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Daily MCQs: 27-07-2024

1. A member of parliament is disqualified under anti defection law if

- 1) The Member voluntarily gives up party membership
 - 2) If a member violates a direction issued by his party to vote in a particular way or to abstain from voting.
 - 3) If an independent candidate joins any political party after their election to legislature
- Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1,2 and 3

2. “eSanjeevani initiative”, often seen in the news, is related to

- A. Research program to treat Covid using traditional medicines
- B. Initiative to supply Ayurvedic medicine to India’s neighbouring countries
- C. A program to cultivate medicinal plants through using precision technologies
- D. Web-based comprehensive telemedicine solution

3. Consider the following statements about Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY)

- 1) PMJAY covers both preventive and primary healthcare services for all citizens of India, irrespective of their economic status.
- 2) Only one member of a family can avail the benefits of the scheme.
- 3) A defined transport allowance per hospitalization will also be paid to the beneficiary.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 3 only

4. The primary objective of the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) is

- A. To provide internet access in rural area
- B. To promote digital transactions
- C. To make six crore rural households digitally literate
- D. To provide free smartphones to rural households

5. Assam shares international borders with which of the following countries?

- A. Nepal and China
- B. Bhutan and Myanmar
- C. Bangladesh and Myanmar

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D. Bhutan and Bangladesh

Solutions:

1. Answer: D

Explanation

- The **Tenth Schedule** of the Constitution, commonly known as the **anti-defection law**, was introduced in **1985** with a view to curb the tendency among legislators to switch loyalties from one party to another and facilitate the toppling of regimes and formation of new ones. The law applies to **both Parliament and state assemblies**.
- It provides for the **Presiding Officer** of the legislature to disqualify any defector on a petition by another member.
- Disqualification is done when:
 - Member **voluntarily gives up party membership**;
 - If a member **violates a direction (whip) issued by his party** to vote in a particular way or to abstain from voting.
 - If an **independent candidate** joins any political party after their election to legislature;
 - If a **nominated member** joins a party after 6 months of his/her nomination.
- While voting contrary to the party's whip is quite a straightforward instance of defection, the other mode of defection has proved to be a source of dispute and litigation. A member 'voluntarily giving up membership' does not refer to a simple resignation letter and formally joining another party. It is often an inference drawn by the party that **loses a member to another based on the legislator's conduct**.
- The Supreme Court has also ruled that 'voluntarily giving up membership' **can be inferred from the conduct of a person**.

Merger & Split

- Under Tenth Schedule, **disqualification on account of defection will not apply in case of a merger of one party with another**. There is a deemed merger **only if two-thirds of the party's total strength agrees to the merger**.
- Originally, the 10th Schedule had spoken of a '**split**' in a legislature party as an exception to the disqualification rule. That is if one-third of a legislature party leaves it or joins another party, it amounts to a 'split' and such members would not attract disqualification.
- This proved to be an escape clause for legislators to form a group that amounted to one-third of the legislature party's total strength and then cross over. This provision which allowed the use of a split to avoid disqualification for defection was **deleted by the Constitution (91st Amendment) Act, 2003**.

2. Answer: D

Explanation:

- Launched in **2009** by the **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare** 'eSanjeevani' is a **web-based comprehensive telemedicine solution**. It aims to provide healthcare services to patients in their homes.

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- Besides enhancing the quality of medical services, addressing issues about uneven distribution and shortage of infrastructural as well as human resources, eSanjeevani also aims to make healthcare services equitable by **bridging the digital divide** that exists between the urban vs. rural, rich vs. poor etc.
- eSanjeevani can also be used to provide **medical education** to interns, people across Various Common Service Centers (CSCs), etc.
- The portal was designed & developed by the **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)**, a premier R&D organization of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

Services provided

- eSanjeevani platform has enabled two types of telemedicine services viz.
 - Doctor-to-Doctor (eSanjeevani) and
 - Patient-to-Doctor (eSanjeevani OPD) Tele-consultations.

eSanjeevani

- It is being implemented under the **Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centre (AB-HWC)**. It aims to implement Doctor-to-Doctor teleconsultation in all the 1.5 lakh Health and Wellness Centres in conjunction with identified Medical College hospitals in a 'Hub and Spoke' model.
- States have identified and set up dedicated 'Hubs' in Medical Colleges and District hospitals to provide teleconsultation services to 'Spokes', i.e SHCs, PHCs and HWCs.

eSanjeevani OPD

- Owing to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Health Ministry launched the second tele-consultation service enabling patient-to-doctor telemedicine through 'eSanjeevaniOPD'.
- This service is available as an Android mobile application as well. This has made it convenient for the people to avail of the health services without having to travel.
- This e-health service is offered free of cost and has proved a boon in containing the spread of COVID while simultaneously enabling provisions for non-COVID essential healthcare.

3. Answer: D

Explanation

- Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY is the **largest health assurance scheme** in the world which aims at providing a **health cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization** to over **12 crores poor and vulnerable families** (approximately **55 crore beneficiaries**) that form the **bottom 40% of the Indian population**.
- The households included are based on the **deprivation and occupational criteria of Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011 (SECC 2011)** for rural and urban areas respectively. Hence **statement 1 is incorrect**.
- PM-JAY is **fully funded by the Government** and **cost of implementation is shared between the Central and State Governments**.
- To ensure that nobody is left out (especially women, children and elderly) there will be **no cap on family size and age** in the scheme. The benefits of INR 5,00,000 are on a **family floater basis** which means that it can be used by one or all members of the family. Hence **statement 2 is incorrect**.

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- The benefit cover will also include **3 days of pre-hospitalization and 15 days post-hospitalization expenses** such as diagnostics and medicines.
- A defined **transport allowance** per hospitalization will also be paid to the beneficiary. Hence statement 3 is correct.
- Benefits of the scheme are **portable across the country** and a beneficiary covered under the scheme will be allowed to take cashless benefits from **any public/private empanelled hospitals** across the country.

Implementation Strategy

- At the national level to manage, the **National Health Authority** has been set up. It is an **attached office of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with full functional autonomy**.
- NHA is governed by a **Governing Board chaired by the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare**.
- To implement the scheme at the State level, **State Health Agencies (SHAs)** in the form of a society/trust have been set up by respective States. SHAs have **full operational autonomy** over the implementation of the scheme in the State including extending the coverage to non SECC beneficiaries.

4. Answer: C

Explanation

Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)

- In order to **impart digital literacy in the rural areas**, in 2017, PMGDISHA was launched by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** with the aim to **empower at least one person per rural household with crucial digital literacy skills**.
- The Scheme envisages to **make six crore persons in rural areas**, across States/UTs, **digitally literate**, reaching to around 40% of rural households.
- The scheme aims at bridging the **rural-urban digital divide**, with special emphasis on marginalised sections of society.
- The Scheme would empower the citizens in rural areas by training them to operate computer or digital access devices (like tablets, smart phones etc.), send and receive e-mails, browse Internet, access Government services, search for information, undertake digital payment etc. and hence enable them to use Information Technology and related applications especially Digital Payments to actively participate in the process of nation building.
- The scheme is implemented by **CSC e-Governance Services India Limited**, a Special Purpose Vehicle set up by the **Ministry of Electronics & IT**, with active collaboration of all the State Governments and UT Administrations.

5. Answer: D

Explanation

Assam is located in the northeastern part of the country.

- It is bounded to the north by Bhutan and the state of Arunachal Pradesh.
- To the east by the states of Nagaland and Manipur.

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- To the south by the states of Mizoram and Tripura.
- To the west by Bangladesh and the states of Meghalaya and west Bengal.

