

Chapter - 2

Federalism

(Assertion and Reason Questions)

Mark the option which is most suitable :

(a) If both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

(b) If both assertion and reason are true but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.

(c) If assertion is true but reason is false.

(d) If both assertion and reason are false.

Q.1. Assertion (A) : Belgium and Spain has 'holding together' federation.

Reason (R) : A big country divides power between constituent states and national government.

Q.2. Assertion (A) : Hindi is identified as the only official language of India.

Reason (R) : It helped in creating supremacy of Hindi speaking people over others.

Q.3. Assertion (A) : It is very simple to make the changes in the basic structure of the constitution.

Reason (R) : Both the houses have power to amend the constitution independently.

Q.4. Assertion (A) : India is a federation.

Reason (R) : Power resides with the central authority.

Q.5. Assertion (A) : Coalition government is formed during dearth of coal in the country.

Reason (R) : It helps in overcoming coal crisis.

Q.6. Assertion (A) : The subjects which are not included in Union List, State List and Concurrent List are considered as residuary subjects.

Reason (R) : The subjects included that came after constitution was made and thus could not be classified.

Q.7. Assertion (A) : India has a federal system.

Reason (R) : Under a unitary system, either there is only one level of government or the sub-units are subordinate to central government.

Q.8. Assertion (A) : Zilla Parishad Chairperson is the political head of the zilla parishad.

Reason (R) : Mayor is the head of municipalities.

Q.9. Assertion (A) : A major step towards decentralization was taken in 1992 by amending the constitution.

Reason (R) : Constitution was amended to make the third tier of democracy more powerful and effective.

Q.10. Assertion (A) : Third-tier of government is local government.

Reason (R) : It made democracy weak.

Q.11. Assertion (A) : Rural local government is popularly known by the name panchayati raj.

Reason (R) : Zilla parishad chairperson is the political head of the zilla parishad.

Q.12. Assertion (A) : Our Constitution did not give the status of national language to any one language.

Reason (R) : Restructuring the Centre-State relations is one more way in which federalism has been strengthened in practice.

Q.13. Assertion (A) : The local government structure goes right up to the state level.

Reason (R) : A few gram panchayats are grouped together to form what is usually called a panchayat samiti or block or mandal.

-X-X-X-

ANSWER KEY

Q.1 : (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion. The power of a large country is divided between constituent states and national government. The central government is more powerful than the states.

Q.2 : (c) Assertion is true but reason is false. Hindi is the identified as official language of India. However, it is spoken by only 40 per cent of Indians. Thus, to safeguard the rights of other linguistic communities, 21 other languages were recognized as Scheduled Languages by the Constitution.

Q.3 : (d) Both assertion and reason are false. It is difficult to make changes in the constitution in the federal system. Any change has to be first passed through both the houses of Parliament through atleast two-third majority. Then it has to be ratified by the legislatures of atleast half of the total states. Thus both reason and assertion are false.

Q.4 : (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion. India is a federal government and there is three-tier system of power sharing with central government, state government and local self government. It is a union of states and not a federation.

Q.5 : (d) Both assertion and reason are false. When no party is able to prove clear cut majority, several regional parties come together to form coalition government. It has no connection with scarcity of coal in the country.

Q.6 : (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion. The subjects which are not included in Union List, State List and Concurrent List are considered as Residuary subjects. It includes the subjects such as computer software that came after constitution was made. Union Government has power to legislate on these 'residuary' subjects.

Q.7 : (b) Both assertion and reason are true but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion. India has a federal government. There is a central government for the entire country and state governments for different regions. The reason is also true but does not justify the statement.

Q.8 : (b) Both assertion and reason are true but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion. Panchayat samitis of a district together form the zilla parishad. Zilla Parishad chairperson is the political head of the zilla parishad. Municipalities are set up in towns. Mayor is the head of municipalities. The reason does not however explain the assertion.

Q.9 : (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion. The constitution was amended in 1992 to make the third tier more powerful and effective. It includes steps like regular elections for local government bodies, reservation of seats for OBC, SC, ST and women and creation of State Election Commission. The reason thus justifies the assertion.

Q.10 : (c) Assertion is true but reason is false. The third tier of government is done through decentralisation. It helped in making democracy stronger by Biging it to grass root level. Thus, the reason is false but assertion stands true.

Q.11 : (b)

Q.12 : (b)

Q.13 : (d)