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Q25

Consider the following statements: 1. The Chief Secretary in a State is appointed by the Governor of that State. 2. The Chief Secretary in a State has a fixed tenure. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2 Official key: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2016 · General Studies · 2 marks · Polity and Governance

Indian Constitution, polity, rights, governance - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a)**

Statement 1 only. The **Chief Secretary** is not a Governor's independent appointee in the sense the statement suggests; the Chief Minister chooses the officer, and there is no constitutional fixed tenure. 1 is not a safe standalone key.

(b)

Statement 2 only. There is no constitutionally fixed tenure for a State **Chief Secretary** (experimental two-year tenure orders have not made a rigid all-India legal fixture). 2 is false.

(c)

- **Both. Both statements fail the standard UPSC reading:** CS is picked by the CM/state government, not 'appointed by the Governor' as a personal power, and tenure is not fixed. Both cannot be the key.

(d) Official key

Neither 1 nor 2. Appointment of the **Chief Secretary** is a Chief Minister-led executive choice among IAS officers; the Governor does not independently appoint. Tenure is not fixed by the Constitution. That stored letter is the official key.

Summary

Official key is (d) neither 1 nor 2. A State **Chief Secretary** is selected by the Chief Minister (state government), not independently by the Governor, and does not hold a constitutionally fixed term. Honour the stored letter (d).

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Chief Secretary

Senior-most civil servant in a State secretariat

Cadre

Almost always an IAS officer of that State cadre

Cabinet Secretary (Union)

Analogue at the Centre; also no constitutional tenure

Governor's role

Formal head of State executive; acts on aid and advice ([Article 163](#))

All-India Services

IAS/IPS/IFoS under [Articles 312](#) and cadre rules

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