

## IASbaba 60 Day Plan – Day 49 Polity

**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding establishment of Panchayati Raj system in India**

1. Rajasthan was the first state to establish Panchayati Raj.
2. All States that created panchayati raj institutions by mid 1960s, adopted a three-tier system.
3. These panchayati raj institutions in 1960s were based on the recommendations of Ashok Mehta Committee.

**Choose the correct answer using codes below**

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

**Q.1) Solution (a)**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
Rajasthan was the first state to establish Panchayati Raj.	Though most of the states created panchayati raj institutions by mid 1960s, there were differences from one state to another with regard to the number of tiers, relative position of samiti and parishad, their tenure, composition, functions, finances and so on. For example, Rajasthan adopted the three-tier system while Tamil Nadu adopted the two-tier system.	These panchayati raj institutions in 1960s were loosely based on the recommendations of Balwant Rai Mehta Committee.  Ashok Mehta Committee was appointed in 1977.

**Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992**

1. This act has added a new Part-IX to the Constitution of India.
2. The act brought panchayati raj institutions under the purview of the justiciable part of the Constitution.

**Choose the correct answer using codes below**

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

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### Q.2) Solution (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>
73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 has added a new Part-IX to the Constitution of India. This part is entitled as 'The Panchayats' and consists of provisions from Articles 243 to 243 O.	The act gives a constitutional status to the panchayati raj institutions. It has brought them under the purview of the justiciable part of the Constitution. In other words, the state governments are under constitutional obligation to adopt the new panchayati raj system in accordance with the provisions of the act.

### Q.3) Which of the following statements is a correct description of Gram Sabha, as provided by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act?

- a) It is a body consisting of all adults above 18 years of age in that area of gram panchayat.
- b) It is a body consisting of all the registered voters in that area of gram panchayat.
- c) It is a body consisting of persons eligible to be elected as members of State Legislative Assembly in that area of gram panchayat.
- d) It is a body consisting of persons above the age of 21 years in that area of gram panchayat.

### Q.3) Solution (b)

Gram Sabha is a body consisting of persons registered in the electoral rolls of a village comprised within the area of Panchayat at the village level. Thus, it is a village assembly consisting of all the registered voters in the area of a panchayat.

### Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding elections as per the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act

1. The members of panchayats at all the levels shall be elected directly by the people.
2. The chairperson of panchayats at all the levels shall be elected indirectly by the people.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

- a) 1 only

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

### Q.4) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
All the members of panchayats at the village, intermediate and district levels shall be elected directly by the people.	The chairperson of panchayats at the intermediate and district levels shall be elected indirectly—by and from amongst the elected members thereof. However, the chairperson of a panchayat at the village level shall be elected in such manner as the state legislature determines.

### Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding reservation of seats as per the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act

1. The act provides for the reservation of not less than one-third of the total number of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in every panchayat.
2. The act provides that not less than one-third of the total number of offices of chairpersons in the panchayats at each level shall be reserved for women.

### Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

### Q.5) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
The act provides for the reservation of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in every panchayat (i.e., at all the three levels) in proportion of their population to the total population in the panchayat area. Further, the state legislature shall provide for the	The act provides for the reservation of not less than one-third of the total number of seats for women (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging the SCs and STs). Further, not less than one-third of the total number of offices of chairpersons in the

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reservation of offices of chairperson in the panchayat at the village or any other level for the SCs and STs.

panchayats at each level shall be reserved for women.

### Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding duration of Panchayats in India

1. In case of dissolution, fresh elections to constitute a panchayat must be held before the expiry of a period of six months from the date of its dissolution, under any circumstances.
2. A panchayat reconstituted after premature dissolution does not enjoy the full period of five years.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

### Q.6) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
<p>The act provides for a five-year term of office to the panchayat at every level. However, it can be dissolved before the completion of its term. Further, fresh elections to constitute a panchayat shall be completed (a) before the expiry of its duration of five years; or (b) in case of dissolution, before the expiry of a period of six months from the date of its dissolution.</p> <p>But, where the remainder of the period (for which the dissolved panchayat would have continued) is less than six months, it shall not be necessary to hold any election for constituting the new panchayat for such period.</p>	<p>A panchayat constituted upon the dissolution of a panchayat before the expiration of its duration shall continue only for the remainder of the period for which the dissolved panchayat would have continued had it not been so dissolved. In other words, a panchayat reconstituted after premature dissolution does not enjoy the full period of five years but remains in office only for the remainder of the period.</p>

### Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding implementation of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act

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1. Being a constitutional provision, the act is applicable to all the states of India.
2. The Parliament may direct that the provisions of this act shall apply to any union territory subject to such exceptions and modifications as it may specify.

**Choose the correct answer using codes below**

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

**Q.7) Solution (d)**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
<p>The act does not apply to the states of Nagaland, Meghalaya and Mizoram and certain other areas. These areas include, (a) the scheduled areas and the tribal areas in the states; (b) the hill area of Manipur for which a district council exists; and (c) Darjeeling district of West Bengal for which Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council exists.</p> <p>However, the Parliament may extend the provisions of this Part to the scheduled areas and tribal areas subject to such exceptions and modifications as it may specify.</p>	<p>The president of India may direct that the provisions of this act shall apply to any union territory subject to such exceptions and modifications as he may specify.</p>

**Q.8) Which of the following have been listed as the compulsory provisions under the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act?**

1. 21 years to be the minimum age for contesting elections to panchayats.
2. Reservation of seats (both members and chairpersons) for SCs and STs in panchayats at all the three levels.
3. Reservation of seats (both members and chairpersons) for backward classes in panchayats at any level.
4. Determining the manner of election of the chairperson of the village panchayat.

**Choose the correct answer using codes below**

- a) 1 and 2

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- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 4
- d) All of the above

### Q.8) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3	Statement 4
Correct	Correct	Incorrect	Incorrect
<p><b>Compulsory Provisions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organisation of Gram Sabha in a village or group of villages.</li> <li>2. Establishment of panchayats at the village, intermediate and district levels.</li> <li>3. Direct elections to all seats in panchayats at the village, intermediate and district levels.</li> <li>4. Indirect elections to the post of chairperson of panchayats at the intermediate and district levels.</li> <li>5. Voting rights of the chairperson and other members of a panchayat elected directly or indirectly.</li> <li><b>6. 21 years to be the minimum age for contesting elections to panchayats.</b></li> <li><b>7. Reservation of seats (both members and chairpersons) for SCs and STs in panchayats at all the three levels.</b></li> <li>8. Reservation of one-third seats (both members and chairpersons) for women in panchayats at all the three levels.</li> <li>9. Fixing tenure of five years for panchayats at all levels and holding fresh elections within six months in the event of supersession of any panchayat.</li> <li>10. Establishment of a State Election Commission for conducting elections to the panchayats.</li> <li>11. Constitution of a State Finance Commission after every five years to review the financial position of the panchayats.</li> </ol>		<p><b>Voluntary Provisions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Endowing the Gram Sabha with powers and functions at the village level.</li> <li><b>2. Determining the manner of election of the chairperson of the village panchayat.</b></li> <li>3. Giving representation to the chairpersons of the village panchayats in the intermediate panchayats or in the case of a state not having intermediate panchayats, in the district panchayats.</li> <li>4. Giving representation to the chairpersons of the intermediate panchayats in the district panchayats.</li> <li>5. Giving representation to members of the Parliament (both the Houses) and the state legislature (both the Houses) in the panchayats at different levels falling within their constituencies.</li> <li><b>6. Providing reservation of seats (both members and chairpersons) for backward classes in panchayats at any level.</b></li> <li>7. Granting powers and authority to the panchayats to enable them to function as institutions of self government (in brief, making them autonomous bodies).</li> <li>8. Devolution of powers and responsibilities upon panchayats to prepare plans for economic development and social justice; and to perform some or all of the 29 functions listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution.</li> <li>9. Granting financial powers to the</li> </ol>	

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	<p>panchayats, that is, authorizing them to levy, collect and appropriate taxes, duties, tolls and fees.</p> <p>10. Assigning to a panchayat the taxes, duties, tolls and fees levied and collected by the state government.</p> <p>11. Making the grants-in-aid to the panchay-ats from the consolidated fund of the state.</p> <p>12. Providing for constitution of funds for crediting all moneys of the panchayats.</p>
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### Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding District Planning Committee

1. It consolidates the plans prepared by panchayats and municipalities in the district.
2. The Governor has the power to make provisions with respect to the composition of such committees.
3. As per the 74<sup>th</sup> Amendment Act, four-fifths of its members are elected by indirect election.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

### Q.9) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
Every state shall constitute at the district level, a district planning committee to consolidate the plans prepared by panchayats and municipalities in the district, and to prepare a draft development plan for the district as a whole.	<p>The state legislature may make provisions with respect to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The composition of such committees;</li> <li>2. The manner of election of members of such committees;</li> <li>3. The functions of such committees in relation to district planning; and</li> <li>4. The manner of the election of the chairpersons of such</li> </ol>	The act lays down that four-fifths of the members of a district planning committee should be elected by the elected members of the district panchayat and municipalities in the district from amongst themselves. The representation of these members in the



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	committees.	committee should be in proportion to the ratio between the rural and urban populations in the district.
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### Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding Municipal Corporations

1. These are established in union territories by the order of the President of India.
2. The municipal commissioner is the chief executive authority of the corporation.

#### Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

### Q.10) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
Municipal corporations are created for the administration of big cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Bangalore and others. They are established in the states by the acts of the concerned state legislatures, and in the union territories by the acts of the Parliament of India. There may be one common act for all the municipal corporations in a state or a separate act for each municipal corporation.	The municipal commissioner is responsible for the implementation of the decisions taken by the council and its standing committees. Thus, he is the chief executive authority of the corporation. He is appointed by the state government and is generally a member of the IAS.

### Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding Notified Area Committee

1. It is a statutory body established through an act of State Legislature.
2. It can be created for the administration of a fast developing town due to industrialization.

#### Choose the correct answer using codes below

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only



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

### Q.11) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
Since it is established by a notification in the government gazette, it is called as notified area committee. Though it functions within the framework of the State Municipal Act, only those provisions of the act apply to it which are notified in the government gazette by which it is created. It may also be entrusted to exercise powers under any other act.	A notified area committee is created for the administration of two types of areas—a fast developing town due to industrialisation, and a town which does not yet fulfil all the conditions necessary for the constitution of a municipality, but which otherwise is considered important by the state government.
It is not a statutory body.	

### Q.12) Consider the following statements regarding urban local governance in India

1. Water supply and sewerage boards act as subordinate agencies of the local municipal bodies.
2. Roads and bridges come under the purview of municipalities as per the Twelfth Schedule.

### Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

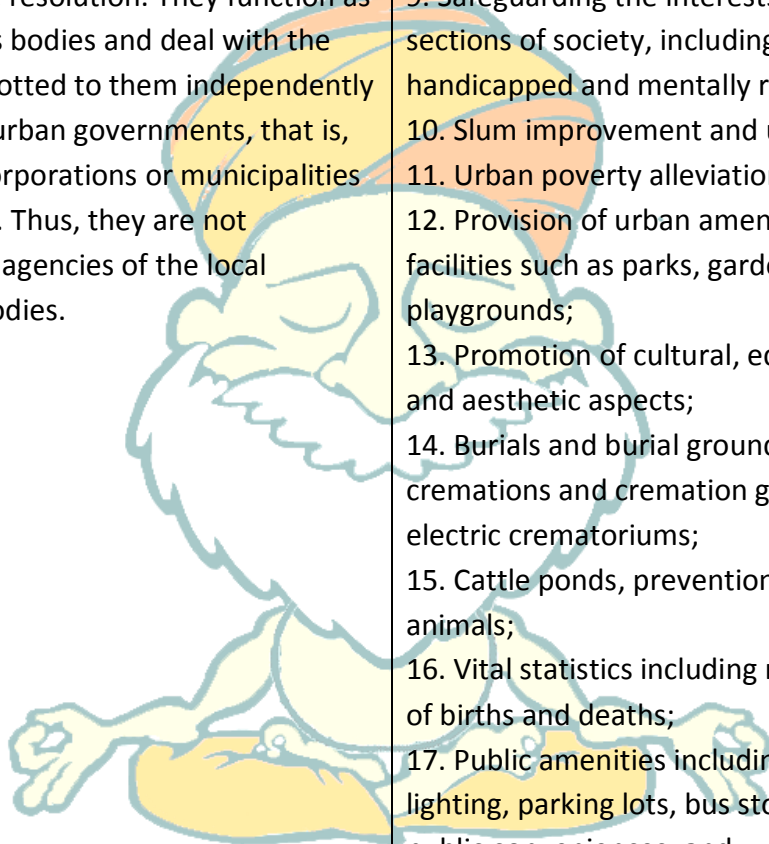
### Q.12) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
The states have set up certain agencies to undertake designated activities or specific functions that 'legitimately' belong to the domain of municipal corporations or municipalities or other local urban governments. Some such bodies are:	Twelfth Schedule contains the following 18 functional items placed within the purview of municipalities: 1. Urban planning including town planning; 2. Regulation of land use and construction of buildings;

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1. Town improvement trusts.
2. Urban development authorities.
3. Water supply and sewerage boards.
4. Housing boards.
5. Pollution control boards.
6. Electricity supply boards.
7. City transport boards.

These functional local bodies are established as statutory bodies by an act of state legislature or as departments by an executive resolution. They function as autonomous bodies and deal with the functions allotted to them independently of the local urban governments, that is, municipal corporations or municipalities and so forth. Thus, they are not subordinate agencies of the local municipal bodies.



3. Planning for economic and social development;
4. Roads and bridges;
5. Water supply for domestic, industrial and commercial purposes;
6. Public health, sanitation, conservancy and solid waste management;
7. Fire services;
8. Urban forestry, protection of the environment and promotion of ecological aspects;
9. Safeguarding the interests of weaker sections of society, including the handicapped and mentally retarded;
10. Slum improvement and upgradation;
11. Urban poverty alleviation;
12. Provision of urban amenities and facilities such as parks, gardens, playgrounds;
13. Promotion of cultural, educational and aesthetic aspects;
14. Burials and burial grounds, cremations and cremation grounds and electric crematoriums;
15. Cattle ponds, prevention of cruelty to animals;
16. Vital statistics including registration of births and deaths;
17. Public amenities including street lighting, parking lots, bus stops and public conveniences; and
18. Regulation of slaughter houses and tanneries.

**Q.13) Which of the following provisions have been provided in the Constitution to safeguard and ensure the independent and impartial functioning of the Election Commission?**

1. The chief election commissioner is provided with the security of tenure.
2. The Constitution has specified the term of the members of the Election Commission.

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3. Any other election commissioner or a regional commissioner cannot be removed from office except on the recommendation of the chief election commissioner.

**Choose the correct answer using codes below**

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

**Q.13) Solution (b)**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
The chief election commissioner is provided with the security of tenure. He cannot be removed from his office except in same manner and on the same grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court. In other words, he can be removed by the president on the basis of a resolution passed to that effect by both the Houses of Parliament with special majority, either on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity. Thus, he does not hold his office till the pleasure of the president, though he is appointed by him.	The Constitution has not specified the term of the members of the Election Commission.	Any other election commissioner or a regional commissioner cannot be removed from office except on the recommendation of the chief election commissioner.

**Q.14) UPSC is consulted on which of the following matters related to personnel management?**

- 1. The suitability of candidates for appointments to civil services and posts.
- 2. Matters relating to methods of recruitment to civil services.
- 3. Making reservations of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens.

**Choose the correct answer using codes below**

- a) 1 and 2

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

### Q.14) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
UPSC is consulted on the suitability of candidates for appointments to civil services and posts; for promotions and transfers from one service to another; and appointments by transfer or deputation. The concerned departments make recommendations for promotions and request the UPSC to ratify them.	UPSC is consulted on all matters relating to methods of recruitment to civil services and for civil posts.	UPSC is not consulted while making reservations of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens.

### Q.15) Consider the following statements regarding Finance Commission

1. The Constitution authorises the Parliament to determine the qualifications of members of the commission.
2. The recommendation of Finance Commission that governs grants-in-aid to the states is binding on the government.

### Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

### Q.15) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
The Constitution authorises the Parliament to determine the qualifications of members of the commission and the manner in which they should be selected. Accordingly, the Parliament has specified the	The recommendations made by the Finance Commission are only of advisory nature and hence, not binding on the government. It is up to the Union government to implement its recommendations on granting money to

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qualifications of the chairman and members of the commission

the states.

### Q.16) Consider the following statements regarding powers of National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs)

1. It has all the powers of a civil court while inquiring into any complaint.
2. The Commission is also required to discharge similar functions with regard to the other backward classes (OBCs) and the Anglo-Indian Community.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

### Q.16) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
The Commission, while investigating any matter or inquiring into any complaint, has all the powers of a civil court.	Till 2018, the commission was also required to discharge similar functions with regard to the other backward classes (OBCs). It was relieved from this responsibility by the 102nd Amendment Act of 2018

### Q.17) Consider the following statements regarding National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)

1. The 101st Amendment Act conferred a constitutional status on the Commission.
2. The conditions of service and tenure of office of the members are determined by the Parliament.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

### Q.17) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>

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<p>The National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) was set up in 1993.</p> <p>Later, the 102nd Amendment Act of 2018 conferred a constitutional status on the Commission. For this purpose, the amendment inserted a new Article 338-B in the constitution.</p>	<p>The Commission consists of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and three other members. They are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal. Their conditions of service and tenure of office are also determined by the President</p>
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### Q.18) Consider the following statements regarding GST Council

1. The Union Finance Secretary acts as the ex-officio Secretary to the Council.
2. Every decision of the Council is to be taken by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the weighted votes of the members present and voting at the meeting.
3. The vote of the central government shall have a weightage of one-fourth of the total votes cast in that meeting.

### Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

### Q.18) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
The Union Revenue Secretary acts as the ex-officio Secretary to the Council.	The decisions of the Council are taken at its meetings. One-half of the total number of members of the Council is the quorum for conducting a meeting. Every decision of the Council is to be taken by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the weighted votes of the members present and voting at the meeting.	The decision is taken in accordance with the following principles: (i) The vote of the central government shall have a weightage one-third of the total votes cast in that meeting. (ii) The votes of all the state governments combined shall have weightage of two-thirds of the total votes cast in that meeting.

**Q.19) Consider the following statements regarding Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities**

1. The Constitution does not specify the qualifications, tenure, salaries and allowances, service conditions and procedure for removal of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.
2. He submits the annual reports or other reports to the President through the Union Minority Affairs Minister.

**Choose the correct answer using codes below**

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

**Q.19) Solution (c)**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>
The Constitution does not specify the qualifications, tenure, salaries and allowances, service conditions and procedure for removal of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.	At the Central level, the Commissioner falls under the Ministry of Minority Affairs. Hence, he submits the annual reports or other reports to the President through the Union Minority Affairs Minister.

**Q.20) Consider the following statements regarding the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)**

1. He is not eligible for further office, either under the Government of India or of any state, after he ceases to hold his office.
2. He can be removed by the president on the basis of a resolution passed to that effect by both the Houses of Parliament with special majority, either on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.
3. He can audit the accounts of local bodies.

**Choose the correct answer using codes below**

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



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### Q.20) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>
He is not eligible for further office, either under the Government of India or of any state, after he ceases to hold his office.	He can be removed by the president on same grounds and in the same manner as a judge of the Supreme Court. In other words, he can be removed by the president on the basis of a resolution passed to that effect by both the Houses of Parliament with special majority, either on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.	He audits the accounts of any other authority when requested by the President or Governor. For example, the audit of local bodies.

### Q.21) With reference to Black Carbon, Consider the following statements:

1. Black Carbon is produced both naturally and by human activities.
2. India is the largest emitter of black carbon in the world.
3. Black Carbon remains in the atmosphere for shorter duration when compared with CO<sub>2</sub>.

### Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

### Q.21) Solution (c)

- Black carbon results from the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels and biomass. BC is **produced both naturally and by human activities** as a result of the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels, biofuels, and biomass.
- Primary sources include emissions from diesel engines, cook stoves, wood burning and forest fires.
- The fine particles absorb light and about a million times more energy than carbon dioxide.
- Black carbon is the second largest contributor to climate change after CO<sub>2</sub>.

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- But **unlike CO<sub>2</sub>, which can stay in the atmosphere for years together, black carbon is short-lived and remains in the atmosphere only for days to weeks before it descends as rain or snow.**
- Black carbon absorbs solar energy and warms the atmosphere.
- India is the **second largest emitter** of black carbon in the world.
- Black carbon is the most solar energy-absorbing component of particulate matter and can absorb one million times more energy than CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Black carbon not only has impacts on human health, it also affects visibility, harms ecosystems, reduces agricultural productivity and exacerbates global warming.
- Black carbon and its co-pollutants are key components of fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) air pollution, the leading environmental cause of poor health and premature deaths.

### Q.22) Consider the following statements about Colistin

1. Colistin is a chemical used for artificial fruit ripening.
2. The WHO considers colistin as a 'highest priority critically important antimicrobial' for humans.

### 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.22) Solution (b)

- **Colistin is an antibiotic for therapeutic purpose in veterinary.** But the drug is highly misused in poultry industry as a growth promoter for prophylactic purpose. One of the reason for antibiotic resistance in India is due to unwanted use of Colistin in poultry industry.
- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) notified the prohibition of sale, manufacture and distribution of colistin and its formulations in food-producing animals, poultry, aqua farming and animal feed supplements. The move is expected to help regulate antibiotic misuse in these animals and contain antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

- **The World Health Organisation (WHO) considers colistin as a ‘highest priority critically important antimicrobial’ for humans.**
- AMR – antibiotic resistance in particular – is a global public health crisis, which is believed to heavily impact India. Antibiotics are becoming ineffective as bacteria are getting resistant to the antibiotics used to kill them. Bacterial infections, therefore, are now either difficult to treat or are untreatable. Since a huge proportion of overall produced antibiotics are used in rearing animals for food, such misuse is one of the key reasons for rising AMR.
- It also directs the manufacturers of colistin and its formulations to label “Not to be used in food producing animals, poultry, aqua farming and animal feed supplements” in a conspicuous manner on the package insert and promotional literature.

**Q.23) Which of the following statements is/are Not Correct regarding Influenza Viruses?**

1. Influenza A viruses are the only influenza viruses known to cause flu pandemics.
2. Flu vaccines will protect against infection and illness caused by other viruses that also can cause influenza-like symptoms.

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

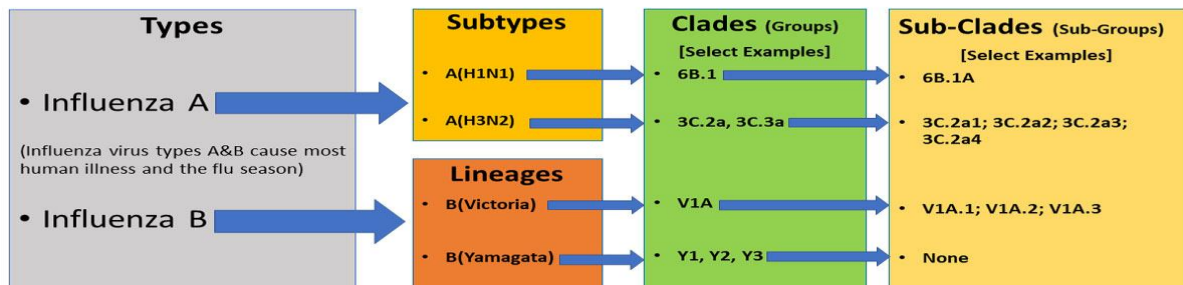
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Q.23) Solution (b)**

- There are four types of influenza viruses: A, B, C and D. Human influenza A and B viruses cause seasonal epidemics of disease (known as the flu season) almost every winter in the United States. **Influenza A viruses are the only influenza viruses known to cause flu pandemics, i.e., global epidemics of flu disease.** A pandemic can occur when a new and very different influenza A virus emerges that both infects people and has the ability to spread efficiently between people.
- Influenza type C infections generally cause mild illness and are not thought to cause human flu epidemics.

- Influenza D viruses primarily affect cattle and are not known to infect or cause illness in people.

## Human Seasonal Influenza Viruses



This graph above shows the two types of influenza viruses (A,B) that cause most human illness and that are responsible for the flu season each year. Influenza A viruses are further classified into subtypes, while influenza B viruses are further classified into two lineages: B/Yamagata and B/Victoria. Both influenza A and B viruses can be further classified into specific clades and sub-clades (which are sometimes called groups and sub-groups).

### What Is the Bird Flu?

- The avian influenza virus causes bird flu. Birds can be infected by influenza A viruses and all of its subtypes. Birds are not capable of carrying either type B or C influenza viruses.
- An influenza pandemic is a global outbreak of a new influenza A virus.

### Q.24) Consider the following statements

1. It is important to turn off electric devices when traveling on a plane to eliminate micro waves that pose a risk to avionics technology on planes.
2. According to Indian rules, the Pilot-in-Command may permit the access of Internet services by passengers on board in flight, through Wi-Fi on board.

### 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.24) Solution (b)

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- **The Pilot-in-Command may permit the access of Internet services by passengers on board in flight**, through Wi-Fi on board. This service will be given to passengers on the flight after the permit by the Pilot-in-Command. The passengers onboard can avail in-flight WiFi services for their smartphones, laptops, tablets, e-readers or smartwatches given that the devices are on airplane mode or flight mode, provided that the Director-General shall certify the aircraft for usage of Internet service in flight through Wi-Fi on board.
- In December 2018, the Government of India announced the licenses for In-Flight and Maritime Communications (IFMC) that allows broadband Internet services while flying over the Indian skies and sailing in Indian waters, both for international and Indian aircraft and vessels.
- The IFMC license is a key initiative of the Telecom Ministry, a move to liberalise satellite communication services in India.
- According to the government official, the wifi service can only be availed once the flight has taken off and all the doors are closed. The usage of internet service in-flight shall be certified by the Director-General.
- It is important to turn off electric devices when traveling on a plane **to eliminate radio waves** that pose a risk to avionics technology on planes. This is one of the reasons that travelers are asked to turn off electronic devices before take-off.
- It turns out that the ban on wireless devices in flight has a lot more to do with possible interference for ground networks, rather than any danger posed to aircraft systems. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) banned in-flight use of most cell phones and wireless devices in 1991, citing the reason of ground network interference.

**Q.25) With reference to Anchor investors, Consider the following statements:**

1. Anchor investors are institutional investors who are offered shares in an IPO a day before the offer opens.
2. The anchor investor is not allowed to sell his/her share for at least one year after the allotment.
3. No merchant banker, promoter or their relatives can apply for shares under the anchor investor category.

**Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?**

- a) 1 and 3 only

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

**Q.25) Solution (c)**

- Anchor investors are institutional investors who are offered shares in an IPO **a day before the offer opens**. As the name suggests, they are supposed to 'anchor' the issue by agreeing to subscribe to shares at a fixed price so that other investors may know that there is demand for the shares offered.
- Each anchor investor has to put a minimum of ₹10 crore in the issue.
- Up to 30 per cent of the total issue size can be allotted to anchor investors.
- **No merchant banker, promoter or their relatives can apply for shares under the anchor investor category.**
- In offers of size less than ₹250 crore, there can be a maximum of 15 anchor investors, but in those over ₹250 crore, SEBI recently removed the cap on number of anchor investors. Now, there could be 10 additional investors for every extra ₹250 crore allocation, subject to minimum allotment of ₹5 crore per anchor investor.
- It is a concept launched by Securities Exchange Board of India in 2009.
- **The anchor investor is not allowed to sell his/her share for at least 30 days after the allotment.**
- One of the main features of anchor investment is, the allotment is done a day before an IPO opens.

**Q.26) Which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. Himalayan red pandas are native to Nepal, India, Bhutan and Tibet.
2. Chinese red pandas are found only in China.

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.26) Solution (a)**



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Chinese red pandas are found in northern Myanmar as well as south-eastern Tibet, Sichuan and Yunnan provinces in China, while Himalayan red pandas are native to Nepal, India, Bhutan and southern Tibet in China.

**Q.27) 'Order Books, Inventories and Capacity Utilisation Survey (OBICUS)' is taken up by**

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Reserve Bank of India
- c) Central Statistics Office
- d) National Sample Survey Office

**Q.27) Solution (b)**

The Reserve Bank has been conducting Order Books, Inventories and Capacity Utilisation Survey (OBICUS) of the manufacturing sector on a quarterly basis. The survey seeks quantitative information on order books, inventories and capacity utilisation, such as, pending order books, backlog order books, total inventories, finished goods inventories, work in progress inventories, installed capacity, quantity produced, capacity utilisation, value of production, etc., from companies involved in the manufacturing activities. The information on installed capacity, quantity produced, value of production, etc., is used for calculating the capacity utilisation at industry as well as at an all India level.

The survey has been providing a significant input to the Reserve Bank in monetary policy formulation.

**Q.28) Consider a scenario wherein the Indian government would start raising a part of its gross borrowing programme through sovereign bonds. If the exchange rate is expected to worsen,**

- a) Sovereign bonds denominated in domestic currency (INR) are preferable.
- b) Sovereign bonds denominated in foreign currency are preferable.
- c) The exchange rate won't have any effect on the bonds.
- d) All the above statements are wrong, since sovereign bonds can only be denominated in domestic currency.

**Q.28) Solution (a)**

The difference between issuing a bond denominated in rupees and issuing it in a foreign currency (say US dollar) is the incidence of exchange rate risk. If the loan is in terms of dollars, and the rupee weakens against the dollar during the bond's tenure, the government would have to return more rupees to pay back the same amount of dollars. If, however, the initial loan is denominated in rupee terms, then the negative fallout would be on the foreign investor.

Imagine two 10-year sovereign bond issues by India: one for \$100 in the US, and the other for Rs 7,000 in India. For the sake of simplicity, suppose the exchange rate is Rs 70 to a dollar. As such, at the time of issue, both values are the same. Now suppose the exchange rate worsens for India and falls to Rs 80 a dollar at the end of the tenure. In the first case, the Indian government would have to pay Rs 8,000 (instead



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of Rs 7,000 that it got initially) to meet its dollar-denominated obligation. In the second case, it would pay Rs 7,000 and the lender would be short-changed as these Rs 7,000 will be equal to just \$87.5 at the end of tenure. That is why, if the exchange rate is expected to worsen, sovereign bonds denominated in domestic currency are preferable.

**Q.29) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO)’.**

1. The goal of the SDO is to understand the influence of the Sun on the Earth and near-Earth space by studying the solar atmosphere.
2. It is the first satellite under the Living with a Star (LWS) program at ISRO.

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.29) Solution (a)**

The Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO) is a NASA mission which has been observing the Sun.

Launched on February 11, 2010, the observatory is part of the Living With a Star (LWS) program.

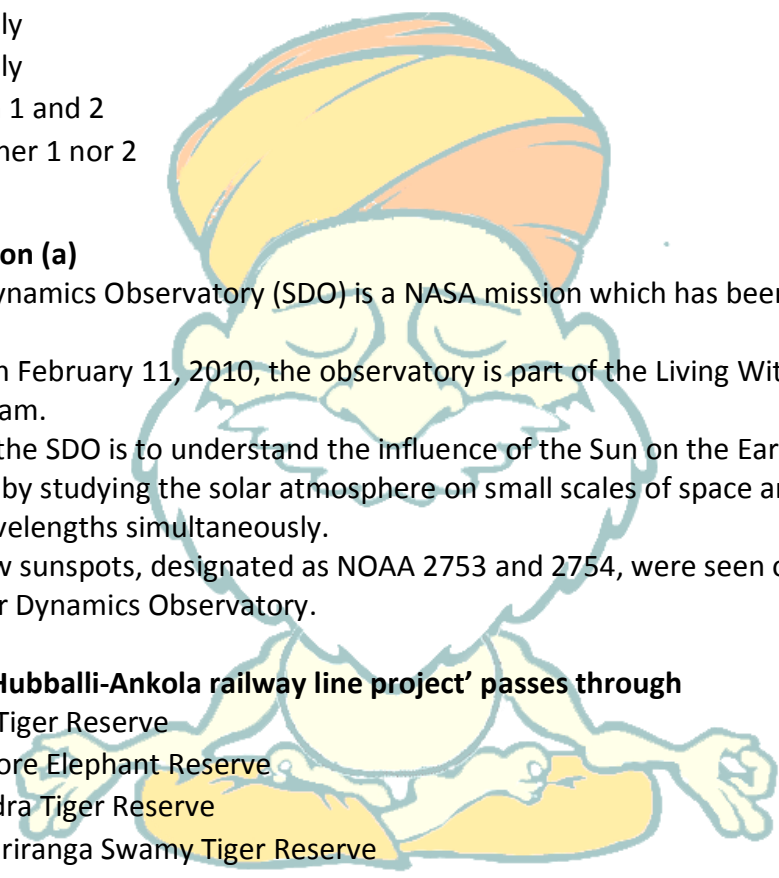
The goal of the SDO is to understand the influence of the Sun on the Earth and near-Earth space by studying the solar atmosphere on small scales of space and time and in many wavelengths simultaneously.

The two new sunspots, designated as NOAA 2753 and 2754, were seen on Dec. 24 by NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory.

**Q.30) The ‘Hubballi-Ankola railway line project’ passes through**

- a) Kali Tiger Reserve
- b) Mysore Elephant Reserve
- c) Bhadra Tiger Reserve
- d) Biligiriranga Swamy Tiger Reserve

**Q.30) Solution (a)**



KARNATAKA

## Hubballi-Ankola railway line gets clearance despite opposition

