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Que 1: With respect to Goods and Services Tax (GST), consider the following statements:

1. It came into existence with the Constitution (102nd Amendment) Act, 2018.
2. The act introduced two types of taxes only.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Que 2: Recently seen in news Northern Alliance is related to:

- a) Syria
- b) Afghanistan
- c) Armenia
- d) Iran

Que 3: Often seen in news Bangkok Declaration is related to which of the following association:

- a) SAARC
- b) BRICS
- c) G20
- d) ASEAN

Que 4: With respect to Tribunals, consider the following statements:

1. The provisions regarding tribunals were not originally a part of the Constitution of India.
2. The provisions related to Tribunals were later included in accordance with the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee.

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Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Que 5: Often seen in news, consider the following diseases:

1. Chicken Pox
2. Dengue
3. Foot and Mouth Disease
4. Hepatitis B

Which of the above diseases is/are caused by viruses?

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

Explanation

1. Ans d)

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** There has been a constant endeavor for the introduction of the GST in the country whose culmination has been the introduction of the **Constitution (122nd Amendment) Bill in December, 2014.**
- **Later GST came into existence with the Constitution (101st Amendment) Act, 2016.**
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The act proposed GST to be a dual levy where the Central Government will levy and collect **Central GST (CGST)** and the State will levy and collect **State**

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GST (SGST) on intra-state supply of goods or services. The Centre will also levy and collect **Integrated GST (IGST)** on inter-state supply of goods or services.

2. Ans b)

- **The Northern Alliance, officially known as the United Islamic National Front for the Salvation of Afghanistan, was a military alliance of groups that operated between late 1996 to 2001 after the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (Taliban) took over Kabul.**
- Initially it included mostly Tajiks but by 2000, leaders of other ethnic groups had joined the Northern Alliance.
- The Northern Alliance fought a **defensive war against the Taliban regime.**
- They received **support from India, Iran, Russia, Tajikistan, Israel, Turkmenistan, United States and Uzbekistan**, while the Taliban were extensively backed by the Pakistan Army and Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence.
- By 2001 the Northern Alliance controlled less than 10% of the country, cornered in the north-east and based in Badakhshan province.
- Amidst the Fall of Kabul in 2021, former Northern Alliance leaders and other anti-Taliban figures have now been regrouped as the National Resistance Front of Afghanistan.

3. Ans d)

- **The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration) by the Founding Fathers of ASEAN, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.**
- Later, Brunei Darussalam joined it on 7 January 1984, Viet Nam on 28 July 1995, Lao PDR and Myanmar on 23 July 1997, and Cambodia on 30 April 1999, making up what is today the ten Member States of ASEAN.
- It is an **economic union comprising 10 member states in Southeast Asia, which promotes intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, political, security, military, educational, and sociocultural integration between its members and other countries in Asia.**
- ASEAN's primary objective was to **accelerate economic growth and through that social progress and cultural development.**
- ASEAN also regularly engages other countries in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.
- The ASEAN Summit is held **twice annually** at a time to be determined by the Chair of the ASEAN Summit in consultation with other ASEAN Member States. The summit is to be hosted by the ASEAN Member State holding the ASEAN Chairmanship.
- The First ASEAN Summit was held in Bali, Indonesia on 23-24 February 1976.

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4. Ans c)

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The provisions for **tribunals were not originally a part of the Constitution of India.**
- **Statement 1 is correct. The 42nd Amendment Act** introduced these provisions in accordance with the recommendations of the **Swaran Singh Committee** with the objective of delivering speedy, inexpensive and decentralised adjudication of disputes in various matters.
- The Amendment **introduced Part XIV-A**, called **Tribunals to the Constitution**. It contains two articles.
 - **Article 323A** related to Administrative Tribunals.
 - **Article 323B** related to Tribunals for other subjects such as: Taxation, Industrial and labour, Foreign exchange, import and export etc.

5. Ans d)

- **Chicken Pox is caused by Varicella Zoster Virus (VZV)** and is transmitted through contact or air.
- **Dengue fever is caused by Flavivirus** and is transmitted by Aedes Mosquitoes (Female).
- **Foot and Mouth Disease is caused by Picornavirus** and is transmitted through close-contact, animal-to-animal spread.
- **Hepatitis B is caused by Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)** and is transmitted through sexual intercourse or Exchange of Blood.