

Q.1) Consider the following statements.

Assertion (A): Cabinet is responsible to the House of People

Reason (R): The membership of the Cabinet is restricted to the House of the People.

In the context of the above, which of these is correct?

- a) A is correct, and R is an appropriate explanation of A.
- b) A is correct, but R is not an appropriate explanation of A.
- c) A is correct, but R is incorrect.
- d) Both A and R are incorrect.

Q.1) Solution (d)

Cabinet enforces the collective responsibility of the council of ministers to the Lower House of Parliament.

Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Lower House of the Parliament.

However, the membership of the cabinet is not restricted to the House of the People; it has members from both the houses.

Do you know?

- Parliamentary form government is also described as '**Westminster model of government**' after the location of the British Parliament, where the parliamentary system originated.

THINK!

- Presidential form of government.

Q.2) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the members of the Rajya Sabha?

1. Some of the members are elected by the elected members of state legislative assemblies.
2. Some of the members are indirectly elected by members of an electoral college specially constituted for the purpose.
3. Some of the members are nominated by the President.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- a) 1, 2 and 3

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

Q.2) Solution (a)

Representation of States: The representatives of states in the Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of state legislative assemblies. The election is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

Representation of Union Territories: The representatives of each union territory in the Rajya Sabha are indirectly elected by members of an electoral college specially constituted for the purpose. This election is also held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

Nominated Members: The president nominates 12 members to the Rajya Sabha from people who have special knowledge or practical experience in **art, literature, science and social service**.

Do you know?

- The president can nominate two members from the Anglo-Indian community if the community is not adequately represented in the Lok Sabha.

THINK!

- Rajya Sabha and the federalism.

Q.3) In which of the following cases the member of parliament can be disqualified?

1. If he holds government contracts.
2. If he acquires voluntarily the citizenship of a foreign country.
3. If he voluntary gives up the membership of the political party on whose ticket he is elected to the House.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Q.3) Solution (d)

Under the Constitution, a person shall be disqualified for being elected as a member of Parliament:

- If he **holds any office of profit under the Union or state government** (except that of a minister or any other office exempted by Parliament). Holding government contracts amounts to office of profit.
(<http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-disqualification-of-2-up-mlas-in-oop-cases-historic-2056686>).
- If he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a court.
- If he is an undischarged insolvent.
- If he is not a citizen of India or has voluntarily acquired the citizenship of a foreign state or is under any acknowledgement of allegiance to a foreign state; and
- If he is so disqualified under any law made by parliament.

A member incurs disqualification under the defection law:

- If he **voluntary gives up the membership of the political party** on whose ticket he is elected to the House;
- If he votes or abstains from voting in the House contrary to any direction given by his political party;
- If any independently elected member joins any political party; and
- If any nominated member joins any political party after the expiry of six months.

Do you know?

- The question of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is decided by the Chairman in the case of Rajya Sabha and Speaker in the case of Lok Sabha (and not by the president of India).
- In March 2006, President APJ Abdul Kalam disqualified Jaya Bachchan of the SP from Rajya Sabha with retrospective effect from July 14, 2004, for holding an office of profit as chairperson of the UP Film Development Council. In January 2015, UP MLAs Bajrang Bahadur Singh (BJP) and Uma Shankar Singh (BSP) were disqualified from the assembly after they were indicted by the Lokayukta for bagging government construction contracts by misusing their position.

THINK!

- Test of appointment.

(<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-opinion/office-of-profit-and-disqualification/article3147008.ece>)

Q.4) The Speaker of the Lok Sabha derives his powers and duties from which of the following sources?

1. Constitution of India
2. Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Rajya Sabha.
3. Parliamentary Conventions

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Q.4) Solution (b)

The Speaker of the Lok Sabha derives his powers and duties from three sources, that is, the **Constitution of India, the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha, and Parliamentary Conventions** (residuary powers that are unwritten or unspecified in the Rules).

Do you know?

- The Speaker is the head of the Lok Sabha, and its representative. He is **the guardian of powers and privileges** of the members, the House as a whole and its committees.

THINK!

- Chairman of Rajya Sabha.

Q.5) Consider the following statements in Indian innovations in the parliamentary procedure.

1. Zero hour and Calling attention motion are Indian innovation in the parliamentary procedure.
2. Both Zero hour and Calling attention motion are not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Q.5) Solution (a)

Unlike the question hour, the **zero hour is not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure**. Thus, it is **an informal device** available to the members of the Parliament to raise matters without any prior notice. The zero hour starts immediately after the question hour and lasts until the agenda for the day (ie, regular business of the House) is taken up. In other words, the time gap between the question hour and the agenda is known as zero hour. It is an Indian innovation in the field of parliamentary procedures.

Calling Attention Motion, it is introduced in the Parliament by a member to call the attention of a minister to a matter of urgent public importance, and to seek an authoritative statement from him on that matter. Like the zero hour, it is also an Indian innovation in the parliamentary procedure and has been in existence since 1954. However, **unlike the zero hour, it is mentioned in the Rules of Procedure**.

Do you know?

- A matter which is not a point of order or which cannot be raised during question hour, half-an hour discussion, short duration discussion or under adjournment motion, calling attention notice or under any rule of the House can be raised under the **special mention in the Rajya Sabha**. Its equivalent procedural device in the Lok Sabha is known as 'Notice (Mention) Under Rule 377'.

THINK!

- Privilege Motion.

Q.6) Which of the following are the expenditure 'charged' upon the Consolidated Fund of India?

1. Emoluments and allowances of the President and other expenditure relating to his office.
2. Salaries, allowances and pensions of the judges of the High Courts.
3. Salaries, allowances and pension of the chairman and members of the Union Public Service Commission.
4. Any sum required to satisfy any judgement, decree or award of any court or arbitral tribunal.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

d) All the above

Q.6) Solution (a)

The charged expenditure is non-voteable by the Parliament, that is, it can only be discussed by the Parliament, while the other type has to be voted by the Parliament. The list of the charged expenditure is as follows:

- Emoluments and allowances of the President and other expenditure relating to his office.
- Salaries and allowances of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
- **Salaries, allowances and pensions of the judges of the Supreme Court.**
- **Pensions of the judges of high courts.** (Salary and allowance are charged on consolidated fund of concerned state/s).
- Salary, allowances and pension of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
- Salaries, allowances and pension of the chairman and members of the Union Public Service Commission.
- Administrative expenses of the Supreme Court, the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the Union Public Service Commission including the salaries, allowances and pensions of the persons serving in these offices.
- The debt charges for which the Government of India is liable, including interest, sinking fund charges and redemption charges and other expenditure relating to the raising of loans and the service and redemption of debt.
- Any sum required to satisfy any judgement, decree or award of any court or arbitral tribunal.
- Any other expenditure declared by the Parliament to be so charged.

Do you know?

- No money bill imposing tax shall be introduced in the Parliament except on the recommendation of the President, and such a bill shall not be introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

THINK!

- Role of Rajya Sabha in Money Bill.

Q.7) Consider the following statements about the cut motion.

1. It should relate to one demand only.
2. It can make suggestions for the amendment or repeal of existing laws.

3. It can be related to any matter that's expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
4. It can be related to a matter that is under adjudication by a court, only in special cases.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Q.7) Solution (a)

The members of Parliament can discuss the details of the budget. They can also move motions to reduce any demand for grant. Such motions are called as 'cut motion'.

A cut motion, to be admissible, must satisfy the following conditions:

- It should relate to one demand only.
- It should be clearly expressed and should not contain arguments or defamatory statements.
- It should be confined to one specific matter.
- It should not make suggestions for the amendment or repeal of existing laws.
- It should not refer to a matter that is not primarily the concern of Union government.
- It should not relate to the expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
- It should not relate to a matter that is under adjudication by a court.
- It should not raise a question of privilege.
- It should not revive discussion on a matter on which a decision has been taken in the same session.
- It should not relate to a trivial matter.

Do you know?

The significance of a cut motion lies in:

- Facilitating the initiation of concentrated discussion on a specific demand for grant.
- Upholding the principle of responsible government by probing the activities of the government.

THINK!

- Policy Cut Motion.

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Office of Speaker and Deputy Speaker originated in India under the provisions of Government of India act 1909.
2. Deputy Speaker performs the duties of Speaker both when the Speaker is absent and when the office of Speaker is vacant.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Q.8) Solution (b)

Office of Speaker and Deputy Speaker originated in India under the provisions of Government of India act 1919.

They were called President and Deputy President until 1947.

Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha

Like the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker is also elected by the Lok Sabha itself from amongst its members. He is elected after the election of the Speaker has taken place. The date of election of the Deputy Speaker is fixed by the Speaker. Whenever the office of the Deputy Speaker falls vacant, the Lok Sabha elects another member to fill the vacancy.

Like the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker remains in office usually during the life of the Lok Sabha. However, he may vacate his office earlier in any of the following three cases:

1. if he ceases to be a member of the Lok Sabha;
2. if he resigns by writing to the Speaker; and
3. if he is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the members of the Lok Sabha.

Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days' advance notice. The Deputy Speaker performs the duties of the Speaker's office when it is vacant. He also acts as the Speaker when the latter is absent from the sitting of the House. In both the cases, he assumes all the powers of the Speaker. He also presides over the joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament, in case the Speaker is absent from such a sitting.

THINK!

- Pro Tem Speaker

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. A minister can participate in the proceedings of a house of Parliament, of which he is not a member.
2. A minister who is not a member of either of the houses of Parliament can participate in the proceedings of both the houses.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Q.9) Solution (c)

Usually, the members of Parliament, either Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha, are appointed as ministers. A person who is not a member of either House of Parliament can also be appointed as a minister. But, within six months, he must become a member (either by election or by nomination) of either House of Parliament, otherwise, he ceases to be a minister.

A minister who is a member of one House of Parliament has the right to speak and to take part in the proceedings of the other House also, but he can vote only in the House of which he is a member.

Q.10) Which of the following statements regarding advancement of date of presentation of budget is correct?

1. The shift of date of presentation of budget was made after the approval of the Lok Sabha.
2. The shift of date of presentation of budget was made after the assent of the President.

Select the code from following:

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

Q.10) Solution (d)

The decision to advance the date was approved by Cabinet. It did not require parliamentary approval.

The Cabinet has decided in principle to advance the presentation of the Union Budget by a month, from February to January. The objective is to have the Budget constitutionally approved by Parliament and assented to by the President, and all allocations at different tiers disseminated to budget-holders, before the financial year begins on April 1.

The new system will eliminate the need for the executive to obtain a vote-on-account budget approval to incur expenditure during the first two months, which normally is in the second fortnight of May.

The aim is that all spending authorities within the system and those financially dependent on the Centre be in a position to work out their activities with assured resources in the beginning of the year itself. With annual financial resources approved and bestowed on April 1, a more planned and regulated expenditure profile during the year is expected.

THINK!

- Pros and cons of Shifting Budget

Q.11) Consider the following statements

1. When president submits resignation to vice president , VP has to intimate the same to both speaker and chief justice of India
2. When president resigns and election to post of president is delayed due to some reason, the vice president will remain as president till such date of election of new president.

Which of the above statements are NOT correct?

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

Q.11) Solution (c)

Note: The question is asking for incorrect options.

- When president resigns VP intimate the same only to speaker
- Till new president is elected the previous president will remain in office

Article 56(1) of the Constitution provides that the President shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office. According to Article 62, an election to fill a vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of President shall be completed before the expiration of the term. An election to fill a vacancy in the office of President occurring by reason of his death, resignation or removal, or otherwise shall be held as soon as possible after, and in no case later than six months from, the date of occurrence of the vacancy; and the person elected to fill the vacancy shall, subject to the provisions of Article 56, be entitled to hold office for the full term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office. To meet the contingency of an election to the office of President not being completed in time due to unforeseen circumstances like countermanding of election due to death of a candidate or on account of postponement of the poll for any valid reason, Article 56(1)(c) provides that the President shall, notwithstanding the expiration of his term, continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office.

Q.12) Which of the following regarding Lok Sabha Secretary General is incorrect?

- Secretary General is appointed by the President
- He remains in the office till age of 60 years (retirement).
- His functions are to provide a link between changing members and keeping the records.
- He summons the members to attend the session of parliament on behalf of President.

Q.12) Solution (a)

Lok Sabha Secretary General is appointed by The speaker in consultation with PM and opposition leader.

Do you know?

Snehlata Shrivastava has been appointed as the new Secretary General of the Lok Sabha, a notification issued by the secretariat of the lower house said.

She will be the first woman secretary general of the Lok Sabha and will assume charge on December 1. Her tenure will end on November 30, 2018.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/snehlata-shrivastava-appointed-lok-sabha-secretary-general/articleshow/61838807.cms>

Q.13) Which of the following are the exclusive powers of Rajya Sabha and not enjoyed by Lok Sabha?

1. It can authorise the Parliament to make a law on a subject enumerated in the State List.
2. It can authorise the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the Centre and states
3. A constitutional Amendment Bill can be initiated only in Rajya Sabha

Select the code from following:

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

Q.13) Solution (c)

Special Powers of Rajya Sabha

Due to its federal character, the Rajya Sabha has been given two exclusive or special powers that are not enjoyed by the Lok Sabha:

1. It can authorise the Parliament to make a law on a subject enumerated in the State List (Article 249).
2. It can authorise the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the Centre and states (Article 312).

THINK!

- Indian Federalism
- Parliament's power to legislate on State Subjects

Q.14) Which of the following statements regarding Estimates Committee are correct?

1. Rajya Sabha does not have any representation in this committee.
2. All parties get due representation in it.
3. A minister cannot be elected as a member of this committee

Select the code from following:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Q.14) Solution (d)**Estimates Committee**

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 members, according to the principles of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote. Thus, all parties get due representation in it. The term of office is one year. A minister cannot be elected as a member of the committee. The chairman of the committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst its members and he is invariably from the ruling party.

The function of the committee is to examine the estimates included in the budget and suggest 'economies' in public expenditure. Hence, it has been described as a 'continuous economy committee'. In more detail, the functions of the committee are:

1. To report what economies, improvements in organisation, efficiency and administrative reform consistent with the policy underlying the estimates, can be affected.
2. To suggest alternative policies in order to bring about efficiency and economy in administration.
3. To examine whether the money is well laid out within the limits of the policy implied in the estimates.
4. To suggest the form in which the estimates are to be presented to Parliament.

The committee continues the examination of the estimates from time to time, throughout the financial year and report to the House as its examination proceeds. It is not incumbent on the committee to examine the entire estimates of any one year. The demands for grants are finally voted despite the fact that the committee has made no report.

THINK!

- Public Accounts Committee
- Parliamentary Committees

Q.15) Consider the below statements:

1. Though the Constitution has abandoned the system of separate electorate, it provides for the system of communal representation by reserving seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the Lok Sabha.
2. Though the Constitution has adopted the system of proportional representation in the case of Rajya Sabha, it has not preferred the same system in the case of Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.15) Solution (b)

Though the Constitution has abandoned the system of communal representation, it provides for the reservation of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the Lok Sabha on the basis of population ratios.

Though seats are reserved for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, they are elected by all the voters in a constituency, without any separate electorate. A member of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes is also not debarred from contesting a general (non-reserved) seat.

Though the Constitution has adopted the system of proportional representation in the case of Rajya Sabha, it has not preferred the same system in the case of Lok Sabha. Instead, it has adopted the system of territorial representation for the election of members to the Lok Sabha.

Q.16) Which of the below statements is/are true about the two houses of the Parliament?

1. A person must be not less than 30 years of age in the case of the Rajya Sabha and not less than 25 years of age in the case of the Lok Sabha.
2. Minimum age for election to the post of Vice-President and Governor is 30 years as in the case of Rajya Sabha.

Choose correct answer:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.16) Solution (a)

The Constitution has laid out the qualifications for a person to be chosen a member of the Parliament. Among them one of the important qualification is – A person must not be less than 30 years of age in the case of the Rajya Sabha and not less than 25 years of age in the case of the Lok Sabha.

Minimum age for election to the post of Vice-President and Governor is 35 years (not 30 years). Hence, statement (2) is wrong.

THINK!

- Minimum age for election to other posts such as President, PM, CM etc.

Q.17) Consider the below statements with respect to panel of chairpersons and vice-chairpersons:

1. Under the Rules of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, the Speaker and the Chairman can nominate from amongst the members a panel of chairpersons and vice-chairpersons respectively.
2. Any of them can preside over the House when the office of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker is vacant.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.17) Solution (a)

Under the Rules of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, the Speaker and the Chairman can nominate from amongst the members a panel of chairpersons and vice-chairpersons respectively.

Any one of them can preside over the House in the **absence** of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman.

It must be emphasised here that 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. The elections are held, as soon as possible, to fill the vacant posts.

Q.18) Which among the given statements is/are true in regard to the Speaker of Lok Sabha?

1. He is the final interpreter of the provisions of the Constitution of India within the House.
2. President enables the House to elect the new Speaker.
3. He is the guardian of powers and privileges of the members, the House as a whole and its committees.

Choose the correct answer:

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

Q.18) Solution (c)

Speaker is the final interpreter of the provisions of (a) the Constitution of India, (b) the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha, and (c) the parliamentary precedents, **within the House.**

Speaker is the guardian of powers and privileges of the members, the House as a whole and its committees.

The main duty of Speaker *Pro Tem* is to administer oath to the new members. He also enables the House to elect the new Speaker. Therefore, it is not President who enables the the House to elect the new Speaker (hence statement 2 is wrong).

THINK!

- Speaker Pro Tem

Q.19) Which among the following is/are correct in regard to Motions associated with Parliamentary functions?

1. No-Confidence Motion and Censure motion can be moved against the entire council of ministers
2. Calling Attention Motion is introduced in the Parliament to draw attention of the House to a definite matter of urgent public importance

3. All resolutions come in the category of substantive motion

Select the appropriate code

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

Q.19) Solution (a)

Censure motion can be moved against an individual minister or a group of ministers or the entire council of ministers. No-Confidence Motion can be moved against the entire council of ministers only.

It is Adjournment Motion (not Calling Attention Motion), which is introduced in the Parliament to draw attention of the House to a definite matter of urgent public importance.

Calling Attention Motion is introduced in the Parliament by a member to call the attention of a minister (not the House) to a matter of urgent public importance, and to seek an authoritative statement from him on that matter.

All resolutions come in the category of substantive motions, that is to say, every resolution is a particular type of motion.

THINK!

- Motions which are Indian innovation

Q.20) Consider the following about Money Bills and Financial bills:

1. Money bills and financial bills can be introduced only on the recommendation of the President.
2. A Money Bill can be tabled in either House of Parliament.
3. The Rajya Sabha must return a Money Bill passed by Lok Sabha and send it for consideration within 14 days.
4. The President cannot return a Money Bill to Lok Sabha for reconsideration.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.20 Solution (c)

Money bill and Financial Bill

- Money Bill and Financial Bill (I) can be introduced only on the recommendation of the President, but recommendation of the President is not necessary for the introduction of Financial bill (II)
- Financial Bills (both I and II) are governed by the same legislative procedure which is applicable to an ordinary bill
- The only special feature of Financial Bill (II) is that it cannot be passed by either House of Parliament unless the President has recommended to that House the consideration of the bill (Financial Bill (I) has no such special feature)

A Money Bill can be introduced only in Lok Sabha. Hence, statement 2 is wrong.

The Rajya Sabha must return a Money Bill passed by Lok Sabha and send it for consideration within 14 days.

The President cannot return a Money Bill to Lok Sabha for reconsideration.

Q.21) Consider the below statements with regard to Parliamentary Forums:

1. Speaker of Lok Sabha is the President of all the Parliamentary Forums.
2. The Secretary-General of Lok Sabha is the Secretary to the forums.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.21) Solution (b)

The Speaker of Lok Sabha is the President of all the Forums except the Parliamentary Forum on

Population and Public Health wherein the Chairman of Rajya Sabha is the President and the Speaker is the Co-President. Hence, statement 1 is wrong.

The Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha, the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, the concerned Ministers and the Chairmen of Departmentally-Related Standing Committees are the ex-officio Vice-Presidents of the respective Forums.

Each Forum consists of not more than 31 members (excluding the President and ex-officio Vice-Presidents) out of whom not more than 21 are from the Lok Sabha and not more than 10 are from the Rajya Sabha.

Members (other than the President and Vice-Presidents) of these forums are nominated by the Speaker/Chairman from amongst the leaders of various political parties/groups or their nominees, who have special knowledge/keen interest in the subject.

The Secretary-General of Lok Sabha is the Secretary to the forums.

Q.22) The 'Six-Day War' refers to

- a) Third Arab-Israeli war
- b) Third Anglo-Afghan War
- c) Operation Masterdom
- d) Battle of Imphal

Q.22) Solution (a)

The Six-Day War also known as the June War, 1967 Arab–Israeli War, or Third Arab–Israeli War, was fought between June 5 and 10, 1967 by Israel and the neighbouring states of Egypt (known at the time as the United Arab Republic), Jordan, and Syria.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/israels-six-day-war-explained/article18960298.ece>

Q.23) Consider the following statements about Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP)

1. It is a designation of a securities issue given by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
2. It allows both listed and non-listed companies to raise capital from its domestic markets without the need to submit any pre-issue filings to market regulators

Select the correct statements

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

Q.23) Solution (a)

A qualified institutional placement (QIP) is a designation of a securities issue given by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) that allows an Indian-listed company to raise capital from its domestic markets without the need to submit any pre-issue filings to market regulators. Companies are only permitted to raise capital through issuing securities.

For the issuing company, QIPs are less cumbersome than IPOs and FPOs. It doesn't have to file a pre-issue document with the capital markets regulator, and only a placement document with the stock exchanges, which only has details of the issue.

QIP is a less expensive mode of raising capital than, say, an IPO, FPO or rights issue.

SEBI introduced the QIP process through a circular issued on May 8, 2006, to prevent listed companies in India from developing an excessive dependence on foreign capital.

Read More - <http://www.livemint.com/Money/zan5S19kFgbSulce4XICTL/Dejargoned-Qualified-institutional-placement.html>

Source: <http://www.livemint.com/Industry/uv05ztKB6p1gMtvbetYj1L/SBI-raises-Rs15000-crore-through-Indias-largest-QIP.html>

Q.24) Consider the following statement about 'Estuarine Crocodile'

1. It is the largest species of crocodiles
2. It is found throughout the Indian subcontinent
3. It is a freshwater species found in lakes and rivers

Select the correct statements

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

Q.24) Solution (b)

The saltwater crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*), also known as the estuarine crocodile, Indo-Pacific crocodile, marine crocodile, sea crocodile is the largest of all living reptiles, as well as the largest riparian predator in the world.

As its name implies, this species of crocodile can live in marine environments, but usually resides in saline and brackish mangrove swamps, estuaries, deltas, lagoons, and lower stretches of rivers. They have the broadest distribution of any modern crocodile, ranging from the eastern coast of India throughout most of Southeast Asia and northern Australia.

Apart from the eastern coast of India, the saltwater crocodile is extremely rare on the Indian subcontinent. A large population is present within the Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary of Odisha and they are known to be present in smaller numbers throughout the Indian and Bangladeshi portions of the Sundarbans.

Populations are also present within the mangrove forests and other coastal areas of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in India.

THINK!

- Project Crocodile

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/steady-increase-in-crocodile-nestings-in-odisha-elates-conservationists/article19155877.ece>

Q.25) Recently, which of the following lakes was declared as a Biodiversity Heritage Site?

- a) Loktak Lake
- b) Wular Lake
- c) Ameenpur Lake
- d) No water body is declared as Biodiversity Heritage Site in India

Q.25) Solution (c)

Ameenpur lake, located in the metropolitan area limits of Hyderabad with a number of industrial units nearby, has been designated a biodiversity heritage site. It is the first water body in the country to get such a status.

Ameenpur Lake has the distinction of being the first water body in the country to be declared a Biodiversity Heritage Site.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/fish-for-everyone/article18712907.ece>

Q.26) Oxytocin is used for which of the following reasons?

1. To induce labour or strengthen labour contractions during childbirth
2. It is given to milk yielding cattle for increased milk production
3. It is used as a growth promoter in chickens

Select the correct code:

- a) 1 and 2

- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Q.26) Solution (d)

Oxytocin is a natural hormone that causes the uterus to contract. Oxytocin is used to induce labour or strengthen labour contractions during childbirth, and to control bleeding after childbirth. Oxytocin is also used to stimulate uterine contractions in a woman with an incomplete or threatened miscarriage.

The manufacture and sale of the drug without licence is a cognizable and non-bailable offence under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act.

Despite a ban on the retail sale of hormone drug Oxytocin (that is used to induce labour in women) for veterinary use, several pharmacies in the State continue to sell it illegally over the counter to dairy owners and farmers, who use it to boost milk production. In the long run, it lowers the lifespan of cows and makes them infertile sooner.

It is being injected now a day to a Day Old Chicks (DOC) to get them reared in just 15 days.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/only-psus-may-be-let-to-make-oxytocin/article18868286.ece>

