

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

7th to 13th September, 2020

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

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Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the **Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP) ranking of states** in India:

1. The 2019 BRAP ranking is first ever edition based on the implementation of Business Reform Action Plan.
2. Andhra Pradesh is the top performer state under 2019 rankings.

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 2019 rankings are the **4th edition of Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP)** ranking of states.

Ranking of States based on the implementation of Business Reform Action Plan started in the year 2015. Till date, State Rankings have been released for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017-18.

The **Business Reform Action Plan 2018-19** includes 180 reform points covering 12 business regulatory areas such as Access to Information, Single Window System, Labour, Environment, etc.

The larger **objective** of attracting investments and increasing Ease of Doing Business in each State was sought to be achieved by introducing an element of healthy competition through a system of ranking states based on their performance in the implementation of Business Reform Action Plan.

Statement 2 is correct. The top ten states under State Reform Action Plan 2019 are:

Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Gujarat.

Q.2) Which of the following is/are potential **advantage(s)** of the **Foreign Direct Investment**?

1. Exchange Rate Stability
2. Increase in Exports
3. Human Resource Development

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: Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is the investment of funds by an organisation from one country into another, with the intent of establishing 'lasting interest'. The difference between FDI and FPI (Foreign Portfolio Investments): In FPI the investor purchases equity of foreign companies. FPI means only equity infusion, and does not imply the establishment of a lasting interest.

Potential advantages of FDI:

Recipient businesses get access to latest **financing tools, technologies** and operational practices from across the world.

Human Capital refers to the knowledge and competence of the workforce. Once developed, human capital is mobile. It can train human resources in other companies, thereby creating a ripple effect.

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Not all goods produced through FDI are meant for domestic consumption. Many of these **products have global markets** and thereby increase export potential of a country. The constant flow of FDI into a country translates into a continuous flow of **foreign exchange**. This helps the country's Central Bank maintain a **comfortable reserve of foreign exchange**. This in turn ensures stable exchange rates.



- Q.3)** Who among the following is the '**Master of the Roster**' for the Supreme Court of India?
- Chief Justice of India
 - Secretary General of the Supreme Court
 - President of India
 - Collegium consisting Chief Justice and two senior-most Judges

Correct answer: A

Explanation: '**Master of the Roster**' refers to the privilege of the **Chief Justice of the Court** to constitute Benches to hear cases.

Supreme Court has also held that 'Chief Justice in his individual capacity is the Master of Roster and it cannot read as Collegium of first three or five Judges. Thus, it is his prerogative to constitute the Benches and allocate the subjects which would be dealt with by the respective Benches'.

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the **Climate & Clean Air Coalition (CCAC)**:

- It aims at protecting the climate through actions to reduce short-lived climate pollutants.
- India is a state partner of the CCAC.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. The **Climate and Clean Air Coalition** is a voluntary partnership of governments, intergovernmental organizations, businesses, scientific

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institutions and civil society organizations committed to improving air quality and protecting the climate through actions to **reduce short-lived climate pollutants**.

Statement 2 is correct. In 2012, the governments of Bangladesh, Canada, Ghana, Mexico, Sweden and the United States, along with the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**, came together to initiate efforts to treat short-lived climate pollutants as an urgent and collective challenge.

The coalition has 70 state partners. **India** announced it was joining the Climate & Clean Air Coalition during on 2019 World Environment Day.

India works with Coalition partners to implement **National Clean Air Programme**, leveraging the Coalition's action-oriented partnership platform to help define priority actions that reduce air pollution and achieve development and climate co-benefits.

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution to hold an International Day of Clean Air for blue skies in 2019. The first International Day of Clean Air for blue skies is being observed on September 7, 2020.

Q.5) The '**Dictionary of Martyrs: India's Freedom Struggle 1857-1947**' has been published by which of the following institution?

- Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR)
- Oxford University Press
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- Mahatma Gandhi Foundation

Correct answer: A

Explanation: **Dictionary of Martyrs: India's Freedom Struggle 1857-1947** is a project of **Indian Council of Historical Research and Ministry of Culture**, Govt of India. It contains brief biographical notes based to the extent possible on authentic archival and other contemporary documents.

A **martyr is a person** who died or who was killed in action or in detention or was awarded capital punishment while participating in a national movement for emancipation of India. It includes an ex-INA or ex-military person who died fighting the British.

The publication released in 2019, has been brought out in five volumes (zone wise).

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the **POSHAN Abhiyaan**:

- It aims at improving nutritional outcomes for children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.
 - Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal Ministry for POSHAN Abhiyaan.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

The **Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition or POSHAN Abhiyaan or National Nutrition Mission**, is Government of India's flagship programme to improve nutritional outcomes for children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

For implementation of POSHAN Abhiyaan the four-point strategy/pillars of the mission are:

- Inter-sectoral convergence for better service delivery
- Use of technology (ICT) for real time growth monitoring and tracking of women and children
- Intensified health and nutrition services for the first 1000 days

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-Jan Andolan

The **Ministry of Women and Child Development** is the nodal Ministry for POSHAN Abhiyaan. The programme through the targets strives to reduce the level of stunting, under-nutrition, anemia and low birth weight babies. It will create synergy, ensure better monitoring, issue alerts for timely action, and encourage States/UTs to perform, guide and supervise the line Ministries and States/UTs to achieve the targeted goals.

The 3rd Rashtriya Poshan Maah is being celebrated during the month of September 2020.

Q.7) What does the **Keshavananda Bharti v State of Kerala (1973)** case relate to?

- a) The doctrine of basic structure
- b) Dismissal of State governments under Article 356
- c) Judicial review of items in Ninth of the Constitution
- d) Re-promulgation of ordinance

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Keshavananda Bharti v State of Kerala 1973** case was primarily about the extent of Parliament's power to amend the Constitution.

In its majority ruling of the **13-judge bench**, the court held that fundamental rights cannot be taken away by amending them. While the court said that Parliament had the powers to amend the Constitution, it drew the line by observing that certain parts are the **basic structure of the Constitution** as they are so inherent and intrinsic to the Constitution that even Parliament cannot amend it.

In S.R. Bommai case (1994), a nine-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court issued the historic order, which in a way put an end to the arbitrary dismissal of State governments under Article 356 by spelling out restrictions.

In Coelho case (2007), court upheld the authority of the judiciary to review any law, which destroy or damage the basic structure including the one in 9th Schedule of the Constitution.

In D. C. Wadhwa v. State of Bihar (1986), court held that it is unconstitutional to re-promulgate ordinances, unless in exceptional circumstances.

Q.8) Which of the following force(s) is/are under the **administrative control** of the Ministry of Home Affairs?

- 1. Assam Rifles (AR)
- 2. Border Security Force (BSF)
- 3. Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)

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: Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) assists state governments by providing them support of the Central Armed Police Forces.

The Ministry maintains seven CAPFs: (i) the Central Reserve Police Force, which assists in internal security and counterinsurgency, (ii) the Central Industrial Security Force, which protects vital installations (like airports) and public sector undertakings, (iii) the National Security Guards, which is a special counterterrorism force, and (iv) four border guarding forces, which are the Border Security Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Sashastra Seema Bal, and Assam Rifles.

The **administrative control** of the **Assam Rifles** is with the **Ministry of Home Affairs**, the operational control of Assam Rifles rests with the Ministry of Defence.

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Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the **African trypanosomiasis**:

1. It is transmitted by the tsetse fly which is found only in Africa.
2. It is not a fatal disease and has a zero-mortality rate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. There are two types of **African trypanosomiasis** (also called sleeping sickness); each is named for the region of Africa in which they were found historically.

East African trypanosomiasis is caused by the parasite *Trypanosoma brucei rhodesiense*. West African trypanosomiasis is caused by the parasite *Trypanosoma brucei gambiense*. Both types of African trypanosomiasis are transmitted by the tsetse fly which is found **only in rural Africa**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. East and West African trypanosomiasis are **eventually fatal if not treated**.

Progressive confusion, personality changes, and other neurologic problems occur after infection has invaded the central nervous system (second stage). If left untreated, the illness becomes worse and death will occur within months.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared that Togo has become the first country in Africa to eliminate human African Trypanosomiasis.

Q.10) In which State/UT does the **Spanggur Lake** lie?

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The **Spanggur Tso**, also called **Maindung Co** is a saltwater lake south of Pangong Tso on India China border (East of LAC) between **Ladakh UT and Tibet Autonomous Region, China**.



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Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding the **Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle** of DRDO:

1. The vehicle uses the air-breathing scramjet engine technology.
2. India is the first Asian country that has developed technologies to field fast-maneuvring hypersonic missiles.

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. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully demonstrated the hypersonic air-breathing scramjet technology with the flight test of **Hypersonic Technology Demonstration Vehicle (HSTDV)** from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Launch Complex at Wheeler Island, off the coast of Odisha recently.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Only the **United States, Russia and China** have developed technologies to field fast-maneuvring hypersonic missiles that fly at lower altitudes and are extremely hard to track and intercept.

It is estimated to take around four years for India to develop hypersonic cruise missiles powered by air-breathing scramjet engines.

The dual-use hypersonic technology has non-military applications too – it can be used for launching satellites and developing commercial planes

Hypersonic: more than five times faster than the speed of sound (>Mach 5).

Going hypersonic

India on Monday successfully flight-tested the indigenously developed hypersonic technology demonstrator vehicle that is expected to power long-range missile systems.

WHY IS THE SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT TEST OF THE VEHICLE SIGNIFICANT?
It paves the way for India to develop hypersonic weapons that can travel six times faster than the speed of sound (Mach 6). The weapon will be integrated into the hypersonic vehicle.

WHICH OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE DEVELOPED HYPERSONIC TECHNOLOGY?
Only the US, Russia and China have developed technologies to field hypersonic weapons that fly at lower altitudes and are extremely hard to track and intercept. India could develop hypersonic missiles in four years.

WHAT WILL THE DEVELOPMENT OF HYPERSONIC MISSILES ENTAIL?
In Monday's test, the cruise vehicle continued on its flight path at Mach 6 speeds or nearly 2 km/second for more than 20 seconds. The next challenge for India will be to ensure the cruise vehicle can travel at those speeds for a few hundred seconds for the weapon to strike its target.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN CHALLENGES FOR HYPERSONIC FLIGHTS?
Extremely high temperatures and aerodynamic forces make hypersonic flights tricky. The successful flight test proved several critical technologies including aerodynamic configuration for hypersonic maneuvers, use of scramjet propulsion for ignition and separation mechanism at speeds in excess of Mach 6.

WHY ARE HYPERSONIC VEHICLES POWERED BY SCRAMJET ENGINES?
An improvement over the ramjet technology, the scramjet engine operates efficiently at hypersonic speeds and allows supersonic combustion. Ramjet engines are efficient at supersonic speeds of around Mach 3 but their performance drops when the vehicle hits hypersonic speeds.

Q.12) Consider the following statements regarding the **Scramjet engines**:

1. It operates by combustion of fuel in a stream of air compressed by the forward speed of the aircraft itself.
2. The airflow through the engine remains supersonic, or greater than the speed of sound.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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- 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 **ramjet operates** by combustion of fuel in a stream of **air compressed by the forward speed of the aircraft** itself, as opposed to a normal jet engine, in which the compressor section (the fan blades) compresses the air. The air flow through a **ramjet engine is subsonic**, or less than the speed of sound. Ramjet-propelled vehicles operate from about Mach 3 to Mach 6.

A **scramjet (supersonic-combustion ramjet)** is a ramjet engine in which the airflow through the engine remains supersonic, or greater than the speed of sound. Scramjet powered vehicles are envisioned to operate at speeds up to at least Mach 15.

Q.13) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

- 1. Nur-Sultan - Kazakhstan
- 2. Tashkent - Uzbekistan
- 3. Dushanbe - Kyrgyzstan

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. **Nur-Sultan**, known between 1998 and 2019 as Astana, is the capital city of **Kazakhstan**. In March 2019, it was renamed Nur-Sultan in honour of the departing Kazakh president, Nursultan Nazarbayev.

Option 2 is correctly matched. **Tashkent** is the capital city of **Uzbekistan**. It's known for its many museums and its mix of modern and Soviet-era architecture.

Indo-Pakistan War of 1965 formally ended with the Tashkent Agreement on 10 January 1966; the second Prime Minister of India Lal Bahadur Shastri died the following day, still in Tashkent.

Option 3 is incorrectly matched. **Dushanbe**, on the Varzob River, is the capital of **Tajikistan**. On the east bank of the river is Rudaki Park, named for the classical poet.



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Q.14) Which of the following statement correctly defines the term ‘**Immunogenicity**’?

- a) ability of a foreign substance to induce cellular and humoral immune response
- b) ability of the immune system to produce antibodies
- c) ability of a virus to bind antigen to receptors in human cells
- d) ability of a foreign substance to suppress the immune system of the body

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Immunogenicity is the ability of a foreign substance, such as an antigen, to provoke an immune response in the body of a human or other animal. It is the ability to induce a humoral and/or cell-mediated immune responses.

Antigenicity is the ability to be specifically recognized by the antibodies generated as a result of the immune response to the given substance.

Q.15) Consider the following statements regarding the **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)**:

- 1. It is a statutory body under the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science & Technology.
- 2. National Biopharma Mission is being implemented by the BIRAC.

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. **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)** is a **not-for-profit Public Sector Enterprise**, set up by Department of Biotechnology (DBT) as an Interface Agency to strengthen and empower the emerging Biotech enterprise to undertake strategic research and innovation, addressing nationally relevant product development needs

Statement 2 is correct. The **National Biopharma Mission** is an Industry-Academia Collaborative Mission of Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Govt of India for accelerating discovery research to early development for Biopharmaceuticals approved by the Cabinet for a total cost US\$ 250 million and 50% co-funded by the World Bank.

It is being implemented at **Biotechnology Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)**. This program is dedicated to deliver affordable products to the nation with an aim to improve the health standards of India’s population. Vaccines, medical devices and diagnostics and biotherapeutics are few of its most important domains, besides, strengthening the clinical trial capacity and building technology transfer capabilities in the country.

Q.16) Consider the following statements regarding the **National Sample Survey on “Household Social Consumption: Education in India”**:

- 1. At all-India level, the female literacy rate is higher compared to male literacy.
- 2. Among states, Kerala has highest literacy rate 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

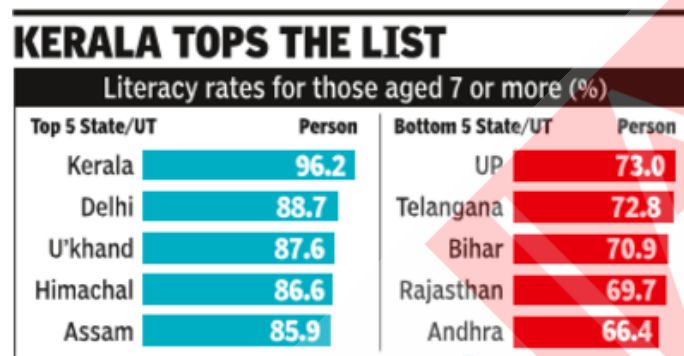
Explanation: National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), in its 75th round, conducted survey on **Household Social Consumption: Education** during 1st July 2017 to 30th June 2018.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The study has pegged the overall literacy rate in the country at about 77.7%. In rural areas, the literacy rate is 73.5% compared to 87.7% in urban areas of the country.

At all-India level, the **male literacy** rate is higher at 84.7% compared to 70.3% among women.

Statement 2 is correct. **Kerala**, Delhi has the best literacy rate, followed by Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Assam.

Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar are the worst performers.



Q.17) What is the mandate of the **KV Kamath Committee** formed by the Reserve Bank of India?

- Financial parameters for restructuring of loans
- Forex Reserve Management
- Potential impact of COVID-19 pandemic on MSME credit
- Monetary Policy Framework Targets

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The RBI had formed a committee under the chairmanship of former ICICI Bank CEO KV Kamath to make recommendations on the **financial parameters to be considered in the restructuring of loans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic**.

The committee has selected 26 sectors which will require restructuring based on its analyses of financial parameters hit due to the economic crash caused by the coronavirus pandemic. The **financial parameters** selected include total outside liability to adjusted tangible net worth, debt to EBIDTA, current ratio, debt service coverage ratio (DSCR) and average debt service coverage ratio (ADSCR).

PANEL SAYS BANKS MUST KEEP IN MIND 5 MAJOR RATIOS

- Outside liability-to-adjusted tangible net worth
- Debt-to-Ebitda
- Current ratio
- Debt service coverage ratio
- Average debt service coverage ratio

Sector-specific thresholds for such ratios have also been recommended

In sectors where ratios have not been specified, banks to make own assessment keeping in view suggested contours

Bucketing accounts under mild, moderate and severe stress (categories) may ensure quick turnaround... **simplified restructuring** for mild and moderate stress may be prescribed. Severe stress cases would require **comprehensive restructuring**

BCCL
KV KAMATH PANEL

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Q.18) Which of the following is/are **diagnostic test(s)** for the COVID-19 disease?

1. Standard Q COVID-19 Ag detection
2. SalivaDirect
3. RT-PCR test

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 diagnostic tests for COVID-19.

Standard Q COVID-19 Ag detection kit is a rapid chromatographic immunoassay for qualitative detection of specific antigens to SARS-CoV-2 has been developed by SD Biosensor, a South Korea based company.

SalivaDirect is a real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR) test intended for the qualitative detection of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2 in saliva collected without preservatives in a sterile container from individuals suspected of COVID-19 by their healthcare provider.

The **COVID-19 RT-PCR** test is a real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR) test for the qualitative detection of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2 in upper and lower respiratory specimens (such as nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal swabs, sputum, lower respiratory tract aspirates, bronchoalveolar lavage, and nasopharyngeal wash/aspirate) collected from individuals suspected of COVID 19.

Q.19) Which of the following subject(s) fall under **State List** in Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India?

1. Education
2. Posts and telegraphs
3. Relief of the disabled and unemployable

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: C

Explanation: Option 1 is incorrect. **Education**, including technical education, medical education and universities is part of Entry 25 of the Concurrent List.

Option 2 is incorrect. **Posts and telegraphs**; telephones, wireless, broadcasting and other like forms of communication is Entry 31 of the Union List.

Option 3 is correct. **Relief of the disabled and unemployable** is Entry 9 of the State List.

Q.20) Which of the following location(s) is/are in **Ladakh Union Territory**?

1. Chusul
2. Spangur Lake
3. Depsang Plains

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

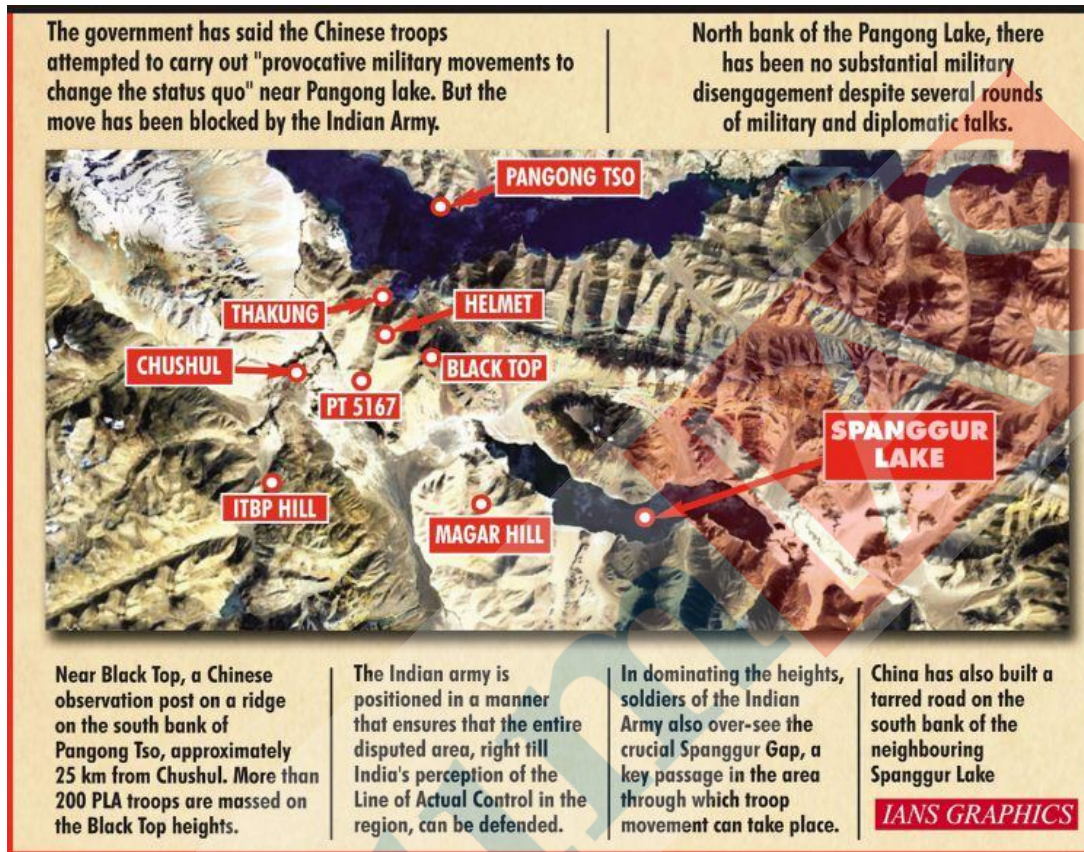
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only

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d) All of the above

Correct answer: D

Explanation: All of the above locations are around the **Line of Actual Control** that separates the Indian and Chinese controlled regions in Ladakh UT.



Q.21) Consider the following statements regarding the **Presidential versus Parliamentary systems** of government:

1. Unlike the Presidential system, the chief executive's term of office is directly linked with that of the legislature in parliamentary systems.
2. The chief executive is chosen by members of legislature amongst themselves in presidential system.

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

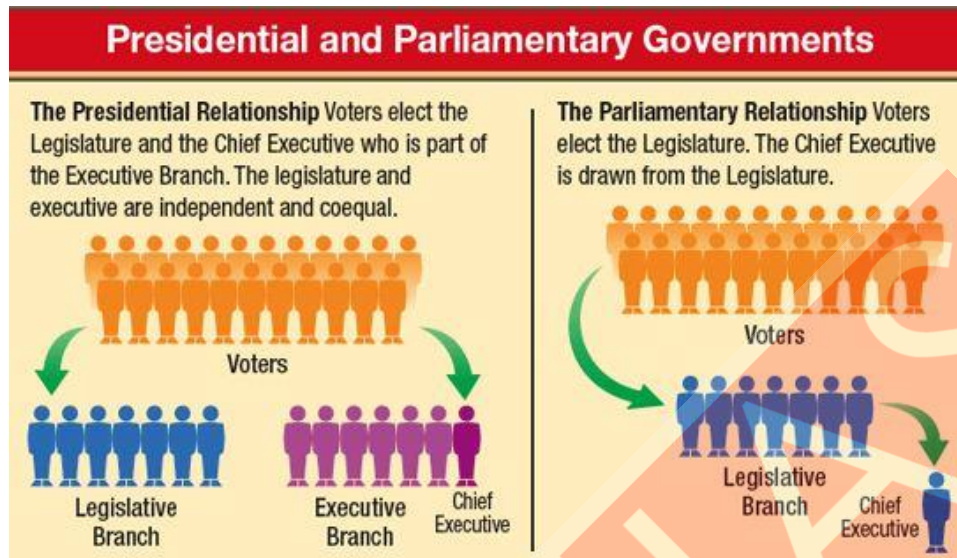
Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. In **parliamentary systems**, the chief executive's term of office is directly linked with that of the legislature, while in presidential systems the terms are not linked.

-The executive is selected by the assembly and the executive remains in office subject to legislative confidence.

Statement 2 is incorrect. In a **presidential system**, the President, who is the chief executive as well as the symbolic head of government, is chosen by a separate election and not from the Legislature.

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-Ministers/Secretaries usually are not simultaneously members of the legislature, although their appointment may require the advice and consent of the legislative branch.



Q.22) Consider the following statements regarding the **Non-Aligned Movement**:

1. The fulfillment of Bandung Principles is the essential criterion for Non-Aligned Movement membership.

2. India and Pakistan both are members of the NAM.

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. **Bandung Asian-African Conference** is the most immediate antecedent to the creation of the Non-Aligned Movement. This Conference was held in Bandung on April 18-24, 1955 and gathered 29 Heads of States.

The principles that would govern relations among large and small nations, known as the "**Ten Principles of Bandung**", were proclaimed at that Conference. Such principles were adopted later as the main goals and objectives of the policy of non-alignment.

The fulfillment of those principles became the essential criterion for Non-Aligned Movement membership; it is what was known as the "quintessence of the Movement"

Statement 2 is correct. India and Pakistan both are NAM members.

Pakistan has participated in the deliberation of NAM as a guest until its assumption of full membership during **1979 Havana Summit**.

Q.23) Consider the following statements regarding the **PM CARES Fund**:

1. The fund in addition to the voluntary contributions from individuals/organizations also gets a budgetary support from Union Government.

2. It can accept donations and contributions from individuals and organizations based in foreign countries.

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: With the primary objective of dealing with any kind of emergency or distress situation, like posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and to provide relief to the affected, a public charitable trust under the name of '**Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund**' (PM CARES Fund)' has been set up.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The fund consists **entirely of voluntary contributions** from individuals/organizations and does not get any budgetary support.

Statement 2 is correct. PM CARES Fund has also got **exemption under the FCRA** and a separate account for receiving foreign donations has been opened. This enables PM CARES Fund to accept donations and contributions from individuals and organizations based in foreign countries.

This is consistent with respect to Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF). PMNRF has also received foreign contributions as a public trust since 2011.

Q.24) Consider the following statements regarding the '**Health in India**' report recently published by the National Statistical Organisation (NSO):

1. More than 90 percent of children in India are vaccinated against tuberculosis.
2. Across the country, three-fourth of children under five years are fully immunised,

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: The 'Health in India' report recently published by the **National Statistical Organisation (NSO)** is based on the **75th round of the National Sample Survey** (July 2017-June 2018) on household social consumption related to health.

Statement 1 is correct. Almost 94 percent of the children in India are vaccinated by **BCG** vaccine injected in a single dose shortly after birth, which protects against a childhood attack of tuberculosis.

Statement 2 is incorrect. As per the report, only **59.2% of children under five years** are fully immunised across the country. This contradicts the Centre's Health Management Information System portal data, which claimed that full immunisation coverage for 2017-18 stood at 86.7%.

Full immunisation means:


The **BCG** vaccine; the measles vaccine; the **oral polio vaccine** (OPV) whose first dose is given at birth, followed by two more doses at intervals of four weeks; and the **DPT/pentavalent vaccine**, which is meant to protect a child from diphtheria, pertussis or whooping cough, tetanus, Hepatitis B, and meningitis and pneumonia caused by hemophilus influenza type B.

Booster doses for OPV and DPT are also given between 16 and 24 months.

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More work needed | The table depicts the percentage share of children below 71 months who received immunisation as per the NSS health survey conducted in July 2017-June 2018

	% of children immunised	
BCG	94.1	
Polio vaccine	Polio birth dose	93.9
	OPV-1	92.4
	OPV-2	87.8
	OPV-3	80.6
DPT / Pentavalent*	Booster dose	58.1
	DPT-1	91
	DPT-2	86.5
	DPT-3	78
	Booster dose	54
Measles	67	



*Prevents five diseases—diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis B and Hemophilus influenza type B (Hib)

Q.25) Consider the following statements:

1. The theme for International Literacy Day 2020 is “Literacy teaching and learning in the COVID-19 crisis and beyond”.
2. Inclusive and equitable quality education is a part of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

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: The 8th of September was proclaimed International Literacy Day by UNESCO in 1966.

Statement 1 is correct. **International Literacy Day 2020** focuses on “Literacy teaching and learning in the COVID-19 crisis and beyond,” especially on the role of educators and changing pedagogies. The theme highlights literacy learning in a lifelong learning perspective, and therefore, mainly focuses on youth and adults.

Statement 2 is correct. The issue of literacy is a key component of the **UN’s Sustainable Development Goals** and the UN’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The **SDG 4** focusses on ‘ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all’. It has as one of its targets ensuring all young people achieve literacy and numeracy and that adults, who lack these skills are given the opportunity to acquire them.

Q.26) The ‘**Real Mango**’ software has been in news recently, what does it relate to?

- a) Identifying different mango varieties through pictures
- b) Illegal software for railway ticket booking
- c) Geo-locator software for various crop varieties
- d) Contact tracing software developed by IIT Delhi

Correct answer: B

Explanation: ‘**Rare Mango/Real Mango**’ is illegal software for railway ticket booking that has been busted by the Railway Protection Force.

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The software logs in to the **IRCTC** website through multiple IRCTC Ids. The illegal software is sold through a five-tiered structure with the system admin receiving payment in bitcoins. It has been found that it bypasses captcha, synchronises bank OTP with the help of a mobile app and feeds it to the requisite form to book tickets automatically. It also auto-fills the passenger and payment details in the forms, he said.

Q.27) Consider the following statements regarding the **Corticosteroids**:

1. It is a class of drug that lowers inflammation in the body.
2. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends systemic corticosteroids for the treatment of patients with severe and critical 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: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Corticosteroids** are a **class of drug** that lowers **inflammation** in the body. They also reduce immune system activity. Because corticosteroids ease swelling, itching, redness, and allergic reactions, doctors often prescribe them to help treat diseases like: asthma, arthritis.

Three commonly used corticosteroids are dexamethasone, hydrocortisone, and methylprednisolone.

Statement 2 is correct. Corticosteroids are listed in the WHO model list of essential medicines, readily available globally at a low cost. World Health Organization encourages countries to maintain sufficient stocks of corticosteroids to treat COVID-19 and the other diseases.

World Health Organization recently recommended **systemic corticosteroids** for the treatment of patients with **severe and critical COVID-19**. It suggests not to use corticosteroids in the treatment of patients with non-severe COVID-19 as the treatment brought no benefits, and could even prove harmful.

Q.28) Which of the following institution is hosting the First World Solar Technology Summit?

- a) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- b) International Renewable Energy Agency
- c) International Energy Agency
- d) International Solar Alliance

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The **International Solar Alliance** hosted the **First World Solar Technology Summit** on a virtual platform, with a focus on new Technologies and Innovations in the field of Solar, on 8 September 2020.

Its objective is to bring the spotlight on state-of-the-art technologies as well as next-generation technologies which will provide impetus to the growth and propagation of Solar Energy globally. The Summit will provide a global platform for stakeholders to engage on innovations in technology that will catapult the world towards a high solar growth trajectory.

Q.29) Which of the following correctly defines the **Nash equilibrium**?

- a) A strategy being better for a participant, no matter how that participant's opponents may play

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- b) For any given event 80% of outcomes result from 20% of all causes
- c) A majority of scientific publications in a field of study come from a small number of authors
- d) No participant can gain by a unilateral change of strategy

Correct answer: D

Explanation: Nash Equilibrium is (in economics and game theory) a stable state of a system involving the interaction of different participants, in which no participant can gain by a unilateral change of strategy if the strategies of the others remain unchanged.

Price's square root law: 50% of the work is done by the square root of the total number of people participate in the work.

Pareto principle: for many events, roughly 80% of the effects come from 20% of the causes.

Strategic dominance occurs when one strategy is better than another strategy for one player, no matter how that player's opponents may play.

Q.30) Consider the following statements regarding the **Start-Up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP)**:

1. It is a sub-scheme under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).
2. It promotes individual and group enterprises majorly in manufacturing, trading and service sectors.

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. **Start-Up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP)** is implemented by **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana –National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)**, Ministry of Rural Development, as a sub-scheme since 2016.

Activities under SVEP are designed to promote rural enterprises, one of the key areas is to develop pool of **community resource persons – enterprise promotion (CRP-EP)** who are local and support entrepreneurs setting-up rural enterprises.

Another key area is to promote the **block resource center (BRC)** in SVEP blocks, to monitor and manage the community resource persons, appraise SVEP loan application and acts as the repository of enterprise related information in the concern block.

Statement 2 is correct. SVEP promotes both **individual and group enterprises**, set-up and promote enterprises majorly on **manufacturing, trading and service sectors**. The program invested largely on building the capacities of the entrepreneurs to run the businesses profitably based on the local demand and eco-system.

Q.31) Consider the following statements regarding the **Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI)**:

1. Its mandate is to reflect India specific requirements in global standards forums to ensure addressing of these requirements in global standards.
2. It is a constituent Standards Development Organisation of Global Standards Collaboration (GSC).

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: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. **Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI)** is an industry led not for profit organisation recognised by DoT as **National Telecom Standards Development Organisation (SDO)**.

TSDSI's **mandate** is to reflect India specific requirements in various global standards forums so as to ensure addressing of these requirements in global standards, including in upcoming 5G technologies.

It also provides a **platform** to its members, drawn from industry (operators, manufactures, designers, and system integrators), academia, R&D, user groups, Govt. and policy/regulatory bodies to develop and contribute their innovations/IP nationally as well as at global platforms like 3GPP, ITU etc.

Statement 2 is correct. TSDSI is a constituent Standards Development Organisation (SDO) of **Global Standards Collaboration (GSC)** - a voluntary forum of twelve of the world's leading information and communication technologies standards organisations.

Q.32) Consider the following statements regarding the **Recombinant vector vaccines**:

1. These are live replicating viruses that are engineered to carry extra genes derived from a pathogen.
 2. Oral polio vaccine (OPV) is a recombinant vector vaccine.
- 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. **Recombinant vector vaccines** are live replicating viruses that are engineered to **carry extra genes** derived from a pathogen—and these extra genes produce proteins against which we want to generate immunity.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Polio vaccines** are vaccines used to prevent poliomyelitis (polio). Two types are used: an **inactivated poliovirus** given by injection (**IPV**) and a **weakened poliovirus** given by mouth (**OPV**).

COVID-19 vaccines under development using adenovirus as vector are recombinant vector vaccines.

Q.33) Which of the following correctly defines the **Macartney–MacDonald Line**?

- a) A proposed boundary in the area of Aksai Chin
- b) Border between India and China in Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Line dividing the Ireland and Northern Ireland
- d) Border between North Korea and South Korea

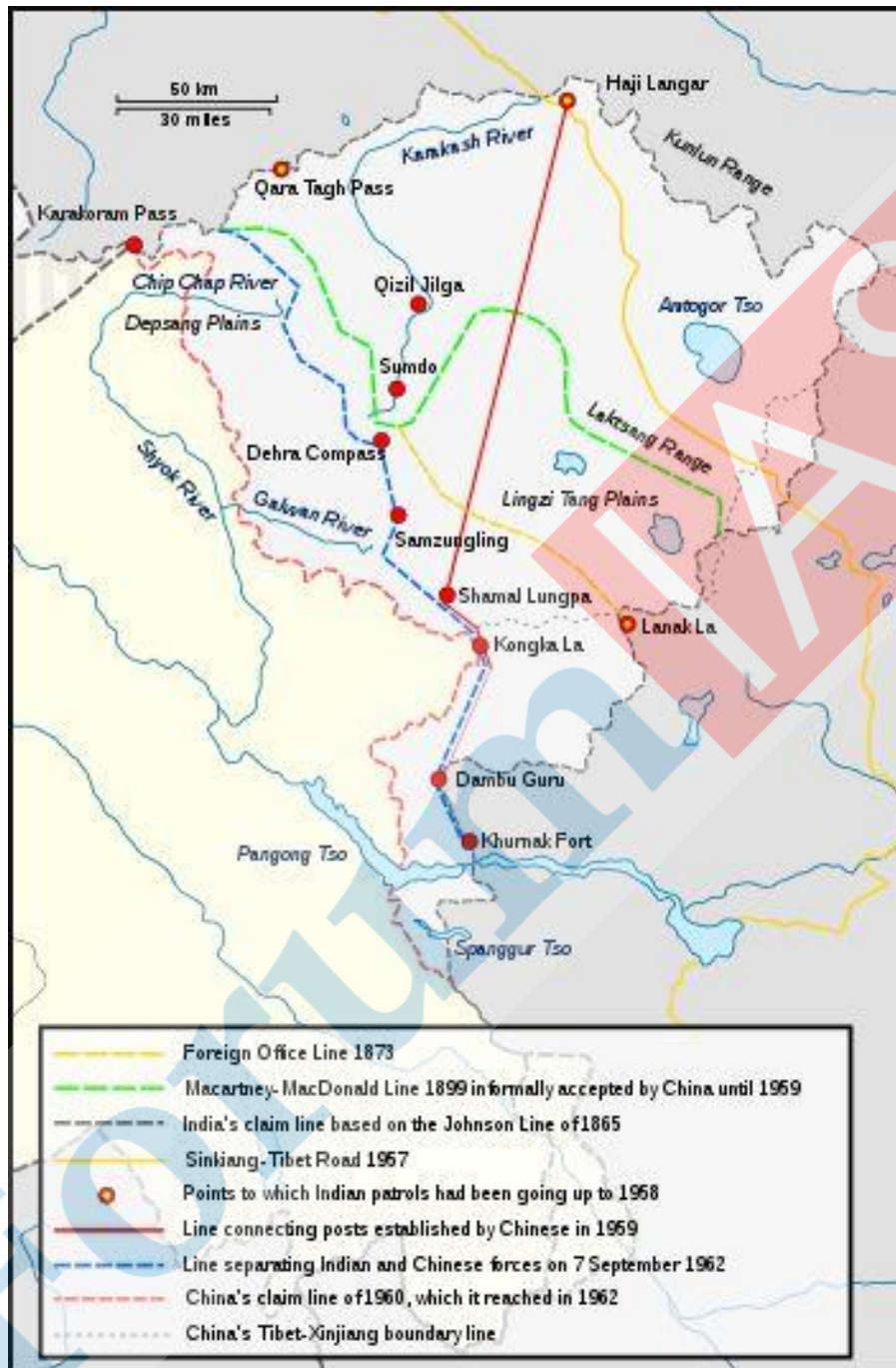
Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Macartney–MacDonald Line** is a proposed boundary in the area of Aksai Chin. It was proposed by British Indian Government to China in 1899 via its envoy to China, Sir Claude MacDonald.

This survey was officially sent by the British to China in 1899, was not followed up, and the border remained 'undefined'.

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The **Johnson-Ardagh Line** surveyed in 1865, ran along the Kunlun Mountain, included Aksai Chin in Kashmir and was not communicated to China.



Q.34) Which of the following mountain pass(es) are located in **Ladakh UT**?

1. Kilik Pass
2. Kongka Pass
3. Mintaka Pass

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

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Correct answer: D

Explanation: All of the above are in Ladakh UT.

The **Mintaka Pass** is a mountain pass in the Karakorum Mountains, between Gilgit-Baltistan (Pak administered) and Xinjiang in China.

The **Kilik Pass**, west of Mintaka Pass is a high mountain pass in the Karakorum Mountains between Gilgit-Baltistan and Xinjiang in China. The two passes were, in ancient times, the two main access points into the Upper Hunza Valley from the north.

The **Kongka Pass** or Kongka La is a high mountain pass of the Chang-Chemno Range on the Line of Actual Control between India and China. China considers the Kongka Pass as its boundary with India, whereas India regards Lanak Pass further east as the boundary.

Q.35) Consider the following statements regarding the **Treaty of Amritsar, 1846**:

1. It was a formalisation of the proposals of the Treaty of Lahore, signed to conclude the First Anglo-Sikh War.
2. The British granted Maharaja Gulab Singh dominion over Jammu and Kashmir through a sale deed.

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 **Treaty of Amritsar, 1846** was signed between the British East India Company and the Dogra ruler Maharaja Gulab Singh. It was a formalisation of the proposals of the Treaty of Lahore, signed to conclude the First Anglo-Sikh War of 1845-46 between the East India Company and the Sikh Empire.

The forces of **Maharaja Ranjit Singh** ran over the Kashmir Valley in 1819. The Valley remained with the Sikhs until a little after Maharaja Ranjit Singh's death in 1839. After the defeat in the **Anglo-Sikh War**, the Sikh Empire had to cede Kashmir to the English East India Company through the **Treaty of Lahore**, which was signed on March 9, 1846.

Due to Gulab Singh's neutrality during the Anglo-Sikh War, the **British granted him dominion over Jammu and Kashmir** through a sale deed, which was formalized through the Treaty of Amritsar.

This treaty was signed a week after the Treaty of Lahore, on March 16, 1846. Maharaja Gulab Singh got the state from the East India Company for a sum of Rs 75 lakh.

Q.36) Consider the following statements regarding the **Blockchain technology**:

1. A blockchain is a centralized ledger of all transactions across a peer-to-peer network.
2. No participant can change or tamper with a transaction after it's been recorded to the shared ledger.

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

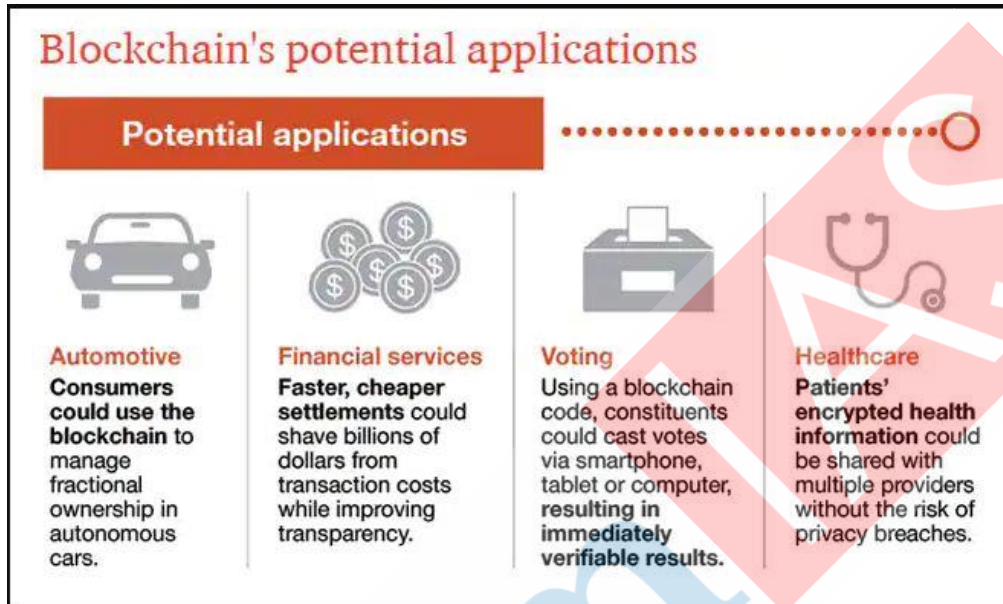
Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. Blockchain is a **decentralized distributed ledger technology**. All network participants have access to the distributed ledger and its immutable record of transactions.

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With this shared ledger, transactions are recorded only once, eliminating the duplication of effort that's typical of traditional business networks.

Blockchain is **decentralized**, i.e. it does not store any of its information in a central location, instead, the data is copied and spread across a network of computers.

Statement 2 is correct. **No participant can change** or tamper with a transaction after it's been recorded to the shared ledger. If a transaction record includes an error, a new transaction must be added to reverse the error, and both transactions are then visible.



Q.37) Consider the following statements regarding the **Bt Cotton**:

1. It is an insect-resistant transgenic crop that can combat the bollworm.
2. It is the only Genetically modified (GM) crop approved 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: Statement 1 is correct. **Bt cotton** is an insect-resistant transgenic crop designed to combat the bollworm. Bt cotton was created by genetically altering the cotton genome to express a microbial protein from the bacterium **Bacillus thuringiensis**.

Statement 2 is correct. Genetically modified (GM) crops are those crops whose DNA has been modified by introducing alien genes in the seeds to get desired effects.

Bt cotton is the only Genetically modified (GM) crop approved in India by the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee of Ministry of Environment.

Q.38) Consider the following statements regarding the '**Levels and Trends in Child Mortality: Report 2020**' from UNICEF:

1. Nigeria and India alone account for almost a third of all under-five deaths in 2019.
2. The under-five mortality rate saw more than fifty per cent reduction from 1990 to 2019.

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: C

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

The recent '**Levels and Trends in Child Mortality: Report 2020**' from UNICEF and partners in the UN Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME), shows the full scope of child mortality rates across the world – from newborns to adolescents, including for the first time this year, estimates for youth aged 15–24 years – as well as the progress made toward meeting the SDG targets by 2030.

The under-five mortality rate was reduced from 93 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 38 deaths in 2019—a 59 per cent reduction (see Table 1). One in every 11 children died before reaching their fifth birthday in 1990. By 2019, that number was reduced to 1 in 27.

Nearly half (49 per cent) of all under-five deaths in 2019 occurred in just five countries: Nigeria, India, Pakistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Ethiopia. **Nigeria and India** alone account for almost a third.

The under-five mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) in India declined to 34 in 2019 from 126 in 1990.

Q.39) Who among the following was the Sikh Guru when **Golden Temple (Harmandir Sahib)** was built?

- a) Guru Angad Dev
- b) Guru Gobind Singh
- c) Guru Teg Bahadur
- d) Guru Arjan Dev

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The **Golden Temple**, also known as Harmandir Sahib in the city of Amritsar, Punjab, India is the preeminent spiritual site of Sikhism. The Gurdwara is built around a man-made pool (sarovar).

Construction of the **Amrit Sarovar** (pool of nectar) was initiated by **Guru Amar Das**, the third Guru, in 1570 and was completed by **Guru Ram Das**, the fourth Guru. His successor, **Guru Arjan Dev** began work on the building after inviting Mian Mir, the Sufi saint, to lay its foundation stone in 1588. Three years later, the Harmandar Sahib, or Darbar Sahib got completed.

Q.40) Consider the following statements regarding the **EASE 2.0 Index**:

- 1. It provides Public Sector Banks a comparative evaluation showing where banks stand on the Reforms Agenda.
- 2. It has been released by the NITI Aayog.

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. **EASE (Enhanced Access and Service Excellence) Reforms Index** independently measures progress on the Public Sector Banks (PSB) Reforms Agenda.

Statement 2 is incorrect. EASE 2.0 Index Results has been released recently by the **Indian Banking Association (IBA)**. Bank of Baroda, State Bank of India, and erstwhile Oriental

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Bank of Commerce were felicitated for being the top three (in that order) in the 'Top Performing Banks' category according to the EASE 2.0 Index Results.

As part of the EASE Reforms, **Doorstep Banking Services** envisaged to provide convenience of banking services to the customers at their door step through the universal touch points of Call Centre, Web Portal or Mobile App, was inaugurated recently by the Finance Minister.

Q.41) Consider the following statements:

1. The Narcotics Control Bureau is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.
2. India is signatory to the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

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 **Narcotics Control Bureau** was set up as apex drug law enforcement agency with view to coordinate actions of various central/state agencies in the matters related with drug law in the country. It comes under the **Ministry of Home Affairs**, Govt of India.

Statement 2 is correct. There are three **United Nations Conventions on drug related matters**:

-Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961

-Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971

-UN Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988

India is a signatory to all these Conventions and enacted the **Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act in 1985** which met her obligations under these Conventions.

Q.42) Which of the following statement correctly defines a '**Status of forces agreement (SOFA)**'?

- a) Agreement to maintain status quo at border region between two nations
- b) A regional agreement to maintain nuclear-weapon-free zone
- c) Agreement of mutual defense in case of external aggression
- d) Agreement between a host country and a foreign nation for stationing military forces

Correct answer: D

Explanation: A **status of forces agreement (SOFA)** is an agreement between a **host country** and a foreign nation **stationing military forces** in that country. It establishes the rights and privileges of foreign personnel present in a host country in support of the larger security arrangement.

United States military has the largest foreign presence and therefore accounts for most SOFAs, the United Kingdom, France, Australia, Germany, Italy, Russia, Spain, and many other nations also station military forces abroad and negotiate SOFAs with their host countries.

The US has decided to withdraw more than a third of its troops from Iraq.

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Q.43) Which of the following **service(s)** is/are to be provided by the **e-Gopala App**?

1. availability of quality breeding services
2. buying and selling of disease-free germplasm
3. send alerts on due date for vaccination, pregnancy diagnosis, calving.

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: **e-Gopala App** is a comprehensive breed improvement marketplace and information portal for use of farmers.

The **e-Gopala App** will provide **solutions** for farmers:

- Managing livestock including buying and selling of disease-free germplasm in all forms (semen, embryos, etc.);
- Availability of quality breeding services (Artificial Insemination, veterinary first aid, vaccination, treatment etc.)
- Guiding farmers for animal nutrition, treatment of animals using appropriate ayurvedic medicine, veterinary medicine.
- Mechanism to send alerts (on due date for vaccination, pregnancy diagnosis, calving etc.) and inform farmers about various government schemes and campaigns in the area.

Q.44) Consider the following statements regarding the **Five Star Villages Scheme**:

1. It aims to ensure universal coverage of flagship postal schemes in rural areas of the country.
2. The scheme will cover Savings Bank accounts and PM Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana Accounts.

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 **Department of Posts** has launched a scheme called **Five Star Villages**, to ensure universal coverage of flagship postal schemes in rural areas of the country. The scheme seeks to bridge the gaps in public awareness and reach of postal products and services, especially in interior villages.

Statement 2 is correct. The **schemes covered under the Five Star scheme** include: i) Savings Bank accounts, Recurrent Deposit Accounts, NSC / KVP certificates, ii) Sukanya Samridhi Accounts/ PPF Accounts, iii) Funded Post Office Savings Account linked India Post Payments Bank Accounts, iv) Postal Life Insurance Policy/Rural Postal Life Insurance Policy and v) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana Account / Pradhan Mantri **Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana** Account.

If a village attains universal coverage for four schemes from the above list, then that village gets four-star status; if a village completes three schemes, then that village get three-star status and so on.

The scheme will be **implemented** by a team of five **Gramin Dak Sevaks** who will be assigned a village for marketing of all products, savings and insurance schemes of the Department of Posts.

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Q.45) Consider the following statements regarding the **SAROD-Ports**:

1. It is a statutory body under the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.
2. It will advise and assist in settlement of disputes through arbitrations in the maritime sector.

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. **SAROD-Ports (Society for Affordable Redressal of Disputes - Ports)** is established under **Societies Registration Act, 1860**.

Statement 2 is correct. SAROD-Ports objectives:

- Affordable and timely resolution of disputes in fair manner
- Enrichment of Dispute Resolution Mechanism with the panel of technical experts as arbitrators.

SAROD-Ports consists members from **Indian Ports Association (IPA) and Indian Private Ports and Terminals Association (IPTTA)**.

SAROD-Ports will advise and assist in settlement of disputes through arbitrations in the maritime sector, including ports and shipping sector in Major Port Trusts, Non-major Ports, including private ports, jetties, terminals and harbours. It will also cover disputes between granting authority and Licensee/Concessionaire /Contractor and also disputes between Licensee/Concessionaire and their contractors arising out of and during the course of execution of various contracts.

Q.46) What does the '**Delhi Declaration on Emergency Preparedness, 2019**' relate to?

- a) Capacities in disaster risk management and emergency preparedness
- b) Response to terror outfits in country's neighborhood
- c) Capacity building in agriculture sector to Climate Change
- d) Emergency preparedness for risk emanating from volatile global economic supply chain

Correct answer: A

Explanation: '**Delhi Declaration on Emergency Preparedness**' to strengthen and operationalise cross border capacities for disaster reduction and response was unanimously adopted at the 72nd Session of the **WHO Regional Committee for South East Asia in Delhi in 2019**.

It builds on the disaster preparedness and response benchmarks set by South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF) which was set up following the Indian Ocean tsunami, 2004.

The **key initiatives** under Delhi Declaration are identifying risks by mapping and assessing vulnerabilities, evidence-based planning, implementing measures for disaster risk reduction; and preparing and operationalizing readiness.

Recently at the conclusion of the 73rd session of WHO South East Asia Region (SEAR) held under the Chairmanship of Minister of Health, Thailand, the Health Ministers of the member states agreed to the SEAR Member States' Declaration on the collective response to COVID-19 in South-East Asia Region.

Q.47) Consider the following statements regarding the **Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act**:

1. It allows for prohibition of a broadcast if it is likely to promote disharmony on grounds of religion, race, language, caste or community.

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2. No person can operate a cable television network unless they are registered as a cable operator under this Act.

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. **Section 19 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act 1995** gives the power to **prohibit** a broadcast in the public interest if the programme is “likely to promote, on grounds of religion, race, language, caste or community or any other ground whatsoever, disharmony or feelings of **enmity, hatred or ill-will** between different religious, racial, linguistic or regional groups or castes or communities or which is likely to disturb the public tranquility”.

Statement 2 is correct. The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 requires and provides a mechanism for **registration of all cable operators**. The Act empowers the central government to appoint a registering authority to review applications and grant registrations.

Article 3 states that no person shall operate a cable television network unless he is registered as a cable operator under this Act.

Q.48) Consider the following statements regarding the **Cygnus spacecraft**:

- 1. It has been developed by the SpaceX.
- 2. The SS Kalpana Chawla is a Cygnus spacecraft named after the first woman of Indian descent to fly in space.

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 **Cygnus spacecraft** is an expendable American cargo spacecraft developed by Orbital Sciences Corporation and now manufactured and launched by **Northrop Grumman Innovation Systems** as part of NASA's Commercial Resupply Services (CRS) program.

Statement 2 is correct. Each spacecraft by Northrop Grumman is named after an important figure in the aerospace industry. Northrop Grumman has named the **NG-14 Cygnus spacecraft** after the first woman of Indian descent to fly in space, **Kalpana Chawla**. For the NG-14 mission, the SS Kalpana Chawla spacecraft will deliver approximately 3,629 kg of cargo to the space station.

In November 1996, K. Chawla was assigned as a mission specialist on STS-87 aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia, becoming the first woman of Indian descent to fly in space.

Kalpana Chawla's second spaceflight experience was in 2001 for the crew of STS-107. The flight was dedicated to science and research, with approximately 80 experiments completed.

The STS-107 mission ended abruptly on February 1, 2003 when Space Shuttle Columbia and her crew perished during entry, 16 minutes prior to the scheduled landing.

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Q.49) India has signed **military logistics support agreements** with which of the following countries?

1. Singapore
2. Japan
3. France

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: Mostly, **logistics agreements** are administrative arrangements which help to facilitate the replenishment of fuel, rations, spares (where required), and berthing and maintenance for the other nations' warships, military aircraft and troops during routine port calls, joint exercises and training carried out in each other's countries as well as during humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR).

India has signed several military logistics support agreements with partner countries:

-Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) with the **United States** (US) in August 2016.

-Implementing Arrangement Concerning Mutual Coordination, Logistics and Services Support with **Singapore** in June 2018.

-Agreement for the Provision of Reciprocal Logistics Support between the Armed Forces with **France** in March 2018.

-Agreement to Extend Logistical Support to each other's navies with the Republic of **Korea** (ROK) in September 2019.

-Agreement on Reciprocal Provision of Supplies and Services between the Indian Armed Forces and the Self-Defense Forces of **Japan** recently.

Q.50) Consider the following statements regarding the **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)**:

1. It is completely a Central Sector Scheme.
2. The scheme is to follow 'Cluster or area-based approach' with requisite forward and backward linkages.

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: "**Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana** - A scheme to bring about **Blue Revolution** through sustainable and responsible development of fisheries sector in India"

-Scheme intends to address critical gaps in fish production and productivity, quality, technology, post-harvest infrastructure and management, modernization and strengthening of value chain, traceability, establishing a robust fisheries management framework and fishers' welfare.

-It would also address issues like low productivity in inland Aquaculture, disease, sustainability of marine fisheries, sanitary and phyto-sanitary matters that impact the competitiveness of India's exports along with global bench marking.

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Statement 1 is incorrect. The PMMSY will be implemented as an umbrella scheme with two separate Components namely **Central Sector Scheme (CS)** and **Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)**.

The **funding pattern for CSS**: 60% Central share and 40% State share, 90% Central share in North Eastern & Himalayan States.

Statement 2 is correct. For optimal outcomes, '**Cluster or area-based approach**' would be followed with requisite forward and backward linkages and end to end solutions. Suitable linkages and convergence will be fostered with other centre and state government schemes wherever feasible.

Q.51) Consider the following statements regarding the **Streets for People Challenge**:

1. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
2. It aims to create walking-friendly streets through quick measures.

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 **Streets for People Challenge** is an initiative of the **Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**.

Statement 2 is correct. The challenge aims to inspire cities to create **walking-friendly streets** through quick measures, in response to **COVID-19**.

As the lockdowns lift, cities face many challenges in providing safe, affordable, and equitable modes of transport that enable social distancing. Limited public transport options, narrow, crowded sidewalks particularly in market places and deterioration of mental health, are key issues that must be addressed on priority.

All cities participating in the challenge shall be encouraged to use the '**test-learn-scale**' approach to initiate both, flagship and neighbourhood walking interventions.

The interventions can include inter alia creating pedestrian-friendly streets in high footfall areas, re-imagining under-flyover spaces, re-vitalizing dead neighbourhood spaces, and creating walking links through parks and institutional areas.

Fit India Mission, under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, along with the India program of the Institute for Transport Development and Policy (ITDP) have partnered with the Smart Cities Mission to support the challenge.

Q.52) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. Kunlun Mountains - China
2. Tarim River - Russia
3. Lop Nur - Mongolia

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: A

Explanation: Option 1 is correctly matched. The **Kunlun Mountains** in **China** constitute one of the longest mountain chains in Asia. The chain forms the northern edge of the Tibetan Plateau south of the Tarim Basin.

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Option 2 is incorrectly matched. The **Tarim River** is an endorheic river in Xinjiang, **China**. It is the principal river of the Tarim Basin, a desert region of Central Asia between the Tian Shan and Kunlun Mountains.

Option 3 is incorrectly matched. **Lop Nur**, former saline lake in northwestern **China** that is now a salt-encrusted lake bed. It lies within the Tarim Basin of the eastern Takla Makan Desert.

Q.53) Arrange the following events chronologically:

1. India-China war
2. China's recognition to Indian sovereignty over Sikkim
3. Tashkent Declaration

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct answer: D

Explanation: The **Indo-China War** occurred in **1962**. Before that, there had been a series of violent border skirmishes between the two countries after the 1959 Tibetan uprising, when India granted asylum to the Dalai Lama.

The war ended when China declared a ceasefire on 20 November 1962, and simultaneously announced its withdrawal to its claimed Line of Actual Control.

The **Tashkent Declaration** was a peace agreement between India and Pakistan signed on 10 January **1966** that resolved the Indo-Pakistani War of 1965.

In **2003**, Indian sovereignty over Sikkim was recognized by China.



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Q.54) Consider the following statements regarding the **Ranking of States on Support to Startup Ecosystems**:

1. The ranking exercise has been conducted by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
 2. Gujarat is the Best Performer state in the States Startup Ranking Results 2019.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

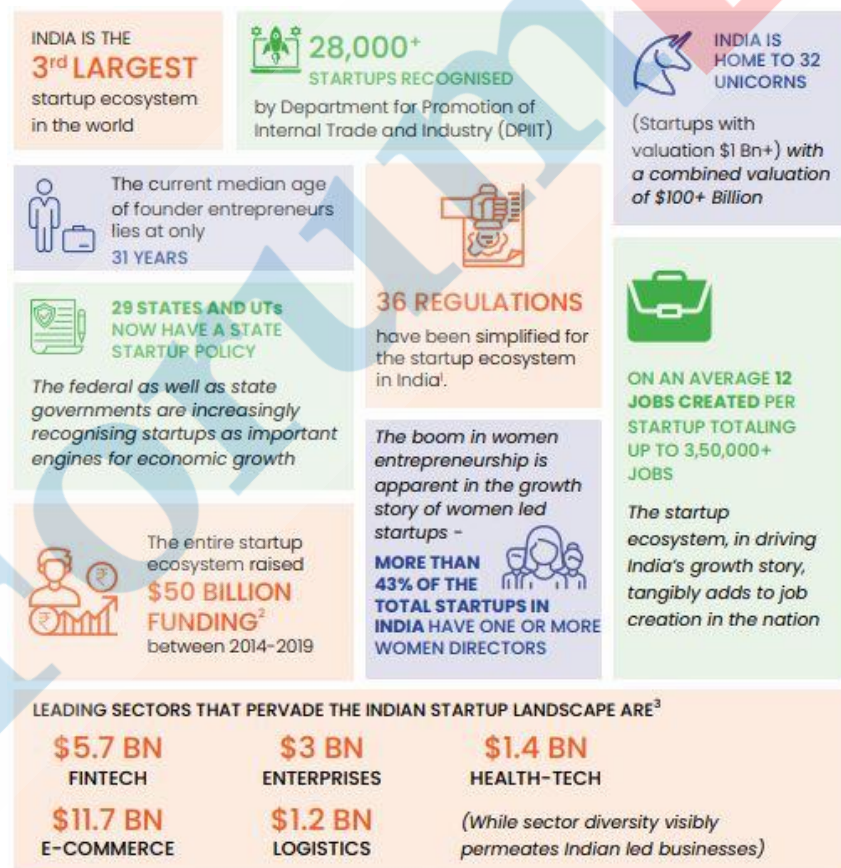
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. Recently the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** conducted the second edition of the **States' Startup Ranking Exercise**, with the key objective to foster competitiveness and propel States and Union Territories to work proactively towards uplifting the startup ecosystem.

A **National Report** which highlights the vision, trajectory, methodology and the future roadmap of the States Ranking Exercise has been released. A State Specific Report for each of the 25 participating entities has also been released, containing a comprehensive analysis of respective ecosystem, which highlights strengths and priority areas for future.

Statement 2 is correct. **Gujarat** is the 'Best Performer' state, while Karnataka and Kerala are the 'Top Performers'.



Q.55) Consider the following statements regarding the **ClimateSMART Cities Assessment Framework**:

1. Its objective is to provide a roadmap for Indian cities to combat climate change while planning their investments within the city.

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2. NITI Aayog is implementing the ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework. 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 **ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework** is a first-of-its-kind assessment framework on climate relevant parameters. Launched in 2019 by **MoHUA**, the objective is to provide a clear roadmap for Indian cities towards combating climate change while planning their actions within the city including investments.

The framework has 28 indicators across five categories namely; (i) Energy and Green Buildings, (ii) Urban Planning, Green Cover & Biodiversity, (iii) Mobility and Air Quality, (iv) Water Management and (v) Waste Management.

Statement 2 is incorrect. **National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) with support from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** has established the **Climate Centre for Cities**. The Centre is implementing the ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework 2.0 and aims to support cities in driving climate actions.

Q.56) Which of the following institute/organization has published the **Economic Freedom of the World: 2020** report?

- a) Fraser Institute
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) Manhattan Institute for Policy Research
- d) Centre for Policy Research

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Economic Freedom of the World: 2020** report has been recently released by the **Fraser Institute** in Canada.

The **index of global economic freedom** ranks countries based on five areas—size of government, legal structure and property rights, access to sound money, freedom to trade internationally, regulation of credit, labour and business.

Hong Kong is ranked number one and the rankings of some major countries are Japan (20th), Germany (21st), Italy (51st), France (58th), Mexico (68th), Russia (89th), India (105th), Brazil (105th), and China (124th).

Q.57) Consider the following statements regarding the **Jigyasa programme**:

- 1. It is a student-scientist connect programme focusing on research laboratory-based learning.
- 2. It is being implemented by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

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.

JIGYASA is a student-scientist connect programme of **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in collaboration with Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathans**

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(KVS). Its objective is to extend the classroom leaning and focusing on a well-planned research laboratory-based learning.

Student Residential Programmes, scientists as teachers and teachers as scientists, lab specific activities/Onsite Experiments, visits of scientists to Schools/Outreach Programmes, science and maths Clubs, projects of National Children's Science Congress and tinkering laboratories are some of the activities included under the programme.

Q.58) Consider the following statements regarding the **Rashtriya Gokul Mission**:

1. It aims for development and conservation of indigenous breeds through genetic upgradation of nondescript bovine population.
 2. It envisages establishment of integrated cattle development centres 'Gokul Grams' to develop indigenous breeds.
 3. Rashtriya Gokul Mission is implemented through the Livestock Development Boards.
- 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: Statement 1 is correct. **Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)** aims for development and conservation of indigenous breeds through selective breeding in the breeding tract and genetic upgradation of nondescript bovine population.

The scheme comprises of two components namely National Programme for Bovine Breeding (NPBB) and National Mission on Bovine Productivity (NMBP).

Statement 2 is correct. Rashtriya Gokul Mission components:

-Integrated cattle development centres '**Gokul Grams**' to develop indigenous breeds including upto 40% nondescript breeds.

-Establishment of Field Performance Recording (FPR) in the breeding tract.

-Implementation of Pedigree Selection Programme for the Indigenous Breeds with large population.

-Establishment of Breeder's Societies: **Gopalan Sangh**.

-Distribution of disease free high genetic merit bulls for natural service.

-Incentive to farmers maintaining elite animals of indigenous breeds.

-Award to Farmers (**Gopal Ratna**) and Breeders Societies (**Kamadhenu**)

Statement 3 is correct. Rashtriya Gokul Mission is implemented through the State Implementing Agency (SIA viz. Livestock Development Boards).

Q.59) Which of the following institution has recently released the '**Ecological Threat Register**' report?

- a) Institute for Economics and Peace
- b) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- c) International Union for Conservation of Nature
- d) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The 2020 **Ecological Threat Register (ETR)** is the inaugural edition which covers 157 independent states and territories. It has been released by the **Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)**.

The ETR measures ecological threats that countries are currently facing and provides projections to 2050. The Ecological Threat Register analyses risk from population growth, water stress, food insecurity, droughts, floods, cyclones, rising temperatures and sea levels.

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Report highlights:

- Over the next 30 years, 141 countries are exposed to at least one ecological threat by 2050.
- Country with the largest number of people at risk of mass displacements in **Pakistan, followed by Ethiopia and Iran**. In these countries, even small ecological threats and natural disasters could result in mass population displacement, affecting regional and global security.
- Today, 2.6 billion people experience high or extreme water stress - by 2040, this will increase to 5.4 billion people.
- So far, **India** received the largest amount of climate-related aid in 2018, amounting to the US \$6.5 billion dollars.

Q.60) Rogan painting is a traditional art form of which state?

- Kerala
- Gujarat
- Andhra Pradesh
- Odisha

Correct answer: B

Explanation: Rogan painting is a centuries old art of cloth printing practiced in the **Kutch District of Gujarat**. A word of Persian origin, Rogan means oil.

Rogan paint cloth printing process: Castor oil is heated and cast into cold water and the thick residue is then mixed with natural colours. Then, using a stylus or blocks, this resultant paint is meticulously transferred on to a cloth to make floral, animal (peacock) and geometric patterns. The weather and density of the mix play an important role.

Q.61) Which of the following is/are immunogenicity evaluation tests?

- ELISA test
 - Plaque reduction neutralization test
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Both are immunogenicity evaluation tests.

Immunogenicity is the ability of a foreign substance, such as an antigen, to provoke an immune response in the body of a human or other animal. It is the ability to induce a humoral and/or cell-mediated immune responses.

ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay) is a plate-based assay technique designed for detecting and quantifying soluble substances such as peptides, proteins, antibodies, and hormones.

The **plaque-reduction neutralization test (PRNT)** is a serological test which measures virus-specific neutralizing antibody titers.

Q.62) The Yanomami tribe belongs to which region?

- Malay Peninsula
- Deccan Plateau
- South America
- Central Africa

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Correct answer: C

Explanation: The **Yanomami** are a relatively isolated tribe in **South America**. They live in the rainforests and mountains of northern Brazil and southern Venezuela. They are speakers of a Xirianá language, who live in the remote forest of the Orinoco River basin in southern Venezuela and the northernmost reaches of the Amazon River basin in northern Brazil.

They have been threatened for several decades by illegal gold miners who invade their land and bring diseases. They recently sent a request to India to stop buying Yanomami 'Blood Gold'.

Q.63) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

1. RECOVERY trial - Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations
2. Solidarity trial - World Health Organization
3. COVAX - Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

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: Option 1 is incorrect. **Randomised Evaluation of COVID-19 Therapy (RECOVERY Trial)** is supported by a grant to the University of Oxford from **United Kingdom** Research and Innovation/National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

RECOVERY Trial is currently testing some of these suggested treatments:

- Low-dose Dexamethasone (now only recruiting children)
- Azithromycin (a commonly used antibiotic)
- Tocilizumab (an anti-inflammatory treatment given by injection)
- Convalescent plasma (collected from donors who have recovered from COVID-19 and contains antibodies against the SARS-CoV-2 virus).

Option 2 is correct. **Solidarity** is an international clinical trial to help find an effective treatment for COVID-19, launched by the **World Health Organization** and partners.

The treatment options are: Remdesivir and Lopinavir/Ritonavir with Interferon beta-1a. On 4 July 2020, WHO accepted the recommendation from the Solidarity Trial's International Steering Committee to discontinue the trial's hydroxychloroquine and lopinavir/ritonavir arm.

Option 3 is correct. **COVAX** is co-led by **Gavi**, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and WHO. Its aim is to accelerate the development and manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines, and to guarantee fair and equitable access for every country in the world.

COVAX is the vaccines pillar of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator.

Q.64) Consider the following statements regarding the **Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)**:

1. It has been established under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.
2. It will be empowered to impose penalties on endorsers of misleading advertisements.

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. The Central Government has established the **Central Consumer Protection Authority** as a body corporate in exercise of the powers conferred by section 10 of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.

Statement 2 is correct. CCPA will carry out the following **functions**:

- inquiring into violations of consumer rights, investigating and launching prosecution at the appropriate forum;
- passing orders to recall goods or withdraw services that are hazardous, reimbursement of the price paid, and discontinuation of the unfair trade practices, as defined in the Bill;
- issuing directions to the concerned trader/ manufacturer/ endorser/ advertiser/ publisher to either discontinue a false or misleading advertisement, or modify it;
- order discontinuation of unfair trade practices and misleading advertisements, impose **penalties** on manufacturers/**endorsers**/publishers of misleading advertisements.

Q.65) Consider the following statements regarding the 'Asol Chini' campaign:

1. It has been launched by the Government of West Bengal.
2. It aims to fight fake information and rumour spreading on social media.

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 **Government of Bangladesh** has launched a campaign named 'Asol Chini' or 'real-sugar'.

Statement 2 is correct. Asol Chini campaign aims to fight **fake information and rumour spreading on social media**. The campaign aims to create digital literacy to stop fake information and rumours.

Q.66) Which of the following country(s) is/are *not* member(s) of the **Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)**?

1. China
2. France
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: D

Explanation: None of the above countries are members of IORA.

The **Indian Ocean Rim Association** is an inter-governmental organisation which was established on 7 March 1997.

Member States: Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

All sovereign States of the Indian Ocean Rim are eligible for membership of the Association. To become members, States must adhere to the principles and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the Association.

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IORA's apex body is the **Council of Foreign Ministers (COM)** which meets annually. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) assumed the role of Chair since November 2019 - November 2021.

Q.67) Which of the following organization has released the **Living Planet Report 2020**?

- a) World Wide Fund for Nature
- b) International Union for Conservation of Nature
- c) Conservation International
- d) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Correct answer: A

Explanation: The **Living Planet Report, WWF's flagship publication** released every two years, is a comprehensive study of trends in global biodiversity and the health of the planet. Through multiple indicators including the **Living Planet Index (LPI)**, provided by the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), it shows an average 68% fall in almost 21,000 wildlife populations between 1970 and 2016.

The 2020 report finds that the highest biodiversity loss due to land use change globally has been found in Europe and Central Asia at 57.9 per cent, then in North America at 52.5 per cent, Latin America and Caribbean at 51.2 per cent, Africa at 45.9 per cent and then Asia at 43 per cent.

India has lost nearly one-third of its natural wetlands to urbanization, agricultural expansion and pollution over the last four decades and WWF India's report on Water Stewardship for Industries revealed that 14 out of 20 river basins in India are already water stressed and will be moving to extreme water scarcity by 2050.

Q.68) Consider the following statements regarding the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat ARISE-ANIC Initiative**:

- 1. It has been launched by the Atal Innovation Mission.
- 2. The programme will support applied research-based innovations by providing funding support for speedy development of the product.

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.

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, recently launched the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat ARISE-Atal New India Challenges**, to spur applied research and innovation in Indian MSMEs and startups.

The programme will be driven by **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), four ministries—Ministry of Defence; Ministry of Food Processing Industries; Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**—and associated industries to facilitate innovative solutions to sectoral problems.

The ARISE-ANIC programme will support deserving applied **research-based innovations** by providing funding support of up to Rs 50 lakh for speedy development of the proposed technology solution and/or product.

Q.69) Which of the following relates to **India-China border demarcation**?

- 1. Macartney-MacDonald Line
- 2. Ardagh-Johnson Line

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3. McMohan Line

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

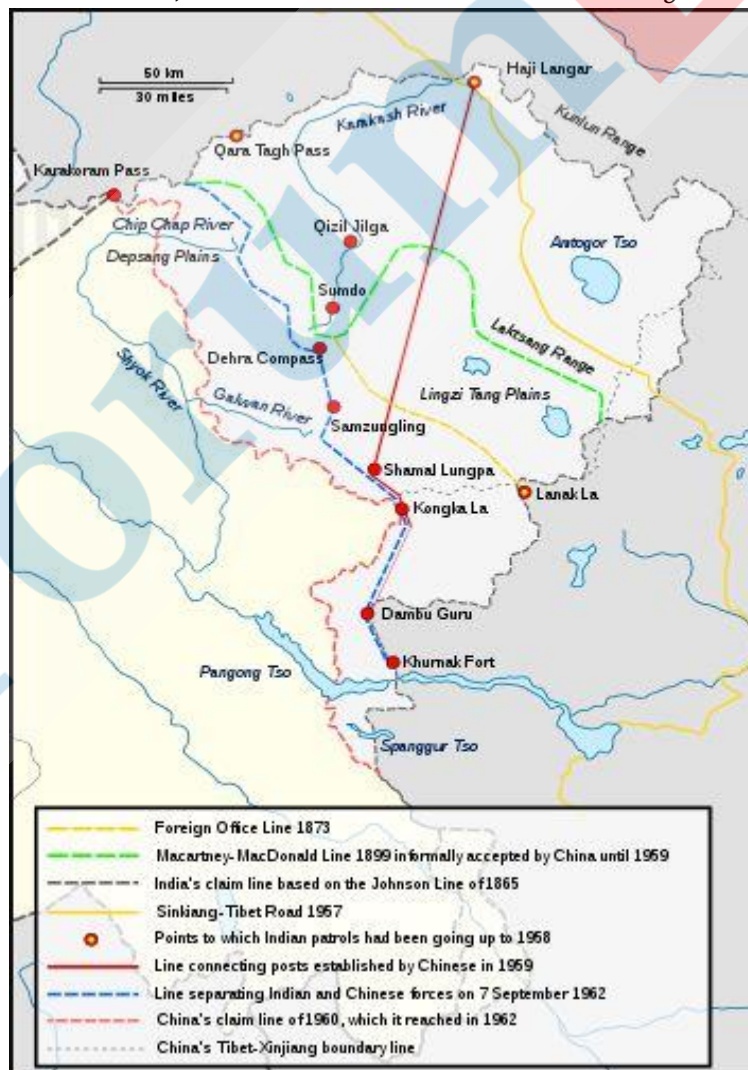
Explanation: The **Macartney–MacDonald Line** was a proposed boundary in the disputed area of Aksai Chin. It was proposed by British Indian Government to China in 1899 via its envoy to China, Sir Claude MacDonald.

This survey was officially sent by the British to China in 1899, was not followed up, and the border remained 'undefined'.

The **Ardagh–Johnson Line** was another proposed boundary between China and India in Jammu & Kashmir region. It was formally proposed to the British Indian government by Major General John Ardagh, chief of military intelligence in London, in 1897, based on the surveys conducted by William Johnson in 1865.

McMahon Line is the frontier between Tibet and British India in north east, negotiated between Tibet and Great Britain at the end of the Shimla Conference (October 1913–July 1914) and named for the chief British negotiator, Sir Henry McMahon.

Upon independence in 1947, the government of India fixed its official boundary in the west, which included the Aksai Chin, in a manner that resembled the Ardagh–Johnson Line.



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Q.70) Consider the following statements regarding the **Global Standards Collaboration (GSC)**:

1. It is a voluntary organization for enhancing global cooperation regarding tele-communications standards development.
2. No organization from India is a member of GSC.

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. GSC is an unincorporated voluntary organization dedicated to enhancing global cooperation and collaboration regarding **communications standards and the related standards development environment**.

GSC is not a standards development organization and therefore will not develop standards. GSC events provide a strategic opportunity for dialogue among senior officials from national, regional and international standards bodies in support of the work of ITU (International Telecommunication Union).

Statement 2 is incorrect. **Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI)** is a constituent Standards Development Organisation (SDO) of Global Standards Collaboration (GSC).