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Q98

Consider the following statements about Lokpal : I. The power of Lokpal applies to public servants of India, but not to the Indian public servants posted outside India. II. The Chairperson or a Member shall not be a Member of the Parliament or a Member of the Legislature of any State or Union Territory, and only the Chief Justice of India, whether incumbent or retired, has to be its Chairperson. III. The Chairperson or a Member shall not be a person of less than forty-five years of age on the date of assuming office as the Chairperson or Member, as the case may be. IV. Lokpal cannot inquire into the allegations of corruption against a sitting Prime Minister of India. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) III only (b) II and III (c) I and IV (d) None of the above statements is correct Official key: A.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2025 · General Studies · 2 marks · Polity and Governance

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

Explanation**(a) Official key**

- **III only. Section 3(2)(b) of the Lokpal Act:** forty-five years on assuming office.

(b)

- **II and III. II fails:** a former CJI, a current or former SC judge, or an eminent person may chair - not 'only the CJI'. MPs are barred, but that does not save the whole of II.

(c)

- **I and IV. I fails:** the Act covers public servants in and outside India. IV fails: a sitting Prime Minister can be inquired into, with a full-bench filter.

(d)

None of the above. III holds.

Summary

Official key is (a) III only. A Lokpal chairperson or member must be at least forty-five. Jurisdiction covers public servants abroad, a non-CJI can chair, and a sitting PM can be inquired into under the Act - so I, II and IV fail. (d) is none.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013

The statute. Came into force 2014; first chairperson 2019.

PM under Lokpal

Inquirable except on international relations, security, public order, atomic energy and space - plus a bench filter.

Section 1(2) extra-territorial

Public servants outside India are covered. Why I is wrong.

Lokayukta

State counterpart. Not this question.

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