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TEST BOOKLET
INDIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM
FREE TEST - 5

Time Allowed: 1 Hours

Maximum Marks: 100

: INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS TEST BOOKLET DOES NOT HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TORN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET OF THE SAME SERIES ISSUED TO YOU.
2. ENCODE CLEARLY THE TEST BOOKLET SERIES A, B, C OR D, AS THE CASE MAY BE IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACES IN THE ANSWER SHEET USING BALL POINT PEN (BLUE OR BLACK).
3. You have to enter your ROLL No. on the test booklet in the box provided alongside. DO NOT write anything else on the Test Booklet.
4. YOU ARE REQUIRED TO FILL UP AND DRAWN ROLL NO., TEST BOOKLET/ QUESTION BOOKLET SERIES IN THE ANSWER SHEETS AS WELL AS FILL UP TEST BOOKLET/ QUESTION BOOKLET SERIES AND SERIAL NO. AND ANSWER SHEET SERIAL NO. IN THE ATTENDANCE SHEETS CAREFULLY. WRONGLY FILLED UP ANSWER SHEETS ARE LIABLE FOR REJECTION AT THE RISK OF THE CANDIDATE.
5. This test booklet contains 50 items (questions). Each question comprises four responses. You have to select the correct response which you want to mark on the answer sheet. In case, you feel that there is more than one correct response, you should mark the response which you consider to be the best. In any case choose ONLY ONE response for each item.
6. You have to mark all your responses ONLY on the separate Answer Sheet provided by using POINT PEN (BLUE or BLACK). See instructions in the Answer Sheet.
7. (i) All items carry equal marks. All items are compulsory. Your total marks will depend only on the number of correct responses marked by you in the Answer sheet.
(ii) There will be negative marking for wrong answers. 25 percent of the marks allotted to a particular question will be deducted as negative marking for every wrong response.
(iii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a wrong answer even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be the same penalty as above to that item.

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1. Which of the following cannot sit in both Houses of the Parliament?

- a) Comptroller and Auditor General of India
- b) Attorney General of India
- c) Prime Minister
- d) Cabinet Ministers

2. Which of the following take part in the presidential election?

- a) Nominated Anglo-Indian member from Uttar Pradesh Assembly
- b) Elected members from Puducherry Assembly
- c) Nominated members of Rajya Sabha
- d) All of the above

3. Which of the following statements is/ are incorrect?

- 1. The Constitution does not require that a person must prove his majority in the Lok Sabha before he is appointed as the Prime Minister.
- 2. The Prime Minister has to be a member of any of the two Houses of parliament at the time of appointment.

Codes:

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

4. Which of the following Amendment Acts made it mandatory to the President to be bound by the advice of the council of ministers?

- a) 24th Amendment Act
- b) 25th Amendment Act
- c) 42nd Amendment Act
- d) 44th Amendment Act

5. With reference to Veto powers of the President of India, which of the following statements is/ are correct?

- a) The state legislature cannot override the veto power of the President.
- b) The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act made it obligatory for the President to give his assent to a constitutional amendment bill.
- c) Even the use of "Pocket Veto" is not the discretionary power of the President.
- d) All of the above

6. The security money to be paid by the Presidential and Vice-presidential candidates cannot be deposited in which of the following banks?

- a) Reserve Bank of India
- b) State Bank of India
- c) Government Treasury
- d) None of the above

7. The word "Cabinet" is mentioned in which of the following Articles of the Indian Constitution?

- a) Article 75
- b) Article 78
- c) Article 352
- d) None of the above

8. With reference to the discretionary powers of the President, which of the following is/are correct?

- 1. The President has no constitutional discretion.
- 2. He can appoint the Prime Minister when no single party attains majority after elections to the Lok Sabha.

Codes:

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

9. With reference to the functions of the Prime Minister, which of the following statements is correct?

- a) The salaries and allowances of Ministers are decided by him.
- b) He advises the President to dismiss the minister in case of difference of opinion.
- c) He advises President for the appointment of Speaker.
- d) He allocates funds to each Ministry.

10. With reference to the removal of the President, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) The President can be removed from office by a process of impeachment for 'proved misbehavior and incapacity'.
- b) The impeachment charges against him can be initiated only by the Lower House.
- c) The nominated members of either House of Parliament can participate in this process.
- d) All of the above

11. Which of the following does not participate in the election of Vice-President?

- a) Elected members of Lok Sabha
- b) Nominated members of Lok Sabha
- c) Elected members of Legislative Assemblies
- d) None of the above

12. The Supreme Court has examined the pardoning power of the President under different cases and laid down various principles. In this context, which of the following statements is/are not correct?

- a) The petitioner for mercy has no right to an oral hearing by the President.
- b) The power is to be exercised by the President on the advice of the Union Cabinet.
- c) The pardoning power does not come under judicial review.
- d) All of the above

13. With reference to the Council of Ministers, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. The Council of Ministers exists even after the dissolution of Lok Sabha.
- 2. The advice tendered to the president by the Council of Ministers does not come under judicial review.

Codes:

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

14. Which of the following statements is correct?

- a) The Union Ministers are responsible to the President only.
- b) The Prime Minister is appointed by the President but other ministers are by the Prime Minister himself.
- c) Parliamentary secretaries are the part of the Council ministries.
- d) None of the above

15. With reference to Attorney General of India, which of the following statements is/are not correct?

- a) The highest law officer of the Government of India is appointed by the Parliament.
- b) He/she is responsible to the Parliament.
- c) He/she must represent Government in Courts.
- d) All of the above

16. With reference to the Question Hour in the Parliament, which of the following is/are correct?

- 1. A starred question requires an oral answer and supplementary questions cannot follow.
- 2. An unstarred question requires a written answer and supplementary questions cannot follow.

Codes:

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

17. Which of the following statements is correct?

- a) The Constitution has fixed the term of office of members of the Rajya Sabha to six years.
- b) The Rajya Sabha was first constituted on 26 January 1950.
- c) Allocation of seats in Rajya Sabha is similar to the Senate of the USA.
- d) None of the above

18. Which of the following statements is not correct?

- a) The origin of the Lok Sabha traces back to the Charter Act of 1853.
- b) The Constitution provides that the maximum strength of the Lower House to be 550 elected members.
- c) If a Cabinet Minister is from the Rajya Sabha, he shall be the Leader of the House.
- d) None of the above

19. Which of the following statements regarding the prorogation of the house is/are correct?

- 1. Prorogation terminates both the sitting as well as the session of the House.
- 2. Prorogation of the house is done by the presiding officer.

Codes:

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

20. With reference to the Contingency Fund of India, which of the following statements is/are not correct?

- 1. According to the Indian constitution, the President can establish a Contingency Fund of India.
- 2. Contingency Fund of India is placed at the disposal of the Parliament.

Codes:

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

21. Which of the following statements is not correct?

- a) There is no provision for a joint sitting in case of a deadlock over a Constitution Amendment Bill.
- b) In the history of Parliament of India, there have been only three occasions of the Joint Sitting of the Parliament.
- c) Rajya Sabha can neither introduce nor amend the Money Bills.
- d) None of the above

22. With reference to the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha, which of the following statements is correct?

- a) The office of the Speaker of Lok Sabha is responsible to the Parliament.
- b) The Deputy Speaker is responsible to the Speaker.
- c) The term of Office of the Speaker ends as soon as Lok Sabha gets dissolved.
- d) Only Speaker or the Deputy Speaker can preside over the Lok Sabha.

23. Which of the following Presidents of India was also a Speaker of Lok Sabha?

- a) Neelam Sanjiva Reddy
- b) Varahagiri Venkata Giri
- c) Giani Zail Singh
- d) None of the above

24. With reference to the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, which of the following statements is/ are correct?

- 1. The Chairman of Rajya Sabha presides all the committees of the House.
- 2. Unlike the Speaker of Lok Sabha, the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha does not have a right to cast a vote.

Codes:

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

25. Which of the following statements are incorrect?

- a) Deputy Speaker can decide whether a bill is a money bill or not.
- b) Deputy Speaker alike Speaker can only exercise a casting vote in the event of a tie.
- c) In the order of precedence, the Speaker has a higher rank than all cabinet ministers, except the Prime Minister.
- d) None of the above

26. Which of the following statements regarding parliamentary proceeding is/are correct?

- a) The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is slotted for Zero Hour.
- b) Unlike the question hour, the zero hour is mentioned in the Rules of Procedure.
- c) A Bill becomes an Act as soon as passed by both the Houses of Parliament.
- d) None of the Above

26. Which of the following statements regarding the 'Leader of the Opposition' is not correct?

- a) The Leader of the Opposition (LoP) is a statutory position in India.
- b) The 1977 Act mandates that the Leader of the Opposition to the Government must be from that party which have at least one-tenth of the total number of members of the House".

- c) The first LoP in Rajya Sabha was formed in 1969.
- d) The Lok Sabha of India was without LoP during 1980-89.

27. Which of the following statements is correct?

- a) Confidence motion can be moved in both the Houses whereas, the no-confidence motion can only be moved in Lok Sabha.
- b) Parliament cannot make laws on the state list except in emergencies.
- c) Certain Financial Bills also cannot be introduced in Rajya Sabha but it can reject or amend the Bills.
- d) None of the above

28. Which of the following constitutes the special powers of the Rajya Sabha?

- a) It can authorize the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the Centre and states.
- b) It can authorize the Parliament to make a law on a subject enumerated in the State List and Concurrent List.
- c) Removal of the Vice-President.
- d) All of these

29. Which of the following statements regarding parliamentary proceeding is/are correct?

1. Censure Motion can be moved against the entire council of ministers.
2. If it is passed in the Lok Sabha, the council of ministers must resign from office.

Codes:

- a) 1 only

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

30. Which of the following does not imply the Judicial Powers of the Parliament?

- a) Impeachment of President
- b) Punishment for its contempt
- c) Recommendation of the removal of judges
- d) Ratification of the pardoning by the President

31. With regard to enactment of Budget, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) The budget shall distinguish expenditure on revenue account from other expenditure.
- b) Parliament can reduce or increase a tax but cannot abolish it.
- c) No demand for a grant shall be made except on the recommendation of the Speaker.
- d) All of the above

32. Which of the following is not a factor that led to the decline of the Indian Parliament?

- a) Frequent promulgation of ordinances.
- b) Lack of strong and steady opposition in the Parliament
- c) Frequent amendment of the Constitution.
- d) Large size of the Parliament

33. When a Cut Motion states that the amount of the demand be reduced by Rs 1, it is called as:

- a) Economy Cut Motion
- b) Token Cut Motion
- c) Policy Cut Motion

d) None of the above

34. Which of the following statements regarding 'delegated legislation' is/are correct?

- It is in conflict with the 'parliamentary democracy'.
- The rules made by this process need not to be laid in the Parliament.
- It is not under the purview of judicial review.
- All of these

35. If a Money Bill is reserved by the Governor of a State for the consideration of the President. The President may:

- Give his assent to the Bill
- Withhold his assent to the Bill
- Direct the Governor of the State to return it to the House for reconsideration

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2, and 3

36. With reference to a state legislature, which of the following statements is correct?

- Governor is the ex officio chairman of the legislative council in a state.
- The State Assembly is authorized to modify the composition of a legislative council.
- The term of the State Assembly can be extended during the period of national emergency.
- None of the above

37. With reference to the composition of State Legislative Assemblies, which of the following is/are correct?

- As per the Constitution, the maximum strength of a Legislative Assembly is fixed at 500 and minimum strength at 60.
- In the case of Goa, it is fixed at 30.

Codes:

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

38. Arrange the following lists in the increasing order of the composition of a Legislative Council:

- Members of local bodies in the state like municipalities, district boards, etc.
- Graduates of three years standing and residing within the state,
- Members nominated by the governor

Codes:

- 1-2-3
- 3-2-1
- 2-3-1
- 2-1-3

39. Which of the following is not a power/duty of a Speaker in a State Assembly?

- He is the final interpreter of the provisions of the Constitution of India within the Assembly.
- He is the leader of the House.
- He appoints the chairmen of all the committees of the assembly and supervises their functioning.

- d) He decides whether a bill is a Money Bill or not and his decision on this question is final.

40. With reference to Deputy Speaker of the Assembly, which of the following is correct?

1. The Deputy Speaker of Assembly is elected by the Speaker.
2. S/he is removed by the Lower House only.

Codes:

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

41. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Rajya Sabha reflects the federal element of Indian polity whereas no such issues in the case of a Legislative Council.
2. The Rajya Sabha consists of mainly elected members whereas the Council, of mainly nominated members.

Codes:

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

42. Which of the following bills lapse when the State legislative assembly is dissolved?

1. A bill passed by the assembly but pending in the council.
2. A bill passed by the council but pending in the assembly.

3. A bill passed by the state legislature but pending the assent of the governor.
4. A bill passed by the state legislature but returned by the president for reconsideration.

Codes:

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

43. With reference to the Legislative Council, which of the following statements is/are not correct?

1. The maximum strength of a Legislative Council must be the half of Legislative Assembly.
2. There is no lower limit in this regard.

Codes:

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

44. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Like the Rajya Sabha, the Legislative Council is a continuing chamber.
2. Unlike the members of Rajya Sabha, the retiring members are not eligible for re-election and re-nomination.

Codes:

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

45. Disqualification of Member of State Legislative Assembly for matters other than those in the Tenth schedule is decided by:

- a) Speaker of Legislative Assembly
- b) Governor
- c) High Court
- d) State Election Commission

46. Regarding the legislative process in State Legislatures, Identify the Incorrect Statement?

- a) There is no provision of a joint sitting over ordinary bills in state legislature.
- b) Only the Legislative Assembly can have the power to introduce any of the bills.
- c) The Legislative Council can delay a maximum of four months in case of ordinary bills.
- d) None of the above

47. When it comes to the passage of Money Bills, how is the situation in the Union Parliament different from that in the State Legislature?

- 1. As in the Parliament, it can be introduced only in the lower house of state legislature.
- 2. Unlike in Parliament, it is not sent to the upper house of the state legislature.

Codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

48. Which of the following statements regarding State Legislature is correct?

- a) Unlike Parliament, a Constitutional Amendment Bill can only be introduced in the Lower House.
- b) Constitution Amendment bills which require ratification from states need approval from both the Assembly and the Council.
- c) Resolution to abolish the council in a state legislature has to be passed by both the Assembly and the Council.
- d) None of the above

49. What is the time limit within which an Ordinary Bill has to be sent to the State Legislature by the Governor for reconsideration?

- a) 4 months
- b) 3 month
- c) 1 months
- d) No time limit specified

50. The quorum to hold a meeting of a House of the State Legislature shall be:

- a) One-tenth of the total membership of the House
- b) Ten members or one-tenth of total membership whichever is more
- c) Ten members or one-tenth of total membership whichever is less
- d) One-half of the total membership of the House

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ANSWER BOOKLET

INDIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM

FREE TEST- 5

1. (A) Council of Ministers including the Prime Minister is responsible for Lok Sabha in particular & to the Parliament in general. So, they are entitled to be present in both Houses proceeding if he is deemed to do so. But she/he cannot vote in the House of which she/he is not the member.

Attorney-General too can sit in both Houses but cannot vote in any of the Houses.

CAG does not sit in the Parliament but his report is laid by the President on the floor of the Houses.

2. (B) Presidential election

- The President is elected not directly by the people but by members of the electoral college consisting of:
 - the elected members of both the Houses of Parliament;
 - the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the states; and
 - the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry
- The nominated members of the Parliament take part in the impeachment process but not in the election process.

3. (C) Office of Prime Minister

- Constitutionally, the Prime Minister may be a member of any of the two Houses of parliament. But in 1997, the Supreme Court held that a person who is not a member of either House of Parliament can be appointed as Prime Minister for six months, within which, he should become a member of either House of Parliament; otherwise, he ceases to be the Prime Minister.
- In 1980, the Delhi High Court held that the Constitution does not require that a person must prove his majority in the Lok Sabha before he is appointed as the Prime Minister. The President may first appoint him the Prime Minister and then ask him to prove his majority in the Lok Sabha within a reasonable period.

4. (C) Constitutional position of the President

- The Constitution of India has provided for a parliamentary form of government. According to Dr. Ambedkar, the President is the head of the State but not of the Executive. He represents the nation but does not rule the nation. He is the symbol of the nation. His place in administration is that of a ceremonial device or a seal by which the nation's decisions are made known.
- There shall be a council of ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who 'shall', in the exercise of his functions, act in accordance with

such advice. This mandatory provision ('shall') was added to the Article 74 by 42nd Amendment Act, 1976.

- The President may return a matter once for reconsideration of his ministers, but the reconsidered advice shall be binding. This provision was added by the 44th Amendment Act, 1978.

5. (A) Powers of President

- The President can neither ratify nor rejects nor return the bill, but simply keeps the bill pending for an indefinite period. It is called Pocket Veto and is the discretionary power of the President.
- The President has no veto power in respect of a constitutional amendment bill. The 24th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1971 made it obligatory for the President to give his assent to a constitutional amendment bill.
- In case of the state bills, the President may direct the governor to return the bill (if it is not a money bill) for the reconsideration of the state legislature. And if it is passed again, the President is not bound to give his assent to the bill. This means that the state legislature, unlike Parliament, cannot override the veto power of the President.

6. (B) Security deposit for Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections

- The Security Deposit for the election of President and Vice-President of Rs.15000/- is deposited either in cash with the Returning Officer or a receipt showing that the amount has been deposited by the candidate or on his behalf in the Reserve Bank of India or in a Government Treasury.
- The security deposit is liable to be forfeited in case the candidate fails to secure one-sixth of the votes polled.

7. (C) Cabinet

Cabinet is the supreme policy-making, highest decision making & supreme executive body of the central government. Indian constitution didn't mention it originally but inserted in Article 352 by the 44th Amendment Act, 1978.

8. (C) Situational discretionary powers of president

As per Article 74 President is bound by the advice of the council of ministers headed by the Prime Minister. Though he has no constitutional discretion, he has some situational discretion. In other words, the President can act on his discretion (that is, without the advice of the ministers) under the following situations:

- Appointment of Prime Minister when no party has a clear majority in the Lok Sabha or when the Prime Minister in office dies suddenly and there is no obvious successor.
- Dismissal of the council of ministers when it cannot prove the confidence in the Lok Sabha.
- Dissolution of the Lok Sabha if the council of ministers has lost its majority.

9. (B) Functions of the Prime Minister

The Prime Minister enjoys the following powers as head of the Union Council of Ministers:

- He recommends persons who can be appointed as ministers by the President. The President can appoint only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Prime Minister.
- He allocates and reshuffles various portfolios among the ministers.
- He presides over the meeting of the council of ministers and influences its decisions.
- He guides, directs, controls, and coordinates the activities of all the ministers.
- He can bring about the collapse of the council of ministers by resigning from office.

Article 75(6): The salaries and allowances of Ministers shall be such as Parliament may from time to time by law determine and, until Parliament so determines, shall be as specified in the Second Schedule.

- The Speaker is elected by the Lok Sabha from amongst its members;
- President has no role to play. Funds are granted by Parliament to each ministry, Prime Minister does not play an exclusive role in this context.

10. (C) Removal of President

- The President may be removed from his office before the expiry of his term, only for the "violation of the Constitution" by the process of impeachment.
- For impeachment, a charge against him may be initiated by either house of Parliament. The resolution can be moved only after giving at least 14 days written notice signed by not less than 1/4th of the total number of members of the House.
- The resolution must be passed by a majority of not less than 2/3rd of the total membership of the House. The charge is then investigated by the other house.
- The President has the right to appear and to be represented at such investigation. If the majority declaring that the charge is proved, such resolution majority declaring that the charge is proved, such resolution shall have the effect of removing the President from his office from the date on which the resolution is so passed.
- All the members of both Houses participate in the impeachment process.

11. (C) Elections of Vice-President

- Vice President is elected indirectly by the Electoral College, consisting of all the Members of Parliament (both elected & nominated).
- State Legislature do not participate in Vice-President's election.

12. (C) Pardoning Power of the President

Article 72 of the Indian Constitution empowers the President to grant pardon

The Supreme Court examined the pardoning power of the President under different cases and laid down the following principles:

- The petitioner for mercy has no right to an oral hearing by the President.

- The President can examine the evidence afresh and take a view different from the view taken by the court.
- The power is to be exercised by the President on the advice of the union cabinet.
- The President is not bound to give reasons for his order.

Where the earlier petition for mercy has been rejected by the President, stay cannot be obtained by filing another petition.

The exercise of power by the President is not immune to judicial review. The Supreme Court in the Eperu Sudhakar case has given a small window for judicial review of the pardon powers of President and governors for the purpose of ruling out any arbitrariness.

13. (C) Article 74

- Article 74(1) states that there shall (must) be a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who shall, in the exercise of his functions. This means that the Council of Ministers exists even after the dissolution of Lok Sabha.
- Article 74(2) says that the advice tendered to the president cannot be inquired into any court, thus it does not come under judicial review.

14. (c) Council of Ministers

- Article 75(1) states that the Prime Minister shall be appointed by the President and the other Ministers shall be appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.
- Article 75(2) states that the Ministers shall hold office during the pleasure of the President.
- Article 75(3) states that the Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the House of the People.
- Parliamentary secretaries the members of the last category of the council of ministers. However, since 1967, no parliamentary secretaries have been appointed except during the first phase of Rajiv Gandhi Government.

15. (D) Attorney General of India

- Article 76 says that the President shall appoint a person who is qualified to be appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court to be Attorney General for India.
- The Attorney General shall hold office during the pleasure of the President i.e. he/ she is responsible to the President.
- Attorney General has the right of audience in all courts in the territory of India, but he/she can also send Solicitor General of India or Additional Solicitor General to represent the Government.

16. (B) Question Hour

- The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is slotted for this. During this time, the members ask questions and the ministers usually give answers.
- The questions are of three kinds, namely, starred, unstarred and short notice.

- A starred question (distinguished by an asterisk) requires an oral answer and hence supplementary questions can follow.
- An unstarred question, on the other hand, requires a written answer and hence, supplementary questions cannot follow.
- A short notice question is one that is asked by giving a notice of less than ten days. It is answered orally.
- In addition to the ministers, the questions can also be asked to the private members. Thus, a question may be addressed to a private member if the subject matter of the question relates to some Bill, resolution or other matter connected with the business of the House for which that member is responsible. The procedure in regard to such a question is the same as that followed in the case of questions addressed to a minister.
- The list of starred, unstarred, short notice questions and questions to private members are printed in green, white, light pink and yellow colour, respectively, to distinguish them from one another.

17. (D) Rajya Sabha

- The Rajya Sabha was first constituted in April 1952 after the first general election.
- The Constitution has not fixed the term of office of members of the Rajya Sabha and left it to the Parliament. Subsequently, the Parliament in the Representation of the People Act (1951) provided that the term of office of a member of the Rajya Sabha shall be six years.
- The Fourth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha to the states and union territories. The allocation is based on the population and varies from 1 to 31 whereas in the USA it is equal (2) from each state.

18. (D) Parliament

- Parliament is the supreme legislative body of India.
- The origin of Rajya Sabha can be traced back to 1919 when in pursuance to the Government of India Act, 1919, a second chamber known as the Council of States was created whereas, the origin of the Lok Sabha traces back to the Charter Act of 1853, when for the first time a 12-member Legislative Council was established.
- The Constitution (Article 81) provides that the maximum strength of the House to be 552 (550 elected) members – 530 members to represent the States, 20 members to represent the Union Territories, and 2 members to be nominated by the President from the Anglo-Indian Community. At present, the strength of the House is 545 members.
- The senior-most Minister, who is a member of Rajya Sabha, is appointed by the Prime Minister as Leader of the House.
- Prime Minister is the Leader of the House if he/she is a member of the House. For instance, if he/she is a member of the Rajya Sabha then he shall be the Leader of the Rajya Sabha but not Lok Sabha.

19. (A) Prorogation

- Prorogation means the termination of a session of the House by an order made by the President under article 85(2)(a) of the Constitution.
- Prorogation terminates both the sitting and session of the House.
- Usually, within a few days after the House is adjourned sine die by the presiding officer, the President issues a notification for the prorogation of the session. However, the President can also prorogue the House while in session.
- The period spanning between the prorogation of a House and its reassembly in a new session is called 'recess'.

20. (C) Types of Funds of Indian Government

The Constitution of India provides for the following three kinds of funds for the Central government:

1. Consolidated Fund of India (Article 266)
2. Public Account of India (Article 266)
3. Contingency Fund of India (Article 267)

Contingency Fund of India

- According to the Article 267(I) of the Indian constitution, Parliament may by law establish a Contingency Fund in the nature of an imprest into which shall be paid from time to time such sums as may be determined by law.
- Contingency Fund shall be placed at the disposal of the President to enable advances to be made by him for the purposes of meeting unforeseen expenditure.
- However, authorization of parliament is needed to recharge this fund from the consolidated fund by law under Article 115 or Article 116.
- It is kept under the Finance Secretary on behalf of the President.
- Each state in India has its own consolidated and contingency funds.

21. (D) Joint Sitting of the Houses

- A joint sitting of the Houses is convened for any deadlock between the two Houses over a Bill.
- In the case of Money Bills, there is no question of a deadlock as the Rajya Sabha has a limited say in such matters. Only Lok Sabha can introduce the Money Bills. Rajya Sabha has to return the Money Bill to Lok Sabha within a period of fourteen days from its receipt. Rajya Sabha cannot amend the Money Bill directly; it can only recommend amendments to the Bill and Lok Sabha may either accept or reject all or any of the recommendations made by the Rajya Sabha.
- There is no provision for a joint sitting in case of a deadlock over a Constitution Amendment Bill.
- In the history of Parliament of India, there have been three occasions when both Houses of Parliament held a joint sitting to resolve deadlock on Bills between them, i.e.,
 - 6 and 9 May 1961 on the Dowry Prohibition Bill, 1959;

- 17 May 1978 on the Banking Service Commission (Repeal) Bill, 1977; and
- 26 March 2002 on the Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2002.

22. (A) Presiding officers of Lok Sabha

- The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker are the Presiding Officers of the Lok Sabha. But, When the Offices of both the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker fall vacant, the duties of the Office of the Speaker are performed by any member from the Panel of Chairpersons, as elected by the House.
- President may appoint Speaker pro tem for this purpose.
- The Speaker continues in office till immediately before the first meeting of Lok Sabha after dissolution of the one to which he/she was elected, unless he/she ceases to be a Member by any of the reasons specified in articles 94, 101 and 102 of the Constitution.
- The Deputy Speaker presides over the Lok Sabha when the Speaker is absent from the sitting of the House.
- The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker are the Presiding Officers of the Lok Sabha. Both of them are selected by the Lok Sabha hence they are responsible to the House directly.

23. (A) President and Speaker both

- Neelam Sanjiva Reddy was the Speaker of the Lok Sabha in 1967-69 and in 1977 before elected as the sixth President of India.
- PA Sangma was also the Speaker of Lok Sabha and he was a candidate for the presidential election but couldn't get elected.

24. (D) Chairman of Rajya Sabha

- The Chairman of Rajya Sabha (or, the Vice-President of India) is elected by both the House.
- S/he is the Chairman of the Business Advisory Committee, General Purposes Committee and Committee on Rules. The Deputy Chairman is the Chairman of the Committee of Privileges.
- The Chairman has a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.

25. (B) Lok Sabha presiding officers

- The Speaker has been given a very high position in the order of precedence. S/he is placed at seventh rank, along with the Chief Justice of India. This means s/he has a higher rank than all cabinet ministers, except the Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister.
- Speaker can be removed by the Lok Sabha by a resolution passed by an effective majority (more than 50% of total strength excluding vacancies) of the House.
- If the Speaker is absent from the House, the Deputy Speaker performs all the functions of the Speaker including decision on the Money Bills or presiding the Joint Sitting of the Houses.

- Deputy Speaker unlike Speaker can vote in the House similar to other members of the House if the Speaker is presiding the House. However, he can exercise only a casting vote, in the event of a tie, if he performs the duty of the Presiding Officer.

26. (D) First Hour and Zero Hour

- The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is slotted for 'First Hour'. During this time, the members ask questions and the ministers usually give answers.
- Zero Hour is an informal device available to the members of the Parliament to raise matters without any prior notice. It starts immediately after the question hour and lasts until the agenda for the day is taken up. Unlike the question hour, the zero hour is not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament.
- A Bill becomes an Act when it is passed by both the Houses of Parliament and gets assent from the President.

27. (B) Leader of the Opposition

- In each House of Parliament, there is the 'Leader of the Opposition'.
- The leader of the largest Opposition party having not less than one-tenth seats of the total strength of the House is recognized as the leader of the Opposition in that House.
- This is why the post of LoP was vacant during 1980-89 and at present, since 2014.
- The 1977 Act defines LoP as that member of the House who is the "Leader in that House of the party in opposition to the Government having the greatest numerical strength and recognized as such by the Chairman of the Council of States or the Speaker of the House of the People.
- The Speaker's decisions in this regard have so far been determined by Direction 121(c) which laid down one of the conditions for recognition of party or group as having "at least a strength equal to the quorum fixed to constitute a sitting of the House, that is one-tenth of the total number of members of the House".
- Although they were accorded statutory recognition in 1977, it was in 1969 that an official leader of the opposition was recognized for the first time in Rajya Sabha.
- His/her main functions are to provide a constructive criticism of the policies of the government.
- LoP plays a crucial role in bringing bipartisanship and neutrality to the appointments in institutions of accountability and transparency viz. CVC, CBI, CIC, Lokpal etc.

27. (C) Relationship of the two Houses

- As the Council of Ministers is directly responsible to the Lower House, both Confidence and No-Confidence motions can be moved in the Lok Sabha only.
- Apart from a Money Bill, certain other introduced in Rajya Sabha but there is no other limitation on the powers of Rajya Sabha with regard to such Bills and Rajya Sabha has powers to reject or amend such Financial Bills like any other Bill.
- Besides emergency situations, Parliament can make laws on the subjects under the state list under Articles 249, 252, 253, etc.

28. (A) Special Powers of Rajya Sabha

- The Rajya Sabha has been given two exclusive or special powers that are not enjoyed by the Lok Sabha:
 - It can authorize the Parliament to make a law on a subject enumerated in the State List (Article 249).
 - It can authorize the Parliament to create new All-India Services common to both the Centre and states (Article 312).
 - It is clear that the position of the Rajya Sabha in our constitutional system is not as weak as that of the House of Lords in the British constitutional system or as strong as that of the Senate in the American constitutional system.
 - Except in financial matters and control over the council of ministers, the powers and status of the Rajya Sabha in all other spheres are broadly equal and coordinate with that of the Lok Sabha.
- Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha share equal power related to the election and removal of the Vice-President. However, Rajya Sabha alone can initiate the removal of the vice-president.

29. (A) Censure Motion vs. No-Confidence Motion

- Censure Motion can be moved against an individual minister or a group of ministers or the entire council of ministers whereas No-Confidence Motion can be moved against the entire council of ministers only.
- For Censure Motion, the reasons for its adoption should be mentioned whereas no such thing is necessary in adopting the No-Confidence Motion.
- If the No-Confidence Motion is passed in the Lok Sabha, the council of ministers must resign from office whereas the council of ministers need not resign from the office if the Censure Motion is passed.

30. (D) Judicial Powers of the Parliament

The judicial powers and functions of the Parliament include the following:

- It can impeach the President for the violation of the Constitution.
- It can remove the Vice-President from his office.
- It can recommend the removal of judges (including chief justice) of the Supreme Court and the high courts, chief election commissioner, comptroller and auditor general to the president.
- It can punish its members or outsiders for the breach of its privileges or its contempt.
- Parliament has no role to play in the ratification of the pardoning of the President. It is in the domain of the Cabinet.

31. (A) Budget

- The Constitution of India contains the following provisions with regard to the enactment of budget:

- Article 112(2) provides that the budget shall distinguish expenditure on revenue account from other expenditure.
- Parliament can reduce or abolish a tax but cannot increase it.
- Article 113(3) states that no demand for a grant shall be made except on the recommendation of the President.

32. (C) Ineffectiveness of Parliamentary control The parliamentary control over government and administration in India is more theoretical than practical. In reality, the control is not as effective as it ought to be. The following factors are responsible for this-

- Parliament's financial control is hindered by the technical nature of the demands for grants.
- The legislative leadership lies with the Executive and it plays a significant role in formulating policies.
- The very size of the Parliament is too large and unmanageable to be effective.
- The financial committees like the Public Accounts Committee examine the public expenditure after it has been incurred by the Executive. Thus, they do post mortem work.
- The growth of 'delegated legislation' has reduced the role of Parliament in making detailed laws and has increased the powers of bureaucracy.
- The frequent promulgation of ordinances by the president dilutes the Parliament's power of legislation.
- The Parliament's control is sporadic, general and mostly political in nature.
- Lack of strong and steady opposition in the Parliament, and a setback in the parliamentary behavior and ethics, have also contributed to the ineffectiveness of legislative control over administration in India. Etc.

33. (C) Cut Motions

- The Parliament while discussing the Demand for Grants can move motions to reduce any demand for the grant. Such motions are called 'cut motion', which are of three kinds viz. Policy Cut Motion, Economy Cut Motion, and Token Cut Motion.
- Policy Cut Motion represents the disapproval of the policy underlying the demand. It states that the amount of the demand be reduced to Re 1.
- Economy Cut Motion represents the economy that can be affected in the proposed expenditure. It states that the amount of the demand be reduced by a specified amount.
- Token Cut Motion ventilates a specific grievance that is within the sphere of responsibility of the Government of India. It states that the amount of the demand be reduced by Rs 100.

34. (A) Delegated legislation

- In most cases, the legislature enacts a law covering the general principles and policies and leaves detailed rule-making to the government to allow for expediency and flexibility. The government is required to frame the rules in accordance with the policy laid down by the legislature.

- Such rules are called subordinate legislation and may be referred to as rules, regulations, bye-laws, orders, and notification.
- However, certain functions and powers cannot be delegated to the government. These include framing the legislative policy, exceeding the scope of the delegating Act, retrospective effect of rules, etc.
- According to the Manual of Parliamentary Procedure, the rules have to be laid in Parliament within 15 days from (a) the date of their publication in the Official Gazette if Parliament is in session; or (b) the date of the commencement of Parliament, if it is not in session Parliament has the power to oversee rules at various levels: (a) during the debate on the Act; (b) statutory motion to discuss rules; (c) Question Hour; and (d) Committee on Subordinate Legislation (Each House has this Committee).
- Since delegated legislation forms a part of law, courts have the jurisdiction to examine them. The courts have held that framing of legislative policy is an essential function and cannot be delegated to an administrative body. However, they have generally leaned towards upholding the validity of rules.
- The growth of the delegated/ subordinate legislation has led to the ineffectiveness of the parliamentary process and parliamentary democracy.

35. (B) State bills and the President

When a money bill is reserved for consideration of the President:

- The President may give his assent to the bill,
- Withhold his assent to the bill
- But, cannot return the bill for reconsideration of the state legislature.

36. (C) State Assembly

- The Chairman of the Legislative Council is elected by the council itself from amongst its members. As a presiding officer, the powers and functions of the Chairman in the council are similar to those of the Speaker in the assembly.
- The Parliament is authorized to modify the composition of a legislative council.
- Like the Lok Sabha, the legislative assembly is not a continuing chamber. Its normal term is five years from the date of its first meeting after the general elections.
- However, the governor is authorized to dissolve the assembly at any time.
- Further, the term of the assembly can be extended during the period of national emergency by a law of Parliament for one year at a time.

37. (C) Composition of Assembly

- The legislative assembly consists of representatives directly elected by the people on the basis of universal adult franchise.
- Its maximum strength is fixed at 500 and minimum strength at 60. It means that its strength varies from 60 to 500 depending on the population size of the state.
- However, in the case of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Goa, the minimum number is fixed at 30.

- In the case of Mizoram and Nagaland, it is 40 and 46 respectively.

38. (C) Of the total number of members of a legislative council:

- 1/3 are elected by the members of local bodies in the state like municipalities, district boards, etc.,
- 1/12 are elected by graduates of three years standing and residing within the state,
- 1/12 are elected by teachers of three years standing in the state, not lower in standard than secondary school,
- 1/3 are elected by the members of the legislative assembly of the state from amongst persons who are not members of the assembly, and
- the rest (1/6) are nominated by the governor from amongst persons who have special knowledge or practical experience of literature, science, art, cooperative movement, and social service.

39. (B) The Speaker in a State Assembly

The Speaker has the following powers and duties:

- He maintains order and decorum in the assembly for conducting its business and regulating its proceedings. This is his primary responsibility and he has final power in this regard.
- He is the final interpreter of the provisions of (a) the Constitution of India, (b) the rules of procedure and conduct of business of the assembly, and (c) the legislative precedents, within the assembly.
- He adjourns the assembly or suspends the meeting in the absence of a quorum.
- He does not vote in the first instance. But he can exercise a casting vote in the case of a tie.
- He can allow a 'secret' sitting of the House at the request of the leader of the House.
- He decides whether a bill is a Money Bill or not and his decision on this question is final.
- He decides the questions of disqualification of a member of the assembly, arising on the ground of defection under the provisions of the Tenth Schedule.
- He appoints the chairmen of all the committees of the assembly and supervises their functioning. He himself is the chairman of the Business Advisory Committee, the Rules Committee and the General-Purpose Committee.

40. (B) Deputy Speaker of Assembly

Like the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker is also elected by the assembly itself from amongst its members. He is elected after the election of the Speaker has taken place.

However, he also vacates his office earlier in any of the following three cases:

- if he ceases to be a member of the assembly;
- if he resigns by writing to the speaker; and
- if he is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the assembly. Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days' advance notice.

41. (A) Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Council

- Even though both the council and the Rajya Sabha are second chambers, the Constitution has given the council much lesser importance than the Rajya Sabha due to the following reasons:
- The Rajya Sabha consists of the representatives of the states and thus reflect the federal element of the polity. Therefore, it has to be an effective revising body and not just an advisory body or dilatory body like that of the council. On the other hand, the issue of federal significance does not arise in the case of a council.
- The council is heterogeneously constituted. It represents different interests and some nominated members (1/6 of the total). Its very composition makes its position weak and reduces its utility as an effective revising body. On the other hand, the Rajya Sabha is homogeneously constituted.
- It represents only the states and consists of mainly elected members (only 12 out of 250 are nominated).
- The council should yield to the assembly, which is a popular house.
- Thus, the Rajya Sabha is a second chamber while the Council is a secondary chamber.

42. (B) Bills in State Legislative Assembly

The position with respect to lapsing of bills on the dissolution of the assembly is mentioned below:

- A Bill pending in the assembly lapses (whether originating in the assembly or transmitted to it by the council)
- A Bill passed by the assembly but pending in the council lapses.
- A Bill pending in the council but not passed by the assembly does not lapse.
- A Bill passed by the assembly (in a unicameral state) or passed by both the houses (in a bicameral state) but pending assent of the governor or the President does not lapse.
- Bill passed by the assembly (in a unicameral state) or passed by both the Houses (in a bicameral state) but returned by the president for reconsideration of Houses does not lapse."

43. (C) Structure of Legislative Council

- The maximum Strength of the Legislative Council is fixed at one-third of the total strength of the Assembly.
- The minimum strength is fixed at 40. Though the Constitution has fixed the maximum and the minimum limits, the actual strength of a Council is fixed by Parliament.

44. (A) Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Council

- Like Rajya Sabha, the legislative council is a continuing chamber, that is, it is a permanent body and is not subject to dissolution. But, one-third of its members retire on the expiration of every second year. So, a member continues as such for six years.
- The retiring members are also eligible for re-election and re-nomination any number of times.

45. (B) Disqualification of MLAs

- All the questions regarding disqualification of Members of state legislature are decided by the Governor in consultation with the Election Commission of India.
- Speaker has the power to decide questions of disqualification only under the Tenth schedule i.e., Anti- defection law.

46. (B) Comparison between State Legislative

- Assembly and Legislative Council regarding ordinary bill Ordinary Bill can be introduced in any house of both the Union and State Legislature.
- When a bill is passed by the legislative assembly and transmitted to the legislative council, the latter has four alternatives before it:
 - it may pass the bill as sent by the assembly (i.e., without amendments);
 - it may pass the bill with amendments and return it to the assembly for reconsideration;
 - it may reject the bill altogether; and
 - it may not take any action and thus keep the bill pending.
- If the council passes the bill without amendments or the assembly accepts the amendments suggested by the council, the bill is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses and the same is sent to the governor for his assent.
- On the other hand, if the assembly rejects the amendments suggested by the council or the council rejects the bill altogether or the council does not take any action for three months, then the assembly may pass the bill again and transmit the same to the council.
- If the council rejects the bill again or passes the bill with amendments not acceptable to the assembly or does not pass the bill within one month, then the bill is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses in the form in which it was passed by the assembly for the second time.
- When a bill, which has originated in the council and was sent to the assembly, is rejected by the assembly, the bill ends and becomes dead.
- Therefore, the ultimate power of passing an ordinary bill is vested in the assembly. At the most, the council can detain or delay the bill for a period of four months—three months in the first instance and one month in the second instance.
- Unlike parliament, there is not any provision for the joint sitting over ordinary bills in the State Legislature.

47. (A) Comparison between Parliament and State Legislature

- At Union level, a money bill can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha and at the state level a money Bill can be introduced only in the state Legislative assembly.
- As in the Parliament, it is sent to the upper house of the State Legislature and the time limit within which a money bill should be returned with or without recommendation by Upper Houses both in case of Parliament and state Legislature is 14 days.
- There is no provision of Joint sitting in case of disagreement over money bill both in case of Parliament and state Legislature.

48. (D) Comparison between State Legislative

- Council and Legislative Assembly State Legislature do not enjoy the privilege to introduce a Constitutional Amendment Bill.
- As per Article 368, a Constitutional Amendment bill which requires ratification from the states needs approval only from Legislative Assembly and that too by a simple majority.
- There is no power to the Legislative Council in case of abolishing the Council itself. The resolution to abolish the Council has to be passed by the legislative Assembly only with a special majority.

49. (D) Legislation in a State Legislative Assembly

After passing, the ordinary bill goes to Governor for assent. Here 4 courses of action arise for the Bill:

- The Governor gives assent to bill and it becomes an act
- Governor withholds the assent
- Governor returns the bill, but there is no time limit specified in the Constitution for this.
- Reserve the bill for consideration of the President.

50. (B) Quorum in a State Assembly

- Quorum is the minimum number of members required to be present in the House before it can transact any business.
- It is ten members or one-tenth of the total number of members of the House (including the presiding officer), whichever is greater.

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