

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

3rd to 9th August, 2020

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

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Q.1) Which of the following foreign language(s) is/are to be offered at the secondary level under the **National Education Policy 2020**?

1. Japanese
2. Mandarin
3. Portuguese

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: C

Explanation: As per the **National Education Policy 2020**, in addition to high quality offerings in Indian languages and English, foreign languages, such as **Korean, Japanese, Thai, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian**, will also be offered at the secondary level, for students to learn about the cultures of the world and to enrich their global knowledge and mobility according to their own interests and aspirations.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the **Dhole** wild dog:

1. It is endemic to Asian continent.
2. It is listed as endangered in the 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: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

Dhole is the wild dog of Asia that was once found throughout much of the continent, but this species is now endangered and has a much restricted range.

It is an extant species in Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; China; India; Indonesia; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Myanmar; Nepal and Thailand.

Dhole is listed as **Endangered species in IUCN Red List** of Threatened Species with decreasing population trend. It is also listed in **CITES Appendix II**.

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the **BeiDou**:

1. It is the satellite navigation system of China.
2. The area of coverage of the Beidou system is limited to the China's territory only.

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. **BeiDou is the Navigation Satellite System** constellation developed and deployed by China. BeiDou offers its users all kinds of services. This includes accurate positioning upto 10m, navigation and timing, as well as short messaging communication.

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Statement 2 is incorrect. Beidou system provides **global coverage** to its users. China in 2015 launched the third generation BeiDou system (BeiDou-3) for global coverage. It has recently declared completion and commissioning of BeiDou-3 Navigation Satellite System. *Other global navigation systems are GPS by USA, GLONASS by Russia and Galileo by European Union.*

Q.4) Where is **Barakah Nuclear Power Plant** located?

- a) Iran
- b) North Korea
- c) Russia
- d) United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** has recently announced that it has started operations in the first of four reactors at the **Barakah nuclear power station** - the first nuclear power plant in the Arab world.

Nuclear fission has begun in one of four reactors at the Barakah plant, which uses South Korean technology. The plant was due to open in 2017 but start-up was delayed for safety requirements.



Q.5) Which of the following is correct regarding the **Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan (VVM)**?

- a) It aims to popularize science among school students of standard VI to XI
- b) It links Higher Education Institutions with different villages in the country
- c) It is an IIT-IISc initiative to address the major science and engineering challenges facing India
- d) None of the above

Correct answer: A

Explanation: '**Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan**' 2020-21 has been launched recently. VVM is a national program for popularizing science among school students **of standard VI to XI**, conceptualized to identify the bright minds with a scientific aptitude among the student community.

Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan (VVM) is an initiative of **Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA)**, in collaboration with **Vigyan Prasar**, an autonomous organization under the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India and **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)**, an institution under the Ministry of Education

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the **ACE2 receptor**:

1. It is a protein on the surface of several cell types in the body.
2. The SARS-CoV-2 virus binds to ACE2 using Spike proteins.

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

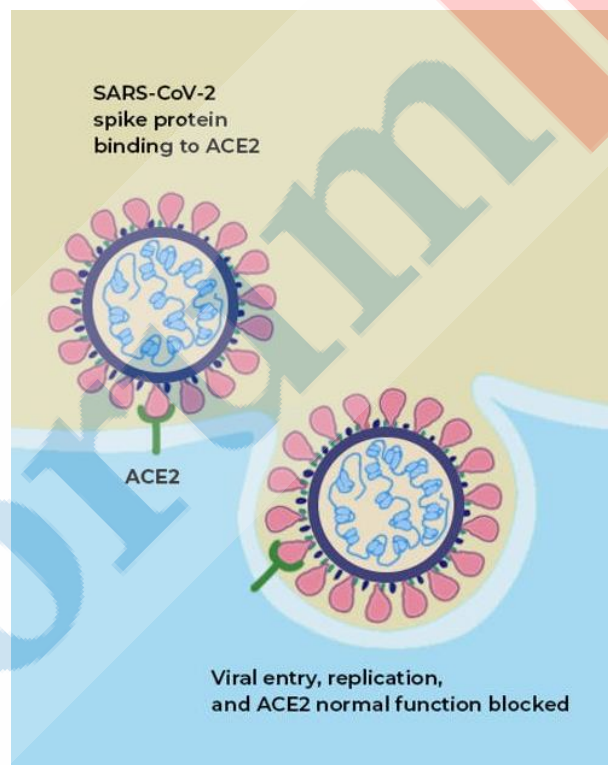
Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

Angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) ACE2 is a protein on the surface of many cell types. It is an enzyme that generates small proteins – by cutting up the larger protein angiotensinogen.

ACE2 is present in many cell types and tissues including the lungs, heart, blood vessels, kidneys, liver and gastrointestinal tract. It is present in epithelial cells, which line certain tissues and create protective barriers.

The **SARS-CoV-2** virus binds to ACE2, using the **spike-like protein** on its surface, prior to entry and infection of cells. Hence, ACE2 acts as a cellular receptor for the virus that causes COVID-19.



Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding the **Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2020**:

1. SIH 2020 is the first edition of the nationwide initiative to provide students a platform of product innovation.
2. SIH is being conducted in two formats; the SIH Software and SIH Hardware Editions.

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: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **Smart India Hackathon (SIH)** is a nationwide initiative that is being conducted every year **since 2017**, to provide students a platform to solve some of the pressing problems we face in daily lives, and thus inculcate a culture of product innovation and a mindset of problem solving.

Statement 2 is correct. There are two formats for the Hackathon - **SIH Software** and **SIH Hardware** Editions. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SIH Software Edition is being conducted in fully ONLINE mode.

Themes for SIH 2020 include Healthcare & Biomedical Devices, Agriculture & Rural Development, Renewable Energy, Food Processing, and Smart Vehicles among etc.

Q.8) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Galápagos Islands - Ecuador
2. Minsk - Belarus
3. Da Nang - Vietnam

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 of the above are correctly matched.

The **Galápagos Islands** is a volcanic archipelago in the Pacific Ocean, a province of Ecuador and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Minsk is the capital and largest city of Belarus, located on the Svislac and the Nyamiha Rivers.

Da Nang is a coastal city in central Vietnam, a former French colonial port.

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the **Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE)**:

1. It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Education.
2. The Union Minister of Education is the chairperson of the board.

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: The **Central Advisory Board of Education**, one of the oldest and the most important advisory body of the Government of India in education was first established in 1920 and dissolved in 1923 as a measure of economy. It was revived in 1935 and has been in existence ever since.

Statement 1 is incorrect. It is not a statutory body; the current Board has been reconstituted by a Government of India **Resolution** of October, 1990.

Statement 2 is correct. The Chairperson of the board is **Union Minister of Education**.

National Education Policy 2020 recommends strengthening and empowering the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE). The remodeled and rejuvenated CABE shall also be responsible for developing, articulating, evaluating, and revising the vision of education in the country on a continuous basis, in close collaboration with MHRD and the corresponding apex bodies of States.

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Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the **Crew Dragon Endeavour**:

1. It is a spacecraft developed by the Roscosmos.
2. It took its first crewed space flight in 2020.

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. **Crew Dragon Endeavour** is a spacecraft, manufactured and operated by SpaceX and used by **NASA's Commercial Crew Program**. Statement 2 is correct. It was launched successfully for the first time with crew on board in May 2020 by **Falcon 9 rocket** and has returned back to Earth with crew onboard on August 2nd 2020.

It is the spacecraft used in the **first crewed orbital spaceflight from the United States since 2011** and the first crewed orbital spaceflight by a private company.

Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding the **COVISHIELD**:

1. It is an antiviral textile technology that is added to the fabric during the final stage of the manufacturing process.
2. It has been developed by the Oxford University.

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. **COVISHIELD** is a potential vaccine against SARS-COV-2 virus that has been granted approval for **Phase II+III clinical trials** in India by Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI).

Statement 2 is correct. It is the **ChAdOx1 nCoV-19** vaccine developed by the Oxford University. The Serum Institute of India, partner in production of the vaccine, has named the product as COVISHIELD.

ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 is made from a virus (ChAdOx1), which is a weakened version of a common cold virus (adenovirus) that causes infections in chimpanzees, that has been genetically changed so that it is impossible for it to replicate in humans.

Q.12) Consider the following statements regarding the **Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) framework**:

1. It is an initiative of the NITI Aayog-Atal Innovation Mission.
2. It aims at creation of an ecosystem to foster innovation and technology development in Defence and Aerospace in 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

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Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The **Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX)** framework is an initiative of the Ministry of Defence.

Statement 2 is correct. It was launched with the aim to achieve **self-reliance and to foster innovation** and technology development in Defence and Aerospace Sector by engaging Industries including MSMEs, start-ups, individual innovators, R&D institutes and academia.

This initiative provides them grants/funding and other support to carry out R&D which has good potential for future adoption for Indian defence and aerospace needs. iDEX is being funded and managed by a '**Defence Innovation Organization (DIO)**'.

The share of domestic procurement in overall Defence procurement is about 60 per cent.

Q.13) Consider the following statements regarding the **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)**:

1. It is a survey based economic indicator that evaluates the perception of purchasing managers at different businesses.
 2. A figure above 50 denotes expansion in business activity.
- 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 **purchasing managers' index (PMI)** is an economic indicator that **surveys purchasing managers** at businesses that make up a given sector. The most common PMI surveys are the manufacturing PMI and the services PMI.

The PMI consists of several different surveys that are compiled into a **single numerical result** depending on one of several possible answers to each question.

The most **common elements** include: New orders, Factory output, Employment, Suppliers' delivery times and Stocks of purchases; while the most **common answers** include: Improvement, No change and Deterioration.

A reading **above 50 suggests an improvement/expansion**, while a reading below 50 suggests deterioration/contraction.

Q.14) Consider the following statements regarding the **Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN)**:

1. It aims to provide an overview of the vaccine cold chain logistics system across the country.
2. It is being implemented under National Health Mission (NHM) by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

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 **Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN)** is an innovative technological solution aimed at strengthening immunization supply chain systems across the country.

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This is being implemented under **National Health Mission (NHM)** by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

-It digitizes the entire **vaccine stock management**, their logistics and temperature tracking at all levels of vaccine storage – from national to the sub-district.

-This enables program managers to have real time view of the vaccine stock position and their storage temperature across all the cold chain points providing a detailed overview of the vaccine cold chain logistics system across the entire country.

-eVIN has reached 32 States and Union Territories (UTs) and will soon be rolled-out in the remaining States and UTs of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Ladakh and Sikkim.

Q.15) Which of the following island(s) is/are in the Union Territory of **Lakshadweep**?

1. Agatti Island
2. Bangaram Island
3. Kadmat Island

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

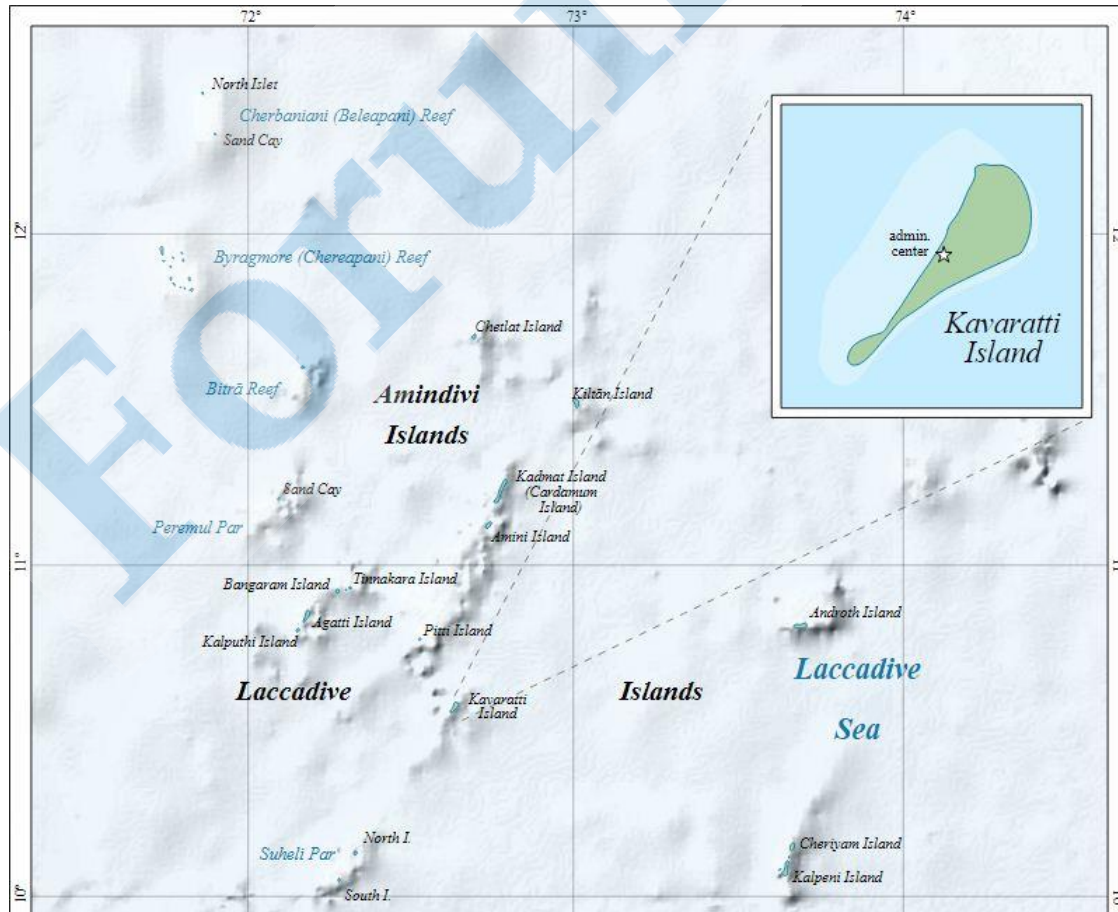
Correct answer: D

Explanation: All of the above are in the **Union Territory of Lakshadweep**.

Agatti Island is a 7.6 km long island, situated on a coral Agatti atoll in Lakshadweep.

Bangaram is a teardrop shaped island close to Agatti and Kavaratti in Lakshadweep.

Kadmat Island, also known as Cardamom Island, is a coral island belonging to the Amindivi subgroup of islands of the Lakshadweep.



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Minicoy Island lying south of nine-degree channel, not shown in the image, is part of the UT of Lakshadweep.

Q.16) Which of the following is/are the result of the **Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019**?

1. The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is administered by the President, through a Lieutenant Governor appointed by him.
 2. Jammu and Kashmir no more shares its border with the state of Himachal Pradesh.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

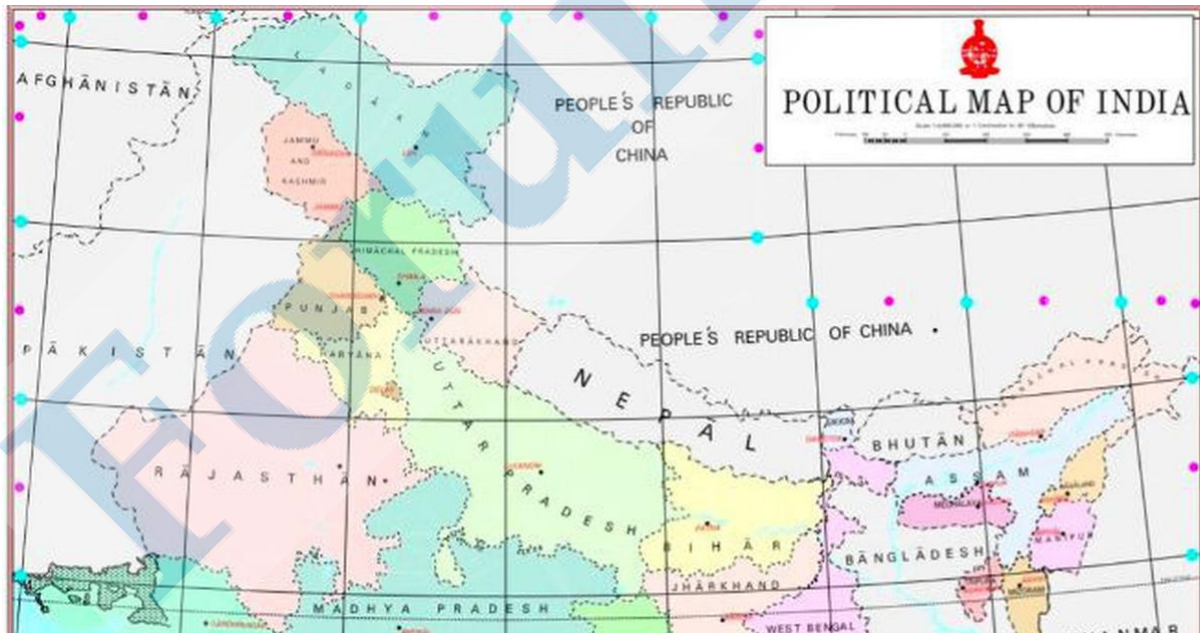
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019** reorganised the state of Jammu and Kashmir into: (i) the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir with a legislature, and (ii) the Union Territory of Ladakh without a legislature. The Union Territory of Ladakh comprises Kargil and Leh districts, and the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir comprises the remaining territories of the existing state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is administered by the President, through an administrator appointed by him known as the **Lieutenant Governor**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Both new UTs share their border with the state of **Himachal Pradesh**.



Q.17) What does the **Good Friday Agreement** relate to?

- a) Israel-Palestine Peace treaty
- b) Saudi Arabia-Houthi ceasefire agreement
- c) Peace deal to end the Northern Ireland Troubles
- d) Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Agreement between African Union Members

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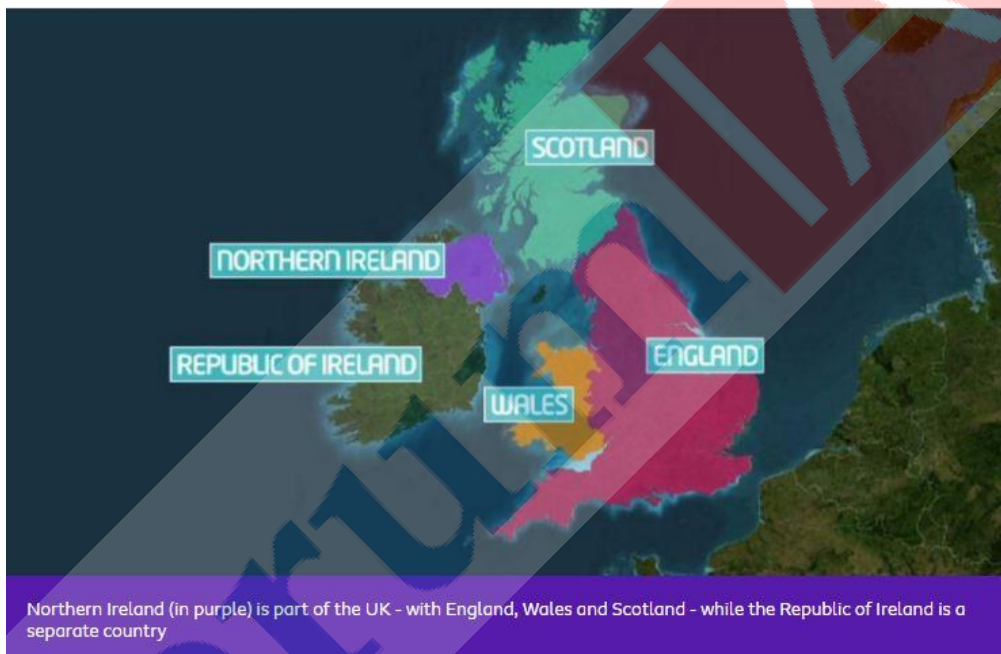
Correct answer: C

Explanation: From the late 1960s, **Northern Ireland** was plunged into a violent conflict between **republicans** who wanted the province to become part of a united Ireland and **unionists** who wanted to remain within the United Kingdom. The Troubles was a period when there was a lot of violence between two groups.

In 1998 - after nearly two years of talks and 30 years of conflict - the **Good Friday agreement (or Belfast Agreement)** was signed. This resulted in a new government being formed that would see power being shared between Unionists and Nationalists.

The agreement was formally made between the **British and Irish governments, and eight political parties of Northern Ireland.**

The agreement acknowledged the constitutional status of Northern Ireland as a part of the United Kingdom, reflecting the wish of the majority of citizens. It also established a **principle of consent** - that a united Ireland could come about if and when a majority of people in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland wanted it. In this instance, the British government would be bound to hold a referendum, and honour the result.



Q.18) Which of the following is a punishable offence under the **Disaster Management Act, 2005**?

1. Making false claim for obtaining any relief, assistance, repair, reconstruction or other benefits.
2. Misappropriation of money or materials meant for providing relief.
3. Making or circulating false warning regarding disaster or its severity and magnitude.

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 of the above are punishable offences under the Disaster Management Act 2005.

Chapter X of the Act provides for offence and penalties. Some of which are:

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- if one **obstructs any government employee** of the in the discharge of his functions under this Act or for refusing to comply with any direction given under the act.
- if one knowingly makes a **claim** which he knows or has reason to believe to be false for obtaining any relief, assistance, repair, reconstruction or other benefits.
- misappropriation** of money or materials, etc. meant for providing relief in any threatening disaster situation or disaster.
- making or circulating a false alarm** or warning as to disaster or its severity or magnitude, leading to panic.

Q.19) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. The real interest rate refers to the interest rate before taking inflation into account.
2. A nominal interest rate adjusts the observed market interest rate for the effects of inflation.

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: D

Explanation: Both statements are **incorrect** with **definitions interchanged**.

The real interest rate adjusts the observed market interest rate for the effects of inflation. It is an interest rate that has been adjusted to remove the effects of inflation to reflect the real cost of funds to the borrower and the real yield to the lender or to an investor.

A nominal interest rate refers to the interest rate before taking inflation into account. The nominal interest rate is generally the one advertised by the institution backing the loan or investment.

Real Interest Rate = Nominal Interest Rate - Inflation (Expected or Actual)

Q.20) Which of the following correctly defines the **China Study Group (CSG)** that has been in news recently?

- a) An informal group under Government of India
- b) An economic policy group among OECD member countries
- c) A group of democracies proposed by United Kingdom
- d) None of the above

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **China Study Group (CSG)** is an informal group constituted in 1997, comprising the Cabinet Secretary, secretaries of Defence and Home ministries, the Army chief, Director of Intelligence Bureau among others.

[A report on ThePrint has different origin time for group: The CSG was set up in November 1975 on the instructions of then-PM Indira Gandhi, comprising the secretaries of external affairs, defence, and home.]

The National Security Advisor convenes its meeting from time to time. The CSG usually monitors the India-China border, assess its management, and help in preparations for negotiations with China on the border question.

Q.21) Consider the following statements regarding the **Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019**:

1. It provided for Legislative Assembly of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir with vacant seats for Gilgit-Baltistan region.

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2. Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir can make laws on any matters specified in the State List of the Constitution, except 'Police' and 'Public Order'.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

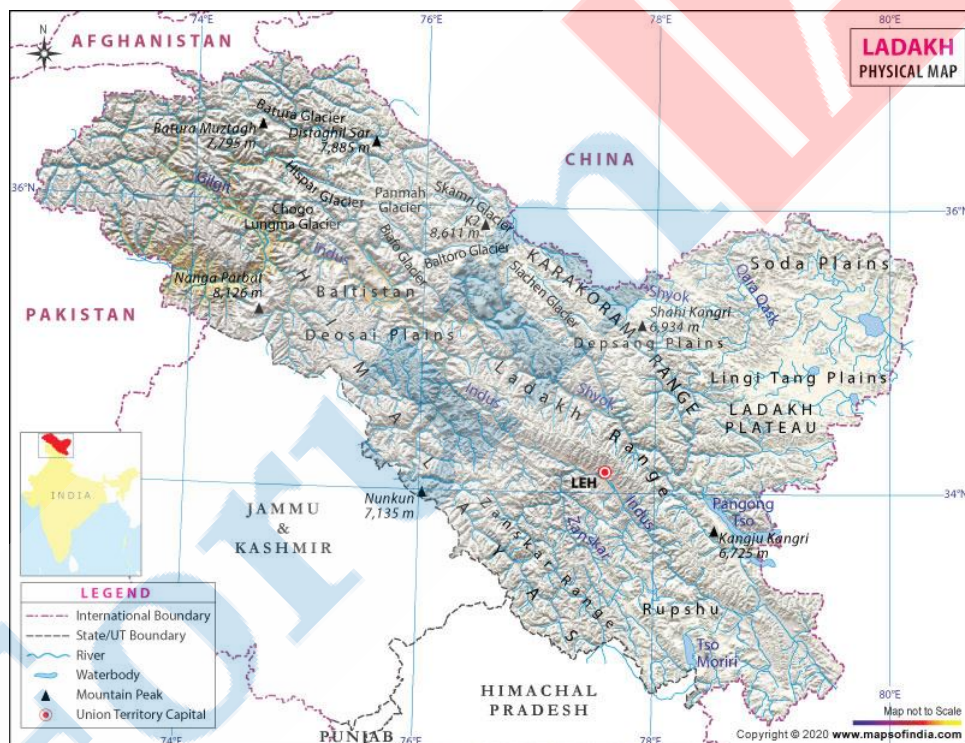
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. As per the reorganisation of the erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir state, the region of **Gilgit-Baltistan now falls under UT of Ladakh**.

Statement 2 is correct. The Legislative Assembly of UT of Jammu & Kashmir can make laws for any part of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir related to: (i) any matters specified in the State List of the Constitution, except **"Police" and "Public Order"**, and (ii) any matter in the Concurrent List applicable to Union Territories.

Parliament also has the power to make laws in relation to any matter for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.



Q.22) The **Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)** is an initiative of which of the following organisation/institution?

- a) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)
- b) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- c) Save the Children Fund
- d) Oxford University

Correct answer: B

Explanation: **Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)** is the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment. PISA measures **15-year-olds' ability to use their reading, mathematics and science** knowledge and skills to meet real-life challenges.

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The study, which began in the year 2000, conducts a test evaluating 15-year-olds in member and non-member countries to assess the quality and inclusivity of school systems in these countries. The PISA test is held **every three years**.

India has participated in the PISA test only once before, in 2009 and has decided to take part in next PISA, which was due in 2021 but has been **postponed to 2022**.

Q.23) Consider the following statements regarding the **Women Entrepreneurship and Empowerment (WEE)** initiative:

1. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
2. It promotes entrepreneurship as a viable, fulfilling career option among college going female students.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **Women Entrepreneurship and Empowerment (WEE)** is a first of its kind social national initiative by **IIT Delhi** to strengthen women startup eco system. The initiative is supported by **Department of Science and Technology**, Government of India.

Statement 2 is correct. It attempts to promote entrepreneurship as a viable, fulfilling career option amongst women from a college going student to a middle-aged housewife.

Under the **WEE Mentorship Program** at IIT Delhi, a batch of 30 women is trained in entrepreneurship every six months. Step by step guidance is provided to strengthen and validate the business idea. Women entrepreneurs are connected to potential investors and buyers for their products so that they can take their business idea to a financially sustainable enterprise.

Q.24) Consider the following statements regarding the **Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED)**:

1. It has a dual role of both a market developer and a service provider for tribals of the country.
2. It markets the handcrafted products directly procured from the tribals in India under the brand name TRIBES 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: Both statements are correct.

Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) was established in August 1987 under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 by the Government of India as a National level Cooperative body.

TRIFED is mandated to bring about **socio-economic development of tribals** of the country by institutionalizing the trade of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) & Surplus Agricultural Produce (SAP) collected/ cultivated by them.

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TRIFED plays the dual role of both a **market developer and a service provider**, empowering them with knowledge and tools to better their operations in a systematic, scientific manner and also assist them in developing their marketing approach.

TRIFED, under the brand name **TRIBES INDIA**, markets the handcrafted products directly procured from the tribals in India through its outlets all over India and e-commerce portals.

Q.25) Which of the following correctly defines the idea of 'Time Capsule' in news recently?

- a) a means of preserving information or artefacts for a long time into future
- b) a means of altering the space time dimension to make time travel a reality
- c) a spacecraft designed to travel at one-third of speed of light
- d) an ayurvedic medicinal composition to put a person in deep sleep

Correct answer: A

Explanation: A **Time Capsule** is a container of any size or shape, which accommodates and preserves **documents, photos and other artefacts** typical of the current era or history and is buried underground, for future generations to unearth and study.

International Time Capsule Society (ITCS) estimates the number of time capsules in the world to around 10,000-15,000 times capsules worldwide.

A time capsule was placed underground outside the **Red Fort in 1972** by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, it was dug out by the subsequent Janta Party government.

Q.26) Which of the following is/are correct regarding the provisions of **Preventive Detention** under the Constitution of India?

- 1. Every arrested person must be produced before a magistrate within 24 hours after arrest.
- 2. The Advisory Board for allowing detention of a person longer than three months must be headed by a Judge of Supreme Court.

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. Under Article 22 (2) every arrested person must be produced before a magistrate within 24 hours after arrest. However, **Article 22 (3) provides exception** in case of preventive detention detainees and enemy aliens from the said clause.

Statement 2 is incorrect. As per the article 22(4), no law providing for preventive detention shall authorize the detention of a person for a longer period than three months unless:

- an **Advisory Board** consisting of persons who **are**, or **have been**, or are **qualified to** be appointed as, **Judges of a High Court** has reported before the expiration of the said period of three months that there is in its opinion sufficient cause for such detention;
- or such person is detained in accordance with the provisions of any law made by Parliament.

Q.27) Consider the following statements regarding the **Antigen tests** for disease diagnosis:

- 1. The test is done on the blood sample of a suspected patient.
- 2. It detects if a person was infected by the disease in past.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. The sample for the rapid Antigen test is taken through a **Nasal or throat swab**. The Antibody test on the other hand requires a blood sample.

Statement 2 is incorrect. An antigen test reveals if a person is **currently infected** with a pathogen such as the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Once the infection has gone, the antigen disappears. It is a diagnosis for an active infection.

Antigen tests detect proteins or glycans, such as the spike proteins found on the surface of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Q.28) Consider the following statements regarding the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)**:

1. It was established by Group of Seven (G-7) Summit.
2. It is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog.
3. India is a member jurisdiction of the FATF.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 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 of the above statements are correct.

The **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** was established in July 1989 by a **Group of Seven (G-7)** Summit in Paris, initially to examine and develop measures to combat **money laundering**.

In 2001, the FATF expanded its mandate to incorporate efforts to **combat terrorist financing**, in addition to money laundering. In 2012, it added efforts to counter the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The FATF currently comprises **37 member jurisdictions** including India and 2 regional organisations (GCC & European Commission), representing most major financial centres in all parts of the globe.

Q.29) Which of the following location(s) is/are correctly matched?

1. Beirut - Lebanon
2. Tripoli - Libya
3. Khartoum - Sudan

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

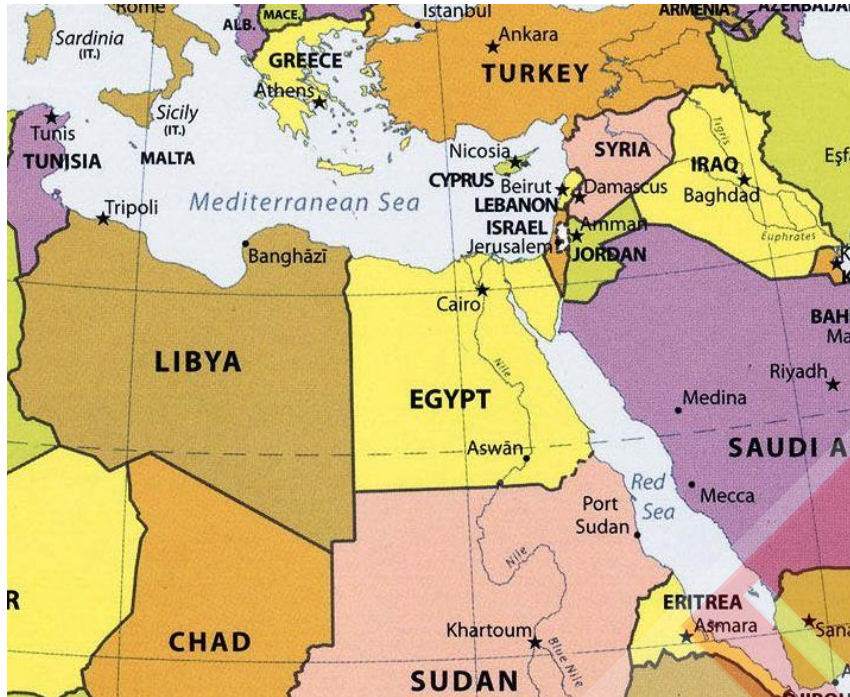
Correct answer: D

Explanation: All of the above capital cities are correctly matched.

Beirut is the capital and largest city of **Lebanon**.

The capital **Tripoli** is located in western **Libya**.

Khartoum or Khartum is the capital of **Sudan**.



Q.30) Consider the following statements regarding the **Yuva Sahakar Scheme**:

1. It is being implemented by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
2. It aims to encourage cooperative societies to venture into new and innovative areas.

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 Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)** 'Yuva Sahakar-Cooperative Enterprise Support and Innovation Scheme' aims for attracting youth into cooperative business ventures.

The scheme is linked to Rs 1000 crore '**Cooperative Start-up and Innovation Fund (CSIF)**' created by the NCDC and has more incentives for cooperatives of North Eastern region, Aspirational Districts and cooperatives with women or SC or ST or PwD members.

The scheme envisages 2% less than the applicable rate of interest on term loan for the project cost up to Rs 3 crore including 2 years moratorium on payment of principal. All types of cooperatives in operation for at least one year are eligible.

Agriculture Ministry has recently launched the Sahakar Cooptube NCDC Channel, a new initiative by National Cooperative Development Corporation.

Q.31) Consider the following statements regarding the **Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA)**:

1. It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Education.
2. It provides finance at competitive interest rates to educational institutions and supplements it with grants by channelizing CSR funds.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only

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

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. **Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA)** is a joint venture of **Ministry of Education, Government of India and Canara Bank**.

HEFA is registered under **Section 8 [Not-for-profit]** under the Companies Act 2013 as a Union Govt company and as Non-deposit taking NBFC with RBI.

Statement 2 is correct. HEFA Vision: To enable India's premier educational institutions to excel and reach the top in global rankings by financing building world class infrastructure including R&D Infra.

HEFA Mission: To provide timely finance at competitive interest rates for capital assets creation in India's educational institutions and supplement it with grants by channelizing CSR funds from the corporate and donations from others.

Q.32) Consider the following statements regarding the **Parivar Pehchan Patra Yojna**:

1. It has been launched by Ministry of Home Affairs as an extension to the Aadhaar UID.
2. It is to be mandatory for families availing benefits under Union government schemes.

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 **Parivar Pehchan Patra Yojna** is a unique initiative of **Government of Haryana** in which each family will be considered a single unit and allotted an 8-digit unique identification number.

It is mandatory for each family to register themselves on the Parivar Pehchan Patra portal in order to avail the **benefits of social security schemes of the state government**. The Haryana government has also made it mandatory for its employees to go for this scheme, failing which their salaries may also be withheld.

Telangana, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are also exploring the possibility of implementing a similar project.

Q.33) Consider the following statements regarding the **Ammonium nitrate**:

1. It has utility in making explosives and fertilizers.
2. It does not burn on its own but acts as a source of oxygen that can accelerate the combustion of other materials.

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.

Ammonium nitrate (NH₄NO₃) is a crystal-like white solid which is made in large industrial quantities. Its major use is as a source of nitrogen for fertilizer and is also used to create explosives for mining.

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Ammonium nitrate does not burn on its own. Instead, it **acts as a source of oxygen** that can accelerate the combustion (burning) of other materials.

At high enough temperatures ammonium nitrate can **violently decompose** on its own. This process creates gases including nitrogen oxides and water vapour. It is this rapid release of gases that causes an explosion.

Q.34) The **Bru tribal community** is a native of which following State?

- a) Tripura
- b) Kerala
- c) Sikkim
- d) Odisha

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Brus**, also known as **Reangs**, are spread across **Tripura, Mizoram and southern Assam** states in India.

Their **clashes with the majority Mizos** in 1995 led to the demand for the removal of the Brus (perceived to be non-indigenous) from Mizoram's electoral rolls. This led to an armed movement by a Bru outfit, The retaliatory ethnic violence saw more than 40,000 Brus fleeing to adjoining Tripura where they took shelter in relief camps.

The Centre and the two State governments involved made several attempts to resettle the Brus in Mizoram and Tripura.

Q.35) Which of the following **exception(s) to the right to equality** is/are provided under the Constitution of India?

- 1. Special provisions for women and children.
- 2. Special provisions for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens.
- 3. Special provisions for the advancement of any economically weaker sections of citizens.

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 of the above are provided for in the Constitution of India.

Article 15 provides for prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.

Further article the clause **15(3)** states that nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any special provision for **women and children**.

Clause **15(4)** states that nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any special provision for the advancement of any **socially and educationally backward classes of citizens** or for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

Clause **15(6)(a)** states that nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any special provision for the advancement of any **economically weaker sections** of citizens.

Q.36) Consider the following statements regarding lending by the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**:

- 1. IMF does not finance balance of payment needs of the industrialized and developed economies.
- 2. IMF does not provide concessional financial support to any country.

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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: Statement 1 is incorrect. IMF loans are meant to help member countries tackle balance of payments problems, stabilize their economies, and restore sustainable economic growth.

Any member country, whether rich, middle-income, or poor, can turn to the IMF for financing if it has a balance of payments need.

Statement 2 is incorrect. All IMF members are eligible to access the Fund's resources in the General Resources Account (GRA) on non-concessional terms, but the IMF also provides **concessional** financial support through the **Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT)** which is better tailored to the diversity and needs of low-income countries.

Q.37) Consider the following statements regarding the **Right to Freedom of Religion** under the Constitution of India:

1. The freedom is guaranteed to all persons subject to maintenance of public order, morality and health.
2. State is empowered to regulate any economic, financial, political or other secular activity associated with religious practice.

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.

Article 25, providing for the freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion, under **clause 25(1)** states that 'subject to public order, morality and health and to the other provisions of this Part, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion'.

Similar exception is provided under article 26 regarding freedom to manage religious affairs.

Sub-clause **25(2)(a)** provide for **power of the state** for making any law regulating or restricting any economic, financial, political or other secular activity which may be associated with religious practice.

Q.38) Which of the following is the basic parameter for the annual **FutureBrand Index Rankings**?

- a) Market Capitalisation
- b) Credit Rating
- c) Brand Perception Strength
- d) All of the above

Correct answer: C

Explanation: The FutureBrand Index is a global brand perception study based on the PricewaterhouseCoopers' (PwC) Global Top 100 Companies by market capitalisation. Now in

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its sixth year and fifth iteration, the ranking re-orders the PwC Top100 in terms of brand perception strength, rather than just financial strength.

Reliance Industries of India has ranked second after Apple in FutureBrand Index 2020. Its PWC 2020 position was 91.

Q.39) Which of the following state(s) produce **GI-tag Basmati Rice** in India?

1. Punjab
2. Uttarakhand
3. Madhya Pradesh

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: A

Explanation: In 2010, APEDA, a statutory body under the Ministry of Commerce, got GI tag certification for the Basmati rice grown in region located in **Indo-Gangetic Plains (IGP)** below the foothills of the Himalayas, spread across seven states — Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Western UP (26 districts) and Delhi.

Madhya Pradesh has been demanding inclusion of its 13 districts in the GI tag.

Q.40) Which of the following country(s) is/are signatory to the **Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)**?

1. Afghanistan
2. Iran
3. Pakistan

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: A

Explanation: **Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)** has an objective to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament.

To further the goal of non-proliferation and as a confidence-building measure between States parties, the Treaty establishes a safeguards system under the responsibility of **the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**.

Four UN member states have never signed the treaty: **India, Israel, Pakistan, and South Sudan**. **North Korea** acceded to the treaty in 1985, later declared its withdrawal from it in 2003.

Q.41) Consider the following statements regarding the **Pokkali Rice variety**:

1. It is a saline resistant rice variety.
2. It is cultivated in the winter season in coastal regions of Kerala.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Pokkali is a unique saline tolerant rice variety** that is cultivated in an organic way in the water-logged coastal regions, spread in about 5000 hectares area in Alappuzha, Thrissur and Ernakulam districts of Kerala.

Since the tidal flows make the fields highly fertile, no manure or fertilizer need to be applied; the seedlings just grow the natural way. In order to survive in the water-logged field, the rice plants grow up to two metres.

Statement 2 is incorrect. 'Pokkali' rice is cultivated in the pokkali field during **May/June to October** and the remaining period (November – April) is utilized for **prawn culture or 'Chemeenkettu'**.

Q.42) Consider the following statements regarding the **TsunamiReady program**:

1. It is a community performance-based programme of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO.
2. There is no Tsunami Ready recognized community in 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: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Tsunami Ready** is a community performance-based programme initiated by the **Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO** to promote tsunami preparedness through active collaboration of public, community leaders, and national and local emergency management agencies.

The main objective of this programme is to improve coastal community's preparedness for tsunami emergencies, to minimize the loss of life and property.

Statement 2 is incorrect. To implement and monitor the implementation of Tsunami Ready in India, Ministry of Earth Sciences established a National Board under the chairmanship of Director, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Centre (INCOIS) with members drawn from various institutions.

The **Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA)**, Odisha has now implemented the Tsunami Ready programme in two villages, **Venkatraipur in Ganjam District, Noliasahi in Jagatsingpur District**.

Based on the National Board recommendations, UNESCO-IOC has approved the recognition of two communities as Tsunami Ready Communities. With this recognition, India is the first country to implement Tsunami Ready in the Indian Ocean Region and Odisha is the first state.

Q.43) Consider the following statements regarding the **India Water Resources Information System (India-WRIS)**:

1. The information under WRIS includes rainfall, discharge of rivers, ground water levels, reservoir storages, evapotranspiration and soil moisture.
2. The information system is maintained and updated by the NITI Aayog.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Water Resources Information System (WRIS)** portal contains information related to Water Resources through dashboards for **rainfall, water levels & discharge of rivers, water bodies, ground water levels, reservoir storages, evapotranspiration and soil moisture**, as well as modules on water resources projects, water bodies, hydro-met data availability and tools for GIS layer editing.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS)**, under the National Hydrology Project, launched the first version of India Water Resources Information System (India-WRIS) in July, 2019 and has been updated recently with a new version.

India WRIS is, at present, receiving data from many central and state agencies on regular basis. The MoJS has established a dedicated organization, **National Water Informatics Centre (NWIC)** to maintain and update India WRIS.

Q.44) Which of the following category(s) is/are included in the **Priority Sector Lending** norms of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- 1. Export Credit
- 2. Education
- 3. Renewable Energy

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: All of the are included in the **Priority Sector Lending** norm of Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Priority Sector includes the following categories: Agriculture, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, **Export Credit, Education**, Housing, Social Infrastructure, **Renewable Energy** and Others.

The 40 per cent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher is mandatory to be given to priority sector.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently declared to bring startups under the purview of priority sector lending (PSL).

Q.45) Consider the following statements regarding the **REDD+**:

- 1. It is a climate change mitigation solution developed by parties to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- 2. It incentivizes countries to keep their forest standing by offering result-based payments for reduced carbon emissions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

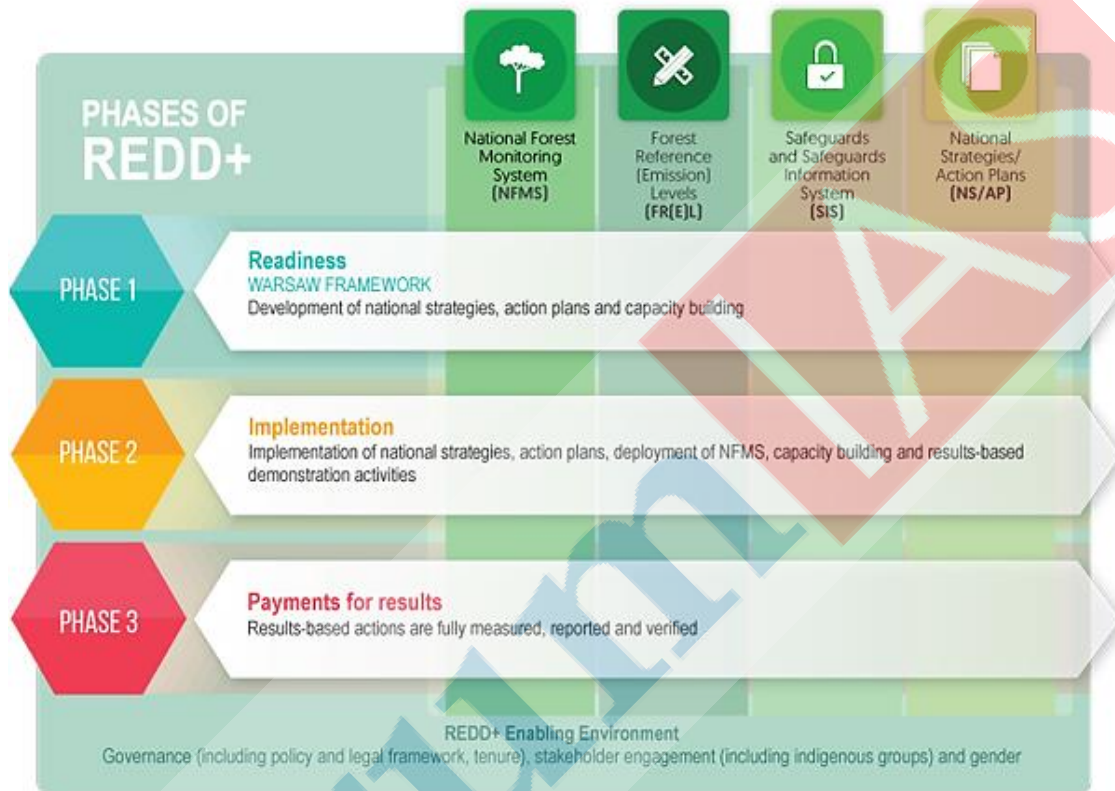
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

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Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+)** is a mechanism developed by Parties to the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**.

Statement 2 is correct. It creates a financial value for the carbon stored in forests by offering **incentives for developing countries** to reduce emissions from forested lands and invest in low-carbon paths to sustainable development. Developing countries would receive results-based payments for results-based actions.



Q.46) Which of the following is correct regarding the **Next Generation EU (NGEU)**?

- a) It is a fund for economic recovery of the European Union countries
- b) It is an incentive based global effort for COVID-19 vaccine development
- c) It is a 2050 target expansion plan for European Union
- d) It is a new border cooperation policy among European Union members

Correct answer: A

Explanation: **European Council** has recently adopted conclusions on the EU recovery plan and Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-2027.

'Next Generation EU (NGEU)' fund authorizes the European Commission to borrow in the capital markets on the EU's behalf for the sole purpose of addressing the consequences of the COVID-19 crisis. The additional funds raised will be disbursed to member states as grants and loans. EU leaders also agreed the 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework (MFF), setting a budget of EUR1.074 trillion.

Q.47) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

- 1. Chang Chenmo Valley - Ladakh
- 2. Siachen - Jammu and Kashmir
- 3. Sir Creek - Gujarat

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Select the correct answer using the code given below:

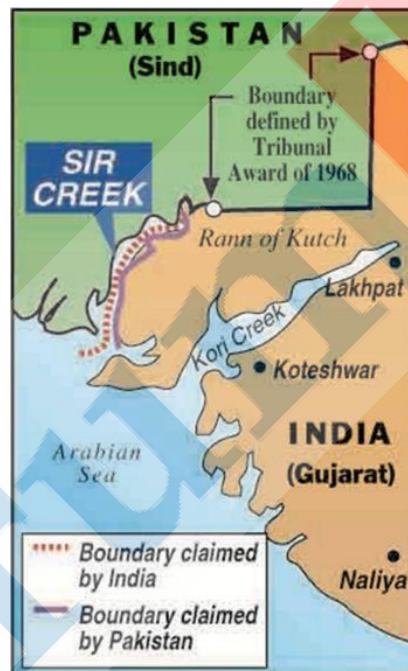
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 3 only

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Option 1 is correctly matched. **Chang Chenmo River**, a tributary of the Shyok River, which flows into the Indus River forms the valley near the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh UT.

Option 2 is incorrectly matched. The **Siachen Glacier** is located in the eastern Karakoram range in the Himalayas in Ladakh UT. India's successfully took control of the Siachen Glacier as part of Operation Meghdoot in 1984.

Option 3 is correctly matched. **Sir Creek is a tidal estuary** in the uninhabited marshlands of the Indus River Delta on the border between India and Pakistan. The creek flows into the Arabian Sea near the Gujarat state in India from Sindh province in Pakistan.



Q.48) Consider the following statements regarding **Leopards**:

- 1. Leopards are extinct from India with last sighting about 50 years ago.
- 2. It is listed as Vulnerable species on the 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. In India, the **leopard is found in all forest types**, from tropical rainforests to temperate deciduous and alpine coniferous forests. It is also found in dry scrubs and grasslands, the only **exception** being desert and the mangroves of Sundarbans. It shares its territory with the tiger in various states.

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Statement 2 is correct. **Indian leopard or Common leopard (Panthera pardus)** is listed as Vulnerable in the IUCN Red List and included in Appendix I of CITES.

Q.49) Consider the following statements regarding the **Technology Readiness Levels (TRL)** norms:

1. It is a measurement system used to assess the maturity level of a particular technology.
2. It was originally developed by NASA.

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.

Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) is a type of measurement system used to assess the **maturity level** of a particular technology. Each technology project is evaluated against the parameters for each technology level and is then assigned a TRL rating based on the projects progress.

Originally introduced by **NASA**, the TRL scale is a metric with **nine technology readiness levels** for describing the maturity of a technology from ideation stage (TRL1) to highest degree of application/commercial readiness (TRL 9).

TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL (TRL)

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT DEPLOYMENT	9	ACTUAL SYSTEM PROVEN IN OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT
	8	SYSTEM COMPLETE AND QUALIFIED
	7	SYSTEM PROTOTYPE DEMONSTRATION IN OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT
	6	TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATED IN RELEVANT ENVIRONMENT
	5	TECHNOLOGY VALIDATED IN RELEVANT ENVIRONMENT
	4	TECHNOLOGY VALIDATED IN LAB
	3	EXPERIMENTAL PROOF OF CONCEPT
	2	TECHNOLOGY CONCEPT FORMULATED
	1	BASIC PRINCIPLES OBSERVED

Q.50) Consider the following statements regarding the 'Severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome' (SFTS):

1. It is a tick-borne viral disease.
2. It is endemic to Africa with no known cases in rest of the world.

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: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome virus (SFTSV)** is a tickborne virus (genus Phlebovirus, family Phenuiviridae) that can cause a mild to severe febrile illness similar to hemorrhagic fever.

SFTS is characterized by acute high fever, thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, elevated serum hepatic enzymes, gastrointestinal symptoms, and multiorgan failure.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome (SFTS) illness was **first confirmed in China in 2009**. It was retrospectively identified in South Korea in 2010 and the western regions of Japan in 2013.

Recently the disease has killed seven and infected at least 60 in China.

Q.51) What is the mandate of recently constituted **K.V. Kamath Committee**?

- a) Public Debt Management of Government of India
- b) Financial parameters for resolution of stressed assets
- c) Credit support for revitalization of MSMEs
- d) Management of overlapping functions of financial regulators in India

Correct answer: B

Explanation: RBI had recently announced a **loan recast window** for companies. It has further announced a committee chaired by KV Kamath, former chief of New Development Bank.

The committee will recommend on the required **financial parameters**, along with the **sector specific benchmark ranges** which need to be factored into the resolution plans. The expert committee will also undertake the process validation for the resolution plans to be implemented under this framework.

Q.52) Consider the following statements regarding the **Comptroller and Auditor-General (CAG) of India**:

- 1. The CAG of India can be removed on the ground of proved misbehavior or incapacity.
- 2. S/he is not eligible for further office under either the Government of India or any State after s/he has ceased to hold the office of CAG.

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.

As per the **article 148 of the Constitution**, the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India shall only be removed from office in like manner and on the **like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court**.

A Judge of the Supreme Court cannot be removed from his/her office except by an order of the President passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting has been presented to the President in the same session for such removal on the **ground of proved misbehavior or incapacity**.

As per clause (4) of article 148, the Comptroller and Auditor-General **shall not be eligible** for further office either under the Government of India or under the Government of any State after he has ceased to hold his office.

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Q.53) Which one of the following is a famous painting by **Abanindranath Tagore**?

- a) Bharat Mata
- b) Shakuntala looking for Dushyanta
- c) Darjeeling and Fog
- d) Arjuna's Penance

Correct answer: A

Explanation: '**Bharat Mata**' is Abanindranath Tagore's work (1905) depicting a saffron clad woman, dressed like a sadhvi, holding a book, sheaves of paddy, a piece of white cloth and a garland in her four hands.



'**Darjeeling and Fog**' was created in 1945 by Nandalal Bose.

The 'Descent of the Ganges' or '**Arjuna's Penance**' are portrayed in stone at the Pallava heritage site in Mahabalipuram.

'**Shakuntala looking for Dushyanta**' (1870) is an epic painting by celebrated Indian painter, Raja Ravi Verma.

Q.54) Consider the following statements regarding the **Handloom Mark**:

- 1. It provides a guarantee for the buyer that the product being purchased is genuinely hand woven in India.
 - 2. Handloom Mark Scheme is implemented by a statutorily established Textiles Committee.
- 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. **Handloom Mark** is the Government of India's initiative to provide a collective identity to the handloom products in India and can be used not only for popularizing the hand-woven products but can also serve as a guarantee for the buyer that the product being purchased is genuinely hand woven from India.

Statement 2 is correct. Handloom Mark Scheme is run by the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handloom) and is implemented by **Textiles Committee**.

The Textiles Committee is a statutory body under the **Textiles Committee Act, 1963** with main objective to ensure the quality of textiles and textile machinery both for internal consumption and export purposes.

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Q.55) Consider the following statements regarding the **Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)**:

1. It aims to develop governance capabilities of Panchayati Raj Institutions to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals.
2. It recognizes and incentivizes Panchayati Raj Institutions based on performance.

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.

Objectives of **Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)**:

- Develop governance capabilities of PRIs to deliver on the SDGs.
- Enhance capabilities of Panchayats for inclusive local governance with focus on optimum utilization of available resources
- Enhance capabilities of Panchayats to raise their own sources of revenue.
- Promote devolution of powers and responsibilities to Panchayats according to the spirit of the Constitution and **PESA Act 1996**.
- Promote e-governance and other technology driven solutions to enable good governance in Panchayats for administrative efficiency and improved service delivery.
- Recognize and **incentivize PRIs** based on performance.

Q.56) Which of the following correctly defines the **Arakunomics** model in news recently?

- a) An economic model for containing food inflation within the required limits
- b) A health support system model at village level
- c) A self-help group proposed solution for women and child development at rural level
- d) A model ensuring profits for farmers, quality for consumers through regenerative agriculture

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Recently **Rockefeller Foundation** has selected **Naandi Foundation**, Hyderabad-based non-profit, as one of the 'Top 10 Visionaries' in the world for the **Food Vision 2050 Prize**.

Naandi's vision titled "**Arakunomics**" is based on work with tribal farmers in Araku for nearly 20 years. Arakunomics is a new integrated economic model that ensures Profits for farmers, Quality for consumers through Regenerative Agriculture (PQR).

Q.57) Consider the following statements regarding the **Code on Wages, 2019**:

1. The central government may set different floor wages for different geographical areas.
2. The minimum wages decided by the central or state governments must be higher than the floor wage.

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.

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The **Code on Wages, 2019** replaced the four laws: (i) the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, (ii) the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, (iii) the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, and (iv) the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976.

As per the Code, the central government will fix a **floor wage**, taking into account living standards of workers. It may set **different floor wages for different geographical areas**. Before fixing the floor wage, the central government may obtain the advice of the Central Advisory Board and may consult with state governments.

The Code **prohibits** employers from paying wages less than the minimum wages. Minimum wages will be notified by the central or state governments. Further, the minimum wages decided by the central or state governments must be higher than the floor wage.

Q.58) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Falkland Islands - South Atlantic Ocean
2. Jaffna - Sri Lanka
3. Ascension Island - Indian Ocean

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: A

Explanation: Option 1 is correctly matched. **Falkland Islands** is the internally self-governing overseas territory of the United Kingdom in the **South Atlantic Ocean**. Its sovereignty status is part of an ongoing dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom.

Option 2 is correctly matched. **Jaffna** is the capital city of the Northern Province of **Sri Lanka**. During the civil war, the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) occupied Jaffna in 1986.

Option 3 is incorrectly matched. **Ascension Island** is an isolated volcanic island in the **South Atlantic Ocean**. It is governed as part of the British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha.



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Q.59) Which of the following correctly defines **Kavkaz-2020**?

- a) Alliance of Central Asian Countries to cooperate during COVID-19 pandemic
- b) Russian strategic military command-post exercise
- c) A global vaccine development alliance of pharmaceutical corporates
- d) Russian economic forum for development of the its Far East region

Correct answer: B

Explanation: **Kavkaz 2020**, also referred to as **Caucasus-2020** is a Russian strategic military command-post exercise scheduled for September 2020.

The invitation for participation to Kavkaz 2020 has been extended to at least 18 countries including China, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey apart from other Central Asian Republics part of the SCO.

Indian military contingent recently marched at the Victory Day Parade at Red Square in Moscow to mark the 75th anniversary of World War II.

Q.60) Consider the following statements regarding the **monetary policy of Reserve Bank of India**:

- 1. Inflation target for monetary policy is set by the Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, once in every five years.
- 2. The representation from Reserve Bank of India in Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is equal to that of the Central Government appointed members.

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 **primary objective** of monetary policy is to maintain price stability while keeping in mind the objective of growth. Price stability is a necessary precondition to sustainable growth.

In May 2016, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act, 1934** was amended to provide a statutory basis for the implementation of the flexible inflation targeting framework.

The amended RBI Act also provides for the **inflation target** to be set by the Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, once in every five years.

Central Government has notified in the Official Gazette **4 per cent Consumer Price Index (CPI)** inflation as the target for the period from 2016 to 2021 with the upper tolerance limit of 6 per cent and the lower tolerance limit of 2 per cent.

Statement 2 is correct. Section 45ZB of the amended RBI Act, 1934 provides for an empowered **six-member monetary policy committee (MPC)**.

The Monetary Policy Committee consists of the following Members:

- Governor of the Bank—Chairperson, ex officio;
- Deputy Governor of the Bank, in charge of Monetary Policy—Member, ex officio;
- One officer of the Bank to be nominated by the Central Board—Member, ex officio; and
- Three persons to be appointed by the Central Government—Members

Q.61) Consider the following statements regarding the **International Financial Services Centres Authority**:

- 1. It is a statutory body.
- 2. Its mandate is to regulate financial products & services approved by any appropriate regulator in an IFSC.

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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: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

The IFSCA is a statutory authority established under the **International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019**.

The Authority will regulate financial products (such as securities, deposits or contracts of insurance), financial services, and financial institutions which have been previously **approved by any appropriate regulator** (such as RBI or SEBI), in an IFSC.

The appropriate regulators are listed in a Schedule to the Bill, and include the RBI, SEBI, IRDAI, and PFRDA.

Q.62) Consider the following statements regarding **Constitution of India**:

- 1. There is no mention of 'National Capital Territory' in the constitution.
- 2. The First Schedule provides names of the States and their capital cities.

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. **Article 239AA** provides for special provisions **with respect to Delhi** which mentions that from the date of commencement of the Constitution (Sixty-ninth Amendment) Act, 1991, the Union territory of Delhi is called the National Capital Territory of Delhi (further referred to as the National Capital Territory).

Statement 2 is incorrect. **First Schedule** of the Constitution provides: **Names of the States** and their territorial jurisdiction as well as names of the Union Territories and their extent. It does not mention capital cities of the states.

Q.63) Consider the following statements regarding the **Swadesh Darshan Scheme**:

- 1. It is a Central Sector Scheme.
- 2. It aims for integrated development of theme-based tourist circuits in 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: Both statements are correct.

India's rich cultural, historical, religious and natural heritage provides a huge potential for development of tourism and job creation in the country.

In due recognition to this the **Ministry of Tourism (MoT)** launched the **Swadesh Darshan Scheme (Central Sector Scheme)**– for integrated development of **theme-based tourist circuits**.

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This scheme is envisioned to synergize with other Government of India schemes like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Skill India, Make in India etc. with the idea of positioning the tourism sector as a major engine for job creation, driving force for economic growth, building synergy with various sectors to enable tourism to realize its potential.

Recently "Thenzawl Golf Resort" Project implemented under the under Swadesh Darshan Scheme- North East Circuit of Ministry of Tourism has been inaugurated in Mizoram.

Q.64) The **Global Education Coalition (GEC)** is an initiative of which of the following institution?

- a) United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- b) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)
- c) Save the Children Fund
- d) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: **Global Education Coalition (GEC)** is an initiative of **UNESCO** to facilitate inclusive learning opportunities for children and youth during this period of sudden and unprecedented educational **disruption by COVID-19 pandemic**.

It is an open partnership that includes international organizations (ILO, UNICEF, WB among others), private sector partners (Facebook, Google) and Philanthropic and non-profit organizations (Khan Academy among others).

Around 1 billion students and youth across the planet are affected by school and university closures due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Investment in remote learning should both mitigate the immediate disruption caused by COVID-19 and establish approaches to develop more open and flexible education systems for the future.

Q.65) Which of the following military weapon system(s) has been **indigenously** developed in India?

- 1. Hammer missiles
 - 2. T-90 Tank
 - 3. Pinaka-multi-barrel rocket launcher
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Option 1 is incorrect. Armement Air-Sol Modulaire (AASM) **HAMMER (Highly Agile Modular Munition Extended Range)** is a medium-range modular air-to-ground weapon designed and manufactured by Sagem (Safran group), for the French Air Force and Navy.

Option 2 is incorrect. The **T-90 is a third-generation Russian battle tank** that entered service in 1993 and are also operated by India.

Option 3 is correct. **Pinaka is a multi-barrel rocket launcher** developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the Indian Army.

Other products of Indian defence industry include Agni and Prithvi series of missiles; Tejas-light combat aircraft; Pinaka-multi-barrel rocket launcher; Akash-air defence system; Dhanush-artillery gun; Arjun-main battle tank etc.

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Q.66) Which of the following has launched the **Bharat Air Fibre services**?

- a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)
- b) Facebook
- c) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- d) International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Bharat Air Fibre services** are introduced by **BSNL** as part of digital India initiatives by the Government of India. It aims for providing **Wireless Connectivity** in the range of 20 KMs from the BSNL Locations and thus customers at remote places also will be benefitted as BSNL comes with cheapest services with support of Telecom Infrastructure Partners.

BSNL Bharat AirFibre enables homes in **rural areas with broadband services**, which is different from the company's Bharat Fiber FTTH (fiber to the home) service that uses wired technology and is targeted at urban homes.

Q.67) Consider the following statements regarding the **National Education Policy 2020**:

- 1. Anganwadi workers/teachers to be trained to prepare them as an initial cadre of high-quality Early Childhood Care and Education teachers.
- 2. National Mission on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy to be launched with focus on primary schools.

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.

As per the **National Education Policy 2020** document; presently, quality ECCE is not available to crores of young children, particularly children from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

-To prepare an initial cadre of high-quality quality Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) teachers in Anganwadis, current **Anganwadi workers/teachers will be trained** in accordance with the curricular/pedagogical framework developed by NCERT.

-Those with qualifications of 10+2 and above shall be given a 6-month certificate programme in ECCE; and those with lower educational qualifications shall be given a one-year diploma programme covering early literacy, numeracy, and other relevant aspects of ECCE.

As per the **National Education Policy 2020** document; we are currently in a learning crisis: a large proportion of students currently in elementary school - estimated to be over **5 crore** - **have not attained foundational literacy and numeracy**, i.e., the ability to read and comprehend basic text and the ability to carry out basic addition and subtraction with Indian numerals.

-To this end, a National Mission on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy will be set up on priority. Accordingly, all State/UT governments will immediately prepare an implementation plan for attaining universal foundational literacy and numeracy in all primary schools.

Q.68) Consider the following statements regarding the **Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs)**:

- 1. It is a sub-scheme under Pradhan Mantri AWAS Yojana- Urban (PMAY-U).

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2. It aims to provide access to dignified affordable rental housing close to workplace to urban migrants/ poor.

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.

Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has initiated **Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs)**, a **sub-scheme** under Pradhan Mantri AWAS Yojana- Urban (PMAY-U). This will provide ease of living to urban migrants/ poor in Industrial Sector as well as in non-formal urban economy to get access to dignified affordable rental housing close to their workplace.

The ARHC scheme will be implemented through **two models**:

- Utilizing existing Government funded vacant houses to convert into ARHCs through Public Private Partnership or by Public Agencies
- Construction, Operation and Maintenance of ARHCs by Public/ Private Entities on their own vacant land

Q.69) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

- 1. Tanchoi weaves - Uttar Pradesh
- 2. Pochampally ikat - Telangana
- 3. Kotpad Handloom - Odisha

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 of the above fabric/handloom styles are correctly matched.

Tanchois are a very fine weave banarasi sarees that use an extra weft thread to create delicate patterns.

Kotpad Handloom is a vegetable-dyed fabric woven by the tribal weavers of the Mirgan community of Kotpad village in Koraput district, Odisha.

Pochampally ikat derives its name from the area in where it is woven – Pochampally in Telangana. The technique involves tying and dyeing of pattern in the yarn.





Q.70) Which of the following is/are **byproduct(s) of the sugarcane industry?**

1. Petroleum Jelly
2. Bagasse
3. Molasses

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: B

Explanation: The four main byproducts of the sugarcane industry are **cane tops/leaves, bagasse, filter muds and molasses.**

Bagasse is the fibrous matter that remains after sugarcane or sorghum stalks are crushed to extract their juice. For each 10 tonnes of sugarcane crushed, a sugar factory produces nearly 3 tonnes of wet bagasse. Bagasse is used as bio fuel and in the manufacture of pulp and paper products.

Molasses is sugar byproduct. It is used as a raw material to produce alcohol. The main products of molasses fermentation are rum, ethyl alcohol, acetic acid, butanol/acetone, citric acid, yeast and monosodium glutamate.

Press mud or Filter mud is a residue left over from sugarcane after extraction of juice. Sugar mills use spent wash which is an affluent with press mud to produce bio-compost as manure.