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Q39

With reference to 'Scheduled Areas' in India, consider the following statements: 1. Within a State, the notification of an area as Scheduled Area takes place through an Order of the President. 2. The largest administrative unit forming the Scheduled Area is the District and the lowest is the cluster of villages in the Block. 3. The Chief Ministers of the concerned States are required to submit annual reports to the Union Home Ministry on the administration of Scheduled Areas in the States. How many of the above statements are correct? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2023 · General Studies · 2 marks · Polity and Governance

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

Explanation

(a)

Only one. Two statements hold.

(b) Official key

Only two. The President notifies Scheduled Areas; the unit runs from district down to village clusters. Annual reports to the Union Home Ministry by Chief Ministers are not the constitutional design.

(c)

All three. The Governor, not the CM, reports to the President on Scheduled Areas.

(d)

None. Presidential notification is **Fifth Schedule** law.

Summary

- **Official key is (b) only two. Paragraph 6 of the Fifth Schedule:** the President notifies Scheduled Areas. Administration is organised from district down to clusters of villages. Reports on Scheduled Areas go from the Governor to the President, not from Chief Ministers to the Home Ministry.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Fifth Schedule

Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes in states other than those on the **Sixth Schedule**.

Tribes Advisory Council

Fifth Schedule body to advise on ST welfare.

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