

ForumIAS

F

Prelims Marathon

1st to 6th September,
2020

*HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

Economy

Q.1) With reference to the new hydro policy 2019, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It includes large hydro projects within the ambit of renewable energy.
2. It created additional resources for the development of large hydro projects.

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

ANS: A

Explanation: The Union Cabinet approved a new hydroelectricity policy that, among other things, **included large hydro projects within the ambit of renewable energy.**

- Prior to the policy, only small hydro projects of a capacity of less than 25 MW were treated as renewable energy. Large hydro projects were treated as a separate source of energy.
- India's renewable energy sector had an installed capacity of 75,055.92 MW as of February 2019, according to data with the Central Electricity Authority.
- This made up about 21.4% of the overall energy mix, with the rest coming from thermal, nuclear and large hydro sources.
- With the inclusion of large hydro in renewable energy, the energy mix changes drastically.
- Renewable energy capacity would now be 1,20,455.14 MW or 34.4% of the overall energy mix.

It must be noted that this is a purely cosmetic change. **No additional resources have been created through this policy. It is a reclassification of existing capacity.**

Q.2) The term “**Ind AS**” is often seen in news is related to which of the following?

- a) It is a new domestic rating agency of India.
- b) It is a sub-committee representing South Asia of International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- c) It is a new accounting norms.
- d) It is a bad bank created to control the growing Non-Performing Assets (NPA).

ANS: C

Explanation: Indian Accounting Standard (abbreviated as Ind-AS) is the Accounting standard adopted by companies in India and issued under the supervision of Accounting Standards Board (ASB) which was constituted as a body in the year 1977.

Presently, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has issued 39 Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) which have been notified under the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 ('Ind AS Rules'), of the Companies Act, 2013.

Q.3) Which of the following is/are the benefit (s) of a **Real Estate Investment Trust or REIT**?

1. Investment in REIT is just like investing in direct equity that can be done through a demat account.
2. It will earn rental income from commercial properties.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

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

ANS: C

Explanation: A Real Estate Investment Trust or REIT is an investment vehicle that provides an opportunity to invest in various projects by only investing in the units of a sponsor entity that will manage the paperwork and may be, even the hindrances of investing in the real estate market.

- **The biggest benefit is the ease of investment as investing in REIT is just like investing in direct equity that can be done through a demat account.**
- **The other big advantage is getting an opportunity to invest in commercial properties that will earn rental income.**
- **This is a significant advantage as commercial properties typically earn more rent than residential properties with built-in clauses of rent hikes at fixed intervals.**
- Moreover, REIT regulations mandate the distribution of 90% of the rental income to unit holders. The remaining 10% can be used for business purposes.
- Also, since REIT is a publicly listed and traded instrument, liquidity should ideally not be a concern.

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the **President of World Bank:**

1. Since the bank's creation following World War II, all of its Presidents have been American men.
2. David Malpass is the 13th President of World Bank.
3. The World Bank President is Chair of Boards of Directors of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and International Development Association (IDA).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: David Malpass, a top U.S. Treasury official in Trump administration, was on April 5 unanimously selected as the new President of the World Bank.

- The World Bank's 25-member executive board unanimously approved 63-year-old Malpass, who is currently Under Secretary of Treasury for International Affairs, as the development lender's **13th President for a five-year term beginning April 9.**
- **Since the bank's creation following World War II, all of its Presidents have been American men.**
- **The World Bank President is Chair of Boards of Directors of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and International Development Association (IDA).**
- The President is also ex officio Chair of Boards of Directors of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and the Administrative Council of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).

Q.5) The term “**Debt Transparency Initiative**” is often seen in news is related to which of the following?

- a) It is an initiative of World Economic Forum to contain debt of Emerging and Developing economies.
- b) It is a joint initiative of World Bank and IMF to address debt vulnerabilities in low income developing countries.
- c) It is an initiative of European Union to contain debt of Greece, Spain and Iceland.
- d) It is an initiative of Asian Development Bank to contain debt of South Asian Countries.

ANS: B

Explanation: The World Bank Group takes a comprehensive approach to enhancing debt transparency—through its own engagement with more than 100 low- and middle-income countries and in close collaboration with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

- In 2018, the World Bank has launched—together with the IMF—a comprehensive approach to address debt vulnerabilities in low-income developing countries.
- Debt transparency is a key pillar of this approach.
- It also seeks to promote debt transparency in the context of the proposed Sustainable Development Finance Policy under IDA19 and through its engagement in international fora and outreach to other creditors.
- In addition, the Bank made several important contributions to global knowledge and best practices on debt transparency.
- Two joint notes, prepared in collaboration with the IMF, were delivered to the G-20 in 2018.
- The first identified ways the international financial community can help low- and lower-middle-income countries improve the recording, monitoring, and reporting of debt.
- The second evaluated how the World Bank Group and the IMF can strengthen public debt transparency by disseminating debt data, publishing public debt analysis, enhancing creditor outreach, and promoting sustainable borrowing and lending practices.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the “**output gap**”:

1. It refers to the difference between the actual output of the economy and its maximum potential.
 2. It is used by policy makers to gauge inflation.
- 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

ANS: C

Explanation: The output gap is an economic measure of the difference between the actual output of an economy and its potential output.

- Potential output is the maximum amount of goods and services an economy can turn out when it is most efficient—that is, at full capacity.
- Often, potential output is referred to as the production capacity of the economy.
- Policymakers often use potential output to gauge inflation and typically define it as the level of output consistent with no pressure for prices to rise or fall.
- In this context, the output gap is a summary indicator of the relative demand and supply components of economic activity.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

- As such, the output gap measures the degree of inflation pressure in the economy and is an important link between the real sides of the economy—which produces goods and services—and inflation.
- All else equal, if the output gap is positive over time, so that actual output is greater than potential output, prices will begin to rise in response to demand pressure in key markets.
- Similarly, if actual output falls below potential output over time, prices will begin to fall to reflect weak demand.

Q.7) Recently, which of the following institution found that nearly 38% of the companies it surveyed using the MCA-21 database were unusable for GDP data collection purposes?

- a) National Sample Survey Organization.
- b) Central Statistics Office.
- c) Economic Census.
- d) Annual Survey of Industries.

ANS: A

Explanation: A recent report by the National Sample Survey Organisation titled 'Technical Report on Service Sector Enterprises in India' found that nearly 38% of the companies it surveyed using the MCA-21 database were unusable for data collection purposes.

- About 21% were designated "out of coverage", 12% as untraceable, and 4.5% as closed.
- The government has started using the MCA-21 database to calculate the Gross Domestic Product and the Gross Value Added.

Q.8) With reference to central government aim to combine 44 central laws into four codes, which of the following are the **four codes**?

1. Code on Wages.
2. Code on Industrial Relations.
3. Code on Social security and Welfare.
4. Code on occupational safety, health and working conditions.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

ANS: D

Explanation: Central government will aim to combine 44 central laws into **four codes wages, industrial relations, social security and welfare, and the fourth - occupational safety, health and working conditions.**

Q.9) With reference to the **tax buoyancy in India**, which of the following factors is/are influence the tax buoyancy?

1. Size of the tax base.
2. Friendliness of the tax administration.
3. Reasonableness and simplicity of the tax rates.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: Tax buoyancy is one of the key indicators to assess the efficiency of a government's tax system.

Tax buoyancy explains this relationship between the changes in government's tax revenue growth and the changes in GDP.

Tax buoyancy depends largely on –

- the size of the tax base
- the friendliness of the tax administration
- the reasonableness and simplicity of the tax rates

Q.10) “Uruguay Round” negotiations is related to which of the following given below institution?

- a) World Trade Organizations
- b) International Monetary Fund
- c) UNIDO
- d) AIIB

ANS: A

Explanation: The Uruguay Round was the 8th round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) conducted within the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), spanning from 1986 to 1994 and embracing 123 countries as "contracting parties".

- The negotiations and process ended with the signing of the Final Act of the Marrakesh Agreement in April 1994 at Marrakesh, Morocco.
- The round led to the creation of the World Trade Organization (WTO), with GATT remaining as an integral part of the WTO agreements.

Polity

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the “**Atal Bhujal Yojana**”:

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme aims to improve ground water management through community participation in identified priority areas in seven States.
2. It is funded by Asian Development Bank.
3. It pays special attention to those areas where groundwater was very low.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Atal Bhujal scheme to strengthen the institutional framework for **participatory groundwater management and bringing about behavioral changes at the community level** for sustainable groundwater resource management in seven States.

- The scheme will be implemented in about 8,350-gram panchayats in 78 districts of Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.
- Of the total outlay of ₹6,000 crore to be provided from 2020-21 to 2024-25, 50% will be in the form of **World Bank loan** to be repaid by the Central government.
- The remaining part will be made available via Central assistance from regular budgetary support.
- The entire World Bank’s loan component and the Central assistance will be passed on to the States as grants.
- The Prime Minister said the scheme, or the guidelines related to the Jal Jeevan Mission, were big steps in proving the resolve to deliver water to every household in the country by 2024.
- He said the Jal Jeevan Mission would work towards delivering piped water supply to every house and **Atal Bhujal scheme would pay special attention to those areas where groundwater was very low.**

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the “**Cyber Shiksha**”:

1. It is launched by Microsoft & Data Security Council of India (DSCI) in association with Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY).
2. It is exclusively for women and making them Industry ready by imparting the requisite technical skills in the domain of Cyber Security.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Microsoft & Data Security Council of India (DSCI) in association with ISEA of Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) have launched Project Cyber Shikshaa for skilling women engineering graduates in the niche field of Cyber Security in September 2018.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

As part of this program, C-DAC, NIELIT and other noted training partners are conducting training **exclusively for women** and making them Industry ready by imparting the requisite technical skills in the domain of Cyber Security.

Q.3) The term “**Jeevan Pramaan**” is often seen in news is related to which of the following?

- It is an AADHAR Biometric Authentication based digital life certificates for Pensioners and facilitates online submission.
- It is a marriage incentive scheme for inter-caste marriage.
- It is a pension scheme for landless labour in rural areas.
- It is a newly launched pension scheme for women employees.

ANS: A

Explanation: One of the major requisite for the pensioners post their retirement from service, is to provide life certificates to the authorized pension disbursing agencies like Banks, Post offices etc., following which their pension is credited to their account.

- In order to get this life certificate, the individual drawing the pension is required to either personally present oneself before the Pension Disbursing Agency or have the Life Certificate issued by authority where they have served earlier and have it delivered to the disbursing agency.
- Digital Life Certificate for Pensioners Scheme of the Government of India known as Jeevan Pramaan seeks to address this very problem by digitizing the whole process of securing the life certificate.**
- It aims to streamline the process of getting this certificate and making it hassle free and much easier for the pensioners.
- With this initiative the pensioner’s requirement to physically present him/her in front of the disbursing agency or the certification authority will become a thing of the past benefiting the pensioners in a huge way and cutting down on unnecessary logistical hurdles.

Q.4) Which of the following states are covered under the provisions of the **Sixth Schedule of Indian Constitution**?

- Assam
- Manipur
- Tripura
- Arunachal Pradesh
- Mizoram

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1 and 2 only
- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 1, 3 and 5 only
- 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

ANS: C

Explanation: The Sixth Schedule consists of provisions for the administration of tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram, according to Article 244a of the Indian Constitution.

- Passed by the Constituent Assembly in 1949, it seeks to safeguard the rights of tribal population through the formation of Autonomous District Councils (ADC).
- ADCs are bodies representing a district to which the Constitution has given varying degrees of autonomy within the state legislature.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

- The governors of these states are empowered to reorganize boundaries of the tribal areas. In simpler terms, she or he can choose to include or exclude any area, increase or decrease the boundaries and unite two or more autonomous districts into one.
- They can also alter or change the names of autonomous regions without a separate legislation.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the “**Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)**”:

1. Minimum age for joining the scheme is 55 years.
2. Policy term for the scheme is 20 years.
3. It is exempted from GST.

Which of the statements given above is/are **NOT** correct?

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

ANS: B

Explanation: Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY) is a Pension Scheme announced by the Government of India exclusively for the senior citizens aged 60 years and above which was available from 4th May, 2017 to 31st March, 2020.

- The scheme is now extended up to 31st March, 2023 for a further period of three years beyond 31st March, 2020.
- Pension is payable at the end of each period, during the policy term of 10 years, as per the frequency of monthly/ quarterly/ half-yearly/ yearly as chosen by the pensioner at the time of purchase.
- The scheme is exempted from GST.
- Loan up to 75% of Purchase Price shall be allowed after 3 policy years (to meet the liquidity needs).
- Loan interest shall be recovered from the pension installments and loan to be recovered from claim proceeds.
- On death of the pensioner during the policy term of 10 years, the Purchase Price shall be paid to the beneficiary.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “**Pressure Group**”:

1. The term pressure group originated in Germany.
2. It influences the policy making by using methods like lobbying, correspondence, publicity, propagandizing, petitioning, public debating and maintaining contacts with their legislators.

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The term pressure group originated in the USA. A pressure group is a group of people who are organised actively for promoting and defending their common interest.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

- It is so called as it attempts to bring a change in the public policy by exerting pressure on the government. It acts as a liaison between the government and its members.
- The pressure groups are also called interest groups or vested groups.
- They are different from the political parties in that they neither contest elections nor try to capture political power.
- They are concerned with specific programmes and issues and their activities are confined to the protection and promotion of the interests of their members by influencing the government.
- **The pressure groups influence the policy-making and policy implementation in the government through legal and legitimate methods like lobbying, correspondence, publicity, propogandising, petitioning, and public debating, maintaining contacts with their legislators and so forth.**
- However, sometimes they resort to illegitimate and illegal methods like strikes, violent activities and corruption which damages public interest and administrative integrity.

Q.7) The provisions of the “**Part XVI**” of the Indian Constitution are related to which of the following?

- a) Schedule and Tribal areas.
- b) Finance, Property, Contract and Suits.
- c) Elections.
- d) Special provisions relating to certain classes.

ANS: D

Explanation: In order to realize the objectives of equality and justice as laid down in the Preamble, the Constitution makes special provisions for the scheduled castes (SCs), the scheduled tribes (STs), the backward classes (BCs) and the Anglo-Indians.

These special provisions are contained in Part XVI of the Constitution from Articles 330 to 342.

Q.8) Which of the following class/classes is/are specifies/defined in the Indian Constitution?

1. Schedule Castes.
2. Schedule Tribes.
3. Other Backward Classes.
4. Anglo-Indian Community.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 and 4 only
- c) 4 only
- d) 1, 2 and 4 only

ANS: C

Explanation: The Constitution does not specify the castes or tribes which are to be called the SCs or the STs.

- Similarly, the Constitution has neither specified the BCs nor used a single uniform expression to characterize the BCs.
- **Unlike in the case of SCs, STs and OBCs, the Constitution has defined the persons who belong to the Anglo-Indian community.**

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

- Accordingly, an Anglo-Indian means a person whose father or any of whose other male progenitors in the male line is or was of European descent but who is domiciled within the territory of India and is or was born within such territory of parents habitually resident therein and not established there for temporary purposes only.

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the “**features of Cabinet Committees**”:

1. Constitution of India provides clear provisions related to cabinet committees.
2. They are set up by the President according to the exigencies of the time and requirements of the situation.

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The following are the features of Cabinet Committees:

- **They are extra-constitutional in emergence. In other words, they are not mentioned in the Constitution.** However, the Rules of Business provide for their establishment.
- They are of two types—standing and ad hoc. The former are of a permanent nature while the latter are of a temporary nature. The ad hoc committees are constituted from time to time to deal with special problems. They are disbanded after their task is completed.
- **They are set up by the Prime Minister according to the exigencies of the time and requirements of the situation.** Hence, their number, nomenclature, and composition vary from time to time.
- Their membership varies from three to eight. They usually include only Cabinet Ministers. However, the non-cabinet Ministers are not debarred from their membership.
- They not only include the Ministers in charge of subjects covered by them but also include other senior Ministers.
- They are mostly headed by the Prime Minister. Sometimes other Cabinet Ministers, particularly the Home Minister or the Finance Minister, also acts as their Chairman. But, in case the Prime Minister is a member of a committee, he invariably presides over it.

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the “**salaries and pensions of High Court Judges**”:

1. The salaries, allowances, privileges, leave and pension of the judges of a high court are determined from time to time by the concerned State Legislature.
2. The retired chief justice and judges are entitled to 100% of their last drawn salary as monthly pension.

Which of the statements given above is/are **NOT** correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: The salaries, allowances, privileges, leave and pension of the judges of a high court are determined from time to time by the Parliament.

- They cannot be varied to their disadvantage after their appointment except during a financial emergency.
- In 2009, the salary of the chief justice was increased from 30,000 to 90,000 per month and that of a judge from 26,000 to 80,000 per month.
- They are also paid sumptuary allowance and provided with free accommodation and other facilities like medical, car, telephone, etc.
- **The retired chief justice and judges are entitled to 50% of their last drawn salary as monthly pension.**

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Science and technology

Q.1) The “**Helsinki Declaration**” is often seen in news is related to which of the following?

- It is related to ethical principles for medical research involving human subjects, including research on identifiable human material and data.
- It is related to development of indigenous methods of farming and agriculture system.
- It is related to promote efficiency of multiple types of renewables.
- Both B & C.

ANS: A

Explanation: The World Medical Association (WMA) has developed the Declaration of Helsinki as a statement of ethical principles for medical research involving human subjects, including research on identifiable human material and data.

- The Declaration of Geneva of the WMA binds the physician with the words, “The health of my patient will be my first consideration,” and the International Code of Medical Ethics declares that, “A physician shall act in the patient’s best interest when providing medical care.”
- It is the duty of the physician to promote and safeguard the health, well-being and rights of patients, including those who are involved in medical research.
- The physician’s knowledge and conscience are dedicated to the fulfillment of this duty.
- Medical progress is based on research that ultimately must include studies involving human subjects.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “**Gagandeep Kang**”:

- She became the first Indian woman to be elected as a Royal Society Fellow in 2019.
- She played a key role in India’s first indigenously developed vaccine for rotavirus infections.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Gagandeep Kang, 56, is Director of the Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) in Faridabad.

Acclaimed for her key role in the development of Rotavac, India’s first indigenously developed vaccine for rotavirus infections, Kang was recently awarded Fellowship of the Royal Society (FRS), United Kingdom — the first Indian woman scientist to be thus feted.

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the “**ultrasensitive quantum thermometer**”:

- It has high sensitivity when measuring different temperatures and can measure very minute (micro Kelvin) changes in temperature.
- It will be useful in healthcare to measure the incubation temperature of biological cells and molecules.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Researchers at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, have developed an ultrasensitive quantum thermometer using graphene quantum dots.

- The thermometer can precisely measure a wide range of temperature: 27 degree C to -196-degree C.
- The thermometer has high sensitivity when measuring different temperatures and can measure very minute (micro Kelvin) changes in temperature.
- The thermometer showed extremely quick response time of just about 300 milliseconds to register a change in temperature from 27 degree C to -196-degree C.
- The device can find widespread applications in cryogenic temperature sensing.
- Since the sensor has high sensitivity and ability to measure minute changes in temperature, it will be useful in the pharmaceutical industry, healthcare to measure the incubation temperature of biological cells and molecules and the automobile industry to measure the ignition temperature within the engine.

Q.4) Which of the following pair (s) is/are correctly matched?

Fruits : **Vitamin/Antioxidant**

- 1. Red grapes : Antioxidant resveratrol
- 2. Mango : Vitamin A
- 3. Banana : Vitamin B6

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Mangoes are seasonal fruits, and both are high on fibre. The former has vitamin A (a precursor to beta carotene and is antioxidant-rich) and C that helps build immunity.

Banana is one of the easiest snacks to consume: it 'pre-packaged' with B6, magnesium and potassium.

Red wine is made from grapes that contain an antioxidant resveratrol that is good for the heart.

Q.5) The term "**HELINA**" is often seen in news is related to which of the following?

- a) It is sonar radar to measure depth of the deep sea.
- b) It is a Helicopter Launched Nag missile.
- c) It is a surface to Air missile.
- d) None

ANS: B

Explanation: HELINA is an acronym for Helicopter Launched Nag missile.

- Nag is a third generation Anti-Tank guided missile indigenously developed under -Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) of DRDO.
- Anti-Tank Guided Missiles are primarily designed to hit and destroy heavily armored military vehicles.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

- Helina is the helicopter launch variant of Nag, which can be fired from Dhruv advanced light helicopter and HAL Rudra attack helicopter.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Facilitating Offshore Wind in India (FOWIND) project:

1. It is funded by World Bank.
2. It focuses on the States of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu for identification of potential zones for development of wind energy.

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The consortium led by Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) is implementing the Facilitating Offshore Wind in India (FOWIND) project.

- National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) joined the consortium as knowledge partner on 15 June 2015.
- It was formed in response to a project proposal call under the Indo-European co-operation on Renewable Energy Program and is funded through a grant from European Union.
- In close consultation with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and State governments, this project will facilitate offshore wind power development in India and in turn contribute to India's transition towards use of clean technologies in the power sector.
- The project focuses on the States of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu for identification of potential zones for development through techno-commercial analysis and preliminary resource assessment.
- It will also establish a platform for structural collaboration and knowledge sharing between stakeholders from European Union and India, on offshore wind technology, policy, regulation, industry and human resource development.
- FOWIND activities will also help facilitate a platform to stimulate offshore wind related R&D activities in the country.

Q.7) The IceCube observatory in South Pole of Antarctica searches for which of the following particle?

- a) Protons
- b) Electrons
- c) Neutrinos
- d) Plasma

ANS: C

Explanation: The IceCube Neutrino Observatory is the first detector of its kind, designed to observe the cosmos from deep within the South Pole ice.

- An international group of scientists responsible for the scientific research makes up the IceCube Collaboration.
- Encompassing a cubic kilometer of ice, IceCube searches for nearly mass-less subatomic particles called neutrinos.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

- These high-energy astronomical messengers provide information to probe the most violent astrophysical sources: events like exploding stars, gamma-ray bursts, and cataclysmic phenomena involving black holes and neutron stars.

Q.8) “National Gene Fund” is constituted by Government of India is related to which of the following?

- a) pharmaceuticals
- b) Animal Cloning
- c) Plant varieties
- d) None of the above

ANS: C

Explanation: The Government of India has notified the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights (Recognition and Reward from the Gene Fund) Rules, 2012, whereby a farmer who is engaged in the conservation of genetic resources of land races and wild relatives of economic plants and their improvement through selection and preservation shall be entitled to “Plant Genome Saviour Farmer Reward & Farmer Recognition” along with cash prize from National Gene Fund.

There are 10 rewards each comprising of citation, memento and cash of Rs. One and half lakh each and 20 recognitions each consisting of a cash prize of Rs. One Lakh, citation and memento in a year.

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the “**National Innovation Fund (NIF)**”:

1. NIF is established with assistance of NITI Aayog.
2. It is India's national initiative to strengthen the grassroots technological innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge.

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

ANS: B

Explanation: The National Innovation Foundation (NIF) - India was set up in March 2000 with the assistance of Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

- It is India's national initiative to strengthen the grassroots technological innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge.
- Its mission is to help India become a creative and knowledge-based society by expanding policy and institutional space for grassroots technological innovators.

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the '**Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research' (INSPIRE) scheme**:

1. It was renamed as MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspirations and Knowledge).
2. It aims to promote research in the age group of 10-15 years and studying in classes 6 to 10.

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

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

ANS: C

Explanation: 'Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research' (INSPIRE) scheme is one of the flagship programmes of Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India.

- The INSPIRE Awards - MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspirations and Knowledge), being executed by DST with National Innovation Foundation – India (NIF), an autonomous body of DST, aims to motivate students in the age group of 10-15 years and studying in classes 6 to 10.
- The objective of the scheme is to target one million original ideas/innovations rooted in science and societal applications to foster a culture of creativity and innovative thinking among school children.
- Under this scheme, schools can nominate 2-3 best innovative ideas online through this website. The online nominations for 2019-20 are open till 31st August, 2019.

ForumIAS

Geography

Q.1) Which of the following is/are the evidence (s) in support of the **Continental Drift**?

1. Jig – Saw – Fit.
2. Tillite.
3. Placer deposits.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: A variety of evidence was offered in support of the continental drift. Some of these are given below.

The Matching of Continents (Jig-Saw-Fit): The shorelines of Africa and South America facing each other have a remarkable and unmistakable match.

- It may be noted that a map produced using a computer programme to find the best fit of the Atlantic margin was presented by Bullard in 1964.
- It proved to be quite perfect. The match was tried at 1,000- fathom line instead of the present shoreline.

Tillite: It is the sedimentary rock formed out of deposits of glaciers.

- The Gondawana system of sediments from India is known to have its counterparts in six different landmasses of the Southern Hemisphere.
- At the base, the system has thick tillite indicating extensive and prolonged glaciation.
- The glacial tillite provides unambiguous evidence of palaeo-climates and also of drifting of continents.

Placer Deposits: The occurrence of rich placer deposits of gold in the Ghana coast and the absolute absence of source rock in the region is an amazing fact.

The gold bearing veins are in Brazil and it is obvious that the gold deposits of the Ghana are derived from the Brazil plateau when the two continents lay side by side.

Q.2) The term “**Abyssal Plain**” is related to which of the following?

- a) The plain which is formed due to glacial deposition.
- b) The plain which is formed due to river deposits.
- c) The underground plains are formed due water deposition and erosion.
- d) It is an underwater plain on the deep ocean floor.

ANS: D

Explanation: An abyssal plain is an underwater plain on the deep ocean floor, usually found at depths between 3,000 metres (9,800 ft) and 6,000 metres (20,000 ft). Lying generally between the foot of a continental rise and a mid-ocean ridge, abyssal plains cover more than 50% of the Earth's surface.



Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the “Mid – Oceanic Ridges”:

1. It forms an inter-connected chain of mountain system within the ocean.
2. It is the longest mountain-chain on the surface of the earth though submerged under the oceanic waters.

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

ANS: C

Explanation: Mid – Oceanic Ridges: This forms an interconnected chain of mountain system within the ocean.

- It is the longest mountain-chain on the surface of the earth though submerged under the oceanic waters.
- It is characterised by a central rift system at the crest, a fractionated plateau and flank zone all along its length.
- The rift system at the crest is the zone of intense volcanic activity.

Q.4) Which of the following pair (s) is/are correctly matched?

Minor plate	:	Location
1. Nazca plate	:	Between South America and Pacific plate
2. Cocos plate	:	Between Asiatic and Pacific plate
3. Caroline plate	:	Between Central America and Pacific plate

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Some important minor plates are listed below:

- Cocos plate: Between Central America and Pacific plate
- Nazca plate: Between South America and Pacific plate
- Arabian plate: Mostly the Saudi Arabian landmass
- Philippine plate: Between the Asiatic and Pacific plate
- Caroline plate: Between the Philippine and Indian plate (North of New Guinea)
- Fuji plate: North-east of Australia.

Q.5) “These are deep valleys, sometimes found cutting across the continental shelves and slopes, often extending from the mouths of large rivers” – describes which of the following?

- a) Seamount
- b) Submarine Canyons
- c) Guyots
- d) Atoll

ANS: B

Explanation: These are deep valleys, some comparable to the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River.

- They are sometimes found cutting across the continental shelves and slopes, often extending from the mouths of large rivers.
- The Hudson Canyon is the best-known submarine canyon in the world.

Q.6) Which of the following Ocean Current is **NOT** a cold ocean current?

- a) Kuroshio Current
- b) Oyashio Current
- c) Canaries Current
- d) Labrador Current

ANS: A

Explanation: The Kuroshio, also known as the Black or Japan Current or the Black Stream, is a north-flowing, warm ocean current on the west side of the North Pacific Ocean.

Q.7) Which of the following tribal groups is/are practice (s) **transhumance**?

- 1. Bhotiyas
- 2. Todas
- 3. Koyas

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: Movement in search of pastures is undertaken either over vast horizontal distances or vertically from one elevation to another in the mountainous regions.

- The process of migration from plain areas to pastures on mountains during summers and again from mountain pastures to plain areas during winters is known as transhumance.
- In mountain regions, such as Himalayas, **Gujars, Bakarwals, Gaddis and Bhotiyas** migrate from plains to the mountains in summers and to the plains from the high-altitude pastures in winters.

Q.8) The “**Scun Thorpe, Dusseldorf and Pittsburgh**” are famous areas for which of the following?

- a) Dairy production centres
- b) Iron and steel industry centres
- c) Wheat producing centres
- d) None

ANS: B

Explanation: Iron & Steel Industry: The industry is one of the most complex and capital-intensive industries and is concentrated in the advanced countries of North America, Europe and Asia.

- Pittsburg area is now losing ground. It has now become the “rust bowl” of U.S.A.
- In Europe, U.K., Germany, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Russia are the leading producers.
- The important steel centres are Scun Thorpe, Port Talbot, Birmingham and Sheffield in the U.K.;
- Duisburg, Dortmund, Dusseldorf and Essen in Germany; Le Creusot and St. Etienne in France;
- And Moscow, St. Petersburg, Lipetsk, Tula, in Russia and Krivoi Rog, and Donetsk in Ukraine.

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the “oil refineries in India”:

1. Trombay Refinery is India’s oldest refinery.
2. Digboi Oil refinery is located in Assam.
3. Barauni Oil refinery in Bihar is built in collaboration with Russia.

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) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: B

Explanation: Digboi Refinery is India’s oldest refinery. It was established in 1901. It gets crude oil from Moran and Naharkatiya fields.

- Barauni petrochemicals plant is in the country the second oil refinery in the public sector and forms an important part of the Indian petrochemical industry.
- It belongs to the Indian oil corporation limited (IOCL). It was built in partnership with Romania and USSR.
- The plant of Barauni petrochemicals is located from Patna at a distance of 125 kilometers. In 1964 it was commissioned and had a 1 mmtpa refining capacity.

Q.10) “Lake Pampulha” is recently in news is located in which of the following country?

- a) Brazil
- b) South Africa
- c) Russia
- d) Indonesia

ANS: A

Explanation: In a lake in Brazil, researchers have discovered a virus that they find unusual and intriguing called Yaravirus, it has a “puzzling origin and phylogeny”, they report in a study on the pre-print server bioRxiv.

- The Yaravirus infects amoeba and has genes that have not been described before, something that could challenge how DNA viruses are classified.
- The researchers found the Yaravirus while looking in the lake for giant viruses that infect amoeba.
- Because of the Yaravirus’s small size, it was unlike other viruses that infect amoeba and they named it as a tribute to Yara, the “mother of waters” in the mythological stories of the Tupi-Guarani indigenous tribes.

Environment

Q.1) With reference to the **greater one – horned rhino**, in which of the following places it can be found?

1. Kaziranga National Park
2. Dudhwa National Park
3. Jaldapara National Park

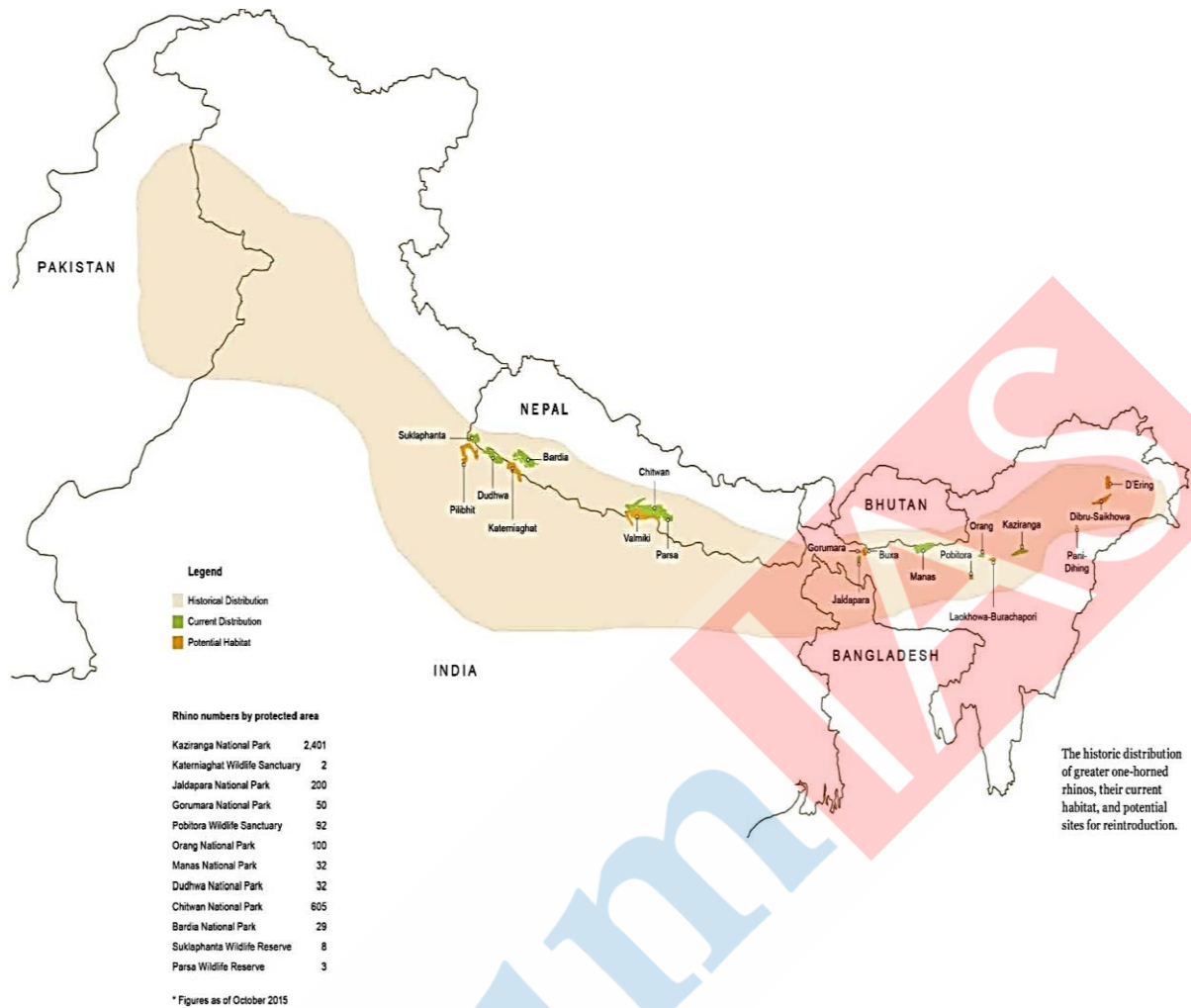
Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The greater one-horned rhino (or “Indian rhino”) is the largest of the rhino species. Once widespread across the entire northern part of the Indian sub-continent, rhino populations plummeted as they were hunted for sport or killed as agricultural pests.

- This pushed the species very close to extinction and by the start of the 20th century; around 200 wild greater one-horned rhinos remained.
- The recovery of the greater one-horned rhino is among the greatest conservation success stories in Asia.
- Thanks to strict protection and management from Indian and Nepalese wildlife authorities, the greater one-horned rhino was brought back from the brink.
- Today populations have increased to around 3,500 rhinos in northeastern India and the Terai grasslands of Nepal.
- The greater one-horned rhino is identified by a single black horn about 8-25 inches long and a grey-brown hide with skin folds, which gives it an armor-plated appearance.
- The species is solitary, except when adult males or rhinos nearing adulthood gather at wallows or to graze. Males have loosely defined home ranges that are not well defended and often overlap.
- They primarily graze, with a diet consisting almost entirely of grasses as well as leaves, branches of shrubs and trees, fruit, and aquatic plants.



Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding **tigers**:

1. There are 50 tiger reserves in India which are governed by Project Tiger.
2. India is home to 50% of tigers in 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

ANS: A

Explanation: There are 50 tiger reserves in India which are governed by Project Tiger which is administrated by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).

India is home to 70% of tigers in the world. In 2006, there were 1,411 tigers which increased to 1,706 in 2010 and 2,226 in 2014, according to the NTCA.

Q.3) Which of the following are the **constituents/norms** used by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to measure the acceptable river quality?

1. Sludge
2. Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)
3. Dissolved Oxygen (DO)
4. Total Coliform Matter (TCM)

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

ANS: B

Explanation: Seven months after the plugging of Kanpur's infamous Sisamau drain, which once drained nearly 140 million litres of untreated sewage into the Ganga and was a symbol of pollution in the river — the river continues to be unfit for bathing or drinking, according to a perusal of water quality reports.

- The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has defined norms on what constitutes acceptable river water quality.
- Three attributes: Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Total Coliform Matter (TCM) must conform to certain numbers.
- The DO should be 4 milligram/litre or more for it to be fit for drinking after disinfection and treatment and, BOD should be 3mg/l or less and TCM/100 ml should be 5,000 or less.
- For it to be a fit source of bathing water: DO should be 5 or more, BOD should be 3 or less and TCM 500 or less.

Q.4) "It makes its way to North and Central India from Africa by crossing the Arabian Sea, along with the monsoon winds and this bird heralds the onset of the monsoon in India" – related to which of the following birds?

- a) Jacobin Cuckoo
- b) Red-whiskered bulbul
- c) Bengal florican
- d) Greater flamingo

ANS: A

Explanation: The Jacobin Cuckoo is one lucky bird indeed. At least according to Indian myth. Also known as the Pied Cuckoo or Chatak, this bird heralds the onset of the monsoon in India.

- Being an agricultural economy, the rainy season is considered one of the most auspicious seasons in the country. And so, the Pied Cuckoo in North and Central India is a welcome sight.
- It is a bird with black and white plumage (pied) with a fancy crest on the head. Its scientific name is *Clamator jacobinus*.
- The genus 'Clamator' literally translates to being a shouter, a bird which is quite vocal, so you'll hear yourself surrounded by the calls close to the monsoon. The word 'jacobinus' relates to pied birds.
- There are two populations of the Pied Cuckoo in India. One is a resident in the southern part of the country.
- **The other, according to tracking by birders, makes its way to North and Central India from Africa by crossing the Arabian Sea, along with the monsoon winds.**
- When the monsoon arrives in all its majesty, its sighting also spreads widely.
- The bird is primarily arboreal, which means that it mostly lives on trees but often forages for food in low bushes, and sometimes even on the ground.
- Considering its arboreal nature, it prefers forests, well-wooded areas and also bushes in semi-arid regions.

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

- These birds are primarily insectivores and feed on grasshoppers, beetles and are also often seen feeding on fruits and berries from trees.

Q.5) The term “eXXpedition” is often seen in news is related to which of the following?

- a) It is a joint initiative of UNEP and WMO to fight marine pollution.
- b) It is a joint initiative of UNEP and WMO to predict the trajectory of Indian Monsoon.
- c) It is a joint initiative of NASA and European Space Agency to protect sea vessels across Atlantic Ocean.
- d) It is a not-for-profit organization that runs pioneering all-female sailing research expeditions to investigate the causes of and solutions to ocean plastic pollution.

ANS: D

Explanation: eXXpedition is a Community Interest Company and not-for-profit organisation that runs pioneering all-female sailing research expeditions to investigate the causes of and solutions to ocean plastic pollution.

- Founded in 2014, we have run expeditions all over the world.
- Previous scientific research has highlighted the endemic nature of micro-plastics within our ocean environments globally.
- Our focus now is to advance a better understanding of the plastics issue as a whole and to work with industry to pinpoint solutions and policy at a global level by addressing knowledge-gaps and delivering evidence to inform effective solutions.

Q.6) Recently, which of the following **African country** planted more than 200 million trees in a single day?

- a) Mozambique
- b) Algeria
- c) Ethiopia
- d) Tanzania

ANS: C

Explanation: Ethiopians planted more than 200 million trees on July 29, 2019 which officials stated will be a world record.

- The ambitious initiative of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed aims to help restore the country’s landscape which experts say is fast being eroded by deforestation and climate change.
- The state-affiliated Fana Broadcasting Corporate announced more than 224 million trees were planted on Monday, surpassing the initial goal of 200 million trees planted in one day.
- Ethiopia is in the midst of a tree planting campaign in which it aims to plant 4 billion trees between May and October.
- Agriculture officials stated that so far more than 2.6 billion trees have been planted in almost all parts of the East African nation.

Q.7) Which of the following pair (s) is/are correctly matched?

- | State | : | Wildlife/Bird Sanctuary |
|--------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Karnataka | : | Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary |
| 2. Goa | : | Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary |
| 3. Telangana | : | Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary |

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: **Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary** and Dudhsagar waterfalls are located in Goa.

- **Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary:** is in sanga reddy district of Telangana State.
- **Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary:** is located in Karnataka.

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

River	:	Tiger Reserve
1. Ken River	:	Panna Tiger Reserve
2. Vamsadhara River	:	Satkosia Tiger Reserve
3. Cauvery River	:	Kalakad-Mudunthurai Tiger Reserve

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: A

Explanation: **Satkosia spreads along the magnificent gorge over the mighty river Mahanadi in Odisha.**

- Established in 1976 as a wildlife sanctuary, Satkosia is a paradise of immense scenic charm.
- It is one of the best ecosystems in the country, representing a diverse floral and faunal extravaganza. The name Satkosia originates from two words; sat meaning seven and kos meaning two miles, indicating the length of the gorge as 14 miles or 22 km.
- The area was declared as Satkosia Tiger Reserve in 2007, comprising two adjoining wildlife sanctuaries; the Satkosia Gorge sanctuary and Baisipalli sanctuary. The Reserve is spread over 4 districts like; Angul, Cuttack, Nayagarh and Boudh.

The forests of Panna National Park (Tiger Reserve) along with Ken Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary and adjoining territorial divisions form a significant part of the catchment area of the 406 km (252 mi) Ken River which runs northeast for about 72 km (45 mi) through the park.

Q.9) With reference to conservation of biodiversity in India, which of the following Central Acts deals with conservation of Biodiversity?

1. Mining and Mineral Development (Regulation) Act, 1957.
2. Fisheries Act 1897.
3. Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers (recognition of rights) act 2006.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANS: D

Explanation: Conservation of biodiversity includes the preservation of all species, flora and fauna, the enhancement of wildlife habitat, the control of wildlife problems and the sustainable use of forests and wildlife.

- The rapid rate of extinction of many species of animals is an increasing concern. Habitat preservation and enhancement are critical to existence of wildlife in an area.
- Animals cannot live in an area that does not provide proper food, cover, water and special needs.
- People's activities alter many habitats, which acts as a detriment to wildlife. Conservation and sustainable use of biological resources based on local knowledge systems and practices is ingrained in the Indian ethos and way of life.

Legislation Relevant To Biodiversity Conservation:

- Fisheries Act 1897.
- Indian Forests Act 1927.
- Mining and Mineral Development Regulation Act 1957.
- Prevention of cruelty to animals 1960.
- Wildlife protection act 1972.
- Water (prevention and control of pollution) act 1974.
- Forest Conservation Act 1980.
- Air (prevention and control of pollution) act 1981.
- Environment Protection Act 1986.
- Biological Diversity Act 2002.
- Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers (recognition of rights) act 2006.

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding “**Stockholm Conference**”:

1. It was held in Stockholm, Sweden.
2. It was the UN's first major conference on international environmental issues.

Which of the statements given above is/are **NOT** correct?

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

ANS: D

Explanation: The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (also known as the Stockholm Conference) was an international conference convened under United Nations auspices held in Stockholm, Sweden from June 5-16, 1972.

It was the UN's first major conference on international environmental issues, and marked a turning point in the development of international environmental politics.

Map Based Questions

Q.1) Which degree channel separates “Minicoy Island from Maldives”?

- a) Eighth degree channel
- b) Ninth degree channel
- c) Tenth degree channel
- d) Eleventh degree channel

ANS: A

Explanation: 8 Degree Channel (8 degrees north latitude) separates islands of Minicoy and Maldives.

Q.2) Arrange the following “national parks” from north to south:

- 1. Panna national park
- 2. Kanha national park
- 3. Nawegaon national park
- 4. Indravati national park

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 – 2 – 3 – 4
- b) 1 – 3 – 2 – 4
- c) 2 – 1 – 4 – 3
- d) 2 – 4 – 1 – 3

ANS: A

Explanation:



Q.3) Arrange the following thermal power station from north to south:

- 1. Patratu
- 2. Barauni
- 3. Korba
- 4. Chandrapur

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

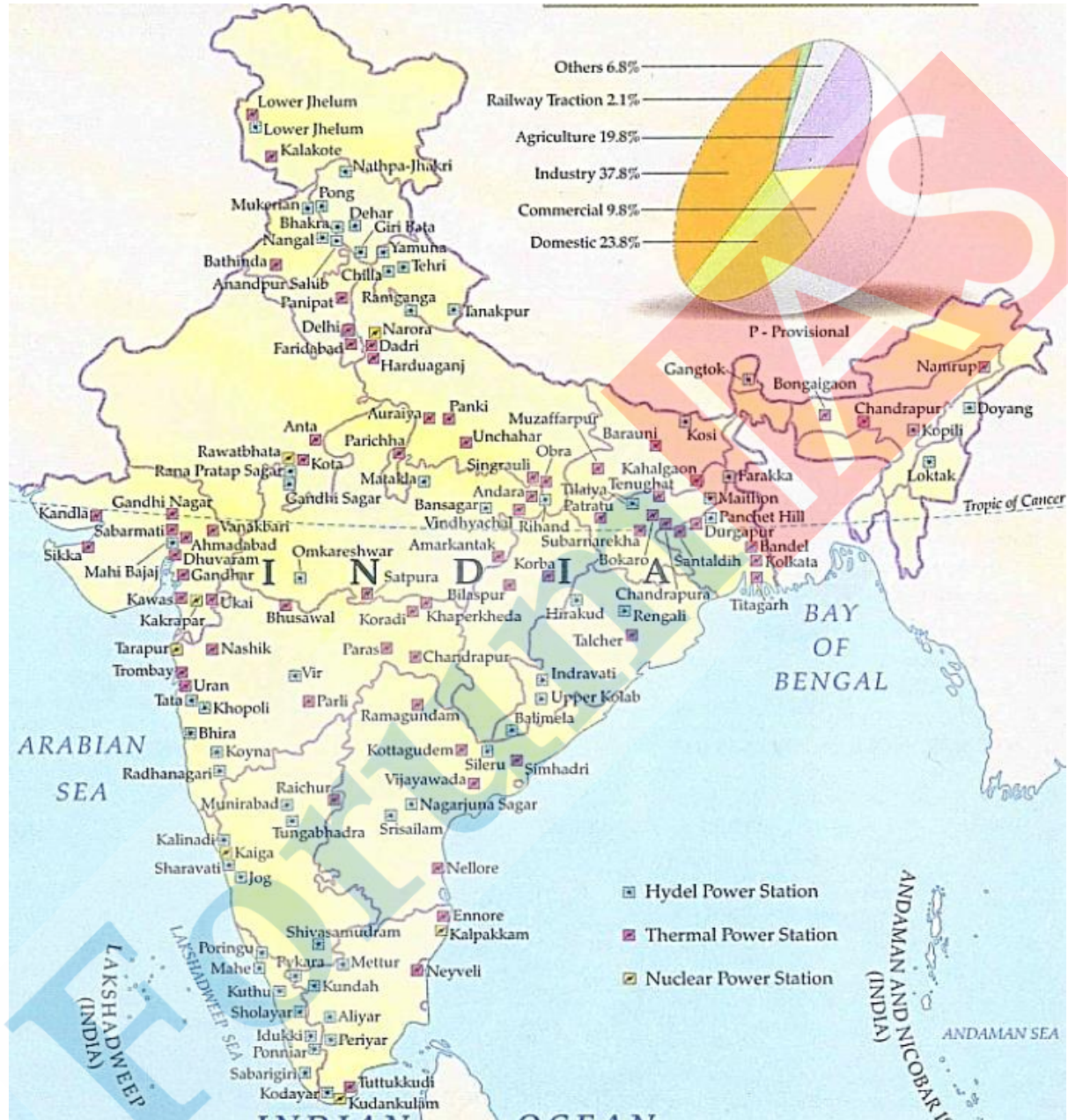
- a) 1 – 2 – 3 – 4

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020

- b) 2 - 1 - 3 - 4
- c) 1 - 2 - 4 - 3
- d) 2 - 1 - 4 - 3

ANS: B

Explanation:



Q.4) Arrange the following rivers from west to east:

1. Sarda River
2. Ramganga River
3. Rapti River
4. Gandak River

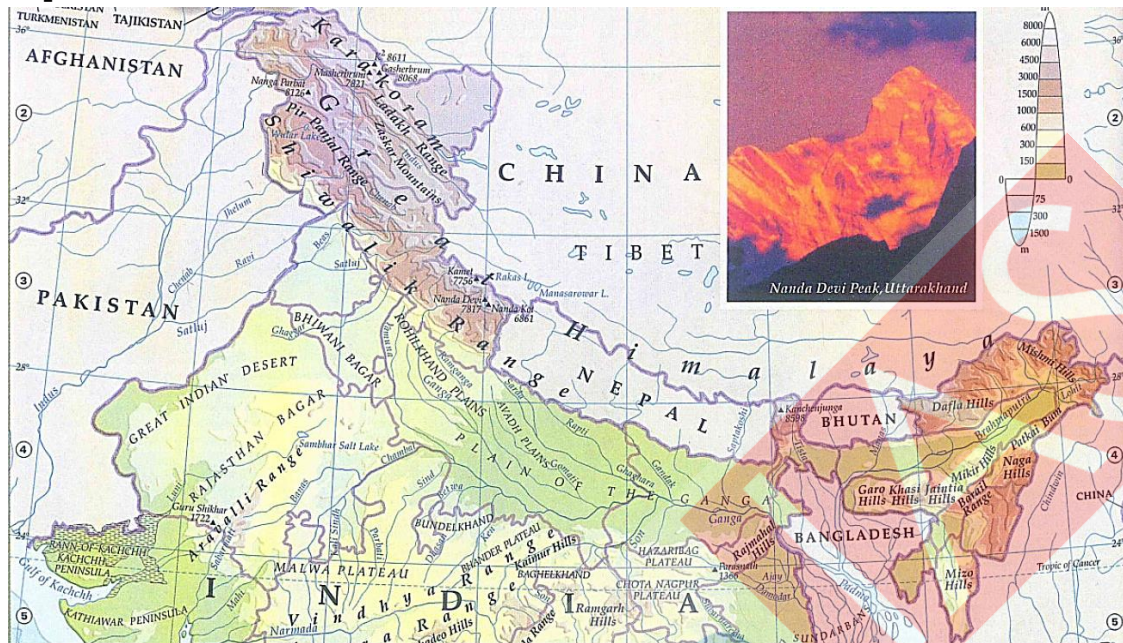
Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 - 2 - 3 - 4
- b) 3 - 2 - 1 - 4
- c) 2 - 1 - 4 - 3

d) 2 - 1 - 3 - 4

ANS: D

Explanation:



Q.5) Which of the following tribal groups are Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)?

1. Great Andamanese
2. Jarwas
3. North Sentinelese
4. Shompens

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

ANS: D

Explanation: The five PVTGS residing in Andamans are Great Andamanese, Jarwas, Onges, Shompens and North Sentinelese.

Q.6) Arrange the following **hills of North-east India** from North to south:

1. Patkai bum
2. Mishmi hills
3. Lushai hills
4. Mikir hills

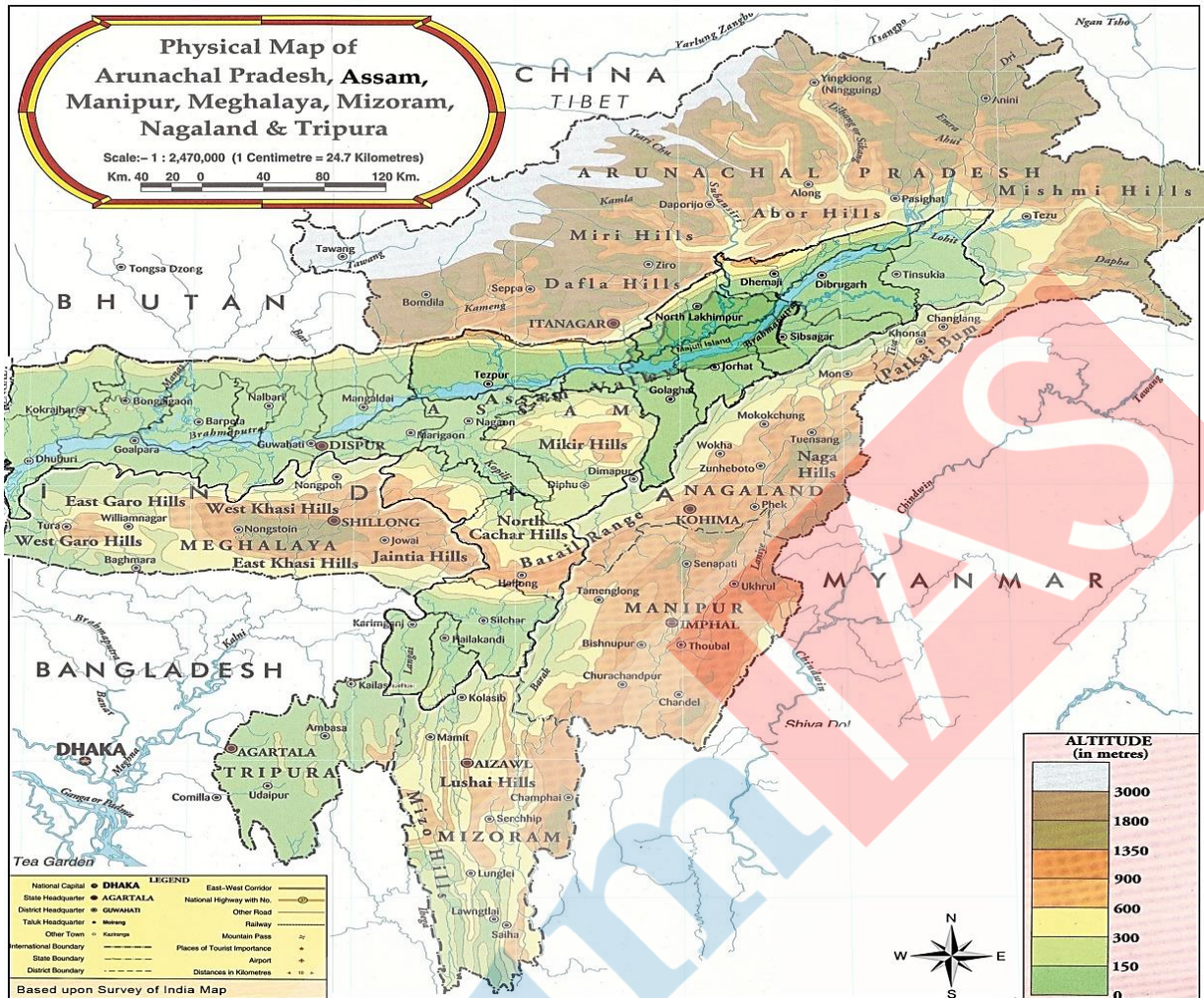
Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 4 - 3 - 2 - 1
- b) 3 - 4 - 2 - 1
- c) 2 - 1 - 3 - 4
- d) 2 - 1 - 4 - 3

ANS: D

Explanation:

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE WEEK - 1st TO 6th SEPTEMBER, 2020



Q.7) Arrange the following Jain sites from south to north:

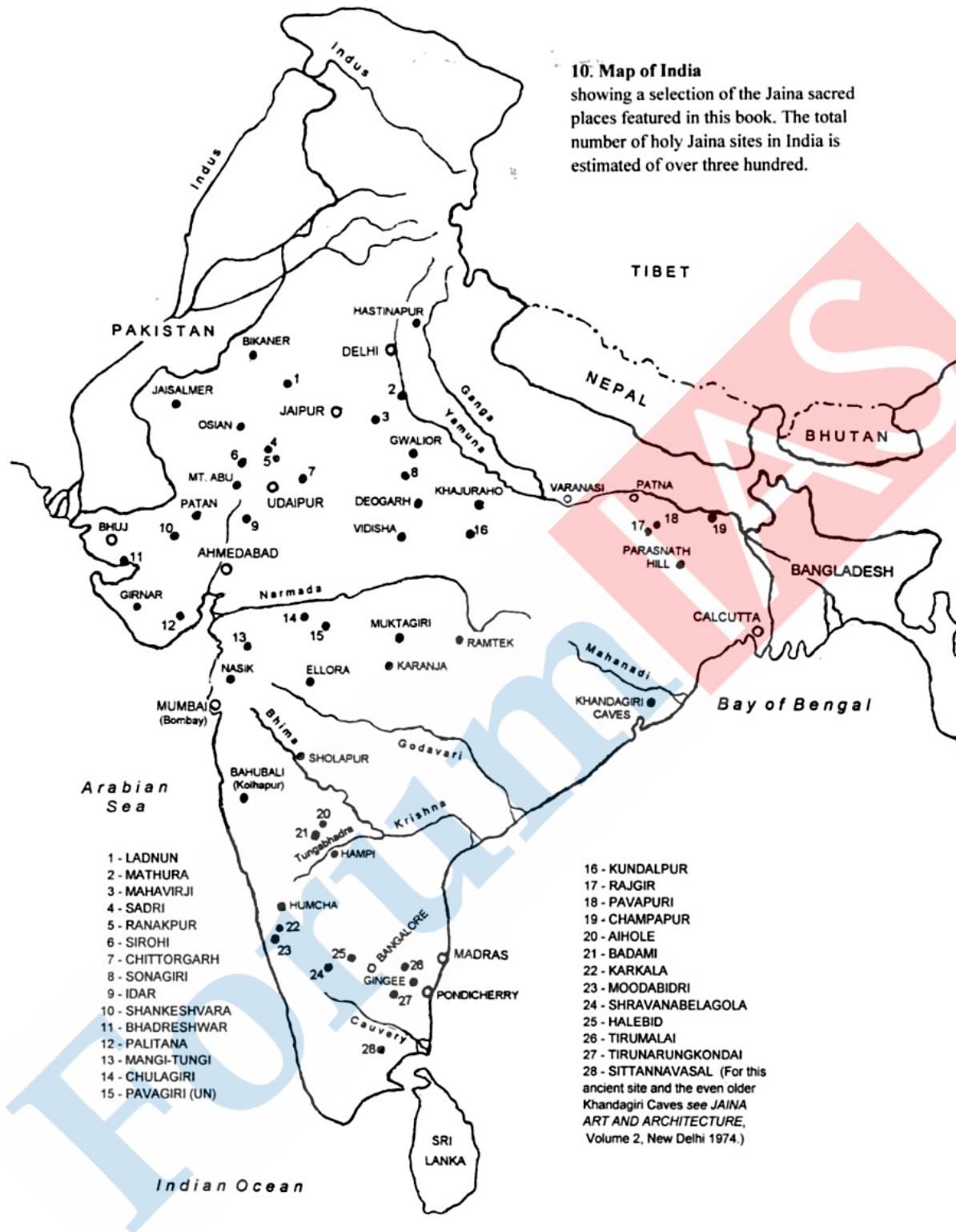
1. Karkala
2. Kolhapur
3. Kundalpur
4. Mahavirji

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 - 2 - 3 - 4
- b) 2 - 1 - 3 - 4
- c) 1 - 3 - 4 - 2
- d) 2 - 1 - 4 - 3

ANS: A

Explanation:

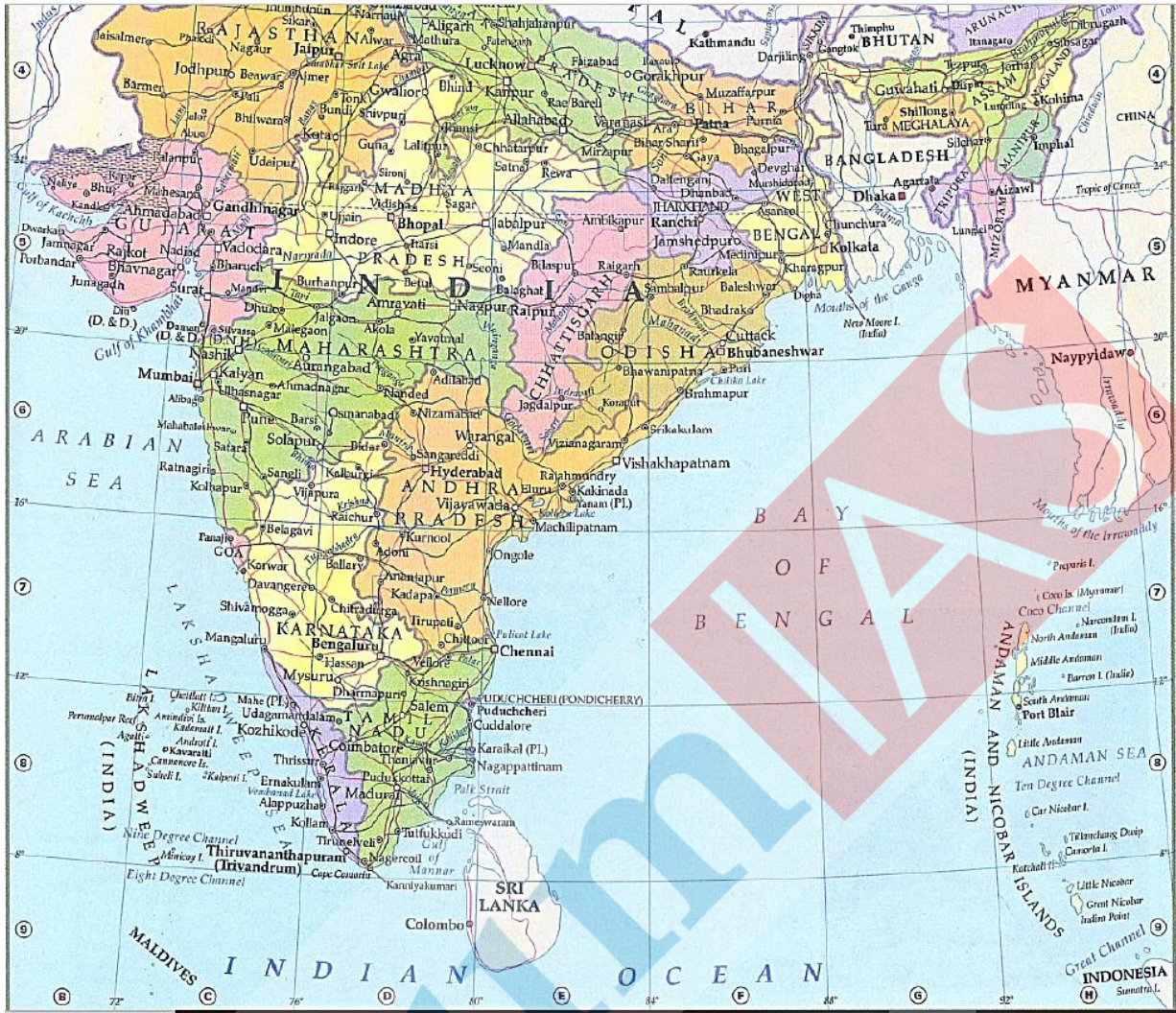


Q.8) Which of the following city is farthest from the 80° Longitude?

- a) Kanpur
- b) Bhopal
- c) Warangal
- d) Chennai

ANS: B

Explanation:



Q.9) “National Highway 66” is often seen in news is goes through which of the following state?

- 1. Gujarat
- 2. Maharashtra
- 3. Rajasthan
- 4. Goa
- 5. Karnataka

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 4 only
- b) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
- c) 2, 4 and 5 only
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

ANS: C

Explanation: National Highway 66, commonly referred to as NH 66 (erstwhile NH-17 and a part of NH-47), is a busy National Highway that runs roughly north–south along the western coast of India, parallel to the Western Ghats.

It connects Panvel (a city south of Mumbai) to Cape Comorin (Kanyakumari), passing through the states of Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.



Q.10) Which of the following is/are **NOT** planetary wind (s)?

1. Westerlies
2. Polar Easterlies
3. Trade Winds
4. Chinook

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 4 only
- c) 3 and 4 only
- d) 2, 3 and 4 only

ANS: B

Explanation: Planetary Winds: The winds blowing throughout the year from high pressure belts to low pressure belts in the same direction are called “planetary or prevailing winds”.

- Due to the effect of the rotation of the earth, the direction of the winds tends to deflect, instead of blowing directly from one pressure belt to another.
- These winds blow throughout the year and are controlled by the latitudinal pressure belts. They blow over vast area of continents and oceans.

The main planetary winds are:

- Trade Winds
- Westerlies
- Polar Easterlies