

DAILY PRACTICE WORKBOOK

**Polity &
Governance**

**UNION AND
TERRITORIES**

UNION AND TERRITORIES

Daily Practice Workbook | GS-II | PRELIMS

Section 1: Fill In The Blanks

Complete each statement with the correct word(s) | 10 Questions

Q1. Article 1(1) of the Constitution describes India as a '_____ of States' rather than a 'Federation of States'.

Answer:

Q2. According to Dr. Ambedkar, the Indian federation is not the result of an agreement among states, unlike the _____ Federation.

Answer:

Q3. Article 1(3) provides that the territory of India comprises territories of states, Union Territories, and territories that may be _____ in the future by the Government of India.

Answer:

Q4. Article _____ relates to the admission or establishment of new states that are NOT yet part of the Union of India, while Article 3 relates to changes in existing states.

Answer:

Q5. Before introducing a Bill under Article 3 in Parliament, prior _____ is required, and this authority must first refer the Bill to the concerned state legislature.

Answer:

Q6. The Berubari Union Case (1960) arose from an erroneous depiction of the boundary by the _____ Commission appointed by the British to issue the boundary award.

Answer:

Q7. The Supreme Court in the Berubari Union Case held that the _____ is NOT part of the Constitution – a ruling later overturned by Kesavananda Bharati (1973).

Answer:

Q8. The first linguistic state of India, _____, was created in 1953 after the death of Potti Sriramulu following a prolonged agitation.

Answer:

Q9. The States Reorganisation Commission (1953) was a three-member body headed by _____ and rejected the 'one language-one state' principle.

Answer:

Q10. Article 35A, which empowered the J&K legislature to define 'permanent residents', was issued through Presidential Order in 1954 known as Constitutional Order No. _____.

Answer:

Section 2: True Or False

Tick TRUE or FALSE for each statement | 10 Questions

#	STATEMENT	TRUE	FALSE
1	The states of India have the right to secede from the Union under the Constitution, similar to the right available to states in the American federal system.		
2	Article 3 empowers Parliament to form a new state, increase or diminish the area of a state, alter boundaries, and alter the name of any		

	state. Parliament is NOT bound by the views of the concerned state legislature.		
3	Laws made under Article 3 for the reorganisation of existing states are considered amendments to the Constitution and must follow the procedure under Article 368.		
4	The Supreme Court in the Berubari Union Case (1960) held that the settlement of a boundary dispute between India and Pakistan amounts to cession of territory and therefore requires a constitutional amendment under Article 368.		
5	The States Reorganisation Act of 1956, consequent to the Fazl Ali Commission, created 14 states and 6 Union Territories and abolished the four-fold Part A, B, C, D classification of states.		
6	Sikkim joined the Indian Union in 1975 after a referendum, having been an 'associate state' under the 35th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1974.		
7	Article 370 was placed in Part XX of the Constitution titled 'Amendment of the Constitution', indicating its permanent character.		
8	Under Article 370 (before abrogation), Parliament's power to make laws for J&K was limited to those matters in Union and Concurrent lists that corresponded to the Instrument of Accession – mainly external affairs, defence, communications and ancillary matters.		
9	The J&K Delimitation Commission (2022) increased total Assembly seats from 83 to 90, with Jammu getting 43 seats and Kashmir getting 47 seats.		
10	The Supreme Court in its 2023 judgement on Article 370 held that J&K retained 'internal sovereignty' that was distinct from the powers enjoyed by other Indian states.		

Section 3: Match The Following

Match Column A with Column B | 10 Pairs

#	COLUMN A	#	COLUMN B
1	Article 2 – Parliament's power	A	Admit/establish NEW states not yet in Union
2	Article 3 – Parliament's power	B	Form/reorganise EXISTING states
3	S.K. Dhar Commission (June 1948)	C	Recommended academic convenience over linguistic basis
4	Potti Sriramulu	D	Death triggered creation of Andhra Pradesh (1953)
5	Fazl Ali Commission – 4 criteria	E	Unity & security; Linguistic homogeneity; Financial/admin; Welfare
6	9th Constitutional Amendment Act	F	Transfer of Berubari Union to East Pakistan
7	Maganbhai Patel v Union of India (1969)	G	Boundary dispute settlement ≠ cession of territory
8	35th Constitutional Amendment Act (1974)	H	Sikkim made 'associate state' of India
9	Article 35A	I	Empowered J&K legislature to define 'permanent residents'
10	J&K Reorganisation Act 2019 – Ladakh	J	Union Territory WITHOUT Legislative Assembly

Your Answers (write the letter):

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Section 4: Multiple Choice Questions (Prelims Style)**Statement-based & comparison MCQs | 10 Questions**

Q1. Consider the following statements about Articles 1–4 of the Indian Constitution:

1. Article 1 describes India as a 'Federation of States' to reflect its federal character.
2. Article 3 requires Parliament to obtain the consent of the concerned state legislature before altering its boundaries or name.
3. Laws made under Article 3 for reorganising existing states are not treated as constitutional amendments under Article 368.
4. In the case of a Union Territory, no reference needs to be made to the concerned legislature before Parliament takes action under Article 3.

Which statements are CORRECT?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 3 and 4 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 3 and 4 only

Your Answer: ____

Q2. Which of the following correctly describes the difference between Article 2 and Article 3 of the Indian Constitution?

- (A) Article 2 deals with reorganisation of existing states; Article 3 deals with admission of new states
- (B) Article 2 deals with states not yet part of the Union; Article 3 deals with existing states of the Union
- (C) Article 2 requires a constitutional amendment; Article 3 does not
- (D) Both Articles require Presidential assent but not Presidential recommendation before introduction in Parliament

Your Answer: ____

Q3. With reference to the Berubari Union Case (1960), consider the following:

1. The Supreme Court held that the Preamble is NOT part of the Constitution.
2. The Court held that Parliament can implement the Nehru–Noon agreement through a law under Article 3.
3. The Court held that cession of Indian territory to a foreign state requires a constitutional amendment under Article 368.
4. The 9th Constitutional Amendment Act was subsequently passed to transfer Berubari Union to East Pakistan.

Which statements are CORRECT?

- (A) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (B) 2 and 4 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Your Answer: ____

Q4. Consider the following about the evolution of states in India:

1. The S.K. Dhar Commission (1948) recommended reorganisation of states on the basis of linguistic homogeneity.
2. The JVP Committee rejected language as a basis for reorganisation.
3. Andhra Pradesh was the first linguistic state of India, created in 1953 following the death of Potti Sriramulu.
4. The Fazl Ali Commission rejected the 'one language-one state' principle.

Which statements are CORRECT?

- (A) 2, 3 and 4 only

- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Your Answer: ____

Q5. Which of the following chronological sequences of state reorganisation events in India is CORRECT?

- (A) Nagaland statehood → Goa joins Union → Punjab bifurcation → Sikkim merger
- (B) Goa joins Union → Nagaland statehood → Sikkim merger → Punjab bifurcation
- (C) Punjab bifurcation → Nagaland statehood → Goa joins Union → Sikkim merger
- (D) Goa joins Union → Punjab bifurcation → Nagaland statehood → Sikkim merger

Your Answer: ____

Q6. Consider the following about Article 370 and its abrogation:

1. Article 370 was placed in Part XXI of the Constitution, dealing with Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions.
2. Under Article 370, Parliament could make laws for J&K on all subjects in the Union List without any restriction.
3. On 5 August 2019, the President issued Constitutional Orders 272 and 273, applying the entire Constitution of India to J&K.
4. The Union Territory of Ladakh was created WITHOUT a Legislative Assembly, while J&K UT was created WITH a Legislative Assembly.

Which statements are CORRECT?

- (A) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1 and 4 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Your Answer: ____

Q7. The Supreme Court's 2023 judgement upholding the abrogation of Article 370 held that:

1. Article 370 was a temporary provision intended to ease J&K's integration and establish its Constituent Assembly.
2. J&K retained 'internal sovereignty' distinguishable from powers enjoyed by other Indian states.
3. During President's Rule under Article 356, Parliament's power extends to executive action — not merely lawmaking.
4. The President can unilaterally notify that Article 370 ceases without the concurrence of the state government.

Which statements are CORRECT?

- (A) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (B) 2 and 4 only
- (C) 1 and 2 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Your Answer: ____

Q8. With reference to the J&K Delimitation Commission (2022), which of the following is INCORRECTLY stated?

- (A) The Commission was headed by retired Supreme Court judge Ranjana Prakash Desai
- (B) The delimitation was based on the 2011 Census
- (C) The total number of Assembly seats in J&K UT was increased from 83 to 90
- (D) Seven seats were reserved for Scheduled Tribes and nine for Scheduled Castes in the J&K UT

Your Answer: ____

Q9. Consider the following statements about the JVP Committee and Fazl Ali Commission:

1. The JVP Committee was headed by Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel and Pattabhi Sitaramayya.
2. Both the JVP Committee and the Fazl Ali Commission rejected language as the sole basis for state reorganisation.

3. The Fazl Ali Commission's recommendations led to the States Reorganisation Act, 1956, which created 14 states and 6 UTs.

4. The Fazl Ali Commission recommended 'one language-one state' as its primary principle of reorganisation.

Which one of the following are CORRECT

- (A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (B) 2 and 4 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Your Answer: ____

Q10. Which of the following correctly distinguishes between the Berubari Union Case (1960) and the

Maganbhai Patel v Union of India (1969) judgements?

- (A) Berubari held boundary settlement = cession; Maganbhai held boundary settlement ≠ cession
- (B) Both held that boundary settlement amounts to cession and requires Article 368 amendment
- (C) Berubari held boundary settlement ≠ cession; Maganbhai held it = cession
- (D) Both held that boundary settlement does NOT amount to cession and can be done by Executive

Your Answer: ____

Section 5: Mains Practice Question

GS-II | 15 Marks | 250 Words | Write In The Space Below

QUESTION

The linguistic reorganisation of Indian states in the 1950s reflected both the aspirations of linguistic communities and the federal imperatives of national unity. Critically examine how the States Reorganisation Act of 1956 balanced these competing considerations, and assess whether the process adequately addresses the democratic demands of linguistic minorities. (15 marks / 250 words)

Hints & Structure: Intro (define the tension) → Pre-SRC background (Dhar, JVP) → Fazl Ali 4 criteria → What was achieved → Limitations (bilingual states, unresolved demands like Nagaland/Manipur) → J&K special case → Conclusion (ongoing process)

Word Count: _____

Self Score: ____ / 15

Peer Score: ____ / 15

ANSWER KEY

Union and Territories | GS-II | UPSC Prelims 2026

Section 1: Fill In The Blanks

Q#	Answer	Explanation / Key Fact
1	✓	Union
2	✓	American
3	✓	acquired
4	✓	2
5	✓	recommendation of the President
6	✓	Radcliffe
7	✓	Preamble
8	✓	Andhra Pradesh
9	✓	Fazl Ali
10	✓	48

☒ Section 2: True Or False

Q#	Answer	Explanation / Key Fact
1	FALSE	States have NO RIGHT to secede from the Union. This is one of the two key reasons Dr. Ambedkar gave for using the term 'union' instead of 'federation'.
2	TRUE	Correct. Parliament must refer the Bill to the state legislature for its views but is NOT bound by those views – even if received within time. For Union Territories, no reference to legislature is needed at all.

3	FALSE	Article 4 explicitly states that laws made under Articles 2 and 3 are NOT to be considered as amendments of the Constitution under Article 368. However, this does NOT apply to cession of Indian territory to a foreign country.
4	TRUE	Correct. SC held the Nehru-Noon agreement involved actual transfer of territory and NOT merely a boundary settlement, so it required Article 368 amendment. It is the MAGANBHAI PATEL case (1969) that clarified settlement of boundary dispute ≠ cession.
5	TRUE	Correct. The SRC (Fazl Ali Commission) led to the States Reorganisation Act 1956 + 7th Constitutional Amendment Act, creating 14 states and 6 UTs, and abolishing the Part A/B/C/D classification.
6	TRUE	Correct. Sikkim was a protectorate of India after 1947. 35th Constitutional Amendment Act (1974) made it an 'associate state'. After a referendum, it became a full state in 1975.
7	FALSE	Article 370 was placed in Part XXI titled 'Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions'. The Supreme Court in 2023 confirmed it was meant to be a TEMPORARY provision.
8	TRUE	Correct. Parliament's legislative power for J&K was limited to IoA items. For other matters, the President needed concurrence of the J&K state government to specify additional subjects.
9	TRUE	Correct. The Delimitation Commission headed by retired SC judge Ranjana Prakash Desai submitted its final report in May 2022, based on 2011 Census. Total seats: 83→90. Jammu: 37→43, Kashmir: 46→47.
10	FALSE	SC explicitly held that J&K did NOT retain any element of sovereignty – including 'internal sovereignty' – after the Instrument of Accession and the Proclamation by Yuvraj Karan Singh (25 November 1949). Article 370 was a feature of asymmetric federalism, NOT sovereignty.

Section 3: Match The Following

Q#	Answer	Explanation / Key Fact
1	1→A	Article 2 – Parliament's power ↔ Admit/establish NEW states not yet in Union

2	2→B	Article 3 – Parliament's power ↔ Form/reorganise EXISTING states
3	3→C	S.K. Dhar Commission (June 1948) ↔ Recommended academic convenience over linguistic basis
4	4→D	Potti Sriramulu ↔ Death triggered creation of Andhra Pradesh (1953)
5	5→E	Fazl Ali Commission – 4 criteria ↔ Unity & security; Linguistic homogeneity; Financial/admin; Welfare
6	6→F	9th Constitutional Amendment Act ↔ Transfer of Berubari Union to East Pakistan
7	7→G	Maganbhai Patel v Union of India (1969) ↔ Boundary dispute settlement ≠ cession of territory
8	8→H	35th Constitutional Amendment Act (1974) ↔ Sikkim made 'associate state' of India
9	9→I	Article 35A ↔ Empowered J&K legislature to define 'permanent residents'
10	10→J	J&K Reorganisation Act 2019 – Ladakh ↔ Union Territory WITHOUT Legislative Assembly

Section 4: MCQ

Q#	Answer	Explanation / Key Fact
1	(B)	Statement 1 is WRONG – India is called 'Union of States' NOT 'Federation of States'. Statement 2 is WRONG – Parliament must REFER (not obtain CONSENT) to the state legislature and is NOT BOUND by its views. Statements 3 and 4 are both correct.
2	(B)	Option B is correct. Article 2 = admission/establishment of states NOT yet part of Union (external states). Article 3 = formation/reorganisation of states ALREADY in the Union (internal changes). Both require prior Presidential recommendation before the Bill is introduced in Parliament.
3	(A)	Statement 2 is WRONG – the SC held Parliament CANNOT make a law under Article 3 for this purpose; it REQUIRES Article 368 amendment. Statements 1, 3

		and 4 are all correct. Note: The Preamble-is-not-part-of-constitution ruling from Berubari was later OVERRULED by Kesavananda Bharati (1973).
4	(A)	Statement 1 is WRONG – S.K. Dhar Commission recommended organisation on basis of ACADEMIC CONVENIENCE, NOT linguistic factors. It was actually AGAINST using linguistic basis. Statements 2, 3 and 4 are all correct.
5	(A)	Correct sequence: Nagaland statehood (1963) → Goa joins Union (1961 acquisition; UT 1962; statehood 1987 – but joined Union in 1961) → Punjab bifurcation (1966) → Sikkim merger (1975). Actually the correct answer is (A): Nagaland (1963) → Punjab bifurcation (1966) → Sikkim (1975) – these fit option A. Goa joined the Union in 1961 (before Nagaland statehood 1963). Re-checking: Goa 1961 < Nagaland 1963 < Punjab 1966 < Sikkim 1975 = Option A.
6	(A)	Statement 2 is WRONG – Parliament's power was RESTRICTED to Union and Concurrent list matters that corresponded to the Instrument of Accession (external affairs, defence, communications, ancillary). For other matters, President's order with state's concurrence was needed. Statements 1, 3 and 4 are all correct.
7	(A)	Statement 2 is WRONG – SC explicitly held J&K did NOT have 'internal sovereignty' distinguishable from other states. Article 370 was 'asymmetric federalism, not sovereignty'. Statements 1, 3 and 4 are all correct holdings of the 2023 SC judgement.
8	(D)	Option D is INCORRECTLY stated – it reverses the numbers. NINE seats were proposed for Scheduled Tribes (STs) – 6 in Jammu, 3 in Kashmir. SEVEN seats were reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs) in the Jammu region. Options A, B and C are all correct.
9	(A)	Statement 4 is WRONG – the Fazl Ali Commission explicitly REJECTED 'one language-one state' and underlined India's unity as the primary consideration. Its 4 criteria were: unity & security, linguistic/cultural homogeneity, financial/administrative considerations, and welfare of people. Statements 1, 2 and 3 are all correct.
10	(A)	Option A is correct. Berubari (1960): SC treated the Nehru-Noon agreement as involving actual transfer/cession → requires Article 368, not Article 3. Maganbhai Patel (1969): SC explicitly held that settlement of a boundary DISPUTE cannot amount to cession of territory; the Executive can implement it unless actual cession of undisputed home territory is involved.

MAINS MODEL ANSWER

Linguistic Reorganisation – SRC 1956 | GS-II | 15 marks

PART	MODEL CONTENT
Introduction words (~40)	The demand for linguistic states predates Independence. Post-1947, the tension between democratic aspirations of linguistic communities and the nationalist imperative of unity forced a calibrated reorganisation of states, culminating in the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.
Pre-SRC Background (~50 words)	Early commissions rejected the linguistic principle: S.K. Dhar Commission (1948) favoured academic convenience; JVP Committee (Nehru-Patel-Sitaramayya, 1948) rejected language. But the death of Potti Sriramulu in 1953 – following a fast-unto-death demanding Andhra Pradesh – forced the creation of the first linguistic state and made linguistic reorganisation politically inevitable.
Fazl Ali Commission (~50 words)	The SRC (1953), headed by Fazl Ali, rejected 'one language-one state' but accepted linguistic homogeneity as ONE of FOUR criteria alongside: national unity & security; financial, economic & administrative viability; and welfare of people. This nuanced framework balanced democratic aspirations with federal prudence.
Achievements of SRC 1956 (~50 words)	The States Reorganisation Act (1956) + 7th Amendment abolished the Part A/B/C/D classification and created 14 states and 6 UTs on broadly linguistic lines: Kerala (Malayalam), Andhra Pradesh (Telugu), Maharashtra/Gujarat (Marathi/Gujarati – though separation came in 1960), Karnataka (Kannada). This recognised the cultural-democratic legitimacy of linguistic communities within a federal framework.
Limitations words (~50)	The SRC was criticised for: (i) Failing to resolve Bombay's bilingual status (corrected only in 1960). (ii) Not adequately addressing tribal/ethnic aspirations in the Northeast – leading to prolonged agitations for Nagaland (1963), Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh. (iii) Prioritising administrative convenience over democratic representation in some cases. (iv) J&K was kept outside the SRC framework due to its special status.
Conclusion words (~35)	The SRC 1956, while imperfect, established a principled framework balancing unity with diversity. India's evolving federal map – with 28 states and 8 UTs – demonstrates that state reorganisation remains an ongoing democratic process rather than a closed chapter.

**Value Addition
(Cases & Acts)**

★ Berubari Union Case (1960): Preamble not part of Constitution; cession needs Art. 368. ★ Maganbhai Patel (1969): Boundary settlement ≠ cession. ★ Kesavananda Bharati (1973): Overruled Berubari – Preamble IS part of Constitution. ★ J&K 2023 SC Judgment: Art. 370 = asymmetric federalism, not sovereignty.

Fill in Blanks	True / False	Match	MCQ
___ / 10	___ / 10	___ / 10	___ / 10
MY SCORE TRACKER TOTAL: ___/40			