

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

The 73rd constitutional amendment act of 1992 has given a practical shape to **Article 40** of the Constitution which says that, “The State shall take steps to organize village panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government.” This article forms a part of the **Directive Principles of State Policy**.

Source: Indian Polity by Laxmikant, Chapter 38: Panchayati Raj, Page No. 38.7

Q.11) With reference to the ‘State Cabinet Committees’, consider the following statements:

1. They are set up by the chief minister.
2. Constitution doesn’t provide their number, nomenclature and composition.
3. The decisions of the cabinet committees must be compulsorily approved by the full cabinet.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans) b

Exp) Option b is correct.

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. They are set up by the chief minister according to the exigencies of the time and requirements of the situation. Hence, their number, nomenclature and composition vary from time to time. The cabinet works through various committees called Cabinet Committees. Committees not only sort out issues and formulate proposals for the consideration of the cabinet but also take decisions.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Cabinet committees are all powerful, which means if they take a decision, it is quite final and **does not need the stamp of approval of the full Cabinet**. However, the cabinet can review their decisions if it wants.

Source: Indian Polity 5th Edition M.Laxmikanth; chapter 32 “State Council of Ministers”

Q.12) The ‘Operation Breathing Space’, sometimes seen in the news, is related to

- a) United Nations' conservation programme in equatorial forests.
- b) Development of rapid testing kit for COVID-19.
- c) A joint outer space programme between India and Russia.