

Q.1) Which of the following are features of the Indian Parliamentary System?

1. Independent Judiciary.
2. Collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature.
3. A written Constitution.
4. Majority Party Rule.
5. Individual responsibility of the executive to the legislature.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Q.1) Solution (b)

Explanation:

Features of parliamentary system of government

1. Nominal and Real Heads of the State:

- The nominal executive and the ceremonial head of state.
- The Prime Minister of India, who is also the real executive, is the head of government whereas the President is the nominal head.
- According to **Article 74**, the President's functions would be aided and advised by a council of ministers led by the Prime Minister.

2. The Executive is a part of the Legislative Branch:

- The Executive is a branch of government that reports to the legislature. To be a member of the executive in India, one must be a member of parliament. **Hence option 5 is correct.**
- However, if a person is not a member of parliament, the constitution allows him to be appointed as a minister for a maximum of six months before ceasing to be one.

3. Majority Party Rule:

- The government is formed by the party that obtains the majority of seats in the Lower House elections.
- The President of India invites the leader of the majority party in the Lok Sabha to form a government.
- In the event that no single party has a majority, the President may invite a coalition of parties to form a government. **Hence option 4 is correct.**

4. Collective Responsibility:

- The council of ministers is collectively responsible to the parliament.
- The lower chamber of parliament has the power to oust a government by passing a no-confidence resolution in the house.
- In India, a government only lasts as long as it has the backing of the majority of Lok Sabha members. **Hence option 2 is correct.**

5. The Prime Minister as the Center of Power:

- The Prime Minister of India is the true executive.
- He is the leader of the council of ministers, and the head of the ruling government.

6. A Parliamentary Opposition:

- In the parliament, no government can command a 100 percent majority.
- The opposition is critical in ensuring that the political executive does not abuse its power arbitrarily.

7. Independent Civil Service:

Civil servants advise and carry out the government's decisions.

8. Bicameral Legislature:

- The majority of countries that use the parliamentary system, including India, have bicameral legislatures.
- All of these countries' Lower House members are chosen by the people.
- The Lower House can be dissolved if the government's term is over if there is no way to establish a government due to a lack of majority in the house.

9. Office of Secrecy:

- In this system, members of the executive must adhere to the principle of confidentiality in subjects such as proceedings, executive meetings, and policymaking.
- Before joining their offices in India, ministers swear an oath of secrecy.

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. The maximum gap between two sessions of the parliament cannot be more than six months.
2. The Power of Adjournment lies with the presiding officer of the house.
3. The Power of Adjournment sine die lies with the President of India.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Q.2) Solution (a)

Explanation:

- The President from time to time has to summon the each house of the parliament.
- The maximum gap between two sessions of parliament cannot be more than six months. **Hence option 1 is correct.**
- A sitting of parliament can be terminated by adjournment or adjournment sine die or prorogation or dissolution. An adjournment suspends the work in a sitting for specified a time, which may be hours or days or weeks.
- Whereas adjournment sine die means terminating a sitting of parliament for an indefinite period. The power of adjournment and adjournment sine die lies with the presiding officer of the house. **Hence option 2 is correct and option 3 is incorrect.**

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Under the rules of the Lok Sabha, every political party has its own whip in the house.
2. In the election of the legislative assembly of a state, a person to get elected must ensure more than 50 percent of polled votes.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Q.3) Solution (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** A whip is appointed by every political party with objective of ensuring discipline within the party. The office of the whip, in India, is mentioned neither in the constitution nor in the rules of the house, nor in any parliament statutes.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** India we follow the first past post system, where a candidate who wins the majority of votes gets, elected even if it is less than 50 percent of the total votes polled. The same applies for election to the lok sabha.

Q.4) Which of the following circumstances may lead to the resignation of the Council of Ministers?

1. Passage of No-Confidence Motion in Lok Sabha
2. Motion of Thanks is not passed by the House in Lok Sabha
3. Money bill gets defeated in Lok sabha

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.4) Solution (d)

Explanation:

- The resignation of the Council of Ministers may take place under the following circumstances:
 - Automatic dissolution, that is, on the expiry of its tenure of five years.
 - Whenever the President decides to dissolve the House, when: A No-Confidence Motion is passed by the Lok Sabha. **Hence, option 1 is correct.**
 - Motion of Thanks i.e. the address of the President at the first session after each general election and the first session of every fiscal year, is defeated in Lok Sabha. **Hence, option 2 is correct.**
 - A Money Bill gets defeated in the Lok Sabha. With regard to Money Bill, Rajya Sabha has restricted powers and can only make recommendations, which the Lok Sabha can either accept or reject. **Hence, option 3 is correct.**
- The Censure Motion is moved for censuring the council of ministers for specific policies and actions. If it is passed in Lok Sabha, the Council of Ministers need not resign from the office

Q.5) Which of the following statements regarding the council of ministers is correct?

- a) Council of ministers is an executive organ of the parliament and it collectively governs on behalf of the parliament.
- b) The death or resignation of the prime minister automatically brings about the dissolution of the council of ministers.
- c) The council of ministers cannot exist without the prime minister.
- d) All of the above.

Q.5) Solution (d)

Explanation:

- Article 75 clearly states that the **council of ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha**. This means that all the ministers own joint responsibility to the Lok Sabha for all their acts of omission and commission. **Hence option a is correct.**
- The death or resignation of the prime minister automatically brings about the dissolution of the council of ministers, but the demise, dismissal or resignation of a minister only creates a ministerial vacancy. **Hence option b is correct.**
- In India, The prime minister enjoys a pre-eminent place in the government. The council of ministers cannot exist without the prime minister. The council of ministers came into

existence only after the prime minister has taken the oath of office. **Hence option c is correct.**

Q.6) Who among the following is eligible to become a member of the Rajya Sabha?

- a) Any citizen of India.
- b) Any person who is registered as an elector in the same parliament constituency from which he seeks to get elected.
- c) Any citizen of India who is registered as an elector for any parliamentary constituency.
- d) Any person residing in India who is not less than 21 years of age.

Q.6) Solution (c)

Explanation:

- Article 84 -Qualification for membership of Parliament: A person shall not be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in Parliament unless he/she,
 - Is a citizen of India, and makes and subscribes before some person authorized in that behalf by the Election Commission an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule.
 - Is, in the case of a seat in the Council of States, not less than thirty years of age and, in the case of a seat in the House of the People, not less than twenty five years of age. **Hence option d is incorrect.**
 - Possesses such other qualifications as may be prescribed in that behalf by or under any law made by Parliament.

Q.7) Which of the following is *incorrect* with reference to National Emergency?

- a) President can proclaim National Emergency only after receiving a written recommendation from the cabinet.
- b) Emergency can be extended for an indefinite period with approval of Parliament for every six months.
- c) Resolution approving the proclamation of emergency must be passed by a majority of two-thirds of the total membership of the House.
- d) Revocation of National Emergency does not require approval of the Parliament.

Q.7) Solution (c)

Explanation:

- Under Article 352, the President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion. The President, however, can proclaim a national emergency only after receiving a written recommendation from the cabinet. This means that the emergency can be declared only on the concurrence of the cabinet and not merely on the advice of the Prime Minister. **Hence option (a) is correct.**
- The proclamation of Emergency must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within one month from the date of its proclamation by the President. Once approved by both the houses of the Parliament the emergency continues for six months. **Hence option (b) is correct.**
- After completion of six months, the emergency can be extended for another six months with the approval of both the houses of Parliament. Thus the emergency can be extended to an indefinite period with an approval of the Parliament for every six months. This provision for periodical parliamentary approval was also added by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978. Before that, the emergency, once approved by the Parliament, could remain in operation as long as the Executive (cabinet) desired.
- Every resolution approving the proclamation of emergency or its continuance must be passed by either House of Parliament by a special majority that is, (a) a majority of the total membership of that house, and (b) a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that house present and voting. Impeachment resolution of the President is one case where a majority of two-thirds of the total membership of the house is required for approval. **Hence, option (c) is not correct.**
- A proclamation of emergency may be revoked by the President at any time by a subsequent proclamation. Such a proclamation does not require parliamentary approval. **Hence option (d) is correct.**

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding the Private Members Bill.

1. It can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha.
2. It can be introduced to amend the constitution of India.

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 (b)

Explanation:

- The Private Member Bill can be passed in either house of the Parliament. And it can be introduced by any member of the parliament other than a minister. **Hence option 1 is incorrect.**

Committee on Private Members Bill and Resolution:

- This Committee consists of **15 members and the Deputy Speaker is its Chairman** when nominated as a member of the Committee. The Committee is nominated by the Speaker. The functions of the Committee are to allot time to Private Members' Bills and Resolutions, to examine Private Members' Bills seeking to amend the Constitution before their introduction in Lok Sabha. **Hence option 2 is correct.**

Q.9) Consider the following statements with reference to electoral bonds:

1. These bonds are interest bearer banking instruments.
2. It can be issued to any political party registered under the representation of the peoples act.
3. It can be purchased only by an Indian citizen.
4. These bonds have a validity of 30 days from the date of the issue.

Which of the statements given above are incorrect?

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

Q.9) Solution (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Electoral bonds are **interest free instruments** like Promissory note that will be available for purchase from state bank of India within a designated window of 1 days in every quarter of the financial year. An additional period of a month will be notified in the year of elections to the lok sabha it can be brought for any value in multiples of Rs1000, Rs 100000, Rs 1 lakh, or Rs 1 crore.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Only the political parties registered under Section 29A of the **Representation of the People Act, 1951** and have **secured not less than 1% of the votes** polled in the last general election to the **House of the People** or the **Legislative Assembly**, are eligible to receive electoral bonds.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Electoral bonds may be purchased by person, who is citizen of India or a company incorporated or established in India. A person being an individual can buy these bonds either singly or jointly with other individuals.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Electoral Bonds shall be **valid for fifteen calendar days** from the date of issue and no payment is being made to any payee Political Party if the Electoral Bond is deposited after expiry of the validity period.

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding Youth Parliament:

1. UNESCO and National Commission for Child Rights recommended for starting of this scheme.
2. The ministry of Parliamentary Affairs provides necessary training related to the scheme.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Q.10) Solution (b)

Explanation:

- The scheme of Youth Parliament was started on the recommendation of the Fourth All India Whips Conference. **Hence option 1 is incorrect**
- **Its objectives are:**
 1. To acquaint the younger generations with practices and procedures of Parliament.

2. To imbibe the spirit of discipline and tolerance cultivating character in the minds of youth.
 3. To inculcate in the student community the basic values of democracy and to enable them to acquire a proper perspective on the functioning of democratic institutions.
- The ministry of parliamentary affairs provides necessary training and encouragement to the states in introducing the scheme. **Hence option 2 is correct.**

Q.11) Consider the following statements with reference to the parliament of India:

1. A bill pending in the parliament does not lapse by reason of prorogation of the house.
2. The dissolution is applicable to only Lok Sabha and not Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.11) Solution (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under Article 107 (3) of the constitution, A Bill pending in Parliament shall not lapse by reason of the prorogation of the Houses. Prorogation of the house is done by president of India. By prorogation it means that the session of the house is terminated. However, it does not affect the bills or any other business pending before the house.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The dissolution is the only provision which is applicable to Lok Sabha and not Rajya Sabha. Rajya Sabha is the permanent house of the parliament.

Q.12) Consider the following pairs:

1. Supplementary Grant - granted for a special purpose.
2. Excess Grant - voted by the Lok Sabha after the financial year
3. Vote of Credit - funds can be made available by re-appropriation.
4. Token Grant - Blank cheque.

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- a) Only one pair.
- b) Only two pairs.
- c) Only three pairs.
- d) Only four pairs.

Q.12) Solution (a)

Explanation:

- **Supplementary Grant** - It is granted when the amount authorized by the Parliament through the appropriation act for a particular service for the current financial year is found to be insufficient for that year.
- **Additional Grant** - It is granted when a need has risen during the current financial year for additional expenditure upon some new service not contemplated in the budget for that year.
- **Excess Grant** - It is granted when money has been spent on any service during a financial year in excess of the amount granted for that service in the budget for that year. It is voted by the Lok Sabha after the financial year. **Hence only one pair is correct.**

Before the demands for excess grants are submitted to the Lok Sabha for voting, they must be approved by the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament.

- **Vote of Credit** - It is granted for meeting an unexpected demand upon the resources of India, when on account of the magnitude or the indefinite character of the service, the demand cannot be stated with the details ordinarily given in a budget.

It is like a blank cheque given to the Executive by the Lok Sabha.

- **Exceptional Grant** - It is granted for a special purpose and forms no part of the current service of any financial year.
- **Token Grant** - It is granted when funds to meet the proposed expenditure on a new service can be made available by re-appropriation.

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. Article 117 deals with all the 3 types of financial bills.
2. Financial Bill (I) can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha.
3. All financial bills are not money bills.

Which of the following statements are correct?

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

Q.13) Solution (c)

Explanation:

- **Financial bills are of three kinds:**
 1. Money bills-Article 110.
 2. Financial bills (I)-Article 117 (1).
 3. Financial bills (II)-Article 117 (3). **Hence option 1 is incorrect.**
- Money bills are simply a species of financial bills.
- All money bills are financial bills but all financial bills are not money bills. **Hence option 3 is correct.**
- A financial bill (I) is similar to a money bill - both of them can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha and not in the Rajya Sabha; and both of them can be introduced only on the recommendation of the president. **Hence option 2 is correct.**

Q.14) Consider the following statements:

1. Rajya Sabha have a device called Special Mention.
2. Short Duration Discussion was started in 1953.
3. The Speaker can allot Four days in a week for half hour discussions.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Q.14) Solution (a)

Explanation:

- **Special Mention:** A matter which is not a point of order or which cannot be raised during question hour, half-an hour discussion, short duration discussion or under adjournment motion, calling attention notice or under any rule of the House can be raised under the special mention in the Rajya Sabha. **Hence option 1 is correct.**
- **Short Duration Discussion:** It is also known as two-hour discussion as the time allotted for such a discussion should not exceed two hours. The members of the Parliament can raise such discussions on a matter of urgent public importance. The Speaker can allot two days in a week for such discussions. There is neither a formal motion before the house nor voting. This device has been in existence since 1953. **Hence option 2 is correct.**
- **Half an Hour Discussion:** It is meant for discussing a matter of sufficient public importance, which has been subjected to a lot of debate and the answer to which needs elucidation on a matter of fact. The Speaker can allot three days in a week for such discussions. **Hence option 3 is incorrect.**

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

1. Privilege Motion is not to censure a minister.
2. Calling Attention Motion is an Indian innovation.
3. Motion of Thanks is voted.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Q.15) Solution (a)

Explanation:

- **Privilege Motion:** It is concerned with the breach of parliamentary privileges by a minister. It is moved by a member when he feels that a minister has committed a breach of privilege of the House or one or more of its members by withholding facts of a case or

by giving wrong or distorted facts. Its purpose is to censure the concerned minister. **Hence option 1 is incorrect.**

- **Calling Attention Motion:** It is introduced in the Parliament by a member to call the attention of a minister to a matter of urgent public importance, and to seek an authoritative statement from him on that matter. Like the zero hour, it is also an Indian innovation in the parliamentary procedure and has been in existence since 1954. **Hence option 2 is correct.**
- **Motion of Thanks:** The first session after each general election and the first session of every fiscal year is addressed by the president. In this address, the president outlines the policies and programmes of the government in the previous year and coming year. This address of the president, which corresponds to the 'speech from the Throne in Britain', is discussed in both the Houses of Parliament on a motion called the 'Motion of Thanks'. At the end of the discussion, the motion is put to vote. **Hence option 3 is correct.**

Q.16) Which of the following is true regarding lapse of bills on dissolution of Lok Sabha?

1. A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha lapses.
2. A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the President for reconsideration of Houses lapses.
3. A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses.

Which of the above given statements is / are correct?

- a) 1 only.
- b) 2 only.
- c) 3 only.
- d) All of the Above.

Q.16) Solution (c)

Explanation:

- A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses (whether originating in the Lok Sabha or transmitted to it by the Rajya Sabha).
- A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses. **Hence option 3 is correct.**
- A bill not passed by the two Houses due to disagreement and if the president has notified the holding of a joint sitting before the dissolution of Lok Sabha, does not lapse.

- A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha does not lapse. **Hence option 1 is incorrect.**
- A bill passed by both Houses but pending assent of the president does not lapse.
- A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the president for reconsideration of Houses does not lapse. **Hence option 2 is incorrect.**

Q.17) Consider the following statements:

1. Election Commission of India nominates the Returning Officer.
2. Election Commission of India nominates the District Election Officer.
3. Election Commission of India nominates the Chief Electoral Officer.

Which of the above statements is/are correct regarding Election officials?

- a) 1 only.
- b) 2 only.
- c) 3 only.
- d) All of the Above.

Q.17) Solution (d)

Explanation:

- **Returning Officer (RO)** - The Returning Officer of a Parliamentary or assembly constituency is responsible for the conduct of elections in the Parliamentary or assembly constituency concerned.
- The Election Commission of India nominates or designates an officer of the government or a local authority as the Returning Officer for each of the assembly and parliamentary constituencies in consultation with the State Government/Union Territory Administration. **Hence option 1 is correct.**
- **District Election Officer (DEO)** - Subject to the superintendence, direction and control of the Chief Electoral Officer, the District Election Officer supervises the election work of a district.
- The Election Commission of India nominates or designates an officer of the state Government as the District Election Officer in consultation with the State Government. **Hence option 2 is correct.**
- **Chief Electoral Officer (CEO)** - The Chief Electoral Officer of a State/Union Territory is authorized to supervise the election work in the State/Union Territory subject to the overall superintendence, direction and control of the Election Commission.

- The Election Commission of India nominates or designates an Officer of the Government of the State/Union Territory as the Chief Electoral Officer in consultation with that State Government/Union Territory Administration. **Hence option 3 is correct.**

Q.18) Consider the following statements with respect to Appropriation Bill:

1. The government cannot withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India till the enactment of the appropriation bill.
2. It is introduced only in the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.18) Solution (c)

Explanation:

- The Constitution under Article 114 states that 'no money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under appropriation made by law'. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Accordingly, an appropriation bill is introduced to provide for the appropriation, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, all money required to meet: (a) The grants voted by the Lok Sabha. (b) The expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
- Post the discussions on Budget proposals and the Voting on Demand for Grants, the government introduces the Appropriation Bill in the Lok Sabha. It cannot be introduced in the Rajya Sabha. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- The Appropriation Bill becomes the Appropriation Act after it is assented to by the President. This act authorizes (or legalizes) the payments from the Consolidated Fund of India. This means that the government cannot withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India till the enactment of the appropriation bill.

- The passing of the Appropriation Bill takes time and usually goes on till the end of April. But the government needs money to carry on its normal activities after 31 March (the end of the financial year). To overcome this functional difficulty, the Constitution under Article 116 has authorized the Lok Sabha to make any grant in advance in respect to the estimated expenditure for a part of the financial year, pending the completion of the voting of the demands for grants and the enactment of the appropriation bill.
- This provision is known as the 'vote on account'. It is passed (or granted) after the general discussion on budget is over. It is generally granted for two months for an amount equivalent to one-sixth of the total estimation.
- To avoid the 'vote on account' and the delay in the enactment of the Budget, the government in 2018 shifted the budget session ahead by 1 month i.e. in the last week of January.

Q.19) Indian Constitution employs the expression 'Proclamation of Emergency' to denote:

- a) National Emergency only
- b) President's Rule only
- c) Financial Emergency only
- d) National Emergency and President's Rule

Q.19) Solution (a)

Explanation:

- Article 352 Proclamation of Emergency - The Constitution employs the expression 'proclamation of emergency' to denote the National Emergency only due to war, external aggression or armed rebellion.
- An Emergency due to the failure of the constitutional machinery in the states (Article 356) is popularly known as 'President's Rule'. It is also known by other two names- 'State Emergency' or 'constitutional Emergency'. However, the Constitution does not use the word 'emergency' for this situation.
- Financial Emergency is proclaimed under Article 360 - due to a threat to the financial stability or credit of India.

Q.20) Which of the following amendments of the Indian Constitution made the Declaration of National Emergency immune from the judicial review?

- a) 38th Constitutional Amendment.
- b) 42nd Constitutional Amendment.
- c) 44th Constitutional Amendment
- d) None of the above

Q.20) Solution (a)

Explanation:

- The 38th Constitution Amendment Act, 1975:
 - It made the declaration of a National Emergency Immune from the judicial review. However, this provision was subsequently deleted by the 44th Amendment Act of 1976. Further, in the Minerva Mills case (1980) the Supreme Court held that proclamation of national emergency can be challenged in a court on the ground of malafide or that the declaration was based on wholly extraneous and irrelevant facts or is absurd or perverse.
- The 42nd amendment, 1976, was enacted during the Emergency. It attempted to reduce the power of the Supreme Court and High Courts to pronounce upon the constitutional validity of laws. It laid down the Fundamental Duties of Indian citizens to the nation. This amendment brought about the most widespread changes to the constitution in its history and is sometimes called a mini-Constitution.
- 44th amendment 1978, was enacted by the Janata Party largely aimed at undoing several changes that had been made to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment enacted during the emergency.

Q.21) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)'

1. It is co-sponsored by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
2. It aims to ensure that the observations and information needed to address climate-related issues are made available to all potential users

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.21) Solution (c)

Explanation:

- The GCOS is co-sponsored by the **World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the International Council for Science (ICSU)**. GCOS regularly reports on the adequacy of the current climate observing system to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- The Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) was established in 1992 as an outcome of the Second World Climate Conference, to **ensure that the observations and information needed to address climate-related issues are obtained and made available to all potential users.**

Source: [CLICK HERE](#)

Q.22) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Genealogical DNA test'

1. The test looks at specific locations of a person's genome in order to estimate the ethnic mixture of an individual
2. The mitochondrial-DNA test can be taken by both males and females unlike a Y-DNA test
3. Y-DNA and mtDNA tests can be used for ethnicity estimates but cannot be used to find one's haplogroup

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.22) Solution (a)

Explanation:

- A genealogical DNA test is a DNA-based test used in genetic genealogy that **looks at specific locations of a person's genome in order to find or verify ancestral genealogical relationships**, or (with lower reliability) to estimate the ethnic mixture of an individual.
- The **mtDNA test can be taken by both males and females, because everyone inherits their mtDNA from their mother**, as the mitochondrial DNA is located in the egg cell. However, a **Y-DNA test can only be taken by a male, as only males have a Y-chromosome.**

- **Y-DNA and mtDNA cannot be used for ethnicity estimates, but can be used to find one's haplogroup**, which is unevenly distributed geographically. MtDNA and Y-DNA tests are utilized to identify archeological cultures and migration paths of a person's ancestors along a strict mother's line or a strict father's line.

Source: [CLICK HERE](#)

Q.23) Why is a plant called 'Senna spectabilis' often mentioned in news?

- a) It's extract can be used in biodiesel production
- b) It is used in the production of technical textiles
- c) It is known to reduce biodiversity in the area where it grows
- d) It is used to produce anti-malarial drugs

Q.23) Solution (c)

Explanation

Senna spectabilis was introduced as an ornamental species and for use as firewood from South and Central America, the species has become highly invasive in the Sigur plateau in both the core and buffer zones of the MTR. Over the last few years, its bright yellow flowers have become more visible across the Tiger Reserve. Conservationists say the invasive weed has a negative effect on local biodiversity, crowding out native species and limiting food availability for wildlife. Senna spectabilis, along with Lantana camara, is among five major invasive weeds that had taken over vast swathes of the Nilgiris, with wattle being the other major invasive species.

Source: [CLICK HERE](#)

Q.24) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Ganges River Dolphin'

1. It is a fresh-water species and has been recognized as the National Aquatic Animal of India
2. They are known to do acrobatic maneuvers when they're distressed and use echolocation to find food
3. Supreme Court of India granted non-human personhood these dolphins which prevent captivity for entertainment

Choose the correct answer using the code given below

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

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

Q.24) Solution (d)

Explanation:

- The Gangetic Dolphin is a **fresh-water species, and one of the few river dolphins found in the world. The Gangetic Dolphin has been recognized as India's National Aquatic Animal** and is the official animal of the Indian city of Guwahati.
- The Ganges river dolphins usually come in pairs or **they're just single and are not known to do acrobatic maneuvers near boats or when they're distressed**. Little is known about their behavior because they are usually shy around boats and are hard to observe. **Ganges river dolphins use echolocation to find food.**
- India's **Ministry of Environment and Forests declared dolphins 'nonhuman persons'** and as such has forbidden their captivity for entertainment purposes; keeping dolphins in captivity must satisfy certain legal prerequisites.

Source: [CLICK HERE](#)

Q.25) Consider the following statements with respect to 'World Cities Day'

1. This day was designated by UN-Habitat and a global observance is held in a different city each year
2. It aims to promote the international community's interest in global urbanization and sustainable urban development

Select the correct statement(s)

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

Q.25) Solution (b)

Explanation:

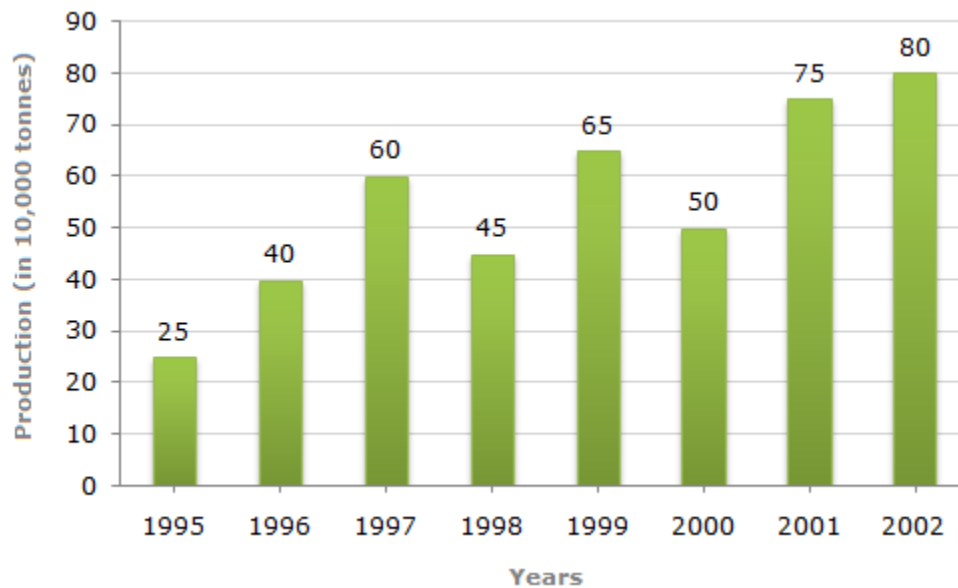
- The **United Nations General Assembly designated 31 October as World Cities Day**, by its resolution 68/239. As with World Habitat Day, **a global observance is held in a different city each year and the day focuses on a specific theme.**
- The Day is expected to greatly **promote the international community's interest** in global urbanization, push forward cooperation among countries in meeting opportunities

addressing challenges of urbanization and contributing to sustainable urban development around the world.

Source: [CLICK HERE](#)

Please refer to this chart to answer questions 26-29.

Study the bar chart and answer the questions based on it



Q.26) What was the percentage decline in the production of fertilizers from 1997 to 1998?

- a) $33\frac{1}{3}\%$
- b) 20%
- c) 21%
- d) 25%

Q.26) Solution (d)

Explanation

Required percentage = $\frac{(45-60)}{60} = 25\%$

Therefore, there is a decline of 25% from 1997 to 1998.

Q.27) In how many of the given years was the production of fertilizers more than the average production of the given years?

- a) 2
- b) 3
- c) 4
- d) 5

Q.27) Solution (c)

Explanation

Average production over the given years

$$= 1/8(25 + 40 + 60 + 45 + 65 + 50 + 75 + 80) = 55$$

Therefore, the production has exceeded the average during 1997, 1999, 2001, 2002. So, the answer is four times.

Q.28) The average production of 1996 and 1997 was exactly equal to the average production of which of the following pairs of years?

- a) 2000 and 2001
- b) 1999 and 2000
- c) 1998 and 2000
- d) 1995 and 2001

Q.28) Solution (d)

Explanation

Average production (in 10000 tonnes) of 1996 and 1997 = $(40 + 60)/2 = 50$

We shall find the average production (in 10000 tonnes) for each of the given alternative pairs:

$$2000 \text{ and } 2001 = (50 + 75)/2 = 62.5$$

$$1999 \text{ and } 2000 = (65 + 50)/2 = 57.5$$

$$1998 \text{ and } 2000 = (45 + 50)/2 = 47.5$$

$$1995 \text{ and } 1999 = (25 + 65)/2 = 45$$

$$1995 \text{ and } 2001 = (25 + 75)/2 = 50$$

Therefore , the average production of 1996 and 1997 is equal to the average production of 1995 and 2001.

Q.29) What was the percentage increase in production of fertilizers in 2002 compared to that in 1995?

- a) 320%
- b) 270%
- c) 220%
- d) 200%

Q.29) Solution (c)

Explanation

Required percentage = $((80-25)/25)\% = 220\%$

Read the following passage and answer the items that follow. Your answer to these items should be based on the passages only

Passage

Ever since the Centre and the States passed the landmark legislation in 2016 adopting a single countrywide Goods and Services Tax (GST), the federal council that is tasked with overseeing all the regulatory aspects of the indirect tax has had its hands full. From recommending the rates that could apply to various products and services, to deciding on what could be tax exempted, the GST Council has had the onerous task of laying out the policy framework for administering the tax in a manner that benefits all stakeholders – the governments, the consumers and the suppliers along the value chain. Given the complexity of the legacy taxes that GST subsumed and replaced and the teething troubles of operating a new tax system, ensuring optimal outcomes has proved an abiding challenge. A significant concern relates to the loopholes that unscrupulous operators have sought to exploit, whereby revenue that ought to have accrued to the Centre and the States has leaked while allowing these elements to derive illicit profits. And the scale of some has been breath-taking. Earlier this month, the Directorate General of GST Intelligence and the Directorate General of Revenue Intelligence conducted a pan-India joint operation, which saw about 1,200 officers simultaneously conducting searches at 336 different locations. In the process they unearthed a network of exporters and their suppliers who had connived to claim fraudulent refunds of Integrated GST, with more than ₹470 crore of input tax credit availed being based on

non-existent entities or suppliers with fictitious addresses. A further ₹450 crore of IGST refund is also under review.

It is against the backdrop of such cases, and the fact that frauds totalling up to a staggering ₹45,682 crore have been detected since the roll-out of the tax in July 2017, that the GST Council has decided “in principle” to recommend linking Aadhaar with registration of taxpayers. In its 37th meeting in Goa on Friday, the council also agreed to appraise the possibility of making the biometrics-based unique identifier mandatory for claiming refunds. Already the GST Network — the information technology backbone on which the whole tax system runs — has made it mandatory for new dealers registering under the composition scheme for small businesses to either authenticate their Aadhaar or submit to physical verification of their business, starting January 2020. The council too needs to follow the network’s lead and move swiftly to recommend mandatory linking for refunds, especially since that has proved to be the main source of most frauds. In a becalmed economy, neither the Centre nor States can afford to forego even a rupee of revenue that is due to the public coffers.

Q.30) According to the passage what remedial actions are suggested to avoid fraudulent activities?

- a) Authentication of Aadhaar for new registrations
- b) Biometrics-based unique identifier mandatory for claiming refunds
- c) Linking Aadhaar with registration of taxpayers
- d) All of the above

Q.30) Solution (d)

Explanation

Refer to the passage below:

‘...to appraise the possibility of making the biometrics-based unique identifier mandatory for claiming refunds. Already the GST Network ...has made it mandatory for new dealers registering under the composition scheme for small businesses to either authenticate their Aadhaar or submit to physical verification of their business, ...’

On reading the passage carefully, we see all the above remedial measures listed as recommendations to reduce fraudulent activities.

Hence, option d is the correct answer.

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