

## *10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation*

11th - 17th MAY, 2020

*THIS IS A WEEKLY DOCUMENT CONTAINING ALL MCQS ASKED IN 10 PM  
CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ BY FORUMIAS.*

## 10 PM Weekly Compilation for the Month of May, 2020

**Q.1)** Consider the following statements regarding **Sal Forest Tortoise**:

1. It is endemic to Western Ghats of India.
2. It is listed as Critically Endangered in IUCN Red list.

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

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. The Sal Forest Tortoise (*Indotestudo elongata*) is distributed over northern and eastern terrain of India. **It is not endemic to India but is native species of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam.**

Statement 2 is correct. It is listed as **critically endangered in IUCN** red list. It is hunted for food, collected for decorations and for wildlife trade.

**Q.2)** Consider the following statements regarding 'Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund' (**PM CARES Fund**):

1. The corporate donations to it form part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure.
2. Minister of Defence, Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Finance are ex-officio Trustees of the Fund.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Donations to PM CARES Fund qualify to be counted as **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure under the Companies Act, 2013 and also for 100% exemption under the section 80G of Income Tax Act, 1961.**

Statement 2 is correct. **Prime Minister is the ex-officio Chairman of the PM CARES Fund and Minister of Defence, Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Finance, Government of India are ex-officio Trustees of the Fund.** The Chairperson of the Board of Trustees (Prime Minister) have the power to nominate three trustees to the Board of Trustees who shall be eminent persons in the field of research, health, science, social work, law, public administration and philanthropy.

**Q.3)** Consider the following statements regarding **Interstate Migrant Workmen Act, 1979**:

1. It is applicable to every establishment in which five or more inter-State migrant workmen are employed.
2. The act provides for displacement and journey allowances to be paid to inter-State migrant workmen by employer.

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

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**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Act states that “it applies- (a) to every establishment in which **five or more inter-State migrant workmen** (whether or not in addition to other workmen) are employed or who were employed on any day of the preceding twelve months; (b) to every contractor who employs or who employed five or more inter-State migrant workmen (whether or not in addition to other workmen) on any day of the preceding twelve months.”

Statement 2 is correct. Chapter V of the act provides for “Wage rates and other conditions of service of inter-State migrant workmen” which states “**displacement allowance shall be paid** by the contractor to every inter-State migrant workman at the time of recruitment and a **journey allowance** of a sum not less than the fare from the place of residence of the inter-State migrant workman in his State to the place of work in the other State shall be payable by the contractor to the workman both for the outward and return journeys and such workman shall be entitled to payment of wages during the period of such journeys as if he were on duty.”

The **Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2019** (yet to be passed) subsumes and replaces 13 labour laws relating to safety, health and working conditions. These laws include: Factories Act, 1948; Mines Act, 1952; Dock Workers Act, 1986; Contract Labour Act, 1970; and Inter-State Migrant Workers Act, 1979.

**Q.4)** Consider the following statements regarding ‘**National Disaster Management Authority**’:

1. It approves the National Plan for disaster management prepared by National Executive Committee.
2. It provides support to other countries affected by major disasters as determined by the Central Government.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct. The National Disaster Management Authority is established by **Disaster Management Act, 2005**. Its functions as given in the act are:

- (a) lay down policies on disaster management;
- (b) **approve the National Plan (prepared by National Executive Committee);**
- (c) approve plans prepared by the Ministries or Departments of the Government of India in accordance with the National Plan;
- (d) lay down guidelines to be followed by the State Authorities in drawing up the State Plan;
- (e) lay down guidelines to be followed by the different Ministries or Departments of the Government of India for the purpose of integrating the measures for prevention of disaster or the mitigation of its effects in their development plans and projects;
- (f) coordinate the enforcement and implementation of the policy and plan for disaster management;
- (g) recommend provision of funds for the purpose of mitigation;
- (h) **provide such support to other countries affected by major disasters as may be determined by the Central Government;**
- (i) take such other measures for the prevention of disaster, or the mitigation, or preparedness and

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capacity building for dealing with the threatening disaster situation or disaster as it may consider necessary.

**Q.5)** Consider the following statements regarding **Industrial Disputes Act, 1947**:

1. Persons mainly in managerial or administrative capacity are not considered as 'workmen' under the act.
2. A firm employing more than hundred workmen requires permission from government to lay off employees.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanations:** Statement 1 is correct. The 'workmen' under the act does not include people subject to the **Air Force Act, Army Act, Navy Act, or one who is employed in the police service** or as an officer or other employee of a prison; or one who is employed mainly in a **managerial or administrative capacity**.

Statement 2 is correct. The act states that in a **firm employing more than 100 workers** no workman shall be laid-off by his employer except with the prior permission of the appropriate Government or authority specified by government, unless such lay-off is due to shortage of power or to natural calamity, and in the case of a mine, such lay-off is due also to fire, flood, excess of inflammable gas or explosion.

**Q.6)** Which of the following correctly defines the term **"Global South"**?

- a) The geographical south below the equator
- b) Economically weaker & less industrialized nation-states
- c) Non-European countries of the world
- d) Countries that are not part of World Bank group

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** 'Global South' term is often used by intergovernmental development organizations like World Bank group, it does not have a specific definition but it broadly refers to the **developing countries that have not yet completely industrialized or are economically disadvantaged nation-states**. It is preferred over the common terminology of 'third world'.

**Q.7)** Which of the following correctly defines **"Bad Bank"**?

- a) a bank that does not pass central bank relaxations to retail customers
- b) a bank that is not regulated by central bank
- c) a bank which provides loan to speculative grade companies
- d) a bank which buys non-performing assets of other banks

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** A bad bank is one that is set up to **buy the bad loans and other illiquid holdings of another financial institution**. A bad bank can be established by one bank or financial institution as part of its strategy to deal with a difficult financial situation, or by a government as part of an official response to financial problems across a number of institutions in the financial sector.

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**Q.8)** Consider the following statements regarding **Toda tribe**:

1. It is a native tribal group of Nilgiri hills.
2. Toda tribal embroidery has been recognized as a Geographical indication.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Toda people are a Dravidian ethnic group who live in the **Nilgiri Mountains, Tamilnadu**.

Statement 2 is correct. Toda tribal people are known for their **unique embroidery skills** and it has been recognized as a Geographical Indication. This ancient tribal art mainly uses nature as models like flowers, animals, plants or building patterns as motifs and are actively involved in the embroidery business producing a wide range of products like shawl, table mat, wall hangings, bags etc.

**Q.9)** Which of the following is/are part of **Bretton Woods Institutions**?

1. World Health Organization
2. World Trade Organization
3. International Monetary Fund

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** WHO and WTO are not part of the Bretton Woods institutions. The Bretton Woods Institutions refers to **International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB)**; these were both created at an international conference convened in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States in July 1944.

**Q.10)** Consider the following statements regarding **ELISA test**:

1. It is a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) based test.
2. National Institute of Virology (NIV) has developed India's first indigenous ELISA test for COVID-19.

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

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. The enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) is a test that **detects and measures antibodies the blood**. This test can be used to determine if one has antibodies related to certain infectious conditions. It has been in use for detection of HIV.



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**Polymerase chain reaction** is a method widely used in molecular biology to rapidly make millions to billions of copies of a specific DNA sample, allowing scientists to take a very small sample of DNA and amplify it to a large enough amount to study in detail.

Statement 2 is correct. **National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune has developed India's first enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)** to detect antibodies that the body develops in response to infection by the SARS-CoV-2. The test will detect IgG antibodies present in blood samples.

**Q.11)** With reference to the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The basic concept of NAM originated during Bandung conference.
2. The First NAM Summit Conference took place in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, in 1961.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Non-Aligned Movement was formed during the Cold War, largely on the initiative of then-Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito, as an organization of States that did not seek to formally align themselves with either the United States or the Soviet Union, but sought to remain independent or neutral. The **basic concept for the group originated in 1955 during discussions that took place at the Asia-Africa Bandung Conference** held in Indonesia.

**Statement 2 is correct:** The **First NAM Summit Conference took place in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, in September 1961.**

**Q.12)** 'Naku La Pass' is located in which of the following state?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Sikkim

**Correct Answer: D**

**Explanation:** Naku La Pass is located in **Sikkim at an altitude of more than 5,000 metres** above the mean sea level.

**Q.13)** 'Pranavayu' initiative has been launched in which of the following city?

- a) Bangalore
- b) Mumbai
- c) Kanpur
- d) Hyderabad

**Correct Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (**BBMP**) corporation has **launched Pranavayu programme** to create awareness on the need to self examine the respiratory health for Bengalureans. Pranavayu awareness programme is an **attempt to help people with low oxygen level in their blood to get themselves checked** early before their ailments become fatal.

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**Q.14)** With reference to the '**SAGAR Mission**', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The term SAGAR (Security and Growth of All in the Region) is coined by Indian Prime Minister.
2. It is a maritime initiative which gives priority to Indian Ocean region for ensuring peace, stability and prosperity of India in Indian Ocean region.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation:** In 2015, India introduced its vision of Indian Ocean called "SAGAR", Security and Growth for All in the Region. The **term was coined by the Indian Prime Minister**. It is a **maritime initiative** which gives priority to Indian Ocean region for ensuring peace, stability and prosperity of India in Indian Ocean region.

**Q.15)** With reference to the Panchayati Raj Institutions, arrange the following committee in chronological order of their formation:

1. Ashok Mehta Committee
2. Balwant Rai Mehta Committee
3. L.M. Singhvi Committee

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1-2-3
- b) 2-3-1
- c) 2-1-3
- d) 1-3-2

**Correct Answer: C**

**Explanation: Committees related to Panchayati Raj Institutions:**

- **Balvantrai Mehta Committee**, appointed in January 1957, submits its report on 24 November 1957.
- **Ashok Mehta Committee** on working of panchayats, appointed on 12 December 1977, submits its report on 21 August 1978.
- **L.M. Singhvi Committee** submits its report on 27 November 1986. It recommends constitutional status for panchayats.

**Q.16)** Consider the following statements regarding **Open Source Software**:

1. All open source software are government owned.
2. Aarogya Setu is an open source software.
3. National Policy on Information Technology, 2012 aims to promote open source and open technologies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: C**

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**Explanation: Open source software** is a software with source code that anyone can inspect, modify, and enhance. Source Code is the code computer programmers can manipulate to change how a of software/program/application works.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Any private or government developed software can be made open source, e.g. Singapore's **TraceTogether** app has been made open source, noted commercially developed OSS are Firefox, WordPress etc.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Aarogya Setu application's source code has not been made public.** It has been demanded by many transparency activists and government may release it at some time in future.

Statement 3 is correct. **One of the objectives of National Policy on Information Technology, 2012 is "to adopt Open standards and promote open source and open technologies".**

**Q.17)** Consider the following statements regarding **Justice K. S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) vs Union of India case 2017:**

1. It upheld the right to privacy as fundamental right under the constitution.
2. It mandates existence of a law for state intervention in right to privacy.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Justice K. S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) and Anr. vs Union Of India And Ors Case 2017 **held that right to privacy is intrinsic to freedom of life & liberty** (Article 21) and an inherent part of the fundamental rights enshrined in Part III of the Constitution.

Statement 2 is correct. The judgment mentions a **proportionality test for state intervention** in the right to privacy: i. The state action must be sanctioned by law. ii. There must be a legitimate aim for action. iii. Action must be proportionate to the need for such interference. iv. It must be subject to procedural guarantees against abuse of the power to interfere.

**Q.18)** Consider the following statements regarding **Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE):**

1. It is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
2. It analyses the data from its independent surveys to decipher trends in the economy.

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

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **CMIE is a privately owned company** head-quartered at Mumbai. It is a business information company established in 1976 primarily as an independent think tank.

Statement 2 is correct. It conducts surveys to estimate household incomes, pattern of spending and savings; it has created an integrated database of the Indian economy. CMIE



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produces economic and business databases and develops specialized analytical tools for decision making and for research. It analyses the data to decipher trends in the economy.

**Q.19)** Consider the following statements regarding **District Mineral Foundations (DMF)**:

1. These are set up by mandate of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act.
2. DMFs are established by Union government in any district affected by mining related operations.

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

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **The Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act, 1957)** was amended through the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 to provide for the establishment of District Mineral Foundation (DMF) in any district affected by mining related operations.

Statement 2 is incorrect. These are **established by state governments** by notification. Section 9B(1) states “in any district affected by mining related operations, the State Government shall, by notification, establish a trust, as a non-profit body, to be called the District Mineral Foundation.”

The objective of the DMF is to work for the interest and benefit of persons, and areas affected by mining related operations.

**Q.20)** The **Inter-state Migration Policy Index (IMPEX) 2019** has been compiled by:

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- c) India Migration Now
- d) Centre for the Study of Developing Societies

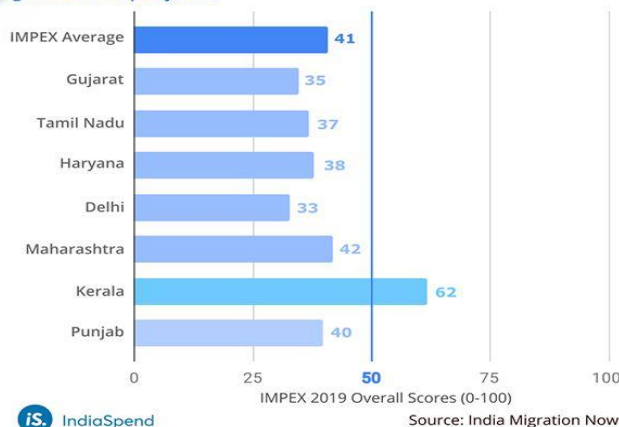
**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** **The Interstate Migrant Policy Index 2019 (IMPEX 2019) is an index compiled by India Migration Now**, a Mumbai-based nonprofit, which analyses state-level policies for the integration of out-of-state migrants.

Kerala ranked first out of seven states for migrant friendly policies on the Interstate Migrant Policy Index 2019 (IMPEX 2019)

### How The 7 Most Popular Destination States In The Country Scored On The IMPEX Scale

The IMPEX 2019 measures whether a state has equitable policies for residents and migrants across 8 policy areas



IS.

IndiaSpend

Source: India Migration Now

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**Q.21)** Consider the following statements regarding **The Industrial Relations Code, 2019:**

1. The code delegitimizes the existence of trade unions.
2. It prohibits strikes or lockouts in an industrial establishment unless a prior notice of 14 days is provided.

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

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. It subsumes and replaces the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947; the Trade Unions Act, 1926; and the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946. It **provides for the recognition of trade unions;** notice periods for strikes and lock-outs, standing orders, and resolution of industrial disputes.

Statement 2 is correct. The Industrial Relations Code 2019 **prohibits strikes or lock-outs in an industrial establishment unless a prior notice of 14 days is provided.** Similar provision existed in Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 for public utility services (such as, railways and airlines) which the 2019 code extends for all establishments.

Status of The Industrial Relations Code, 2019: It was introduced in Lok Sabha in November 2019 and then referred to **standing committee which submitted its report on Apr 23, 2020.**

**Q.22)** Which of the following were objectives included in **Karachi Resolution of Indian National Congress, 1931:**

1. Freedom of association.
2. Religious neutrality on part of the state.
3. Labour to be freed from serfdom.
4. Free Primary education.

Select the correct answer using the code given below?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation: All were part of the Karachi Resolution of 1931.**

It included **fundamental rights which protected civil liberties** and the resolution put forward a list of **socio-economic principles/rights** that the Indian state should adhere to.

**Some provisions under the resolution were:** Freedom of association and combination, freedom of speech and press, freedom of conscience and the free profession and practice of religion, religious neutrality on part of the state, living wage for industrial workers, limited hours of labour, healthy conditions of work, protection against the economic consequences of old age, sickness, and unemployment, labour to be freed from serfdom or conditions bordering on serfdom, adult suffrage, free primary education etc.

**Q.23)** Consider the following statements regarding **Rajyasabha:**

1. A Rajyasabha member cannot be Prime Minister of the country.
2. A no-confidence motion cannot be passed in the Rajyasabha.
3. Rajyasabha is not subject to dissolution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Article 75(5) mandates that a **minister must be a Member of Parliament** or a Minister who is not a member of either House of the Parliament for 6 months shall cease to be a Minister on expiration of such term. There is **no bar on members of Rajyasabha to be part of the council of ministers**. Dr. Manmohan Singh was member of Rajyasabha while being the Prime Minister of India.

Statement 2 is correct. No-confidence motion can be introduced only in Lok Sabha to test the majority enjoyed by council of ministers/government of the day. **The council is collectively responsible to Lok Sabha** therefore no confidence motion is a tool available to Lok Sabha only.

Statement 3 is correct. **Rajya Sabha is a permanent body** and is not subject to dissolution. However, one third of the members retire every second year, and are replaced by newly elected members. Each member is elected for a term of six years.

**Q.24)** Consider the following statements regarding **fifth schedule of constitution**:

1. Governor may by order declare an area to be 'Scheduled Areas' under fifth schedule.
2. Uttarakhand and Punjab do not have Scheduled Areas under fifth schedule.

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

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. As per the Constitution under Article 244 (1) the 'Scheduled Areas' are defined as 'such areas as the **President may by order declare to be Scheduled Areas**'. The specification of "Scheduled Areas" in relation to a State is by a notified order of the President, after consultation with the Governor of that State.

Statement 2 is correct. At present, Scheduled Areas have been declared in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan.

**Q.25) Bicameralism at Central legislature** was introduced by:

- a) Government of India Act 1935
- b) Government of India Act 1919
- c) Indian Council Act of 1909
- d) Indian Independence Act 1947

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** By **Government of India Act 1919** the Indian Legislative Council was divided into an Upper House (Council of State) and a Lower House (Legislative Assembly). The council of state had tenure of 5 years while the legislative assembly had tenure of three years.

Other key provisions:

Dyarchy at Provincial level.

Three of the six members of the Viceroy's executive Council were to be Indian.

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It extended the principle separate electorates for Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians and Europeans.

It provided for the establishment of a public service commission. Hence, a Central Public Service Commission was set up in 1926 for recruiting civil servants.

It provided for the appointment of a statutory commission to inquire into and report on its working after, ten years of its coming into force.

**Q.26)** Consider the following statements regarding **World Health Assembly**:

1. It is the decision-making body of World Health Organization.
2. It determines the policies of the WHO and appoints the Director-General.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct.

The **World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of WHO**. It is attended by delegations from all WHO Member States and focuses on specific health agenda prepared by the Executive Board. The **Executive Board** is composed of 34 technically qualified members elected for three-year terms.

The main functions of the World Health Assembly are to determine the policies of the Organization, **appoint the Director-General**, supervise financial policies, and review and approve the proposed programme budget. The Health Assembly is held annually in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Q.27)** Consider the following statements regarding **Global Nutrition Report**:

1. It is released by World Health Organization in collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organization.
2. The 2020 report acknowledges that India has achieved *Global Nutrition Targets 2025* in 2019 itself.

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

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. The Global Nutrition Report is published as a multi-stakeholder initiative, consisting of a **Stakeholder Group, Independent Expert Group and Report Secretariat**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. According to the Global Nutrition Report 2020, **India is among 88 countries that are likely to miss global nutrition targets by 2025**. As per the report India will miss targets for all four nutritional indicators for which data is available: stunting among under-5 children, anaemia among women of reproductive age, childhood overweight and exclusive breastfeeding.

**Global nutrition targets were adopted by World Health Assembly in 2012.**



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**Q.28)** Consider the following statements regarding ‘National Plan’ under Disaster Management Act, 2005:

1. It is approved by Cabinet Committee on Security.
  2. It is prepared by National Executive Committee in consultation with State governments.
- 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

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Disaster Management Act 2005 mandates formulation of a *National Plan* as a plan of disaster management for the whole country.

Statement 1 is incorrect. As per the act **National Disaster Management Authority chaired by Prime Minister approves the National Plan.**

Statement 2 is correct. The National Executive Committee assists the NDMA in the discharge of its functions and has the responsibility for implementing the policies and plans. As per the act “**the National Plan shall be prepared by the National Executive Committee having regard to the National Policy and in consultation with the State Governments** and expert bodies or organisations in the field of disaster management to be approved by the National Authority.”

**Q.29)** Consider the following statements regarding **Sohrai & Khovar paintings**:

1. It is a traditional art form originated from Keonjhar, Odisha.
2. Khovar refers to the harvest paintings on mud houses.
3. Sohrai is the tradition of decorating the marriage chambers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



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- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) None of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** All statements are incorrect.

Sohrai and Khovar are traditional tribal mural art forms of **Hazaribagh region in Jharkhand**. These are commonly seen on **mud houses of various tribes in Hazaribagh such as Munda, Santhal, Agaria, Ganju, Kurmi and Jarwadhi**.

**Khovar refers to the decoration of the marriage chambers while Sohrai is the harvest season paintings on the mud houses**, repairing it after the rains and offering a thanksgiving to the forces of Nature.

Jharkhand's *Sohrai Khovar* painting and Telangana's *Telia Rumal* have been given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag recently.

**Q.30)** Consider the following statements regarding **Rajyasabha**:

- 1. A bill for amendment to the constitution cannot be introduced in Rajyasabha.
- 2. A Rajyasabha resolution supported by not less than two thirds of the members present and voting empowers the parliament for creation of a new All India Service.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **The bill for amendment to the constitution under Article 368 can be introduced in either house of the parliament.**

Statement 2 is correct. **Article 312** of the constitution states "... if the Council of States has declared by resolution supported by not less than two thirds of the members present and voting that it is necessary or expedient in the national interest so to do, Parliament may by law provide for the creation of one or more all India services..."

**Q.31)** Consider the following statements regarding **National Social Assistance Program**:

- 1. It is being administered by Ministry of Rural Development.
- 2. The program consists of MGNREGA and National Food Security Mission.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) is a welfare programme being administered by the **Ministry of Rural Development**. This programme is being implemented in rural areas as well as urban areas.

Statement 2 is incorrect. NSAP at present comprises of **Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS), Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and Annapurna**.

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**Q.32)** Consider the following statements regarding **Seventh Schedule** of the constitution:

1. Residuary powers of legislation and taxation belong to the Parliament.
2. Public health and sanitation is part of state list.
3. Prevention of the infectious disease's extension from one State to another is part of concurrent list.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. As per **article 248(1)** Parliament has exclusive power to make any law with respect to any matter not enumerated in the Concurrent List or State List.

248(2) states "such power shall include the power of making any law imposing a tax not mentioned in either of those Lists"

Statement 2 is correct. Public health and sanitation; hospitals and dispensaries; are part of state list.

Statement 3 is correct. "Prevention of the extension from one State to another of infectious or contagious diseases or pests affecting men, animals or plants" is part of concurrent list.

**Q.33)** Consider the following statements regarding **Angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2)**:

1. ACE2 is an enzyme attached to the outer surface of cells in the lungs.
2. It is an entry point for SARS-COV-2 in the cells.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. ACE2 is an enzyme attached to the outer surface (cell membranes) of cells in the **lungs, arteries, heart, kidney, and intestines**.

Statement 2 is correct. As a transmembrane protein, **ACE2 serves as the main entry point into cells for some coronaviruses**, including the SARS-COV-2 that causes COVID-19. The spike protein of the virus binds to ACE2 to enter the cellular systems.

**Q.34)** Consider the following statements regarding **Article 32 of the Constitution**:

1. It provides Supreme Court and High Courts the power to issue writs for enforcement of fundamental rights.
2. Parliament may by law empower any other court to issue writs within its jurisdiction.

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

**Correct answer: B**

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**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **Article 32(2)** in The Constitution Of India states “the Supreme Court shall have power to issue directions or orders or writs, including writs in the nature of habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto and certiorari, whichever may be appropriate, for the enforcement of any of the rights conferred by this Part”.

The **High Court's power to issue writs** for the enforcement of any of the rights conferred by Part III and for any other purpose **is under article 226 of the constitution.**

Statement 2 is correct. As per **Article 32(3)** “Parliament may by law empower any other court to exercise within the local limits of its jurisdiction all or any of the powers exercisable by the Supreme Court under clause 32(2)”.

**Q.35)** Consider the following statements regarding **Pangong Tso Lake**:

1. It is a fresh water lake and does not freeze in winter.
2. It is part of the Indus river system.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. It is a **saline lake but freezes in winter.** It has an endorheic basin, i.e. it retains its water and does not allow outflow to other external water bodies, such as oceans and rivers.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **Pangong Tso Lake is a landlocked transboundary lake** in Ladakh Union Territory of India and Tibetan Autonomous Region, China; and it is **not part of Indus river system.**

**Q.36)** Consider the following statements regarding **Sovereign Credit Guarantees**:

1. The government commits to pay the creditor in case of default.
2. The constitution empowers Union government to give guarantees on security of Consolidated Fund of India.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Sovereign Credit Guarantee refers to guarantee given by government to lender with regard to a liability of a third person. **In case the debtor defaults, government guarantees to pay the liability of debtor to creditor.**

Statement 2 is correct. **Article 292 of the constitution** states “the executive power of the Union extends to borrowing upon the security of the Consolidated Fund of India within such limits, if any, as may from time to time be fixed by Parliament by law and to the giving of guarantees within such limits, if any, as may be so fixed”.

**Q.37)** Consider the following statements regarding proposed changes in **MSME definition under Atma-nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan**:

1. The new definition will be based on investment instead of turnover.
2. The definition of classes of small and medium enterprises will be merged into one class.

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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

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Both statements are incorrect.

The new definition is based on investment as well as turnover.

### Existing and Revised Definition of MSMEs

Existing MSME Classification			
Criteria : Investment in Plant & Machinery or Equipment			
Classification	Micro	Small	Medium
Mfg. Enterprises	Investment < Rs. 25 lac	Investment < Rs. 5 cr.	Investment < Rs. 10 cr.
Services Enterprise	Investment < Rs. 10 lac	Investment < Rs. 2 cr.	Investment < Rs. 5 cr.

Revised MSME Classification			
Composite Criteria : Investment And Annual Turnover			
Classification	Micro	Small	Medium
Manufacturing & Services	Investment < Rs. 1 cr. and Turnover < Rs.5 cr.	Investment < Rs. 10 cr. and Turnover < Rs.50 cr.	Investment < Rs. 20 cr. and Turnover < Rs.100 cr.

**Q.38)** Which of the following can be considered a part of **Care Economy**?

- 1. Universal health care
- 2. Maternity leave benefits
- 3. Right of free and quality education

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation: All are part of Care Economy.**

Care economy can be defined as part of human activity, both material and social, that is concerned with the process of caring for the present and future labour force and the human population. **Care work can be direct or indirect, paid or unpaid, short-term (maternity needs) or long-term (care for the disabled and elderly).**

**Q.39) Reduction in EPF contribution** announced by government under Atma-nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan is intended to?

- 1. Decrease in aggregate demand
- 2. Increase in liquidity in market

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only



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- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** The government has announced a reduction in PF contribution of both employer and employee to 10% each from the existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for the next 3 months. It will provide more take home salary to employees and some relief to employers in payment of Provident Fund (PF) dues.

Statement 1 is incorrect. **Increase in take home wages have potential in increase the overall demand in economy.**

Statement 2 is correct. **Liquidity is expected to increase with lesser funds attached to PF and more cash-in-hand salary.**

**Q.40)** Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding **Say's law of market**?

1. Source of demand is production.
2. Consumption rather than production should be promoted by governments to spur growth.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Say's law of market states that the **ability to purchase something depends on the ability to produce** and thereby generate income, i.e. production of a product creates demand for another product by providing something of value which can be exchanged for that other product. Thus, **the source of demand is production, not money itself.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. Say's Law proposes that **production is the key to economic growth** and the government policy should encourage production rather than promoting consumption.

**Q.41)** Which of the following can be considered a **supply side measure to spur growth in an economy**?

1. Reduction in Corporate tax
2. Relaxation in labour law regulations

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Corporation Tax or **Corporate Tax is a direct tax levied on the net income or profit that corporate enterprises (company) make from their business activities.** A reduction in corporate tax reduces the cost of doing business, provides extra liquidity and extra capital with companies to make more investments.

Statement 2 is correct. Relaxation in labour laws and looser business regulations can **eliminate processing times and reporting requirements for companies.**



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Both of these measures can provide increased incentives for expansion, higher levels of production, and increased production capacity.

**Q.42)** Which of the following is a direct **source of revenue for state governments**?

1. Taxes on liquor for human consumption
2. Taxes on the consumption or sale of electricity
3. VAT on petroleum products

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** All of the above are direct source of revenue for state governments.

Taxes on **consumption or sale of electricity and alcoholic liquors for human consumption are part of state list and have been kept out of purview of GST.**

The taxation of petroleum products is also not covered under GST and its sale is taxed by respective state governments.

**Q.43)** Consider the following statements regarding the proposed '**Integrated Battle Groups**' (IBGs) in India:

1. It will consist of units from the Army, Navy and Air Force.
2. IBGs will be headed by Chief of Defense Staff.

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

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. It is part of reforms being initiated in **Indian Army**. IBGs are brigade-sized, agile, self-sufficient combat formations, which can swiftly launch strikes against adversary in case of hostilities. It is being tested by units and commands under Indian Army.

**Statement 2 is incorrect.** Each IBG will be headed by a Major General.

As per the government notification the **Chief of Defense Staff will not exercise any military command.**

**For Greater Punch**

**WHAT IS INTEGRATED BATTLE GROUP?**

Between a brigade and division, it is a formation comprising existing elements of infantry, tank regiments, artillery, UAVs, engineers and signals

Will have about **six** battalions of infantry, armoured and artillery, and placed directly under a Corps

Each IBG will be differentiated on the basis of threat, terrain and tasks

**HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM EXISTING FORMATIONS?**

IBGs ensure better integration and self-sufficiency as compared to the existing formations, allowing it to strike harder and quicker across the border

A brigade during hostilities has to wait to be augmented by different types of units, which increases the time to mobilise

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**Q.44)** Which of the following is/are part of **Atma-nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan**?

1. Waiver of corporate tax in 2020-21 fiscal year
2. Sovereign credit guarantee for MSME
3. Global tenders of government below Rs 200 crore disallowed

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. No such declaration has been made.

Statement 2 is correct. Those MSMEs whose turnover is 100 crore and have 25 crore outstanding loan exposure can avail the collateral free, sovereign credit guarantee loans. This facility is of a total amount of Rs 3 lakh crores and available till 31st October 2020.

Statement 3 is correct. Global tenders will be disallowed in govt procurement for tenders under Rs 200 crore to provide opportunity and lesser global competition to Indian firms.

*Caveat: The scheme is yet to be completely announced and is being announced in tranches. [14-05-2020]*

**Q.45)** Consider the following statements regarding '**Telia Rumal**':

1. It is a tie and dye technique using oil treatment of yarn.
2. It has been recognized as a geographical indication.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Telia Rumal is a **unique tie and dye technique that uses oil for the treatment of the yarn that helps it retain softness and has a distinct smell of gingelly oil**. The Rumal can only be created using the **traditional handloom** process and not by any other mechanical means to keep the quality intact.

Statement 2 is correct. **Puttapaka Telia Rumal (Telangana)** has been registered as a geographical indication.

**Q.46)** Consider the following statements regarding **Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)**:

1. The system aims to ensure nation-wide portability of ration card holders.
2. The IM-PDS portal provides the technological platform for the intra-state portability of ration cards.

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

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. To sustain the reforms of 'End to End Computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Operations' the

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**Department of Food & Public Distribution** launched the "Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)". It aims to introduce nation-wide portability of ration card holders under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), through '**One Nation One Ration Card**' system.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)** portal (<http://www.impds.nic.in/>) provides the technological platform for the *inter-state portability* of ration cards. The **Annavitaran portal** ([annavitrان.nic.in](http://annavitrان.nic.in)) hosts the data of distribution of food grains through E-PoS devices within a state.

**Q.47)** Consider the following statements:

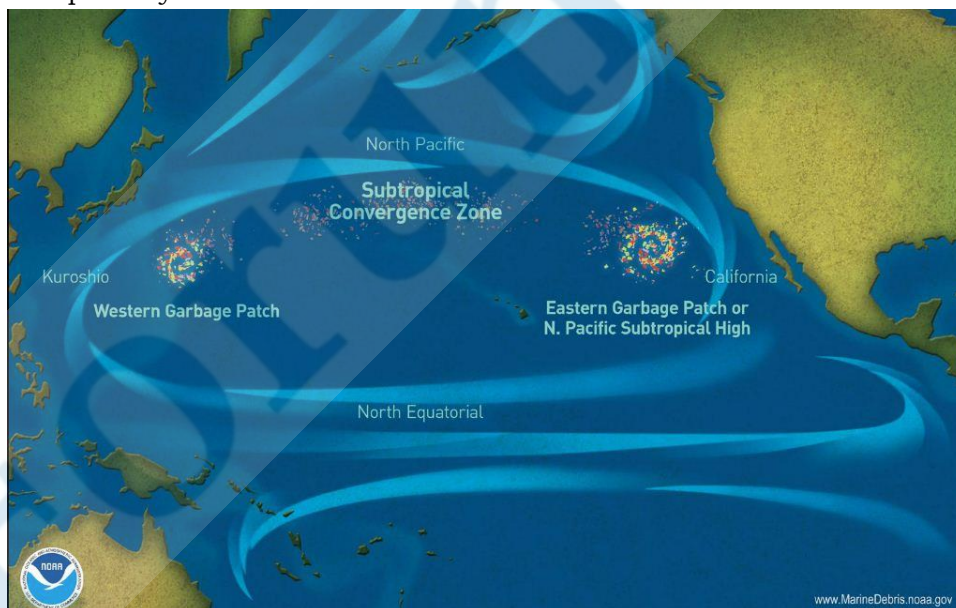
1. Great Pacific garbage patch is a collection of marine debris bound by the North Pacific Subtropical Gyre.
2. India is signatory to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL).

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a collection of marine debris in the North Pacific Ocean. Also known as the Pacific trash vortex, the garbage patch is actually two distinct collections of debris bounded by the massive North Pacific Subtropical Gyre.



Statement 2 is correct. The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (**MARPOL**) **is the main international convention covering prevention of pollution of the marine environment by ships from operational or accidental causes.** It was adopted on 2 November 1973 at International Maritime Organization. India is signatory to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL).

*As per National Ocean & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), USA **most ocean pollution begins on land**, as much as eighty percent of pollution to the marine environment comes from the land.*



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**Q.48)** Consider the following statements regarding **Chitra GeneLAMP-N**:

1. It is a diagnostic test for COVID-19 developed by National Institute of Virology, Pune.
2. It is an antibody-based test for COVID-19.

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

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum, an Institute of National Importance, of the Department of Science and Technology (DST)**, has developed a diagnostic test kit *Chitra GeneLAMP-N* that can confirm COVID19 in 2 hours at low cost.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It is not based on antibody detection; it rather **detects the N Gene of SARS- COV2 using reverse transcriptase loop-mediated amplification of viral nucleic acid (RT-LAMP)**. It is highly specific for SARS-CoV-2 N-gene and can detect two regions of the gene, which will ensure that the test does not fail even if one region of the viral gene undergoes mutation during its current spread.

**Q.49)** Consider the following statements:

1. Blockchain is a distributed database of records or transactions that grows as more entries are added.
2. A 'Centre of Excellence in Blockchain Technology' has been set up by National Informatics Centre (NIC) in Bengaluru, India.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **Blockchain** is a distributed ledger technology in which transactions are stored in 'blocks' and cryptographically linked to the previous block by a 'chain'.

A Database	A list of records / transactions, like a ledger, that keeps growing as more entries are added;
Which is Distributed	Copies of the entire database are stored on multiple computers on a network, syncing within minutes / seconds;
adjustably Transparent	Records stored in the database may be made visible to relevant stakeholders without risk of alteration;
highly Secure	Malicious actors (hackers) can no longer just attack one computer and change any records;
and Immutable	The mathematical algorithms make it impossible to change / delete any data once recorded and accepted.

Statement 2 is correct. **National Informatics Centre (NIC) has set up the Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Blockchain Technology in Bengaluru**, Karnataka, aiming to provide Blockchain as a service and allowing all stakeholders to benefit from shared learning, experiences and resources.

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**Q.50)** Consider the following statements regarding **Whitley Commission**:

1. It was set up to inquire into conditions of labour in industries and plantations in British India.
2. It recommended a systematic collection of labour statistics.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **The Royal Commission on Labour under chairmanship of John Henry Whitley was set up in 1929** to inquire into the existing conditions of labour in industrial undertakings and plantations in India.

Statement 2 is correct. The Royal Commission on Labour report in 1931 stated the need for systematic collection of labour statistics. The Commission recommended the adoption of a suitable legislation enabling the Competent Authority to collect and collate information regarding the living, working and socio-economic conditions of industrial labour in India.

**Caveat:** Today's [15-05-20] The Hindu article mentions "... the Royal Commission on Labour, which gave a report in 1935" while the labour bureau website mentions "...The Royal Commission on Labour in 1931", the Wikipedia source of the document and Oxford University Press website (<https://academic.oup.com/ia/article-abstract/10/4/571/2711703>) also cite 1931 as year of the report publication.

**Q.51)** Which of the following correctly defines "**Laissez-Faire**":

- a) Means of production owned and regulated by community as a whole
- b) Minimum interference by government in the business affairs
- c) Production and distribution in economy controlled by workers' unions
- d) None of the above

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Laissez-faire (a French term that translates as "leave alone" or "let you do") is an economic theory from the 18th century that **opposed any government intervention in business** affairs. It proposes that the less the government is involved in the economy, the better off business will be and by extension, society as a whole. Laissez-faire economics are a key part of free market capitalism.

**Q.52)** Consider the following statements regarding **borrowings by States as per Constitution**:

1. The executive power of a State extends to borrowing within the territory of India upon the security of the Consolidated Fund of the India.
2. The government of India can give guarantees in respect of loans raised by any State.

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

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Article 293 of the Constitution deals with the borrowing powers of states in India.



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Statement 1 is incorrect. **Article 293(1)** states that the executive power of a State extends to borrowing within the territory of India upon the security of the Consolidated Fund of the State.

Statement 2 is correct. **Article 293(2)** states that the Government of India may make loans to any State or give guarantees in respect of loans raised by any State, and any sums required for the purpose of making such loans shall be charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.

**Q.53)** Consider the following statements regarding **Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency Ltd (MUDRA)**:

1. It is a direct lending institution providing support to the small business sector.
2. Loans below Rs 50,000 are not available under MUDRA scheme.

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

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **MUDRA is a refinance agency and not a direct lending institution.** MUDRA provides refinance support to its intermediaries viz. Banks, Micro Finance Institutions and NBFCs, who are in the business of lending for income generating activities in the non-farm sector in manufacturing, processing, trading or service sector and who in turn will finance the beneficiaries.

Statement 2 is incorrect. MUDRA loans are available in three categories. For small business, **loan upto Rs 50000 is available under the 'Shishu' category and beyond Rs 50,000 and up to Rs 5 lakh under the 'Kishor' category.** It also offers loans **beyond Rs 5 lakh and up to Rs 10 lakh under the Tarun category.**

**Q.54)** Consider the following statements regarding **COBAS 6800** machine:

1. It is a COVID-19 testing kit indigenously developed by DRDO.
2. It limits the chances of contamination as it can be operated remotely with limited human intervention.

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

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **COBAS-6800 is a molecular testing kit developed by Roche Diagnostics** (a diagnostic division of Hoffmann-La Roche, Switzerland). It is being used as diagnostic test kit for COVID-19. **It has been procured by the Government of India for testing of COVID-19 cases and is installed at the National Centre for Disease Control.**

Statement 2 is correct. It is **enabled with robotics** that minimizes the chances of contamination as well as the risk of infection to the health care workers since it can be operated remotely with limited human intervention.

**Q.55)** Which of the following are components of **Sagarmala Programme**:

1. Port Modernization & New Port Development

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2. Coastal Community Development
3. Port-linked Industrialization

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: D**

**Explanation:** All are components of Sagarmala Programme.

The Sagarmala programme is the **flagship programme of the Ministry of Shipping** to promote port-led development in the country through harnessing India's 7,500 km long coastline, 14500 km of potentially navigable waterways and strategic location on key international maritime trade routes.

**Components of Sagarmala Programme are:**

- Port Modernization & New Port Development
- Port Connectivity Enhancement
- Port-linked Industrialization
- Coastal Community Development
- Coastal Shipping & Inland Waterways Transport

**Q.56)** Consider the following statements:

1. Constitution provides for freedom of trade and commerce throughout the territory of India.
2. Interstate trade and commerce is part of concurrent list.

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

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. **Article 301 of the Constitution** states "freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse Subject to the other provisions of this Part, trade, commerce and intercourse throughout the territory of India shall be free".

**Article 302 of the constitution** states "parliament may by law impose such restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce or intercourse between one State and another or within any part of the territory of India as may be required in the public interest".

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Inter-State trade and commerce is part of Union list** under seventh schedule of Indian Constitution.

**Q.57)** Consider the following statements regarding **Agriculture Infrastructure Fund** announced as part of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan:

1. It will be financed and managed by National Investment and Infrastructure Fund.
2. The fund will support agriculture cooperative societies, farmer producer organizations and agriculture entrepreneurs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2

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d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. Government has announced plans for Rs 1 lakh crore Agriculture Infrastructure Fund as part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan stimulus package. The fund will be financed and managed by the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)**.

Statement 2 is correct. It is to be used for funding Agriculture Infrastructure Projects at farm-gate and aggregation points which will include primary agricultural co-operative societies, farmer producer organizations, agricultural entrepreneurs and start-ups.

**Q.58)** Consider the following statements regarding **Fundamental Rights** as provided in the Indian Constitution:

1. The freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practice and propagate religion is subject to public order, morality and health.
2. The minorities based on religion have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. As per **article 25(1) of the constitution** subject to public order, morality and health all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practice and propagate religion.

Statement 2 is correct. **Article 30 of the constitution** provides for minority rights, as per article 30(1); all minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

**Q.59)** Which of the following were parties to the **Treaty of Sagauli**?

1. Kingdom of Nepal
2. East India Company
3. Mughal King Akbar II

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation: Treaty of Sagauli (1815-16) between East India Company and King of Nepal** established the boundary between British India and Nepal Kingdom. The expansion of Nepal kingdom towards Kumaon (1793), Garhwal (1804), the basins of Gandaki, Karnali and parts of Sikkim in the east brought them in conflict with the British. Anglo-Nepalese War occurred in 1814–1816 which ended by Treaty of Sagauli.

By the treaty, Nepal renounced all claim to the disputed Tarai, and ceded its conquests west of the Kali River. Nepal remained independent, but it received a British resident with the status of an ambassador to an independent country.

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**Q.60)** Which of the following has released the **Energy Transition Index 2020**?

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) International Atomic Energy Agency
- c) International Energy Agency
- d) World Bank

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** The **Energy Transition Index (ETI)** released by **World Economic Forum (WEF)** is a fact-based ranking intended to enable policymakers and businesses to plot the course for a successful energy transition.

It is a composite score of 40 indicators, benchmarks 115 countries on the current performance of their energy system, and their readiness for transition to a secure, sustainable, affordable, and inclusive future energy system. Sweden topped the index followed by Switzerland and Finland while India ranks 74th.

**Q.61)** Consider the following statements regarding **Essential Commodities Act 1955**:

- 1. Central government may by notification add or remove a commodity in the schedule listing 'essential commodities'.
- 2. Central government may issue orders for regulating by licences, permits or otherwise the production or manufacture of any essential commodity.

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Statement 1 is correct. Essential commodities** are specified in the schedule of the act. The act states “ **Central Government may**, if it is satisfied that it is necessary so to do in the **public interest** and for reasons to be specified in the notification published in the Official Gazette, amend the Schedule so as to—

- (a) add a commodity to the said Schedule;
  - (b) remove any commodity from the said Schedule,
- in consultation with the State Governments.

Statement 2 is correct. Act authorizes the central government to **regulate or prohibit the production, supply and distribution of an essential commodity**. Therefore, orders can be issued by the central government for regulating by licences, permits or otherwise the production or manufacture of any essential commodity.

**Q.62)** Consider the following statements regarding **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana**:

- 1. It will focus only on inland fisheries development.
- 2. The scheme aims infrastructure creation for fishing harbours, cold chain and markets.

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

**Correct answer: B**



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**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana is aimed for the development of marine as well as inland fisheries.**

Statement 2 is correct. As per **Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan** declarations the government will provide 20,000 crore rupees under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana for the development of marine and inland fisheries. Of this, 11,000 crore rupees will be earmarked for activities in marine, inland fisheries and aquaculture while 9,000 crore rupees for infrastructure creation such as fishing harbours, cold chain and markets.

### **Rs 20,000 crores for Fishermen through Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)**

- Critical gaps in fisheries value chain
- Government will launch the PMMSY for integrated, sustainable, inclusive development of marine and inland fisheries.
- Rs 11,000 Cr for activities in Marine, Inland fisheries and Aquaculture
- Rs. 9000 Cr for Infrastructure - Fishing Harbours, Cold chain, Markets etc.
- Cage Culture, Seaweed farming, Ornamental Fisheries as well as New Fishing Vessels, Traceability, Laboratory Network etc. will be key activities.
- Provisions of Ban Period Support to fishermen (during the period fishing is not permitted), Personal & Boat Insurance
- Will lead to **Additional Fish Production of 70 lakh tonnes over 5 years.**
- **Employment to over 55 lakh persons; double exports to Rs 1,00,000 Cr.**
- **Focus on Islands, Himalayan States, North-east and Aspirational Districts.**



**Q.63) Yakshagana** is a traditional theatre art from:

- Karnataka
- Rajasthan
- Odisha
- West Bengal

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Yakshagana is a **traditional theatre art form of Karnataka** involving mythological and Purana stories. The word Yakshagana is derived from two words: Yaksha means Nature's spirit and Gana means Song. The theatre play is a combination of **dance, music, dialogues, costumes, face-makeup and narrates stories of Kings, History of places or events of Purana.** The dialogue is delivered in either Tulu or Kannada.

**Q.64) Consider the following statements regarding Quinine:**

1. It is extracted from bark of Cinchona trees.
  2. It is effective against the Malaria disease.
- 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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct.

**Quinine is a medication used to treat malaria,** but it has several side effects and development of new drugs have limited the use of Quinine as antimalarial drug. Quinine, as

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a component of the bark of the **cinchona (quina-quina) tree**, was used to treat malaria from as early as the 1600s. Quinine is extracted from the bark of a seven or eight-year-old tree, when the yield is highest.

**Q.65)** Consider the following statements regarding **Arumbavur Wood Carving**:

1. Arumbavur wood carvings are majorly based on temple architectures and deities.
2. Only Myanmar Teak wooden logs are used for the carvings.

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

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** **Arumbavur Wood Carving from Tamil Nadu** has been recently recognized as a Geographical Indication.

Statement 1 is correct. The designs that inspire Arumbavur wood carvings lie in **temple architecture** indigenous to the region. Arumbavur wood carvings mostly represent idols and deities, temple chariots and temple cars, door panels of houses, pooja rooms and temples, decorative figures, pooja mandapam.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Arumbavur wood carvings are sculptures primarily made of the wooden logs of **Mango, Lingam tree, Indian Ash tree, Rosewood, Neem tree**.

**Q.66)** Consider the following statements regarding **Suraksha Store initiative**:

1. It is a public private partnership initiative including the Department of Consumer Affairs.
2. It aims to link the National Agriculture Market (eNAM) to sellers at local level.

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

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. The Department of Consumer Affairs has partnered with tech startups Safejob and Seekify to **prevent the spread of COVID-19 at the Kirana store level**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Under the initiative these Kirana stores (owners) will be educated, certified and validated to follow common minimum health standards as well as safety checklists.

**Q.67)** Consider the following statements regarding **'Kawasaki disease'**:

1. It primarily affects children younger than 5 years of age.
2. It causes inflammation in the walls of some blood vessels in the body.

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

**Correct answer: C**

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**Explanation:** Both statements are correct. Kawasaki disease (KD), also known as **Kawasaki syndrome**, is an acute illness of unknown cause that primarily affects children **younger than 5 years of age**. It causes inflammation in the walls of some blood vessels in the body. Clinical signs include fever, rash, swelling of the hands and feet, irritation and redness of the whites of the eyes, swollen lymph glands in the neck, and irritation and inflammation of the mouth, lips, and throat.

The disease was first described in **Japan by Tomisaku Kawasaki in 1967**. It has recently been linked to some children fatalities in New York who had contracted COVID-19.

**Q.68)** Consider the following statements regarding the recent **Black Hole discovery in HR6819** system:

1. It is part of constellation Telescopium.
2. It was discovered by astronomers from the European Southern Observatory (ESO).

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct.

A team of astronomers from the **European Southern Observatory (ESO)** have discovered a black hole 1,000 light-years from Earth. **It is the closest black hole to our solar system discovered till date.** It was found in a system called HR 6819, in the constellation Telescopium.

**Q.69)** Consider the following statements regarding **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**:

1. It is a joint venture of four public sector organizations under Ministry of Power.
2. It is the implementing body for Smart Meter National Programme (SMNP).

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

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation:** Both statements are correct.

EESL is a Joint Venture of four public-sector undertakings under the Ministry of Power Government of India - **NTPC Limited, Power Finance Corporation Limited., REC Limited, and POWERGRID Corporation of India Limited.**

Government of India's **Smart Meter National Programme (SMNP) is being implemented through Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**, it aims to replace 25 crore conventional meters with smart meters across India.

**Q.70)** Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Kalapani - Uttarakhand
2. Pangong Tso - Jammu & Kashmir
3. Naku La - Sikkim

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 3 only

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- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Kalapani is in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand which borders with Nepal.

Pangong Tso Lake is a saline lake extending from **Union territory of Ladakh**, India to Tibetan Autonomous Region, China.

Naku La is a pass is at an altitude of more than 5,000 metres above the mean sea level in Sikkim.

**Q.71)** Consider the following statements:

1. SWAN comet appears in inner Solar System every 76 years.
2. Next appearance of Halley's Comet in inner Solar System is predicted to be in 2061.

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

**Correct answer: B**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is incorrect. C/2020 F8 (SWAN) or **Comet SWAN** is a newly discovered comet; it was discovered on April 11, 2020 by analyzing data from SWAN camera (Solar Wind Anisotropies instrument) of **NASA's Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO)**. Comet SWAN was closest to Earth on May 12 to May 13, passing by from a distance of about 0.56 astronomical units - more than half the distance to the Sun. Its periodic cycle around Sun is yet to be predicted accurately, some simulations suggest it could be around 25 million years.

**Halley's Comet was discovered by Edmond Halley (1656-1742), Halley correctly predicted the comet's return in 1758-1759 — 16 years after his death.**

Statement 2 is correct. Halley was last seen in Earth's skies in 1986. It will return in 2061 on its regular 76-year journey around the Sun.

**Q.72) Article 23 of the Indian Constitution** provides:

1. Prohibition of traffic in human beings
2. Prohibition of employment of children in factories
3. Prohibition of forced labour
4. Authority of state to impose compulsory service for public purpose

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: C**

**Explanation: Prohibition of employment of children in factories is provided by article 24 of the constitution.**

**Article 23** in the Constitution of India provides:

“Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour



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(1) Traffic in human beings and begar and other similar forms of forced labour are prohibited and any contravention of this provision shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law

(2) Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from imposing compulsory service for public purpose, and in imposing such service the State shall not make any discrimination on grounds only of religion, race, caste or class or any of them”.

**Q.73)** Consider the following statements regarding **Gandhi Peace Prize**:

1. It is awarded by Government of India.
2. The award is honorary and does not have monetary value.

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

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct. Gandhi Peace Prize Awards given by Government of India is for **Social, Economic and Political transformation through Non-violence**; it was instituted in the year 1995. The Award can be divided between two persons / institutions that are considered by the Jury to be equally deserving of recognition. Posthumous awards are not given; if, however, the death occurred after a proposal having been submitted to the Jury, then a Posthumous Award may be made.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **The Award comprises an amount of Rs. One Crore and Citation.**

**Q.74)** Which of the following fundamental conventions of **International Labour Organization (ILO)** have been ratified by India till date?

1. Minimum Age Convention
2. Worst forms of Child Labour Convention
3. Freedom of Association and Protection of Right to Organised Convention

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** India has ratified 6 out of 8 core ILO conventions. These are:

- Forced Labour Convention (No. 29)
- Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (No.105)
- Equal Remuneration Convention (No.100)
- Discrimination (Employment Occupation) Convention (No.111)
- Minimum Age Convention (No.138)
- Worst forms of Child Labour Convention (No.182)

India is yet to ratify Freedom of Association and Protection of Right to Organised Convention (No.87) and Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention (No.98).

**Q.75)** Which of the following are potential outcomes of **Gig Economy**?

1. Freedom and flexibility of employment
2. Inconsistent income

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3. full-time employment opportunities

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Correct answer: A**

**Explanation:** Gig economy refers to economic activities that **involve the use of temporary or freelance workers** to perform jobs.

Option 1 is correct. Working in the gig economy provides freedom and flexibility, as a gig worker, you get to choose when and where you work.

Option 2 is correct. Gig work comes with inconsistent income since one only get paid when they're doing gigs. Unlike a traditional job gig work income is not guaranteed and can fluctuate up and down.

Option 3 is incorrect. Full-time employment is feature of traditional economy and not gig economy.