

- **Important Provisions relating to the Election of the Vice-President:**

- The election of the next Vice-President is to be held within 60 days of the expiry of the term of office of the outgoing Vice-President. **Hence option (a) is correct.**
- The Returning Officer usually appointed to conduct the Vice-Presidential elections is the Secretary-General of either House of the Parliament, by rotation. **Hence option (b) is not correct.**
- Any person qualified to be elected and intending to stand for election as Vice-President is required to be nominated by at least 20 MPs as proposers and at least 20 MPs as seconders.
- Any candidate may withdraw his candidature by a notice in writing in a prescribed form delivered to the Returning Officer within the time specified.
- All doubts and disputes arising in connection with the election of the Vice-President are inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court of India whose decision is final. **Hence option (c) is correct.**

Q 4.B

- In the event of the death of the following dignitaries, the national flag shall be half-masted at the places indicated against each on the day of the death of the dignitary.
- **By half-mast is meant hauling down the Flag to one half the distance between the top and the guy-line and in the absence of the guy-line, half of the staff.**

<u>Dignitary</u>	<u>Place or Places</u>
President	Throughout India
Vice-President	
Prime Minister	
Speaker of the Lok Sabha	Delhi
Chief Justice of India	
Union Cabinet Minister	Delhi and State Capitals
Minister of State or Deputy Minister of the Union	Delhi
Governor	Throughout the State or Union Territory concerned
Lt. Governor	
Chief Minister of a State	
Chief Minister of a Union territory	
Cabinet Minister in a State	Capital of the State concerned

- If the **intimation of the death of any dignitary is received in the afternoon, the Flag shall be half-masted on the following day also** at the place or places indicated above, **provided the funeral has not taken place before sun-rise on that day.**
- **On the day of the funeral of a dignitary mentioned above, the Flag shall be half-masted at the place where the funeral takes place.**
- **If State mourning is to be observed on the death of any dignitary, the Flag shall be half-masted throughout the period of the mourning throughout India** in the case of the Union dignitaries and throughout the State or Union territory concerned in the case of a State or Union territory dignitary.
- **Half-masting of the Flag and, where necessary, observance of State mourning on the death of foreign dignitaries will be governed by special instructions which will issue from the Ministry of Home Affairs in individual cases.**
- Notwithstanding the above provisions, in the event of a **half-mast day coinciding with the Republic Day, Independence Day, Mahatama Gandhi's Birthday, National Week (6th to 13th April, in the memory of martyrs of Jalianwala Bagh), any other particular day of national rejoicing as may be specified by the Government of India or, in the case of a State, on the anniversary of formation of that State, the Flags shall not be flown at half-mast except over the building where the body of the deceased is lying until such time it has been removed and that Flag shall be raised to the full-mast position after the body has been removed.**
- If mourning were to be observed in a parade or procession where a Flag is carried, two streamers of black crepe shall be attached to the spear head, allowing the streamers to fall naturally. The use of black crepe in such a manner shall be only by an order of the Government.