear Suppliers Group] (NSG) to grant a waiver to India to commence civilian nuclear trade. The 48-nation NSG granted the waiver to India on September 6, 2008 allowing it to access civilian nuclear technology and fuel from other countries. The implementation of this waiver made India the only known country with nuclear weapons which is not a party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) but is still allowed to carry out nuclear commerce with the rest of the world.

Read More -

https://mea.gov.in/Uploads/PublicationDocs/19149_Frequently_Asked_Questions_01-11-2008.pdf

Source: http://www.livemint.com/Opinion/9ndp8r03MpQBIDG9h7lK1K/Rex-Tillerson-goes-long-on-IndiaUS-relationship.html

Q.4) Consider the following statements about 'Environmental Kuznets curve'

1. It describes that as countries develop initially, pollution increases, but later, as the economy achieves further development, pollution decreases.

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2. According to 'Kuznets Curve' Pollution follows an inverted "U" shape as it rises and then falls again with the increase of income per-capita.

Select the correct statements

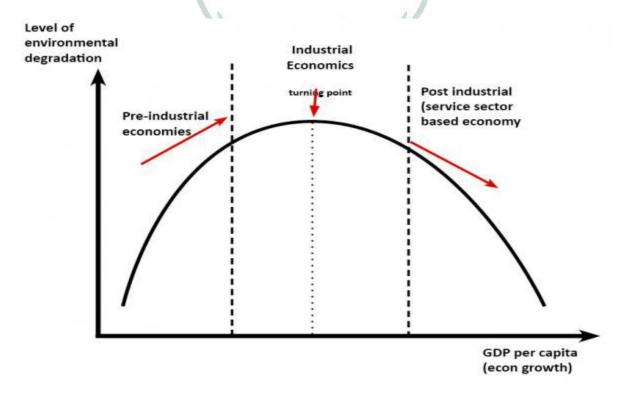
- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.4) Solution (c)

The environmental Kuznets curve suggests that economic development initially leads to deterioration in the environment, but after a certain level of economic growth, a society begins to improve its relationship with the environment and levels of environmental degradation reduces.

From a very simplistic viewpoint, it can suggest that economic growth is good for the environment.

However, critics argue there is no guarantee that economic growth will lead to an improved environment – in fact, the opposite is often the case. At the least, it requires a very targeted policy and attitudes to make sure that economic growth is compatible with an improving environment.



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Limitations of Kuznets Environmental Curve

- Empirical evidence is mixed. There is no guarantee that economic growth will see a decline in pollutants.
- Pollution is not simply a function of income, but many factors. For example, the
 effectiveness of government regulation, the development of the economy,
 population levels.
- Global pollution. Many developed economies have seen a reduction in industry and growth in service sector, but they are still importing goods from developing countries. In that sense, they are exporting environmental degradation. Pollution may reduce in the UK, US, but countries who export to these countries are seeing higher levels of environmental degradation. One example is with regard to deforestation. Higher income countries tend to stop process of deforestation, but at the same time, they still import meat and furniture from countries who are creating farmland out of forests.
- N-Shaped. Some economists argue that there is a degree of reduced environmental degradation post-industrialisation. But, if the economy continues to expand, then inevitably some resources will continue to be used in greater measure. There is no guarantee that long-term levels of environmental degradation will continue to fall.
- Countries with the highest GDP have highest levels of CO2 emission.

Source: http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/economic-growth-an-alternative-view/article19907390.ece

Q.5) Consider the following statements about Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

- Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) is given the status of a statutory body to streamline adoption procedures for orphan, abandoned and surrendered children
- 2. Juveniles in conflict with Law in the age group of 16–18, involved in Heinous Offences, can be tried as adults.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.5) Solution (c)

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Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 has been passed by Parliament of India. It aims to replace the existing Indian juvenile delinquency law, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, so that juveniles in conflict with Law in the age group of 16–18, involved in Heinous Offences, can be tried as adults. The Act came into force from 15 January 2016.

It was passed on 7 May 2015 by the Lok Sabha amid intense protest by several Members of Parliament. It was passed on 22 December 2015 by the Rajya Sabha.

To streamline adoption procedures for orphan, abandoned and surrendered children, the existing Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) has been given the status of a statutory body to enable it to perform its function more effectively.

Read More - http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=134513

Source: http://indianexpress.com/article/india/government-plans-to-amend-hindu-adoptions-act-to-check-adoption-under-personal-law-4903592/

