



TELEGRAM-UPSC PRELIMS WITH NEELESH



Q1. A

### Fundamental Identity of a People

- **Role of Constitution:**
  - ✓ A constitution establishes the fundamental identity of a people as a collective entity.
  - ✓ It is through agreement on basic governance norms and authority that collective identity is formed.
- **Pre-Constitution Identities:**
  - ✓ Individuals may have various identities before the constitution, but the constitution provides two key identities:
- **Political Identity:**
  - Agreement on basic norms and principles shapes collective political identity.
- **Moral Identity:**
  - Constitutional norms define values and set constraints on individual actions, creating a shared moral framework.

Q2. A

### Article 22: Protection for Arrested or Detained Persons

- **Types of Detention:**
  - ✓ **Punitive Detention:**
    - Detention after trial and conviction for a committed offence.
  - ✓ **Preventive Detention:**
    - Detention without trial to prevent potential offences.
- **Two Parts of Article 22:**
  - ✓ **Ordinary Law:**
    - Right to be released within 24 hours unless further detention is authorized by a magistrate.
  - ✓ **Preventive Detention Law:**
    - Protections for preventive detention apply to both citizens and aliens.
- **Key Protections under Preventive Detention:**
  - ✓ Detention cannot exceed **3 months** without approval from an **advisory board** (consisting of high court judges).
  - ✓ Grounds for detention must be communicated to the detenu, except when disclosure is against public interest.
  - ✓ Detenu has the right to **make a representation** against the detention order.

Q3. C

### Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)

- **Nature:**
  - Non-justiciable; not legally enforceable by courts for their violation.
  - Governed by **Article 37**, which mandates the State to apply these principles in law-making.
- **Role in Governance:**
  - Fundamental to the governance of the country.

- Assist courts in evaluating the **constitutional validity of laws**.

- **Judicial Perspective:**

- Laws aiming to implement DPSPs may be deemed **reasonable** under **Article 14** (equality) or **Article 19** (freedoms), protecting them from being declared unconstitutional.

Q4. C

### Constitutionalism

- **Definition:**
  - A concept where the government's authority is derived from and limited by a fundamental body of law (the Constitution).
- **Key Features:**
  - Ensures **rule of law**, **separation of powers**, and **protection of individual rights**.
  - Government actions are constrained by established legal norms and principles.

Q5. B

### Operation Amrith (Kerala)

- **Launch:** January 2024 by Kerala Drug Control Department.
- **Objective:**
  - Prevent the overuse of antibiotics to combat **Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)**.
  - Conduct surprise raids on retail medical shops to detect **Over-The-Counter (OTC)** sale of antibiotics.

Q6. C

### Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs)

- **Supplementary to Fundamental Rights:**
  - Bridge the gap in Part III by focusing on **social and economic rights**.
- **Significance:**
  - Ensure the realization of **economic democracy**, complementing **political democracy**.
  - Foster both **social** and **economic democracy** for holistic governance.

Q7. C

### National Commission for STs

- **Formation:**
  - Created by the **89th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003**, bifurcating the earlier combined National Commission for SCs and STs.
  - Came into existence in **2004**.
- **Composition:**
  - Includes a **Chairperson**, a **Vice-Chairperson**, and **three members**.
  - Appointed by the **President** under his warrant and seal.
  - Service conditions and tenure are determined by the President.
- **Functions and Powers:**

- Submits **annual and special reports** to the President, who places them before Parliament with an action-taken memorandum.
- Empowered to regulate its **own procedure**.
- Possesses powers of a **civil court** for investigations and inquiries.

Q8. B

#### Socialist and Gandhian Principles in DPSPs

##### Socialist Principles

- **Welfare of the People** (Article 38):
  - Promote a just social, economic, and political order.
  - Minimize income and opportunity inequalities.
- **Economic Justice** (Article 39):
  - Adequate livelihood for all citizens.
  - Equitable resource distribution and prevention of wealth concentration.
  - Equal pay for equal work (men and women).
  - Protect health and strength of workers and children.
  - Healthy development opportunities for children.
- **Legal Aid** (Article 39A):
  - Promote equal justice and provide free legal aid to the poor.
- **Right to Work, Education, and Public Assistance** (Article 41):
  - Ensure assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness, and disability.
- **Worker Welfare:**
  - **Just and Humane Work Conditions & Maternity Relief** (Article 42).
  - **Living Wage and Decent Life** (Article 43).
  - **Worker Participation in Industrial Management** (Article 43A).
- **Public Health** (Article 47):
  - Raise nutrition levels, improve living standards, and promote public health.

Q9. B

#### Amendments and Changes in DPSPs

##### 42nd Amendment (1976)

- **Added:**
  - **Article 39:** Opportunities for the healthy development of children.
  - **Article 39A:** Equal justice and free legal aid.
  - **Article 43A:** Workers' participation in industrial management.
  - **Article 48A:** Protection and improvement of the environment and wildlife.

Q10. A

#### Article 3 and Formation of New States

##### Parliament's Powers under Article 3:

- Form a new state by:
  - Separating territory from a state.

- Uniting two or more states or parts of states.
- Adding a territory to an existing state.
- Alter state boundaries, area, or name.
  -

Q11. D

#### Himalayan Wolves

- **Habitat:**
  - Found in high-altitude areas across the Himalayas, including **India, Nepal, and Tibet**.
  - In India, present in **Uttarakhand** and **Sikkim**.
- **Conservation Status:**
  - Listed as **Vulnerable** on the **IUCN Red List** (as of June 27, 2023).

Q12. C

#### Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

- **Establishment:**
  - Set up in **1963** by a resolution.
  - Merged with the **Special Police Establishment** (1941), which handled vigilance cases.
  - Functions under the **Department of Personnel, Ministry of Personnel, Pension & Public Grievances**.
  - Derives powers from the **Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946**.
- **Role and Functions:**
  - The **Santhanam Committee** (1962-64) recommended its establishment.
  - Main **investigating agency** of the Central Government.
  - Plays a crucial role in **preventing corruption** and maintaining integrity in administration.
  - Provides assistance to **Central Vigilance Commission** and **Lokpal**.

Q13. B

#### Akash-NG Missile

- **Successful Flight-Test:**
  - Conducted by **DRDO** on **January 12, 2024**, from **Integrated Test Range (ITR)**, Odisha.
- **Upgraded Features:**
  - **Weight:** Reduced to **350 kg** (half the original Akash missile weight).
  - **Altitude Ceiling:** Over **20 km**, higher than the original Akash's limit.
  - **Range:** Extended beyond **25 km**.
  - **Motor:** Replaces the ramjet with a **two-pulse, solid rocket motor**.

Q14. B

#### Disaster Management Act, 2005

- **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA):**
  - **Established** after the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.
  - **Chairperson:** Prime Minister of India (ex-officio).
- **State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA):**



- Each state must establish an SDMA.
- **Chairperson:** Chief Minister of the state (ex-officio).
- **Members:** Up to 9.

#### NITI Aayog Composition

- **Chairperson:** Prime Minister of India (ex-officio).
- **Governing Council:** Includes Chief Ministers of all States, Chief Ministers of Union Territories with Legislatures (Delhi, Puducherry, Jammu & Kashmir), and Lt. Governors of other Union Territories.

#### Q15. A

#### Dispute Between Fundamental Rights (FRs) and Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs):

1. **Champakam Dorairajan Case (1951):**
  - Supreme Court ruled that in case of conflict, FRs prevail over DPSPs.
  - FRs are primary; DPSPs are subsidiary.
  - FRs can be amended by Parliament through constitutional amendments.
2. **Golak Nath Case (1967):**
  - Court held FRs are "sacrosanct" and cannot be abridged for implementing DPSPs.
  - Led to 24th and 25th Amendments, inserting Article 31C to protect certain DPSPs.
3. **Kesavananda Bharti Case (1973):**
  - Supreme Court struck down the second provision of Article 31C, stating judicial review is a basic feature.
  - Led to the 42nd Amendment, giving legal primacy to DPSPs over FRs (except Articles 14, 19, and 21).
4. **Minerva Mills Case (1980):**
  - Court ruled DPSPs cannot override FRs.
  - FRs (Article 14 and 19) are subordinate only to specific DPSPs under Articles 39(b) and 39(c).
5. **Current Position:**
  - FRs have supremacy over DPSPs.
  - Parliament can amend FRs to implement DPSPs, but must not violate the basic structure of the Constitution.
6. **Maneka Gandhi Case (1980):**
  - Supreme Court replaced "procedure prescribed by law" with "due process of law" under Article 21.
7. **IR Coelho Case (2007):**
  - Supreme Court ruled laws inserted into the Ninth Schedule after 1973 cannot be exempt from judicial review.

#### Q16. A

#### President's Rule (Article 356):

- **Article 355:** Imposes a duty on the Centre to ensure that state governments function in accordance with the Constitution.
- **President's Rule (Article 356):** Imposed when the state government fails to adhere to the Constitution.

#### Extraordinary Powers under President's Rule:

1. The President can take over the functions of the state government, including those of the governor and other authorities.
2. The President can declare that state legislature powers are exercised by Parliament.
3. The President can suspend provisions relating to bodies or authorities in the state.

#### Impact of President's Rule:

- **Dismissal of State Government:** The President dismisses the state council of ministers and the Chief Minister.
- **State Legislature:** The state assembly is either suspended or dissolved. Parliament handles state legislative functions and passes the state budget.
- Fundamental Rights of citizens remain unaffected.
- The President cannot assume the powers of the state high court, and its constitutional status remains unchanged during President's Rule.

#### Q17. A

#### President's Assent to Constitutional Amendment Bill:

- The President **must** give assent to the bill; he cannot:
  - **Withhold** assent.
  - **Return** the bill for reconsideration by Parliament.
- **Constitutional Amendment:** Under the **24th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1971**, the President is required to give assent to a constitutional amendment bill.

#### Q18. D

- None
- **Kesavananda Bharati Case (1973):** Supreme Court upheld the 24th Amendment and introduced the '**Basic Structure Doctrine**', ruling that Parliament can amend Fundamental Rights, but cannot alter the **basic structure** of the Constitution.
- **Current Position:** Parliament can amend any part of the Constitution, including Fundamental Rights, but not in a way that alters the basic structure. The scope of "basic structure" is yet to be fully defined by the Supreme Court.

#### Q19. D

#### National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs)

- **Constitutional Body:** Established by **Article 338** of the Constitution.
- **Functions:**
  - Investigate and monitor safeguards for SCs.
  - Inquire into complaints regarding deprivation of rights and safeguards for SCs.
  - Advise on planning for SCs' socio-economic development and evaluate progress.
  - Present annual reports to the President on the working of these safeguards.
- **Reporting:**
  - The President places the Commission's reports before Parliament with a memorandum on actions taken.

- **Anglo-Indian Community:** Commission performs similar functions for the Anglo-Indian community.

Q20. B

#### Charter Act of 1853

- **Significance:** Last in the series of Charter Acts (1793–1853), marking a major constitutional change.
- **Key Features:**
  - ✓ **Separation of Legislative and Executive Functions:**
    - First time separation of legislative and executive functions of the Governor-General's council.
    - Establishment of a separate **Indian (Central) Legislative Council** with six new members (legislative councillors).
    - This council functioned as a mini-parliament, following British parliamentary procedures.
    - **Local representation:** Four members appointed by provincial governments (Madras, Bombay, Bengal, Agra).
  - ✓ **Open Competition System for Civil Servants:**
    - Civil service opened to Indians.
    - Introduction of open competition for recruitment of civil servants.
    - **Macaulay Committee** appointed in 1854 for reforms.
  - ✓ **Extension of Company's Rule:**
    - Company retained Indian territories on trust for the British Crown with no specified period for termination of its rule.

Q21. A

#### Dr. Ambedkar's View on Liberty and Equality

- **Quote:** "Without equality, liberty would produce the supremacy of the few over the many."

Q22. B

#### Operation Prosperity Guardian

- **Initiative:** Announced by US Secretary of State Lloyd Austin to enhance maritime security in the Red Sea.
- **Context:**
  - Prompted by recent attacks by Houthi rebels on ships passing through the Red Sea, a vital trade route between the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean.

Q23. B

#### Amendment of the Indian Constitution (Article 368)

- **Role of State Legislatures:**
  - **Federal Provisions:** Require the consent of half the states, with a simple majority in the state assemblies.
  - **Legislative Councils:** Have no role in the ratification of constitutional amendments; only state assemblies participate.
- **President's Role:**
  - The President must give assent to the bill after it is passed by Parliament and ratified by states.

- The President cannot withhold assent or return the bill for reconsideration (24th Amendment Act).

Q24. B

#### Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)

- **Composition:**
  - A multi-member body consisting of the **Central Vigilance Commissioner** (Chairperson) and **up to two vigilance commissioners**.
  - Appointed by the **President** on the recommendation of a **three-member committee:**
    - Prime Minister (head)
    - Union Minister of Home Affairs
    - Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha.
- **Tenure:**
  - **Four years** or until the age of **65 years**, whichever is earlier.
  - Not eligible for further employment under the Central or State Government after tenure.
- **Removal Grounds:**
  - **Insolvency or conviction** involving moral turpitude.
  - Engagement in **paid employment outside official duties**.
  - **Infirmity** of mind or body.
  - Acquisition of **financial or other interests** that affect official functions.
  - **Proven misbehaviour or incapacity:** If so, the President must refer the matter to the **Supreme Court** for an inquiry. If the Supreme Court upholds the removal, the President can act on it.

Q25. A

#### Impact of National Emergency on Centre-State Relations

- **Executive:**
  - During a national emergency, the **Centre's executive power** extends to directing states on how to exercise their executive power.
  - In normal times, the Centre can direct states only on specified matters, but during an emergency, it can give directions on **any matter**.
- **Legislative:**
  - Parliament gains the power to legislate on **any subject in the State List**.
  - Although state legislatures remain functional, their power is **overridden** by Parliament during a national emergency.
- **Financial:**
  - The **President** can modify the distribution of revenues between the Centre and states,

allowing the Centre to **reduce or cancel** financial transfers to states.

Q26. D

### Role of CAG in Auditing Public Corporations

#### 1. Direct Audit by CAG:

- Some corporations are **totally audited** by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG).
- Examples: **Damodar Valley Corporation, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).**

Q27. B

### Territorial Changes in India

#### 1. Goa, Daman, and Diu (1961-1987):

- 1961:** India acquired **Goa, Daman, and Diu** from Portugal through police action.
- 1962:** Constituted as a union territory by the **12th Constitutional Amendment Act.**
- 1987:** Goa became a full-fledged state, and **Daman and Diu** became a separate union territory.

#### 2. Nagaland (1963):

- 1963:** **Nagaland** was formed by carving out Naga Hills and Tuensang area from **Assam** to address the Naga movement.
- Nagaland was initially under the control of the Governor of Assam (1961).

#### 3. Punjab and Haryana (1966):

- 1966:** **Punjab** was bifurcated to create **Haryana** and the union territory of **Chandigarh.**
- Shah Commission** recommendations led to the reorganization based on linguistic demands.

#### 4. Sikkim (1975):

- 1947:** Sikkim became an **Indian protectorate** after the lapse of British paramountcy.
- 1974:** Sikkim sought closer ties with India.
- 1975:** **Sikkim** became the **22nd state** of India through the **36th Constitutional Amendment Act.**

Q28. D

### Linguistic States and the States Reorganisation Commission

#### 1. Andhra State (1953):

- October 1953:** **Andhra State** created by separating Telugu-speaking areas from **Madras** after a popular agitation and the death of **Potti Sriramulu** following a 56-day hunger strike.
- Incorrect Statement:** The creation of Andhra State did not solely mark the first linguistic state but followed significant public pressure.

#### 2. States Reorganisation Commission (1953):

- Appointed in **December 1953** under **Fazl Ali** to reconsider state boundaries.

- Commission also included **K.M. Panikkar** and **H.N. Kunzru.**
- Report (1955):** Accepted language as a factor but rejected the idea of "one language-one state."
- Emphasized the **unity of India** as the primary goal.

Q29. C

### Functions of the Constituent Assembly:

#### 1. Ratified Membership of the Commonwealth:

- In **May 1949**, the Constituent Assembly ratified India's membership in the Commonwealth.

#### 2. Adopted National Symbols:

- National Flag:** Adopted on **July 22, 1947.**
- National Anthem:** Adopted on **January 24, 1950.**
- National Song:** Adopted on **January 24, 1950.**
- First President:** Elected **Dr. Rajendra Prasad** as the first President of India on **January 24, 1950.**

### Changes in the Constituent Assembly (Indian Independence Act, 1947):

#### 1. Sovereignty:

- The Assembly became fully sovereign and could make or alter any law, including those made by the British Parliament.

#### 2. Legislative Function:

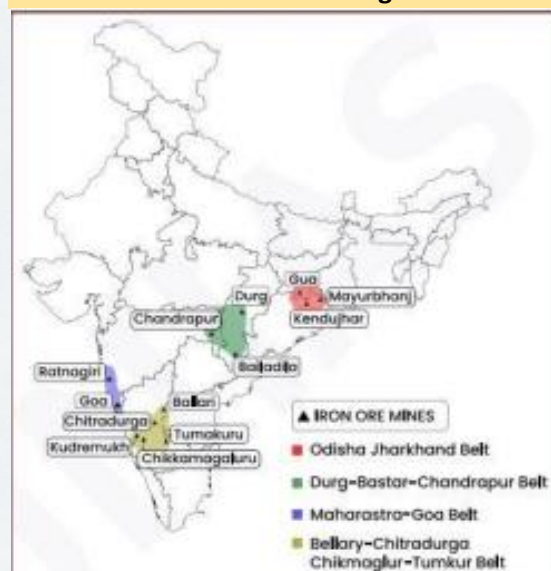
- It became a **legislative body** and performed both the functions of framing the Constitution and enacting laws. This made it the **first Parliament of independent India** (Dominion Legislature).

#### 3. Withdrawal of Muslim League Members:

- The Muslim League members from areas that became Pakistan withdrew, reducing the Assembly's strength to **299** from the original **389.**

Q30. C

### Iron Ore Mining in India:





Q31. B

#### Right Against Exploitation:

- **Article 23:** Prohibits:
  - **Traffic in human beings**
  - **Begar (forced labour)**
  - Other forms of **forced labour**.
- **Article 24:** Prohibits:
  - Employment of **children below 14 years** in factories, mines, or hazardous activities like construction and railways.
- **Protection against arrest and detention:**
  - **Article 22** provides protection under the **Right to Freedom** (Articles 19-22).

Q32. A

#### White Goods:

- **Definition:** Heavy consumer durables or large home appliances, traditionally available in white.
  - **Examples:** Washing machines, air conditioners.

Q33. D

#### Supreme Court Rulings on Cession of Territory:

- **Article 3:** Parliament can diminish a state's area, but cannot cede Indian territory to a foreign country.
  - **Amendment Required:** Cession of territory to a foreign state needs a constitutional amendment (Article 368).
  - **Example:** 9th Constitutional Amendment Act (1960) transferred territory to Pakistan.
- **Boundary Disputes:** The Supreme Court ruled in 1969 that settling a boundary dispute with another country does not require a constitutional amendment and can be done via executive action, as it doesn't involve ceding territory.

Q34. A

#### Writs in the Indian Constitution:

1. **Habeas Corpus:**
  - Can be issued against public authorities and private individuals.
  - **Not issued if:**
    - Detention is lawful.
    - The proceeding is for contempt of legislature or court.
    - Detention is by a competent court.
    - Detention is outside the jurisdiction of the court.
2. **Prohibition:**
  - Issued only against judicial and quasi-judicial authorities.
  - **Not available** against administrative authorities, legislative bodies, or private individuals.
3. **Quo-Warranto:**
  - Can be sought by any interested person.
  - Issued only for a substantive public office created by statute or the Constitution.
  - **Not issued** for ministerial or private offices.

Q35. B

#### Federal System with Unitary Bias in India:

##### Federal Features:

1. **Dual Polity:** Union & states with separate sovereign powers.
2. **Written Constitution:** Defines structure, powers, and functions.
3. **Division of Powers:** Union List, State List, Concurrent List.
4. **Supremacy of Constitution:** Laws at both levels comply, subject to judicial review.
5. **Rigid Constitution:** Requires special majority to amend federal provisions.
6. **Independent Judiciary:** Settles disputes between Union and states.
7. **Bicameralism:** Rajya Sabha represents states.

Q36. B

#### Ways to Lose Indian Citizenship (Citizenship Act, 1955):

1. **By Renunciation:**
  - A citizen of full age can renounce Indian citizenship via a declaration.
  - Registration of the declaration is withheld during a war.
  - Minor children lose citizenship upon renunciation, but can resume it once they turn 18.
2. **By Termination:**
  - Indian citizenship automatically terminates if a citizen voluntarily acquires another country's citizenship.
  - Does not apply during a war involving India.
3. **By Deprivation:**
  - Compulsory termination by the Central Government if:
    - Citizenship was obtained by fraud.
    - Disloyalty to the Constitution.
    - Unlawful trade or communication with the enemy during war.
    - Imprisonment abroad for two years within five years of registration/naturalisation.
    - Resident outside India for seven continuous years.

Q37. B

#### Preamble of the Constitution:

- **Sovereign & Democratic:** These were part of the original Preamble adopted by the Constituent Assembly.
- **Socialist & Secular:** Added by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976.
- **Integrity:** Also added by the 42nd Amendment to emphasize national unity.

Q38. D

#### Bubble Baby Syndrome (Severe Combined Immunodeficiency - SCID):

- **Description:** A rare genetic disorder causing life-threatening immune system problems. Affected babies have a severely compromised immune system, making normal environments potentially fatal.
- **Nickname:** "Living in the bubble" refers to the need for a sterile environment to protect infants from infections.
- **Treatment:** Stem cell or bone marrow transplant is the most common treatment, aiming to rebuild the immune system.
- **Cause:** Mutations in genes responsible for immune cell development and functioning.
- **Survival:** Without treatment, survival past the first year is unlikely.

Q39. A

#### Freedom of Religion (Articles 25-28):

- **Freedom of Conscience:** Includes the right to choose any religion or none at all (Statement 1 is correct).
- **Right to Practice and Propagate:** Includes the right to practice and spread one's religion, but **forceful conversions or inducements are prohibited** (Statement 2 is not correct).
- **Applicability:** Available to both Indian citizens and foreign nationals residing in India.

Q40. C

#### Fundamental Rights and Duties:

- **Fundamental Rights:** Originally included in the Constitution, but **fundamental duties** were not part of the original text.
- **Fundamental Duties:** Added in 1976, recognizing the correlation between citizens' rights and duties.
- **86th Constitutional Amendment Act (2002):**
  - **Right to Education:** Article 21A made education a fundamental right for children aged 6-14 years.
  - **New Duty:** Added a fundamental duty for parents to provide education to children aged 6-14 years.

Q41. A

#### Fundamental Rights in India:

- **Special Status:** Rights essential to life are given special protection under the Constitution.
- **Preamble:** Promises equality, liberty, and justice for all citizens.
- **Significance:** Fundamental Rights are a key feature of India's Constitution, ensuring basic freedoms and protections.

Q42. A

#### Urea Gold:

- **Context:** Approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) to promote Environmentally Friendly Fertilizers (EFFs).
- **Type:** Sulphur-Coated Urea (SCU) – a slow-release, non-organic fertilizer.
- **Preparation:** Urea granules coated with molten sulfur for gradual nitrogen release.

- **Benefits:**
  - Prolongs urea action, keeping plants greener longer.
  - Increases efficiency, reducing the need for frequent fertilizer applications.
  - Enhances soil health and reduces urea consumption by 25% (according to ICAR).
- **Environmental Impact:** Reduces pollution by controlling nutrient release.
- **Other EFFs:** Include organic fertilizers like Biocompost and Vermicompost.

Q43. C

#### Financial Intelligence Unit India (FIU IND):

- **Establishment:** Set up by the Government of India on 18th November 2004.
- **Function:**
  - Central agency for receiving, processing, analyzing, and disseminating information on suspicious financial transactions.
  - Operates under the Department of Revenue, Government of India.
- **Role:**
  - Coordinates national and international efforts to combat money laundering and related crimes.
  - Reports directly to the Economic Intelligence Council (EIC), headed by the Finance Minister.

Q44. A

#### Election Commission of India:

- **Establishment:** Permanent and independent body established by the Constitution of India to ensure free and fair elections.
- **Article 324:**
  - Gives the Election Commission power over the superintendence, direction, and control of elections for Parliament, state legislatures, President, and Vice-President.

#### Provisions to Ensure Independence:

1. **Chief Election Commissioner (CEC):**
  - **Security of Tenure:** CEC cannot be removed except in the same manner as a Supreme Court judge, i.e., through a resolution passed by both Houses of Parliament with a special majority for proven misbehavior or incapacity.
  - **Service Conditions:** The conditions cannot be changed to his disadvantage after appointment.
2. **Other Commissioners:** Can only be removed based on the recommendation of the CEC.

#### Flaws:

- **Qualifications:** The Constitution does not specify the qualifications of Election Commission members.
- **Term:** The term of Election Commission members is not defined.



- **Post-Retirement Appointments:** No restrictions on the appointment of retiring election commissioners by the government.

Q45. B

#### World Economic Situation and Prospects 2024

- **Context:** Indian economy projected to grow at 6.2% in 2024, outperforming peers.
- **Published by:** United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).

#### Key Findings related to India:

- **Growth Forecast:** Revised GDP growth for India in 2024 is 6.2%, down from 6.7%.
- **Fastest-Growing Economy:** India remains the fastest-growing large economy globally.
- **Investment:** Strong investment in South Asia, especially in India, continued in 2023.
- **Manufacturing Hub:** India is viewed as a key alternative manufacturing base.
- **FDI:** In 2022, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows to India rose by 10%, making it the third-largest host country for greenfield projects.

Q46. A

#### S K Dhar Commission (1948)

- **Recommendation:** States should be reorganized based on administrative convenience, not linguistic factors.

#### JVP Committee (1948-1949)

- **Recommendation:** Rejected language as the basis for state reorganization.

#### Fazl Ali Commission (1953-1955)

- **Recommendation:** Accepted language as the basis for reorganization, but rejected 'one language-one state' theory. Suggested creation of 16 states and 3 union territories.

#### States Reorganisation Act (1956)

- **Outcome:**
  - Accepted Fazl Ali Commission's recommendations with minor modifications.
  - Abolished distinctions between Part A, B, and C states.
  - Created 14 states and 6 union territories, effective November 1, 1956.

Q47. C

#### Article 14 of the Indian Constitution - Equality Before Law and Equal Protection of Laws

- **Equality Before Law:**
  - Originates from British law.
  - No special privileges for any person.
  - All persons are equally subject to the ordinary law of the land.
  - No one is above the law (rich or poor, high or low).
- **Equal Protection of Laws:**
  - Originates from the American Constitution.
  - Equal treatment under similar circumstances.

- Laws should apply similarly to all persons in similar situations.
- Positive concept of equality, ensuring equal opportunities and justice.

#### Key Points:

- **Equality before law** is a **negative concept**, while **equal protection** is a **positive concept**.
- Both aim for equality of legal status and justice.
- Supreme Court: Differentiation is allowed if based on intelligible and substantial distinctions.
- Article 14 prohibits class legislation but allows reasonable classification (not arbitrary).

Q48. B

#### Attorney General for India (Article 76)

- **Position:** The highest law officer in India.
- **Right of Audience:** Can appear in all courts in India while performing official duties.
  - **Statement 1:** Correct.
- **Parliamentary Rights:**
  - Can speak and participate in both Houses of Parliament and their committees (if named a member).
  - Cannot vote.
  - Enjoys privileges and immunities of Parliament members.
  - **Statement 3:** Incorrect, **Statement 4:** Correct.
- **Private Practice:** Not a full-time government counsel; can engage in private legal practice.
  - Does not fall under government servants.

Q49. A

#### National Emergency (Article 352)

- **Grounds for Proclamation:**
  - **War, external aggression, or armed rebellion.**
  - The President can declare an emergency even before actual occurrence if there's **imminent danger**.
  - **Statement 1:** Incorrect (internal disturbance replaced with armed rebellion by the 44th Amendment, 1978).
- **Cabinet Approval:**
  - Emergency declaration requires a **written recommendation from the Cabinet**, not just the Prime Minister.
  - **Statement 2:** Correct.
- **Parliamentary Approval:**
  - Must be approved by both Houses of Parliament within **one month** (reduced from two months by the 44th Amendment, 1978).
  - **Statement 3:** Incorrect.
- **Revocation of Emergency:**

- The President can revoke it by a subsequent proclamation without Parliamentary approval.
- If the Lok Sabha passes a resolution disapproving, the President must revoke the emergency.
- **44th Amendment (1978)** added this safeguard, giving Lok Sabha control over continuation.

Q50. C

#### Right to Freedom (Fundamental Rights)

- **Farmer starts a business:**
  - Exercise of **Right to practice any profession, trade, or business.**
- **Person moves to Maharashtra:**
  - Exercise of **Right to move freely and reside anywhere in India.**
- **Person refuses to believe in religion:**
  - Exercise of **Right to Freedom of Religion.**
- **Person inherits property:**
  - **Not a fundamental right.**

Q51. C

#### Constitutional Provisions and Their Sources

1. **British Constitution:**
  - Parliamentary Government, Rule of Law, Legislative Procedure, Single Citizenship, Cabinet System, Prerogative Writs, Parliamentary Privileges, Bicameralism.
2. **Irish Constitution:**
  - Directive Principles of State Policy, Nomination of Rajya Sabha Members, Method of Presidential Election.
3. **Canadian Constitution:**
  - Federation with a Strong Centre, Residuary Powers with Centre, Appointment of State Governors, Advisory Jurisdiction of Supreme Court.
4. **Weimar Constitution (Germany):**
  - Suspension of Fundamental Rights during Emergency.
5. **French Constitution:**
  - Republic Ideals of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity in the Preamble.

Q52. A

#### Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993

- **State Human Rights Commission:**
  - Can inquire into violations of human rights on subjects in the **State List (List-II)** and **Concurrent List (List-III)**.
  - Cannot inquire into cases already under investigation by the National Human Rights Commission or other statutory bodies.
  - **Statement 2:** Incorrect.
- **Term of Chairperson and Members:**
  - Serve for **3 years or until 70 years of age**, whichever is earlier.

- Eligible for **re-appointment** but **not eligible for further government employment** after tenure.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect.
- **Powers of the Commission:**
  - Can regulate its own procedure.
  - Has powers equivalent to a **civil court**.
  - Can call for reports/information from state governments or other authorities.

Q53. B

#### Kesavananda Bharati Case (1973) and the Basic Structure Doctrine

- **Basic Structure Theory:**
  - **Limits on Parliament's Power:** No amendment can violate the **basic structure** of the Constitution.
  - **Parliamentary Power:** Parliament can amend any part of the Constitution within these limits.
  - **Statement 1:** Correct.
- **Judiciary's Role:**
  - The Judiciary is the **final authority** in deciding what constitutes the basic structure and if an amendment violates it.
  - **Statement 2:** Correct.

Q54. B

#### Finance Commission

- **Qualifications and Selection:**
  - The **Parliament** determines the qualifications and selection process.

Q55. B

#### Fundamental Duties (Article 51-A)

- **Insertion:** Added by the **42nd Amendment Act, 1976**.
- **Recommendation:** Based on the **Swaran Singh Committee** report.
- **Original Number:** 10 duties initially.
- **Expansion:** **1 more duty added** through the **86th Amendment Act, 2002**, making it **11 duties**.
- **Location:** Listed in **Article 51-A** (Part IV-A of the Constitution).

Q56. A

#### Amendment of the Constitution (Article 368)

- **Initiation:**
  - Can be initiated by introducing a bill in either House of Parliament (not in state legislatures).
- **Special Majority:**
  - The bill must be passed by a **special majority** in both Houses:
    - Majority of the total membership.
    - Majority of two-thirds of members present and voting.
- **Federal Provisions:**
  - If the bill seeks to amend **federal provisions**, it must be **ratified by half of the state legislatures** by a **simple majority**.

- **Statement 2:** Incorrect.
- **Amendments by Simple Majority:**
  - Several provisions can be amended by a **simple majority** of Parliament, including:
    - Admission/establishment of new states.
    - Formation of new states or alteration of state boundaries/names.
    - Abolition/creation of state legislative councils.

Q57. C

#### Short Selling

- **Definition:**
  - **Short selling** involves selling a stock not owned at the time of trade.
- **SEBI Regulations:**
  - SEBI allows short selling for both retail and institutional investors.
  - Investors must deliver securities during settlement.

Q58. B

**Constitution Amendment Procedure (Article 368): Static portion**

Q59. A

#### Direct-to-Mobile (D2M) Technology

- **Definition:** D2M is a broadcasting technology that allows smartphones to receive multimedia content without needing an internet connection. It can stream live TV by capturing terrestrial television signals.
- **Limitations:**
  - The "D2M Broadcast 5G Broadband Convergence Roadmap for India" (2022) highlights that mobile devices do not yet support this technology due to the requirement of the **ATSC 3.0 standard**.
- **Technology Combination:**
  - D2M combines **broadband and broadcast**, enabling mobile phones to capture digital TV signals directly.
  - Multimedia content, including live TV, can be streamed to phones without the need for internet access.

Q60. A

**Charter Act of 1833: Static**

Q61. D

**Citizenship by Descent (Born Outside India): Static**

Q62. A

#### Citizenship by Inclusion of Territory

- If a foreign territory becomes part of India, the Government of India specifies which people of that territory will become citizens of India.

- These people become citizens of India from the notified date.
- The Government of India issues an order under the Citizenship Act, 1955, to specify the citizenship rules for the newly included territory.
- An example of this is the Citizenship (Pondicherry) Order, 1962, which granted citizenship to the people of Pondicherry when it became part of India.

Q63. B

**Pitt's India Act of 1784: static**

Q64. B

**Persons would be eligible to become the citizen of India on 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 1950: Static**

Q65. B

#### Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT)

- **International Project:** A joint venture involving India, Canada, China, Japan, and the USA.
- **Large Telescope:** Aims to build one of the most advanced large telescopes in the world.
- **High Resolution:** With a 30-meter prime mirror diameter, TMT will provide unparalleled resolution, 12 times sharper than Hubble Space Telescope.
- **Location Controversy:** The proposed site at Mauna Kea (Hawaii) is considered sacred to the island's indigenous people, leading to protests. India wants the site to be shifted.

Q66. D

**Parliamentary vs. Presidential Systems: Static**

Q67. A

#### Gandhian Principles in the Indian Constitution

- **Cottage Industries:** Promote cottage industries in rural areas (Article 43).

Q68. D

#### Persian Gulf:

- Countries surrounding the Persian Gulf: Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE.

Q69. B

#### National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

- **Statutory Body:** Established in 1993 under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- **Composition:**
  - Chairperson: Retired Chief Justice of India or a Judge of the Supreme Court.
  - Members:
    - Serving or retired Judge of the Supreme Court
    - Serving or retired Chief Justice of a High Court
    - Three persons with knowledge or practical experience in human rights (at least one should be a woman)



Q70. B

#### Kalaram Mandir

- **Location:** Panchavati area of Nashik, Maharashtra
- **Significance:**
  - Temple derives its name from a black statue of Rama
- It played a significant role in the Dalit movement led by B.R. Ambedkar.

Q71. B

#### Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act (2013): Static

Q72. D

#### India as a Union of States

- **Article 1:** Describes India as a "Union of States," not a "Federation of States."
- **Territory of India:** Includes three categories:
  - Territories of the States
  - Union Territories
  - Territories acquired by the Government of India
- **Union of India:** Refers only to the States.

#### Key Takeaways:

- India is a Union of States, not a Federation.
- The Territory of India is broader than the Union of India.
- The States are part of the federal system, while Union Territories are directly administered by the Centre.

Q73. C

#### Indian Constitution as a Living Document

- **Flexibility:** The primary reason is its inherent flexibility.
- **Amendments:** The Constitution allows for amendments to adapt to the changing needs and aspirations of the nation.
- **Relevance:** This adaptability ensures the Constitution remains relevant and responsive to the changing socio-political landscape.
- **Right to Constitutional Remedies:** While important for enforcing fundamental rights, it's not the primary reason for considering the Constitution a living document.

Q74. C

#### Reasonable Restrictions on Freedom of Speech and Expression (Article 19(2))

- **Conditions:** Reasonable restrictions can be imposed on the following grounds:
  - Sovereignty and integrity of India
  - Security of the State
  - Friendly relations with foreign States
  - Public order
  - Decency or morality
  - Contempt of court
  - Defamation

- Incitement to an offense

#### Examples:

- **Leaking classified material by an intelligence officer:** Can compromise the security of the state.
- **Giving a speech to take up arms:** Can disturb public order.
- **Speech hampering government stability in Lok Sabha:** Does not fall under any of the criteria for reasonable restriction.
- **Contempt of Court:** A valid ground for restriction.

Article 19(2) allows for reasonable restrictions on freedom of speech and expression to protect important interests of the State.

Q75. A

#### Constitution Amendment Procedure (Article 368)

- **Initiation:**
  - The amendment bill can only be introduced in **Parliament**, not state legislatures.
  - The bill can be introduced by either a **minister** or a **private member** without prior permission from the President.
- **Passing the Bill:**
  - The bill must be passed by **special majority** in both Houses of Parliament:
    - Majority of the **total membership** of the House.
    - **Two-thirds majority** of members present and voting.

Q76. A

#### Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India: Static

Q77. C

#### Indian Citizenship vs. Dual Citizenship in Federal Systems

- **Indian Citizenship:**
  - India follows a **single citizenship** system where citizens owe allegiance only to the **Union**.
  - There is no separate state citizenship. All citizens enjoy the same political and civil rights across the country, avoiding discrimination.
- **Dual Citizenship in Other Countries** (e.g., USA, Switzerland):
  - In countries like the **USA**, citizens are members of both the nation and their respective states, leading to **dual citizenship**.
  - This system can cause **discrimination** in rights like voting, holding public offices, or practicing professions.
  - India avoids such issues by adopting a single citizenship system.

Q78. C

## Major Features of the Government of India Act, 1919 (Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms): Static

Q79. B

### India-US Trade Policy Forum: 14th Ministerial Meeting

- **Totalisation Agreement:**
  - India reiterated its demand for a social security pact with the US for Indian professionals.
  - The agreement would help **Indian companies**, especially in the **ICT sector**, save up to **\$4 billion** annually.
- **Benefits of Totalisation Agreement:**
  - Eliminates **dual social security deductions** in both countries.
  - **Employers** would be relieved from making **dual contributions** for employees posted in both countries.
  - **Employees** would avoid redundant social security contributions in both India and the US.

Q80. C

### Constitution:

- **Definition:**
  - A set of written rules accepted by all citizens in a country.
  - It is the supreme law that defines the relationship between people and government.

### Functions of a Constitution:

1. **Basic Rules:** Provides basic rules for coordination among society members.
2. **Power Allocation:** Specifies who holds decision-making power in society and how the government is constituted.
3. **Limits on Government:** Sets limits on government powers to protect citizens' rights.
4. **Aspirations and Justice:** Helps the government meet society's aspirations and ensures justice.

Q81. B

### Advocate General for the States (Article 165):

- **Role:** The highest law officer in the state.
- **Appointment:** Appointed by the governor.
  - Must be a citizen of India.
  - Must have held a judicial office for 10 years or been an advocate of a high court for 10 years.
- **Term of Office:** Not fixed by the Constitution. Holds office during the pleasure of the governor, meaning can be removed at any time by the governor.
- **Remuneration:** Not fixed by the Constitution. Determined by the governor.

Q82. A

### Idea of a Constituent Assembly:

- **First Proposal:** The idea was first proposed by M. N. Roy in 1934, a pioneer of the communist movement in India.

- **INC Demand:** In 1935, the Indian National Congress (INC) officially demanded a Constituent Assembly to frame the Constitution of India.
- **Nehru's Declaration:** In 1938, Jawaharlal Nehru stated that the Constitution of free India must be framed by a Constituent Assembly elected through adult franchise, without outside interference.
- **Constituent Assembly Formation:** Formed in November 1946 under the Cabinet Mission Plan.
- **Members:** Elected indirectly by the Provincial Legislative Assemblies established under the Government of India Act, 1935.

Q83. B

### Democracy:

- **Definition:** Democracy is a form of government where power lies with the people, either through direct participation or by electing representatives to make decisions on their behalf.

### Core Features of Democracy:

#### 1. Written Constitution:

- Defines the structure and functions of government, individual rights, and limitations on power.
- Acts as a safeguard against arbitrariness and upholds the rule of law.
- Not essential for democracy, as seen in examples like Athenian democracy and the UK.

#### 2. Free and Fair Elections:

- Essential for a functioning democracy, allowing citizens to choose representatives and hold them accountable.
- Ensures peaceful power transfer and legitimizes the government.

#### 3. Parliamentary System of Government:

- The executive derives its legitimacy from the legislature (e.g., India).
- Other systems, like the presidential system (e.g., USA), are also democratic.
- Not an essential feature; the key principles are accountability and citizen participation.

#### 4. Republic Form of Government:

- **Definition:** A republic is a state where power rests with the people, not a hereditary monarch.
- **Key Feature:** Unlike monarchies, where power is passed down through lineage, in a republic, the people hold ultimate authority.
- **Relation to Democracy:** While often associated with democracy, a republic isn't strictly essential for democracy. For example, ancient Athens operated without a single head of state, directly through citizen assemblies.
- **Crucial Aspect:** Power resides with the people, regardless of the governing structure.

Q84. C

### Major Committees of Constituent Assembly:

1. **Union Powers Committee** – Jawaharlal Nehru

2. **Union Constitution Committee** – Jawaharlal Nehru
3. **Provincial Constitution Committee** – Sardar Patel
4. **Drafting Committee** – Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
5. **Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities, and Tribal and Excluded Areas** – Sardar Patel
  - Sub-committees:
    - **Fundamental Rights Sub-Committee** – J.B. Kripalani
    - **Minorities Sub-Committee** – H.C. Mukherjee
    - **North-East Frontier Tribal Areas and Assam Excluded & Partially Excluded Areas Sub-Committee** – Gopinath Bardoloi
    - **Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas (Other than those in Assam) Sub-Committee** – A.V. Thakkar
6. **Rules of Procedure Committee** – Dr. Rajendra Prasad (Incorrectly matched)
7. **States Committee (Committee for Negotiating with States)** – Jawaharlal Nehru (Correctly matched)
8. **Steering Committee** – Dr. Rajendra Prasad (Correctly matched)

Q85. A

#### Sovereignty of India:

- **Sovereign State:** India is independent, not a dependency or dominion of any other state, with no authority above it. It is free to conduct its own affairs.
- **Territorial Integrity:** As a sovereign state, India can acquire foreign territory or cede part of its territory to another state.

Q86. D

#### Features of the Government of India Act, 1935:

1. **All-India Federation:** Proposed federation of provinces and princely states, but never implemented due to non-participation of princely states.
2. **Provincial Autonomy:** Abolished dyarchy at the provincial level, granting more control to provincial governments.
3. **Dyarchy at the Centre:** Federal subjects were divided into reserved and transferred subjects, but this provision was not implemented.
4. **Reserve Bank of India:** Established to control currency and credit, still a key institution today.
5. **Public Service Commissions:** Created Federal and Provincial Public Service Commissions, and allowed joint commissions for multiple provinces.
6. **Federal Court:** Established in 1937 with appellate and original jurisdiction, particularly in disputes between the Centre and provinces.

Q87. A

#### Fundamental Duties (Article 51A):

1. **Abide by the Constitution:** Respect ideals, institutions, National Flag, and National Anthem.
2. **Cherish Freedom Struggle Ideals:** Follow the noble ideals that inspired India's independence movement.
3. **Protect Sovereignty and Integrity:** Uphold India's unity and integrity.
4. **Defend the Country:** Render national service when called upon.
5. **Promote Harmony:** Foster brotherhood across all communities and renounce practices derogatory to women.
6. **Preserve Cultural Heritage:** Value and preserve India's composite culture.
7. **Protect Environment:** Safeguard forests, lakes, rivers, wildlife, and show compassion for living beings.
8. **Develop Scientific Temper:** Encourage humanism, inquiry, and reform.
9. **Safeguard Public Property:** Avoid violence and protect public property.
10. **Strive for Excellence:** Aim for higher achievement in individual and collective activity.
11. **Education Duty:** Ensure education for children aged 6-14 (added by the 86th Amendment Act, 2002).

Q88. D

#### Green Fuels Alliance India (GFAI):

- **Objective:** Boost collaboration between India and Denmark in sustainable energy and support the global goal of carbon neutrality.
- **Key Features:**
  - Promotes collaboration among businesses, governments, and research institutions from both countries.
  - Inspired by India-Denmark Energy Partnership and joint R&D initiatives on green fuels.
- **Part of:** The Green Strategic Partnership (GSP) signed in 2020 between India and Denmark.

Q89. A

#### Main Features of the Indian Independence Act, 1947:

- **Independence & Partition:**
  - Ended British rule; India became independent on August 15, 1947.
  - Partitioned into two dominions: **India** and **Pakistan**.
- **Governance Changes:**
  - Abolished the Viceroy's office; Governors-General appointed for each dominion by the British King on advice of respective Cabinets.
  - Constituent Assemblies empowered to frame constitutions and act as temporary legislatures.
  - **British paramountcy** over princely states and tribal areas lapsed.
  - Princely states could choose to join India, Pakistan, or remain independent.



- **Legislative Framework:**
  - Government of India Act, 1935, used temporarily with modification powers for dominions.
  - Monarch's veto and reservation of bills replaced by Governor-General's powers.
- **Administrative Changes:**
  - Abolished the office of Secretary of State for India; functions transferred to Commonwealth Affairs.
  - Removed the British Monarch's title as "Emperor of India".
  - Stopped civil service appointments by the Secretary of State for India.
  - Guaranteed existing benefits to pre-independence civil servants.
- **Constitutional Heads:**
  - Governors-General and provincial governors became constitutional heads, acting on ministerial advice.

Q90. C

#### Sixteenth Finance Commission

- **Constitution:** Approved by the President of India under **Article 280(1)**.
- **Chairman:** **Dr. Arvind Panagariya**, former Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog, and Professor, Columbia University.

Key Details about the Finance Commission:

- **Article 280:**
  - Provides for a Finance Commission as a **quasi-judicial body**.
  - Constituted by the **President of India** every five years or earlier if deemed necessary.
- **Composition:**
  - Comprises a **Chairman** and **four members** appointed by the President.
  - Tenure determined by the President, with eligibility for reappointment.
- **Qualifications & Selection:**
  - Parliament determines the **qualifications** and **selection criteria** for the Chairman and members.

Q91. D

#### Election Commission of India (ECI)

- **Nature:** Permanent and independent constitutional body ensuring free and fair elections in India.
- **Article 324:**
  - Empowers the ECI with **superintendence, direction, and control** of elections to:
    - Parliament
    - State Legislatures
    - Office of the President of India
    - Office of the Vice-President of India.
  - Functions as an **all-India body**, common to both the Central and State governments.

- **Exclusions:**
  - ECI **does not oversee elections** to Panchayats and Municipalities.
  - **State Election Commissions** manage these elections as per constitutional provisions.

Q92. C

#### Democracy

Definition

- Democracy: A system where power resides with the people.
  - **Forms:**
    - **Direct Democracy:** Citizens directly participate in decision-making.
    - **Representative Democracy:** Elected representatives make decisions on behalf of citizens.

Key Features

1. **Popular Sovereignty:** Supreme power lies with the people.
2. **Equality:** Equal rights and opportunities for all citizens.
3. **Freedom:** Fundamental freedoms like speech, assembly, and association.
4. **Rule of Law:** Laws apply equally to everyone, including those in power.
5. **Separation of Powers:** Division between executive, legislative, and judiciary branches to prevent power concentration.

Benefits of Democracy

1. **Accountability:** Leaders are answerable to the people.
2. **Improved Decision-Making:** Encourages diverse perspectives and inclusivity.
3. **Peaceful Conflict Resolution:** Mechanisms to resolve disagreements within the rule of law.
4. **Protects Individual Rights:** Guarantees fundamental freedoms and autonomy.
5. **Promotes Development:** Informed citizens and accountable governments foster economic and social growth.

Challenges of Democracy

1. **Political Apathy:** Low voter turnout weakens democratic processes.
2. **Inefficiency:** Slow decision-making in complex systems.
3. **Polarization:** Divisions within society hinder compromise.
4. **Special Interest Influence:** Unequal influence undermines equality.
5. **Corruption:** Abuse of power erodes public trust and institutional credibility.

Q93. A

#### Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)

Constitutional Provisions

- Articles 315–323 (Part XIV): Deal with the composition, appointment, removal, independence, powers, and functions of the UPSC.

#### Consultation Areas

- Recruitment:**
  - Methods of recruitment for civil services/posts.
  - Principles for appointments, promotions, and transfers.
- Suitability Assessment:**
  - Candidates for civil services/posts through appointments, promotions, or deputations.
- Disciplinary Matters:**
  - Issues affecting civil servants, including petitions and memorials.
- Service Extension:**
  - Decisions on extending service or employing retired civil servants.

#### Exemptions from UPSC Consultation

- Reservations:**
  - Posts reserved for backward classes, Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes.
- High-Level Appointments:**
  - Chairmanships, memberships of commissions/tribunals, and high diplomatic posts.
- Group C and D Services:**
  - Bulk appointments in these categories.
- Temporary/Officiating Appointments:**
  - Posts held temporarily for less than a year.

#### Q94. D

##### Coal Controller Organisation

#### Recent Update

- Restructuring Approved:** By the Ministry of Finance.

#### Overview

- Subordinate Office:** Under the Ministry of Coal.
- Locations:** Offices in Kolkata, Delhi, and field offices in Dhanbad, Ranchi, Bilaspur, Nagpur, Sambalpur, and Kothagudem.

#### Functions

- Inspection:**
  - Verify correctness of class, grade, or size of coal in collieries.
- Grade Management:**
  - Issue directives for declaration/maintenance of coal grades.
  - Act as an appellate authority in grade disputes between consumers and owners.
- Regulation of Stock:**
  - Oversee disposal of coal stock or expected output.
- Quality Surveillance:**
  - Ensure proper grade and size of coal during loading in wagons/trucks.
- Permissions:**
  - Grant/revoke permissions for opening, reopening, or subdividing mines or seams.
- Excise Duty:**

- Assess and collect excise duty on raw coal raised/discharged.

#### 7. Data Submission:

- Provide monthly coal data to Central/State ministries and national/international organizations.

#### Q95. D

##### Citizenship by Birth: The Citizenship Act of 1955

#### 1. Eligibility (Post-3rd December 2004):

- Born in India where:
  - Both parents are Indian citizens, or
  - One parent is an Indian citizen, and the other is not an illegal migrant.

#### 2. Exclusions:

- Children of foreign diplomats posted in India.
- Children of enemy aliens.

#### 3. Restriction:

- Foreign diplomats' children and enemy aliens' children are ineligible for Indian citizenship by birth.

#### Q96. B

##### India Meteorological Department (IMD)

#### Overview:

- Agency under the **Ministry of Earth Sciences**, Government of India.
- Principal responsibilities: **Meteorological observations, weather forecasting, and seismology.**

#### History:

- Established:** 1875 by the Government of India.
- First Meteorological Reporter:** H.F. Blanford.
- First Director General of Observatories:** Sir John Eliot (appointed in 1889, Calcutta headquarters).

#### Key Roles and Mandates:

#### 1. Weather Monitoring and Forecasting:

- Provide meteorological data for agriculture, irrigation, shipping, aviation, and oil exploration.
- Issue warnings for severe weather phenomena (cyclones, heavy rains, heat waves, etc.).

#### 2. Seismology:

- Monitored by the **National Center for Seismology (NCS)** with 155 seismic stations.
- NCS operates a 24x7 earthquake monitoring center and deploys temporary observatories for aftershocks.

#### 3. Research:

- Conduct and promote research in meteorology and allied fields.

#### Administrative Details:

- Director General of Meteorology:** Head of IMD, headquartered in **New Delhi**.

#### Q97. A

##### Article 360: Financial Emergency

#### Key Provisions:

- The President can proclaim a **Financial Emergency** if the financial stability or credit of India (or any part) is threatened.
- **Judicial Review:**
  - Initially, the **38th Amendment Act (1975)** made the President's satisfaction final and beyond judicial review.
  - The **44th Amendment Act (1978)** removed this provision, allowing judicial review of the President's satisfaction.

#### Parliamentary Approval:

- Must be approved by both Houses of Parliament within **2 months**.
- Requires a **simple majority** (majority of members present and voting).
- Once approved, it continues **indefinitely** until revoked by the President through a subsequent proclamation (no parliamentary approval needed for revocation).

#### Impact of Financial Emergency:

- **Central Authority:** The Union government gains extended control over state finances.
- **Fiscal Measures:** Salaries and allowances of government employees (including judges) may be reduced.

Q98. B

#### The Constitution of India

- **Length:** The Constitution of India is the **longest written constitution** in the world, being comprehensive, detailed, and elaborate.

#### Factors Contributing to Its Length:

1. **Geographical Factors:** The vastness and diversity of the country.
  2. **Historical Factors:** Influence of the **Government of India Act, 1935**, which was also bulky.
  3. **Single Constitution:** A unified constitution for both **Centre and States** (except Jammu and Kashmir).
  4. **Legal Influence:** Dominance of legal experts in the Constituent Assembly led to comprehensive legal provisions.
- **Population:** The size of the population does not contribute to the bulkiness, but the diversity of language, caste, and creed is considered in its design.
  - **Detailing for Stability:** The Constitution provides detailed provisions (e.g., judiciary, UPSC, elections) to ensure the smooth functioning of India's infant democracy.

Q99. C

#### Basic Structure of the Indian Constitution:

- **Article 368** allows Parliament to amend any part of the Constitution, including **Fundamental Rights**, but without altering its **basic structure**.
- The **Supreme Court** has identified the following as part of the **basic structure**:
  1. **Supremacy of the Constitution**

2. **Sovereign, Democratic, and Republican nature** of the polity
3. **Secular character** of the Constitution
4. **Separation of powers** (Legislature, Executive, Judiciary)
5. **Federal character** of the Constitution
6. **Unity and integrity of the nation**
7. **Welfare state** (socio-economic justice)
8. **Judicial review**
9. **Free and fair elections**
10. **Independence of the judiciary**
11. **Effective access to justice**
12. **Powers of the Supreme Court** (Articles 32, 136, 141, 142)
13. **Powers of the High Courts** (Articles 226, 227)

- **Note:** The Supreme Court has not declared the **socialist state** (as per the Preamble) as part of the basic structure, though it recognizes the **welfare state** concept.

Q100. D

#### Definition of 'State' under Article 12:

- **Article 12** defines 'State' for the purposes of **Part III** (Fundamental Rights) of the Constitution.
- **State includes:**
  1. **Government and Parliament of India** (Executive and Legislative organs of the Union)
  2. **Government and Legislature of States** (Executive and Legislative organs of State governments)
  3. **Local authorities** (e.g., municipalities, panchayats, district boards, improvement trusts)
  4. **Other authorities** (e.g., statutory or non-statutory bodies like LIC, ONGC, SAIL)
- The term '**State**' is defined broadly, covering all its agencies whose actions can be challenged for violating **Fundamental Rights**.
- Even **private bodies** or agencies acting as an instrument of the State fall under the definition of 'State' according to the **Supreme Court**.