

PANCHAYAT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

Total Questions: **40**

Topics Covered: Constitutional Framework, Committees, Structure, Rural
Development Schemes

Compiled for Competitive Exam Preparation

Part 1: Constitutional Framework (Q1-Q10)

1. The Panchayati Raj Institutions were granted constitutional status through which Amendment Act?

- a) 71st Amendment
- b) 72nd Amendment
- c) 73rd Amendment
- d) 74th Amendment

Answer: c) 73rd Amendment

Explanation: The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 added Part IX (Articles 243 to 243O) and the Eleventh Schedule to the Constitution, giving constitutional status to Panchayati Raj Institutions.

2. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act came into force on:

- a) 24 April 1992
- b) 24 April 1993
- c) 1 June 1993
- d) 2 October 1959

Answer: b) 24 April 1993

Explanation: The Act was passed by Parliament in December 1992 and came into force on 24 April 1993. This day is now celebrated as National Panchayati Raj Day.

3. Which Article of the Constitution deals with the composition of Panchayats?

- a) Article 243A
- b) Article 243B
- c) Article 243C
- d) Article 243D

Answer: c) Article 243C

Explanation: Article 243C deals with the composition of Panchayats. Article 243A is about Gram Sabha, 243B about constitution of Panchayats, and 243D about reservation of seats.

4. The 73rd Amendment provides for reservation of seats for women to the extent of:

- a) 25%
- b) 33%
- c) 50%
- d) 10%

Answer: b) 33%

Explanation: The Act provides for reservation of not less than one-third of the total seats for women in Panchayats at all three levels. Some states have increased this to 50%.

5. The superintendence, direction, and control of Panchayat elections are vested in:

- a) Election Commission of India
- b) State Election Commission
- c) Panchayati Raj Commission
- d) Governor

Answer: b) State Election Commission

Explanation: Under Article 243K, the State Election Commission has the power of superintendence, direction, and control over the preparation of electoral rolls and conduct of all elections to Panchayats.

6. The State Finance Commission under the 73rd Amendment is constituted every:

- a) 3 years
- b) 4 years
- c) 5 years
- d) 6 years

Answer: c) 5 years

Explanation: Under Article 243I, the Governor of a state shall constitute a Finance Commission every five years to review the financial position of the Panchayats and make recommendations.

7. The 73rd Amendment Act provides for a fixed term of office for Panchayats of:

- a) 3 years
- b) 4 years
- c) 5 years
- d) 6 years

Answer: c) 5 years

Explanation: Under Article 243E, every Panchayat shall continue for five years from the date of its first meeting.

8. The 11th Schedule of the Constitution contains how many functional items for Panchayats?

- a) 18
- b) 29
- c) 47
- d) 52

Answer: b) 29

Explanation: The Eleventh Schedule lists 29 subjects (like agriculture, health, education, drinking water, roads, etc.) on which Panchayats have powers and responsibilities.

9. Which of the following is NOT a feature of the 73rd Amendment Act?

- a) Direct elections to all Panchayat seats
- b) Three-tier system in every state
- c) Elections conducted by Panchayati Raj Commission

d) Reservation for SCs/STs in proportion to population

Answer: c) Elections conducted by Panchayati Raj Commission

Explanation: Elections are conducted by the State Election Commission, not a Panchayati Raj Commission. All other statements are correct features of the Act.

10. Which state was the first to implement the Panchayati Raj system in India?

a) Andhra Pradesh

b) Rajasthan

c) West Bengal

d) Gujarat

Answer: b) Rajasthan

Explanation: Rajasthan was the first state to implement Panchayati Raj on 2 October 1959 in Nagaur district, followed by Andhra Pradesh.

Part 2: Committees and History (Q11-Q15)

11. The Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (1957) recommended:

- a) Two-tier system
- b) Three-tier system
- c) Single-tier system
- d) Four-tier system

Answer: b) Three-tier system

Explanation: The Balwant Rai Mehta Committee recommended a three-tier structure: Gram Panchayat (village), Panchayat Samiti (block), and Zila Parishad (district).

12. The Ashok Mehta Committee (1977) recommended:

- a) Three-tier system
- b) Two-tier system (Mandal Panchayat and Zila Parishad)
- c) Single-tier system
- d) Five-tier system

Answer: b) Two-tier system (Mandal Panchayat and Zila Parishad)

Explanation: The Ashok Mehta Committee, appointed by the Janata Government, recommended a two-tier model with Mandal Panchayats and Zila Parishads.

13. The L.M. Singhvi Committee (1986) was appointed by:

- a) Indira Gandhi
- b) Rajiv Gandhi
- c) V.P. Singh
- d) P.V. Narasimha Rao

Answer: b) Rajiv Gandhi

Explanation: The L.M. Singhvi Committee was appointed by the Rajiv Gandhi government in 1986 to prepare a concept paper on 'Revitalization of Panchayati Raj Institutions for Democracy and Development.'

14. The G.V.K. Rao Committee (1985) described Panchayati Raj Institutions as:

- a) 'Roots of democracy'
- b) 'Grass without roots'
- c) 'Voice of the people'
- d) 'Engines of growth'

Answer: b) 'Grass without roots'

Explanation: The G.V.K. Rao Committee described PRIs as 'grass without roots' due to excessive bureaucratization and lack of real power at the local level.

15. The Gadgil Committee (1988) served as the basis for:

- a) 42nd Amendment
- b) 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act
- c) 74th Constitutional Amendment Act
- d) 86th Amendment

Answer: b) 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act

Explanation: The Gadgil Committee's recommendations formed the basis for drafting the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

Part 3: Structure and Functioning (Q16-Q20)

16. At which level of Panchayati Raj do Mandal or Taluka Panchayats function?

- a) Village level
- b) Intermediate level
- c) District level
- d) State level

Answer: b) Intermediate level

Explanation: The intermediate level (also called block level) links Village Panchayats and District-level administration. It is called Mandal Panchayat in Karnataka, Taluka Panchayat in Gujarat, and Panchayat Samiti in Maharashtra/Rajasthan.

17. The District Planning Committee (DPC) is provided under which Article?

- a) Article 243ZD
- b) Article 243ZE
- c) Article 243I
- d) Article 243K

Answer: a) Article 243ZD

Explanation: The District Planning Committee is a constitutional body under Article 243ZD, introduced through the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, to consolidate plans prepared by Panchayats and Municipalities.

18. What fraction of DPC members must be elected from among Panchayat and Municipality members?

- a) One-half
- b) Two-thirds
- c) Three-fourths
- d) Four-fifths

Answer: d) Four-fifths

Explanation: Not less than four-fifths of DPC members must be elected by and from among the elected members of Panchayats and Municipalities in the district.

19. Who is the Chief Executive Officer of a Panchayat Samiti?

- a) District Collector
- b) Block Development Officer (BDO)
- c) Sarpanch
- d) Zila Parishad Chairman

Answer: b) Block Development Officer (BDO)

Explanation: The BDO is the Chief Executive Officer of Panchayat Samiti (also called Janpad Panchayat). The CEO of Zila Parishad is generally an IAS officer.

20. Gram Sabha consists of:

- a) All adult members of the village
- b) Elected members of Gram Panchayat only
- c) All government officials in the village
- d) All registered voters in the Gram Panchayat area

Answer: d) All registered voters in the Gram Panchayat area

Explanation: Gram Sabha is a body comprising all persons registered in the electoral rolls relating to a village comprised within the area of a Gram Panchayat.

Part 4: Rural Development Schemes (Q21-Q30)

21. Which scheme guarantees at least 100 days of wage employment per year to rural households?

- a) NRLM
- b) MGNREGA
- c) PMGSY
- d) PMAY-G

Answer: b) MGNREGA

Explanation: The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 guaranteed 100 days of unskilled manual work. The new VB-G RAM G Act, 2025 increases this to 125 days.

22. The VB-G RAM G Act, 2025 replaced which Act?

- a) NREGA, 2005
- b) MGNREGA, 2005
- c) PMGSY, 2000
- d) NRLM, 2011

Answer: b) MGNREGA, 2005

Explanation: In December 2025, Parliament passed the Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin): VB-G RAM G Act, 2025 to replace MGNREGA, 2005.

23. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched in:

- a) 1995
- b) 2000
- c) 2005
- d) 2014

Answer: b) December 2000

Explanation: PMGSY was launched in December 2000 to provide all-weather road connectivity to unconnected rural habitations.

24. Which scheme aims to provide housing for all in rural areas?

- a) PMAY-Urban
- b) PMAY-Gramin
- c) Indira Awaas Yojana
- d) Both b and c

Answer: d) Both b and c

Explanation: PMAY-G (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin) was launched in 2016 by subsuming the Indira Awaas Yojana to address rural housing shortages.

25. The National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) is now known as:

- a) DAY-NRLM
- b) DDU-GKY
- c) PM-KISAN
- d) SAGY

Answer: a) DAY-NRLM

Explanation: It is now called Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM), which aims to reduce poverty through Self-Help Groups (SHGs).

26. DDU-GKY is a scheme for:

- a) Rural housing
- b) Skill training and placement of rural youth
- c) Rural road construction
- d) Agricultural subsidies

Answer: b) Skill training and placement of rural youth

Explanation: Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) is a placement-linked skill training program for rural poor youth aged 15-35 years.

27. Which of the following is a component of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)?

- a) IGNOAPS
- b) IGNOAPS and IGNWPS
- c) IGNOAPS, IGNWPS, and IGNDPS
- d) All of the above

Answer: d) All of the above

Explanation: NSAP comprises five schemes: IGNOAPS (Old Age), IGNWPS (Widow), IGNDPS (Disability), NFBS (Family Benefit), and Annapurna.

28. The Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) primarily focuses on:

- a) Rural electrification
- b) Rural sanitation and hygiene
- c) Rural road connectivity
- d) Rural employment

Answer: b) Rural sanitation and hygiene

Explanation: The Gramin version of Swachh Bharat Mission targets rural sanitation and open defecation free (ODF) status.

29. Saansad Aadarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) was launched in:

- a) 2012
- b) 2014

- c) 2016
- d) 2018

Answer: b) 2014

Explanation: SAGY was launched on 11th October 2014, under which each MP adopts villages for holistic development.

30. Which of the following is NOT a scheme under the Ministry of Rural Development?

- a) MGNREGA
- b) PMGSY
- c) DAY-NULM
- d) NRLM

Answer: c) DAY-NULM

Explanation: DAY-NULM (Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihoods Mission) is under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, not Rural Development.

Part 5: Rural Development Institutions (Q31-Q40)

31. NABARD was established in:

- a) 1969
- b) 1975
- c) 1982
- d) 1991

Answer: c) 1982

***Explanation:** The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) was set up in 1982 as the apex body for rural credit.*

32. Self-Help Groups (SHGs) were introduced in India in:

- a) 1982
- b) 1988
- c) 1992
- d) 1996

Answer: c) 1992

***Explanation:** SHGs were formally introduced in 1992 under the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) framework, though the concept evolved earlier.*

33. The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme was introduced in:

- a) 1988
- b) 1992
- c) 1998
- d) 2005

Answer: c) 1998

***Explanation:** The Kisan Credit Card scheme was launched in 1998 to provide adequate and timely credit support to farmers for their cultivation needs.*

34. Which is the apex funding agency for rural credit in India?

- a) State Bank of India
- b) RBI
- c) NABARD
- d) Regional Rural Banks

Answer: c) NABARD

***Explanation:** NABARD is the apex institution for providing refinance support and overseeing rural credit institutions.*

35. Which of the following is a non-institutional source of rural credit?

- a) Regional Rural Banks

- b) Commercial Banks
- c) Moneylenders
- d) NABARD

Answer: c) Moneylenders

Explanation: Moneylenders, traders, and landlords are non-institutional sources of rural credit, while banks and NABARD are institutional sources.

36. Operation Flood is related to:

- a) Milk cooperatives
- b) Pulse production
- c) Wheat production
- d) Cotton production

Answer: a) Milk cooperatives

Explanation: Operation Flood (1970-1996) was a program by the National Dairy Development Board to create a nationwide milk grid and develop dairy cooperatives.

37. The Community Development Programme (CDP) in India was launched in:

- a) 1947
- b) 1952
- c) 1960
- d) 1975

Answer: b) 1952

Explanation: CDP was launched in 1952 as the first major rural development program aimed at empowering rural communities through integrated development.

38. Inclusive development requires:

- a) Urban focus
- b) Targeting vulnerable groups
- c) Reducing welfare
- d) Ignoring the poor

Answer: b) Targeting vulnerable groups

Explanation: Inclusive development emphasizes providing opportunities to marginalized and vulnerable groups to ensure equitable growth.

39. The Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) was launched in:

- a) 1963
- b) 1973
- c) 1983
- d) 1993

Answer: b) 1973

Explanation: DPAP was launched in 1973-74 during the 4th Five Year Plan to tackle drought in identified areas.

40. PACS stands for:

- a) Primary Agriculture Coaching School
- b) Primary Agriculture Cooperative Society
- c) Primary Agriculture Credit Society
- d) Primary Agricultural Community Service

Answer: c) Primary Agriculture Credit Society

Explanation: PACS are the Primary Agriculture Credit Societies, the grassroots level cooperative credit institutions in rural India.