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Q77

What are the duties of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) as Head of the Department of Military Affairs? 1. Permanent Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee. 2. Exercise military command over the three Service Chiefs. 3. Principal Military Advisor to Defence Minister on all tri- service matters. Select the correct answer using the code given below (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1 and 3 only Official key: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2024 · General Studies · 2 marks · Polity and Governance

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

Explanation**(a)**

1, 2 and 3. CDS does not exercise military command over the three Service Chiefs.

(b)

1 and 2 only. Keeps the false command claim and drops the advisor role.

(c)

2 and 3 only. Drops the COSC chair, which is a CDS duty, and keeps command.

(d) Official key

1 and 3 only. Permanent Chairman of COSC and principal military adviser on tri-service matters; no command over Service Chiefs.

Summary

Official key is (d) 1 and 3 only. The CDS is Permanent Chairman of the **Chiefs of Staff Committee** and the principal military adviser to the Defence Minister on tri-service issues. Operational command of each Service stays with that Service Chief. Statement 2 is the trap.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Department of Military Affairs

Created in 2019; CDS is Secretary, DMA.

Chiefs of Staff Committee

CDS chairs it permanently; it coordinates the three Services.

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