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**Daily Current Affairs**

**GEO IAS**

SOURCES



**Date: 11 May 2024**

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2. Arvind Kejriwal released on interim bail: the case so far, what now- INDIAN EXPRESS
3. First Patient Begins Newly Approved Sickle Cell Gene Therapy- Indian Express
4. Health Ministry issues norms for confirming heat-related deaths - The Hindu
5. Lok Sabha Elections 2024: Turnouts, delays, Form 17C- The Indian Express
6. FinMin pushes for CPSEs adopting NPS- The Hindu
7. Should all of Parliament security be with CISF? Panel will examine -Indian Express
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## Important News Articles

### GS II

#### 1. India backs Palestine's bid for full UN membership- The Hindu

**Relevance:** Important International Institutions, agencies and fora - their Structure, Mandate.

##### Prelims Takeaway

- UNGA
- Palestine

**News:**

- The UNGA adopted a resolution with **143 votes in favor**
- It does not give Palestinians full membership, but recognises them as qualified to join

**Key Highlights:**

- India voted in favor of a draft **U.N. General Assembly** resolution that said Palestine is qualified and should be admitted as a full member
  - Of the United Nations and recommended that the **Security Council "reconsider" the matter.**
- The 193-member General Assembly for an emergency special session:
  - The resolution determined that "the State of Palestine is qualified for membership in the United Nations" in accordance with Article 4 of the Charter of the U.N.
  - "should therefore be admitted to membership in the United Nations".
- India was the first non-Arab State to recognise the Palestine Liberation Organisation as legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in 1974.
  - India was also one of the first countries to recognise the State of Palestine in 1988 and in 1996.
- Palestine, in its current capacity as an observer state, does not have the right to vote in the General Assembly or to put forward its candidature to U.N. organs.

#### 2. Arvind Kejriwal released on interim bail: the case so far, what now- INDIAN EXPRESS

**Relevance:** Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies.

##### Prelims Takeaway

- Enforcement Directorate

**News:**

- Bail is the temporary release of a defendant in a criminal case before the court announces its judgment. It involves the provision of security to secure the release of the accused.

**there are three common types of bail**

- Although the term itself is not defined in the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC):
- **Regular Bail:** Typically granted to individuals who have been arrested or are in police custody.
- This type of bail can be sought under sections 437 and 439 of the CrPC.
- **Interim Bail:** Granted for a brief period, usually before a hearing for regular bail or anticipatory bail.
- **Anticipatory Bail:** Authorized under section 438 of the CrPC by either the session court or the High Court.
- It allows individuals to seek protection from arrest if they anticipate being apprehended for a non-bailable offense.

**concerning the Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22 and its associated controversy**

- The bail granted to the accused, including the Delhi Chief Minister, is significant.
- This policy, implemented in November 2021, altered the sale of liquor in Delhi by transitioning to private operators exclusively.
- Subsequent investigations implicated government officials in receiving kickbacks from liquor business owners to influence elections in Punjab and Goa in early 2022.
- Despite nine summonses from the Enforcement Directorate (ED) related to the excise policy case, the Delhi Chief Minister was arrested on March 21, with the ED asserting his central role in the alleged scam.
- Following the rejection of his petition by the Delhi High Court challenging his arrest, he appealed to the Supreme Court.
- The Supreme Court Bench, on May 10, decided to grant him interim bail until June 1, coinciding with the closure of voting for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

### 3. First Patient Begins Newly Approved Sickle Cell Gene Therapy- Indian Express

**Relevance:** Issues Relating to Development and Management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health.

**News:**

- Commercially approved gene therapy can now cure the condition.

**Gene therapy**

- It is a technique that involves altering the genetic material of cells to treat or prevent disease.
- It aims to introduce a normal, functional gene to compensate for the defective, disease-causing gene.
- It employs various approaches:** replacing a mutated gene with a healthy copy, inactivating a mutated gene, and introducing a new gene.
- Unlike traditional drugs, gene therapy targets the root genetic causes inside cells.
- Active clinical trials approach various inherited and acquired disorders.
- Approaches include ex vivo modification of hematologic stem cells, T lymphocytes, and other immune cells, and in vivo delivery of genes or gene editing reagents to relevant target cells.

#### Prelims Takeaway

- Gene therapy
- Sickle cell disease

### 4. Health Ministry issues norms for confirming heat-related deaths - The Hindu

**Relevance:** Issues Relating to Development and Management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health.

**News:**

- The Union Health Ministry has issued standardised guidelines for confirming heatstroke and heat-related deaths in the country.

**Highlights:**

- These guidelines were prepared by the **National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health and the National Centre for Disease Control**
- The set of guidelines is aimed at **helping hospitals become aware** of the criteria to label a death as heat-related or heatstroke and bring in evidence-based medical decision-making processes.
- The decision to conduct an autopsy should be based on the circumstances of the death, the age of the deceased, and the available resources.
- The collection of blood, urine, etc., for toxicological examination, is highly desirable if the condition of the body allows it.
- The note states that climate change is **raising risks by increasing exposure** to extreme heat events.
- The guidelines have recommended that **autopsy is not mandatory** in all cases of **heat-related illnesses** and hospitals with the forensic medicine departments may be collaborated to perform the autopsies and send the samples to pathology departments for histopathological evaluation.

#### Prelims Takeaway

- NCDC
- Extreme heat events

### 5. Lok Sabha Elections 2024: Turnouts, delays, Form 17C- The Indian Express

**Relevance:** Salient Features of the Representation of People's Act.

**News:**

- ECI has rejected allegations that the declaration of final voter turnouts have been unfairly delayed.

**Key Highlights:**

- As per the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, there are two forms that have data on the number of electors and voters — Forms 17A and 17C.
- The former 17A is a register of voters, in which polling officials record the details of every voter who comes into the booth and signs the register. 17C is the account of the votes recorded.
- Form 17C** is issued to the polling agents of candidates at the close of polling.
- It has the identification numbers:

#### Prelims Takeaway

- RPA, 1951
- EVM

- of the EVMs used in the polling station;
- the total number of electors assigned to the polling station;
- the total number of voters as entered in the register for voters (Form 17A);
- the number of voters who decided not to record their votes after signing the register;
- the number of voters who were not allowed to vote;
- and total number of votes recorded per EVM.
- The data in Form 17C are considered final, and lie at the heart of any Election Petition that may be filed challenging the result.
- The number of electors and those who cast their votes as recorded in Form 17C can be matched with the EVM count.

## 6. FinMin pushes for CPSEs adopting NPS- The Hindu

**Relevance:** Government Policies and Interventions for Development in various sectors and Issues arising out of their Design and Implementation.

### Prelims Takeaway

- NPS
- CPSE

### News:

- The Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) in the Finance Ministry has sent letters to various Administrative Ministries and government departments
- To sensitize the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) under their control, about the benefits of adopting the **National Pension System (NPS)** for their employees.

### Key Highlights:

- 76 CPSEs had already adopted the NPS to extend the pension benefit to their employees.
- The letter has been sent to the Chief Executive Officers of about 120 CPSEs that are yet to adopt NPS for their employees.
  - The NPS was made mandatory for all Central employees (except armed forces personnel) who joined service on or after January 1, 2004.
- Most States have adopted the NPS, since 2009, however:
  - The NPS has been available to every citizen voluntarily, including corporations.
  - The DPE identified the CPSEs still not on board the NPS
- The NPS assets under management (AUM) grew 27% year-on-year to ₹11.89-lakh crore.
- In 2023-24, as many as 9.47 lakh new subscribers joined the NPS from the non-government sector. Of these, 8.10 lakh were from the 'all citizen model' and 1.37 lakh corporate employees.
- The overall robust growth in NPS assets was driven by buoyant equity markets and a widening NPS subscriber base as more working-age Indians take up retirement planning seriously.

## 7. Should all of Parliament security be with CISF? Panel will examine - Indian Express

**Relevance:** Parliament —Structure, Functioning, Conduct of Business, Powers & Privileges and Issues Arising out of these.

### Prelims Takeaway

- Article 98
- Parliament Security Service

### News:

- Union Home Ministry has constituted a panel to assess whether CISF should take charge of entire process of security at the Parliament

### Highlights:

- The responsibilities of Parliament security are currently entrusted with the **Parliament Security Service, which functions under the Watch and Ward committee.**
- Deliberations are underway to assess **whether the CISF can take over the security entirely.**
- For the last many years, **no fresh recruitments** have taken place, that's why strength of the Parliament Security Service is thin.
- The **former Lok Sabha Secretary General**, raised concerns over the move and said, Parliament security is a part of the Lok Sabha Secretariat and its job is to protect the interest of MPs and facilitate things for them.

- **This cannot be performed by any outside security agency.**

#### Parliament Security Service

- It came into existence with the formation of the **Watch and Ward Committee on September 3, 1929**, an initiative taken by **Vithalbai Patel**, then president of the Central Legislative Assembly.
- The committee works independently under the **Lok Sabha Speaker**.
- Currently, **Parliament Security Service is solely responsible** for management of access control and regulation of people, material and vehicles within the historical and prestigious Parliament House complex.
- An official pointed out that it is important for the **Parliament to have a specially trained group** that is **independent from the executive**.
  - However, it is essential to ensure that the government of the day does not limit access to Parliament, impose its security on Parliament, or limit Parliament's potential use of the precincts
- **Article 98** of the Constitution also mandates each House to have a separate secretariat staff.

### GS III

## 8. Industrial output growth slowed to 4.9% in March - The Hindu

**Relevance:** Indian Economy and issues relating to Planning, Mobilization of Resources, Growth, Development and Employment.

**News:** India's industrial output growth slowed to 4.9% in March.

#### Highlights:

- **Mining output** slid to a **19-month low growth**, while **electricity generation rose 8.6%** from a 1.6% contraction in March 2023.
- Manufacturing, which constitutes **77.6% of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**, grew at a **five-month high pace of 5.2%** in March
- Manufacturing growth for February was revised to 4.9% from 5% estimated earlier, along with the month's **IIP growth which was downgraded from 5.7%**.
- Overall industrial output grew 5.8% in 2023-24, a tad **higher than the 5.2% rise in the previous year**,
  - Manufacturing output grew 5.5% compared with 4.7% in 2022-23 and mining output accelerated by 7.5% last year from a 5.8% rise in the preceding year.
  - Electricity generation grew 7.1% in 2023-24, easing from an 8.9% surge in the previous year.
- **Consumer goods remained the weakest performers through last year**, despite beneficial base effects.
- Consumer durables grew the weakest at 3.6% compared with a meagre 0.6% rise in **2022-23**, while non-durables rose 4% vis-à-vis a 0.7% uptick in the previous year.
- **In March, consumer durables output recorded the sharpest surge** for the second month in a row, rising 9.5%, albeit over an 8% contraction in March 2023.
- Consumer **non-durables broke a two-month streak of contraction** to rise 4.9%, but again over a weak base from March 2023, when they shrank 1.9%.
- The consumption scenario remained mixed last year with urban demand showing resilience while rural demand continued to lag
- While hopes of a **good monsoon, moderating inflation, and pick-up in rural demand are positives**, a broad-based and durable improvement in consumption remains the key this year.

#### Prelims Takeaway

- IIP
- Consumer Durables

## Editorials, Gists and Explainers

### 9. Freshwater quest, the likely new gold hunt- THE HINDU

**Relevance:** Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

**Context:**

- freshwater is a depleting resource, countries will begin exploring for and exploiting freshwater from above or under the ocean bed'

<p><b>Legal Framework and Jurisdictional Issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) predominantly regulates maritime law, while customary international law remains influential.</li> <li>Despite this, UNCLOS takes precedence over the Geneva Conventions on the Law of the Sea, leading to complexities in legal interpretation and application.</li> </ul> <p><b>Definition of Resources and Regulation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNCLOS defines resources within the "Area," including minerals, which raises questions regarding the classification of freshwater as a mineral.</li> <li>The International Seabed Authority oversees exploration and exploitation within the "Area," yet lacks clarity regarding freshwater extraction.</li> </ul> <p><b>Challenges in Enforcement and Regulation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The absence of specific legislation governing freshwater extraction beyond national borders complicates regulatory efforts.</li> <li>As water scarcity emerges as a global issue, addressing legal loopholes and standardizing regulations becomes increasingly vital.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Implications for International Relations and Sustainable Development:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The escalating scarcity of freshwater may fuel international disputes over water rights and access, posing significant challenges to global peace and stability.</li> <li>Effectively managing freshwater exploration and extraction in international waters demands collaborative action among nations to ensure fair access and sustainable practices.</li> <li>Given India's dedication to Sustainable Development Goals, it holds the potential to lead initiatives aimed at regulating freshwater exploration in international waters.</li> <li>By fostering cooperation among nations, India can contribute significantly to promoting equitable access and sustainable management of freshwater resources.</li> </ul>
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### 10. The fraying of the model code of conduct - The Hindu

**Relevance:** Powers, Functions and Responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies.

**News:**

- The model code of conduct has attracted national attention because of its egregious violation by senior politicians during the election campaign for the 18th Lok Sabha.

## Highlights:

- Political parties are **duty bound to obey model code of conduct**
- However, as elections in India are a no holds barred war, **this consensus often breaks down** with party leaders losing no opportunity to hit their opponents below the belt.
- **Article 324** confers on the Election Commission, plenary powers to enable it to ensure a free and fair election.

## Election Commission of India vs State of Tamil Nadu and Others (1993)

- The **Supreme Court** of India stated:
  - The ECI is a **high constitutional authority** charged with the function and the duty of ensuring free and fair elections and of the purity of the electoral process.
  - It has all the **incidental and ancillary powers** to effectuate the constitutional objective and purpose.
  - The **plenitude of the Commission's powers corresponds to the high constitutional functions it has to discharge**

## Model of Conduct

- The model code of conduct was framed by the Election Commission to ensure **that the elections are free and fair** and the electoral process remains pure.
- The **key provisions** of the code are: no party or candidate shall indulge in any activity which may aggravate existing differences or create communal hatred or cause tension between different castes, communities religious or linguistic; criticism of other political parties shall be confined to their policies and programs.
- **No unverified allegations or distortions** against other parties shall be allowed; there shall be no appeal to cast or communal feelings for securing votes; no party or its candidate shall indulge in corrupt practices or commit offences under the election law.

- The model code of conduct is **not legally enforceable**.
  - it is not possible to seek any relief from the court for violation of the code.
- The only way open to the aggrieved party is to complain to the Election Commission and seek its intervention.
- It must be noted here that neither **The Representation of the People Act nor The Conduct of Election Rules makes any provision for the model code of conduct.**
- However, the **Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order** brought out by the ECI in 1968 **makes a provision to deal with the violation of the Model Code of Conduct.**

## A violation of oath

- The issue of senior members of the Council of Ministers making **communally charged speeches** during the election campaign **has not been dealt with sternly by the ECI** or the courts.
- A Minister, through the oath he takes, gives a **solemn assurance** to the people of the country that he will do right to all manner of people **without favour or ill will**.
  - But by speaking directly or indirectly against a section of the society, they demonstrate their inherent bias which is a violation of oath.
- **The Constitution or the election law does not prescribe any punishment for violating the oath by Ministers.**
- **Section 125 of the Representation of People Act 1951**, provides for a three-year sentence as maximum punishment for promoting feelings of enmity or hatred between different classes of citizens on the ground of religion.

—It's about quality—



## Quick Look

### 1. AlphaFold 3

- DeepMind developed a purpose-built AI tool to predict the shapes into which different proteins could fold, called AlphaFold.
- Recently, DeepMind launched AlphaFold 3, which can reportedly predict the shapes with nearly 80% accuracy as well as model DNA, RNA, ligands.
- As with the first two AlphaFolds, no. 3 is great for being able to elucidate the folded proteins' structures in seconds rather than the years humans have required with advanced microscopic techniques.

### 2. World Migratory Bird Day

- World Migratory Bird Day is an annual awareness-raising campaign highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats.
- It has a global outreach and is an effective tool to help raise global awareness of the threats faced by migratory birds, their ecological importance, and the need for international cooperation to conserve them.

### 3. Western Disturbance

- Western disturbances are low-pressure storms originating in the Mediterranean Sea and play a crucial role during India's winter season.
- Driven by the Westerly Jet Stream, they bring much-needed rain to the north, nurturing the rabi crop and clearing pollution.

### 4. Lokpal

- The Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013 provided for the establishment of Lokpal for the Union and Lokayukta for States.
- They perform the function of an "ombudsman" and inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries and for related matters.
- Lokpal is a multi-member body that consists of one chairperson and a maximum of 8 members.

### 5. LVM3

- Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) Launch Vehicle Mark 3, The LVM-3 has 3 stages:
- The first (or bottom most stage) is in the form of 2 S200 boosters straps to the sides of the rocket body. They combust a solid fuel called hydroxyl-terminated polybutadiene,
- The second stage is powered by Vikas Engines, which combust a liquid fuel, either nitrogen tetroxide or unsymmetrical dimethylhydrazine.
- The Uppermost final stage is Powered by a cryogenic engine. It combusts liquified hydrogen with liquified oxygen.

## Prelims Track Question

**Q1. Consider the following statement regarding UNGA**

1. It appoints the Secretary-General of UN on the recommendation of the Security Council
2. It elects the non-permanent members of the Security Council
3. Each of the 193 Member States of the United Nations has an equal vote in UNGA

**How many of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

**Q2. Consider the following statement :**

**Statement I:** Interim Bail: Granted for a brief period, usually before a hearing for regular bail or anticipatory bail.

**Statement II:** although the term 'BAIL' itself is not defined in the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC):

**Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?**

- A. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- B. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- C. Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- D. Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

**Q3. Consider the following statement about gene therapy**

1. It is a technique that involves altering the genetic material of cells to treat or prevent disease.
2. It aims to introduce a normal, functional gene to compensate for the defective, disease-causing gene.
3. Replacing a mutated gene with a healthy copy, inactivating a mutated gene, and introducing a new gene are few approaches applied by it

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

**Q4. Consider the following statement regarding National Centre for Disease Control**

1. It is under the administrative control of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
2. It has its headquarters in Mumbai
3. It takes leading role in undertaking investigations of disease outbreaks all over the country

**How many of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

**Q5. Consider the following statement regarding Representation of People Act, 1950**

1. It lays down procedures for delimitation of constituencies.
2. It provides for the allocation of seats in the Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils of States.
3. It lays down the qualifications of voters.

**How many of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

**Q6. Consider the following statement regarding National Pension System**

1. It was launched in 2009 with the objective of providing retirement income to all the citizens.
2. It is not provided to the unorganized sector workers
3. The subscriber is allotted a unique Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN) under this system.

How many of the above statement is/are are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

**Q7. Consider the following statement regarding Parliament Security Service**

1. It came into existence with the formation of the Public Undertakings Committee
2. The committee works independently under the PM.
3. It is solely responsible for management of access control and regulation within Parliament House complex.

How many of the above statement is/are are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

**Q8. Consider the following statement regarding Consumer durables**

1. These are goods that need to be purchased very often.
2. Economists keep a keen eye on their consumption as it is considered a good indicator of the economy's strength.
3. They include appliances such as refrigerators, washing machines, televisions etc

How many of the above statement is/are are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

**Q9. Consider the following statements about the International Seabed Authority (ISA):**

1. It was established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
2. Its primary function is to regulate the exploration and exploitation of mineral resources in international waters.
3. India is not a member of the ISA.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

**Q10. Consider the following statement regarding Model Code of Conduct**

1. It is legally enforceable.
2. The Representation of the People Act makes provision for the model code of conduct.
3. The Constitution prescribes punishment for violation of the oath by Ministers.

How many of the above statement is/are are correct?

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

## Prelims Track Answer

### Answer 1 Option C is correct

#### Explanation:

- The UN General Assembly (UNGA) is the main policy-making organ of the Organization. Comprising all Member States, it provides a unique forum for multilateral discussion of the full spectrum of international issues covered by the Charter of the United Nations
- The UNGA makes key decisions for the UN, including:
  - appointing the Secretary-General on the recommendation of the Security Council. **Statement 1 is correct.**
  - electing the non-permanent members of the Security Council. **Statement 2 is correct.**
  - approving the UN budget
- Each of the 193 Member States of the United Nations has an equal vote. **Statement 3 is correct.**

### Answer 2 Option B is correct

#### Explanation

- Interim Bail: Granted for a brief period, usually before a hearing for regular bail or anticipatory bail.
- Anticipatory Bail: Authorized under section 438 of the CrPC by either the session court or the High Court.
- It allows individuals to seek protection from arrest if they anticipate being apprehended for a non-bailable offense.
- although the term itself is not defined in the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC). **HENCE BOTH STATEMENTS ARE CORRECT**

### Answer 3 Option C is correct

#### Explanation

- It is a technique that involves altering the genetic material of cells to treat or prevent disease.
- It aims to introduce a normal, functional gene to compensate for the defective, disease-causing gene.
- It employs various approaches: replacing a mutated gene with a healthy copy, inactivating a mutated gene, and introducing a new gene.

- Unlike traditional drugs, gene therapy targets the root genetic causes inside cells. **Hence all statements are correct**
- Active clinical trials approach various inherited and acquired disorders.
- Approaches include ex vivo modification of hematologic stem cells, T lymphocytes, and other immune cells, and in vivo delivery of genes or gene editing reagents to relevant target cells.

### Answer 4 Option B is correct

#### Explanation:

- The NCDC is under the administrative control of the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. **Statement 1 is correct.**
- The NCDC has its headquarters in Delhi and has eight outstation branches. **Statement 2 is incorrect.**
- NCDC takes a leading role in undertaking investigations of disease outbreaks all over the country employing epidemiological and diagnostic tools. **Statement 3 is correct.**

### Answer 5 Option B is correct

#### Explanation:

#### Representation of People Act, 1950

- Lays down procedures for delimitation of constituencies. **Statement 1 is correct.**
- It Provides for the allocation of seats in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils of States. **Statement 2 is incorrect.**
- Lays down the qualification of voters. **Statement 3 is correct.**

### Answer 6 Option A is correct

#### Explanation:

- The National Pension System (NPS) was launched on 1st January, 2004 with the objective of providing retirement income to all the citizens. **Statement 1 is incorrect**
- Initially, NPS was introduced for the new government recruits (except armed forces). But now NPS has been provided for all citizens of the country including the unorganized sector workers on a voluntary basis. **Statement 2 is incorrect.**

- The subscriber is allotted a unique Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN) under this system. This unique account number will remain the same for the rest of the subscriber's life. **Statement 3 is correct.**

### Answer 7 Option A is correct

#### Explanation:

- Parliament Security Service came into existence with the formation of the Watch and Ward Committee on September 3, 1929, an initiative taken by Vithalbai Patel, then president of the Central Legislative Assembly. **Statement 1 is incorrect.**
- The committee works independently under the Lok Sabha Speaker. **Statement 2 is incorrect.**
- Currently, Parliament Security Service is solely responsible for management of access control and regulation of people, material and vehicles within the historical and prestigious Parliament House complex. **Statement 3 is correct.**

### Answer 8 Option B is correct

#### Explanation:

- Consumer durables are goods that do not need to be purchased very often and last for at least three years. **Statement 1 is incorrect.**
- Economists keep a keen eye on the consumption of consumer durables, as it is considered a good indicator of the economy's strength. **Statement 2 is correct.**
- Examples of consumer durables include appliances like refrigerators, washing machines, televisions, and furniture like sofas and beds. **Statement 3 is correct.**

### Answer 9 Option B is correct

#### Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The International Seabed Authority (ISA) was established under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in 1982. UNCLOS is an international treaty that sets out the legal framework for all matters relating to the seas and oceans.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The ISA is the intergovernmental organization responsible for regulating the exploration and exploitation of mineral resources in the Area, which is the seabed and ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. This includes resources like polymetallic nodules, cobalt crusts, and sulfides.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** India is a member of the International Seabed Authority. In fact, India was the first country to receive the status of a "Pioneer Investor" in 1987, granting it exclusive rights to explore a specific area of the seabed in the Central Indian Ocean Basin for the development of polymetallic nodules.

### Answer 10 Option D is correct

#### Explanation:

- The model code of conduct is not legally enforceable. **Statement 1 is incorrect.**
- Neither The Representation of the People Act nor The Conduct of Election Rules makes any provision for the model code of conduct. **Statement 2 is incorrect.**
- The Constitution or the election law does not prescribe any punishment for violating the oath by Ministers. **Statement 3 is incorrect.**



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 +91-9477560001 /002/005

 BRANCH: Delhi Kolkata, Raipur, Patna |  
HEAD OFFICE: 641, Ramlal Kapoor Marg,  
Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi, 110009

 [info@geoias.com](mailto:info@geoias.com)

 [www.geoias.com](http://www.geoias.com)