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Q1

With reference to the Parliament of India, consider the following statements: 1. A private member's bill is a bill presented by a Member of Parliament who is not elected but only nominated by the President of India. 2. Recently, a private member's bill has been passed in the Parliament of India for the first time in its history. 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 2017 · General Studies · 2 marks · Polity and Governance

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

Explanation**(a)**

(a) 1 only. A **private member's** bill is any Bill moved by an MP who is not a Minister - elected or nominated. Statement 1 wrongly confines private members to Presidential nominees, so 1 only is not the key.

(b)

(b) 2 only. Private Members' Bills have been enacted several times since 1952; the claim that one was passed only recently for the first time is false, so 2 only is not the key.

(c)

(c) Both 1 and 2. Both statements fail: the definition of a **private member** is wrong, and first-time passage is historically untrue. Both cannot be the key.

(d) Official key

(d) Neither 1 nor 2. A **private member** is a non-Minister MP, not merely a nominated member. Several Private Members' Bills have already become law. Both statements are incorrect, so this is the official key.

Summary

Official key is (d) neither 1 nor 2. A **private member's** bill is presented by any Member of Parliament who is not a Minister, whether elected or nominated. Statement 1 therefore misstates the definition. Statement 2 is also wrong: Private Members' Bills have been passed in both Houses on earlier occasions, so there is no 'first time in history' in the recent past. The correct choice is that neither statement stands.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Private member

MP who is not a Minister

Government bill

Introduced by a Minister

Nominated Rajya Sabha

Article 80(1)(a), 12 members

Notice period (LS)

One month for a Private Member's Bill

Friday slot

Private Members' Business is usually taken on Fridays

First LS private Act

Muslim Wakfs Bill, 1952 (among early enactments)

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