

Q.1) Consider the following statements about the President's Rule?

1. A proclamation imposing President's Rule must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within two months from the date of its issue.
2. With the approval of the Parliament every year, the President's Rule can be extended for a maximum period of three years.

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.1) Solution (a)

Basic Information:

- Centre takes over the Government of a State under Article 356 in case of failure of constitutional machinery in state. This is popularly known as 'President's Rule'.
- The President's Rule can be proclaimed under Article 356 on two grounds—one mentioned in Article 356 itself and another in Article 365.

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
<p>The President's Rule can be proclaimed under Article 356 on two grounds—one mentioned in Article 356 (If President is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the government of a state cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution) and another in Article 365 (whenever a state fails to comply with or to give effect to any direction from the Centre).</p> <p>A proclamation imposing President's Rule must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within two months from the date of its issue. Every resolution approving the</p>	<p>If approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the President's Rule continues for six months. It can be extended for a maximum period of three years with the approval of the Parliament, every six months.</p>

proclamation of President's Rule or its continuation can be passed by either House of Parliament only by a simple majority, that is, a majority of the members of that House present and voting.	
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Q.2) From the below, identify the correct statement with reference to the legislative powers of Governor:

- a) He can dissolve the state legislative assembly.
- b) He can appoint any member of the State legislative assembly to preside over its proceedings when the office of the Speaker falls vacant.
- c) He can promulgate an ordinance only when the legislative assembly is not in session in case of a bicameral legislature.
- d) He nominates only one-third of the members of the state legislative council.

Q.2) Solution (a)

Note: The Statement 1 is correct and you can eliminate other statements just by reading first statement.

The Governor can summon or prorogue the state legislature and dissolve the state legislative assembly. These powers are formal and the governor's use of these powers must comply with the advice of the Council of Ministers headed by the Chief Minister.

The Governor can appoint any member of the State legislative assembly to preside over its proceedings when the offices of **both the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker fall vacant**. Similarly, he can appoint any member of the state legislature council to preside over its proceedings when the offices of both Chairman and Deputy Chairman fall vacant.

The Governor can promulgate an ordinance only when the legislative assembly (in case of a unicameral legislature) is not in session or **(in case of a bicameral legislature) when both the Houses of the state legislature are not in session** or when either of the two Houses of the state legislature is not in session.

Governor **nominates one-sixth** of the members of the state legislative council.

Q.3) With reference to immunities to the President of India and Governor of states, consider the following statements:

1. No proceedings can be started against the President and the Governors in respect of their personal acts during the term of their office.
2. The President and the Governors can be sued after their term of office, for any act done by them in the exercise and performance of their official powers and duties.

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.3) Solution (d)

Basic Information:

- The Constitution confers certain immunities to the President of India and Governor of states with regard to their official acts and personal acts.

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
No criminal proceedings can be started against the president and the governors in respect of their personal acts nor can they be arrested or imprisoned. This immunity is limited to the period of the term of their office only and does not extend beyond that. However, civil proceedings can be started against them during their term of office in respect of their personal acts after giving two months' advance notice.	The president and the governors cannot be sued during the term of their office or thereafter, for any act done by them in the exercise and performance of their official powers and duties. However, the official conduct of the President can be reviewed by a court, tribunal or any other body authorised by either House of Parliament to investigate charges for impeachment.

Q.4) With reference to laws enacted by Parliament on the subjects in the State List, consider the following statements:

1. Such a law can be amended or repealed only by the Parliament and not by the legislatures of the concerned states.
2. Such laws enacted after the resolution of Rajya Sabha continue to be in force

indefinitely.

3. Such laws enacted during a national emergency will cease to have effect once the emergency has ceased to operate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.4) Solution (b)

Basic Information:

- The Constitution empowers the Parliament to make laws on any matter enumerated in the State List under the following extraordinary circumstances - when Rajya Sabha passes a resolution; during a National Emergency; during President's Rule; when States make a request and to Implement International Agreements.

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Incorrect
When the legislatures of two or more states pass resolutions requesting the Parliament to enact laws on a matter in the State List, then the Parliament can make laws for regulating that matter. Such a law can be amended or repealed only by the Parliament and not by the legislatures of the concerned states.	Parliament can make laws on a matter in state list, if the Rajya Sabha passes a resolution to that effect in the national interest. The resolution remains in force for one year; it can be renewed any number of times but not exceeding one year at a time. The laws cease to have effect on the expiration of six months after the resolution has ceased to be in force.	The Parliament acquires the power to legislate with respect to goods and services tax or matters in the State List, while a proclamation of national emergency is in operation. The laws become inoperative on the expiration of six months after the emergency has ceased to operate.

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution lays down that a person shall be disqualified from being a member of Parliament if he is so disqualified on the ground of defection under the provisions of the Tenth Schedule.
2. Once a member of the House incurs disqualification under the Tenth Schedule, he cannot be permitted to contest again during the term for which he was elected.

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.5) Solution (c)

Disqualification on Ground of Defection

The Constitution also down that a person shall be disqualified from being a member of Parliament if he is so disqualified on the ground of defection under the provisions of the Tenth Schedule.

A member incurs disqualification under the defection law:

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

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 1992, the Supreme Court ruled that the decision of the Chairman/Speaker in this regard is subject to judicial review.

Do you know?

- Once a member of the House incurs disqualification under the Tenth Schedule, he cannot be permitted to contest again during the term for which he was elected.
- Article 172 makes a membership of a House co terminus with the term of five years of the House except in circumstances mentioned there in.

Q.6) In the case of Puducherry, the President of India can legislate by making regulations only

- a) When the Parliament passes a resolution to that effect
- b) When the Assembly passes a resolution to that effect
- c) When the Assembly is suspended or dissolved
- d) When the Lt. Governor requests him to do so

Q.6) Solution (c)

Explanation:

The President can make regulations for the peace, progress and good government of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Daman and Diu.

In the case of Puducherry also, the President can legislate by making regulations but only when the assembly is suspended or dissolved.

Q.7) Which Article of the Indian Constitution mentions about 'Power of Governor to grant pardons, etc. and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases'?

- a) Article 167
- b) Article 164
- c) Article 161
- d) Article 165

Q.7) Solution (c)

Explanation:

- Article 161 of Constitution of India deals with 'Power of Governor to grant pardons, etc, and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases'.
- Article 164 of Constitution of India deals with 'Other provisions as to Ministers'.
- Article 165 of Constitution of India deals with ' Advocate General for the State'.
- Article 167 of Constitution of India deals with 'Duties of Chief Minister as respects the furnishing of information to Governor', etc.

Q.8) With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. A person must prove his majority before he/she is appointed as a Chief Minister.
2. To be appointed as Chief Minister, person must be a member of State Legislature.

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.8) Solution (d)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
The constitution doesn't require that a person must prove his majority in the legislative assembly before he is appointed as a chief minister. The governor may first appoint as chief minister and then ask him to prove his majority in a reasonable period.	A Person who is not a member of state legislature can be appointed as a chief minister for six months within which he should be elected to the state legislature, failing which he ceases to be the chief minister.

Q.9) With reference to the official language of the States in India, consider the following statements:

1. A State can have more than one official language.
2. States can choose their official language only from the ones enumerated in the Eighth schedule.
3. English is the only link language for communications between various States.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.9) Solution (a)

Elimination Method –

- Here Statement 1 is correct and you can eliminate Option (b). Both Statement 2 and Statement 3 have 'only' (extreme word) and you have to be more careful while reading these Statements.
- In this question, if one knows that even Hindi can also be used in addition to English for communication between States (Statement 3 is incorrect), he/she can eliminate three Options and mark Option (a) as their answer.

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Incorrect
The legislature of a state may adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the state or Hindi as the official language of that state. Under this provision, most of the states have adopted the major regional language as their official language. For example, Andhra Pradesh has adopted Telugu, Kerala-Malayalam, Assam-Assamese etc. Gujarat has adopted Hindi in addition to Gujarati.	The choice of the state is not limited to the languages enumerated in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.	The official language of the Union (i.e., English) is the link language for communications between the Union and the states or between various states. But, two or more states are free to agree to use Hindi (instead of English) for communication between themselves. Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar are some of the states that have entered into such agreements.

Q.10) Which of the following is NOT the essential feature of a 'State'?

- Well defined territory
- Homogenous cultural beliefs
- Sovereignty
- Population

Q.10) Solution (b)

Basic Information:

- The state is an independent, sovereign government exercising control over a certain spatially defined and bounded area, whose borders are usually clearly defined and internationally recognized by other states.

- **There are four defining features of a State: Territory, Sovereignty, A form of Government and a Population.**
- States are tied to territory - Sovereign or state as absolute ruler over territory; Have clear borders; Defends and controls its territory within those borders and Is recognized by other countries (diplomatic recognition, passports, treaties, etc.)
- States have bureaucracies staffed by state's own personnel - Has a national bureaucracy staffed by government personnel (legal system, educational system, hierarchical governmental units, etc.)
- States monopolize certain functions within its territory (sovereign) - controls legitimate use of force within its territory; Controls money at the national scale (prints currency; collects taxes); Makes rules within its territory (law, regulations, taxes, citizenship, etc.); Controls much information within its territory; States try to form nations within their borders (through symbols, education, national interest etc.).
- **A nation is a group of people who see themselves as a cohesive and coherent unit based on shared cultural or historical criteria.** Hence 'Homogenous cultural beliefs' is not essential feature of 'State'.
- Nations are socially constructed units, not given by nature. Their existence, definition, and members can change dramatically based on circumstances. Nations in some ways can be thought of as - imagined communities that are bound together by notions of unity that can pivot around religion, ethnic identity, language, cultural practice and so forth.
- The concept and practice of a nation often ignore political boundaries such that a single nation may - spill over into multiple states. Furthermore, states \neq nations: not every nation has a state (e.g., Kurds; Roma; Palestine). Some states may contain all or parts of multiple nations.
- Nation-State is the idea of a homogenous nation governed by its own sovereign state - where each state contains one nation. This idea is almost never achieved.

Q.11) Arrange the following States in decreasing order of Lok Sabha Constituencies they have:

1. West Bengal
2. Maharashtra
3. Tamil Nadu
4. Bihar

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 4 – 1 – 2 – 3
- b) 4 – 3 – 2 – 1
- c) 2 – 1 – 4 – 3
- d) 2 – 3 – 4 – 1

Q.11) Solution (c)

Basic Information:

- Currently, there are 543 (530 States+13 UTs) Lok Sabha constituencies in India. Its distribution across states is Uttar Pradesh (80) > **Maharashtra (48)** > **West Bengal (42)** > **Bihar (40)** > **Tamil Nadu (39)** > Madhya Pradesh (29) > Karnataka (28) > Gujarat (26) > Rajasthan (25), Andhra Pradesh (25) > Orissa (21) > Kerala (20) > Telangana (17) > Assam (14), Jharkhand (14) > Punjab (13) > Chhattisgarh (11) > Haryana (10) > Delhi (7) > Jammu and Kashmir (5), Uttarakhand (5) > Himachal Pradesh (4).
- The Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura has 2 Lok Sabha constituencies each) while Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Puducherry, Chandigarh, Lakshadweep, Ladakh, Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Andaman and Nicobar Islands has 1 Lok Sabha constituencies each.
- Therefore **the correct decreasing order is: Maharashtra (48) > West Bengal (42) > Bihar (40) > Tamil Nadu (39).**

Q.12) Which of the following is not a correct difference between States and Union Territories (UTs)?

- a) The relationship of states with centre is federal while it is unitary for UTs.
- b) States share a distribution of power with the Centre, while UTs are under the direct control and administration of the Centre.
- c) A governor is a constitutional head of the state, whereas for UTs administrator is constitutional head.
- d) None of the above.

Q.12) Solution (c)

Basic Information:

Table 40.2 Comparing States and Union Territories

	<i>States</i>	<i>Union Territories</i>
1.	Their relationship with Centre is federal.	1. Their relationship with Centre is unitary.
2.	They share a distribution of power with the Centre.	2. They are under the direct control and administration of the Centre.
3.	They have autonomy.	3. They do not have any autonomy.
4.	There is uniformity in their administrative set-up.	4. There is no uniformity in their administrative set-up.
5.	Their executive head is known as governor.	5. Their executive head is known by various designations—administrator or lieutenant governor or chief commissioner.
6.	A governor is a constitutional head of the state.	6. An administrator is an agent of the president.
7.	Parliament cannot make laws on the subjects of the state list in relation to the states except under extraordinary circumstances.	7. Parliament can make laws on any subject of the three lists in relation to the union territories.

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. The governor of concerned state with scheduled areas and scheduled tribes is empowered to increase or decrease the area of scheduled areas.
2. The governor of state with scheduled areas has to submit a report to the president regarding the administration of such areas, annually or whenever so required by the president.
3. Each state having scheduled areas has to establish a tribes advisory council to advise on welfare and advancement of the scheduled tribes.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Q.13) Solution (a)

Basic Information:

The various features of administration contained in the Fifth Schedule are as follows:

- Declaration of Scheduled Areas
- Executive Power of State and Centre: The executive power of a state extends to the scheduled areas therein. But the governor has a special responsibility regarding such areas.
- Tribes Advisory Council
- Law applicable to Scheduled Areas: The governor is empowered to direct that any particular act of Parliament or the state legislature does not apply to a scheduled area or apply with specified modifications and exceptions.

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Correct
It is not the governor but 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.	The governor has a special responsibility regarding such areas. He has to submit a report to the president regarding the administration of such areas, annually or whenever so required by the president.	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.

Q.14) Which of the following conditions is not true for the governor to reserve the bill for the consideration of the President:

- a) A state bill that endangers the position of the high court.
- b) A state bill that is opposed to the Directive Principles of State Policy.
- c) A state bill dealing with compulsory acquisition of property under Article 31A of the Constitution.
- d) A bill that originated and passed by the legislative council of the state but was rejected by the state legislative assembly.

Q.14) Solution (d)

Basic Information:

When a bill is sent to the governor after it is passed by state legislature, the Governor can:

- Give his assent to the bill, or
- Withhold his assent to the bill, or
- Return the bill (if it is not a money bill) for reconsideration of the state legislature.
- Reserve the bill for the consideration of the president. (Article 201)

Other conditions when governor can also reserve the bill for the consideration of the President:

- Ultra-vires, that is, against the provisions of the Constitution.
- Against the larger interest of the country.
- Of grave national importance.

Q.15) Consider the following statements with reference to passage of ordinary bill in state legislature with legislative council:

1. The council can detain or delay the bill for a maximum period of three months.
2. The constitution provides for joint sitting of both the houses of state legislature to resolve the disagreement over a bill.
3. If a bill that originated in the council and is transmitted to assembly, is rejected by the assembly, the bill ends and becomes dead.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.15) Solution (c)

Basic Information:

- In a state legislature an ordinary bill can originate in either House of the state legislature (in case of a bicameral legislature).
- The ultimate power of passing an ordinary bill is vested in the assembly.
- The council has been given much lesser significance, position and authority than that of the Rajya Sabha at the Centre.
- After the bill is passed by the originating House, it is transmitted to the second House for consideration and passage. The council may pass it with or without amendment, or may reject it or may keep it pending.
- If the assembly rejects the amendments suggested by the council or the council rejects the bill altogether or the council does not take any action for three months, then the assembly may pass the bill again and transmit the same to the council.
- If the council rejects the bill again or passes the bill with amendments not acceptable to the assembly or does not pass the bill within one month, then the bill is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses in the form in which it was passed by the assembly for the second time.

Elimination:

If you know (and you must) that the provision for joint sitting is only for Union Legislature and not for states, so all options having Statement 2 can be eliminated. And by doing so, you are only left with option (c) as your answer.

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct
The council can detain or delay the bill for a period of four months—three months in the first instance and one month in the second instance.	The Constitution does not provide for the mechanism of joint sitting of both the Houses of state legislature to resolve the disagreement over bill.	The Council has lesser authority over the passage of bills in state legislature.

Q.16) Consider the following statements with reference to the Chief Minister of a state:

1. The Constitution does not have specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Chief Minister.

2. The Constitution does not require that a person must prove his majority in the legislative assembly before he is appointed as the Chief Minister.
3. A person who is not a member of the state legislature cannot be appointed as Chief Minister in any circumstances.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.16) Solution (b)

Basic Information:

- The position of the Chief Minister at the state level is analogous to the position of prime minister at the Centre.
- CM finds mention in article 163, 164 and 167 of the Constitution. Article 164 says that CM shall be appointed by the Governor.
- According to the Constitution, the Chief Minister may be a member of any of the two Houses of a state legislature.
- In accordance with the conventions of the parliamentary system of government, the governor has to appoint the leader of the majority party in the state legislative assembly as the Chief Minister.
- If no political party has clear majority the governor may exercise his discretion in selecting CM and ask him to seek a vote of confidence in the House within a reasonable time.

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Incorrect
Selection and appointment of CM is made through indirect references in various articles of Constitution and in accordance to some conventions.	The governor may first appoint a person as the CM and then ask him to prove his majority within a reasonable time.	Such a person can be appointed as the CM for six months, within which he has to get elected to the state legislature.

Q.17) With reference to the parliament of India, which of the following Parliamentary committees scrutinizes the assurances, promises, undertakings etc. given by ministers from time to time and report to the respective house and see whether such implementation has taken place within the minimum time necessary for the purpose?

- a) Committee on Government Assurances
- b) Committee on Subordinate Legislation
- c) Business Advisory Committee
- d) Committee on Public Accounts

Q.17) Solution (a)

Committee on Government Assurances

This committee scrutinizes the assurances, promises, undertakings etc. given by ministers from time to time and to report to the respective house and to see whether such implementation has taken place within the minimum time necessary for the purpose. The committee consists of 15 members in Lok Sabha and 10 members in Rajya Sabha.

Q.18) Who among the following are prohibited from receiving any foreign contributions/donations?

- 1. Government officials
- 2. Judges
- 3. Media persons

Choose correct answer:

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

Q.18) Solution (d)

Members of the legislature and political parties, government officials, judges and media persons are prohibited from receiving any foreign contribution.

Section 29B of the Representation of the People (1951) Act prohibits all political parties registered with the Election Commission from accepting any contribution from a "foreign source." Moreover, section 3 of the 2010 Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act bars candidates,

legislative members, political parties and party officeholders from accepting foreign contributions.

Q.19) Consider the following statements about Skill India Mission Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY 3.0):

1. It envisages training of eight lakh candidates over a scheme period of 2020-2021 with an outlay of Rs. 948.90 crore.
2. In this third version, the government wants to focus on matching local skilling requirements with local job opportunities.

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.19) Solution (c)

Explanation

On January 15, 2021, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) launched the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 3.0. This is the third phase of the scheme which was launched in 2015 to give a boost to skilling in the country. In this third version, the government wants to focus on matching local skilling requirements with local job opportunities. The thrust of PMKVY 3.0 is on empowering States and districts to implement skilling schemes by making regional-level plans.

The scheme guidelines state that the scheme shall be implemented in two phases. The first is being implemented on a pilot basis during the 2020-21 fiscal year, while simultaneously initiating the creation of an implementation framework for the second phase (2021-2026).

Skill India Mission PMKVY 3.0 envisages training of eight lakh candidates over a scheme period of 2020-2021 with an outlay of Rs. 948.90 crore. The 729 Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras (PMKKs), empaneled non-PMKK training centres and more than 200 ITIs under Skill India will be rolling out PMKVY 3.0 training to build a robust pool of skilled professionals. On the basis of the learning gained from PMKVY 1.0 and PMKVY 2.0, the Ministry has improved the newer version of the scheme to match the current policy doctrine and energize the skilling ecosystem affected due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Q.20) Consider the following statements with reference to Pradhan Mantri Matri Vandana Yojana (PMMVY):

1. It is a Maternity Benefit Programme that is implemented in all the districts of the country in accordance with the provision of the National Food Security Act, 2013.
2. It is a conditional cash transfer scheme for pregnant and lactating women of 19 years of age or above for the first live birth.

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.20) Solution (c)

Pradhan Mantri Matri Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) is a maternity benefit program run by the government of India. It was introduced in 2017 and is implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

- It is a conditional cash transfer scheme for pregnant and lactating women of 19 years of age or above for the first live birth.
- It provides a partial wage compensation to women for wage-loss during childbirth and childcare and to provide conditions for safe delivery and good nutrition and feeding practices.
- In 2013, the scheme was brought under the National Food Security Act, 2013 to implement the provision of cash maternity benefit of ₹6,000 (US\$84) stated in the Act.

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

1. European Union is an economic and political union involving 28 European countries.
2. For any country to come out of European Union, it has to negotiate a settlement deal with EU.

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)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
European Union (EU) is an economic and political union involving 27 European countries. It allows free trade and free movement of people, to live, trade and work in whichever country they choose. With Brexit, EU strength has reduced to 27 from 28.	For any country to come out of European Union, it has to negotiate a settlement deal with EU. Article 50 of Lisbon Treaty provides for exit of member countries from European Union. United Kingdom and the European Union have agreed to a post-Brexit free trade deal i.e. The EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA).

Q.22) A new web portal 'E-Sampada' was recently launched by which of the following Ministry?

- a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
b) Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
c) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
d) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Q.22) Solution (d)

- The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** launched a new web portal and mobile app, **e-Sampada** to boost transparency and accountability while ensuring ease of living for the citizens of India.
- The new application provides a single window for all these services including allotment for over one lakh government residential accommodations, office space allotment to government organisations, etc.
- In its endeavour to provide 'One Nation, One System', the erstwhile four websites (gpra.nic.in, eawas.nic.in, estates.gov.in, holidayhomes.nic.in), and two Mobile Apps (m-Awas & m-Ashoka5) of the Directorate of Estates have been integrated into one.

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

1. RNA vaccines carry inactivated pathogen to stimulate an immune response.
2. RNA vaccines are non-infectious.
3. RNA vaccines can be produced more rapidly than conventional vaccines.
4. RNA vaccines require refrigeration as it cannot be stored at room temperature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.23) Solution (b)

- India's first indigenous mRNA vaccine candidate, HGCO19, has received approval from Indian Drug regulators to initiate Phase one and two human clinical trials.

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3	Statement 4
Incorrect	Correct	Correct	Incorrect
Instead of injecting a weakened form of a virus or bacteria into the body, RNA vaccines use part of the virus' own genes to stimulate an immune response. In other words, they carry the genetic instructions for the host's cells to make antigens.	RNA vaccines are not made with pathogen particles or inactivated pathogen, so are non-infectious. RNA does not integrate itself into the host genome and interact with our DNA. The RNA strand in the vaccine is degraded once the protein is made.	RNA Vaccines can be produced more rapidly in the laboratory in a process that can be standardised, which improves responsiveness to emerging outbreaks.	They can be stored at room temperature without losing their activity and more stable than conventional vaccines in warm climates if kept dry and/or sterile at pH8.

Q.24) Consider the following pairs:

<i>Geographic region</i>	<i>Known for</i>
1. Ziro valley	Kiwi fruit
2. Pangi valley	Hazelnut
3. Araku valley	Coffee

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Q.24) Solution (d)

- The **kiwis** that grow wild in Arunachal Pradesh's **Ziro Valley** are the only certified organic fruit of their kind in India.
- **Pangi ki Thangi** is a type of hazelnut which grows in **Pangi valley** located in the northwestern edge of Himachal Pradesh. It is known for its unique flavour and sweetness.
- **Araku valley Arabica coffee** has a GI tag. Araku Valley is a hill station in Visakhapatnam district in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

Q.25) Which of the following Indian cities are included in the list of UNESCOs world heritage cities under its urban landscape city programme?

- 1. Gwalior
- 2. Jaipur
- 3. Hyderabad
- 4. Ahmedabad
- 5. Varanasi

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 4 only

- b) 1, 3 and 5 only
- c) 2 and 4 only
- d) 1 and 5 only

Q.25) Solution (b)

- **Gwalior and Orchha** in Madhya Pradesh have been included in the list of UNESCO's world heritage cities under its urban landscape city programme. Before this, **Varanasi**, Ajmer-Pushkar and **Hyderabad** were included among the pilot cities for Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) recommendation based planning in the year 2015.
- Ahmedabad and Jaipur are two Indian cities in the UNESCO World Heritage Site list.

Q.26) Consider the following statements:

1. Postal Ballot is a type of voting whereby Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot Papers (ETPB) are distributed to electors and returned by post.
2. Representation of the People Act, 1951 has to be amended by the Parliament to extend Postal ballot facility to Non-Resident Indians (NRIs).

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.26) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
Postal Ballot is a type of voting whereby Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot Papers (ETPB) are distributed to electors and returned by post. Under ETPBS, the postal ballot is dispatched electronically and returned via ordinary mail and it	Recently the Election Commission (EC) approached the Law Ministry to permit NRIs to cast their votes from overseas through postal ballots. To extend postal ballot service to overseas voters,

is currently only available to service voters like member of the armed Forces, person employed by govt outside India etc.

government only needs to amend the Conduct of Election Rules 1961. It doesn't require Parliament's nod.

Q.27) Which of the following statements regarding the Apex Committee for Implementation of Paris Agreement (AIPA) is/are correct?

1. It is an inter-ministerial Committee headed by Union Minister of Environment.
2. It operates as a National Authority to regulate carbon markets in India under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.
3. It provides guidance to private sector for aligning their climate actions with national priorities.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Q.27) Solution (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Correct
The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has constituted a high-level inter-ministerial Apex Committee for Implementation of Paris Agreement (AIPA) under the chairmanship of Secretary, MoEFCC. Senior officials from fourteen ministries will serve as Members to AIPA	Key functions of AIPA: (1) Operate as a National Authority to regulate carbon markets in India under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement; (2) Formulate guidelines for consideration of projects or activities under Article 6; (3) Issue guidelines on carbon pricing, market mechanism,	Its purpose is to generate a coordinated response on climate change matters that ensures India is on track towards meeting its obligations under the Paris Agreement including its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). It will take note of the contributions of the private sector as well as multi-/bi-lateral agencies in the field of

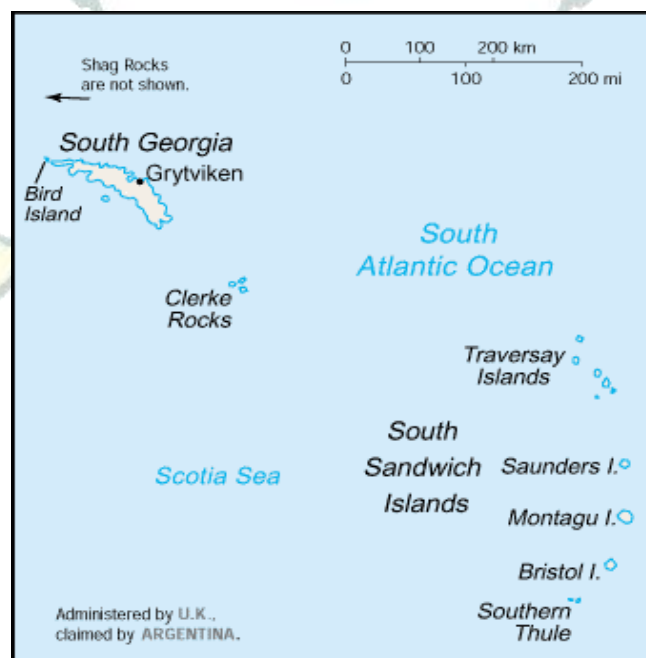
who will oversee the progress in implementation of India's NDC.	and other similar instruments that have a bearing on climate change and NDCs.	climate change and provide guidance for aligning their climate actions with national priorities.
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Q.28) The South Georgia recently seen in news, is an island in which of the following Oceans?

- South Pacific Ocean
- Indian Ocean
- South Atlantic Ocean
- Arctic Ocean

Q.28) Solution (c)

- **South Georgia** (Spanish: Isla San Pedro) is an island in the **southern Atlantic Ocean** that is part of the British Overseas Territory of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. The main settlement is Grytviken.
- Iceberg A68a, which calved from Antarctica in 2017, has been floating off the coast of South Georgia island. This has prompted fears about the impact the iceberg could have on the island's abundant wildlife.



Q.29) The Invest India won 2020 United Nations Investment Promotion Award. In this context, consider the following statements regarding Invest India:

1. It is the national investment promotion and facilitation agency.
2. It is a for-profit company registered under the Companies Act, 2013.
3. It partners with multilateral organizations and brings in global best practices.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.29) Solution (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
Invest India is India's national Investment Promotion & Facilitation Agency. It focuses on sector-specific investor targeting and development of new partnerships to enable sustainable investments in India.	It was set up in 2009 as a non-profit venture under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.	It partners with substantial investment promotion agencies and multilateral organizations and also actively works with several Indian states to build capacity as well as bring in global best practices in investment targeting, promotion and facilitation areas.

Q.30) With reference to Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) ecosystem, consider the following statements:

1. Public Data Offices (PDOs) will establish, maintain, and operate only the WANI compliant Wi-Fi access points to deliver broadband services.

2. A central registry will perform the function of authorization and accounting of the numerous PDOs.
3. There shall be minimum license fee for providing Broadband Internet through these public Wi-Fi networks.

Which of the statements given above is/are **NOT** correct?

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

Q.30) Solution (b)

- Union Cabinet has approved Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) to elevate wireless internet connectivity in the country.
- PM-WANI eco-system will be operated by different players such as Public Data Office (PDO); Public Data Office Aggregator (PDOA); App Provider; Central Registry.
- The app provider will develop the app to register users and discover PM-WANI compliant WiFi hotspots nearby.

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Incorrect
Public Data Offices (PDOs) will establish, maintain, and operate only the WANI compliant Wi-Fi access points to deliver broadband services to its subscribers. These PDOs will either provide internet on their own or will lease from some other Internet Service Provider (ISP).	PDO Aggregators (PDOAs) will perform the function of authorization and accounting of the numerous PDOs. A central registry will be set-up which will maintain details of all app providers, PDOAs and PDOs. The registry will be handled by the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT).	There shall be no license fee for providing Broadband Internet through these public Wi-Fi networks. A customer wanting to access the network from a PDO's premise can do so only after an eKYC authentication.

Study the following 2 (two) passages and answer the questions that follow. Your answers to these questions should be based on the passage only.

Passage 1

A fundamental property of language is that it is slippery and messy and more liquid than solid, a gelatinous mass that changes shape to fit. As Wittgenstein would remind us, "usage has no sharp boundary." Oftentimes, the only way to determine the meaning of a word is to examine how it is used. This insight is often described as the "meaning is use" doctrine. There are differences between the "meaning is use" doctrine and a dictionary-first theory of meaning. "The dictionary's careful fixing of words to definitions, like butterflies pinned under glass, can suggest that this is how language works. The definitions can seem to ensure and fix the meaning of words, just as the gold standard can back a country's currency." What Wittgenstein found in the circulation of ordinary language, however, was a free-floating currency of meaning. The value of each word arises out of the exchange. The lexicographer abstracts a meaning from that exchange, which is then set within the conventions of the dictionary definition.

Q.31) Which of the following best captures the author's position in the passage?

- a) Dictionary definitions are like 'gold standards' — artificial, theoretical and dogmatic. The actual meaning of words is their free-exchange value.
- b) Language is already slippery; given this, accounting for 'meaning in use' will only exasperate the problem. That is why lexicographers 'fix' meanings.
- c) Meaning is dynamic; definitions are static. The 'meaning in use' theory helps us understand that definitions of words are culled from their meaning in exchange and use and not vice versa.
- d) The meaning of words in dictionaries is clear, fixed and less dangerous and ambiguous than the meaning that arises when words are exchanged between people.

Q.31) Solution (c)

According to the paragraph, language is like a gelatinous mass that changes shape to fit. Also, many times the only way to find the meaning of the word is to examine how it is used. It is stated that definitions are fixed for the word by dictionary. Wittgenstein found that circulation of ordinary language was a free-floating currency of meaning. So the meanings are dynamic. Thus, the value of word arises from the exchange and then the lexicographer abstracts meaning from that exchange. Thus, definitions are picked up from the meaning in use.

Option (a), which states that definitions are like dogmatic, cannot be found in the paragraph. Hence, it can be eliminated.

The paragraph doesn't talk about why lexicographers fix meanings. Hence, option b can be

eliminated.

Option (c) covers all the main points. Hence, it is the right choice.

The purpose of the passage is not to compare the meaning of words in dictionaries with meaning which arises from the exchange. Hence, option d can be eliminated.

Hence, option (c) is the right choice.

Passage 2

A translator of literary works needs a secure hold upon the two languages involved, supported by a good measure of familiarity with the two cultures. For an Indian translating work in an Indian language into English, finding satisfactory equivalents in a generalized western culture of practices and symbols in the original would be less difficult than gaining fluent control of contemporary English. When a westerner works on texts in Indian languages the interpretation of cultural elements will be the major challenge, rather than control over the grammar and essential vocabulary of the language concerned. It is much easier to remedy lapses in the language in a text translated into English than flaws of content. Since it is easier for an Indian to learn the English language than it is for a Briton or American to comprehend Indian culture, translations of Indian texts is better left to Indians.

Q.32) Which of the following statements is correct, according to the passage?

- a) While translating, the Indian and the westerner face the same challenges but they have different skill profiles and the former has the advantage.
- b) As preserving cultural meanings is the essence of literary translation Indians' knowledge of the local culture outweighs the initial disadvantage of lower fluency in English.
- c) Indian translators should translate Indian texts into English as their work is less likely to pose cultural problems which are harder to address than the quality of language.
- d) Westerners might be good at gaining reasonable fluency in new languages, but as understanding the culture reflected in literature is crucial, Indians remain better placed

Q.32) Solution (c)

Indians have a better knowledge of their culture. A westerner might be fluent in the language but will find it hard to relate to the culture. Indians, on the other hand, might be less fluent in the language but will be able to preserve the culture when a text is translated. Therefore, Indians should translate Indian texts.

Option (a) states that Indians and Westerners face the same challenges but they have different

skill sets. Indians and Westerners face different challenges while translating the text. Indians face difficulty in the language and westerners face difficulty in relating to the culture. Therefore, we can eliminate option a.

Option (d) fails to capture the fact that the primary intention of the paragraph is not to pit Indians against westerners but to suggest that Indians should translate Indian texts. Also, it does not capture the fact that Indians will retain the advantage only when translating the Indian texts. Therefore, we can eliminate option d.

Option (b), though true, fails to capture the India-centric angle that the paragraph adopts. The paragraph places a huge emphasis on the term 'Indian texts' and only option C manages to capture this fact.

Also, only option (c) captures the fact that it is easier to remedy errors in the language than to fix errors in the interpretation of culture. Therefore, option c is correct.

Q.33) The probability that a leap year selected at random contains either 53 Sundays or 53 Mondays, is

- a) $3/7$
- b) $5/7$
- c) $1/53$
- d) $2/27$

Q.33) Solution (a)

Total number of days in a leap year = 366

It will contain 52 weeks and 2 days

These two days can be (Sunday, Monday); (Monday, Tuesday); (Tuesday, Wednesday); (Wednesday, Thursday); (Thursday, Friday); (Friday, Saturday); (Saturday, Sunday)

For 53 Sundays, the probability = $2/7$

Similarly for 53 Mondays, the probability = $2/7$

This includes one way where Sunday and Monday occur simultaneously i.e. (Sunday, Monday)

Probability for this = $1/7$

Hence, the required probability = $2/7 + 2/7 - 1/7 = 3/7$

Q.34) 36 identical chairs must be arranged in rows with the same number of chairs in each row. Each row must contain at least three chairs and there must be at least three rows. A row is parallel to the front of the room. How many different arrangements are possible?

- a) 2
- b) 4
- c) 5
- d) 6

Q.34) Solution (c)

No. of rows	No. of chairs in each row
3	12
4	9
6	6
9	4
12	3

No. of different arrangement = 5

Q.35) The odds that 'A' agrees with the truth are 3:2 and the odds that 'B' agrees with the truth are 5:3. In what percent of cases are they likely to agree with each other on an identical point?

- a) 47.5%
- b) 37.5%
- c) 63.5%
- d) 52.5%

Q.35) Solution (d)

Probability that A speaks the truth = $\frac{3}{5}$

Probability that A does not speak the truth = $\frac{2}{5}$

Probability that B speaks the truth = $5/8$

Probability that B does not speak the truth = $3/8$

Cases that are likely to agree each other on identical point = $(3/5 * 5/8) + (2/5 * 3/8) = 21/40 = 52.5\%$

