



# Indian Polity

## Previous Years Questions Compilation

### UPSC CSE PRELIMS 2020

1. Rajya Sabha has equal powers with Lok Sabha in
- (a) the matter of creating new All India Services
  - (b) amending the Constitution
  - (c) the removal of the government
  - (d) making cut motions
2. With reference to the funds under Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), which of the following statements are correct?
- 1. MPLADS funds must be used to create durable assets like physical infrastructure for health, education, etc.
  - 2. A specified portion of each MP's fund must benefit SC/ST populations.
  - 3. MPLADS funds are sanctioned on yearly basis and the unused funds cannot be carried forward to the next year.
  - 4. The district authority must inspect at least 10% of all works under implementation every year.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

3. Which one of the following categories of 'Fundamental Rights incorporated against untouchability as a form of discrimination?

- (a) Right against Exploitation
- (b) Right to Freedom
- (c) Right to Constitutional Remedies
- (d) Right to Equality

4. In India, separation of judiciary from the executive is enjoined by

- (a) the Preamble of the Constitution
- (b) a Directive Principle of State Policy
- (c) the Seventh Schedule
- (d) the conventional practice

5. Along with the Budget, the finance minister also places other documents before the Parliament which include 'The Macro Economic Framework Statement'. The aforesaid document is presented because this is mandated by



- (a) Long standing parliamentary convention
- (b) Article 112 and Article 110(1) of the Constitution of India
- (c) Article 113 of the Constitution of India
- (d) Provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003

6. A constitutional government by definition is a

- (a) government by legislature
- (b) popular government
- (c) multi-party government
- (d) limited government

7. Other than the Fundamental Rights, which of the following parts of the Constitution of India reflect/reflects the principles and provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)?

- 1. Preamble
- 2. Directive Principles of State Policy
- 3. Fundamental Duties

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

8. In India, Legal Services Authorities provide free legal services to which of the following type of citizens?

- 1. Person with an annual income of less than Rs 1,00,000
- 2. Transgender with an annual income of less than Rs 2,00,000
- 3. Member of Other Backward Classes (OBC) with an annual income of less than ₹ 3,00,000
- 4. All Senior Citizens

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

9. A Parliamentary System of Government is one in which:

- (a) all political parties in the Parliament are represented in the Government
- (b) the Government is responsible to the Parliament and can be removed by it
- (c) the Government is elected by the people and can be removed by them
- (d) the Government is chosen by the Parliament but cannot be removed by it before completion of a fixed term



10. Which part of the Constitution of India declares the ideal of a Welfare State?

- (a) Directive Principles of State Policy
- (b) Fundamental Rights
- (c) Preamble
- (d) Seventh Schedule

11. Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution of India defines its 'basic structure' in terms of federalism, secularism, fundamental rights and democracy.
2. The Constitution of India provides for 'judicial review' to safeguard the citizens' liberties and to preserve the ideals on which the Constitution is based.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

12. In the context of India, which one of the following is the characteristic appropriate for bureaucracy?

- (a) An agency for widening the scope of parliamentary democracy
- (b) An agency for strengthening the structure of federalism
- (c) An agency for facilitating political stability and economic growth
- (d) An agency for the implementation of public policy

13. The Preamble to the Constitution of India is

- (a) a part of the Constitution but has no legal effect
- (b) not a part of the Constitution and has no legal effect either
- (c) part of the Constitution and has the same legal effect as any other part
- (d) a part of the Constitution but has no legal effect independently of other parts

14. With reference to the provisions contained in Part IV of the Constitution of India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. They shall be enforceable by courts.
2. They shall not be enforceable by any court.
3. The principles laid down in this part are to influence the making of laws by the State.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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



15. Consider the following statements:

1. According to the Constitution of India, a person who is eligible to vote can be made a minister in a State for six months even if he/she is not a member of the Legislature of that State.
2. According to the Representation of People Act, 1951, a person convicted of a criminal offence and sentenced to imprisonment for five years is permanently disqualified from contesting an election even after his release from prison.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

16. Consider the following statements:

1. The President of India can summon a session of the Parliament at such a place as he/she thinks fit.
2. The Constitution of India provides for three sessions of the Parliament in a year, but it is not mandatory to conduct all three sessions.
3. There is no minimum number of days that the Parliament is required to meet in a year.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

17. In which one of the following groups are all the four countries members of G20?

- (a) Argentina, Mexico, South Africa and Turkey
- (b) Australia, Canada, Malaysia and New Zealand
- (c) Brazil, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Vietnam
- (d) Indonesia, Japan, Singapore and South Korea

Answers:

1. b   2. d   3. d   4. b   5. d   6. d   7. d   8. a   9. b   10. a   11. b   12. d   13. d   14. d  
15. d   16. c



## UPSC CSE PRELIMS 2019

1. Consider the following statements:

1. The Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959 exempts several posts from disqualification on the grounds of 'Office of Profit'.
2. The above-mentioned Act was amended five times.
3. The term 'Office of Profit' is well-defined in the Constitution of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

2. The Ninth Schedule was introduced in the Constitution of India during the prime ministership of

- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (b) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- (c) Indira Gandhi
- (d) Morarji Desai

3. The Supreme Court of India struck down the 99th Amendment to the Constitution of India as being violative of the independence of the judiciary.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4. Consider the following statements:

1. The motion to impeach a Judge of the Supreme Court of India cannot be rejected by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha as per the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
2. The Constitution of India defines and gives details of what Constitutes 'incapacity and proved misbehaviour' of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India.
3. The details of the process of impeachment of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India are given in the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
4. If the motion for the impeachment of a Judge is taken up for voting, the law requires the motion to be backed by each House of the Parliament and supported by a majority of total membership of that House and by not less than two-thirds of total members of that House present and voting.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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



5. Which Article of the Constitution of India safeguards one's right to marry the person of one's choice?

- (a) Article 19
- (b) Article 21
- (c) Article 25
- (d) Article 29

6. With reference to the Constitution of India, prohibitions or limitations or provisions contained in ordinary laws cannot act as prohibitions or limitations on the constitutional powers under Article 142. It could mean which one of the following?

- (a) The decisions taken by the Election Commission of India while discharging its duties cannot be challenged in any court of law.
- (b) The Supreme Court of India is not constrained in the exercise of its powers by laws made by the Parliament.
- (c) In the event of a grave financial crisis in the country, the President of India can declare a Financial Emergency without the counsel from the Cabinet.
- (d) State Legislatures cannot make laws on certain matters without the concurrence of the Union Legislature.

7. With reference to the Legislative Assembly of a State in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Governor makes a customary address to Members of the House at the commencement of the first session of the year.
- 2. When a State Legislature does not have a rule on a particular matter, it follows the Lok Sabha rule on that matter.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8. Consider the following statements about Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India:

- 1. PVTGs reside in 18 States and one Union Territory.
- 2. A stagnant or declining population is one of the criteria for determining PVTG status.
- 3. There are 95 PVTGs officially notified in the country so far.
- 4. Irular and Konda Reddi tribes are included in the list of PVTGs.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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



9. With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. No High Court shall have the jurisdiction to declare any central law to be constitutionally invalid.
2. An amendment to the Constitution of India cannot be called into question by the Supreme Court of India.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

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

10. In the context of polity, which one of the following would you accept as the most appropriate definition of liberty?

- (a) Protection against the tyranny of political rulers
- (b) Absence of restraint
- (c) Opportunity to do whatever one likes
- (d) Opportunity to develop oneself fully

11. Which one of the following suggested that the Governor should be an eminent person from outside the State and should be a detached figure without intense political links or should not have taken part in politics in the recent past?

- (a) First Administrative Reforms Commission (1966)
- (b) Rajamannar Committee (1969)
- (c) Sarkaria Commission (1983)
- (d) National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (2000)

Answers:

1. a 2. a 3. b 4. c 5. a 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. b 11. c



## UPSC CSE PRELIMS 2018

1. Consider the following statements:

1. No criminal proceedings shall be instituted against the Governor of a State in any court during his term of office.
2. The emoluments and allowances of the Governor of a State shall not be diminished during his term of office.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

2. Which of the following are regarded as the main features of the “Rule of Law”?

1. Limitation of powers
2. Equality before law
3. People’s responsibility to the Government
4. Liberty and civil rights

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

3. Consider the following statements:

1. The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly shall vacate his/her office if he/she ceases to be a member of the Assembly.
2. Whenever the Legislative Assembly is dissolved, the Speaker shall vacate his/her immediately.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4. Which one of the following reflects the nicest, appropriate relationship between law and liberty?

- (a) if there are more laws, there is less liberty.
- (b) If there are no laws, there is no liberty.
- (c) If there is liberty, laws have to be made by the people.
- (d) If laws are changed too often, liberty is in danger.

5. In the federation established by The Government of India Act of 1935. Residuary Power was given to the:

- (a) Federal Legislature



- (b) Governor General
- (c) Provincial Legislature
- (d) Provincial Governors

6. With reference to the election of the President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The value of the vote of each MLA varies from State to State.
2. The value of the vote of MPs of the Lok Sabha is more than the value of the vote of MPs of the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the following statements given above is/are Correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 Or 2

7. Right to Privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of Right to Life and Personal Liberty.

Which of the following in the Constitution of India correctly and appropriately imply the above statement?

- (a) Article 14 and the provisions under the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution
- (b) Article 17 and the Directive Principles of State Policy in Part IV
- (c) Article 21 and the freedoms guaranteed in Part. III
- (d) Article 24 and the provisions under the 44th Amendment to the Constitution

8. With reference to the Parliament of India, which of the following Parliamentary Committees scrutinizes and reports to the House whether the powers to make regulations, rules, sub-rules, by-laws, etc. conferred by the Constitution or delegated by the Parliament are being properly exercised by the Executive within the scope of such delegation?

- (a) Committee on Government Assurances
- (b) Committee on Subordinate Legislation
- (c) Rules Committee
- (d) Business Advisory Committee

9. Which of the following led to the introduction of English Education in India?

1. Charter Act of 1813
2. General Committee of Public Instruction, 1823
3. Orientalist and Anglicist Controversy

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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



10. Consider the following statements:

1. The Parliament of India can place a particular law in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
2. The validity of a law placed in the Ninth Schedule cannot be examined by any court and no judgement can be made on it.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

11. Consider the following statements:

1. In the first Lok Sabha, the single largest party in the opposition was the Swatantra Party.
2. In the Lok Sabha, a "Leader of the Opposition" was recognized for the first time in 1969.
3. In the Lok Sabha, if a party does not have a minimum of 75 members, its leader cannot be recognized as the Leader of the Opposition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

12. If the President of India exercises his power as provided under Article 356 of the Constitution in respect of a particular State, then:

- (a) the Assembly of the State is automatically dissolved.
- (b) the powers of the Legislature of that State shall be exercisable by or under the authority of the Parliament.
- (c) Article 19 is suspended in that State.
- (d) the President can make laws relating to that State.

Answers: 1. c 2. c 3. a 4. b 5. b 6. c 7. c 8. b 9. a 10. a 11. b 12. b



## UPSC CSE PRELIMS 2017

1. One of the implications of equality in society is the absence of

- (a) Privileges
- (b) Restraints
- (c) Competition
- (d) Ideology

2. With reference to the Constitution of India, the Directive Principles of State Policy constitute limitations upon:

- 1. legislative function.
- 2. executive function.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

3. With reference to the Parliament of India, consider the following statements:

- 1. A private member's bill is a bill presented by a Member of Parliament who is not elected but only nominated by the President of India.
- 2. Recently, a private member's bill has been passed in the Parliament of India for the first time in its history.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4. The Parliament of India exercises control over the functions of the Council of Ministers through

- 1. Adjournment motion
- 2. Question hour
- 3. Supplementary questions

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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



5. The mind of the makers of the Constitution of India is reflected in which of the following?

- (a) The Preamble
- (b) The Fundamental Rights
- (c) The Directive Principles of State Policy
- (d) The Fundamental Duties

6. The main advantage of the parliamentary form of government is that

- (a) the executive and legislature work independently.
- (b) it provides continuity of policy and is more efficient.
- (c) the executive remains responsible to the legislature.
- (d) the head of the government cannot be changed without election.

7. In the context of India, which one of the following is the correct relationship between Rights and Duties?

- (a) Rights are correlative with Duties.
- (b) Rights are personal and hence independent of society and Duties.
- (c) Rights, not Duties, are important for the advancement of the personality of the citizen.
- (d) Duties, not Rights, are important for the stability of the State.

8. Democracy's superior virtue lies in the fact that it calls into activity

- (a) the intelligence and character of ordinary men and women.
- (b) the methods for strengthening executive leadership.
- (c) a superior individual with dynamism and vision.
- (d) a band of dedicated party workers.

9. Which one of the following objectives is not embodied in the Preamble to the Constitution of India?

- (a) Liberty of thought
- (b) Economic liberty
- (c) Liberty of expression
- (d) Liberty of belief

10. Which one of the following is not a feature of Indian federalism?

- (a) There is an independent judiciary in India.
- (b) Powers have been clearly divided between the Centre and the States.
- (c) The federating units have been given unequal representation in the Rajya Sabha.
- (d) It is the result of an agreement among the federating units.

11. Out of the following statements, choose the one that brings out the principle underlying the Cabinet form of Government:

- (a) An arrangement for minimizing criticism against the Government whose responsibilities are complex and hard to carry out to the satisfaction of all.
- (b) A mechanism for speeding up the activities of the Government whose responsibilities are increasing day by day.
- (c) A mechanism of parliamentary democracy for ensuring collective responsibility of the Government to the people.



(d) A device for strengthening the hands of the head of the Government whose hold over the people is in a state of decline.

12. Which of the following statements is/are true of the Fundamental Duties of an Indian citizen?

1. A legislative process has been provided to enforce these duties.
2. They are correlative to legal duties.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

13. Which of the following are envisaged by the Right against Exploitation in the Constitution of India?

1. Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour
2. Abolition of untouchability
3. Protection of the interests of minorities
4. Prohibition of employment of children in factories and mines

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

14. Which of the following are not necessarily the consequences of the proclamation of the President's rule in a State?

1. Dissolution of the State Legislative Assembly
2. Removal of the Council of Ministers in the State
3. Dissolution of the local bodies

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

15. Right to vote and to be elected in India is a

- (a) Fundamental Right
- (b) Natural Right
- (c) Constitutional Right
- (d) Legal Right

16. In India, Judicial Review implies

- (a) the power of the Judiciary to pronounce upon the constitutionality of laws and executive orders.
- (b) the power of the Judiciary to question the wisdom of the laws enacted by the Legislatures.
- (c) the power of the Judiciary to review all the legislative enactments before they are assented to by the President.



(d) the power of the Judiciary to review its own judgements given earlier in similar or different cases.

17. Consider the following statements:

1. The Election Commission of India is a five-member body.
2. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs decides the election schedule for the conduct of both general elections and bye-elections.
3. Election Commission resolves the disputes relating to splits/mergers of recognized political parties.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

18. Consider the following statements:

1. In the election for Lok Sabha or State Assembly, the winning candidate must get at least 50 percent of the votes polled, to be declared elected.
2. According to the provisions laid down in the Constitution of India, in Lok Sabha, the Speaker's post goes to the majority party and the Deputy Speaker's to the Opposition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

19. For election to the Lok Sabha, a nomination paper can be filed by:

- (a) anyone residing in India.
- (b) a resident of the constituency from which the election is to be contested.
- (c) any citizen of India whose name appears in the electoral roll of a constituency.
- (d) any citizen of India.

Answers: 1. a 2. d 3. d 4. d 5. a 6. c 7. a 8. a 9. b 10. d 11. c 12. d 13. c 14. b 15. c 16. a 17. c 18. d 19. c



## UPSC CSE PRELIMS 2016

1. Consider the following statements:

1. The minimum age prescribed for any person to be a member of Panchayat is 25 years.
2. A Panchayat reconstituted after premature dissolution continues only for the remainder period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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

1. A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses on its prorogation.
2. A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha, which has not been passed by the Lok Sabha, shall not lapse on dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

3. The Parliament of India acquires the power to legislate on any item in the State List in the national interest if a resolution to that effect is passed by the:

- (a) Lok Sabha by a simple majority of its total membership
- (b) Lok Sabha by a majority of not less than two-thirds of its total membership
- (c) Rajya Sabha by a simple majority of its total membership
- (d) Rajya Sabha by a majority of not less than two-thirds of its members present and voting

4. With reference to the 'Gram Nyayalaya Act', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. As per the Act, Gram Nyayalayas can hear only civil cases and not criminal cases
2. The Act allows local social activists as mediators/reconciliators.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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



5. Consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Secretary in a State is appointed by the Governor of that State.
2. The Chief Secretary in a State has a fixed tenure

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

6. Which of the following is/are the indicator/indicators used by IFPRI to compute the Global Hunger Index Report?

1. Undernourishment
2. Child stunting
3. Child mortality

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

7. Rashtriya Garima Abhiyaan is a national campaign to

- (a) rehabilitate the homeless and destitute persons and provide them with suitable sources of livelihood
- (b) release the sex workers from their practice and provide them with alternative sources of livelihood
- (c) eradicate the practice of manual scavenging and rehabilitate the manual scavengers
- (d) release the bonded labourers from their bondage and rehabilitate them

8. With reference to 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana', consider the following statements:

1. Under this scheme, farmers will have to pay a uniform premium of two percent for any crop they cultivate in any season of the year.
2. This scheme covers post-harvest losses arising out of cyclones and unseasonal rains.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: 1. b 2. b 3. d 4. b 5. d 6. c 7.c 8. b