

Q 16.B

- **The National Investigation Agency (NIA)** is empowered to deal with terror-related crimes across states all over India. This Counter terrorist task force came into existence with the enactment of the **National Investigation Agency Act 2008 (NIA act)** after the deadly 26/11 terror attack in Mumbai. The government realized the need for a specific body to deal with terror-related activities in India, thereby establishing the NIA. The Headquarters of NIA is in New Delhi and branches are spread in different states and cities including Hyderabad, Guwahati, Kochi, Lucknow, Mumbai, Kolkata, Raipur, and Jammu.
- **Statement 1 is not correct:** NIA is an Independent organization that deals with terrorist activities. It is under the administrative jurisdiction of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** According to The National Investigation Agency (Amendment) Act, 2019 officers of the NIA will have the power to investigate scheduled offences committed outside India provided the case has been registered for the offences as contained in the schedule to the National Investigation Act 2008 and subject to international treaties and domestic laws of other countries.
- NIA can investigate offences related to various laws such as the Indian Penal code, Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), The Atomic Energy Act, 1962, Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), etc.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** A State Government may request the Central Government to hand over the investigation of a case to the NIA, provided there is reasonable ground to suggest the commission of a scheduled offence under the NIA Act in the said crime. On receipt of a report from the State Government, the Central Government shall within fifteen days determine on the basis of the information made available by the State Government it is a fit case to be investigated by the Agency.

Q 17.B

- **The Constitution provides for the creation and abolition of legislative councils in states.** Accordingly, the parliament can abolish or create, if the concerned state passes a resolution. Under Article 169 of the Indian constitution, Parliament may create or abolish the Council in a state if the Legislative Assembly of that state passes a resolution to that effect by a special majority. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The resolution for the creation of legislative council must be passed by a special majority, i.e., a majority of total membership of assembly and a majority of not less than two-thirds of the assembly present and voting. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 18.B

- The Rules committee considers the matters of procedure and conduct of business in the House and recommends necessary amendments or additions to the rules of the House.
- The Lok Sabha committee consists of 15 members including Speaker as the ex-officio chairman. In Rajya Sabha, it consists of 16 members including the Chairman as its ex-officio chairman. **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**
- General Purpose Committee considers and advises on general matters that are not covered by any other committee. This committee has Speaker {in Lok Sabha} and Chairman / Vice-President {In Rajya Sabha} as its chairman.
- Business Advisory Committee regulate the programme and time table of concerned house. Committee on Government Assurances examines the assurances, promises and undertakings given by the ministers on the floor of that house. The Lok Sabha Committee on Assurances has 15 members and Rajya Sabha Committee on Assurances has 10 members.

Q 19.D

- The President can be removed from office by a process of impeachment for 'violation of the Constitution. (Article 61 of Indian Constitution). However, the **Constitution does not define the meaning of the phrase 'violation of the Constitution.**
- **The impeachment charges can be initiated by either House of Parliament.** These charges should be signed by one-fourth of members of the House (that framed the charges), and a 14 days' notice should be given to the President.
- After the impeachment resolution is passed by a **majority of two-thirds of the total membership of that House**, it is sent to the other House, which should investigate the charges.
- The President has the right to appear and to be represented in such an investigation.
- **If the other House also sustains the charges and passes the impeachment resolution by a majority of two-thirds of the total membership, then the President stands removed from his office from the date on which the resolution is so passed. Hence statement (d) is not correct.**
- Impeachment is a quasi-judicial procedure in Parliament. In this context, two things should be noted: