Q.1) Which one of the following statements correctly describes 'doctrine of proportionality'?

a) Two conflicting provisions should be interpreted in such a way that each has a separate effect and neither is redundant or nullified.

b) There must be a reasonable balance between the desired result and the measures taken to reach that goal.

c) It determines a question of competency to enact a law when a legislature oversteps its conferred power.

d) If there is any unconstitutional part in a statute, then only that part is declared void and not the entire statute.

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Doctrine of proportionality finds its place in the Administrative Law and is used at the stage of Judicial Review. The doctrine asserts that there must be a reasonable connection between the desired result and the measures taken to reach that goal. The proportionality test provides a tool to determine the constitutionality of an action that limits a fundamental right. It requires that a rights-limiting measure should be pursuing a proper purpose, through means that are suitable and necessary for achieving that purpose and that there is a proper balance between the importance of achieving that purpose and the harm caused by limiting the right.

Source: http://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-3517-critical-analysis-of-doctrine-ofproportionality.html

Q.2) Which of the following rights has been made available to the prisoners in India through various Supreme court judgements?

1. Right to vote

2. Right to life

3. Right to be treated equally before the law

4. Right to speedy trial

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

a) 1, 2 and 3 only

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 2, 3 and 4 only

d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

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Constitution of India does not expressly provide the provisions related to the prisoners' rights but in the case of **T.V. Vatheeswaran v. State of Tamil Nadu**, it was held that the Articles 14, 19 and 21 are available to the prisoners as well as freemen. Prison walls do not keep out fundamental rights.

Article 14 of the Constitution of India says that the State shall not deny to any person equality before law or the equal protection of laws within the territory of India.

Article 21 of the Constitution of India says that No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law. This includes right to speedy trial as a fundamental right to the prisoners.

Right to vote is not available to prisoners in India as of yet.

Source: Laxmikant Fundamental Rights

RIGHTS OF PRISONERS IN INDIA: A LEGAL ANALYSIS » (lawaudience.com)

Rights of Prisoners under Indian Law (legaldesire.com)

Q.3) In India, the postal voting in elections is available to which of the following groups of citizens?

- 1. Members of the armed forces.
- 2. Union cabinet ministers.
- 3. Voters above the age of 60.
- 4. Voters under preventive detention.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. Members of the armed forces like the Army, Navy and Air Force, members of the armed police force of a state (serving outside the state), government employees posted outside India and their spouses are entitled to vote only by post. In other words, they can't vote in person.

Statement 2 is correct. Special voters such as the President of India, Vice President, Governors, Union Cabinet ministers, Speaker of the House and government officers on poll duty have the option to vote by post. But they have to apply through a prescribed form to avail this facility.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Senior citizens above the age of 65 and voters who test positive for COVID19 or are suspected to be COVID-affected were allowed to cast their vote by post after the government amended the Conduct of Election Rules 1961.

Statement 4 is correct. Voters under preventive detention can also vote only by postal ballot.

Source: https://www.edexlive.com/faq/2021/feb/12/what-the-faq-what-is-postal-ballot-voting-who-are-eligible-to-cast-votes-through-this-facility-and-18187.html

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/nri/migrate/postal-ballot-facility-for-nris-heres-everything-you-need-to-know/articleshow/80040783.cms?from=mdr

https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/postal-ballots-political-controversy-explained-6495861/ https://legislative.gov.in/sites/default/files/%282%29%20THE%20CONDUCT%20OF%20ELECTION%20R ULES%2C%201961.pdf

Q.4) Supreme Court in this case upheld the validity of sedition law and stated that the effect of subverting the Government by violent means or creating public disorder would come within the definition of sedition. In which one of the following landmark cases, did Supreme Court held the above given statement?

a) Kedarnath Singh vs State of Bihar (1962)

b) Golaknath vs State of Punjab (1967)

c) Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala (1973)

d) State of Madras vs Champakam Dorairajan (1951)

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is correct.

In a landmark case of Kedar Nath Singh Case, a Constitution Bench of the top court upheld the validity of section 124A (sedition) of the IPC, but also attempted to restrict the colonial-era law's scope for misuse by trying to demarcate the difference between which acts amounted to sedition and which ones did not.

Supreme Court said that any act that had the "effect of subverting the Government" by violent means or creating public disorder would come within the definition of sedition. It also upheld Section 505 (statements conducive to public mischief) as constitutionally valid.

Option b is incorrect.

In the Golaknath case (1967) Supreme Court ruled that the Parliament cannot take away or abridge any of the Fundamental Rights, which are 'sacrosanct' in nature. In other words, the Court held that the Fundamental Rights cannot be amended for the implementation of the Directive Principles.

Option c is incorrect.

Supreme Court first propounded the doctrine of 'basic structure' or 'basic features' of the constitution in its landmark verdict in the Kesavananda Bharati Case.

Option d is incorrect.

In the Champakam Dorairajan case (1951), the Supreme Court ruled that in case of any conflict between the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles, the former would prevail. It declared that the Directive Principles have to conform to and run as subsidiary to the Fundamental Rights. But it also held that the Fundamental Rights could be amended by the Parliament by enacting constitutional amendment acts.

Source: Laxmikanth- Fundamental Rights

Explained: The landmark 1962 judgment that Supreme Court quoted in Vinod Dua sedition case | Explained News, The Indian Express

Q.5) Which of the following Fundamental rights given under Indian constitution, are available against the arbitrary action of private individuals?

1. Right against Untouchability

2. Right against Discrimination

3. Right to Life

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is correct.

Fundamental right given under Indian constitution in case of violation can be enforced against the **public** authorities and in some cases against private individuals.

- Art.17 pertaining to prohibition of untouchability: In many villages dalits are still exploited and discriminated to a great extent. They are not allowed to wear slipper while going to upper cast home. They eat food in the different plate. They are segregated to use the well that is not used by the upper caste people. In such a case the private individual is liable.
- 2) The Article which prohibits discrimination i.e., **Article 15(2)** enshrined in the part III of the constitution obliged all public and private entities to abstain from doing discrimination on ground of sex, caste, race or

place of birth. This article prohibits the license holder of the resorts, restaurant etc to disallow anyone on the basis of ground given above.

3) Article 21 that ensure an individual's right to live and possess personal liberty, **applies against private individual**. The instance of its horizontal applicability can be seen in case Consumer Education and **Research Centre v Union of India** where the court held that right of the employees to health lies against private employer and also added that **private actors are bound by this decision** and direction under Article 32 of the Indian Constitution. The Court in other places resorted to Article 21 of the constitution where the issue involving was of right to privacy. **In that case court has said that right to life can be claimed against the private individual**.

Knowledge Base: "Fundamentals rights such as right to life and equality and freedom of speech enshrined under the Constitution are enforceable against the State and its instrumentalities and the private parties, performing state actions'- Supreme Court.

Source: https://madhavuniversity.edu.in/horizontal-application.html

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/constitution-will-lose-importance-if-

fundamental-rights-not-protected-says-sc/articleshow/72145759.cms

Q.6) With reference to the Dibru-Saikhowa National Park, consider the following statements:

1. It is situated on the south bank of the river Brahmaputra.

2. It is the largest Salix swamp forest in north-eastern India.

3. It is an identified Important Bird Area (IBA) by Birdlife International.

4. Maguri Motapung wetland is a part of the Dibru-Saikhowa Biosphere Reserve.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1 and 3 only

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 2, 3 and 4 only

d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. Dibru-Saikhowa is a National Park as well as a Biosphere Reserve situated on the south bank of the river Brahmaputra in the extreme east of Assam state in India.

Statement 2 is correct. It is the largest Salix swamp forest in north-eastern India with a tropical monsoon climate with a hot and wet summer and cool and usually dry winter. The forest type of Dibru-Saikhowa

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comprises of semi-evergreen forests, deciduous forests, littoral and swamp forests and patches of wet evergreen forests. Salix tetrasperma, commonly called Indian willow, is a medium-sized tree of wet and swampy places, shedding its leaves at the end of monsoon season.

Statement 3 is correct. It is an identified **Important Bird Area (IBA)**, notified by Birdlife International and is also famous for the **rare white-winged wood ducks**.

Statement 4 is correct. Maguri Motapung wetland is a part of the Dibru-Saikhowa Biosphere Reserve. It is home to endemic birds like Black-breasted parrotbill and Marsh babbler. The spectacular and rare Mandarin duck was sighted in the Maguri-Motapung beel (or wetland).

Source: https://www.kaziranga-national-park.com/dibru-saikhowa-national-park.shtml

https://blog.forumias.com/deadline-set-for-rehab-of-assam-national-park-dwellers/

https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-why-a-rare-duck-has-created-a-flutter-in-upper-

assam-7187927/

Q.7) With reference to Public Interest Litigation (PIL) consider the following statements:

1. The Rule of locus standi is relaxed in PIL to expand the scope of litigation.

2. Matters related to pension and gratuity can be admitted as PIL by courts.

3. Court can appoint a commission for the purpose of investigating PIL.

4. Court can penalize petitioner to curb frivolous petitions under PIL.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct

Statement 1 is correct. The common rule of locus standi is relaxed in a Public Interest Litigation so as to enable the court to look into the grievances complained on behalf of the poor, deprived, illiterate and the disabled who cannot vindicate the legal wrong or legal injury caused to them for violation of any constitutional or legal right. Statement 2 is incorrect. Matters related to Service and those pertaining to pension and gratuity cannot be entertained as PIL according to guidelines formulated by Supreme Court. Statement 3 is correct. The Court in special situations may appoint Commission or other bodies for the purpose of investigating into the allegations and finding out facts. It may also direct management of a public institution taken over by such Commission.

Statement 4 is correct. Court **can penalize petitioner to curb frivolous petitions** under PIL. The Court should also ensure that the petition filed by busybodies for extraneous and ulterior motives must be discouraged by imposing exemplary costs or adopting similar novel methods to curb frivolous petitions and the petitions filed for extraneous considerations.

Source:

Laxmikanth Indian polity 6th edition page 668-670 (Pdf)

Q.8) Which one of the following statements aptly describes, Uniform Civil Code under Article 44 of the constitution?

a) It guarantees the fundamental right of equality among people of different religion in the country.

b) It is an obligation on the state for the formulation of one law for India, which would be applicable to all religious communities in certain matters.

c) It provides for a common set of laws for civil administration across central and state governments in India.

d) It envisages uniformity in the laws of the states with respect to the practice of religion in the country.

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Article 44 puts an obligation on the state to secure for all citizens a uniform civil code throughout the country. The State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India.

The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) calls for the formulation of one law for India, which would be applicable to all religious communities in matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption. The code comes under Article 44 of the Constitution, which lays down that the state shall endeavour to secure a Uniform Civil Code for the citizens throughout the territory of India

Option a is incorrect.

Uniform Civil Code is not covered under Fundamental rights nor it is a legal right under Indian Constitution, but given under Directive Principle of State Policy.

Option c is incorrect.

It is not a common set of laws for civil administration across central and state government in India.

The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) calls for the formulation of one law for India, which would be applicable to all religious communities in matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption.

Option d is incorrect.

It does not envisage uniformity in the state's law with respect to the practice of religion in the country, but aims to formulate and implement personal laws of citizens which apply on all citizens equally regardless of their religion.

Source: Laxmikant- DPSP pg 207

https://www.business-standard.com/about/what-is-uniform-civil-code

Q.9) The Global Economic Prospects Report is published by:

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- c) World Bank
- d) International Monetary Fund

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

The World Bank releases a Global Economic Prospects (GEP) report twice a year. It is the most important source for evaluating the current and future outlook for emerging markets and developing economies (EMDEs).

Knowledge Base: Key findings of the Global Economic Prospects related to India:

- The World Bank estimates that covid will cause the number of people living in poverty to increase by 143-163 million in 2021. More than half of the newly poor in South Asia, mainly in India.
- 2) The problem with India is not its economic fundamentals, which are strong, but the fact that poor management of its economy, and the pandemic means confidence remains depressed, and balance sheets damaged.

Source: https://blog.forumias.com/world-banks-global-economic-prospects-gep/

Q.10) Which of the following statements is/are mentioned under Directive Principle of State Policy of the Indian Constitution?

1. To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood.

2. To develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

a) l only

b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is correct.

Statement 1 is incorrect.

Under Article 51A, it is a fundamental duty of every citizen to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities; to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women.

It is not a Directive Principle of State Policy.

Statement 2 is incorrect.

Under Article 51A, it is a fundamental duty of every citizen to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform. It is not a Directive Principle of State Policy. Source: Laxmikant Fundamental Duty (pg 225)

Q.11) Consider the following statements with regard to right to freedom of religion?

1. A religious denomination is a sub-group within a larger religious organization that follows common faith, practice and traditions.

2. Devotees of Lord Ayyappa can be considered as a 'religious' denomination of its own.

3. The doctrine of essentiality helps to recognize the practices that are essential to a religion.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 2 and 3 only

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

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. A religious denomination is a sub-group within a larger religious organisation that follows a common faith, practice, has an identity and traditions.

Article 26 talks about religious denomination and their rights.

The Supreme Court held that a religious denomination must satisfy three conditions:

(a) It should be a collection of individuals who have a system of beliefs (doctrines) which they regard as conducive to their spiritual well-being;

(b) It should have a common organisation; and

(c) It should be designated by a distinctive name.

Under the above criteria, the Supreme Court held that the 'Ramakrishna Mission' and 'Ananda Marga' are religious denominations within the Hindu religion. It also held that Aurobindo Society is not a religious denomination.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The supreme court has held that "Devotees of Ayyappa do not constitute a separate religious denomination.". The 5 judges bench observed that barring the entry of women, when they are in the menstruation age, to the Sabarimala temple was not an essential part of the religion. Denying Hindu women entry into the temple violated their fundamental right to practice religion.

Statement 3 is correct. In the legal framework, the doctrine of essentiality is a doctrine that has evolved to protect the religious practices that are essential or integral and does not violate any fundamental right.

Source: Laxmikant Fundamental Rights (5th edition pg 180,181)

Q.12) Which of the following benefits will be available to eligible beneficiaries under the PM SVANidhi scheme?

1. Affordable working capital loans will be provided to street vendors.

2. An interest subsidy will be provided for timely repayment of loans.

3. No collateral is required to avail the funds under the scheme.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 2 only

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

Ans) d

Exp) option d is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. PM SVANidhi stands for Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi. It is a central sector scheme launched in June 2020 which aims to provide micro-credit facilities to street vendors affected due to COVID-19 pandemic. The scheme intends to facilitate collateral free working capital loans of up to INR10,000/- of one-year tenure, to approximately 50 lakh street vendors, to help resume their businesses in the urban areas, including surrounding peri-urban/rural areas.

Statement 2 is correct. On timely early repayment of the loan, an interest subsidy @ 7% per annum will be credited to the bank accounts of beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer on quarterly basis.

Statement 3 is correct. There is no need to provide any collateral security to access the loans under the scheme.

Knowledge Base: It is a central sector scheme implemented by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). It will be implemented till March 2022 and Vendors will be provided with an initial working capital of up to Rs. 10000.

Source: https://udyamimitra.in/page/PM-SVANidhi

Q.13) In Indian constitution, gender equality is ensured at several instances. Which of the following instances given below is/are correct?

1. Fundamental Duties ensures for renouncing practices derogatory to the dignity of women.

2. Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) secures equally the right to an adequate means of livelihood for both men and women.

3. Part IX of the constitution ensures half of the seats to be reserved for women in panchayats.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. Fundamental duties promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India and **ensures renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women**.

Statement 2 is correct. Directive principles under Article 39(a) secures equally the right to an adequate means of livelihood for both men and women.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Article 243D(3) under **Part IX provides not less than one-third** (including the number of seats **reserved for women** belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in every Panchayat to be reserved for women.

Source: Laxmikanth Indian polity 6th edition page 1096 (Pdf)

http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/reports_and_publication/cso_social_statices_division/Constitutional &Legal_Rights.pdf

Q.14) With reference to the Bar Council of India, consider the following statements:

1. It is an autonomous statutory body.

2. It exercises disciplinary jurisdiction over judges of the lower judiciary.

3. It grants recognition to law universities in India.

Which of the above statements are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 1 and 3 only

c) 2 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. The Bar Council of India was established by Parliament under the Advocates Act, 1961. It regulates and represents the Indian bar. It safeguards the rights, privileges and interests of advocates.

Statement 2 is *incorrect*. It exercises disciplinary jurisdiction over **advocates/lawyers**. It performs the regulatory function by prescribing standards of professional conduct and etiquette and by exercising disciplinary jurisdiction over the bar. It lays down procedure to be followed by its disciplinary committee and the disciplinary committees of each State Bar Council.

Statement 3 is correct. It grants recognition to universities whose degree in law shall be a qualification for enrolment as an advocate. The Bar Council of India visits and inspects Universities, or directs the State Bar Councils to visit and inspect Universities for this purpose.

It promotes legal education and lays down standards of legal education. This is done in consultation with the Universities in India imparting legal education and the State Bar Councils

Source: http://www.barcouncilofindia.org/about/about-the-bar-council-of-india/

Q.15) With reference to the TULIP programme, sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is launched by the Ministry of Skill development and Entrepreneurship.

2. The program intends to enhance the employability of graduates through 'learning by doing'.

3. All unemployed persons are eligible for benefits under the programme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 and 3 only

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 2 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and the All India Council for Technical Education under the Ministry of Education have jointly launched The Urban Learning Internship Programme (TULIP). It is a dedicated programme offering internships to fresh graduates in all urban local bodies (ULBs) and smart cities across the country in the domain of urban governance.

Statement 2 is correct: The program intends to deliver for enhanced employability through "learning by doing" and opportunity to co-create innovation for cities. TULIP interns would get exposure in a large number of areas including but not limited to urban planning, urban design, different branches of engineering, information and technology, mobility, finance, social sector issues and environmental issues.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The internships under TULIP are open to Indian Citizens who have completed a diploma/graduate/postgraduate program.

Source: https://blog.forumias.com/hrd-ministry-urban-affairs-ministry-launches-tulip-programme/ https://internship.aicte-india.org/module_ulb/Dashboard/TulipMain/aboutus.php#partnership

Q.16) Consider the following statement with reference to the tenure and service condition of a judge of the Supreme court:

1. The person holds office during the pleasure of the President

2. His/her privileges and allowances are decided by the Central Government.

3. His/her salary is charged on the consolidated fund of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

a) l only

b) 1 and 2 only

c) 2 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The judges of the Supreme Court are provided with the Security of tenure. They can be removed from office by the President only in the manner and on the **grounds mentioned in the constitution**. This means that **they do not hold their office during the pleasure of the President**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The salary, allowance, privileges, leave and pension of Supreme Court judges are determined by the **Parliament**.

Statement 3 is correct. The salaries, allowances, pension of the judge or staff as well as the administrative expenses of the Supreme court are **charged on** the consolidated fund of India.

Source: Laxmikanth Indian polity 6th edition page 613 (Pdf)

Q.17) Consider the following statements with reference to Special Leave Petition (SLP):

1. It is a discretionary power of Supreme court.

2. Where applicable, it can be granted against any judgement whether final or interlocutory.

3. It must be related to constitutional matters only.

4. It can be granted against any court or tribunal including military court.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1, 2 and 3 only

d) 1 and 4 only

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. Special Leave Petition (SLP) is a **discretionary power** of Supreme Court and cannot be claimed as a matter of right.

Statement 2 is correct. Special leave petition can be granted in **any judgement** whether **final or interlocutory** by supreme court.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Special leave petition may be related to any matter-constitutional, civil, criminal, income-tax, labour, revenue, advocates, etc.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Special leave petition can be granted **against any court or tribunal** and not necessarily against a high court **but not against military court.**

Source: Laxmikanth Indian polity 6th edition page 624 (Pdf)

Q.18) Consider the following statements regarding the Disaster Management Act, 2005:

1. The National Executive Committee (NEC) approves the National Plan for disaster management.

2. It designates the Ministry of Home as the nodal ministry for disaster management.

3. It makes it mandatory for the states to set up State Disaster Response Force.

4. It has been invoked by the Central Government to impose Lockdown during Covid-19 crisis.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 1 and 3 only

c) 2 and 4 only

d) 3 and 4 only

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Statement l is incorrect. Under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the National Plan for disaster management is meant to include measures for disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, responsibilities of different Ministries, etc. It is to be prepared by the National Executive Committee (NEC) and approved by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

Statement 2 is correct. The Act designates the Ministry of Home Affairs as the nodal ministry for steering the overall national disaster management.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Disaster management act, 2005 provides for establishment of a National Disaster Response Force. Later, the National Disaster management authority has requested the states to establish State Disaster Response Force. Till date, 24 states/UTs have raised their SDRF.

Statement 4 is correct. Disaster Management Act, 2005 has been invoked by Central Government to impose Lockdown during Covid-19.

Source: https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-what-is-a-notified-disaster-and-how-is-the-sdrf-used-6315643/

https://ndma.gov.in/

Q.19) Which of the following is **incorrect** regarding the ground for judicial review in India?

a) If it infringes the Fundamental Rights.

b) If it is outside the competence of the authority which has framed it.

c) If it is repugnant to the constitutional provisions.

d) If it fails to implement Directive Principles of State Policy on time.

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is correct

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Statement a, b and c are correct. The constitutional validity of a legislative enactment or an executive order can be challenged in the Supreme Court or in the High Courts on the following three grounds.

- 1) it infringes the Fundamental Rights (Part III),
- 2) it is outside the competence of the authority which has framed it, and
- 3) it is repugnant to the constitutional provisions.

Statement d is incorrect. However, if it fails to implement directive principles of state policy in time then it does not become valid ground for judicial review.

Source: Laxmikanth Indian polity 6th edition page 640 (Pdf)

Q.20) Which of the following programmes/schemes/acts has been formulated in order to implement the

Directive Principles of State Policy under Part IV of the constitution?

1. Maternity Benefit Act,1961

2. Legal Services Authorities Act,1987

3. The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972

4. 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act

5. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is correct.

Since 1950, the successive governments at the Centre and in the states have made several laws and formulated various programmes for implementing the Directive Principles.

- The Maternity Benefit Act (1961) and the Equal Remuneration Act (1976) have been made to protect the interests of women workers. Article 42: The State shall make provisions for securing just and humane conditions of work and for maternity relief.
- 2) The Legal Services Authorities Act (1987) has established a nation-wide network to provide free and competent legal aid to the poor and to organise lok adalats for promoting equal justice. Lok adalat is a statutory forum for conciliatory settlement of legal disputes. Article 39A: To provide free legal aid to the poor.

- 3) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, have been enacted to safeguard the wildlife and the forests respectively. Article 48A: To protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country.
- 4) The 73rd Amendment Act (1992) has been enacted to provide constitutional status and protection to these panchayati raj institutions. Article 40: The State shall take steps to organise village panchayats as units of Self Government
- 5) Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, have been enacted to protect the SCs and STs from social injustice and exploitation. Article 46: The State shall promote educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people particularly that of the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and other weaker sections.

Source: Laxmikant DPSP (pg 216, 217, 218)

Q.21) The Government of India has recently launched the 'SWADES' initiative to:

a) Bring back stranded Indians in different parts of the world in the wake of the coronavirus crisis.

b) Encourage foreign companies to manufacture in India.

c) Conduct skill mapping of citizens returning from overseas.

d) Provide scholarship to Indian origin students for doing original research in India.

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Government of India has launched SWADES (Skilled Workers Arrival Database for Employment Support) Initiative. SWADES is a collaborative initiative of the Ministries of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Civil Aviation and External Affairs.

The initiative undertaken as **part of Vande Bharat Mission** aims at empowering the returning citizens with relevant employment opportunities. The returning citizens are required to fill up an online **SWADES Skills Card.** It aims to **create a database of qualified citizens based on their skillsets and experience** to tap into and fulfill demand of Indian and foreign companies. MSDE's implementation arm National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is supporting the implementation of the project.

Source: https://pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1628976

Q.22) Consider the following statements with respect to appointment of judges in High Courts:

1. Additional judge can be appointed for a term not exceeding two years.

2. Governor can appoint a duly qualified person as an acting judge of high court.

3. A retired judge of high court can be appointed by Governor only with the consent of the President.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) l only

b) 1 and 3 only

c) 2 only

d) 2 and 3 only

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. The President can appoint duly qualified persons as additional judges of a high court for a temporary period not exceeding two years when there is a temporary increase in the business of the high court; or there are arrears of work in the high court.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The President (and not Governor) can appoint a duly qualified person as an acting judge of a high court when a judge of that high court (other than the chief justice) is unable to perform the duties of his office due to absence or any other reason; or appointed to act temporarily as chief justice of that high court. An acting judge holds office until the permanent judge resumes his office. However, both the additional or acting judge cannot hold office after attaining the age of 62 years.

Statement 3 is incorrect. At any time, the chief justice of a high court of a state can request a retired judge of that high court or any other high court to act as a judge of the high court of that state for a temporary period. He can do so only with the previous consent of the President and also of the person to be so appointed.

Source: Indian Polity, M. Laxmikanth, 6th Edition, Chapter-34

Q.23) With reference to the Memorandum of Procedure for the appointment of judges, consider the following statements:

1. It is an agreement between the judiciary and the government regarding appointments of judges to both Supreme Court and High Court.

2. The government is bound to notify the appointments if the collegium reiterates its decision in second instance.

3. It specifies a timeframe for the central government to act on a collegium decision.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 2 only

b) 1 and 2 only

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) is an agreement between the judiciary and the government. It contains a set of guidelines for **making appointments to the Supreme Court and High Court**. The MoP has evolved as the standard based on three SC decisions – the First Judges Case (1981), Second Judges Case (1993) and the Third Judges Case (1998) form the basis of a peer selection process for appointment of judges.

Statement 2 is correct. As per the MoP, the High Court Collegium headed by the Chief Justice of the HC initiates the process of appointment of other judges.

If the Supreme Court collegium clears the names, the files return to the central government. The government then either notifies the appointments or sends them back with objections or its views. At this stage, the Supreme Court collegium can seek additional inputs on the government's opinion. Accordingly, it can either reject or reiterate the proposal. If the **collegium reiterates its decision, then, under the MoP, the government is bound to notify the appointments**.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The existing MoP **does not prescribe a timeline for the Centre** to forward the recommendations. But the Supreme Court has recently set a fixed timeline for the government for the process of appointment of judges.

Source: https://indianexpress.com/article/india/supreme-court-judge-appointment-timeline-7282237/

Q.24) Consider the following statements with reference to the Sahakar Mitra scheme:

1. It is an initiative of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

2. It is an internship programme for young professionals in the co-operative sector.

3. Any person who have passed 12th board exam is eligible for internship under it.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) l only

b) 2 only

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

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Sahakar Mitra Scheme is an initiative of National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).

Statement 2 is correct: Sahakar Mitra Scheme is an Internship Programme for young professionals to help cooperative institutions access new and innovative ideas of young professionals while the interns will gain experience of working in the field to be self-reliant. It would also provide an opportunity to professionals from academic institutions to develop leadership and entrepreneurial roles through cooperatives as Farmers Producers Organizations (FPO).

Statement 3 is incorrect: Under the scheme, **professional graduates** in disciplines such as Agriculture and allied areas etc. are eligible for internship. **Professionals who are pursuing or have completed their MBA degrees** in Agri-business, Cooperation, Finance, International Trade, Forestry, Rural Development, Project Management are also be eligible.

Source: https://blog.forumias.com/union-minister-launches-sahakar-mitra-scheme/ https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1631125

Q.25) Which of the following fundamental rights are available to both citizens as well as foreigners?

- a) Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of sex.
- b) Freedom of speech and expression.
- c) Freedom to manage religious affairs.
- d) Protection of interests of minorities.

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Fundamental rights available to both citizens and foreigners (except enemy aliens) -

Article 14 – Equality before the law and equal protection of laws.

- Article 20 Protection in respect of conviction for offences.
- Article 21 Protection of life and personal liberty.
- Article 21A Right to elementary education.
- Article 22 Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases.
- Article 23 Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour.
- Article 24 Prohibition of employment of children in factories etc.
- Article 25 Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion.

Article 26 – Freedom to manage religious affairs.

Article 27 – Freedom from payment of taxes for promotion of any religion.

Article 28 – Freedom from attending religious instruction or worship in certain educational institutions.

Knowledge Base: Fundamental rights available only to citizens and not to foreigners -

Article 15 – Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.

Article 16 – Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment.

Article 19 – Protection of six rights related to freedom – (a) of speech and expression; (b) to assemble peaceably and without arms; (c) to form associations or unions; (d) to move freely throughout the territory of India; (e) to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India; and (f) to practice any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.

Article 29 – Protection of language, script and culture of minorities.

Article 30 – Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions.

Source: M Laxmikanth, Indian polity, 6th edition, page no. 7.4

Q.26) In the context of tribunals in India, consider the following statements:

1. The original Constitution did not provide for establishment of tribunals.

2. The need for tribunal is based on the principle that experts would bring in special knowledge in justice delivery.

3. An administrative tribunal is bound by the rules of evidence and procedure.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 1 only

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 2 only

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. The original Constitution **did not contain provisions with respect to tribunals.** The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 added a new Part XIV-A and consists of only two Articles–Article 323 A dealing with administrative tribunals and Article 323 B dealing with tribunals for other matters. Tribunal is a **quasi-judicial institution** that is set up to deal with problems such as resolving administrative or tax-related disputes.

Statement 2 is correct. The 'tribunalisation' of justice is driven by the recognition that it would be cost-effective, accessible and give scope for utilising expertise in the respective fields. Central to this scheme is the principle that **the 'experts' appointed to these tribunals should bring in special knowledge and experience.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. An Administrative Tribunal is not bound by rules of evidence and procedure as in the case of court of law. They are **bound by the principles of Natural justice**.

Source: Indian Polity, M. Laxmikanth, 6th Edition, Chapter-35

http://www.legalservicesindia.com/article/1909/Tribunalization-of-Justice.html

https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/sc-strikes-down-provisions-of-tribunal-law-that-fixed-tenure-

of-members-at-4-yrs-101626297422594.html

Q.27) Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to 'biosimilars'?

1. It is a medical product that is similar in therapeutic value to an already existing drug.

2. Biosimilar medicines can be produced using only synthetic chemicals.

3. Biosimilar medicines are generally cheaper than the Generic drugs.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1 only

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) a

Exp) option a is correct.

Statement l is correct. Biosimilars are a biologic medical product that are almost an identical copy of an original product that is manufactured by a different company. They are highly similar to and has no clinically meaningful differences from an existing reference product. They are officially approved versions of original "innovator" products and can be manufactured when the original product's patent expires.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Biosimilar medicines are biological products produced from biological sources like cells while generic drugs are synthesized using chemicals. Biosimilars do not use chemicals.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Generic drugs are chemically identical to the original branded drug and so cost significantly less because they don't require much testing. Whereas, biosimilars are made from living organisms and don't contain identical ingredients to their name-brand counterparts. But they still require some testing, **So**, **they cost more than generics**, but less than the branded biologic.

Source: https://www.phrma.org/en/Advocacy/Research-Development/Biologics-Biosimilars

Q.28) Charru Mussel is an invasive species native to South and Central America. It has been reported to be spreading rapidly in which of the following regions of India?

a) Backwaters of Kerala.

b) Tropical forests of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

c) Hot deserts of North-Western India.

d) This species has not been found to be spreading in any region of India.

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is correct.

Charru Mussel is an invasive species, native to South and Central American coasts, that is **spreading quickly** in **the backwaters of Kerala**. It threatens the livelihood of fisherman engaged in molluscan fisheries in the region. Ashtamudi Lake, a ramsar site in Kerela, is the worst affected by this invasive species. It has replaced the Asian green mussel and the edible oyster mulinga in the backwaters. Charru mussel probably reached Indian shores attached to ship hulls or as larval forms in ballast water discharges.

Externally, the Charru mussel resembles the green and brown mussels (kallummekka in Malayalam), but is much smaller in size. Its colour varies from black to brown, purple or dark green.

Source) https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/invasive-mussel-spreads-inbackwaters/article31689771.ece

Q.29) Which of the following statements are correct with respect to the writ of habeas corpus?

1. It is used to secure a person who has been detained illegally.

2. It can be issued against both public authorities and private individuals.

3. It is not issued where the detention is outside the jurisdiction of the court.

4. It can be sought by any interested party and not necessarily by aggrieved person.

Select the correct option using the code given below:

a) 1, 2 and 3 only

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

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is correct

Statement 1 is correct. Habeas Corpus is a Latin term which literally means 'to have the body of'. It is an order issued by the court to a person who has detained another person, to produce the body of the latter before it. The court then examines the cause and legality of detention. It would set the detained person free, if the detention is found to be illegal.

Statement 2 is correct. The writ of habeas corpus can be issued against both public authorities as well as private individuals.

Statement 3 is correct. The writ is not issued where the:

- 1) detention is lawful
- 2) the proceeding is for contempt of a legislature or a court
- 3) detention is by a competent court
- 4) detention is outside the jurisdiction of the court

Statement 4 is incorrect. Supreme Court and High Courts can issue the writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, certiorari and quo-warranto. Only in the case of Quo-warranto, it can be sought by any interested party and not necessarily by the aggrieved person. In case of Habeas Corpus, it can be sought by aggrieved person or his family or his friends and not by any interested party.

Source: Indian Polity, M. Laxmikanth, 6th Edition, Chapter-7

Q.30) Which of the following statements regarding IN-SPACe, seen in news recently, is/are correct?

1. Its primary aim is to promote indian space products in foreign markets.

2. It functions under the administrative control of the Department of Space.

3. It will have representation from the academia, industry and the government.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) has been set up to provide a level playing field for private companies to use Indian space infrastructure. IN-SPACe is aimed at promoting the participation of private sector in space related activities.

Antrix Corporation Limited was incorporated as a private limited company owned by Government of India in September 1992 as a Marketing arm of ISRO for promotion and commercial exploitation of space products, technical consultancy services and transfer of technologies developed by ISRO.

Statement 2 is correct. IN-SPACe has been created under the Department of Space.

Statement 3 is correct. IN-SPACe will have a chairman, technical experts for space activities, safety specialists, experts from academia and industries, legal and strategic experts from other departments, and members of the PMO and MEA, Government of India.

Source: https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/in-space-india-space-missions-private-participationisro-6476532/

https://www.isro.gov.in/indian-national-space-promotion-and-authorization-center-space

Q.31) With reference to various constitutional provisions, which of the following statements is *incorrect*?

a) Safeguarding public property is provided in part IV-A of constitution.

b) Securing opportunities for healthy development of children is provided in part IV of constitution.

c) To raise the level of nutrition and to improve public health is provided in part IV of constitution.

d) Right to acquire and dispose of property is included in the part III of the constitution.

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is correct.

Statement a is correct. To **safeguard public property** and to abjure violence is part of fundamental duties which itself is mentioned in **Part IV-A** of the constitution.

Statement b is correct. To secure opportunities for healthy development of children (Article 39) is part of Directive Principles which itself is mentioned in **Part** IV of the constitution.

Statement c is correct. To raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living of people and to improve public health (Article 47) which itself is mentioned in **Part** IV of the constitution.

Statement d is incorrect. Right to acquire and dispose of property had been included in the part III of the constitution. However, it has been removed from part iii (Fundamental rights) by the Constitution (forty-fourth amendment act), 1978.

Source: Laxmikanth Indian polity 6th edition page 216, 243, 264 (Pdf)

Q.32) This Supreme Court judgement struck down as unconstitutional-Section 8(4) of the Representation of the People Act (RPA),1951 that allowed convicted lawmakers a three-month period for filing appeals to the higher court and to get a stay on the conviction and sentence.

What is the judgement being referred to in the above paragraph?

a) Aruna Ramachandra Shanbaug vs Union of India (2011)

b) Lily Thomas vs Union of India (2013)

c) Samatha vs State of Andhra Pradesh (1997)

d) Joseph Shine vs Union of India (2018)

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Option a is incorrect. The Aruna Shanbaug case triggered debate of Euthanasia in India. Supreme court in 2011 recognised passive euthanasia in this case by which it had permitted withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment from patients not in a position to make an informed decision. Subsequent to this, in a landmark judgment (2018), the Supreme Court recognised passive euthanasia and "living will". A 'living will' is a concept where a patient can give consent that allows withdrawal of life support systems if the individual is reduced to a permanent vegetative state with no real chance of survival.

Option b is correct. In Lily Thomas Case, SC struck down as unconstitutional Section 8(4) of the Representation of the People Act (RPA)-1951 that allowed convicted lawmakers a three-month period for filing appeals to the higher court and to get a stay on the conviction and sentence. The Supreme Court held that charge sheeted Members of Parliament and MLAs, on conviction for offences, will be immediately disqualified from holding membership of the House without being given three months' time for appeal, as was the case before. The Bench found it unconstitutional that convicted persons could be disqualified from contesting elections but could continue to be Members of Parliament and State Legislatures once elected.

Option c is incorrect. Samatha judgement nullified all **mining leases** granted by the **Andhra Pradesh** State government in the **Fifth Scheduled areas** and asked it to **stop all mining operations**.

Option d is incorrect. The Supreme Court in its **Joseph Shine verdict** scrapped the pre-independence provision of **adultery law under section 497 of Indian Penal Code (IPC)**.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/sc-refuses-to-review-decriminalisation-of-adultery/article31938636.ece

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/the-aruna-shanbaug-case-which-changedeuthanasia-laws-in-india/a-landmark-verdict/slideshow/63231071.cms

https://frontline.thehindu.com/cover-story/article30224697.ece

https://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/who-was-lily-thomas-supreme-court-lawyer-whose-fight-ended-reign-of-convicted-politicians-in-elections/1789468/

Q.33) Consider the following statements regarding the Seabed 2030 project:

1. It was launched at the 2017 United Nations Ocean Conference.

2. Seabed 2030 is a collaborative project implemented by the International Seabed Authority.

3. It aims to complete the mapping of the global ocean floor by 2030.

4. The project will help in understanding ocean circulation, tides, and biological hotspots.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1 and 4 only

b) 2 and 4 only

c) 1, 3 and 4 only

d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans) c

Exp) option c is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. The Seabed 2030 project was launched in 2017 at the United Nations Ocean Conference to survey the ocean floor. Recently, the Nippon Foundation-GEBCO announced that it has finished mapping one-fifth of the world ocean floor under the project.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Seabed 2030 Project is a collaborative project between the Nippon Foundation of Japan and the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO).

Statement 3 is correct. The project aims to facilitate the complete mapping of the global ocean floor by the year 2030. The stated goal of the Seabed 2030 project is to bring together all available bathymetric data to produce the definitive map of the world ocean floor by 2030 and make it available to all.

Statement 4 is correct. The Seabed 2030 project will help us in knowing the bathymetry — the measurement of the shape and depth of the ocean floor. This is instrumental in understanding several natural phenomena, including ocean circulation, tides, and biological hotspots. It also provides key inputs for navigation, forecasting tsunamis, exploration for oil and gas projects, building offshore wind turbines, fishing resources, and for laying cables and pipelines.

Source: https://seabed2030.org/about-

us#:~:text=Seabed%202030%20is%20a%20collaborative,make%20it%20available%20to%20all.

Q.34) With reference to Article 32 of the Indian Constitution, consider the following:

1. Only the Fundamental Rights guaranteed by the Constitution can be enforced under this Article.

2. Parliament can empower any court to issue writs of all kinds.

3. The Supreme Court has original and exclusive jurisdiction with regards to the enforcement of fundamental rights.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1 and 2 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. Only the Fundamental Rights guaranteed by the Constitution can be enforced under Article 32 and not any other right like non-fundamental constitutional rights, statutory rights, and customary rights and so on. In other words, the Supreme Court, under Article 32, cannot determine a question that does not involve Fundamental Rights. Article 32 cannot be invoked simply to determine the constitutionality of an executive order or a legislation unless it directly infringes any of the fundamental rights.

Statement 2 is correct. Parliament can empower any other court to issue directions, orders and writs of all kinds. However, this can be done without prejudice to the above powers conferred on the Supreme Court. Any other court here **does not include high courts** because Article 226 has already conferred these powers on the high courts.

Statement 3 is incorrect. In case of the enforcement of Fundamental Rights, the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is original but not exclusive. It is concurrent with the jurisdiction of the high court under Article 226. It vests original powers in the high court to issue directions, orders and writs of all kinds for the enforcement of the Fundamental Rights. It means when the Fundamental Rights of a citizen are violated, the aggrieved party has the option of moving either the high court or the Supreme Court directly.

Knowledge Base: Although one can move directly to the SC for enforcement of the FRs, however the Supreme Court has ruled that where relief through high court is available under Article 226, the aggrieved party should first move the high court.

Source: Indian Polity by M.Laxmikanth 6th edition Ch:7 Fundamental Rights

Q.35) Consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Justice of India (CJI) is a public authority under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

2. The Supreme Court collegium's meetings do not come under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) l only

b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2 $\,$

d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Statement l is correct. The Office of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) is declared as a 'public authority' under the Right to Information (RTI) Act by a five-judge Constitution Bench in a 2019 judgement. The Court also held that the personal information of judges should only be divulged under RTI if such disclosure served the larger public interest. The disclosure of personal information was discretionary under the RTI Act. The statute has given the discretion to the Public Information Officer (PIO).

Statement 2 is correct. The Supreme Court collegium's meetings do not come under the Right to Information (RTI) Act. The Supreme Court has refused to divulge information under RTI about the collegium's confidential communications to protect the independence of the judiciary.

Source: https://www.livemint.com/news/india/cji-falls-under-the-ambit-or-rti-act-rules-supreme-court-11573635935500.html

Q.36) "It is a joint space mission between ISRO and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). It aims to send a lander and a rover to the Moon's south pole around 2024."

Which space mission is being described in the above paragraph?

a) ARTEMIS

b) Chandrayaan 3

c) VERITAS

d) LUPEX

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is correct.

Statement a is incorrect. The Artemis Program is a United States-led international human spaceflight program with the primary goal of returning humans to the Moon, specifically the lunar south pole, in the mid-2020s.
Statement b is incorrect. Chandrayaan 3 is a solely Indian lunar exploration program slated for 2022. It will be a repeat of Chandrayaan 2 and will try to successfully attempt landing and rover operation, which failed during Chandrayaan 2 mission.

Statement c is incorrect. VERITAS (Venus Emissivity, Radio Science, InSAR, Topography, and Spectroscopy) is a Venus mission which is a part of NASA's Discovery Program. It will map the Venus's surface to determine its geologic history and understand the reasons why it developed so differently from Earth. VERITAS will orbit Venus with a radar that will help to create a three-dimensional reconstruction of its topography.

Statement d is correct. LUPEX (Joint Lunar Polar Exploration) is a joint mission between India and Japan, that aims to send a lander and a rover to the **Moon's South Pole** around 2024.

Knowledge Base:

- 1) JAXA is likely to provide the under-development **H3 launch vehicle** and the rover, while ISRO would be responsible for the lander.
- 2) The mission concept has not yet been formally proposed for funding and planning.
- 3) The Lunar Polar Exploration mission would demonstrate new surface exploration technologies related to vehicular transport and lunar night survival for sustainable lunar exploration in Polar Regions.

Source: https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-selects-2-missions-to-study-lost-habitable-world-of-venus https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/nasa-is-humans-moon-artemis-6609361/ https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/chandrayaan-3-launch-in-2022-jitendra-

singh/article34154009.ece

https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/india-japan-space-agencies-review-cooperation/article34045001.ece

Q.37) Consider the following statements regarding the Contempt of Court Act of 1971?

1. Publishing article to lower the authority of a court is an example of criminal contempt.

2. In a civil contempt, a guilty person cannot be awarded a sentence of imprisonment.

3. Only the Supreme court has the power to punish for contempt.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) l only

b) 2 only

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

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. The law classifies contempt as civil and criminal. Civil contempt is committed when someone wilfully disobeys a court order, or wilfully breaches an undertaking given to court. Criminal contempt

consists of words, written or spoken, signs and actions that (a) scandalise or tend to scandalise or lower or tends to lower the authority of any court (b) prejudices or interferes with any judicial proceeding and (c) interferes with or obstructs the administration of justice.

Statement 2 is incorrect.

The court can order for imprisonment of a person guilty of committing an act of civil contempt of the court.

Statement 3 is *incorrect*.

The Act specifies that High Courts and the Supreme Court of India have the power to try and punish the offence of contempt.

High Courts have the power to punish acts of contempt against courts subordinate to them; however, the Supreme Court of India has clarified that any court of record has the inherent power to punish for contempt. In addition to courts, certain administrative tribunals also have the power to punish for contempt.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/the-hindu-explains-what-is-contempt-ofcourt/article32249810.ece

https://legislative.gov.in/sites/default/files/A1971-70_0.pdf

point 12 (3)

Q.38) With reference to preventive detention laws, consider the following:

1. As per the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 bail cannot be granted to a suspect in any scenario.

2. Under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act,1967 the onus to prove innocence lies on the accused and not the prosecution.

3. Parliament has exclusive authority to make a law of Preventive detention.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 2 only

c) 2 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Statement 1 is incorrect. As per **Section 43D(5) of the** Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act,1967 **bail** cannot be granted to a suspect **if the court is of the opinion tha**t there are reasonable grounds to believe that the charges are prima facie true.

Statement 2 is correct. Due to section 43D(5), **bail becomes extremely difficult** to get under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act,1967. Also, a **supreme court judgement in Watali case** has clarified that the court considering bail should not examine the evidence too deeply, but must go by the prosecution version based on broad probabilities. This means that the **onus is on the accused to show that the case is false** but without inviting the court to evaluate the available evidence.

Statement 3 is *incorrect*. Parliament has exclusive authority to make laws on preventive detention for reasons connected with defence, foreign affairs and the security of India. The Constitution has divided the legislative power with regard to preventive detention between the Parliament and state Legislatures.

Knowledge Base: Under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act,1967 both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged. It will be applicable to the offenders in the same manner, even if crime is committed on a foreign land, outside India.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/explained-what-makes-the-uapa-sostringent/article35257856.ece

https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/delhi-high-court-calls-out-misuse-of-uapa-raises-bar-for-state-to-slap-terror-tag-7360779/

Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth 6th edition Ch-7 Fundamental Rights

Q.39) With reference to the term 'Anthropause period', sometimes seen in news, consider the following statements:

1. The term was first used in the context of economic disruptions caused by World Wars.

2. It is also sometimes referred to as the 'Great Pause'.

3. The period noticed considerable global slowing of modern human activities.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1 only

b) 1 and 3 only

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

Ans) c

Exp) option c is correct.

Statement 1 is incorrect. "Anthropause" is a relatively new term recently coined by some UK researchers. It was not used in the context of economic disruptions caused by World War. The term refers to the coronavirus-induced lockdown period and its impact on other species.

Statement 2 is correct. Anthropause period is the precise term for the lockdown period which is also being referred to as the 'Great Pause'.

Statement 3 is correct. Anthropause period lead to a considerable global slowing of modern human activities, notably travel. It seems that nature appears to have changed considerably especially in urban environments. The unprecedented curbs led to reports of unusual animal behaviour and unexpected animals are being spotted more frequently.

Source: https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/anthropause-coronavirus-lockdown-humananimal-behaviour-6477255/

Q.40) With reference to the Right to Protest, consider the following:

1. It is a constitutional right enshrined in Article 19.

2. It can be restricted only on the grounds of violation of public order and security of state.

3. It cannot be a ground for occupying public ways and public spaces for indefinite time.

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

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. Right to Protest is a constitutional right enshrined in Article 19(1) (a), Article 19(1) (b) and Article 19(1) (c) of the Indian Constitution. Supreme Court in its recent order in the farm laws protest in Delhi also stated that farmers have a constitutional right to continue with their protest.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Like other fundamental rights, right to protest is also not absolute and also subject to reasonable restrictions mentioned under Article 19(2) and 19(3) on the following grounds;

1) In the interests of the sovereignty & integrity of India,

2) The security of the State,

- 3) Friendly relations with foreign States,
- 4) Violation of Public order,

5) Decency or morality or in relation to Contempt of court, defamation or incitement of an offence

The grounds of restrictions based on Violation of public order can be reasonable only when there is evidence that protesters will incite lawless or disorderly acts and that such acts are likely to occur.

Statement 3 is correct. In the Shaheen Bagh judgement, Supreme Court (SC) upheld the right to peaceful protest against the law but also cleared that public ways and public spaces cannot be occupied and that too indefinitely.

Knowledge Base: Article 19 provides the right to assemble peacefully without arms limited to reasonable restrictions.

Source: https://blog.forumias.com/right-to-protest-in-india/

Indian Polity by M.Laxmikanth 6th edition Ch-7 Fundamental Rights

Q.41) With reference to the Right to be Forgotten, which of the following statements is correct?

a) It does not include the right to take down a court order.

b) In India, the IT Act of 2000 provides for the right to be forgotten.

c) It has been recognised as a statutory right in the USA under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

d) The right to be forgotten is an inherent aspect of the right to privacy.

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is correct.

Option a is incorrect. Right to be Forgotten also **includes** the **right to take down a court order**. In its order in the **Jorawer Singh Mundy case 2021**, the Delhi HC also noted that where a court order is demanded to be taken down, the court will be required to examine the right to privacy of the petitioner on one hand, and the right to information of the public and maintenance of transparency in judicial records on the other hand.

Option b is incorrect. There is no law in India that at present recognize and provides for the right to be forgotten. However, the Personal Data Protection Bill 2019 recognised this right. Section 20 of the Bill gave an individual the right to restrict or prevent the continuing disclosure of their personal data when such data (1) has served the purpose for which It was collected, or is no longer necessary for said purpose; (2) was made with the consent of individual, which consent has since been withdrawn; or (3) was made contrary to the PDP Bill or any law in force. However, the provision made this right enforceable only on an order passed by the adjudicating officer appointed under the Bill.

Option c is incorrect. The **right to be forgotten** has been recognised as a statutory right in the **European Union (not USA)** under the **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR),** and has been upheld by a number of courts in the United Kingdom, and in Europe.

Option d is correct. The **right to be forgotten** and the right to be left alone are "inherent aspects" of the **right to privacy** as per a Delhi HC judgement of 2019.

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Knowledge Base: The **'right to be forgotten'** is the right to have publicly available personal information removed from the internet, search, databases, websites or any other public platforms, once the personal information in question is no longer necessary, or relevant.

Source: https://theprint.in/judiciary/do-you-have-a-right-to-be-forgotten-heres-what-it-means-and-howindian-courts-view-it/666226/

https://www.scconline.com/blog/post/2021/05/24/right-to-privacy/

Q.42) The Government of India has launched the 'SATYABHAMA' portal to:

a) Provide scientific guidance to farmers in North-East region

b) Assist Micro industries gain access to finance and raw materials.

c) Promote research and development in the mining and minerals sector.

d) Promote entrepreneurship among the SC/ST and women entrepreneurs.

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

SATYABHAMA (Science and Technology Yojana for Atma Nirbhar Bharat in Mining Advancement) Portal has been recently launched by the Ministry of Mines. It seeks to promote research and development in the mining and minerals sector by providing online submission of project proposals along with monitoring of the same and utilization of funds. It has been designed, developed and will be implemented by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), Mines Informatics Division.

Source) https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1632668

Q.43) With reference to the system of checks and balances in the constitution, which of the following statement is correct?

a) It enables the legislature to hold more power over the executive and the judiciary.

b) It is antithetical to the concept of division of powers in a political structure.

c) Article 13 is an example of the system of checks and balances in India.

d) Single party majority in the parliament strengthens the system of checks and balances.

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Option a is incorrect. The system of checks and balances enables each of the three branches of government to limit the powers of the others. This way, no one branch becomes too powerful.

Option b is incorrect. The system of checks and balances is antithetical to the system of separation of powers and not division of powers. Separation of powers refer to the segregation of powers between various organs of the state, viz., the executive, legislature and the judiciary. The concept of division of powers refer to the segregation of powers between various levels of the government, viz., the centre, the states and local governments.

Option c is correct. Article 13 is an **example** of the **system of checks and balances** in India. It related to concept of **judicial review** where the judiciary can strike down laws made by the parliament that are deemed ultra-vires to the constitution.

Option d is incorrect. Single party majority in the parliament **weakens the system of checks and balances** as the executive and legislature both are controlled by a single entity or a single political party.

Knowledge Base: The concept of separation of powers was given by French philosopher Montesquieu.

Source: Indian Polity by M.Laxmikanth

Q.44) With reference to the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT), consider the following:

1. It is a statutory body established under the provisions of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985.

2. The Presiding officer is appointed by the Chief Justice of India.

3. It can hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the SEBI (Securities and Exchange board of India) only.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is correct.

Statement 1 is incorrect. SAT is a **statutory** body established under the provisions of the **SEBI Act, 1992** and not the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985.

Statement 2 is incorrect. SAT consists of a Presiding Officer and two other members. The **Presiding officer** is **appointed by the central government** in **consultation with the Chief Justice** of India or his **nominee**.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Functions of SAT:

1) To hear and dispose of **appeals against orders passed by the SEBI** or by an adjudicating officer under the SEBI Act,1992.

- 2) To hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- 3) To hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (IRDAI).

Knowledge Base: SAT has the same powers as vested in a civil court. Further, if any person feels aggrieved by

SAT's decision or order can appeal to the Supreme Court.

Source: https://indianexpress.com/article/business/companies/sat-stays-sebi-ban-on-biyani-other-futuregroup-promoters-7191687/

Q.45) Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the STARS project?

1. It is aimed at improving the quality of education in states.

- 2. It is a pan India project implemented through the Samagra Shiksha Scheme.
- 3. It is financially supported by the Asian Development Bank.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

a) l only

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

Ans) a

Exp) option a is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. The STARS Project stands for Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States. The Project aims at improving the overall monitoring and measurement activities in the Indian school education system through interventions in selected states. **The interventions under the project are aimed at improving the quality of education in selected Indian states**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. As of now, **only six Indian states will be covered under the STARS Project**. At the state level, the project will be implemented through the integrated State Implementation Society (SIS) for Samagra Shiksha. The 6 states are: Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Odisha.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The project is financially supported by the World Bank. The project cost is Rs 5718 crore with the financial support of World Bank amounting to US \$ 500 million (approximately Rs. 3700 crore). Source: https://indianexpress.com/article/education/govt-world-back-sign-agreement-worth-rs-5718-core-under-stars-project-to-develop-education-7166670/

Q.46) With reference to the supervision for tribunals and subordinate courts, consider the following:

1. The appointment of district judges in a state are made by the Governor in consultation with the Council of Ministers.

2. A capital punishment passed by a district judge is subject to confirmation by the High Court in all cases.

3. The appeals against the orders of the central administrative tribunal shall lie before the division bench of the concerned high court.

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

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The **appointment, posting and promotion of district judges** in a state are made by the **governor** of the state in **consultation with the high court**. Appointment of persons (other than district judges) to the judicial service of a state are made by the governor of the state after consultation with the State Public Service Commission and the high court.

Statement 2 is correct. The sessions judge has the power to impose any sentence including life imprisonment and capital punishment (death sentence). However, a capital punishment passed by him is subject to confirmation by the High Court, whether there is an appeal or not.

Statement 3 is correct. Originally, appeals against the orders of the CAT could be made only in the Supreme Court and not in the high courts. However, in the Chandra Kumar case (1997), the Supreme Court declared this restriction on the jurisdiction of the high courts as unconstitutional, holding that judicial review is a part of the basic structure of the Constitution. It laid down that **appeals against the orders of the CAT shall lie before the division bench of the concerned high court.** Consequently, now it is not possible for an aggrieved public servant to approach the Supreme Court directly against an order of the CAT, without first going to the concerned high court.

Source: Indian Polity by M.Laxmikanth 6th edition Ch-35 Tribunals, Ch-36 Subordinate Courts

Q.47) With reference to reservations in promotions in government jobs, consider the following statements:

1. The Nagaraj case (2006) relates to the issue of reservations in promotions.

2. The Supreme Court has upheld the application of creamy layer principle to members of the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe communities in promotions.

3. State is not bound to make reservations for SC/ST in the matter of promotions.

4. A state has to collect quantifiable data showing backwardness of the class to provide reservation in promotions to the SC/ST communities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 1, 2 and 3 only

c) 2, 3 and 4 only

d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. The Nagaraj case (2006) in Supreme Court relates to the issue of reservations in promotions for the SC and ST communities.

Statement 2 is correct. The court in M. Nagaraj case had upheld the application of creamy layer principle to members of the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe communities in promotions. In this case applying the creamy layer concept in SC/ST reservation in promotions, the Supreme court reversed its earlier stance in the Indra Sawhney case (1992), in which it had excluded the creamy layer concept on SCs/STs (that was applicable on OBCs).

Statement 3 is correct. The five-judges Bench in Nagaraj case **upheld the constitutional validity** of all 77th, 81st, 82nd, and 85th constitutional amendments **enabling reservation of SC/ST** communities in **promotions**, but made certain directives for the states:

1) State is not bound to make reservations for SC/ST in the matter of promotions.

Statement 4 is incorrect. SC in Nagraj case stated that if a State wants to provide reservation to the SC/ST communities in promotions:

- It has to collect quantifiable data showing backwardness of the class.
- Show **inadequacy of representation** of that class in public employment in addition to compliance of Article 335.
- State needs to ensure that its **reservation provision does not lead to excessiveness** breaching the ceiling-limit of 50%, or destroying the creamy layer principle.

In Jarnail Singh v L.N. Gupta (2018) case, SC refused to refer the Nagaraj judgment to a higher bench but later altered the decision by saying that states will not be required to present quantifiable data of backwardness of SC/ST communities.

Knowledge Base: The term **'Creamy layer'** was first mentioned in the Supreme Court's landmark judgment in the Indra Sawhney case (1992).

Supreme Court in 2020 ruled that reservation in the matter of promotions in public posts is not a fundamental right, and a state cannot be compelled to offer the quota if it chooses not to

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/reservation-as-right/article30785768.ece

Q.48) With reference to the Article 29 and 30 of the Indian constitution, consider the following statements:

1. Article 29 guarantees all communities' right to protect their language and culture.

2. Article 30 only includes provision for minorities to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) l only

b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Statement 1 is correct. Article 29 grants protection to both religious minorities as well as linguistic minorities. However, the Supreme Court held that the scope of this article is not necessarily restricted to minorities only, as it is commonly assumed to be. This is because of the use of words 'section of citizens' in the Article that include minorities as well as majority.

Statement 2 is correct. The protection under Article 30 is confined only to minorities (religious or linguistic) and does not extend to any section of citizens (as under Article 29). However, the term 'minority' has not been defined anywhere in the Constitution.

Article 30 grants the following rights to minorities, whether religious or linguistic: (a) All minorities shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. (b) The compensation amount fixed by the State for the compulsory acquisition of any property of a minority educational institution shall not restrict or abrogate the right guaranteed to them. This provision was added by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978 to protect the right of minorities in this regard.

Knowledge Base: The right under Article 30 also includes the right of a minority to impart education to its children in its own language.

The right conferred on minorities under Article 30 is only to ensure equality with the majority and not intended to place the minorities in a more advantageous position vis-a-vis the majority.

Source: Indian Polity by M.Laxmikanth 6th edition Ch-7 Fundamental Rights

Q.49) Consider the following statements with respect to the Subordinate Courts of India's judicial system:

1. The Gram Nyayalayas are established by the state government in consultation with the respective High courts.

2. Control over subordinate courts is the collective and individual responsibility of the High Court.

3. An order by the Gram Nyayalaya is final and binding on all parties to the dispute.

4. Lok Adalats have no jurisdiction with respect to any matter relating to an offence that is non compoundable under any law

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 2, 3 and 4 only

c) 1, 2 and 4 only

d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Statement 1 is correct: Under the Gram Nyayalayas Act 2008, it is for the state government to establish Gram Nyayalayas in consultation with respective High Courts.

Statement 2 is correct: Control over subordinate courts is the collective and individual responsibility of the High Court as it is the head of the judiciary in the state and has got administrative control over the subordinate courts in respect of certain matters.

Statement 3 is incorrect. An aggrieved person can appeal against the decision of the Gram Nyayalaya. Appeal in criminal cases shall lie to the Court of Session, which shall be heard and disposed of within a period of six months from the date of filing of such appeal. Appeal in civil cases shall lie to the District Court, which shall be heard and disposed of within a period of six months from the date of filing of the appeal.

Statement 4 is correct: The permanent Lok Adalat shall have no jurisdiction in respect of any matter relating to an offence not compoundable under any law.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikanth, Ch 35 Subordinate Courts.

Q.50) Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the features of Fundamental Rights enshrined in Part III of the Indian constitution?

a) The application of Fundamental Rights to the members of police forces can be abrogated by the President of India.

b) Aggrieved person can go to Supreme Court only by the way of appeal against the judgement of the High courts.

c) Rights guaranteed by Article 19 can be suspended only when emergency is declared on the grounds of war or external aggression.

d) Fundamental rights necessarily require law made for giving effect to them.

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct.

Fundamental Rights can be suspended during the operation of a National Emergency except the rights guaranteed by Articles 20 and 21. Further, the six rights guaranteed by Article 19 can be suspended only when emergency is declared on the grounds of war or external aggression (i.e., external emergency) and not on the ground of armed rebellion (i.e., internal emergency).

Option a is incorrect.

Their application to the members of armed forces, paramilitary forces, **police forces, intelligence agencies and analogous services can be restricted or abrogated by the Parliament** (Article 33).

Option b is incorrect.

Fundamental Rights are defended and guaranteed by the Supreme Court. Hence, the aggrieved person can directly go to the Supreme Court, **not necessarily by way of appeal against the judgement of the high courts. Option d is incorrect.**

Most of Fundamental Rights are directly enforceable (self-executory) while a few of them can be enforced on the basis of a law made for giving effect to them. Such a law can be made only by the Parliament and not by state legislatures so that uniformity throughout the country is maintained (Article 35).

Source: Laxmikant- Fundamental Rights (5th edition pg-152, 153 of the pdf)