

Q.1) “Phase One Trade Deal” often seen in the news is between

- a) India and United States
- b) United States and China
- c) European Union and Iran
- d) United States, China and North Korea

Ans) b

Exp) The United States and China have announced a “Phase One” trade deal, de-escalating their nearly two-year trade war.

United states and Chinese officials have said the agreement includes protections for intellectual property, food and farm goods, financial services and foreign exchange, and a provision for dispute resolution.

Under the new deal, China has committed to a minimum of \$200 billion in increased purchases over the next two years from U.S. manufacturers, farmers, energy producers and service providers.

Q.2) In context of Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 recently seen in the news, consider the following statements?

1. The act aims to end discrimination against transgender persons in accessing education and employment.
2. A transgender person needs to make an application to the Chief Medical Officer for a certificate of identity.

Which of the statements given above is/are **incorrect**?

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

Ans) b

Exp) Statement 1 is correct. The Social Justice Ministry issued a notification on January 10, 2019, notifying the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, which was passed by Parliament on November 26 and given Presidential assent on December 5, 2019.

The Act aims to end discrimination against transgender persons in accessing education, employment and healthcare.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The act also recognises the **right to self-perceived gender identity** and provides for certification from a **District Magistrate**; in case a transgender person had a gender-change surgery, the law says they can obtain a certificate from the medical facility where they had the operation, and apply for a change in their certificate.

Q.3) With reference to the Kerala government’s petition in Supreme Court against the Citizenship Amendment Act, consider the following statements:

1. A state cannot file a petition against a Central law in Supreme Court without the prior permission of the Governor.
2. A law made by the Parliament on a Union List subject does not apply in a state until a resolution is passed by the concerned state in that respect.

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

Ans) d

Exp) Statement 1 is incorrect. As per Article 167 of the Constitution - It shall be the duty of the Chief Minister of each State—

- (a) to communicate to the Governor of the State **all decisions of the Council of Ministers** relating to the **administration** of the affairs of the State and proposals for **legislation**;
- (b) to furnish such information relating to the administration of the affairs of the State and proposals for legislation as the Governor may call for; and
- (c) if the Governor so requires, to submit for the consideration of the Council of Ministers any matter on which a decision has been taken by a Minister but which has not been considered by the Council.

There is **no constitutional requirement for a State to inform the Governor about its executive** decision to file a case. Shamsher Singh judgment of SC said he [Governor] is a formal head. **The real executive powers are vested in the Council of Ministers** who are collectively responsible to the legislature. Even Article 167, under which information is sought by the Governor [from the Chief Minister], does not have dictatorial overtones.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A law enacted by the Parliament on a Union List subject applies to whole India or in areas as specified by such a law. Even though the Constitution has provisions with respect to certain Constitutional amendments where the approval of half the states is needed, in other cases a law of Parliament applies all over India whether the state agrees with or not. **(Some states have passed resolutions opposing Citizenship Amendment Act, a law on citizenship (Union List subject).** These resolutions do not affect the CAA. It will apply in every state as passed by the Parliament. **(Article 245 & 246)**

Q.4) Which of the following statements best describes the term Juice Jacking recently seen in the news?

- a) A type of cyber attack which originates from a USB charging port installed at public places.
- b) A branded line of dietary supplements containing concentrated fruit and vegetable juice extracts fortified with added vitamins and nutrients.
- c) It is the latest version of the Android mobile operating system developed by Google.
- d) It is a new method of increasing shelf life of Fruits developed by Central Food Technology and Research Institute.

Ans) a

Exp) Juice Jacking is a type of cyber attack which originates from USB charging port installed at public places such as airports, cafes, bus stands, etc. Once the device is plugged-in and connection is established, it either installs malware or secretly copies sensitive data from a smartphone, tablet, or any other computer device. The attack could be as simple as extracting all your contact details and private pictures or can be an invasive attack of injecting malicious code directly into your device which can then copy all your passwords of financial data.

Q.5) Tulu is a Dravidian language whose speakers are concentrated in two coastal districts of Karnataka and Kasaragod district of Kerala. At present, Tulu is not an official language in India or any other country but efforts are being made to include Tulu in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

In the above context which of the following is/are the benefit/benefits in relation to inclusion of any language in the eight schedule?

1. Members of Parliament could speak in that language in Parliament.
2. Candidates could write all India competitive examinations in that language.
3. It will get a financial assistance for setting up a centre of excellence for the study of that language

Select the correct options using the code given below

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

Ans) a

Exp) The benefits of inclusion of any language in the 8th schedule are

1. The language would get recognition from the Sahitya Akademi.
2. Books in that language would be translated into other recognised Indian languages.
3. Members of Parliament and MLAs could speak in that language in the Parliament and State Assemblies, respectively. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
4. Candidates could write all-India competitive examinations like the Civil Services exam in that language. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Statement 3 is incorrect.

The following **benefits are available for languages which are declared as classical languages:**

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- Two major annual international awards for scholars of eminence in the concerned language.
- A '**Centre of Excellence for Studies in Classical Languages**' can be set up. (Only for classical language not for Official language)
- The University Grants Commission can be requested to create, to start with at least in Central Universities, a certain number of professional chairs for classical languages, for scholars of eminence in the concerned language.

So far Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam and Odia have been declared as classical languages.

Q.6) Which one of the following statements is *not* correct about Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)?

- a) All the members of OIC are Muslim-majority countries.
- b) Syria was suspended in 2012 from the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.
- c) It headquarters in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.
- d) It is the second largest inter-governmental organisation in the world after the UN.

Ans) a

Exp) The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is the second largest inter-governmental organisation after the United Nations, with the membership of **57 states**, covering four continents. The OIC is the collective voice of the Muslim world to ensure and safeguard their interest on economic socio and political areas. The OIC has Institutions, which implement its programmes. Its **Headquarters is in Jeddah**, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. **Hence, option c is correct.**

Option a is incorrect. The majority of its member states are Muslim-majority countries, while others have significant Muslim populations, including several African and South American countries. Only 53 of the OIC members are Muslim-majority states. **Guyana** is member of OIC but **only about 7% people of Guyana follow Islam.** **Suriname** is also a Christian majority country but a member of the OIC.

Option b is correct. Syria was suspended from OIC in 2012, citing President Bashar al-Assad's violent suppression of the Syrian revolt.

Option d is correct. Today, with 57 member states from four continents, the OIC is the second-largest intergovernmental organisation in the world after the United Nations, with a collective population reaching over 1.8 billion.

Q.7) Which of the following statements best describes the term Plea bargaining recently seen in the news?

- It is related to clubbing of petitions related to public interest in the Supreme Court of India.
- In this the accused pleads guilty in exchange for certain concessions by the prosecution.
- It is a process of negotiation between employers and a group of employees aimed at agreements to regulate working conditions.
- In this an individual takes special permission to be heard in appeal against any tribunal verdict.

Ans) b

Exp)

The Doctrine of Nolo Contendere or Plea Bargaining has been introduced by **Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2005**. A new Chapter XXI A on Plea Bargaining was introduced in the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973. **The term Plea Bargaining can be defined as pretrial negotiations between the accused and the prosecution where the accused pleads guilty in exchange for certain concessions by the prosecution.** The twin object of plea bargaining is to reduce the delay involved in criminal trial and to punish the accused with a lesser sentence for pleading his guilt.

Who can file application for Plea Bargaining

The concept of plea bargaining is applicable to an accused against whom:

- Police report has been forwarded by the officer in charge of the police station alleging commission of offence by the accused.
- A Magistrate has taken cognizance of an offence on complaint.

The provisions of the Plea Bargaining are not applicable to any juvenile, or child

Plea Bargaining is **not available** to an accused if:

- If he has been charged with offences punishable with death, life imprisonment, or a term exceeding seven years,
- The offence with which the accused had been charged affects the social-economic condition of the country, or
- Offence has been committed against a woman, or a child below the age of fourteen years.

Q.8) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Commonwealth of Nations?

1. Any member state that has withdrawn from it cannot become its member again.
2. All member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation are its members.

Select the correct options using the code given below:

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

Ans) d

Exp) The Commonwealth is a voluntary association of 53 independent and equal countries. Its roots go back to the British Empire, but membership of the modern Commonwealth does not depend on formerly being part of the British Empire.

Recently **Maldives was officially readmitted** to the Commonwealth more than three years after the nation quit the organisation over criticism of its human rights record, taking the count of the bloc's membership countries back to 54.

Statement 1 is incorrect: A Commonwealth member state that has withdrawn or was expelled from the Commonwealth would need to reapply for membership. Although Commonwealth Heads have not set out any re-joining criteria, it is expected that a country would demonstrate that it continues to uphold the principles and values of the Commonwealth that it espoused when it first joined.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Bhutan, Nepal and Srilanka are not its members but are members of SAARC.

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) is the regional intergovernmental organization and geopolitical union of states in South Asia. Its member states are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Q.9) With reference to the Swadeshi and Boycott Movement, consider the following statements:

1. The Indian National Congress at the Banaras Session in 1905 supported this Movement for Bengal only.
2. Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Lajpat Rai and Aurobindo Ghosh resigned from the membership of Congress in protest of the moderates' decisions regarding this Movement.

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

Ans) a

Exp) Statement 1 is correct. The Indian National Congress took up the Swadeshi call at the Banaras Session, 1905, presided over by G.K. Gokhale, supported the **Swadeshi and Boycott Movement for Bengal**. The militant nationalists led by Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Lajpat Rai and Aurobindo Ghosh were, however, in favour of extending the movement to the rest of India and carrying it beyond the programme of just Swadeshi and boycott to a full-fledged political mass struggle. The aim was now Swaraj and the abrogation of partition had become the 'pettiest and narrowest of all political objects.' The Moderates, by and large, were not as yet willing to go that far.

The differences between the Moderates and the Extremists, especially regarding the pace of the movement and the techniques of struggle to be adopted, came to a head in the **1907 Surat session** of the Congress where the party **split** with serious consequences for the Swadeshi Movement.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Lajpat Rai and Aurobindo Ghosh didn't resign from Congress. They were expelled by the moderates' faction of the Congress after the split. Soon after, Tilak was given a sentence of six years imprisonment, Ajit Singh and Lajpat Rai of Punjab were deported. Bipin Chandra Pal and Aurobindo Ghosh retired from active politics.

Q.10) The Komagata Maru Incident is a very significant event of Indian History. It was

- the killing of hundreds of Indian migrants who were agitating against racial discrimination in South Africa.
- a failed attempt by revolutionary Bagha Jatin to seize Fort William.
- a dacoity carried out by revolutionaries on the British ship Komagata Maru carrying gold from India to Britain.
- the policy of Canada to deny entry to Indian migrants reached there by ship Komagata Maru.

Ans) d

Exp) Komagata Maru was the name of a ship which was carrying 370 passengers, mainly Sikh and Punjabi Muslim would-be immigrants, from **Singapore to Vancouver (1914)**. They were turned back by Canadian authorities after two months of privation and uncertainty. It was generally believed that the Canadian authorities were influenced by the British government.

Q.11) Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- Eka movement was an anti-caste movement whereas the Kisan Sabha movement was a peasant movement.
- Kisans belonging to the high as well as the low castes were to be found in the Kisan Sabha movement.
- Madan Mohan Malviya played a key role in the establishment of U.P. Kisan Sabha.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans) b

Exp) Statement 1 is incorrect. Eka movement and Kisan Sabha movement both were peasant movements.

Eka movement centres were the districts of Hardoi, Bahraich, and Sitapur in the northern part of the UP. The initial thrust here was provided by Congress and Khilafat leaders and the movement grew under the name of the **Eka or unity movement**. The main grievances here related to the extraction of a rent that was generally fifty per cent higher than the recorded rent, the oppression of thekedars to whom the work of rent-collection was farmed out and the practice of share-rents.

The Kisan Sabha movement was centered around Pratapgarh, Faizabad and other districts of eastern UP. The U.P. **Kisan Sabha** was set up in February 1918 through the efforts of **Gauri Shankar Misra and Indra Narain Dwivedi**, and with the support of **Madan Mohan Malaviya**. The U.P. Kisan Sabha demonstrated considerable activity, and by June 1919 had established at least 450 branches in 173 tehsils of the province. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Statement 2 is correct. A marked feature of the Kisan Sabha movement was that kisans belonging to the high as well as the low castes were to be found in its ranks.

Q.12) With reference to the new constitution of the Congress introduced under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi, consider the following statements:

1. Provincial Congress Committees were reorganized on the basis of linguistic areas.
2. Some seats in the new Congress Working Committee were reserved for women, Muslims and depressed classes.
3. The Congress decided to use Hindi as far as possible.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans) c

Exp) Under the leadership of Gandhiji a **new constitution** of Congress was introduced. Gandhiji, too, knew that the Congress could not guide a sustained movement unless it had a compact body that worked round the year.

The Congress was now to have a **Working Committee of fifteen members** to look after its day-to-day affairs. There was no proposal for reserving seats for any section of society. **Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.**

Provincial Congress Committees were now to be organized on a **linguistic basis**, so that they could keep in touch with the people by using the local language. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

The Congress organization was to reach down to the village and the mohalla level by the formation of village and mohalla or ward committees. The membership fee was reduced to four annas per year to enable the poor to become members. Mass involvement would also enable the Congress to have a regular source of income.

In other ways, too, the organization structure was both streamlined and democratized. The Congress was to use **Hindi as much as possible**. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

Q.13) Consider the following statements regarding article 14 of the Indian Constitution:

1. Article 14 permits reasonable classification.
 2. Article 14 forbids class legislation.
- 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

Ans) c

Exp)

Statement 1 is correct: Article 14 permits reasonable classification of persons, objects, and transactions by the legislature for the purpose of achieving specific ends. But classification must not be “arbitrary, artificial or evasive”. It must always rest upon some real and substantial distinction as per intelligible differentia.

Statement 2 is correct: Article 14 forbids “class legislation”. Class legislation makes an improper discrimination by conferring particular privileges upon a class of persons.

Q.14) As per Article 19 “Contempt of Court” is a ground of reasonable restriction on which of the following rights?

- a) Right to assemble peaceably and without arms.
- b) Right to freedom of speech and expression.
- c) Right to move freely throughout the territory of India.
- d) Right to form associations or unions or co-operative societies.

Ans) b

Exp) Article 19 guarantees to all citizens the six rights. These are:

Rights	Reasonable restrictions
1. To freedom of speech and expression.	Sovereignty and Integrity of the nation, the security of the state, friendly relations with foreign states, public order, morality, contempt of court , defamation, and incitement to an offence
2. To assemble peaceably and without arms.	Sovereignty and integrity of India and public order including the maintenance of traffic in the area concerned

3. To form associations or unions or co-operative societies.	Sovereignty and integrity of India or public order or morality
4. To move freely throughout the territory of India.	The interest of the general public or for the protection of interests of Scheduled Tribe
5. To reside and settle in any part of the territory of India	Interest of the general public or for the protection of interests of Scheduled Tribe
6. To practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.	Interest of general public

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

1. Supreme Court can issue a writ of mandamus to the state governors asking him/her to perform his/her official duties that he/she has failed or refused to perform.
2. The writ of certiorari cannot be issued against judicial and administrative authorities.

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

Ans) d

Exp) Statement 1 is incorrect. Mandamus literally means ‘we command’. It is a command issued by the court to a public official asking him to perform his official duties that he has failed or refused to perform. It can also be issued against any public body, a corporation, an inferior court, a tribunal or government for the same purpose. **The writ of mandamus cannot be issued**

- (a) against a private individual or body
- (b) to enforce departmental instruction that does not possess statutory force.
- (c) when the duty is discretionary and not mandatory.
- (d) to enforce a contractual obligation.
- (e) **against the president of India or the state governors.**
- (f) against the chief justice of a high court acting in a judicial capacity.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Certiorari in literal sense means ‘to be certified’ or ‘to be informed’. It is issued by a higher court to a lower court or tribunal either to transfer a case pending with the latter to itself or to squash the order of the latter in a case. It is issued on the grounds of excess of jurisdiction or lack of jurisdiction or error of law. Thus, unlike prohibition, which is only preventive, certiorari is both preventive as well as curative. **Previously, the writ of certiorari could be issued only against judicial and quasi-judicial authorities and not against**

administrative authorities. However, in 1991, the Supreme Court ruled that the certiorari can be issued even against administrative authorities affecting the rights of individuals.

Q.16) In the context of Indian Polity, consider the following:

1. Central Vigilance Commission
2. State Public Service Commission
3. Comptroller and Auditor General
4. Election Commission

Which of the above organ(s) are envisaged by the Constitution as the bulwarks of the democratic system of Government in India?

- a) 1, 3 and 4 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) All of the above

Ans) c

Exp) Option 2, 3 and 4 are correct. The Indian Constitution not only provides for the legislative, executive and judicial organs of the government (Central and state) but also establishes certain independent bodies. The Constitution ensures the independence of these bodies through various provisions like security of tenure, fixed service conditions, expenses being charged on the Consolidated Fund of India, and so on.

They are envisaged by the Constitution as the bulwarks of the democratic system of Government in India. These are:

- **Election Commission** to ensure free and fair elections to the Parliament, the state legislatures, the office of President of India and the office of Vice-president of India.
- **Comptroller and Auditor-General of India** to audit the accounts of the Central and state governments. He acts as the guardian of the public purse and comments on the legality and propriety of government expenditure.
- **Union Public Service Commission** to conduct examinations for recruitment to all-India services and higher Central services and to advise the President on disciplinary matters.
- **State Public Service Commission** in every state to conduct examinations for recruitment to state services and to advise the governor on disciplinary matters.

Option 1 is incorrect. The Central Vigilance Commission is not a constitutional body so it is not considered as bulwarks of the democratic system of Government in India as per the constitution.

Q.17) This Act empowers the Centre or a State government to detain a person to prevent him from acting in any manner prejudicial to the security of the nation. The government can also detain a person to prevent him from disrupting public order or for maintenance of supplies and services essential to the community.

In context of the above passage which one of the following correctly describes the above scenario?

- a) Official Secret Act

- b) National Security Act
- c) Unlawful Assembly and Prevention Act.
- d) None of the above

Ans) b

Exp)

Option a is incorrect. The Official Secrets Act was first enacted in 1923 and was retained after Independence. The law, applicable to government servants and citizens, provides the framework for dealing with espionage, sedition, and other potential threats to the integrity of the nation. The law makes spying, sharing 'secret' information, unauthorised use of uniforms, withholding information, interference with the armed forces in prohibited/restricted areas, among others, punishable offences. If guilty, a person may get up to 14 years' imprisonment, a fine, or both.

Option b is correct. National Security Act empowers the Centre or a State government to detain a person to prevent him from acting in any manner prejudicial to national security. The government can also detain a person to prevent him from disrupting public order or for maintenance of supplies and services essential to the community. The maximum period for which one may be detained is 12 months. But the term can be extended if the government finds fresh evidence.

Option c is incorrect. The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 aims at effective prevention of unlawful activities across India and abroad. Its main objective was to provide powers to central agencies and states to deal with terrorist activities. Recently Rajya Sabha has cleared the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill, 2019 or anti-terror law.

The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2019 seeks to substantially modify Chapter VI of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 and Section 35 and 36 therein. The new Section 35 of the UAPA Act, 1967 empowers the Central government to categorise any individual as 'terrorist' and add the name of such a person in Schedule 4 of the Act.

Q.18) Which of the following statements is/are correct about the Section 144 of Criminal Procedure Code (1973)?

1. It empowers the authorities to block internet access.
2. It can be imposed in some places or surrounding areas all the time.
3. It allows the court to decide the maximum punishment for violation of the section.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans) b

Exp)

- **Section 144 CrPC Criminal Procedure Code (1973) is a law retained from the British era.** It empowers a district magistrate, a sub-divisional magistrate or any other executive magistrate specially empowered by the state government in this behalf to issue orders to prevent and address urgent cases of apprehended danger or nuisance. No order under Section 144 shall remain in force for more than two months but the state government can extend the

validity up to six months. It can be withdrawn at any point of time if the situation becomes normal.

- **Section 144 provides for communications blockades as well.** The rules for suspending telecommunication services, which include voice, mobile internet, SMS, landline, fixed broadband, etc, are explained under **the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017**. These Rules derive their powers from the Indian **Telegraph Act of 1885**, Section 5(2) which talks about the interception of messages in the "interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India". **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Statement 2 is correct.** There are certain places which are highly sensitive and have Section 144 imposed in the surrounding areas all the time. **Parliament Building Complex and the Supreme Court** are among such areas where Section 144 is always in force.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Violation of Section 144 is liable for punishment upto three years in jail. However, in most cases involving public protests, the protesters are taken into custody by police and released after a few hours as seen in protests over the Citizenship Amendment Bill.

Q.19) The term 'Enemy Alien' has been used in the Constitution. It means

- a) Naturalised Indian citizen who had hidden some important facts during registration for citizenship.
- b) A citizen of a country who is at war with India.
- c) An Indian citizen who is booked under sedition act.
- d) An Indian citizen who has fled the country after committing a crime.

Ans) b

Exp) Like any other modern state, India has two kinds of people—**citizens and aliens**. Citizens are full members of the Indian State and owe allegiance to it. They enjoy all civil and political rights. Aliens, on the other hand, are the citizens of some other state and hence, do not enjoy all the civil and political rights. They are of two categories—**friendly aliens or enemy aliens**. Friendly aliens are the subjects of those countries that have cordial relations with India. **Enemy aliens, on the other hand, are the subjects of that country that is at war with India.** They enjoy lesser rights than the friendly aliens, eg, they do not enjoy protection against arrest and detention (Article 22).

Q.20) In context of anti-defection law which of the following is *not* a valid ground of disqualification of Member of Legislative Assemblies?

- a) Giving up the party membership.
- b) Going against the party whip.
- c) Abstaining from voting.
- d) Giving voluntary resignation

Ans) d

Exp) Option a, b and c are correct. The phenomenon of defections is not new to Indian politics. It has been plaguing the political landscape for over five decades. The most prominent case was that of Haryana's Gaya Lal, originally an independent MLA who, in 1967, juggled between the Congress and Janata Party for two weeks, during which he switched his loyalty

thrice. The recurrence of this evil phenomenon led to the 1985 Anti-Defection Law, which defined three grounds of disqualification of MLAs —

- giving up party membership
- going against party whip
- abstaining from voting.

Option d is incorrect. Resignation as MLA is not one of the conditions for disqualification.

Exploiting this loophole, the 17 rebel MLAs in Karnataka resigned, their act aimed at ending the majority of the ruling coalition and, at the same time, avoiding disqualification.

However, the court rejected the MLAs' contention that their disqualification was invalid as they had tendered their resignations. But it said the act that led to their disqualification preceded their offer of resignation.

Jatin Verma's IAS Academy