

ForumIAS

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## Prelims Marathon

July, 2022

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*HISTORY  
ECONOMICS  
POLITY  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

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FORUMIAS



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## *Schemes/ Programmes/ Institutions*

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements about Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence (PURSE) Program:**

1. It is an infrastructure program of the Department of Science and Technology.
2. It aims to strengthen the R&D base of the Universities in the country.

**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:**

Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence (PURSE) Program PURSE is one of the flagship Infrastructure programs of the Department of Science and Technology, launched in 2009 exclusively for the University sector. The main objective of the scheme is to strengthen the research capacity of Indian Universities and provide support for nurturing the research ecosystem and strengthening the R&D base of the Universities in the country.

Source: EPIC February 2022

**Q.2) Which of the following given statement is/are correct?**

1. Prammarsh, an online counselling workshop has been launched by National Informatics Centre.
2. The aim of Prammarsh is to bridge the industry-academia gap and spread awareness about various choices available to students under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Prammarsh

NICS has launched Prammarsh, an online counselling workshop. The aim of Prammarsh is to bridge the industry-academia gap and spread awareness about various choices available to students under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Source: EPIC February 2022

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements about National Institute of Career Services (NICS):**

1. NICS was set up in 2020 under Ministry of Labour and Employment.
2. Its aim is to be a National Centre of Excellence to provide enhanced employability through Training, Research & Capacity Building Programme.

**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: National Institute of Career Services (NICS):**

National Institute for Career Service (erstwhile Central Institute for Research and Training in Employment Service) was set up in 1964 under Directorate General of Employment (DGE), Ministry of Labour & Employment. Its aim is to be a National Centre of Excellence to provide enhanced employability through Training, Research & Capacity Building Programme in the area of Employment under National Employment Services.

Source: EPIC February 2022

**Q.4) Which of the following given statement about SWIFT, a messaging network is/are correct?**

1. It is used by banks and financial institutions globally for quick and faultless exchange of information.
2. Each participant on the platform is assigned a unique 8-digit SWIFT code.
3. SWIFT is a platform that holds securities and money.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: About SWIFT:**

(a) SWIFT is a messaging network used by banks and financial institutions globally for quick and faultless exchange of information pertaining to financial transactions;

(b) The network connects more than 11,000 banking and securities organizations in over 200 countries and territories;

(c) It is headquartered in Belgium;

Each participant on the platform is assigned a unique 8-digit SWIFT code or a Bank Identification Code (BIC) which is essential for any inter-bank transfer;

SWIFT is only a platform that sends messages and does not hold any securities or money. It enables standardized and reliable communication to facilitate the transaction.

**Source:** EPIC February 2022

**Q.5) Consider the following statements about Parvatmala program:**

1. BRO will be Nodal agency.
2. It aims to develop ropeways in hilly areas of the country.

**Which of 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 Government has announced in the Budget that the National Ropeways Development Programme – 'Parvatmala' will be initiated through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

**About the National Ropeways Development Programme**

- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH) will be the nodal ministry.
- The aim of the programme is to develop ropeways in hilly areas of the country in a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode.
- Around 8 ropeway projects for a length of 60 km would be awarded in 2022-23.
- The programme will also cover congested urban areas, where conventional mass transit systems are not feasible.
- The programme is being presently started in regions like Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Jammu & Kashmir and the other North-Eastern states.

Source: EPIC February 2022

**Q.6) Renke Commission, sometimes seen in news, is related to which of the following?**

- a) Differently abled
- b) Conservation of wetlands
- c) De-notified Tribes
- d) Financial Inclusion

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Major Government Initiatives to mainstream DNTs, NTs, SNTs Various efforts were undertaken for bringing these communities into the mainstream. Accordingly, the first undertaken commission was set up in October 2003. The Renke Commission was set up in 2008.

In 2015, National Commission was constituted under the chairmanship of Bhiku Ramji Idate. This commission was tasked to identify and proper listing of these communities in different states, to evaluate the progress of development of these communities in the states so that a systematic approach can be developed for the development of these communities.

Source: EPIC February 2022

**Q.7) Which among the following has proposed the 'Federated Digital Identities'?**

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) RBI
- c) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- d) Ministry of Science and Technology

**ANS: C**

## PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022

**Explanation:** The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has proposed to establish 'Federated Digital Identities'.

### **About Federated Digital Identities**

- It is the proposed one unique ID under which a citizen's multiple digital IDs like the PAN, Aadhaar, driving licence and passport numbers etc. can be interlinked, stored and accessed for digital transactions such as authentication and eKYC services.
- It aims to optimize the number of digital identities that a citizen needs to have.
- This proposal is part of the Electronics and IT Ministry's India Enterprise Architecture 2.0 (IndEA 2.0).

Source: EPIC February 2022

**Q.8) Which one of the following is the targeted group under the "Pradhan Mantri Swanidhi Scheme"?**

- Marginal farmers
- Dairy farmers
- Landless agricultural labourers
- Street vendors

**ANS: D**

### **Explanation:**

PM SVANidhi stands for Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi. It is a central sector scheme launched in June 2020. It aims to provide micro-credit facilities to street vendors affected due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Source: Source: EPIC February 2022

**Q.9) Which of the following scheme/ project is related to the group of 32 DTH channels devoted to telecasting of high quality educational programmes on 24\*7 basis using GSAT - 15?**

- Prashikshak
- Shaala Darpan
- Swayam Prabha
- Vidyanjali

**ANS: C**

### **Explanation:**

SWAYAM stands for Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds. This is a program under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). Former President Shri Pranab Mukherjee launched SWAYAM and SWAYAM Prabha. There are 32 Direct To Home (DTH) channels operationalised for telecasting education content free of charge.

Source: Source: EPIC February 2022

**Q.10) Which of the following statement about Electronics Vaccine Intelligence Network (EVIN) project is/ are correct?**

1. It aims to digitize vaccine stock and monitors the temperature of cold chain of smart phone
2. It is being implemented by World Bank

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

The Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) is an indigenously developed system that digitizes records of vaccine stocks and monitors its temperature through a smartphone application eVIN will support the government's Universal Immunization Programme by providing real-time information on vaccine stocks and storage across all the cold chain points in all the states it's being implemented in.

The eVIN program is being implemented by the Government of India in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Source: Source: EPIC February 2022

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## *Science and Technology*

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**Q.1) Which one of the following is not a language translator?**

- a) Assembler
- b) Linker
- c) Interpreter
- d) Compiler

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

**Language-translator:** Program that is used to translate information or instructions that are written in source to object language. It means that can translate from high-level language or assembly-language into machine-language.

- There are generally three types of language- translator- Compiler, Assembler, Interpreter.
- Compiler is that kind of program which translates one language into other target-language
- Linker is not language- translator.

**Source: Lucent's Computer**

**Q.2) Which one of the following statement is correct?**

**A device driver of output devices**

- a) interprets input provided by users into computer usable form.
- b) interprets computer output into user understandable form.
- c) translates user inputs into output device.
- d) facilitates user to communicate with output device.

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

- A device driver is a particular form of software application that allows one hardware device (such as a personal computer) to interact with another hardware device (such as a printer). A device driver may also be called a software driver.
- Drivers facilitate communication between an operating system and a peripheral hardware device. Each driver contains knowledge about a particular hardware device or software interface that other programs -- including the underlying operating system (OS) -- does not have.

Source: Lucent's Computer

**Q.3) Which one of the following registers is used to keep track of the next instruction to be executed?**

- a) Memory address register
- b) Memory buffer register
- c) Program counter
- d) Memory data register

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

Program Counter registers is used to keep track of address of the memory location where the next instruction is located.

A program counter is a register in a computer processor that contains the address (location) of the instruction being executed at the current time. As each instruction gets fetched, the program counter increases its stored value by 1. The program counter (PC), commonly called the instruction pointer (IP) in Intel x86 and Itanium microprocessors, and sometimes called the instruction address register (IAR), the instruction counter, or just part of the instruction sequencer, is a processor register that indicates where a computer is in its program.

The program counter is simply the location of the instruction being executed, and so it will change based on the processor architecture. That is, 64 bit architecture will need 64 bits to hold the program counter, a 32 bit will need 32, and so on.

Source: Lucent's Computer

**Q.4) Which one of the following is not an audio file format?**

- a) MIDI
- b) WAV
- c) SWF
- d) MPEG

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

- A file with the .MID or .MIDI file extension (pronounced as "mid-ee") is a Musical Instrument Digital Interface file.
- Unlike regular audio files like MP3s or WAVs, these don't contain actual audio data and are therefore much smaller in size. They instead explain what notes are played, when they're played, and how long or loud each note should be.
- Files in this format are basically instructions that explain how the sound should be produced once attached to a playback device or loaded into a particular software program that knows how to interpret the data.
- This makes MIDI files perfect for sharing musical information between similar applications and for transferring over low-bandwidth internet connections. The small size also allows for storing on small devices like floppy disks, a common practice in early PC games.

Source: Lucent's Computer

**Q.5) Which one of the following denotes a sequential electronic circuit that is used to store 1-bit of information?**

- a) Register
- b) Transistor
- c) Flip-flop
- d) Capacitor

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**



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In electronics, a flip-flop or latch is a circuit that has two stable states and can be used to store state information. A flip-flop stores a single bit (binary digit) of data; one of its two states represents a "one" and the other represents a "zero".

Source: Lucent's Computer

**Q.6) What is the equivalent decimal value of binary number 101110?**

- a) 46
- b) 56
- c) 64
- d) 65

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

Given binary number is 101110.

To convert binary number to decimal, multiply each digit of the binary number by the corresponding power of two.

$$\begin{aligned} &=> 1 \times 2^5 + 0 \times 2^4 + 1 \times 2^3 + 1 \times 2^2 + 1 \times 2^1 + 0 \times 2^0 \\ &= 32 + 0 + 8 + 4 + 2 + 0 \\ &= 46 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the decimal equivalent of binary number 101110 is 46.

Source: Lucent's Computer

**Q.7) Which one of the following basic operations for converting raw input data into useful information is not performed by all computers?**

- a) Inputting
- b) Storing
- c) Switching
- d) Outputting

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

All computer systems perform the following five basic operations for converting raw input data into useful information-

- **Inputting:** Process of entering data and instructions into a computer system.
- **Storing:** Saving data and instructions to make them readily available for initial or additional processing as and when required.
- **Processing:** Performing arithmetic operations (add, subtract, multiply, divide, etc.) or logical operations (comparisons like equal to, less than, greater than, etc.) on data to convert them into useful information.
- **Outputting:** Process of producing useful information or results for a user, such as printed reports or visual displays.
- **Controlling:** Directing the manner and sequence in which the above operations are performed.

Source: Lucent's Computer

**Q.8) Which one of the following memories is extremely fast and acts as a high-speed buffer between the CPU and the main memory?**

- a) RAM
- b) ROM
- c) Flash Memory
- d) Cache Memory

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:**

- Cache memory is a very high-speed semiconductor memory that can speed up the CPU.
- Cache memory acts as a buffer between the main memory and the CPU. It holds the most frequently used part of the program and data.
  - Some advantages of cache memory are -
  - For temporary use, it is helpful in storing data.
- It is faster than the main memory.
- Additional Information
- Cache memory holds only those data and instructions that are held by the primary memory or main memory on which the computer is currently working.
- For storing data/information permanently secondary memory also known as external memory or non-volatile is used.

Source: Lucent's Computer

**Q.9) Which one of the following is not a web browser?**

- a) Internet Explorer
- b) Firefox
- c) Fedora
- d) Google Chrome

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

- Fedora is a popular open source Linux-based operating system.
- Fedora is designed as a secure, general purpose operating system. The operating system is developed on a six-month release cycle, under the auspices of the Fedora Project. Fedora is sponsored by Red Hat.
- According to the Fedora Project, Fedora is "always free for anyone to use, modify, and distribute." Fedora is said to be the second-most commonly used Linux distribution, after Ubuntu. There are over a hundred distributions based on Fedora, including Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) and the One Laptop Per Child (OLPC) project's XO operating system.

Source: Lucent's Computer

**Q.10) Which one of the following represents 1 GB of information?**

- a) 1024 KB
- b) 1024 MB
- c) 1024 TB
- d) 1024 PB

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

- 1 Gigabyte (GB) is about a billion-character i.e., 1000 MB or 1 thousand megabytes
- Gigabyte is a common unit for modern hardware for example 4000 MB = 4 GB
- An ordinary computer has 4 GB of RAM 256 GB of storage
- A DVD has a size 4.7GB
- A flash drive has about 32 GB and a hard drive has 750 GB
- 1 kilobyte (KB) is nearly about 1000 bytes. An ordinary Roman text requires about 2 kilobytes to store
- A Terabyte (TB) of computer storage capacity that is nearly about 2 to the 40th power, or 10 to the 12th power. A Terabyte is approximately 1,024 gigabytes (GB)
- The megabyte (MB) is a multiple-unit byte. The word mega represents 1000000 (10<sup>6</sup>) in the International System of Units (SI). Megabyte is also represented by 1000×1024 (1024000) bytes.
- Therefore, 1 Gigabyte represents one billion characters.

Source: Lucent's Computer

## *Economy*

**Q.1) The reduction of the rate of inflation is termed as which of the following?**

- a) Deflation
- b) Reflation
- c) Disinflation
- d) Stagflation

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Inflation related concepts are:**

- deflation when there is a persistent general fall in the level of prices
- disinflation is the reduction of the rate of inflation
- stagflation which is a combination of inflation and rising unemployment due to recession and
- Reflation, which is when inflation returns after a spell of deflation and recession thus showing that growth is back as seen in the US and EU after the great recession (2007-09) when growth was revived.

Source: Sriram's IAS

**Q.2) When inflation is high in an economy, which of the following statement is not correct?**

- a) It discourages Exports
- b) It encourages Savings
- c) fiscal deficit may go up
- d) All of the above

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** If inflation is high in an economy, the following problems can arise

- low income groups are particularly hurt
- People on a fixed income (e.g. pensioners, students receiving scholarships) will be worse off in real terms due to higher prices and same income as before
- inflation discourages exports as domestic sales are attractive . Inflation may erode the external competitiveness of domestic products if it leads to higher production costs such as wage increases, and higher interest rate.
- inflation can drag down growth as the investment climate turns bad due to instability and uncertainty and also as interest rates are raised and cost of credit increases
- Inflation may discourage saving and thus hit investment. The savings pattern also gets skewed in favour of unproductive assets like gold as inflation may be higher than interest rates and yield is negative.
- Inflation tax is a hidden tax. It is the financial loss in the value of money incurred by holders of cash. Another way of seeing it is: when the government wants to tax people, they resist it. But the government needs the money. So it prints and releases the money into market and that inflates the economy which means people pay more for the goods and services they consume. The end result is that the tax that they did not pay is paid by way of price rise.

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- Strikes can take place for higher wages which can cause a wage spiral. Also if strikes occur in-an important industry which has a comparative advantage the nation may see a decrease in productivity, exports and growth.
- Govt. fiscal deficit may go up as the need to subsidise is more to make goods and services affordable

Source: Sriram's IAS

**Q.3) Economic growth is usually coupled with which of the following?**

- a) Inflation
- b) Stagflation
- c) Deflation
- d) Hyperinflation

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Inflation**

- It refers to the rise in the prices of most goods and services of daily or common use, such as food, clothing, housing etc.
- A certain level of inflation is required in the economy to ensure that expenditure is promoted and hoarding money through savings is demotivated.
- As the spending increases, the demand also increases which leads to inflation.
- Hence, Economic growth is usually coupled with inflation.

Source: Sriram's IAS

**Q.4) The inverse relationship between rate of inflation and rate of unemployment is shown by which of the following curve?**

- a) Phillips curve
- b) Engel curve
- c) Lorenz curve
- d) Laffer curve

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Philips's Curve**

- The inverse relationship between rate of inflation and rate of unemployment is shown in the Phillips curve: price stability has a trade-off against employment.
- Some level of inflation could be considered desirable in order to minimize unemployment.

Source: Sriram's IAS

**Q.5) Which of the statements given below is/are correct?**

1. Disinflation is the opposite of inflation.
2. When an economy experiences deflation, demand from businesses and consumers to buy products goes down.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation: Deflation**

- Deflation is a prolonged and widespread decline in prices that causes consumers and businesses to curb spending as they wait for prices to fall further. It is the opposite of inflation.
- It should not be confused with disinflation, which merely describes a slowdown in the rate of growth of prices. Deflation may occur at the wholesale or retail level. It may result for demand side or supply side reasons.
- Deflation is hard to deal with because it is self-reinforcing. Deflation needs to be checked with
- Keynesian stimulus or it can breed deeper deflation, leading to what is known as a deflationary spiral.
- When an economy experiences 'deflation, demand from businesses and consumers to buy products goes down because they expect to pay less later as prices fall further. With crashing demand, Producers can not to sell and go bankrupt, unemployment rises reducing demand further. That causes deflation to become even more aggravated. It makes it more expensive to service existing, debts. As debt becomes unserviceable, the risk of default and bankruptcy rises too and bank becomes reluctant to lend as their own NPAs rise.

Source: Sriram's IAS

**Q.6) Which of the below given products/items has the highest weightage in Wholesale Price Index (WPI)?**

- a) Manufactured Products
- b) Fuel and Power
- c) Primary goods
- d) All have equal weightage

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The weightage is as follows: Manufactured Products (64.20%), Primary Articles (22.60%) and Fuel & Power (13.10%).

Source: Sriram's IAS

**Q.7) Which index is used to calculate inflation in India?**

- a) Wholesale Price Index
- b) GDP deflator
- c) Commodity Price Index
- d) Productive Price Index

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** In India inflation is calculated by using Wholesale Price Index. WPI calculates the price paid by the manufacturers and wholesalers in the market.

Source: Sriram's IAS

**Q.8) What is the base year of Consumer Price Index (CPI)?**

- a) 2017
- b) 2005
- c) 2012
- d) 2004

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Consumer Price Index (CPI):**

- A comprehensive measure used for estimation of price changes in a basket of goods and services representative of consumption expenditure in an economy is called consumer price index.
- Presently the base year of Consumer Price Index (CPI) is 2012. The base year was changed in January 2017.
- The calculation involved in the estimation of CPI is quite rigorous. Various categories and sub-categories have been made for classifying consumption items and on the basis of consumer categories like urban or rural.
- Based on these indices and sub indices obtained, the final overall index of price is calculated mostly by national statistical agencies. It is one of the most important statistics for an economy and is generally based on the weighted average of the prices of commodities. It gives an idea of the cost of living.
- Inflation is measured using CPI. The percentage change in this index over a period of time gives the amount of inflation over that specific period, i.e. the increase in prices of a representative basket of goods consumed.

Source: Sriram's IAS

**Q.9) Which of the following is also known as jumping inflation?**

- a) Core Inflation
- b) Bottleneck Inflation
- c) Galloping Inflation
- d) Creeping Inflation

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Galloping inflation (also jumping inflation) is one that develops at a rapid pace (dual or triple-digit annual rates), perhaps only for a brief period of time. Such form of inflation is dangerous for the economy as it mostly affects the middle and low-income classes of population.

Source: Sriram's IAS

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

**Q.10) Which of the following Institution/office bring out the Wholesale Price (WPI) data in India?**

- a) The Reserve Bank of India
- b) The Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- c) The Ministry of Finance
- d) The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

- The Ministry of Commerce and Industry brings out the Wholesale Price (WPI) data in India.
- The Wholesale Price Index measures the changes in the prices of goods sold and traded in bulk by wholesale businesses to other businesses.
- It is published by the Office of Economic Advisor (Ministry of Commerce & Industry).
- The base year for WPI is 2011-12.
- It is effective from April 2017.
- It is unlike the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which tracks the prices of goods and services purchased by consumers.
- It captures the average movement of wholesale prices of goods and is primarily used as a GDP deflator.
- WPI(2011-12) reckons only basic prices and does not include taxes, rebate/trade discounts, transport and other charges.

Source: Sriram's IAS



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## *Indian Polity*

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**Q.1) Maximum life of an ordinance is:**

- a) Six Months
- b) One Year
- c) Six Months and Six Weeks
- d) One year and Six weeks

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

Every ordinance issued by the President during the recess of parliament must be laid before both the Houses of Parliament when it reassembles. If the ordinance is approved by both the Houses, it becomes an act. If Parliament takes no action at all, the ordinance ceases to operate on the expiry of six weeks from the reassembly of Parliament.

The ordinance may also cease to operate even earlier than the prescribed six weeks, if both the Houses of Parliament pass resolutions disapproving it. If the Houses of Parliament are summoned to reassemble on different dates, the period of six weeks is calculated from the later of those dates.

This means that the maximum life of an ordinance can be six months and six weeks, in case of non-approval by the Parliament (six months being the maximum gap between the two sessions of Parliament). If an ordinance is allowed to lapse without being placed before Parliament, then the acts done and completed under it, before it ceases to operate, remain fully valid and effective.

Sources: Laxmikanth

**Q.2) Which of the following denotes the substitution of one form of punishment for a lighter form?**

- a) Pardon
- b) Respite
- c) Reprieve
- d) Commutation

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:**

1. Pardon It removes both the sentence and the conviction and completely absolves the convict from all sentences, punishments and disqualifications.

2. Commutation It denotes the substitution of one form of punishment for a lighter form. For example, a death sentence may be commuted to rigorous imprisonment, which in turn may be commuted to a simple imprisonment.

3. Remission It implies reducing the period of sentence without changing its character. For example, a sentence of rigorous imprisonment for two years may be remitted to rigorous imprisonment for one year.

4. Respite It denotes awarding a lesser sentence in place of one originally awarded due to some special fact, such as the physical disability of a convict or the pregnancy of a woman offender.

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5. Reprieve It implies a stay of the execution of a sentence (especially that of death) for a temporary period. Its purpose is to enable the convict to have time to seek pardon or commutation from the President.

Sources: Laxmikanth

**Q.3) The provision of “Annual financial statement is provided under which of the following articles of the constitution?”**

- a) Article 110
- b) Article 112
- c) Article 226
- d) Article 75

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

**No. Subject-matter**

- 52. The President of India
- 53 Executive power of the Union
- 54. Election of President
- 55. Manner of election of President
- 56. Term of office of President
- 57. Eligibility for re-election
- 58. Qualifications for election as President
- 59. Conditions of President’s office
- 60. Oath or affirmation by the President
- 61. Procedure for impeachment of the President
- 62. Time of holding election to fill vacancy in the office of President
- 65. Vice-President to act as President or to discharge his functions
- 71. Matters relating to the election of President
- 72. Power of President to grant pardons etc., and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases
- 74. Council of ministers to aid and advise the President
- 75. Other provisions as to ministers like appointment, term, salaries, etc.
- 76. Attorney-General of India
- 77. Conduct of business of the Government of India
- 78. Duties of Prime Minister in respect to furnishing of information to the President, etc.
- 85. Sessions of Parliament, prorogation and dissolution
- 111. Assent to bills passed by the Parliament
- 112. Union Budget (annual financial statement)
- 123. Power of President to promulgate ordinances
- 143. Power of President to consult Supreme Court

Sources: Laxmikanth

**Q.4) Consider the following statement with respect to election of VICE President:**

1. It consists of both elected and nominated members of the Parliament
2. It include the members of the state legislative assemblies

**Which of the above given statements is/ are correct?**

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

**ANS:A**

**Explanation:**

The Vice-President, like the president, is elected not directly by the people but by the method of indirect election. He is elected by the members of an electoral college consisting of the members of both Houses of Parliament.

Thus, this Electoral College is different from the Electoral College for the election of the President in the following two respects:

1. It consists of both elected and nominated members of the Parliament (in the case of president, only elected members).
2. It does not include the members of the state legislative assemblies (in the case of President, the elected members of the state legislative assemblies are included).

Explaining the reason for this difference, Dr B R Ambedkar observed:

Sources: Laxmikanth

**Q.5) Consider the following statement:**

1. Removal of VICE President requires impeachment.
2. No ground has been mentioned in the Constitution for his removal.

**Which of the above given statements is/ are correct?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

The Vice-President holds office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office. However, he can resign from his office at any time by addressing the resignation letter to the President. He can also be removed from the office before completion of his term. A formal impeachment is not required for his removal. He can be removed by a resolution of the Rajya Sabha passed by an absolute majority (ie, a majority of the total members of the House) and agreed to by the Lok Sabha. But, no such resolution can be moved unless at least 14 days' advance notice has been given. Notably, no ground has been mentioned in the Constitution for his removal.

Sources: Laxmikanth

**Q.6) Who among the following is 'de facto executive'?**

- a) President
- b) Vice President
- c) Prime Minister
- d) CAG

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

In the scheme of parliamentary system of government provided by the constitution, the President is the nominal executive authority (de jure executive) and Prime Minister is the real executive authority (de facto executive). In other words, president is the head of the State while Prime Minister is the head of the government.

Sources: Laxmikanth

**Q.7) Consider the following statement:**

1. The term of the Prime minister is fixed
2. The death of an Incumbent Prime Minister automatically dissolves the console of minister.

**Which of the above given statements is/ are correct?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

The term of the Prime Minister is not fixed and he holds office during the pleasure of the president. However, this does not mean that the president can dismiss the Prime Minister at any time. So long as the Prime Minister enjoys the majority support in the Lok Sabha, he cannot be dismissed by the President.

However, if he loses the confidence of the Lok Sabha, he must resign or the President can dismiss him. Since the Prime Minister stands at the head of the council of ministers, the other ministers cannot function when the Prime Minister resigns or dies. In other words, the resignation or death of an incumbent Prime Minister automatically dissolves the council of ministers and thereby generates a vacuum.

The resignation or death of any other minister, on the other hand, merely creates a vacancy which the Prime Minister may or may not like to fill.

Sources: Laxmikanth

**Q.8) Consider the following:**

1. NITI Aayog
2. National Water Resource Council
3. National Integration Council

**Prime Minister is the chairman of which of the above institution.**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:**

The Prime Minister has various other roles. These are:

1. He is the chairman of the Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog), National Development Council, National Integration Council, Inter-State Council and National Water Resources Council.
2. He plays a significant role in shaping the foreign policy of the country.
3. He is the chief spokesman of the Union government.
4. He is the crisis manager-in-chief at the political level during emergencies.
5. As a leader of the nation, he meets various sections of people in different states and receives memoranda from them regarding their problems, and so on.
6. He is leader of the party in power.
7. He is political head of the services.

Sources: Laxmikanth

**Q.9) Consider the following statement:**

1. The total number of ministers, in the Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Lok Sabha.
2. This provision was also added by the 91ST Amendment Act of 2003.

**Which of the above given statements is/ are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

1. The Prime Minister shall be appointed by the President and the other Ministers shall be appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.
2. The total number of ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Lok Sabha. This provision was added by the 91st Amendment Act of 2003.
3. A member of either house of Parliament belonging to any political party who is disqualified on the ground of defection shall also be disqualified to be appointed as a minister. This provision was also added by the 91<sup>st</sup> Amendment Act of 2003.

Sources: Laxmikanth

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

**Q.10) “Article 74 provides for a council of ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President in the exercise of his functions”.**

Which of the following constitution amendment act have made the advice binding on the President?

- a) 42nd CAA
- b) 44th CAA
- c) 91st CAA
- d) Both a and B

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:**

Article 74 provides for a council of ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President in the exercise of his functions. The 42<sup>nd</sup> and 44th Constitutional Amendment Acts have made the advice binding on the President.

Further, the nature of advice tendered by ministers to the President cannot be enquired by any court. This provision emphasises the intimate and the confidential relationship between the President and the ministers.

Sources: Laxmikanth

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## Geography

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements:**

1. S waves can travel into only solid and liquid medium
2. P waves can travel in all three mediums

**Which of the above given statement is/are not correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

S-waves are shear waves, which move particles perpendicular to their direction of propagation. They can propagate through solid rocks because these rocks have enough shear strength. Liquids lack shear strength. This is the reason why, if you take a glass of water and suddenly remove the glass, the water will not keep its shape. S-waves need a medium that is rigid enough for them to propagate. This is why S-waves cannot propagate through liquids.

P-waves travel through liquids and gases as well as through solids. Although liquids and gases have zero rigidity, they have compressibility, which enables them to transmit P-waves. P-waves are predominantly compressional waves. As a P-wave passes, material compresses in the same direction the wave is moving. Sound waves are P-waves moving through the air.

P waves travel fastest and are the first to arrive from the earthquake. In rock, S waves generally travel about 60% the speed of P waves, and the S wave always arrives after the P wave.

Source: NCERT

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

1. Earth's outer core and inner core are in solid and liquid form respectively.
2. Asthenosphere is the upper part of core.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The inner core is solid, the outer core is liquid, and the mantle is solid/plastic. This is due to the relative melting points of the different layers (nickel-iron core, silicate crust and mantle) and the increase in temperature and pressure as depth increases. At the surface, the nickel-iron alloys and silicates are cool enough to be solid. In the upper mantle, the silicates are generally solid but localized regions of melt exist, leading to limited viscosity.

The mantle extends from Moho's discontinuity to a depth of 2,900 km. The upper portion of the mantle is called asthenosphere. The word astheno means weak. It is considered to be extending upto 400 km. It is the main source of magma that finds its way to the surface during volcanic eruptions.

Source: NCERT

**Q.3) Consider the following pairs:**

1. Cocos plate: Between Central America and Pacific plate
2. Nazca plate: Mostly the Saudi Arabian landmass
3. Philippine plate: Between the Asiatic and Pacific plate

**How many above given pairs are correctly matched?**

- a) One pair only
- b) Two pairs only
- c) All Three pairs
- d) None of the above

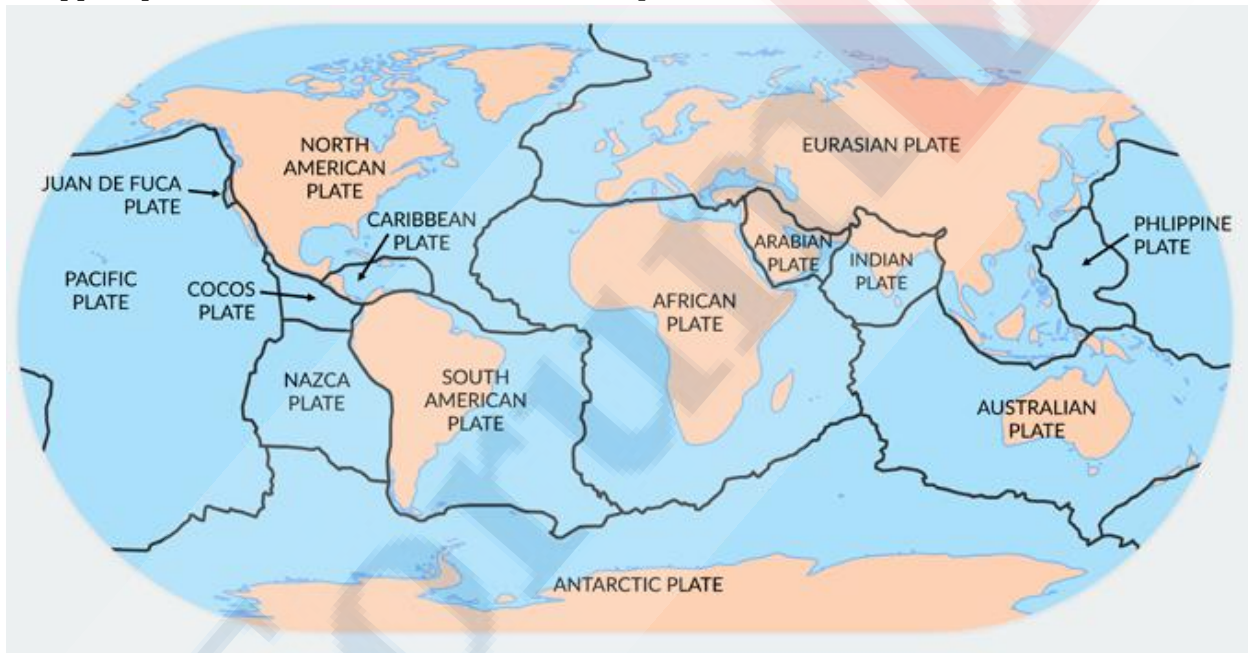
**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** 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



Source: NCERT

**Q.4) “A wavy mass of intrusive rocks, at times, is found at the base of synclines or at the top of anticline in folded igneous country”. Which of the following is explained in the above statement?**

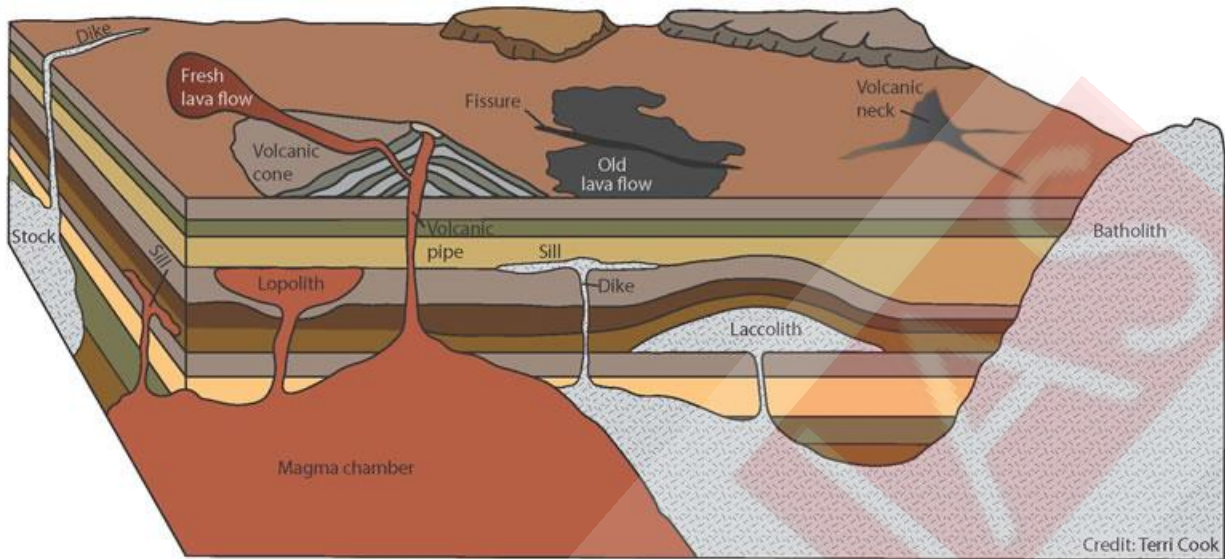
- a) Batholith
- b) Sill
- c) Phacolith
- d) Lacolith

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The near horizontal bodies of the intrusive igneous rocks are called sill or sheet, depending on the thickness of the material. The thinner ones are called sheets while the thick horizontal deposits are called sills.



**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**



Source: NCERT

**Q.5) Arrange the following in chronological order according to Geological Time Scale from older to newer:**

1. Permian
2. Pre-Cambrian
3. Caenozoic
4. Mesozoic

**Select the correct option using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

Geological Time Scale				
EON	ERA	PERIOD	MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO	KEY EVENTS
Phanerozoic	Caenozoic	Quaternary	1.6	Humans evolve
		Tertiary		
		Cretaceous		
	Mesozoic	Jurassic	138	Extinction of Dinosaurs
		Triassic		
		Permian		
	Paleozoic	Carboniferous	330	Permian mass extinction
		Devonian		
		Silurian		
		Ordovician		
Proterozoic	Also known as Precambrian	Cambrian	500	Invertebrates become common
		Archean		
		Hadean		
			3500	Earliest life

Source: NCERT

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**Q.6) Sonoran is a desert located in which of the following Continent?**

- a) Antarctica
- b) Europe
- c) Asia
- d) North America

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Sonoran Desert, also called Desierto de Altar, arid region covering 120,000 square miles (310,800 square km) in southwestern Arizona and southeastern California, U.S., and including much of the Mexican state of Baja California Sur, part of Baja California State, and the western half of the state of Sonora. Subdivisions of the hot, dry region include the Colorado and Yuma deserts.

Source: ATLAS

**Q.7) The highlands of 'Deccan plateau' are among which of the following type of mountains?**

- a) Block mountains
- b) Fold mountains
- c) Residual mountains
- d) Volcanic mountains

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Residual mountains are those mountains which have been eroded by the agents of degradation such as winds, rain, frost and running water. The hard rocks that are left behind are called residual mountains.

The Sierras of central Spain and Mesas of USA are some examples of residual mountains. Examples of Residual Mountains in India are: the Aravali hills, the Nallamala hills, the Javadi hills, the Veliconda hills, the Palkonda range, and the Mahendragiri hills.

Source: NCERT

**Q.8) Consider the following statements about Earth:**

1. Earth is the third planet from the Sun and the fourth largest in our solar system.
2. The Earth's atmosphere is 77% nitrogen, 21% oxygen, with traces of argon, carbon dioxide and water.

**Which of the following given above statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Earth is the third planet from the Sun and the fifth largest in our solar system. It is the only planet that we know of that can house living things, from plants to animals to humans – even though it has not always been able to do so. The Earth's atmosphere is 77% nitrogen, 21% oxygen, with traces of argon, carbon dioxide and water. There was probably a very much larger amount of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere when the Earth was first formed, but it has since been almost all incorporated into carbonate rocks and to a lesser extent dissolved into the oceans and consumed by living plants.

Source: NCERT

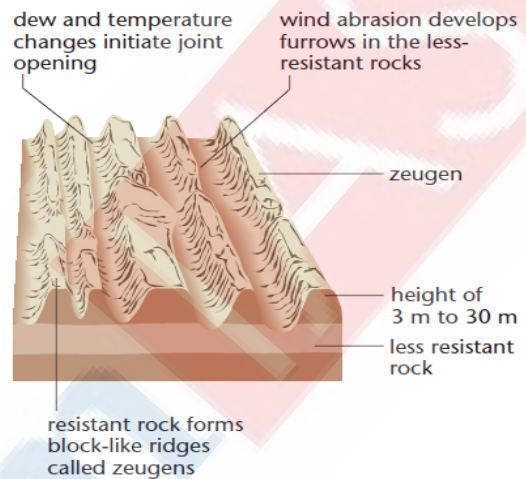
**Q.9) What is 'Zeugen'?**

- a) It is a landform of wind erosion in deserts.
- b) It is a tribe in sub-saharan Africa.
- c) It is another name for slash and burning farming in India.
- d) It is newly formed island near New Zealand.

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Zeugen are tabular masses which have a layer of soft rocks lying beneath a surface layer of more resistant rocks. Difference in erosional effect of the wind on soft & resistant rock surfaces, carve them into weird looking ridge & furrow landscape. Mechanical weathering initiates their formation by opening up joints of the surface rocks. Wind abrasion further eats into underlying softer layer so that deep furrows are developed. The hard rocks then stand above the the furrows as ridges or Zeugen. Zeugen may stand 10 to 100 feet above the sunken furrows. Continuous abrasion by winds gradually lowers the Zeugen & widens the furrow.

Source: GC Leong



**Q.10) The driest place on earth is located in which of the following deserts?**

- a) Atacama
- b) Sahara
- c) Kalahari
- d) Gobi

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The driest place on Earth is in Antarctica in an area called the Dry Valleys, which have seen no rain for nearly 2 million years. There is absolutely no precipitation in this region and it makes up a 4800 square kilometer region of almost no water, ice or snow. While some areas of the Atacama along the coast have succulent plants like cacti, the more arid parts of the desert have no vegetation. These parched regions do not even have cyanobacteria – green photosynthetic microorganisms that live in rocks or under stones in most other deserts.

Source: NCERT

## *Environment*

**Q.1) Consider the following statements about Bombay Natural History Society:**

1. BNHS was started by eight British naturalists of Mumbai in 1883.
2. BNHS has been designated as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO) by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

**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: About BNHS**

- BNHS was started by eight amateur naturalists of Mumbai, of which two were Indians.
- The guiding principle of BNHS has been that conservation should be based on scientific research - a tradition exemplified by its former president, Dr Sálím Ali - world renowned ornithologist and receiver of Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awards by Government of India.
- Today, BNHS has a vibrant presence at dozens of places across India covering diverse habitats such as forests, grasslands, wetlands, mountains, deserts and marine areas.
- This includes work in the Global Biodiversity Hotspots such as Western Ghats and eastern Himalaya. Over 150 scientists and professionals work on and off the field to further the tasks of research, conservation and nature education.
- BNHS has been designated as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO) by Department of Science & Technology, Government of India and is the Partner of BirdLife International in India.

Source: [http://bnhsenvis.nic.in/Content/AboutBNHS\\_17494.aspx](http://bnhsenvis.nic.in/Content/AboutBNHS_17494.aspx)

**Q.2) Consider the following statements about Central Zoo Authority (CZA):**

1. It is a statutory body.
2. Its main objective is to complement and strengthen the national effort in conservation of rich biodiversity of the country.

**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:** Central Zoo Authority (CZA) was established as a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment & Forests by the Government of India in the year 1992.

- The main objective of this Authority is to complement and strengthen the national effort in conservation of rich biodiversity of the country, particularly the fauna.

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- Other objectives of this Authority include enforcing minimum standards and norms for upkeep and healthcare of animals in Indian zoos and to control mushrooming of unplanned and ill-conceived.
- For the overall management of the animals housed in the Indian zoos, standards and norms for appropriate housing, upkeep, health care, diet etc.

Source: <https://www.indiascienceandtechnology.gov.in/organisationenvironment/central-zoo-authority-india-czai>

**Q.3) The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was established by the Central Government to implement which of the following act?**

- a) Biodiversity act, 2002
- b) Forest rights act, 2006
- c) Environment Protection Act, 1986
- d) The Forest (Conservation) Act of 1980

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was established by the Central Government in 2003 to implement India's Biological Diversity Act (2002).

The NBA is a Statutory Body and it performs facilitative, regulatory and advisory functions for the Government of India on issues of conservation, sustainable use of biological resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources.

Source: <http://nbaindia.org/content/22/2/1/aboutnba.html>

**Q.4) Consider the following statements about National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA):**

1. It was constituted under Biodiversity act, 2002.
2. It is a statutory authority to implement Project Tiger.

**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 Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change constituted under enabling provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006, for strengthening tiger conservation, as per powers and functions assigned to it under the said Act.

- NTCA has been fulfilling its mandate within the ambit of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for strengthening tiger conservation in the country by retaining an oversight through advisories/normative guidelines, based on appraisal of tiger status, ongoing conservation initiatives and recommendations of specially constituted Committees.
- The 'Project Tiger' is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, providing funding support to tiger range States for in-situ conservation of tigers in designated tiger reserves, and has put the endangered tiger on an assured path of recovery by saving it from extinction, as revealed by the recent findings of the All India tiger estimation using the refined methodology.

Source: <https://ntca.gov.in/about-us/#ntca>

**Q.5) Under which of the following act the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) was established?**

- a) Biodiversity act, 2002
- b) Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
- c) Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- d) Environment Protection Act, 1986

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), statutory organisation, was constituted in September, 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Further, CPCB was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

Source: <https://cpcb.nic.in/Introduction/>

**Q.6) Which of the following pollutants are monitored under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP)?**

- Ozone
- Sulphur Dioxide
- Oxides of Nitrogen
- Particulate Matter 10
- Particulate Matter 2.5

**Choose the correct answer code from below given options:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Central Pollution Control Board is executing a nation-wide programme of ambient air quality monitoring known as National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP).

- The network consists of 804 operating stations covering 344 cities/towns in 28 states and 6 Union Territories of the country.
- The objectives of the N.A.M.P. are to determine status and trends of ambient air quality; to ascertain whether the prescribed ambient air quality standards are violated;
- To Identify Non-attainment Cities; to obtain the knowledge and understanding necessary for developing preventive and corrective measures and to understand the natural cleansing process undergoing in the environment through pollution dilution, dispersion, wind based movement, dry deposition, precipitation and chemical transformation of pollutants generated.
- Under N.A.M.P., four air pollutants viz ., Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), Oxides of Nitrogen as NO<sub>2</sub>, Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM / PM<sub>10</sub>) and Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) have been identified for regular monitoring at all the locations.
- The monitoring of meteorological parameters such as wind speed and wind direction, relative humidity (RH) and temperature were also integrated with the monitoring of air quality.

Source: <https://cpcb.nic.in/about-namp/>

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding Botanical Survey of India (BSI):**

1. It was established in 1890.
2. Headquarter of BSI is located at Chennai.

**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:** The Botanical Survey of India (BSI) was established in 1890 with the objectives of exploring the plant resources of the country and identifying plant species with economic virtue. It is located in Kolkata, West Bengal.

In 1954, the Government reorganised the BSI with the objectives of

- undertaking intensive floristic surveys and collecting accurate and detailed information on the occurrence, distribution, ecology and economic utility of plants in the country;
- collecting, identifying and distributing materials that may be of use to educational and research institutions; and
- acting as the custodian of authentic collections in well planned herbaria and documenting plant resources in the form of local, district, state and national flora.

Source: <https://bsi.gov.in/>

**Q.8) Emissions gap report is released by which of the following?**

- a) UNDP
- b) UNEP
- c) WEF
- d) UNFCCC

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Emissions Gap Report 2021 was recently released by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The report in an annual series that provides an overview of the Emission gap- difference between where greenhouse emissions are predicted to be in 2030 and where they should be to avert the worst impacts of climate change.

Source: UNEP

**Q.9) “CATS Accreditation” is often seen in news is related to which of the following?**

- a) Tigers
- b) Elephants
- c) Snow leopard
- d) Rhinoceros

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** On the occasion of Global Tiger Day, 2021, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) announced Conservation Assured Tiger Standards (CATS) accreditation for 14 out of India's 51 tiger reserves.

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

CATS are globally accepted conservation tool that sets best practices and standards to manage tigers and assessments to benchmark progress.

Source: The Hindu

**Q.10) The term “GFANZ” is often seen in news is related to which of the following?**

- a) Species conservation
- b) Climate finance
- c) Ozone control process
- d) None of the above

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** GLASGOW FINANCIAL ALLIANCE FOR NET ZERO (GFANZ) was launched by UN Special Envoy for Climate Action and Finance, along with UNFCCC Climate Action Champions, and the COP26 Presidency.

- GFANZ was originally unveiled in 2021 as a forum for leading financial institutions to accelerate transition to a net-zero global economy through de-carbonization of the economy in line with the Paris agreement. The Objective of ‘net Zero’ is to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.
- The target is in line with Race to Zero campaign of UN that rallies non-state actors, including companies, cities, regions, financial and educational institutions to take rigorous and immediate action to halve global emissions by 2030.

Source: The Hindu



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## *Schemes/ Programmes/ Institutions*

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**Q.1) Which of the following organization was aimed at protecting Hindu orthodoxy and spread of western education and directly against Brahmo Samaj?**

- a) Veda Samaj
- b) Dev Samaj
- c) Dharma Sabha
- d) Arya Samaj

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

Dharma Sabha was formed in 1830 in Calcutta by Radhakanta Deb. The organization was established mainly to counter the ongoing social reform movements led by protagonists such as Raja Ram Mohun Roy and Henry Derozio. More specifically, the impetus of forming the organization came from a new law enacted by the colonial British rule which banned the practice of sati in the country; the focus of the new association was to repel the law which was seen as an intrusion by the British into the religious affairs of the indigenous people by some sections of the Hindu community.

Source: Spectrum's Modern History

**Q.2) Consider the following pairs:**

<b>Movement</b>	<b>Type</b>
1. Deoband Movement	Reformist
2. Ahmadiya Movement	Revivalist
3. Aligarh Movement	Revivalist
4. Wahabi Movement	Reformist

**Which of the above given pairs is/are correctly matched?**

- a) 2 only
- b) 3 and 4 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) None

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:**

- A revivalist movement is one which desires or inclines to revive practices from an earlier times whereas a Reform movement seeks to bring gradual change in certain aspects of the society. **Wahabi movement** sought to undo western influences and the perceived degeneration in Indian muslims as per them. **Ahmadiya movement** on the other hand was a reformist movement in the sense that it based itself on the universal religion of all humanity and spread western liberal education among the Indian Muslims. It was Ahmadiya movement that opposed Jihad while the Wahabis considered India to be dar-ul-Harb (land of the kafirs ) and it needed to be converted to dar-ul-Islam(land of Islam)
- **The Deoband Movement** was organized by the orthodox section of the Muslim ulema. It was a revivalist movement with two goals - to spread the pure teachings of the Quran and Hadis among Muslims, and to keep the spirit of jihad against foreign rulers alive.

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Mahmud-ul-Hasan (1851-1920), the new Deoband leader, sought to instill political and intellectual content in the school's religious ideas.

- **The Aligarh Movement** is known as the most important socio-religious movement among Muslims. It was organized by Syed Ahmad Khan (1817-1899), who has been described as the most prominent Muslim figure. Syed Ahmad Khan was born into a Muslim noble family in 1817 and had joined the Company's service as a judicial officer. He realized that Muslims would have to adapt to British rule. As a result, Syed Ahmad advised Muslims to pursue Western education and government service.

Source: Spectrum's Modern History

### **Q.3) Bharat Dharma Mahamandal was founded by who among the following?**

- a) Hridayanath Kunzru
- b) Pandit Din Dayal Sharma
- c) Beharmji M. Malabari
- d) Gopal Krishna Gokhale

**ANS: B**

#### **Explanation: Bharat Dharma Mahamandala:**

- Bharat Dharma Mahamandala was a prominent Hindu organization founded by Pandit Din Dayalu Sharma in Hardwar in 1887, who also founded the Hindu College, Delhi, on May 15, 1899.
- Its objective was to bring together all leaders of the orthodox Hindu community and to work together for the preservation of Sanatan Dharma.
- The offshoots of the Mahamandala were the Sanatan Dharma Sabhas, founded for the defense of Hinduism from critics both within the community and outside it. In the early years of the 20th century, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya was very closely associated with the Mahamandala and the Sanatan Dharma movements.

Source: Spectrum's Modern History

### **Q.4) Who among the following was the first Secretary of Satyasodak Samaj?**

- a) Jyotiba Phule
- b) Savitri Phule
- c) Narayanrao Govindrao Kadalak
- d) Mulshankar

**ANS: C**

#### **Explanation: Satyashodhak Samaj:**

- Jyotiba decided to set up an organization to preach his ideology and mobilise individuals. Accordingly, on September 24 1873, Phule convened a meeting of all his admirers and disciples at Poona. About sixty men from many important centers of the Maharashtra region assembled. In this gathering, Jotirao delivered an introductory speech and elaborated on the necessity of a central institution for the guidance of the movement and to help systematise mobilisation.
- Jotirao named this institution as 'Satyashodhak Samaj'. The Samaj was created to help spread education among women and other communities who were considered lower castes. Jyotiba was elected as the first president and treasurer of the Samaj and Narayanrao Govindrao Kadalak served as the first secretary.

Source: NCERT

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Theosophical Society was founded by Madame H. P. Blavatsky and Colonel Olcott in New York in 1875.
2. Theosophy was a philosophy that combined mysticism and spiritualism with metaphysics.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

The Theosophical Society was founded by Madame H. P. Blavatsky and Colonel Olcott in New York in 1875. In 1882, the headquarters of the Society were established in Adyar, near Madras (now Chennai) in India.

Theosophy was a philosophy combining mysticism and spiritualism (with heavy influences from Buddhist and Hindu thought) with metaphysics. The Society was fashioned as a 'brotherhood' promoting unity. The Society was also concerned with preparing the world for the coming of the 'World Teacher' when he arrived on Earth.

**Source:** NCERT

**Q.6) Who among the following raised the slogan, “No religion, No caste, No God for mankind”?**

- a) Sri Narayana Guru
- b) Sahodaran Ayyapan
- c) E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker
- d) Hridayanath Kunzru

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Sri Narayana Guru preached the doctrine of 'One caste, One religion, One God.' It was his atheist disciples, Sahadaran Ayyapan, who changed into 'no religion, no caste and no God for mankind.

**Source:** NCERT

**Q.7) Consider the following statements about Veda Samaj:**

1. Veda Samaj was established by Keshab Chandra Sen and K. Sridharalu Naidu.
2. Veda Samaj was renamed as the Brahmo Samaj of Southern India in 1871.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Veda Samaj:**

Veda Samaj was established by Keshab Chandra Sen and K. Sridharalu Naidu when the former visited Madras in 1864. K. Sridharalu Naidu later visited Calcutta to study the Brahmo Samaj movement and when he returned, he renamed the Veda Samaj as Brahmo Samaj of Southern

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India in 1871. He translated the books of Brahma Dharma into Tamil and Telugu and undertook missionary tours to propagate the faith. However, Naidu's untimely death in 1874 in an accident led to several schisms into this organization.

Source: NCERT

**Q.8) Who among the following is credited for creation of Singh Sabha Movement?**

- a) Giani Gian Singh
- b) Lala Lajpat Rai
- c) Lala Hardayal
- d) Tulsi Ram

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Singh Sabha Movement:**

- The Singh Sabha Movement was a Sikh movement that began in Punjab in the 1870s in response to Christian, Hindu reform movements (Brahmo Samajis, Arya Samaj), and Muslim proselytising (Aligarh movement and Ahmadiyah).
- The movement was founded at a time when the British had dissolved and annexed the Sikh Empire, the Khalsa had lost its prestige, and mainstream Sikhs were rapidly converting to other religions.
- The movement's goals were to "promote the true Sikh religion and restore Sikhism to its pristine glory; write and distribute Sikh historical and religious books; and propagate Gurmukhi Punjabi through magazines and media."
- Sir Khem Singh Bedi, Thakur Singh Sandhawalia, Kanwar Bikram Singh of Kapurthala, and Giani Gian Singh were among those who contributed to the formation of the Sabha.
- Sandhawalia was elected president, and Giani Gian Singh was appointed secretary.

Source: NCERT

**Q.9) With respect to Aravipuram Movement, consider the following statements:**

1. Aravipuram Movement was launched by Sri Narayana Guru.
2. He consecrated an idol of Vishnu at Aravipuram for Ezhava community.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Aravipuram Movement:**

Aravipuram Movement was launched by Sri Narayana Guru on Shivaratri day of 1888. On that day, Sri Narayana Guru defied the religious restrictions traditionally placed on the Ezhava community, and consecrated an idol of Shiva at Aravipuram.

Sri Narayana Guru, born in a low-caste Ezhava family, had studied Sanskrit, Malayalam, Tamil and astrology. The Aravipuram Pratistha was a historic event, because a member of a lower caste, forbidden from entering the temple, had himself consecrated the Shiva image in a temple. On the wall of the temple Sri Narayana Guru inscribed the words: "Devoid of the dividing walls of caste or race, or hatred of rival faith, we all live here in brotherhood."

**Source:** NCERT

**Q.10) Who among the following started self-respect movement?**

- a) Mahatma Gandhi
- b) Sahodaran Ayyapan
- c) E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker
- d) Sri Narayana Guru

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Self-Respect Movement:**

The self-respect movement was founded by E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker, commonly known as Periyar. It was a dynamic social movement aimed at destroying the contemporary Hindu social order in its totality and creating a new, rational society without caste, religion and god.

A number of present-day political parties in Tamil Nadu, such as Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) owe their origins to the Self-respect movement.

**Source:** NCERT

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## *Schemes/ Programmes/ Institutions*

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements about Draft National Air Sports Policy (NASP):**

1. It aims to make India one of the top air sports nations by 2040.
2. The policy proposes to set up Air Sports Federation of India (ASFI) under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation: Purpose of the Draft National Air Sports Policy (NASP):**

It aims to make India one of the top air sports nations by 2030 by providing a safe, affordable, accessible, enjoyable and sustainable air sports ecosystem in India.

**Its objectives include:**

- (a) Promote an air sports culture in the country;
- (b) Adopt international best practices in air sports;
- (c) Develop India as a preferred global hub for air sports;
- (d) Develop effective governance structure;
- (e) Enhance participation of Indian sportspersons in global air sports events;
- (f) Promote design, development and manufacturing of air sports equipment in India.

The policy will cover activities like aerobatics, aeromodelling, amateur-built and experimental aircraft, ballooning, drones, etc.

**Key features of the Policy**

- The policy proposes a two-tier governance structure for air sports in the country which will include an apex governing body called the Air Sports Federation of India (ASFI) and associations for each air sport.
- ASFI will be an autonomous body under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- It will represent India at the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) and at other events.
- It will provide governance over various aspects of air sports like regulation, certification, competitions, awards and penalties.
- FAI is headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland and is the world governing body for air sports.

**Source:** EPIC January 2022

**Q.2) GRSE, BDL, MIDHANI are acronyms of:**

- a) Defence Public Sector Undertaking
- b) Chemical used for making rockets
- c) Ammunition used in Tanks
- d) Communication satellites

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

There are 8 Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the Department of Defense Production and Supplies.

- Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL)
- Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL)
- Bharat Earth Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd. (GRSE)
- Goa Shipyard Ltd. (GSL)
- Bharat Dynamics Ltd. (BDL)
- Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd. (MIDHANI)

These undertakings, besides meeting the Movers Ltd. (BEML) Mazagon Dock Ltd. (MDL) Requirements of the defense sector, also cater to the needs of the civil sector.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.3) Which among the following is the latest nation to join the New Development Bank (NDB)?**

- a) Egypt
- b) Bangladesh
- c) UAE
- d) Uruguay

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

- Egypt is the latest nation to join the NDB. Bangladesh, UAE and Uruguay had joined in September 2021.
- NDB is a multilateral development bank jointly founded by the BRICS countries at the 6th BRICS Summit in Fortaleza, Brazil in 2014. It aims to mobilise resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in emerging economies in areas such as transport, water and sanitation, clean energy, digital infrastructure, social infrastructure and urban development.
- The Bank got observer status in the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in 2018. The present members include Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates (UAE) Uruguay and Egypt.

Source: EPIC January 2022

**Q.4) Mahakali Treaty is an agreement between which of the following countries?**

- a) India and Bhutan
- b) India and Nepal
- c) India and Bangladesh
- d) India, Nepal and Bangladesh

**ANS: B**

**Explanation: Mahakali Treaty**

- It is an agreement between the Governments of India and Nepal regarding the integrated development of the Mahakali River.
- The treaty was signed in 1996. The treaty recognizes the Mahakali River as a boundary river between the two countries. The Mahakali River, also called Sharda and Kali River originates at Kalapani in the Himalayas in the Pithoragarh district in Uttarakhand.
- The river flows along Nepal's western border with India. It joins Ghaghara (Karnali/Manchu ) River, a tributary of the Ganga.

Source: EPIC January 2022

**Q.5) Which of the following is/are not a member of Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)?**

1. Armenia
2. Belarus
3. Kazakhstan
4. Uzbekistan
5. Tajikistan

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO):**

- It is an intergovernmental military alliance in Eurasia that consists of select post-Soviet Union States.
- It originated from the conclusion of the Collective Security Treaty, which was signed in Tashkent (Uzbekistan) on May 15, 1992 by the heads of Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- The treaty entered into force on April 20, 1994. As of today it has 6 member States: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, and Tajikistan.
- The organisation is based on the principle of collective security or the idea of 'one for all and all for one' aggression against any one state in the organisation is considered to be an aggression against all other states. This is also the principle on which NATO, the UN and earlier the League of Nations were founded.

Source: EPIC January 2022

**Q.6) Consider the following statements about Africa50:**

1. Africa50 has 50 shareholders comprising 28 African countries.
2. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) has signed a Joint Development Agreement with Africa50 to develop the Kenya Transmission Project.

**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: Africa50:**

- Africa50 is an infrastructure investment platform that contributes to Africa's economic growth by developing and investing in infrastructure projects and mobilizing public and private sector capital.
- Currently, Africa50 has 31 shareholders comprising 28 African countries, the African Development Bank, the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO), and Bank Al-Maghrib.



## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

- Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) has signed a Joint Development Agreement with Africa50 to develop the Kenya Transmission Project. The Project aims to develop power transmission lines in Kenya under a PPP framework.

Source: EPIC January 2022

### **Q.7) Consider the following statements about Asian Clearing Union (ACU):**

1. Asian Clearing Union (ACU) was established in 1974 at the initiative of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP).
2. ACU is headquartered in Kathmandu, Nepal.

#### **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: Asian Clearing Union (ACU)**

Asian Clearing Union (ACU) was established in 1974 at the initiative of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP). Its objective is to facilitate payments among member countries that helps in economizing on the use of foreign exchange reserves, reducing transfer costs and promoting trade among the participating countries. Its members include the Central Banks and the Monetary Authorities of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. ACU is headquartered in Tehran, Iran. India has recently confirmed a \$400 million currency swap with Sri Lanka while deferring another \$500 million due for settlement to the Asian Clearing Union (ACU).

Source: EPIC January 2022

### **Q.8) Consider the following statements about International Cooperative Alliance (ICA):**

1. International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) was founded in 1895.
2. Later it became a part of UN.

#### **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: International Cooperative Alliance (ICA)**

International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) was founded in 1895. It is an independent, non-governmental association that unites, represents and serves the co-operatives worldwide. ICA is not a United Nations Organization. However, the ICA enjoys General Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN-ECOSOC). ICA has 4 regional offices managing the regions: Africa, Americas, Asia-Pacific and Europe. It is headquartered in Brussels, Belgium. International Co-Operative Alliance Asia and Pacific (ICAAP) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) have released a policy recommendation handbook on SAHAKAR PRAGYA Good Practices for Cooperatives. The Handbook is a compendium of guidelines, resources, methodologies, key learning, case studies of the best performing cooperatives in India and abroad and the outcome and impact.

Source: EPIC January 2022

### **Q.9) Consider the following statements about National Technical Textiles Mission:**

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

1. The mission aims to improve the penetration level of technical textiles in the country.
2. Its implementation period is from FY20-21 to FY23-24.

**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: National Technical Textiles Mission**

The Mission aims to position India as a global leader in Technical Textiles and improve the penetration level of technical textiles in the country. Its implementation period is from FY20-21 to FY23-24. India shares nearly 6% of the world market size of USD 250 billion. The penetration level of technical textiles is low in India at 5-10%, against 30-70% in advanced countries.

Under the project, the Ministry of Textiles has cleared 20 strategic research projects in the areas of Specialty fibres and Geotextiles.

Source: EPIC January 2022

**Q.10) India's First Open Rock Museum has been inaugurated at which of the following city?**

- a) New Delhi
- b) Bhopal
- c) Hyderabad
- d) Guwahati

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: India's First Open Rock Museum**

India's First Open Rock Museum has been inaugurated in the campus of the CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) in Hyderabad. The Museum has been set up with an aim to educate and enlighten the masses about several lesser-known facts about rocks. The museum displays around 35 different types of rocks from different parts of India with ages ranging from 3.3 Billion years to around 55 Million years of the Earth's history.

Source: EPIC January 2022

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## *Science and Technology*

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**Q.1) Who heads the Defence acquisition council?**

- a) Defence Minister
- b) Defence Secretary
- c) Chief of the Integrated Defence Staff
- d) Director General (Acquisition)

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Defence Acquisition Council is the highest decision-making body in the Defence Ministry.

- It decides on new policies and capital acquisitions for the three services (Army, Navy, and Air Force) and the Indian Coast Guard.
- The Council is headed by the Defence Minister.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.2) INS Vikramaditya is the name of which one of the following?**

- a) an aircraft carrier
- b) a nuclear submarine
- c) a memorial for the sailors
- d) a naval hospital

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The INS Vikramaditya, the Indian Navy's only in-service aircraft carrier, was commissioned into service in 2013.

- It is a modified Kiev-class aircraft carrier.
- Originally built as Baku and commissioned in 1987, the carrier served with the Soviet Navy and later with the Russian Navy (as Admiral Gorshkov) before being decommissioned in 1996.
- The carrier was purchased by India in 2004.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.3) Cheetah and Chetak are the names of?**

- a) Fighter Aircraft
- b) Helicopter
- c) Armoured Vehicles
- d) Infantry regiments

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Cheetah helicopters:

- First inducted in 1976.
- HAL has been manufacturing these through technology transfer agreements with foreign companies.
- Powered by Artouste-III B turboshaft engine.
- Suitable for commuting, observation, surveillance, logistics support, rescue operations, and high altitude missions.

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

The Chetak Helicopter:

- Alouette III helicopters.
- HAL, Helicopter Division started manufacturing of helicopters in 1962, by entering an agreement with M/s SUD-AVIATION (Presently M/s AIRBUS (Former EUROCOPTER), France.
- The first Chetak (Alouette III) in 'Fly Away' condition delivered in 1965.
- A 2-ton class helicopter.
- The seven-seater helicopter is a versatile, multi-role, multi-purpose, and spacious.
- Powered by Artouste - III B turboshaft engine.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.4) Which one among the following s successful tested on Germany recent as world's first green helicopter which is environment friendly and emission free?**

- a) Volocopter
- b) Sikorsky
- c) Eurocopter
- d) Bell

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Volocopter GmbH (formerly called E-Volo GmbH) is a German aircraft manufacturer based in Bruchsal (near Karlsruhe) and founded by Alexander Zosel and Stephan Wolf.

- The company specializes in the design of electric multicopter helicopters in the form of personal air vehicles, designed for air taxi use.
- The CEO is Florian Reuter and chairman Stefan Klocke.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.5) Consider the following statements about IDEX Framework:**

1. Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) was launched by the Government of India in 2018.
2. iDEX will be funded and managed by Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO).

**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: About IDEX Framework:**

- Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) was launched by the Government of India in 2018.
- Aim: It aims to create an ecosystem to promote innovation and technology development in Defence and Aerospace. For that, it will attract industries including MSMEs, start-ups, individual innovators, R&D institutes & academia.
- It will also provide grants/funding and other support to them to carry out R&D. However, R&D should have a good potential for future adoption for Indian defence and aerospace needs.
- Objectives of IDEX:

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

- Facilitate rapid development of new, indigenized, and innovative technologies for the Indian defence and aerospace sector in shorter timelines.
- Create a culture of engagement with innovative startups, to encourage co-creation for defence and aerospace sectors.
- Empower a culture of technology co-creation and co-innovation within the defence and aerospace sectors.
- Nodal Body: iDEX will be funded and managed by Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO).

Source: ForumIAS

### **Q.6) Consider the following statements about INS Sandhayak:**

1. It has been recently commissioned as the lead ship of the Sandhayak class of survey ships.
2. The ship conducted shallow coastal and deep-sea hydrographic surveys.

**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: About INS Sandhayak:**

- INS Sandhayak was the lead ship of the Sandhayak class of survey ships.
- The ship operated as a hydrographic survey ship in the Indian Navy, under the Eastern Naval Command.
- Purpose: The ship conducted shallow coastal and deep-sea hydrographic surveys. The ship also collected oceanographic and geophysical data.
- In addition to conducting surveys, it also assisted as military transport and casualty-carrying vessels in times of war and natural disasters.
- Developed by:
- The ship was conceptualised by the then Chief Hydrographer to the Government of India, Rear Adm FL Fraser.
- The ship was developed by Garden Reach Ship Builders Limited (GRSE), Kolkata.
- The ship was then commissioned into the Indian Navy in 1981.
- Operations: The ship has been an active participant in many significant operations such as
- Operation Pawan (assisting the Indian Peace Keeping Force in Sri Lanka in 1987) and
- Operation Rainbow (rendering humanitarian assistance in Sri Lanka post Tsunami of 2004).
- The ship also participated in the maiden joint INDO-US HADR (humanitarian assistance and disaster relief) exercise 'Tiger-Triumph' in 2019.

Source: ForumIAS

### **Q.7) With respect to Positive Indigenisation List, consider the following statements:**

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

1. Positive indigenisation list essentially means that the defence forces will only procure items from domestic manufacturers.
2. The manufacturers could be only a defense Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs).

**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:** What does Positive Indigenisation List mean?

- Positive indigenisation list essentially means that the Armed Forces—Army, Navy, and Air Force—will only procure all of these 209 items from domestic manufacturers.
- The manufacturers could be private sector players or defense Public Sector Undertakings(DPSUs).

Why was the Positive Indigenisation List announced?

- India has been one of the largest importers of weapons in the world for over a decade.
- As per Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, India was the second-largest importer between 2014 and 2019. It imported weapons worth US\$ 16.75 billion during this period.
- Hence, the government wants to reduce the dependence on imported items in defense.
- Further, the list encourages Indian Defence Industry to step up and manufacture the items mentioned in the Negative List for the needs of the forces.
- Moreover, the list is also in line with the government's target to reach a turnover of USD 25 billion by 2025 through indigenously manufactured defence products

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.8) Consider the following statements about Israel's "Iron Dome":**

1. Iron Dome is a short-range, ground-to-air, air defence system.
2. It will counter aircraft, helicopters and unmanned aerial vehicles fired from distances of up to 70 kilometres.

**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:** Israel's 'Iron Dome' System has been successful in intercepting the continuous barrage of rockets targeting Israel.

About Iron Dome:

- Iron Dome is a short-range, ground-to-air, air defence system. Israeli manufacturer Rafael Advanced Defense Systems developed it with support from the United States.
- Purpose: It is used for countering rockets, artillery & mortars (C-RAM). It will also counter aircraft, helicopters and unmanned aerial vehicles fired from distances of up to 70 kilometres.

## PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022

- How does Iron Dome work? The Iron Dome has three main systems. These systems will work together to provide a shield over the area where it is deployed, handling multiple threats:
- Firstly, it has detection and tracking radar. It tracks any incoming threat into Israel
- Secondly, it has a battle management and weapon control system (BMC). It predicts the incoming rocket's trajectory
- Lastly, the information picked by the system is then used to guide Tamir interceptor missiles. These missiles are fired vertically either from mobile units or a static launch site. This will detonate the incoming rocket in the air by producing explosions in the sky.

Other key Features of Iron Dome:

- The missile can be used in all weather conditions, including during the day and night.
- Israel claims the system has stopped thousands of enemy launches from hitting targets, with a success rate of more than 90%.

Source: ForumIAS

Q.9) Which of the following country as approved the sale of P-8I patrol aircraft to India?

- a) Israel
- b) Japan
- c) USA
- d) Russia

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: About P-8I patrol aircraft:**

- P-8I is a long-range, multi-mission maritime patrol aircraft. US-based manufacturer Boeing developed this aircraft.
- The aircraft is based on the Boeing 737 commercial aircraft and India is its first international customer.
- Features: The design of the aircraft is such, it protects the vast coastline and territorial waters of India. It can also conduct anti-submarine warfare (ASW), anti-surface warfare (AsuW), intelligence, maritime patrol and surveillance, and reconnaissance missions.
- Significance: As India has signed the Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) foundational agreement with the US, the aircraft will come fitted with encrypted systems.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.10) Which of the following aircraft has been cleared to carry fifth-generation Python-5 air-to-air missile as part of its weapons package?**

- a) Tejas
- b) Rafale
- c) Sukhoi
- d) Mirage

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Indigenously-developed Tejas Aircraft has been cleared to carry fifth-generation Python-5 air-to-air missile as part of its weapons package. This move would significantly enhance the combat prowess of the Tejas Aircraft.

About Python-5:

## PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022

- Python-5 is a fifth-generation air-to-air missile (AAM) manufactured by Israeli Rafael Advanced Defense Systems.
- The Python-5 Missile was first used in the 2006 Lebanon war. During the war, it destroyed two Iran made UAVs.

### Key Features:

- Firstly, the missile can be launched from very short to beyond-visual ranges with greater kill probability and excellent resistance.
- Secondly, Python-5 is capable of “lock-on after launch” (LOAL). The missile also has a full-sphere/all-direction (including rearward) attack ability.
- Thirdly, the missile also features an advanced seeker with an electro-optical and imaging infrared homing seeker. This seeker scans the target area for hostile aircraft, then locks on for the terminal chase.

Source: ForumIAS



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## *Economy*

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**Q.1) National Housing bank is a fully owned subsidiary of which of the following?**

- a) HDFC
- b) HSBC
- c) RBI
- d) HUDCO

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: National Housing bank:**

National Housing Bank is a statutory organization set up on July 9, 1988 under the National Housing Bank Act, 1987. NHB is wholly owned by Reserve Bank of India, which contributed the entire paid-up capital.

**Role:** NHB regulates the housing finance system of the country, extends refinance to different primary lenders and lends directly in respect of projects undertaken by public housing agencies for housing construction and development of housing related infrastructure.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.2.) Which of the following is not a regulatory institution in Indian financial system?**

- a) RBI
- b) CIBIL
- c) SEBI
- d) IRDA

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

The full form of CIBIL is Credit Information Bureau (India) Limited. CIBIL was founded in August 2000 and is India's first credit information firm. The organization gathers and manages financial records of individuals as well as business organizations relating to loan and credit card payments & borrowings. CIBIL acquires this data with the assistance of its bankers and credit institutions. CIBIL is RBI authorized and is also known as the Credit Bureau. It is covered under the 2005 Credit Information Companies Regulation Act. To find relevant information, it requires support from its associated partners, including bank members & credit institutions. Associate partners give it every month.

**SEBI:** The Securities and Exchange Board of India owned by the Government of India was established on 12th April 1992 under the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 to protect the interests of the investors in securities along with promoting and regulating the securities market. Headquartered in Mumbai, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has four regional offices located in Ahmedabad, Chennai, Delhi and Kolkata. SEBI was initially formed in the year 1988 as a non-statutory body for the regulation of the securities market and later acquired statutory status on 30th January 1992.

**IRDA:** The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India or the IRDAI is the apex body responsible for regulating and developing the insurance industry in India. It is an autonomous body. It was established by an act of Parliament known as the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999. Hence, it is a statutory body.

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

The IRDAI is headquartered in Hyderabad in Telangana. Prior to 2001, it was headquartered in New Delhi.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.3) Which of the following is not an asset held by Commercial Banks?**

- a) Bills of Exchange
- b) Current Account Deposits
- c) Money Lent at short Notice
- d) Credit Balances with the Reserve Bank

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

- The key business of the banks is to accept different types of deposits from the public and then lend these funds to the borrowers.
- This is called Financial intermediation.
- In terms of the banks, the deposits represent the “liabilities” of the banks while loans advanced and investments made by banks represent their “assets”.
- The deposit itself is a liability owed by the bank to the depositor.
- Bank deposits refer to this liability rather than to the actual funds that have been deposited.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.4) At which of the following cities is the Head Office of Reserve Bank of India located?**

- a) Mumbai
- b) New Delhi
- c) Kolkata
- d) Dehradun

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

- The Reserve Bank of India was established on April 1, 1935 in accordance with the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- The Central Office of the Reserve Bank was initially established in Kolkata but was permanently moved to Mumbai in 1937. The Central Office is where the Governor sits and where policies are formulated.
- Though originally privately owned, since nationalisation in 1949, the Reserve Bank is fully owned by the Government of India.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.5) “Scheduled bank” in India means a bank \_\_\_\_ ?**

- a) Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956
- b) Authorized to the Banking business
- c) Governed by the Banking Regulation Act, 1949
- d) Included in the Second schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act 1934

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Scheduled banks are banks that are listed in the 2nd schedule of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. The bank's paid-up capital and raised funds must be at least Rs5 lakh to

## PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022

qualify as a scheduled bank. Scheduled banks are liable for low-interest loans from the Reserve Bank of India and membership in clearinghouses.

Source: ForumIAS

### **Q.6) DICGC stands for which of the following?**

- a) Deposit Industrial Credit Guarantee Corporation
- b) Development Insurance Credit Guarantee Corporation
- c) Development Industrial Credit Guarantee Corporation
- d) Deposit Insurance Credit Guarantee Corporation

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). It provides deposit insurance that works as a protection cover for bank deposit holders when the bank fails to pay its depositors.

Source: ForumIAS

### **Q.7) When a deposit of money is received by the banker, the banker becomes which of the following?**

- a) Creditor
- b) Debtor
- c) Receiver
- d) Customer

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** A business or person that owes the money is called a debtor. The debtor is referred to as a borrower if the debt is in the form of a loan from a financial institution, and as an issuer if the debt is in the form of securities like bonds.

If a customer deposits money with a bank then the banker becomes a borrower.

Source: ForumIAS

### **Q.8) Which of the following is/are correct about non-scheduled banks in India?**

1. A non-scheduled bank does not have to maintain CRR with the RBI.
2. Also it cannot lend money from RBI under LAF.
3. The banks named under second schedule of RBI Act 1934, are non-scheduled banks.

**Select the correct answer using the cods given below:**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

Non-scheduled banks by definition are those which are not listed in the 2nd schedule of the RBI act, 1934.

They don't conform to all the criteria under clause 42, but dully follow specific guidelines as laid down by RBI.

Banks with a reserve capital of less than 5 lakh rupees qualify as non-scheduled banks.

Unlike scheduled banks, they are not entitled to borrow from the RBI for normal banking purposes, except, in an emergency or abnormal circumstances.

## PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022

Bangalore City Co-operative Bank Ltd. Bangalore, Baroda City Co-op. Bank Limited are a few examples.

Non- Scheduled Banks have to follow CRR conditions. These banks can have CRR fund with themselves as no compulsion has been made by the RBI to deposit it in the RBI.

Non- Scheduled Banks are also not eligible for having loans from the RBI for day to day activities but under the emergency conditions RBI can grant loan to them.

Source: ForumIAS

### **Q.9) "Repo Rate" refers to the rate at which**

- a) RBI borrows short term money from the markets
- b) Banks keeps the money with RBI
- c) Bills are discounted by RBI
- d) Forex purchased by RBI

**ANS: C**

#### **Explanation: Repo Rate:**

Repo rate is the rate at which the central bank of a country (Reserve Bank of India in case of India) lends money to commercial banks in the event of any shortfall of funds. Repo rate is used by monetary authorities to control inflation.

In the event of inflation, central banks increase repo rate as this acts as a disincentive for banks to borrow from the central bank. This ultimately reduces the money supply in the economy and thus helps in arresting inflation.

The central bank takes the contrary position in the event of a fall in inflationary pressures. Repo and reverse repo rates form a part of the liquidity adjustment facility.

Source: ForumIAS

### **Q.10) Which of the following is not a function of a Bank?**

- a) To accept deposits
- b) To waive loans
- c) To grant advances
- d) To supply input to farmers

**ANS: D**

#### **Explanation: Bank:**

- A bank is a lawful organisation that accepts deposits that can be withdrawn on demand. Banks are institutions that help the public in the management of their finances, public deposit their savings in banks with the assurance to withdraw money from the deposits whenever required.
- Banks accept deposits from the general public and from the business community as well and give two assurances to the depositors –
  - Safety of deposit
  - Withdrawal of deposit, whenever needed

#### **Functions of Banks:**

All banks have to perform two major primary functions namely:

- Accepting of deposits
- Granting of loans and advances

Like Primary Functions of Bank, the secondary functions are also classified into two parts:

- Agency functions

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- Utility Functions

### **Agency Functions of Bank**

Banks are the agents for their customers, hence it has to perform various agency functions as mentioned below:

- Transfer of Funds: Transferring of funds from one branch/place to another.
- Periodic Collections: Collecting dividend, salary, pension, and similar periodic collections on the clients' behalf.
- Periodic Payments: Making periodic payments of rents, electricity bills, etc on behalf of the client.
- Collection of Cheques: Like collecting money from the bills of exchanges, the bank collects the money of the cheques through the clearing section of its customers.
- Portfolio Management: Banks manage the portfolio of their clients. It undertakes the activity to purchase and sell the shares and debentures of the clients and debits or credits the account.
- Other Agency Functions: Under this bank act as a representative of its clients for other institutions. It acts as an executor, trustee, administrators, advisers, etc. of the client.

### **Utility Functions of Bank**

- Issuing letters of credit, traveller's cheque, etc.
- Undertaking safe custody of valuables, important documents, and securities by providing safe deposit vaults or lockers.
- Providing customers with facilities of foreign exchange dealings
- Underwriting of shares and debentures
- Dealing in foreign exchanges
- Social Welfare programmes
- Project reports
- Standing guarantee on behalf of its customers, etc.

Source: ForumIAS

## *Indian Polity*

**Q.1) Consider the following statements:**

1. The maximum strength of the RajyaSabha is fixed at 280.
2. The Third Schedule of the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the RajyaSabha to the states and union territories.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation: Composition of RajyaSabha**

The maximum strength of the RajyaSabha is fixed at 250, out of which, 238 are to be the representatives of the states and union territories (elected indirectly) and 12 are nominated by the president. At present, the RajyaSabha has 245 members. Of these, 229 members represent the states, 4 members represent the union territories and 12 members are nominated by the president. The Fourth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the RajyaSabha to the states and union territories.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.2) With respect to readjustment of LokSabhaseats after each census, consider the following statements:**

1. 87th Amendment Act of 2003 provided for the delimitation of constituencies on the basis of 1991 census.
2. The 44nd Amendment Act of 1978 froze the allocation of seats in the LokSabha to the states.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation: Readjustment after each Census**

After every census, a readjustment is to be made in

- (a) allocation of seats in the LokSabha to the states, and
- (b) division of each state into territorial constituencies.

Parliament is empowered to determine the authority and the manner in which it is to be made. Accordingly, the Parliament has enacted the Delimitation Commission Acts in 1952, 1962, 1972 and 2002 for this purpose.

The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 froze the allocation of seats in the LokSabha to the states and the division of each state into territorial constituencies till the year 2000 at the 1971 level. This ban on readjustment was extended for another 25 years (ie, upto year 2026) by the 84th Amendment Act of 2001, with the same objective of encouraging population limiting measures.

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

The 84th Amendment Act of 2001 also empowered the government to undertake readjustment and rationalisation of territorial constituencies in the states on the basis of the population figures of 1991 census. Later, the 87th Amendment Act of 2003 provided for the delimitation of constituencies on the basis of 2001 census and not 1991 census. However, this can be done without altering the number of seats allotted to each state in the Lok Sabha.

Source: Laxmikanth

### **Q.3) Consider the following statements:**

1. India has adopted the 'First-past-the-post system' for the election of members to the Lok Sabha only.
2. Of two kinds of proportional representation, India has adopted list system for the election of members to the Rajya Sabha.

### **Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

### **Explanation: First-Past-The-Post System**

Though the Constitution has adopted the system of proportional representation in the case of Rajya Sabha, it has not preferred the same system in the case of Lok Sabha. Instead, it has adopted the system of territorial representation (First-past-the-post system) for the election of members to the Lok Sabha.

The system of proportional representation aims at removing the defects of territorial representation. Under this system, all sections of the people get representation in proportion to their number. Even the smallest section of the population gets its due share of representation in the legislature.

There are two kinds of proportional representation, namely, single transferable vote system and list system. In India, the first kind is adopted for the election of members to the Rajya Sabha and state legislative council and for electing the President and the Vice-President.

Source: Laxmikanth

### **Q.4) Consider the following statements:**

1. Rajya Sabha is a permanent body.
2. Two-third of its members retires every third year.

### **Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

### **Explanation: Duration of Rajya Sabha**

The Rajya Sabha (first constituted in 1952) is a continuing chamber, that is, it is a permanent body and not subject to dissolution. However, one-third of its members retire every second year. Their seats are filled up by fresh elections and presidential nominations at the beginning of every third year. The retiring members are eligible for re-election and renomination any number of times.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.5) Which of the following are the limitations on the sovereignty of Indian Parliament?**

1. Fundamental Rights
2. Judicial Review
3. Federalism
4. Written Constitution

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation: The factors that limit the sovereignty of Indian Parliament are:**

- Written Nature of the Constitution
- Federal System of Government
- System of Judicial Review
- Fundamental Rights

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.6) Which of the following is not a formally prescribed device available to the members of Parliament?**

- a) Question Hour
- b) Zero Hour
- c) Half-an-hour discussion
- d) Short duration discussion

**ANS: B**

**Explanation: Zero Hour**

Unlike the question hour, the zero hour is not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure. Thus it is an informal device available to the members of the Parliament to raise matters without any prior notice. The zero hour starts immediately after the question hour and lasts until the agenda for the day (ie, regular business of the House) is taken up. In other words, the time gap between the question hour and the agenda is known as zero hour. It is an Indian innovation in the field of parliamentary procedures and has been in existence since 1962.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.7) Which of the following given statement is/are not correct?**

1. Prorogation only terminates a sitting and not a session of the House.
2. Adjournment not only terminates a sitting but also a session of the House.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**



**Table 22.1** *Adjournment vs Prorogation*

Adjournment	Prorogation
1. It only terminates a sitting and not a session of the House.	1. It not only terminates a sitting but also a session of the House.
2. It is done by presiding officer of the House.	2. It is done by the president of India.
3. It does not affect the bills or any other business pending before the House and the same can be resumed when the House meets again.	3. It also does not affect the bills or any other business pending before the House. <sup>13</sup> However, all pending notices (other than those for introducing bills) lapse on prorogation and fresh notices have to be given for the next session. In Britain, prorogation brings to an end all bills or any other business pending before the House.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.8) Which of the following requires written answer?**

- a) Starred question
- b) Unstarred question
- c) Short notice question
- d) Both (a) and (c)

**ANS: B**

**Explanation: The questions are of three kinds, namely, starred, unstarred and short notice.**

A starred question (distinguished by an asterisk) requires an oral answer and hence supplementary questions can follow.

An unstarred question, on the other hand, requires a written answer and hence, supplementary questions cannot follow.

A short notice question is one that is asked by giving a notice of less than ten days. It is answered orally.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.9) Which of the following is divided in three sub-categories, namely, Ancillary Motion, Superseding Motion and Amendment?**

- a) Substantive Motion
- b) Substitute Motion
- c) Subsidiary Motion
- d) Closure Motion

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Motions**

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No discussion on a matter of general public importance can take place except on a motion made with the consent of the presiding officer. The House expresses its decisions or opinions on various issues through the adoption or rejection of motions moved by either ministers or private members. The motions moved by the members to raise discussions on various matters fall into three principal categories:

1. Substantive Motion: It is a self-contained independent proposal dealing with a very important matter like impeachment of the President or removal of Chief Election Commissioner.
2. Substitute Motion: It is a motion that is moved in substitution of an original motion and proposes an alternative to it. If adopted by the House, it supersedes the original motion.
3. Subsidiary Motion: It is a motion that, by itself, has no meaning and cannot state the decision of the House without reference to the original motion or proceedings of the House. It is divided into three sub-categories:
  - a) Ancillary Motion: It is used as the regular way of proceeding with various kinds of business.
  - b) Superseding Motion: It is moved in the course of debate on another issue and seeks to supersede that issue.
  - c) Amendment: It seeks to modify or substitute only a part of the original motion.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.10) In which of the following closure, only important clauses are taken up for debate and voting and the intervening clauses are skipped over and taken as passed?**

- a) Guillotine Closure
- b) Kangaroo Closure
- c) Closure by Compartments
- d) Simple Closure

**ANS: B**

**Explanation: Closure Motion**

It is a motion moved by a member to cut short the debate on a matter before the House. If the motion is approved by the House, debate is stopped forthwith and the matter is put to vote. There are four kinds of closure motions:

- a) Simple Closure: It is one when a member moves that the 'matter having been sufficiently discussed be now put to vote'.
- b) Closure by Compartments: In this case, the clauses of a bill or a lengthy resolution are grouped into parts before the commencement of the debate. The debate covers the part as a whole and the entire part is put to vote.
- c) Kangaroo Closure: Under this type, only important clauses are taken up for debate and voting and the intervening clauses are skipped over and taken as passed.
- d) Guillotine Closure: It is one when the undiscussed clauses of a bill or a resolution are also put to vote along with the discussed ones due to want of time (as the time allotted for the discussion is over).

Source: Laxmikanth

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## Geography

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**Q.1) Which of the following can be defined as, “the atmospheric temperature increasing at the higher altitudes”?**

- a) Radiation
- b) Inversion
- c) Conduction
- d) Convection

**ANS: B**

**Explanation: Temperature and Atmospheric layers:**

- The atmosphere can be split into layers depending on whether temperature is increasing or decreasing with increasing altitude.
- The troposphere is found, roughly, between 0 and about 10 km altitude and is where temperature usually decreases with increasing altitude. [The troposphere is usually a little higher in the tropics and lower at polar latitudes]
- Temperature remains constant between 10 and 20 km and then increases with increasing altitude between 20 and 50 km. These two sections form the stratosphere.
- The stratosphere is a very stable air layer. Increasing temperature with increasing altitude is called an inversion. This is what makes the stratosphere so stable.

Source: ICSE book

**Q.2) Subtropical high pressure belts are otherwise termed which among the following?**

- a) Furious fifties
- b) Screeching sixties
- c) Horse latitudes
- d) Roaring forties

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Pressure Belts of Earth**

- On the earth's surface, there are seven pressure belts.
- They are the Equatorial Low, the two Subtropical highs, the two Subpolar lows, and the two Polar highs.
- Except for the Equatorial low, the others form matching pairs in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

**Subtropical High-Pressure Belts**

- At about 30°North and South of Equator lies the area where the ascending equatorial air currents descend.
- This area is thus an area of high pressure.
- It is also called as the Horse latitude.
- Winds always blow from high pressure to low pressure.
- So the winds from subtropical region blow towards the Equator as Trade winds and another wind blow towards Sub-Polar Low-Pressure as Westerlies.

Source: ICSE book

**Q.3) The climatic zones are classified on the basis of which of the following?**

- a) Distance from the equator
- b) Elevation
- c) Rainfall
- d) Distance from the sea

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The climatic zones are classified on the basis of maximum and minimum temperatures and the temperature range as well as the total and seasonal distribution of precipitation. Based on these parameters, the most commonly used classification scheme was originally developed by Wladimir Koppen.

Source: ICSE book

**Q.4) Which of the following layer of the atmosphere reflect back Radio Waves?**

- a) Stratosphere
- b) Exosphere
- c) Ionosphere
- d) Mesosphere

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Ionosphere:**

Solar radiation ionizes the ionosphere. It plays an important role in the energy of the atmosphere and forms the magnetosphere's inner edge. It has practical significance because it affects radio transmission to distant places on the planet, among other functions. It is an electrically conducting region which is capable of reflecting radio signals back to the earth. The ionosphere reflects radio waves from the earth thus, helping radio communication.

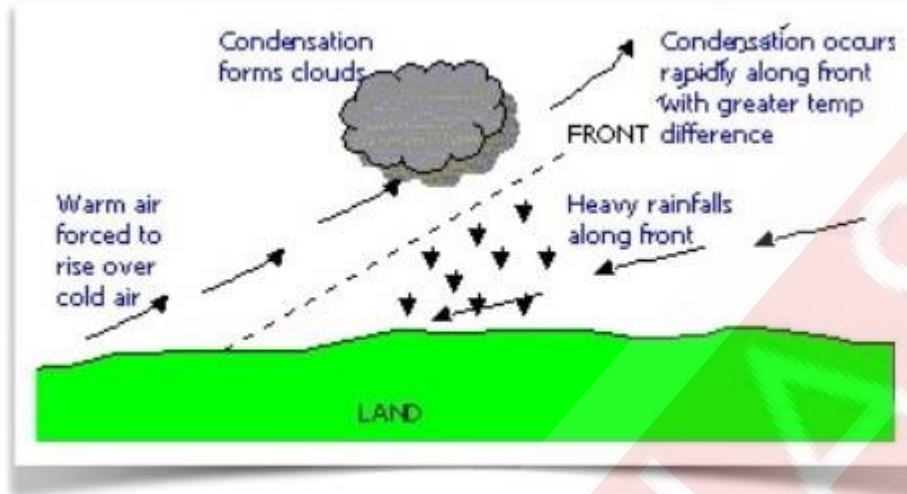
Source: ICSE book

**Q.5) Which of the following is the main cause of Frontal Rains?**

- a) Cyclonic activity
- b) Winds from sea
- c) Convection current
- d) Condensation of water evaporated from mountains

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Frontal (or Cyclonic) Rain is caused by cyclonic activity and it occurs along the fronts of the cyclone. It is formed when two masses of air of different temperature, humidity and density meets.



Source: ICSE book

**Q.6) If there is no carbon dioxide in the earth's atmosphere, the temperature of earth's surface would be?**

- a) dependent on the amount of oxygen in the atmosphere
- b) higher than the present
- c) less than the present
- d) Remains the same

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Over the geological time scale, the greenhouse gases concentration, specifically the methane and carbon dioxide have been found to fluctuate naturally. Moreover, human activities like burning of fossil fuels, use of transportation which are gasoline based and clearance of forest have contributed to changes in the concentration of gases in the atmosphere. Various industrial effluents have increased the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere which further combines with the air pollutants present in the atmosphere. This traps the solar energy and raises the temperature of earth's surface. This is also referred to as global warming. So, in the absence of carbon dioxide, global warming declines and the temperature of the earth thus decreases.

Source: ICSE book

**Q.7) Which of the following winds is called anti-trade wind?**

- a) Chinook
- b) Easterlies
- c) Typhoon
- d) Westerlies

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Westerlies are rather stormy and variable though the main direction remains from west to east. But as their general direction is from the west, they are called the "Westerlies". They are also known as "Anti-Trade Winds", because their movement is in the opposite direction from that of the trade wind.

Source: ICSE book

**Q.8) Trade winds blow from which of the following pressure belt?**

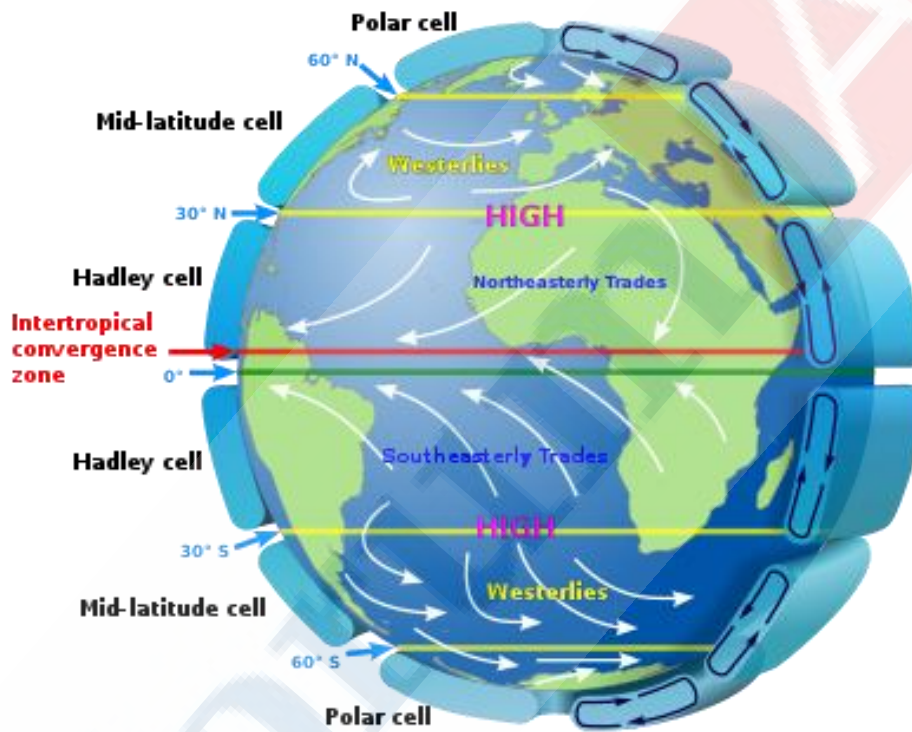
**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

- a) Equatorial low pressure
- b) Polar high pressure
- c) Subtropical high pressure
- d) Sub-polar low pressure

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Trade Winds**

The trade winds are winds that reliably blow east to west just north and south of the equator. The winds help ships travel west, and they can also steer storms such as hurricanes, too. The trade winds are air currents closer to Earth's surface that blows from east to west near the equator.



Source: ICSE book

**Q.9) Land and sea-breezes occur due to:**

- a) Conduction
- b) Convection
- c) Radiation
- d) Tides

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** During the day, the sun warming the land also warms the air. Since land heats up quicker than water does, the air over land gets warmer than the air over the water. Consequently, the warmer air, being less dense moves up. To fill its place the cooler air over the water moves in to fill its place creating what is known as a Sea Breeze. Reversely, at night the land cools down faster than the water does, and creates a Land Breeze.

Source: ICSE book

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**Q.10) Which of the following absorbs part of the insolation and preserves earth's radiated heat?**

- a) Oxygen
- b) Nitrogen
- c) Water vapour
- d) Carbon-dioxide

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The amount of solar energy reaching the Earth is 70 percent. The surface of the Earth absorbs 51 percent of the insolation. Water vapor and dust account for 16 percent of the energy absorbed. Most of the terrestrial radiation is absorbed by the water vapor in the atmosphere and some by other gases (about 8 percent is radiated directly to outer space). This radiant energy is re-radiated in the atmosphere horizontally and vertically.

Source: ICSE book

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## *Environment*

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**Q.1) Which of the conventions given below is/are financed by Global Environment Facility (GEF)?**

1. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
2. Ramsar Convention
3. Minamata Convention on Mercury

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The GEF provides funding to assist developing countries in meeting the objectives of international environmental conventions. The GEF serves as a "financial mechanism" to five conventions: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and Minamata Convention on Mercury.

The conventions, for which the GEF serves as financial mechanism, provide broad strategic guidance to the two governing bodies of the GEF: the GEF Council and the GEF Assembly. The GEF Council converts this broad guidance into operational criteria (guidelines) for GEF projects.

Source: <https://www.thegef.org/>

**Q.2) Consider the following statements about Global Environment Facility (GEF):**

1. It was established in 2001 by the World Bank in consultation with UNDP and UNEP.
2. It aims to provide funding to protect the global environment.

**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: Global Environment Facility (GEF)**

- The GEF was established in 1991 by the World Bank in consultation with UNDP and UNEP, to provide funding to protect the global environment.
- World Bank serves as the GEF trustee, administering the fund.
- GEF Funds are available to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to meet the objectives of the international environmental conventions and agreements.

Source: <https://www.thegef.org/>

**Q.3) Consider the following statements about Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF):**

1. It is a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society, and Indigenous Peoples.



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2. The FCPF supports REDD+ efforts through its Readiness and Carbon Funds.
3. India is FCPF participant.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

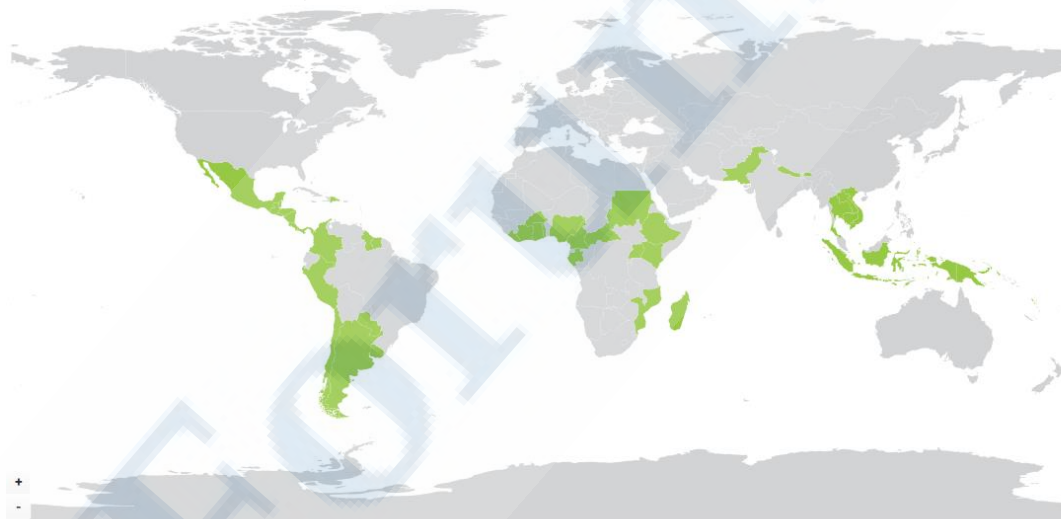
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The **Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)** is a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society, and indigenous people's organizations focused on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, forest carbon stock conservation, the sustainable management of forests, and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries, activities commonly referred to as REDD+.

Launched in 2008, the FCPF now works with 47 developing countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean, along with 17 donors that have made contributions and commitments totaling \$1.3 billion.

A REDD+ Country Participant is a developing country located in a subtropical or tropical area that has signed a Participation Agreement to participate in the Readiness Fund. Forty-seven developing countries have been selected to join the FCPF (18 in Africa, 18 in Latin America, and 11 in the Asia-Pacific region). REDD+ Country Participants.



Source: <https://www.thegef.org/>

**Q.4) Consider the following statements:**

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

1. The Carbon Fund is set up to pilot incentive payments for REDD+ efforts in developing countries.
2. It is designed to help countries and their stakeholders achieve long-term sustainability in financing forest conservation.

**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 Carbon Fund**

- The Carbon Fund is set up to pilot incentive payments for REDD+ efforts in developing countries.
- FCPF participant countries that have made significant progress in their REDD+ readiness endeavors may be selected to participate in the Carbon Fund, which became fully operational in May 2011.
- Carbon Fund payments aim to make forests more valuable standing than cut down.
- Carbon Funds payments are designed to help countries and their stakeholders achieve long-term sustainability in financing forest conservation.
- They are intended to help reduce climate change impacts from forest loss and degradation by making forests more valuable standing than cut down.
- The Carbon Fund remunerates participant countries in accordance with negotiated contracts for verifiable emission reductions (ERs).

Source: <https://www.thegef.org/>

**Q.5) Which of the following statement is/are not correct?**

- a) Carbon Initiative for Development (Ci-Dev) is a World Bank trust fund that mobilizes public finance for clean energy access in low-income countries.
- b) It delivers results-based finance to innovative and transformative business models.
- c) It provides financing for projects that support low-carbon energy access in low-income countries.
- d) None

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Carbon Initiative for Development**

- The Carbon Initiative for Development (Ci-Dev) is a World Bank trust fund that mobilizes private finance for clean energy access in low-income countries.
- It delivers results-based finance to innovative and transformative business models driven by the private sector.
- Through 2025, Ci-Dev will have mobilized more than \$250 million in private finance to provide low-carbon energy to more than 10 million people in the communities most vulnerable to climate change.

**Objectives**

- To support private sector-led and -driven business models in the energy access sector that are both innovative and transformative by using results-based climate finance (RBCF).

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- To identify and support the specific and targeted uses of carbon revenues that may have an impact on these business models.
- To test whether and how these roles of carbon revenues generate a hypothesized impact via execution of a robust knowledge management work program.
- To generate lessons learned about how post-2020 transitions can take place using a real-world portfolio.

Source: <https://www.thegef.org/>

**Q.6) Consider the following statements about Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR):**

1. It is a multi-donor partnership that supports low and middle-income countries to understand, manage, and reduce their risks from natural hazards and climate change.
2. It was established post adoption of Sendai framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

**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: Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)**

The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) is a multi-donor partnership that supports low and middle-income countries to understand, manage, and reduce their risks from natural hazards and climate change. Established in 2006, GFDRR is uniquely positioned to scale the resilience agenda in these countries by providing funding and expertise for policy advice on improving disaster risk management (DRM) at national and local levels, as it relates to land use, building codes, public health, transport, and education, agriculture, environmental protection, energy, water resources management, poverty reduction, fiscal risk management, and climate change adaptation, among others. This advice, in the context of the World Bank's policy-based lending, creates both technical capacity and financial incentives that enables formalization of policy changes for improved DRM. The Project Management Unit, located within the World Bank, manages grant resources to carry out GFDRR's mission.

Source: <https://www.thegef.org/>

**Q.7) India is a member of which one of the following programs of Climate Investment Fund?**

- a) Clean Technology Fund
- b) Pilot Program for Climate Resilience
- c) Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program
- d) Forest Investment Program

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** CIF's programs fall under two individual trust funds, the Clean Technology Fund (CTF) and the Strategic Climate Fund (SCF). There are 9 programs:

- Clean Technology Fund
- Pilot Program for Climate Resilience
- Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program
- Forest Investment Program

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- CIF Accelerating Coal Transition Investment
- CIF Industry Decarbonization
- CIF Nature Solutions
- CIF Renewable Energy Integration
- CIF Smart Cities

India is a member to Clean Technology Fund (CTF) only.

Source: <https://www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/cif-programs>

**Q.8) Consider the following statements:**

1. Clean Technology Fund (CTF) is at the forefront of financing promising renewable energy technologies.
2. Clean Technology Fund empowers transformation in developing countries.

**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: Clean Technology Fund**

The CIF monitors and reports on the Clean Technology Fund's (CTF) contributions to avoiding greenhouse gas emissions and increasing finance for low carbon development, supply of renewable energy, access to low carbon public transport, and energy efficiency. Implementing MDBs annually collect, aggregate, and report data on these indicators for all approved projects. Large infrastructure projects such as those financed by CTF take time to implement and ramp up to full operational potential. The results reported thus far reflect the nature of this project development cycle, as well as projects' varying stages of implementation. Over time, actual results—annual and cumulative—will increase, reflecting CTF's true impact on the ground.

Source: <https://www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/cif-programs>

**Q.9) Consider the following statements about Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (ESMAP):**

1. ESMAP is a partnership between the IMF and other partners to help low and middle-income countries reduce poverty and boost growth through sustainable energy solutions.
2. ESMAP works to accelerate the energy transition required to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7).

**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: Energy Sector Management Assistance Program**

ESMAP is a partnership between the World Bank and 24 partners to help low and middle-income countries reduce poverty and boost growth through sustainable energy solutions. ESMAP's analytical and advisory services are fully integrated within the World Bank's country financing and policy dialogue in the energy sector. Through the World Bank Group (WBG), ESMAP works

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to accelerate the energy transition required to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7) to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. It helps to shape WBG strategies and programs to achieve the WBG Climate Change Action Plan targets.

Source: <https://www.esmap.org/node/70853>

**Q.10) 'BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest landscapes' is managed by the**

- a) Asian Development Bank
- b) International Monetary Fund
- c) United Nations Environment Programme
- d) World Bank

**ANS: D**

**Explanation: BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest landscapes**

- The BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL) is a multilateral fund, supported by donor governments and managed by the World Bank.
- It promotes reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the land sector, including efforts to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD+), sustainable agriculture, as well as smarter land-use planning, policies and practices.

**Source:** <https://www.biocarbonfund-isfl.org/who-we-are>

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## *History*

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**Q.1) Who among the following was the viceroy of India when Indian National Congress (INC) was established?**

- a) Lord Canning
- b) Lord Dufferin
- c) Lord Ripon
- d) Lord Lansdowne

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Lord Dufferin was Viceroy of India from 1884-1888. His predecessor as Viceroy, Lord Ripon, while popular with the Indians, was very unpopular with the Anglo-Indians, who objected to the rapid pace of his extensive reforms. To rule with any success, Dufferin would need to gain the support of both communities. By all accounts he was highly successful in this regard, and gained substantial support from all communities in India. He advanced the cause of the Indian Nationalists greatly during his term, without antagonising the conservative whites. Among other things, the Indian National Congress was founded during his term in 1885, and he laid the foundations for the modern Indian Army by establishing the Imperial Service Corps, officered by Indians.

Source: NCERT

**Q.2) Consider the following statements about Swaraj Party:**

1. It was formed after Gaya Session of Indian National Congress in 1922.
2. It worked as an independent Party.
3. The party decided to boycott the legislatures.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Swaraj Party was formed by Motilal Nehru and Chittaranjandas and was named as "Congress-Khilafat Swarajaya Party" in 1922. It also claimed to be an integral part of the Congress and professes its adherence to Non-Violence & Non-Cooperation Movement and decided to boycott the legislatures. One group led by C.R. Das, Motilal Nehru and Vithalbhai Patel wanted that the congress should take part in the elections and wreck the working of legislatures from within. The other group which was led by Vallabhbhai Patel, C. Rajagopalachari and Rajendra Prasad, was opposed to this. They wanted the congress to be engaged in the constructive programme.

Source: NCERT

**Q.3) Who among the following was the president of Indian National Trade Union Congress?**

- a) N.M Joshi
- b) Lala Lajpat Rai
- c) Jawaharlal Nehru
- d) Vallabhbhai Patel

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Thus INTUC was born on May 3, 1947 as historic necessity, just before Indian attained independence. The constitution of INTUC was adopted in the second day's proceedings of the conference, Mahatma Gandhi who was then in Delhi also blessed the new found trade union centre.

Acharya JB Kripalani, who was then President of the Indian National Congress inaugurated the Founding conference of INTUC which was presided over by Sardar Vallabhai Patel. Under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi, the founding fathers in their wisdom preferred to let the INTUC have an independent identity with its own constitution, while at the same time functioning as an arm of the Congress.

Objectives of INTUC: To establish an order of society which is free from hindrance in the way on an all-round development of its individual members, which fosters the growth of human personality in all its aspects and goes to the utmost limit in progressively eliminating social political or economic exploitation and inequality, the profit motive in the economic activity and organisation of society and the anti-social concentration in any form.

Source: NCERT

**Q.4) Consider the following Political organisations:**

- 1. British Indian Society
- 2. British India Association
- 3. East India Association

**Which of the above mentioned political organisation was/were founded outside India for the cause of Indian Freedom Struggle?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Some of the organisations founded before formation of Indian National Congress are:

- 1. Landholders Society: Founded in: 1836, Place: Kolkata (formerly named: Calcutta), Founded by: Dwarkanath Tagore
- 2. British India Society: Founded in: 1839, Place: London, Founded by: William Adam
- 3. Bengal British India Society: Founded in: 1843, Place: Kolkata (formerly named: Calcutta)
- 4. British India Association: Founded in: 1852, Place: Kolkata (formerly named: Calcutta), Founded by: Dwarkanath Tagore
- 5. Madras Native Association: Founded in: 1852, Place: Chennai (former name: Madras), Founded by: Gazulu Lakshminarasu Chetty
- 6. Bombay Association: Founded in: 1852, Place: Mumbai (former name: Bombay), Founded by: Jagannath Shankar Seth
- 7. East India Association: Founded in: 1866, Place: London, Founded by: Dadabhai Naoroji
- 8. National Indian Association: Founded in: 1867, Place: London, Founded by: Mary Carpenter

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9. Poona Sarvajanik Sabha: Founded in: 1876, Place: Pune, Founded by: Mahadev Govind Ranade, Ganesh Vasudeo Joshi, S. H. Chiplunkar
  10. Indian Society: Founded in: 1872, Place: London, Founded by: Anand Mohan Bose
  11. Indian Association: Founded in: 1876, Place: Kolkata (formerly named: Calcutta), Founded by: Surendranath Banerjee and Ananda Mohan Bose
  12. Madras Mahajan Sabha: Founded in: 1884, Place: Chennai (former name: Madras), Founded by: M. Veeraraghavachariar, G. Subramania Iyer and P. Anandacharlu
  13. Bombay Presidency Association: Founded in: 1885, Place: Mumbai (former name: Bombay), Founded by: Phirozshah Mehta, K.T Telang and Badruddin Tyabji
- Source: Spectrum's Modern History

**Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to the Berlin Committee for Indian Independence:**

1. It was established by Virendranath Chattopadhyay and Lala Hardayal.
2. It was formed to incite rebellion among Indian troops and to organize an armed invasion of British India.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Berlin Committee for Indian Independence was established in 1915 by Virendranath Chattopadhyay, Bhupendranath Dutta, Lala Hardayal and others with the help of the German foreign office under 'Zimmerman Plan'. These revolutionaries aimed to mobilize the Indian settlers abroad to send volunteers and arms to India to incite rebellion among Indian troops there and to even organize an armed invasion of British India to liberate the country. The Indian revolutionaries in Europe sent missions to Baghdad, Persia, Turkey and Kabul to work among Indian troops and the Indian prisoners of war (POWs) and to incite anti-British feelings among the people of these countries.

Source: NCERT

**Q.6) "The East India Association" was organised by which of the following freedom fighter?**

- a) Dadabhai Naoroji
- b) Ishwar Chandra Vidya Sagar
- c) Sisir Kumar Ghosh
- d) Gopal Krishna Gokhale

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The East India Association was organised by Dadabhai Naoroji in 1866 in London to discuss the Indian question and influence public men in England to promote Indian welfare. Later, branches of the association were started in prominent Indian cities.

Source: NCERT

**Q.7) Consider the following statements with respect to Indian Freedom struggle:**

1. The first session of the Indian National Congress was attended by 72 delegates



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2. Kadambini Ganguly, the first woman graduate of Calcutta University, addressed the Congress session in 1890

**Which of the following codes below given is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The first session of the Indian National Congress was attended by 72 delegates and presided over by Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee. Hereafter, the Congress met every year in December, in a different part of the country each time. Some of the great presidents of the Congress during this early phase were Dadabhai Naoroji (thrice president), Badruddin Tyabji, Pherozshah Mehta, P. Anandacharlu, Surendranath Banerjea, Romesh Chandra Dutt, Ananda Mohan Bose and Gopal Krishna Gokhale. Other prominent leaders included Mahadeo Govind Ranade, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Sisir Kumar Ghosh, Motilal Ghosh, Madan Mohan Malaviya, G. Subramaniya Aiyar, C. Vijayaraghavachariar, Dinshaw E. Wacha. In 1890, Kadambini Ganguly, the first woman graduate of Calcutta University, addressed the Congress session, which symbolised the commitment of the freedom struggle to give the women of India their due status in national life.

Source: NCERT

**Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to Indian National Association:**

- 1. It is founded by Dadabhai Naoroji.
- 2. The association demanded holding of civil service examination in India only.

**Which of the above given statements is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Indian Association of Calcutta (also known as the Indian National Association) superseded the Indian League and was founded in 1876 by younger nationalists of Bengal led by Surendranath Banerjea and Ananda Mohan Bose, who were getting discontented with the conservative and pro-landlord policies of the British Indian Association. The Indian Association was the most important of pre- Congress associations and aimed to “promote by every legitimate means the political, intellectual and material advancement of the people.” It set out to—

- create a strong public opinion on political questions, and
- unify Indian people in a common political programme.

It protested against the reduction of age limit in 1877 for candidates of the Indian Civil Service examination. The association demanded simultaneous holding of civil service examination in England and India and Indianisation of higher administrative posts. It led a campaign against the repressive arms act and the vernacular press act.

Source: NCERT

**Q.9) “Indian National Liberal Federation” founded by which of the following?**

- a) M K Gandhiji
- b) Anand Mohan Bose

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- c) Surendranath Banerjea
- d) None of the above

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The adoption by the Congress of the non-cooperation movement initiated earlier by the Khilafat Committee gave it a new energy, and the years 1921 and 1922 saw an unprecedented popular upsurge. At this stage, some leaders like Mohammad Ali Jinnah, Annie Besant, G.S. Kharpade and B.C. Pal left the Congress as they believed in a constitutional and lawful struggle while some others like Surendranath Banerjea founded the Indian National Liberal Federation and played a minor role in national politics henceforward.

Source: Spectrum's Modern History

**Q.10) Consider the following statements with respect British India freedom movement:**

1. Ramosi Peasant Force established by Savarkar brothers.
2. Mitra mela organized Chapekar brothers.

**Which of the following codes below given is/are NOT correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The first of the revolutionary activities in Maharashtra was the organisation of the Ramosi Peasant Force by Vasudev Balwant Phadke in 1879, which aimed to rid the country of the British by instigating an armed revolt by disrupting communication lines. It hoped to raise funds for its activities through dacoities. It was suppressed prematurely. During the 1890s, Tilak propagated a spirit of militant nationalism, including use of violence, through Ganapati and Shivaji festivals and his journals Kesari and Maharatta. Two of his disciples—the Chapekar brothers, Damodar and Balkrishna—murdered the Plague Commissioner of Poona, Rand, and one Lt. Ayerst in 1897. Savarkar and his brother organised Mitra Mela, a secret society, in 1899 which merged with Abhinav Bharat (after Mazzinni's 'Young Italy') in 1904. Soon Nasik, Poona and Bombay emerged as centres of bomb manufacture. In 1909, A.M.T. Jackson, the Collector of Nasik, who was also a well-known indologist, was killed by Anant Lakshman Kanhere, a member of Abhinav Bharat.

**Source:** NCERT

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## *Schemes/ Programmes/ Institutions*

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF):**

1. It was established by Indira Gandhi in 1971.
2. The fund is recognized as a Trust under the Societies Registration Act of 1860.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** In pursuance of an appeal by the then Prime Minister, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru in January, 1948, the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF) was established with public contributions to assist displaced persons from Pakistan. The resources of the PMNRF are now utilized primarily to render immediate relief to families of those killed in natural calamities like floods, cyclones and earthquakes, etc. and to the victims of the major accidents and riots. Assistance from PMNRF is also rendered, to partially defray the expenses for medical treatment like heart surgeries, kidney transplantation, cancer treatment and acid attack etc. The fund consists entirely of public contributions and does not get any budgetary support. The corpus of the fund is invested in various forms with scheduled commercial banks and other agencies. Disbursements are made with the approval of the Prime Minister. PMNRF has not been constituted by the Parliament. The fund is recognized as a Trust under the Income Tax Act and the same is managed by Prime Minister or multiple delegates for national causes.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.2) Consider the following statements about Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Programme:**

1. It is an innovation scheme proposed by NITI Aayog.
2. It attracts students to study science at higher studies only.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Innovation of Science Pursuit for Inspire Research (INSPIRE) is one such innovative scheme proposed by the Department of Science & Technology for attraction of talent to science. The basic objective of INSPIRE would be to communicate to the youth population of the country the excitements of creative pursuit of science and attract talent to the study of science at an early stage and build the required critical human resource pool for strengthening and expanding the Science & Technology system and R&D base.

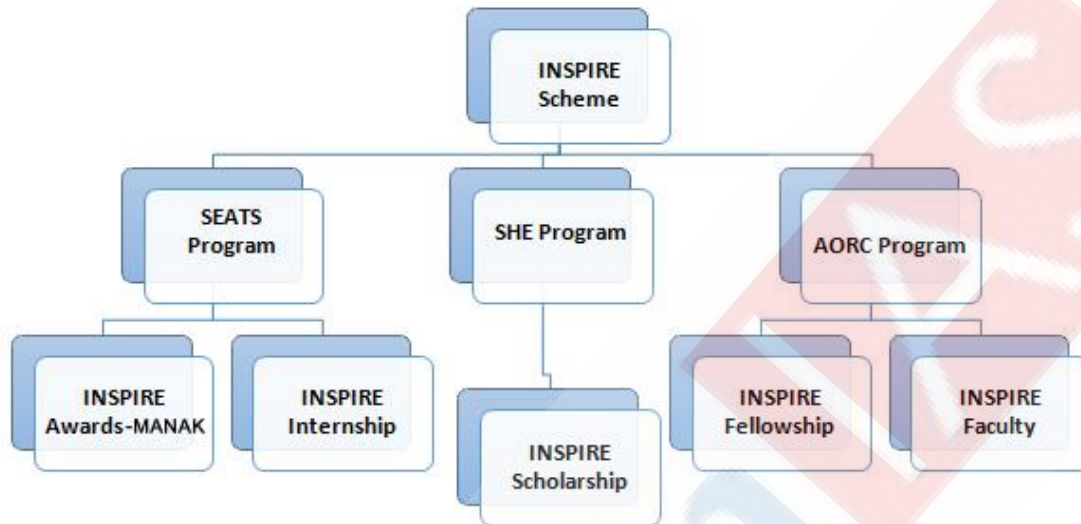
INSPIRE Scheme has included three programs and five components. They are

1. Scheme for Early Attraction of Talents for Science (SEATS),

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- Scholarship for Higher Education (SHE) and
- Assured Opportunity for Research Careers (AORC).

The schematic diagram of the programme is shown below:



Source: ForumIAS

**Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to International Astronomical Union (IAU):**

- It was founded after World War-II.
- Its mission is to promote and safeguard the science of astronomy in all its aspects, including research, communication, education and development, through international cooperation.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The International Astronomical Union (IAU) was founded in 1919. Its mission is to promote and safeguard the science of astronomy in all its aspects, including research, communication, education and development, through international cooperation. Its individual Members — structured into Divisions, Commissions, and Working Groups — are professional astronomers from all over the world, at the Ph.D. level and beyond, who are active in professional research, education and outreach in astronomy. The IAU also has Junior Members. The IAU has 13054 members. The Individual and Junior Members Directory contains 10567 names in 107 countries worldwide (these Individual Members are labeled as "active" in the IAU database: they have a valid, public email, and are affiliated to at least one Division.). Out of those countries, 82 are National Members. In addition, the IAU collaborates with various scientific organizations all over the world.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.4) Under which of the following Act, the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) established?**

- a) The Indian Forest Act, 1927
- b) The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960
- c) The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972
- d) The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Animal Welfare Board of India is a statutory advisory body on Animal Welfare Laws and promotes animal welfare in the country. Established in 1962 under Section 4 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (No. 59 of 1960), the Animal Welfare Board of India was started under the stewardship of Late Smt. Rukmini Devi Arundale, well known humanitarian. From ensuring that animal welfare laws in the country are diligently followed, to provide grants to Animal Welfare Organizations and advising the Government of India on animal welfare issues, the Board has been the face of the animal welfare movement in the country for the last 50 years. The Board consists of 28 Members. The term of office of Members is for a period of 3 years.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to Atal Bhujal Yojana:**

- 1. It aims to recharge groundwater sources and ensure the efficient use of water by involving people at the local level.
- 2. It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
- 3. It is funded by Asian Development Bank.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Atal Bhujal Yojana is a central sector scheme under the ministry of Jal Shakti. The scheme was announced in the 2016-17, Union Budget. It aims to recharge groundwater sources and ensure the efficient use of water by involving people at the local level. The funding pattern of the scheme is 50:50 between the Government of India and the World Bank.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.6) Consider the following statements with respect to MPLADS Scheme:**

1. Its aim is to provide funds to MPs to execute certain developmental projects to meet the urgent needs of their constituents.
2. Ministry of Rural Development is the nodal ministry to implement the scheme.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** MPLADS is a central sector scheme. Its aim is to provide funds to MPs to execute certain developmental projects to meet the urgent needs of their constituents. Ex-drinking water facilities, education, etc. An MP is entitled to Rs. 5 crore per annum to identify and fund developmental projects. The Fund is non – lapsable. The role of the MP is only recommendatory in nature. The implementation of the project is done by local authorities. Elected Members of Rajya Sabha can recommend works in the state from where they have been elected. Nominated Members of both the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha can recommend works anywhere in the country. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is the nodal ministry to implement the scheme.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.7) Consider the following statements with respect to National Highway Authority of India (NHAI):**

1. NHAI was set up by an act of Parliament.
- It was entrusted with National Highways Development Projects.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** National Highways Authority of India was set up by an act of the Parliament, NHAI Act, 1988 “An Act to provide for the constitution of an Authority for the development, maintenance and management of national highways and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto”. It has been entrusted with National Highways Development Project, which along with other minor projects, has vested in it 50329 kms of National Highways for development, maintenance and management. Our objective is to ensure that all contract awards and procurements conform to the best industry practices with regard to transparency of process, adoption of bid criteria to ensure healthy competition in award of contracts, implementation of projects conform to best quality requirements and the highway system is maintained to ensure best user comfort and convenience.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.8) Consider the following statements with respect to “Tech for Tribal”:**

1. It aims at capacity building and imparting entrepreneurship skills to tribal forest produce gatherers enrolled under the Pradhan Mantri VanDhan Yojana (PMVDY)
2. It is launched by Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC)

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** A game changing and unique project aimed to transform 5 crore Tribal Entrepreneurs under the name “Tech for Tribal” has been launched by TRIFED. It was launched by TRIFED and IIT-Kanpur along with IIT-Roorkee, IIM Indore, Kalinga Institute of Social Science, Bhubaneshwar and SRIJAN, Jaipur in the first phase of organising tribal entrepreneurship and skill development program. Tech for Tribals, an initiative of TRIFED supported by Ministry of MSME, aims at capacity building and imparting entrepreneurship skills to tribal forest produce gatherers enrolled under the Pradhan Mantri VanDhan Yojana (PMVDY). The trainees will undergo a 30 days program over six weeks comprising 120 sessions.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.9) Which of the below given is/are regulatory bodies of civil aviation?**

1. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)
2. Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)
3. Aircraft Accidents Investigation Bureau (AAIB)

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Lok Sabha has passed the Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020. It seeks to amend the Aircraft Act, 1934 which regulates the manufacture, possession, use, operation, sale, import and export of civil aircrafts, and licensing of aerodromes. The Bill converts three existing bodies under the Ministry of Civil Aviation into statutory bodies under the Act. These three authorities are: (i) the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), (ii) the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), and (iii) the Aircraft Accidents Investigation Bureau (AAIB). Each of these bodies will be headed by a Director General who will be appointed by the centre.

Source: ForumIAS

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**Q.10) Consider the following statements about 'Samudrayaan Project':**

1. It would be undertaken by National Institute of Ocean Technology.
2. It is under Ministry of Science and technology.
3. It aims for deep ocean mining of rare minerals.

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The 'Samudrayaan' project undertaken by the NIOT, Chennai, is in line with the ISRO's ambitious 'Gaganyaan' mission of sending an astronaut to space by 2022. The 'Samudrayaan' is a part of the Ministry of Earth Sciences' pilot project for deep ocean mining for rare minerals. The indigenously developed vehicle is capable of crawling on the sea bed at a depth of six kilometre for 72 hours. The success of the 'Samudrayaan' will help India to join the league of developed nations in exploration of minerals from oceans.

Source: ForumIAS



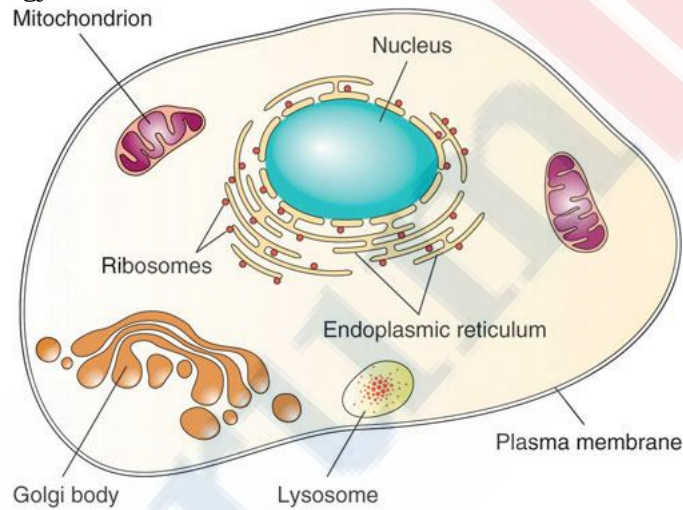
## *Science and Technology*

**Q.1) Which of the following is a functional unit of a body?**

- a) Mitochondria
- b) Cytoplasm
- c) Spleen
- d) Cell

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The cell is called the structural and functional unit of life as all living organisms are made up of cells. Cells are also essential for performing various life processes required for sustaining life. Furthermore, cells provide form and structure, process nutrients and convert them into useable energy.



Source: ForumIAS

**Q.2) Which of the following is first human hormone produced by recombinant DNA technology?**

- a) Insulin
- b) Thyroxin
- c) Estrogen
- d) Progesterone

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Human insulin produced by recombinant DNA technology is the first commercial health care product derived from this technology. Work on this product was initiated before there were federal guidelines for large-scale recombinant DNA work or commercial development of recombinant DNA products. The steps taken to facilitate acceptance of large-scale work and proof of the identity and safety of such a product are described. While basic studies in recombinant DNA technology will continue to have a profound impact on research in the life sciences, commercial applications may well be controlled by economic conditions and the availability of investment capital.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.3) Which body of the Government of India regulates GM research and safety of introducing GM organisms for public services?**

- a) Bio-safety committee
- b) Indian council for Agriculture Research
- c) Genetic engineering Approval Committee
- d) Research Committee on Genetic Manipulation.

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC)

The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) functions in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC). As per Rules, 1989, it is responsible for appraisal of activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production from the environmental angle. The committee is also responsible for appraisal of proposals relating to release of genetically engineered (GE) organisms and products into the environment including experimental field trials.

GEAC is chaired by the Special Secretary/Additional Secretary of MoEF&CC and co-chaired by a representative from the Department of Biotechnology (DBT). Presently, it has 24 members and meets every month to review the applications in the areas indicated above

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.4) “The Use of bio-resources by multinational companies and organizations without authorization from the concerned country and its people.” Which of the following is described in the above statement?**

- a) Biodegradation
- b) Bio-infringement
- c) Biopiracy
- d) Bioexploitation

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Biopiracy is term used for or refer to the use of bioresources by multinational companies and other organisations without proper authorisation from the countries and people concerned with compensatory payment.

Multinational companies use traditional knowledge related to bioresources for developing modern technologies and applications. They make huge profits from this end that are not often shared with poor countries.

Basmati rice was grown in India for thousands of years and is actually a bioresource of our country. But an American company tried to earn patents from the united states patent and trademark office to sell basmati rice in other countries. They made slight modifications in the rice by crossing the plant with semi-dwarf varieties and claimed the sole ownership of the product. This is an example of biopiracy.

Source: ForumIAS

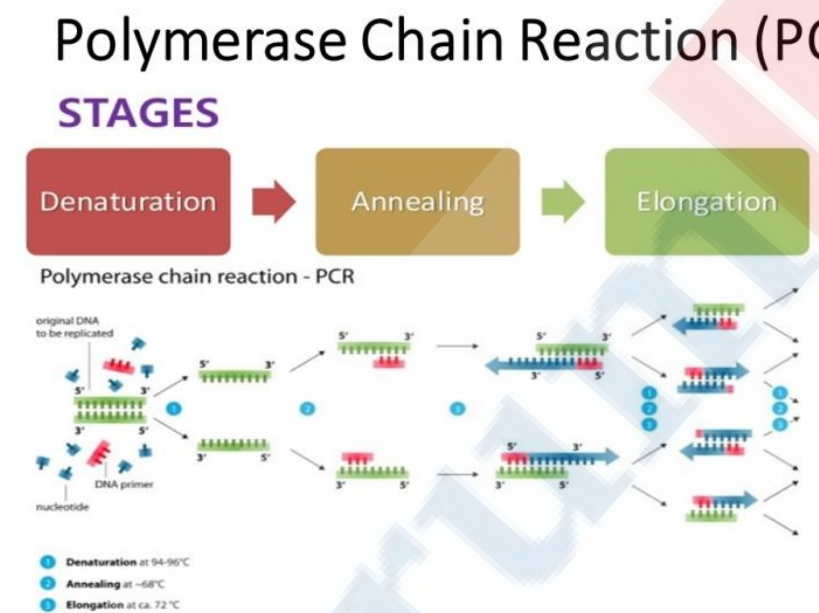
**Q.5) The correct order of steps in Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) is given in which of the following codes?**

- a) Denaturation, Extension, Annealing
- b) Annealing, Extension, Denaturation
- c) Extension, Denaturation, Annealing
- d) Denaturation, Annealing, Extension

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** PCR is based on three simple steps required for any DNA synthesis reaction:

- (1) denaturation of the template into single strands;
- (2) annealing of primers to each original strand for new strand synthesis; and
- (3) extension of the new DNA strands from the primers.



Source: ForumIAS

**Q.6) Which of the following is/are some of the characteristics of Bt cotton?**

- a) Long fibre and resistance to aphids
- b) Medium yield, long fibre and resistance to beetle pests
- c) High yield and production of toxic protein crystals which kill dipteran pests
- d) High yield and resistance to bollworms

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Bt cotton is an insect-resistant transgenic crop designed to combat the cotton bollworm. Bt cotton was created by genetically altering the cotton genome to express a microbial protein from the bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis*. The transgene inserted into the plant's genome produces toxin crystals that the plant would not normally produce which, when ingested by a certain population of organisms, dissolves the gut lining, leading to the organism's death. Cotton bollworm is a lepidopteran pest.

**Source:** ForumIAS

**Q.7) Which of the following is the first transgenic plant to be produced?**

- a) Brinjal
- b) Tobacco
- c) Rice
- d) Cotton

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** In 1982, the first transgenic plants were produced in tobacco plants (*Nicotiana tabacum*) which expressed antibiotic resistance. A gene resistant to PPT (L-phosphinothricin), an active ingredient of herbicide 'Basta', was isolated from *Medicago sativa*. It inhibits the enzyme GS (glutamine synthase) which is involved in ammonia assimilation. This gene resistant to PPT was incorporated into tobacco, as a result of which transgenic tobacco was produced which was resistant to PPT.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.8) “Biotechnologies consisting of the use of biological systems (bacteria) for the manufacture, transformation or degradation of molecules through enzymatic or fermentation processes for industrial purposes.” Which of the following is described in the above statement?**

- a) Yellow biotechnologies
- b) Blue biotechnologies
- c) Green biotechnologies
- d) White biotechnologies

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** White biotechnology is a term that is now often used to describe the implementation of biotechnology in the industrial sphere. [Biocatalysts](#) (enzymes and microorganisms) are the key tools of white biotechnology, which is considered to be one of the key technological drivers for the growing bioeconomy. Biocatalysts are already present in sectors such as the chemical and agro-food industries, and are used to manufacture products as diverse as antibiotics, paper pulp, bread or advanced polymers.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.9) Which of the following is an autonomously replicating circular extra-chromosomal DNA?**

- a) Bacteria
- b) Nitrogenous base
- c) RNA
- d) Plasmid

**ANS: d**

**Explanation:** Plasmid is typically a small circular DNA strand in the cytoplasm of a bacterium or protozoan. It is a genetic structure in a cell that can replicate independently of the chromosomes. They are commonly used in recombinant DNA technology. Plasmids naturally exist in bacterial cells, and they also occur in some eukaryotes. Often, the genes carried in plasmids provide bacteria with genetic advantages, such as antibiotic resistance.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.10) Which of the following is the first step in cloning a gene?**

- a) Isolation of DNA from an organism carrying the gene of interest.
- b) Cell culture on agar Insertion of a plasmid into a bacterium.
- c) Treatment of plasmids with restriction enzymes.
- d) All of these

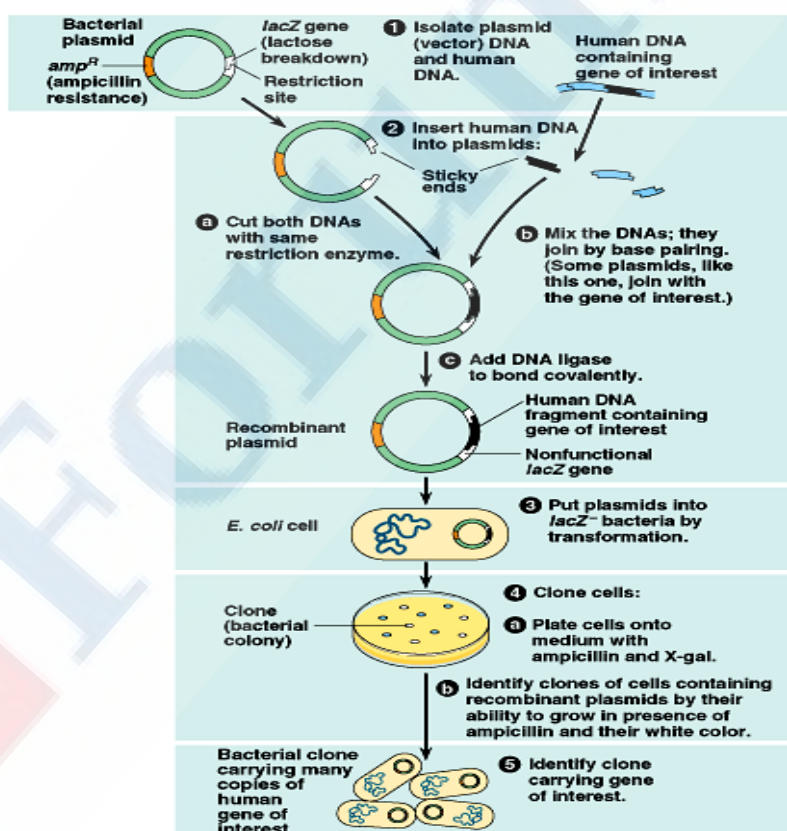
**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Cloning

Molecular cloning refers to the isolation of a DNA sequence from any species (often a gene), and its insertion into a vector for propagation, without alteration of the original DNA sequence. Once isolated, molecular clones can be used to generate many copies of the DNA for analysis of the gene sequence, and/or to express the resulting protein for the study or utilization of the protein's function. The clones can also be manipulated and mutated in vitro to alter the expression and function of the protein.

The basic cloning workflow includes four steps:

- 1. Isolation of target DNA fragments (often referred to as inserts)
- 2. Ligation of inserts into an appropriate cloning vector, creating recombinant molecules (e.g., plasmids)
- 3. Transformation of recombinant plasmids into bacteria or other suitable host for propagation
- 4. Screening/selection of hosts containing the intended recombinant plasmid



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Source: ForumIAS

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## *Economy*

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**Q.1) Which of the following correctly defines monetary policy?**

- a) The process by which the Parliament controls the money supply
- b) The process by which the central bank or monetary authority of a country controls the supply of money
- c) The process by which International Market controls the money supply
- d) None of the above

**Ans. B**

**Explanation:** Monetary policy is a set of tools that a nation's central bank has available to promote sustainable economic growth by controlling the overall supply of money that is available to the nation's banks, its consumers, and its businesses.

The goal is to keep the economy humming along at a rate that is neither too hot nor too cold. The central bank may force up interest rates on borrowing in order to discourage spending or force down interest rates to inspire more borrowing and spending.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the Cost Inflation Index (CII):**

- 1. It calculates the increase in the price of goods due to inflation monthly.
- 2. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) is responsible for notifying the CII every year.

**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:** As inflation increases, the prices of goods increase too. Due to this, the purchasing power of money falls. Cost Inflation Index (CII) is a tool used in the calculation of an estimated yearly increase in an asset's price as a result of inflation.

The Central Government fixes this index and publishes it in its official gazette for measuring inflation. This index, notified each year by the CBDT is mandated under Section 48 of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

CII has a base year concept, currently the base year is 2001 having CII of 100. CII for 2020-21 has been notified at 301.

**Source:** ForumIAS

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding Monetary Policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI):**

1. The Monetary Policy framework in India is based on Cost Inflation Index (CII) inflation targeting.
2. RBI Governor does not generally have a vote and votes only in the event of an equality of votes in Monetary Policy Committee.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: D**

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

The amended RBI Act also provides for the inflation target to be set by the Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, once in every five years. Accordingly, the Central Government has notified 4 per cent Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation as the target for the period from August 5, 2016 to March 31, 2021 with the upper tolerance limit of 6 per cent and the lower tolerance limit of 2 per cent.

Under the amended RBI Act: The Monetary Policy Committee consists of the following Members:

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

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is required to meet at least four times in a year.

- The quorum for the meeting of the MPC is four members.
- Each member of the MPC has one vote, and in the event of an equality of votes, the Governor has a second or casting vote.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.4) Which of the following is/are type/types of External Benchmark Rates?**

1. Government of India 3-Months Treasury bill yield published by the Financial Benchmarks India Private Ltd (FBIL).
2. Government of India 6-Months Treasury bill yield published by the Financial Benchmarks India Private Ltd (FBIL).

**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:** The RBI has made it compulsory for banks to link their new floating rate home, auto and MSME loans to an external benchmark so that the borrowers can enjoy lower rate of interest. All new floating rate personal or retail loans (housing, auto, etc.) and floating rate loans to Micro and Small Enterprises extended by banks from October 01, 2019 shall be benchmarked to one of the following:

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

- Reserve Bank of India policy repo rate
- Government of India 3-Months Treasury Bill yield published by the Financial Benchmarks India Private Ltd (FBIL)
- Government of India 6-Months Treasury Bill yield published by the FBIL
- Any other benchmark market interest rate published by the FBIL.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the Market Stabilization Scheme (MSS):**

1. It is a tool used by central bank (RBI) to increase the liquidity and bringing the money market under control.
2. It was initiated by Reserve Bank under Governor YV Reddy in 2004.

**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: A**

**Explanation:** Market Stabilisation Scheme or MSS is a tool used by the Reserve Bank of India to suck out excess liquidity from the market through issue of securities like Treasury Bills, Dated Securities etc. on behalf of the government.

- The money raised under MSS is kept in a separate account called MSS Account and not parked in the government account or utilized to fund its expenditures.
- The Reserve Bank under Governor YV Reddy initiated the MSS scheme in 2004, to control the surge of US dollars in the Indian market; RBI started buying US dollars while pumping in rupee.
- This eventually led to over-supply of the domestic currency raising inflationary expectations. MSS was introduced to mop up this excess liquidity.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR):**

1. CRR needs to be maintained only in cash.
2. Banks get interest on the money that is with the RBI under the CRR requirements.

**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 Reserve Bank of India or RBI mandates that banks store a proportion of their deposits in the form of cash so that the same can be given to the bank's customers if the need arises.

- The percentage of cash required to be kept in reserves, vis-a-vis a bank's total deposits, is called the Cash Reserve Ratio.
- The cash reserve is either stored in the bank's vault or is sent to the RBI.
- Banks do not get any interest on the money that is with the RBI under the CRR requirements.



## PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022

- Unlike Statutory Liquidity Ratio or SLR, which can be maintained in either gold or cash, CRR needs to be maintained only in cash.

Source: ForumIAS

### **Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC):**

1. It is statutorily mandated to determine the Policy Rate required achieving the inflation target.
2. A Member of Parliament or any State Legislature cannot be appointed as a member of MPC by Central Government.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** As per the Reserve Bank of India Act; the Central Government shall, in consultation with the Bank, determine the inflation target in terms of the Consumer Price Index, once in every five years. Further, the Monetary Policy Committee shall determine the Policy Rate required achieving the inflation target.

The Monetary Policy Committee consists of:

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

No person shall be appointed as a Member, in case such person:

- has completed the age of seventy years on the date of appointment as Member;
- is a Member of any Board or Committee of the Bank or is an employee of the Bank;
- is a public servant as defined under the Indian Penal Code;
- is a Member of Parliament or any State Legislature;
- has been at any time, adjudged as an insolvent;
- has been convicted of an offence which is punishable with an imprisonment for a term of one hundred and eighty days or more;
- is physically or mentally incapable of discharging the duties of a Member of the Monetary Policy Committee; or
- has a material conflict of interest with the Bank and is unable to resolve such conflict.

Source: ForumIAS

### **Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding the flexible inflation targeting (FIT) framework of Reserve Bank of India:**

1. The inflation target is set by the Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank every year.

## PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022

2. RBI's flexible inflation targeting places price stability, in terms of Consumer Price Index inflation, as the primary objective of the monetary policy.

**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:** India formally adopted flexible inflation targeting (FIT) in June 2016 to place price stability, defined in terms of a target CPI inflation, as the primary objective of the monetary policy.

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

The amended RBI Act also provides for the inflation target to be set by the Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, once in every five years. Accordingly, the Central Government has notified in the Official Gazette 4 per cent Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation as the target for the period from August 5, 2016 to March 31, 2021 with the upper tolerance limit of 6 per cent and the lower tolerance limit of 2 per cent.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the Open Market Operations (OMOs):**

- 1. These are the market operations conducted by the RBI by way of sale/ purchase of Government Securities to/ from the market.
- 2. RBI resorts to purchase of securities if there is excess liquidity in the market.

**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:** Open Market Operations (OMOs) are the market operations conducted by the RBI by way of sale/ purchase of G-Secs to/ from the market with an objective to adjust the rupee liquidity conditions in the market on a durable basis.

When the RBI feels that there is excess liquidity in the market, it resorts to sale of securities thereby sucking out the rupee liquidity. Similarly, when the liquidity conditions are tight, RBI may buy securities from the market, thereby releasing liquidity into the market.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW):**

- 1. It is compiled by the Labour Bureau.
- 2. The base year for the CPI-IW has been updated to the year 2014.

**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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Labour Bureau, an attached office of the M/o Labour & Employment, has been compiling Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers every month on the basis of the retail prices of selected. The index is compiled for 78 centres and All-India and is released on the last working day of succeeding month.

The Labour and Employment Ministry has recently revised the base year of the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) from 2001 to 2016.

The number of items directly retained in the index basket has increased to 463 items as against 392 items in the 2001 series. The weight to food and beverage was reduced from 46.2% to 39%, while spending on housing increased from 15.2% to 17%.

Source: ForumIAS

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*Indian Polity*

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**Q.1) Removal of SC & HC Judges is taken from which of the following constitution?**

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**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

- a) US
- b) British
- c) Australian
- d) Irish

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

Sources	Features Borrowed
1. Government of India Act of 1935	Federal Scheme, Office of governor, Judiciary, Public Service Commissions, Emergency provisions and administrative details.
2. British Constitution	Parliamentary government, Rule of Law, legislative procedure, single citizenship, cabinet system, prerogative writs, parliamentary privileges and bicameralism.
3. US Constitution	Fundamental rights, independence of judiciary, judicial review, impeachment of the president, removal of Supreme Court and high court judges and post of vice-president.
4. Irish Constitution	Directive Principles of State Policy, nomination of members to Rajya Sabha and method of election of president.
5. Canadian Constitution	Federation with a strong Centre, vesting of residuary powers in the Centre, appointment of state governors by the Centre, and advisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.
6. Australian Constitution	Concurrent List, freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse, and joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament.
7. Weimar Constitution of Germany	Suspension of Fundamental Rights during Emergency.
Soviet Constitution	Fundamental duties and the ideal of justice (social,

**Source:** Laxmikanth

**Q.2) Who among the following is authorized by the constitution to appoint any other place or places as seat of the Supreme Court?**

- a) Parliament
- b) President
- c) Chief justices of India
- d) Law Minister

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: SEAT OF SUPREME COURT:**

The Constitution declares Delhi as the seat of the Supreme Court. But, it also authorises the chief justice of India to appoint other place or places as seat of the Supreme Court.

He can take decision in this regard only with the approval of the President. This provision is only optional and not compulsory. This means that no court can give any direction either to the President or to the Chief Justice to appoint any other place as a seat of the Supreme Court.

Source: Laxmikanth

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

1. The President has never made references to the sure court under Article 143.
2. No Supreme Court judge has been impeached so far.

**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 Constitution (Article 143) authorises the president to seek the opinion of the Supreme Court. So far (2013), the President has made fifteen references to the Supreme Court under its advisory jurisdiction (also known as consultative jurisdiction). These are mentioned below in the chronological order.

1. Delhi Laws Act in 1951
2. Kerala Education Bill in 1958
3. Berubari Union in 1960
4. Sea Customs Act in 1963
5. Keshav Singh's case relating to the privileges of the Legislature in 1964
6. Presidential Election in 1974
7. Special Courts Bill in 1978
8. Jammu and Kashmir Resettlement Act in 1982
9. Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal in 1992
10. Rama Janma Bhumi case in 1993
11. Consultation process to be adopted by the chief justice of India in 1998
12. Legislative competence of the Centre and States on the subject of natural gas and liquefied natural gas in 2001
13. The constitutional validity of the Election Commission's decision on deferring the Gujarat Assembly Elections in 2002
14. Punjab Termination of Agreements Act in 2004
15. 2G spectrum case verdict and the mandatory auctioning of natural resources across all sectors in 2012

It is interesting to know that no judge of the Supreme Court has been impeached so far. The first and the only case of impeachment is that of Justice V Ramaswami of the Supreme Court (1991–1993). Though the enquiry Committee found him guilty of misbehavior, he could not be removed as the impeachment motion was defeated in the Lok Sabha. The Congress Party abstained from voting.

**Source:** Laxmikanth

**Q.4) Consider the following statement:**

1. The writ jurisdiction of the high court is wider than that of Supreme Court.
2. Like Supreme Court, high court also enjoys advisory jurisdiction.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

At present, a high court enjoys the following jurisdiction and powers:

1. Original jurisdiction.
2. Writ jurisdiction.
3. Appellate jurisdiction.
4. Supervisory jurisdiction.
5. Control over subordinate courts.
6. A court of record.
7. Power of judicial review.

The writ jurisdiction of the high court (under Article 226) is not exclusive but concurrent with the writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court (under Article 32). It means, when the fundamental rights of a citizen are violated, the aggrieved party has the option of moving either the high court or the Supreme Court directly. However, the writ jurisdiction of the high court is wider than that of the Supreme Court. This is because, the Supreme Court can issue writs only for the enforcement of fundamental rights and not for any other purpose, that is, it does not extend to a case where the breach of an ordinary legal right is alleged.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.5) The judges of high court are appointed by who among the following?**

- a) The cheift justice of India
- b) The Governer of concer states
- c) The union minister of law
- d) The Presidnet

**ANS: D**

**Explanation: Appointment of Judges:**

The judges of a high court are appointed by the President. The chief justice is appointed by the President after consultation with the chief justice of India and the governor of the state concerned. For appointment of other judges, the chief justice of the concerned high court is also consulted. In case of a common high court for two or more states, the governors of all the states concerned are consulted by the president.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.6) Which of the following High courts has the largest no. of benches?**

- a) MP High Court
- b) Kolkata High Court
- c) Bombay High Court
- d) Delhi High Court

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

Name	Year of establishment	Territorial Jurisdiction	Seat
1. Allahabad	1866	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad (Bench at Lucknow)
2. Hyderabad <sup>17</sup>	1954	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	Hyderabad
3. Bombay <sup>13</sup>	1862	Maharashtra, Goa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	Mumbai (Benches at Nagpur, Panaji and Aurangabad)
4. Calcutta <sup>13</sup>	1862	West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Kolkata (Circuit Bench at Port Blair)
5. Chhattisgarh	2000	Chhattisgarh	Bilaspur
6. Delhi	1966	Delhi	Delhi
7. Guwahati	1948 <sup>10</sup>	Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh <sup>14</sup>	Guwahati (Benches at Kohima, Aizawl and Itanagar)
8. Gujarat	1960	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
9. Himachal Pradesh	1971	Himachal Pradesh	Simla
10. Jammu and Kashmir	1928	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar and Jammu
11. Jharkhand	2000	Jharkhand	Ranchi
12. Karnataka	1884 <sup>11</sup>	Karnataka	Bengaluru
13. Kerala	1958	Kerala and Lakshadweep	Ernakulam
14. Madhya Pradesh	1956	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur (Benches at Gwalior and Indore)
15. Madras <sup>13</sup>	1862	Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	Chennai
16. Manipur <sup>15</sup>	2013	Manipur	Imphal
17. Meghalaya <sup>15</sup>	2013	Meghalaya	Shillong
18. Orissa <sup>16</sup>	1948	Odisha	Cuttack

**Source:** Laxmikanth

**Q.7) Public Interest Litigation falls within the jurisdiction of the High Court provided certain conditions are fulfilled.**

Which one among the following conditions is not accepted by the courts?

- a) Public is interested in vindication of some rights
- b) Enforcement of public duty
- c) Courts can examine previous records of public servants
- d) Personal injury or loss is an essential element

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:**

- The expression 'Public Interest Litigation' has been borrowed from American jurisprudence, where it was designed to provide legal representation to previously unrepresented groups like the poor, the racial minorities, unorganised consumers, citizens who were passionate about the environmental issues, etc.
- Public interest Litigation (PIL) means litigation filed in a court of law, for the protection of "Public Interest", such as Pollution, Terrorism, Road safety, Constructional hazards etc. Any matter where the interest of public at large is affected can be redressed by filing a Public Interest Litigation in a court of law.
- Public interest litigation is not defined in any statute or in any act. It has been interpreted by judges to consider the intent of public at large.
- Public interest litigation is the power given to the public by courts through judicial activism. However, the person filing the petition must prove to the satisfaction of the court that the petition is being filed for a public interest and not just as a frivolous litigation by a busy body.
- The court can itself take cognizance of the matter and proceed suo motu or cases can commence on the petition of any public spirited individual.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.8) Which one of the following jurisdictions of the Indian Judiciary covers Public Interest Litigation?**

- a) Original Jurisdiction
- b) Appellate Jurisdiction
- c) Epistolary Jurisdiction
- d) Advisory Jurisdiction

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

Epistolary jurisdiction means the power of court i.e., the Supreme Court to convert any letter addressed to it by anybody into a writ and hear the matter. This concept gave rise to the Public Interest Litigation when the judicial activism came into prominence in India during the second half of the 20th Century. It can be said to be a judicial innovation.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.9) What is the meaning of "Public Interest Litigation"?**

- a) Anything of public interest
- b) A case brought by victim to court, involving public interest
- c) A case brought by anyone to court involving public interest
- d) A directive issued by Supreme Court involving public interest

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

The introduction of PIL in India was facilitated by the relaxation of the traditional rule of 'locus standi'. According to this rule, only that person whose rights are infringed alone can move the



court for the remedies, whereas, the PIL is an exception to this traditional rule. Under the PIL, any public-spirited citizen or a social organisation can move the court for the enforcement of the rights of any person or group of persons who because of their poverty or ignorance or socially or economically disadvantaged position are themselves unable to approach the court for the remedies. Thus, in a PIL, any member of the public having 'sufficient interest' can approach the court for enforcing the rights of other persons and redressal of a common grievance.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.10) Which one of the following does not fall under the jurisdiction of the apex court of India?**

- a) Original Jurisdiction
- b) Appellate Jurisdiction
- c) Collegiate Jurisdiction
- d) Advisory Jurisdiction

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

The Constitution has conferred a very extensive jurisdiction and vast powers on the Supreme Court. It is not only a Federal Court like the American Supreme Court but also a final court of appeal like the British House of Lords (the Upper House of the British Parliament). It is also the final interpreter and guardian of the Constitution and guarantor of the fundamental rights of the citizens. Further, it has advisory and supervisory powers.

Therefore, Alladi Krishnaswamy Ayyar, a member of the Drafting Committee of the Constitution, rightly remarked:

“The Supreme Court of India has more powers than any other Supreme Court in any part of the world.”

“ The jurisdiction and powers of the Supreme Court can be classified into the following:

1. Original Jurisdiction.
2. Writ Jurisdiction.
3. Appellate Jurisdiction.
4. Advisory Jurisdiction.
5. A Court of Record.
6. Power of Judicial Review.
7. Other Powers.

Source: Laxmikanth

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## *Geography*

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**Q.1) What are phytoplanktons?**

- a) Microscopic animal life that floats freely in the sunlit surface waters
- b) Pollen floating freely in the lighted surface waters
- c) Microscopic plant life that floats freely in the sunlit surface waters
- d) Microscopic plant life that is found on the ocean's floor

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Phytoplankton, microscopic plant life that floats freely in the lighted surface waters, may alter the color of the water. When a great number of the microscopic plants are concentrated in an area, the color of the ocean surface will change. This is called a "bloom." This photograph shows such a change in color. It was taken by astronauts aboard the space shuttle looking down at the coast of Angola.

Microscopic plant life is at the base of the marine food web and is the primary food and energy source for the ocean ecosystem. Phytoplankton convert nutrients into plant material by using sunlight with the help of the green pigment chlorophyll. The chlorophyll pigments in the plants absorb light, and the plants themselves scatter light. Together, these processes change the color of the ocean as seen by an observer looking downward into the sea. Very productive water with a lot of plankton appears blue-green. Very pure water appears deep-blue, almost black.

Source: NCERT

**Q.2) The substances in seawater, which most affect the colour reflected, are?**

- a) Phytoplankton
- b) Zooplankton
- c) Salt
- d) Trace metals

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** What is ocean color?

The "color" of the ocean is determined by the interactions of light with the water. We see color when light is reflected by objects around us. White light is made up of a spectrum or combination of colors, which are broken apart by water droplets in a rainbow. When light hits the surface of an object, the different colors can be absorbed, transmitted, scattered, or reflected in differing intensities. The color we see depends on which colors are reflected. For example, a book that appears red to us absorbs more of the green and blue parts of the white light shining on it, and reflects the red parts. The light which is scattered or transmitted by most objects is usually not apparent to our eyes.

The substances in seawater which most affect the color reflected are, phytoplankton, inorganic particles, dissolved organic chemicals, and the water itself. Phytoplankton contain chlorophyll, which absorbs red and blue light and reflects green light. Particles can reflect and absorb light, which reduces the clarity (light transmission) of the water. Dissolved organic matter strongly absorbs blue light, and its presence can interfere with measurements of chlorophyll.

Source: NCERT

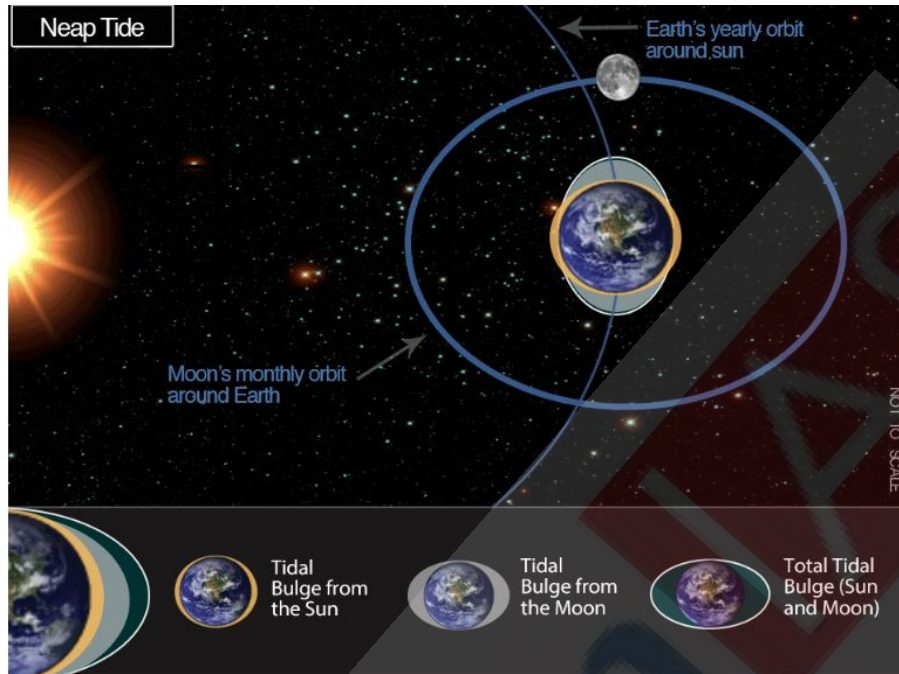
**Q.3) Neap tides occur when the earth, sun and moon forms at which of the following angle?**

- a) 60°
- b) 90°
- c) 120°
- d) 180°

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** A spring tide—popularly known as a "King Tide"—refers to the 'springing forth' of the tide during new and full moon.

A neap tide—seven days after a spring tide—refers to a period of moderate tides when the sun and moon are at right angles to each other.



Source: NCERT

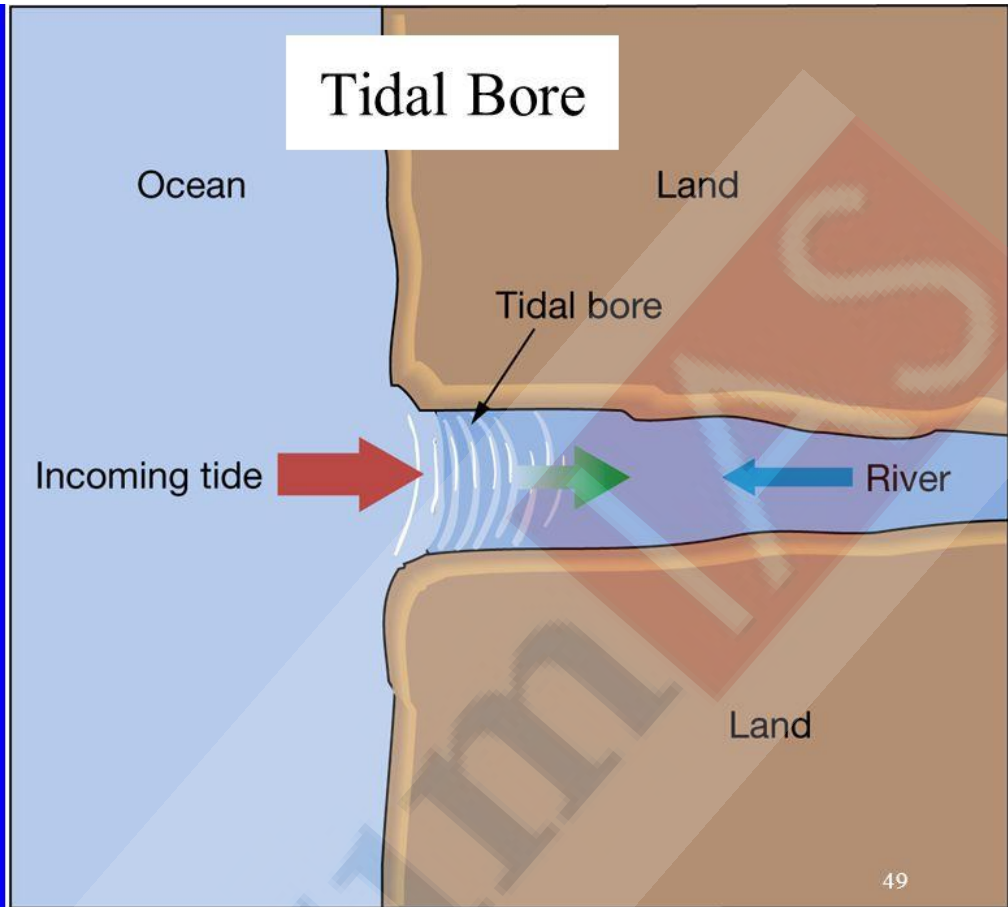
**Q.4) Tidal bores are found in which of the following countries?**

- a) China
- b) India
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Iran

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Tidal bore, also called bore, body of water that, during exceptionally high sea tides, rushes up some rivers and estuaries near a coast where there is a large tidal range and the incoming tide is confined to a narrow channel. Traveling upstream about two or three times as fast as the normal tidal current, a bore usually is characterized by a well-defined front of one or several waves, often breaking, followed by the bore's main body, which rises higher than the water level at its front. The height of the bore is greater near the banks of a river than at midstream. Because of momentum, some bores continue to move upstream for about one-half hour after high water. Bores occur at spring tides and at several tides preceding and following spring tides but never at neap tides.

A tidal bore is a wall of water that surges upriver with the advancing high tide.



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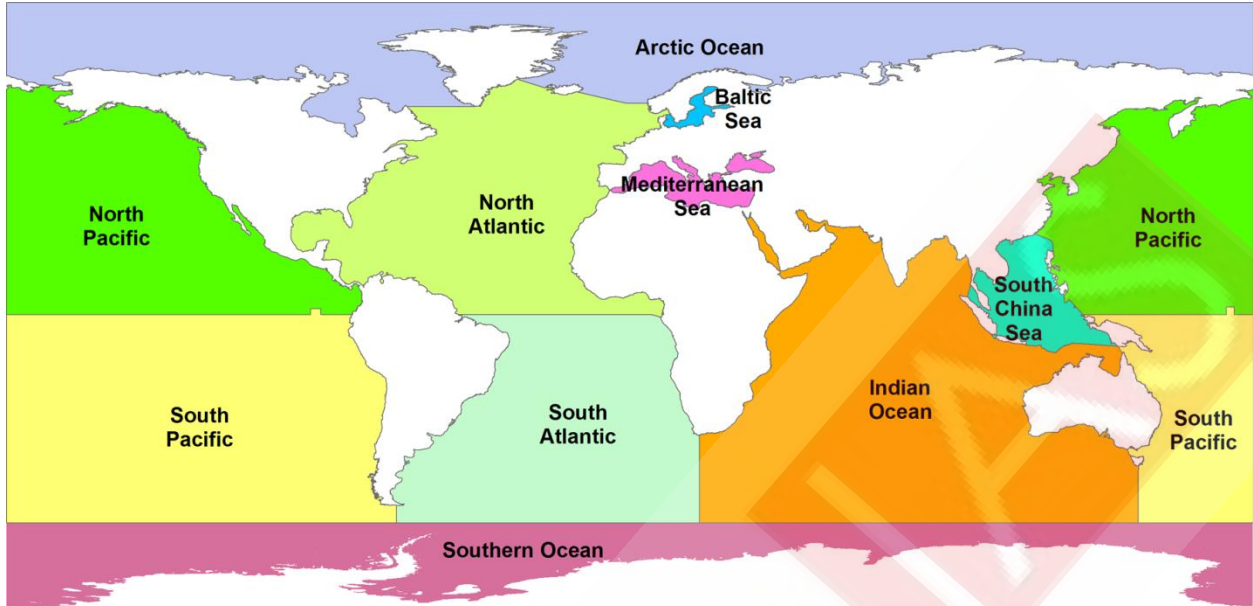
Source: G. C Leong

**Q.5) What is the correct sequence of the following oceans in descending order of their areas?**

- a) Indian Ocean, Arctic Ocean, Atlantic Ocean and Pacific Ocean
- b) Arctic Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean
- c) Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Arctic Ocean and Indian Ocean
- d) Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean and Arctic Ocean

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Pacific Ocean is the largest ocean in the world with a total area of 155,557,000 sq km. This is followed by Atlantic Ocean (76,762,000 sq.km.), Indian Ocean (68,556,000 sq.km.) and Arctic Ocean (14,056,000 sq.km).



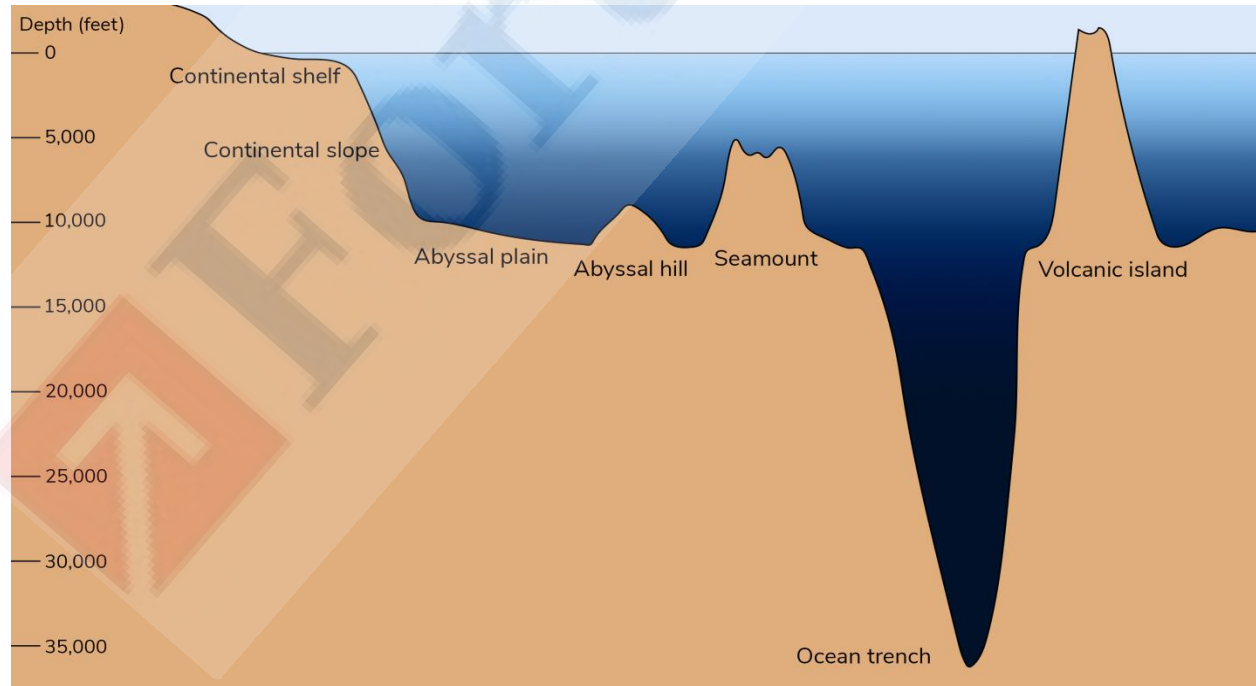
**Source: NCERT**

**Q6) What is the correct sequence of features on the sea floor starting from the coast to greater depths?**

- a) Continental shelf, continental slope, continental rise, abyssal plain
- b) Abyssal plain, continental rise, continental slope, continental shelf
- c) Continental slope, continental rise, abyssal plain, continental shelf
- d) Continental rise, continental slope, continental shelf, abyssal plain

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**



**Source: NCERT**

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

**Q.7) Consider the following pairs:**

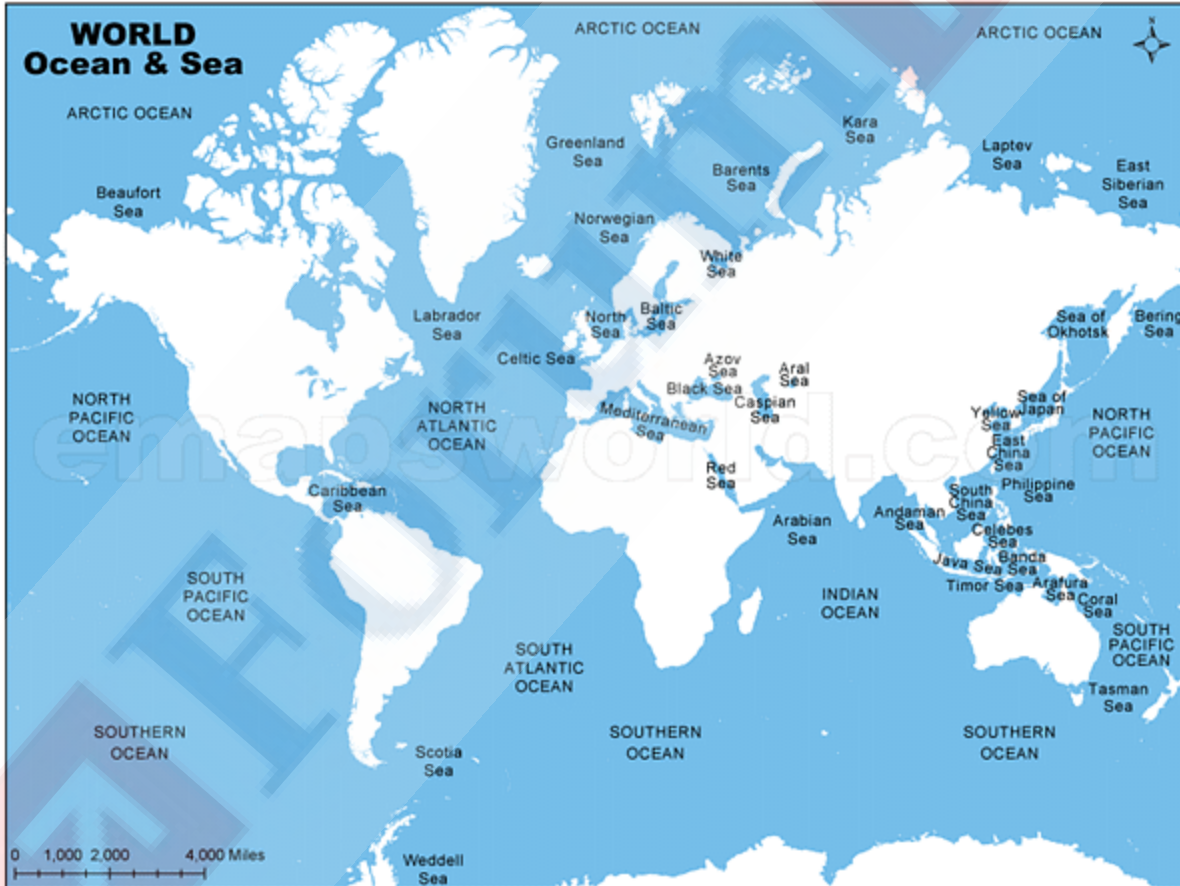
- | <b>Sea</b>     | <b>Ocean</b>   |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Kara Sea    | Atlantic Ocean |
| 2. Baltic Sea  | Arctic Ocean   |
| 3. Weddell Sea | Southern Ocean |
| 4. Coral Sea   | Pacific Ocean  |

**How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?**

- a) One pair only
- b) Two pairs only
- c) Three pairs only
- d) All four pairs

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Kara Sea: Arctic Ocean on the Russian coast  
Baltic Sea: Atlantic Ocean on the West European coast  
Weddell Sea: Southern Ocean on the Antarctic coast  
Coral Sea: Pacific Ocean off the coast of Queensland (Australia)



**Source: School Atlas**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding continental shelves:**

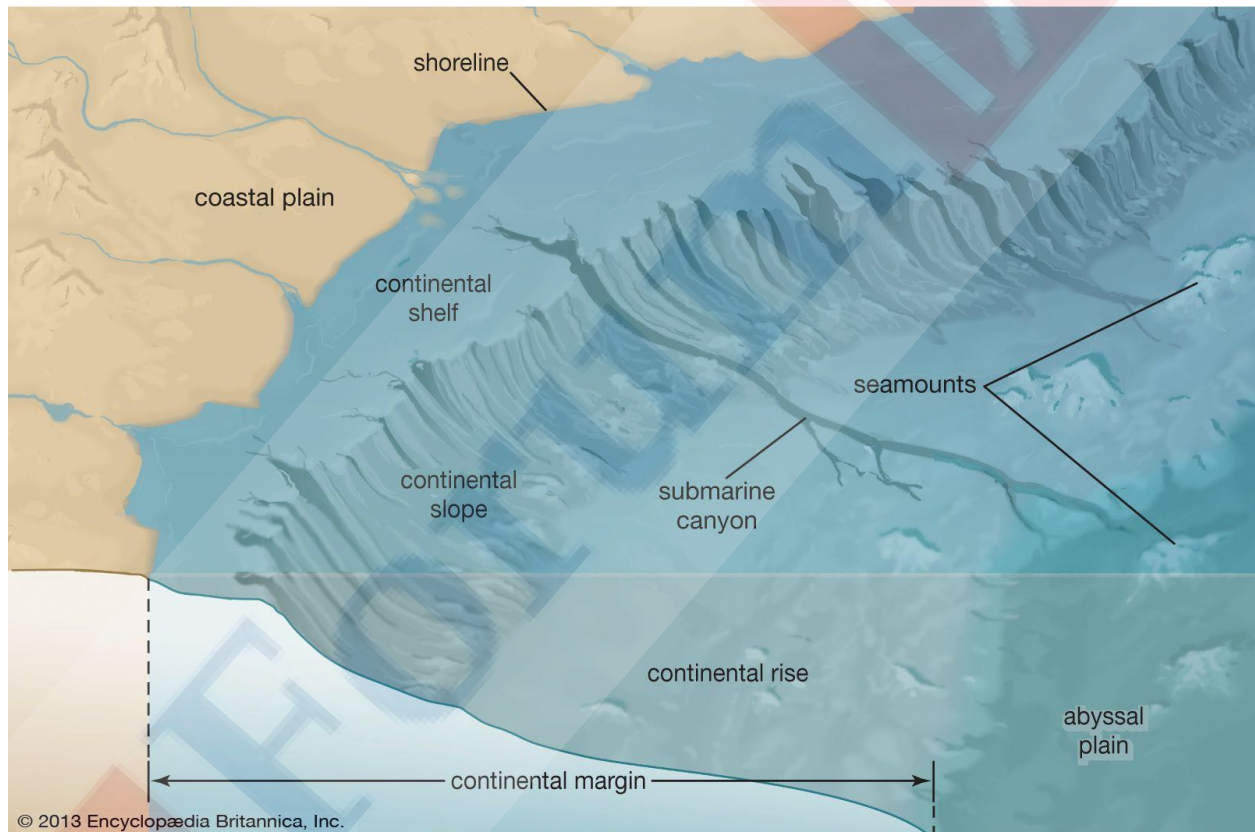
1. They have gentle slope and they extend up to 200m depth.
2. The widest continental is off the Arctic coast of Siberia.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Continental shelves are narrow where high mountains are close and parallel to the coast. For example, off the west coast of South America where the Andes Mountains are very close and parallel to the coast, the shelf is only a few hundred metres wide. Continental shelves are quite wide where there are wide plains near the coast. For example the width of the continental shelf is about 560 km off the coast of Rio de La Plata.



**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) Consider in following statements regarding continental slope:**

1. It is an area of steep slope between continental shelf and deep sea plain
2. It is a part of the continental margin covered by the ocean water.
3. Continental slopes may have deep sea fan at its base.

**Which of the above given statements is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation: Continental Slope**

- A continental slope is the slope between the outer edge of the continental shelf and the deep ocean floor. The continental slope is cut by submarine canyons in many locations. The continental slope marks the seaward edge of the continental shelf.
- Continental slopes are cut by submarine canyons. The dominant process influencing slopes are sediment deposition and erosion by turbidity currents.
- The gradient of the slope is lowest off stable coasts without major rivers and highest off coasts with young mountain ranges and narrow continental shelves. Most Pacific slopes are steeper than Atlantic slopes.
- Gradients are flattest in the Indian Ocean. About one-half of all continental slopes descend into deep-sea trenches or shallower depressions, and most of the remainder terminate in fans of marine sediment or in continental rises.
- The transition from continental crust to oceanic crust usually occurs below the continental slope.

**Source: NCERT**



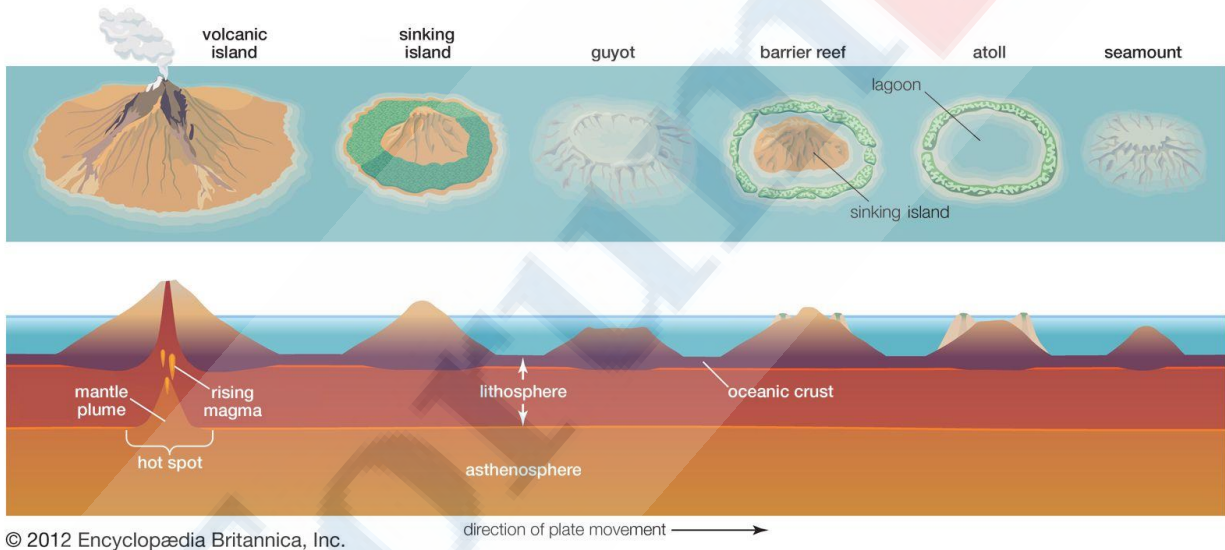
**Q.10) Which of the following statements is incorrect?**

- a) Seamounts are isolated volcanic hills on the sea floor
- b) Guyots are flat topped hills
- c) Deep sea plains cover the maximum area of the ocean floors
- d) The largest number of islands is found in the Atlantic Ocean

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** A seamount is a mountain that rises from the ocean floor; a submerged flat-topped seamount is termed a guyot. By arbitrary definition, seamounts must be at least 3000 ft (about 900 m) high, but in fact there is a continuum of smaller undersea mounts, down to heights of only about 300 ft (100 m). Some seamounts are high enough temporarily to form oceanic islands, which ultimately subside beneath sea level. There are on the order of 10,000 seamounts in the world ocean, arranged in chains (for example, the Hawaiian chain in the North Pacific) or as isolated features. In some chains, seamounts are packed closely to form ridges (for example, the Walvis Ridge in the South Atlantic). Very large oceanic volcanic constructions, hundreds of kilometers across, are called oceanic plateaus (for example, the Manihiki Plateau in the South Pacific).

The largest number of islands is found in the Pacific Ocean. This ocean has about 20,000 islands.



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**Source: NCERT**

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## *Environment*

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**Q.1) Rachel Carson's famous book "Silent Spring" is related to**

- a) Population explosion
- b) Ecosystem management
- c) Pesticide pollution
- d) Noise pollution

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Silent spring is an environmental science book written by Rachel Carson. The book documents the detrimental effects on environment, particularly on birds, of the indiscriminate use of pesticides.

**Source: ForumIAS**

**Q.2) Which method of water purification does not kill microorganisms?**

- a) Boiling
- b) Filtration
- c) Chlorination
- d) Distillation

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

- Filtration is a physical method that can only separate the pathogens and other contaminants from water but cannot kill microorganism.
- Boiling kills all the pathogens at boiling temperature.
- Chlorine kills pathogens such as bacteria and viruses by breaking the chemical bonds in their molecules.
- Distillation relies on evaporation to purify water. Contaminated water is heated to form steam. The boiling process kills microorganisms such as bacteria and some viruses.

**Source: ForumIAS**

**Q.3) Biodiversity is richer in which of the following?**

- a) Tropical Region
- b) Polar Region
- c) Temperate Region
- d) Ocean

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

- Biodiversity describes the richness and variety of life on earth. It is the most complex and important feature of our planet. Without biodiversity, life would not sustain.
- The term biodiversity was coined in 1985. It is important in natural as well as artificial ecosystems. It deals with nature's variety, the biosphere. It refers to variabilities among plants, animals and microorganism species.
- Biodiversity includes the number of different organisms and their relative frequencies in an ecosystem. It also reflects the organization of organisms at different levels.

## PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022

- Biodiversity holds ecological and economic significance. It provides us with nourishment, housing, fuel, clothing and several other resources. It also extracts monetary benefits through tourism. Therefore, it is very important to have a good knowledge of biodiversity for a sustainable livelihood.
- Biodiversity is richer in tropical region.

**Source: ForumIAS**

**Q.4) Among the following animals, choose the one having three pairs of legs?**

- a) Spider
- b) Scorpion
- c) Bug
- d) Mite

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

An insect has three pairs of legs and a body divided into three parts. These parts are called the head, thorax and abdomen. Each part of the insect's body has special features. On the head is a pair of feelers called antennae.

**Source: ForumIAS**

**Q.5) Which one among the following statement is not correct for mammals?**

- a) They possess hairs on the body
- b) Some of them lay eggs
- c) Their heart is three chambered
- d) Some are aquatic

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

- External ear (pinna) is not present in all mammals. It is absent in egg-laying mammals.
- The presence of teeth in the sockets of the jawbone is a characteristic seen in all mammals.
- The most advanced mammals are the primates. Primates include monkeys, apes and humans.
- Primates have a well developed brain and improved vision.
- All mammals are not viviparous. The duck-billed platypus is an oviparous mammal or an egg-laying mammal.
- In viviparity, eggs are developed inside the reproductive tract of females where the development takes place and young ones are born.

**Source: ForumIAS**

**Q.6) Consider the following pairs:**

<b>Plant</b>	<b>Natural Vegetation Type</b>
1. Ebony	Moist deciduous
2. Shisham	Himalayan moist
3. Walnut	Alpine

**How many pairs is/are correctly matched?**

- a) One pair only
- b) Two pairs only
- c) Three pairs only
- d) None

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:**

Tropical Evergreen Forest Regions:

- These forests are found in the western slope of the Western Ghats, hills of the north-eastern region and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- Climatic Conditions: They are found in warm and humid areas with annual precipitation of over 200 cm and a mean annual temperature above 22°C.
- Tree Species: Rosewood, mahogany, aini, ebony, etc.

Himalayan Moist Temperate Vegetation

- Distribution: In the western Himalayas between 1500m and 3000m.
- Characteristic Features: The trees are 30 to 50m tall and undergrowth is mostly evergreen. Mosses and ferns grow freely on trees.
- Important Species: Deodar, Spruce, Maple, Walnut, Poplar, Cedar, Chestnut, Birch, Oak etc.

**Source: ForumIAS**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements and select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- 1. Flora refers to plants of a particular region or period listed by species.
  - 2. Most of the Himalayan areas are covered by indigenous or endemic flora
  - 3. The Thar Desert of India contain exotic species or plant species that have come from outside.
- a) 1 and 2 are correct
  - b) 1 and 3 are correct
  - c) 2 and 3 are correct
  - d) 1, 2 and 3 are correct

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:**

The term flora in Latin means “Goddess of the Flower.” Flora is a collective term for a group of plant life found in a particular region. The whole plant kingdom is represented by this name.

Flora is classified and differentiated based on many factors. The best one among them is the area in which they grow or are found. Some grow in desert regions or in water, some are found in hilly areas while some are endemic to a specific geographic location.

Thar Desert, also called Great Indian Desert, arid region of rolling sand hills on the Indian subcontinent. It is located partly in Rajasthan state, northwestern India, and partly in Punjab and Sindh (Sind) provinces, eastern Pakistan.

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The desert vegetation is mostly herbaceous or stunted scrub; drought-resistant trees occasionally dot the landscape, especially in the east. On the hills, gum arabic acacia and euphorbia may be found. The khajri (or khejri) tree (*Prosopis cineraria*) grows throughout the plains.

**Source: ForumIAS**

**Q.8) Which one of the following is most sensitive to environmental change?**

- a) Amphibian
- b) Reptile
- c) Mammal
- d) Insect

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

Amphibians are sometimes called "indicators." They are called indicators because they are very sensitive to change in their environment.

They breathe through their skin and breathe toxic and non-toxic components with it too.

Nearly 33% of the amphibian species of the world are categorized as threatened on the Red List. Amphibians are dependent for their survival on a plentiful supply of fresh water that is free of chemical contaminants and harmful microbes

**Source: ForumIAS**

**Q.9) The germplasm is required for the propagation of plants and animals. Germplasm is the:**

- 1. Genetic resources
- 2. Seeds or tissues for breeding
- 3. Egg and sperm repository
- 4. A germ cells determining zone

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

Germplasm is the term used to describe the seeds, plants, or plant parts useful in crop breeding, research, and conservation efforts. Plants, seed, or cultures are germplasm when maintained for the purposes of studying, managing, or using the genetic information they possess. Thus, seed of an old, heirloom tomato variety is just seed when produced by a gardener or seed company, but it is germplasm when part of a collection gathered to conserve the genetic diversity of tomatoes or to develop a breeding program for new tomato varieties, or even for the purpose of preserving particular genetically controlled traits.

Some germplasm needs little or no breeding to be useful. Many commonly used ornamental, medicinal, and herbal plants have been changed little from their wild progenitors.

**Source: ForumIAS**

**Q.10) Tropical evergreen rain forest biome provides optimum environmental condition for growth of plants and animals.**

- a) It has heavy rainfall and high temperature throughout the year.
- b) This biome is also called mega thermal biome.
- c) The evergreen rain forest biome extends between 10° N and 10° S latitudes
- d) The maximum development of this biome has taken place in central and southern California, and north-western coastal lands of Africa

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:**

The maximum development of this biome has taken place in central and southern California, and north-western coastal lands of Africa.

**Source: ForumIAS**

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## *Indian History*

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**Q.1) Which of the following was probably the weakest link in the chain of leadership of the Revolt of 1857?**

- a) Bahadur Shah II
- b) Kunwar Singh
- c) Nana Sahib
- d) None of these

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:**

The Sepoy's of Meerut reached Delhi and killed the European officers and entered the red fort. They urged the Mughal Emperor Bahadur shah [a pensioner for the east India Company] to become their leader and give legitimacy to their cause. The Mughal emperor was initially reluctant but gave in and was declared Shahenshah of Hindustan. Capture of Delhi provided a rallying point to the movement. The revolt of the sepoy's was accompanied by a rebellion of the civil population, particularly in the north-western provinces and Awadh. Their accumulated grievances found immediate expression and they rose en masse to give vent to their opposition to British rule. Emperor Bahadur Shah was perhaps the weakest link in the chain of leadership of the revolt. His weak personality, old age and lack of leadership qualities created political weakness at the nerve centre of the revolt and did incalculable damage to it.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) What causes were responsible for the failure of the Revolt of 1857?**

1. The rebels lacked a supreme head.
2. The rebels had negligible communication resources.

**Select the correct answers using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The main reasons behind the failure of the Revolt of 1857 were :

- Lack of Planning and Co-ordination.
- Weak Leadership of the 1857 Mutiny.
- Superior British Army.
- Limited Supplies and Lack of Modern Communication.
- Lack of Societal Alternative.
- The Princes and Educated Classes did not participate.
- Limited Spread of the Revolt.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) How did the international situation favour the British during the Revolt of 1857?**

- a) The Crimean War and the trouble in Persia were over.
- b) The British could delay the war in China.
- c) The Indian Army sent for service abroad was called back quickly by the British.
- d) All of the above.

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Indian Rebellion of 1857 was a major, but ultimately unsuccessful, uprising in India in 1857–58 against the rule of the British East India Company, which functioned as a sovereign power on behalf of the British Crown. The rebellion began on 10 May 1857 in the form of a mutiny of sepoys of the Company's army in the garrison town of Meerut, 40 mi (64 km) northeast of Delhi (now Old Delhi).

- The Crimean War and the trouble in Persia were over.
- The British could delay the war in China.
- The Indian Army sent for service abroad was called back quickly by the British.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) The selfishness and the tendency on the part of the leaders to form cliques made the Revolt loss its vitality. Azimullah asked his leader not to visit Delhi lest he be overshadowed by the Emperor Bahadur Shah II. Azimullah was the political advisor of**

- a) Tantia Toppe
- b) Nana Sahib
- c) Sir John Kaye
- d) Khan Bahadur Khan

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The selfishness and the tendency on the part of the leaders to form cliques made the Revolt loss its vitality. Azimullah asked his leader not to visit Delhi lest he be overshadowed by the Emperor Bahadur Shah II. Azimullah was the political advisor of NANA SAHIB.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Before the outbreak of the revolt of 1857 at Meerut Mangal Pandey had become a martyr on 29 March 1857. At which of the following places, he was hanged?**

- a) Lucknow
- b) Faizabad
- c) Bhagalpur
- d) Barrackpore

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Mangal Pandey was arrested and sentenced to death after he attacked British officers in Barrackpore on March 29, 1857. Anticipating a revolt, British authorities moved up his initial execution date from April 18 to April 8, when he was hanged.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) A sepoy mutiny had broken out in Bengal as early as**



**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

- a) 1757
- b) 1764
- c) 1773
- d) 1784

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** A sepoy mutiny had broken out in Bengal as early as 1764. The authorities had suppressed it by blowing away 30 sepoys. In 1806, the sepoys at Vellore mutinied but were crushed with terrible violence. In 1824, the 47th Regiment of sepoys at Barrackpore refused to go to Burma by the sea-route.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Consider the following pairs:**

- 1. Rani laxmi Bai                      Jhansi
- 2. Bahardur Shah II                  Bareilly
- 3. Begum Hazrat Mahal              Lucknow

**How many pairs is/are correctly matched?**

- a) One pair only
- b) Two pairs only
- c) Three pairs only
- d) None

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

Jhansi was a Maratha-ruled princely state in Bundelkhand. When the Raja of Jhansi died without a biological male heir in 1853, it was annexed to the British Raj by the Governor-General of India under the doctrine of lapse. His widow, Rani Lakshmi Bai, the Rani of Jhansi protested against the denial of rights of their adopted son. When war broke out, Jhansi quickly became a center of the rebellion.

On 12th May Delhi was seized and Bahadur Shah II was proclaimed the emperor of India. The real command was in the hands of Bakht Khan who had led the revolt at Bareilly and brought the troops to Delhi.

Nana Saheb led the struggle for Independence at Kanpur. The British surrendered in June 1857. A large number of Englishmen, women and children were captured by an infuriated mob. The British defeated Nana Saheb in December, 1857. Nana Saheb fled towards Nepal, where he probably died. His general, Tantia Tope, escaped to Kalpi.

The Revolt of 1857 was a prolonged period of armed uprising as well as rebellions in Northern and Central India against British. It began in Meerut by Indian troops (sepoys) in the service of the British East India Company and later spread to Delhi, Agra, Kanpur, and Lucknow. In Awadh and Lucknow, the mutiny was led by Begum Hazrat Mahal. After a long siege, Lucknow was again re-captured by the British, forcing Hazrat Mahal to retreat in 1858.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Who can be called the greatest heroes of the Revolt of 1857?**

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**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

- a) The peasants
- b) The sepoys
- c) Rani Lakshmbai
- d) Nana Sahib

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Rebellion of 1857 occurred as the result of an accumulation of factors over time, rather than any single event. The sepoys were Indian soldiers who were recruited into the Company's army. Just before the rebellion, there were over 300,000 sepoys in the army, compared to about 50,000 British.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) Khan Bahadur Khan took part in the Revolt of 1857 by leading a rebellion in**

- a) Allahabad
- b) Bareilly
- c) Satara
- d) Indore

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Khan Bahadur Khan Rohilla, the grandson of Hafiz Rahmat Khan, set up his own government in Bareilly in the Revolt of 1857 against British. But, the revolt was suppressed by the British forces under the command of Colin Campbell. Khan Bahadur Khan was sentenced to death and hanged in the Kotwali on February 24, 1860.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) Though nearly 80 years old, which leader was perhaps the best military leader and strategist of the Revolt of 1857?**

- a) Nana Sahib
- b) Khan Bahadur Khan
- c) Kunwar Singh
- d) Bahadur Shah II

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:**

Kunwar Singh, a ruined and discontented zamindar of Jagdishpur near Arrah, was the chief organiser of the revolt in Bihar. Though nearly 80 year old, he was perhaps the most outstanding military leader and strategist of the Revolt.

**Source: NCERT**

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## *Schemes/ Programmes/ Institutions*

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**Q.1) Which of the following institution releases World of Work Report?**

- a) World Bank
- b) ILO
- c) Both a and b
- d) ADB

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The World of Work Report has been released by the ILO.

**Key Findings the Report**

- Job loss: About 11.2 crore jobs might have been lost during the first quarter of 2022.
- Working hours: The number of hours worked globally dropped in the first quarter of 2022, to 3.8% below the pre-pandemic benchmark (4th quarter of 2019).
- Reason for reduction of working hours: The fresh lockdowns in China, the conflict between Ukraine and Russia, and the global rise in the prices of food and fuel are the major reasons.
- Financial turbulence, potential debt distress and global supply chain disruptions are growing risks of a further deterioration in working hours in 2022.

Source: EPIC June 2022

**Q.2) Consider the following statements about Samudrayaan Mission:**

1. It is India's first manned ocean mission.
2. National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) is the Implementing Agency for the mission.

**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: About the Samudrayaan Mission:**

- The Samudrayaan mission is India's first manned ocean mission. It is a part of the Deep Ocean Mission.
- Its aims is to send men deep into the ocean in a submersible vehicle for deep-ocean exploration and rare mineral mining. As a part of the mission, in 2023, Sea trials of a 500-meter rated shallow water version of the manned submersible will be done.
- The trial will be followed by a mission that will send 3 people to a depth of 6,000 meters in the sea in a manned submersible vehicle called MATSYA 6000 for deep underwater studies.
- National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) is the Implementing Agency for the mission.

Source: EPIC June 2022

**Q.3) Consider the following statements about International Science Council:**

1. It was formed in 2021.
2. It is an international non-governmental organization that unites scientific bodies at various levels across the social and natural sciences.

**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: About International Science Council:**

It was formed in 2018. It is an international non-governmental organization that unites scientific bodies at various levels across the social and natural sciences. It is headquartered in Paris, France.

**Key Highlights**

The report considered three potential scenarios through the year 2027:

**First:** It is the most likely scenario. COVID-19 will have worsened inequalities in health, economics, development, science and technology, and society.

**Second:** COVID-19 will have become an endemic disease worldwide and low-income states may face risk of health system collapse and growing food insecurity. Mental health concerns will grow even further.

**Third:** It is the most pessimistic scenario. The world faces high levels of harm to social wellbeing — with long-term school closures, unemployment and increased gender-based violence. Growing nationalism and polarization will inhibit cooperation on global vaccinations and trade and give rise to conflict.

Source: EPIC June 2022

**Q.4) Which of the following Ministry has recently released Draft Notification for Electronic Waste Management?**

- a) Ministry of science and technology
- b) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- c) Ministry of Environment
- d) Ministry of Health and Family welfare

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Ministry of Environment has released the Draft Notification for Electronic Waste Management.

**Key Provisions of Draft Notification for Electronic Waste Management**

**Targets:** Consumer goods companies and makers of electronics goods have to ensure at least 60% of their electronic waste is collected and recycled by 2023 with targets to increase them to 70% and 80% in 2024 and 2025, respectively.

The rules bring into effect a system of trading in certificates, akin to carbon credits, that will allow companies to temporarily bridge shortfalls.

The extended producer responsibility (EPR) certificates certify the quantity of e-waste collected and recycled in a particular year by a company. An organisation may sell surplus quantities to another company to help it meet its obligations.

## **PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

Companies will have to register on an online portal and specify their annual production and e-waste collection targets.

Monitoring authority: Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is the chief entity that coordinates the trade of EPR certificates and monitors if companies are meeting their targets. A steering committee to be headed by the Chairman of the CPCB will oversee the overall implementation of these regulations.

Source: EPIC June 2022

**Q.5) Which of the following institutions releases Environmental Performance Index?**

- a) UNEP
- b) WEF
- c) World Bank
- d) UNESCO

**ANS: B**

**Explanation: About the Environmental Performance Index:**

The EPI is an international ranking system of countries based on their environmental health. It is a biennial index, first started in 2002 as the Environment Sustainability Index by the World Economic Forum. It is prepared by the Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy in collaboration with Columbia University Center for International Earth Science Information Network.

It uses 40 performance indicators to assess and rank 180 countries. The indicators 'measure how close countries are in meeting internationally established sustainability targets for specific environmental issues'.

The 40 indicators are under the broad categories of (a) Climate Change Performance; (b) Environmental health; (c) Ecosystem vitality.

Source: EPIC June 2022

**Q.6) Consider the following statements about I2U2:**

1. The group is also referred as 'International Forum for Economic Cooperation'.
2. I2U2 is the grouping formed by 4 nations: India, Israel, the UAE and the US.

**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: I2U2**

I2U2 is the grouping formed by 4 nations: India, Israel, the UAE and the US. The 1st summit of I2U2 nations will be held in a virtual mode in July 2022. Issues like food security and other areas of cooperation will be discussed at the summit. The group members met for the first time under a new framework in October 2021. At that time, the grouping was called 'International Forum for Economic Cooperation'. The Ambassador of UAE to India had referred to the new grouping as the 'West Asian Quad'.

Source: EPIC June 2022

**Q.7) International Liquid Mirror Telescope (ILMT) has been commissioned at which of the following place?**

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Gujarat
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Telangana

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: International Liquid Mirror Telescope (ILMT):**

The International Liquid Mirror Telescope (ILMT) has been commissioned in Devasthal, Uttarakhand. It has been built by India, Belgium and Canada. It is located at an altitude of 2450 meters at the Devasthal Observatory campus of Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES). It is the first liquid mirror telescope in the country and the largest in Asia.  
Source: EPIC June 2022

**Q.8) Which of the following given statement is/are correct?**

1. First Movers Coalition was launched by the President of the USA and the World Economic Forum (WEF).
2. It aims to decarbonise the heavy industry and long-distance transport sectors.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: First Movers Coalition:**

India has joined a public-private partnership initiative called First Movers Coalition. It was launched by the President of the USA and the World Economic Forum (WEF) at COP26 in Glasgow in November 2021. The aim of the initiative is to decarbonise the heavy industry and long-distance transport sectors that are responsible for 30% of global emissions. The target sectors include aluminium, aviation, chemicals, concrete, shipping, steel and trucking. Without any urgent progress on clean technology innovation, these sectors might witness over 50% of global emissions by mid-century.  
Source: EPIC June 2022

**Q.9) Which of the following given statement is incorrect?**

- a) India has a National Mission to achieve 100 MT Coal Gasification by 2040.
- b) Coal gasification is a process in which coal is partially oxidised with air, oxygen, steam or carbon dioxide to form a fuel gas.
- c) China has the biggest number of coal gasification projects in the world.
- d) None of the above

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Coal Gasification:**

The Ministry of Coal has prepared a National Mission document to achieve 100 MT Coal Gasification by 2030. Coal gasification is a process in which coal is partially oxidised with air, oxygen, steam or carbon dioxide to form a fuel gas. This gas is then used instead of piped natural

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

gas, methane and others for deriving energy. China has the biggest number of coal gasification projects in the world. 5% of China's total coal consumption is from its gasifier. It can be used in the production of electricity and making chemical products such as fertilisers. Coal gasification is one of the more water-intensive forms of energy production. There are concerns about water contamination, land subsidence and disposing of wastewater safely.

Source: EPIC June 2022

**Q.10) Consider the following statements about Jan Samarth Portal:**

1. It is a unique digital portal linking 13 credit-linked Government Schemes on a single platform.
2. The portal will help increase turnaround time and facilitate faster sanction of loans to beneficiaries.

**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: Jan Samarth Portal:**

The Portal was launched by the Prime Minister. It is a unique digital portal linking 13 credit-linked Government Schemes on a single platform. The portal will be an 'end-to-end delivery platform' and more people will come forward to avail of loans because of the ease of compliance. The portal will help reduce turnaround time and facilitate faster sanction of loans to beneficiaries.

**Source:** EPIC June 2022

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## Science

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**Q.1) Who among the following is credited to work for the unification of electricity, magnetism and optics field of Physics?**

- a) James Clerk Maxwell
- b) Michael Faraday
- c) Haris Christian Oersted
- d) Isaac Newton

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** James Clerk Maxwell made the efforts for the unification of electricity, magnetism and optics field of Physics. He showed that light is an electromagnetic wave. James Clerk Maxwell was a Scottish mathematician, physicist and is known best for his mathematical work on electromagnetism and on the behaviour of gases.

Source: NCERT

**Q.2) The Kinetic energy of a satellite is maximum in which of the following conditions?**

- a) When the satellite is at perigee
- b) When the satellite is at apogee
- c) It is equal at perigee and apogee
- d) None of the above

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Kinetic energy will be maximum when the satellite is closest to the central body (at perigee) and minimum when it is farthest from the central body (at apogee). Potential energy will be minimum when kinetic energy = maximum i.e., the satellite is closest to the central body (at perigee) and maximum when kinetic energy = minimum i.e., the satellite is farthest from the central body (at apogee).

Source: NCERT

**Q.3) On which of the following principles is Hydraulic lift based?**

- a) Pascal law
- b) Bernoulli's principle
- c) Stoke's law
- d) Torricelli's law

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Pascal law states that whenever external pressure is applied on any part of a fluid contained in a vessel, it is transmitted undiminished and equally in all directions. This is another form of the Pascal's law. Devices such as hydraulic lift and hydraulic brakes, are based on the Pascal's law.

Source: NCERT



**Q.4) Which of the following waves are also called as heat waves?**

- a) UV rays
- b) X-rays
- c) Infrared
- d) Micro waves

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Infrared waves vibrate not only the electrons, but entire atoms or molecules of a substance. This vibration increases the internal energy and consequently, the temperature of the substance. Therefore, infrared waves are often called as heat waves.

Source: NCERT

**Q.5) Which of the following is the phenomenon responsible for the trade winds?**

- a) Convection
- b) Conduction
- c) Radiation
- d) None of the above

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The trade-wind, which is the steady surface wind on the earth blowing in from north-east towards the equator, is an example of natural convection.

Source: NCERT

**Q.6) The absorption by blotting paper involves which of the following?**

- a) Viscosity of ink
- b) Capillary action phenomenon
- c) Diffusion of ink through the blotting
- d) Siphon action

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The absorption of ink by blotting paper involves capillary action phenomenon because the blotting paper is a thin and a smooth paper which allows a little thicker liquids like ink to absorb.

Source: NCERT

**Q.7) On a rainy day, small oil films on water show brilliant colours. This is due to which of the following phenomenon?**

- a) Dispersion
- b) Interference
- c) Diffraction
- d) Polarization

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** On a rainy day, small oil films on water show brilliant colours. This is due to Interference.

Interference is a phenomenon in which two waves superimpose to form a resultant wave of greater, lower or same amplitude.

Source: NCERT

**Q.8) Materials for rain-proof coats and tents owe their water-proof properties to**

- a) Surface tension
- b) Viscosity
- c) Specific gravity
- d) Elasticity

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The material of rain proof coats have the property of not minimizing the surface tension which will tend the water molecule to be in its drop form.

Source: NCERT

**Q.9) Which of the following statement about superconductors is correct?**

- a) Conduct electricity at low temperature
- b) Offer high resistance to the flow of current
- c) Offer no resistance to the flow of electricity
- d) Conduct electricity at high temperatures

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** By definition, superconductors are substances which display zero electrical resistance when a current is supplied, and are able to propagate such a current in a circuit indefinitely.

Source: NCERT

**Q.10) Radio telescopes are better than optical telescopes because of which of the following reason?**

- a) They can detect faint galaxies which no optical telescope can
- b) They can work even in cloudy conditions
- c) They can work during the day and night
- d) All of the above

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Radio telescopes are better than optical telescopes because they can detect faint galaxies which no optical telescope can, they can work even in cloudy conditions and they can work during the day and night.

Source: NCERT

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## *Economy*

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to Core Inflation:**

1. Core inflation shows price rise in all goods and services excluding energy and food articles.
2. In India, first time introduced in 2003-04.

**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:** This nomenclature is based on the inclusion or exclusion of the goods and services while calculating inflation. Popular in western economies, core inflation shows price rise in all goods and services excluding energy and food articles. In India, it was first time used in the financial year 2000–01 when the government expressed that it was under control—it means the prices of manufactured goods were under control. This was criticized by experts on account of excluding food articles and energy out of the inflation and feeling satisfied on the inflation front. Basically, in the western economies, food and energy are not the problems for the masses, while in India these two segments are of most vital importance for the common people.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to Galloping Inflation:**

1. This form of inflation is 'large and accelerating' which might have the annual rates in million or even trillion
2. Latin American countries such as Argentina, Chile and Brazil had such rates of 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: B**

**Explanation:** This is a 'very high inflation' running in the range of double-digit or triple digit (i.e., 20 per cent, 100 per cent or 200 per cent in a year). In the decades of 1970s and 1980s, many Latin American countries such as Argentina, Chile and Brazil had such rates of inflation—in the range of 50 to 700 per cent. The Russian economy did show such inflation after the disintegration of the ex-USSR in the late 1980s. Contemporary journalism has given some other names to this inflation —hopping inflation, jumping inflation and running or runaway inflation.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.3) In which Decade “Decadal Inflation” is highest among the following decades?**

- a) 1950’s
- b) 1960’s
- c) 1970’s
- d) 1980’s

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Decadal inflation in India looks comparatively normal with reference to many developing economies. But it has sporadic incidences of double-digit tendencies mainly due to supply-side shortfalls caused by droughts (monsoon failures), price rise of crude oil in the international market or fund diversions due to wars (the Chinese war of 1962 and the Pakistan wars of 1965–66 and 1971). The decadal inflation in India has been as given below:

- (i) During 1950s: remained at 1.7 per cent.
- (ii) During 1960s: remained at 6.4 per cent.
- (iii) During 1970s: remained at 9.0 per cent.
- (iv) During 1980s: remained at 8.0 per cent.
- (v) During 1990s: remained at 9.5 per cent (though it reached 0.5 per cent by the fourth quarter of the fiscal 1998–99)

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.4) Which of the following constitutes the stages of Business-Cycle of an economy?**

- 1. Depression
- 2. Recovery
- 3. Boom
- 4. Recession
- 5. Growth

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Economists have pointed out that the business cycle is characterised by four phases or stages in which economies alternate:

- (i) Depression
- (ii) Recovery
- (iii) Boom
- (iv) Recession

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.5) In which year Great Depression of world economy happened?**

- a) 1928
- b) 1929
- c) 1930
- d) 1931

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Though depression has visited the world economy only once in 1929, economists have pin-pointed enough number of traits to recognise it. The major traits of depression could be as given below:

- (i) an extremely low aggregate demand in the economy causes activities to decelerate;
- (ii) the inflation being comparatively lower;
- (iii) the employment avenues start shrinking forcing unemployment rate to grow fast;
- (iv) to keep the business going, production houses go for forced labour-cuts or retrenchment (to cut down production cost and be competitive in the market,) etc.

The economic situations become so chaotic in the phase of depression that governments have almost no control over the economy. The Great Depression of 1929 gave rise to the ideas of strong government Intervention in the economy, such as deficit financing, monetary management, etc.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.6) Multipliers will be lower with which one of the following?**

- a) High marginal propensity to consume
- b) Low marginal propensity to consume
- c) High marginal propensity to invest
- d) Low marginal propensity to save

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Every time there is an injection of new demand into the circular flow of income there is likely to be a multiplier effect. This is because an injection of extra income leads to more spending, which creates more income, and so on. The multiplier effect refers to the increase in final income arising from any new injection of spending.

The size of the multiplier depends upon household's marginal decisions to spend, called the marginal propensity to consume (mpc), or to save, called the marginal propensity to save (mps). It is important to remember that when income is spent, this spending becomes someone else's income, and so on. Marginal propensities show the proportion of extra income allocated to particular activities, such as investment spending by UK firms, saving by households, and spending on imports from abroad. For example, if 80% of all new income in a given period of time is spent on UK products, the marginal propensity to consume would be  $80/100$ , which is 0.8.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.7) In National Income (NI) accounts, Personal Income (PI) is defined as**

- a) NI - undistributed profits – net interest payments made by households - corporate tax + transfer payments to the households from the government and firms
- b) NI - undistributed profits - corporate tax + transfer payments to the households from the government and firms
- c) undistributed profits - net interest payments made by households + transfer payments to the households from the government and firms
- d) undistributed profits – net interest payments made by households - corporate tax

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** National income is a broader national level economic measure than is personal income. National income includes payments to individuals (income from wages and salaries, and other income), plus payments to government (taxes), plus retained income from the corporate sector (depreciation, undistributed profits), less adjustments (subsidies, government and consumer interest, and statistical discrepancy).

Personal income measures national level income to persons and nonprofit corporations. Personal income includes payments to individuals (income from wages and salaries, and other income), plus transfer payments from government, less employee social insurance contributions.

Disposable personal income measures the after-tax income of persons and nonprofit corporations. It is calculated by subtracting personal tax and nontax payments from personal income. In 1999, disposable personal income represented approximately 72 percent of gross domestic product (i.e., total U.S. output).

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.8) The Global Infrastructure Facility is a/an**

- a) ASEAN initiative to upgrade infrastructure in Asia and financed by credit from the Asian Development Bank.
- b) World Bank collaboration that facilitates the preparation and structuring of complex infrastructure Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) to enable mobilization of private sector and institutional investor capital.
- c) Collaboration among the major banks of the world working with the OECD and focused on expanding the set of infrastructure projects that have the potential to mobilize private investment.
- d) UNCTAD funded initiative that seeks to finance and facilitate infrastructure development in the world.

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Global Infrastructure Facility (GIF) is a partnership among governments, multilateral development banks, private sector investors, and financiers. It is designed to provide a new way to collaborate on preparing, structuring, and implementing complex projects that no single institution could handle on its own.

The comprehensive project support provided by the GIF draws on the combined expertise of its technical and advisory partners. This group, which includes commercial banks and institutional investors, ensures that well-structured and bankable infrastructure projects are brought to market in a way that sustainably meet the needs of governments and service users. Funding partners provide financial contributions to the GIF.

The GIF partnership is overseen by a Governing Council that supervises strategic programming and funds management as well as the development of operational policies and procedures. It

also holds the GIF's management accountable for delivering on objectives and principles. The Governing Council comprises representatives of funding and technical partners and representatives of emerging markets and developing economies, and is co-chaired by the World Bank Group and a Funding Partner.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.9) Which of the following statements best describes the term 'Scheme for Sustainable Structuring of Stressed Assets (S4A)'?**

- a) It is a procedure for considering ecological costs of developmental schemes formulated by the Government.
- b) It is a scheme of RBI for reworking the financial structure of big corporate entities facing genuine difficulties.
- c) It is a disinvestment plan of the Government regarding Central Public Sector Undertakings.
- d) It is an important provision in 'The insolvency and Bankruptcy Code' recently implemented by the Government

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** In order to further strengthen the lenders' ability to deal with stressed assets and to put real assets back on track by providing an avenue for reworking the financial structure of entities facing genuine difficulties, the Reserve Bank of India has today issued guidelines on a 'Scheme for Sustainable Structuring of Stressed Assets'.

Resolution of large borrowal accounts which are facing severe financial difficulties may, inter-alia, require co-ordinated deep financial restructuring which often involves a substantial write-down of debt and/or making large provisions. Often such high write-downs act as a disincentive to lenders to effect a sustainable change in the liability structure of borrows facing stress. Banks have also represented for a regulatory framework which would facilitate lenders taking up the exercise of reworking of the liability structure of companies to which they have significant exposures, in the context of asset quality stress currently faced by them.

Accordingly, the Reserve Bank, after due consultation with lenders, has formulated the 'Scheme for Sustainable Structuring of Stressed Assets' (S4A) as an optional framework for the resolution of large stressed accounts. The S4A envisages determination of the sustainable debt level for a stressed borrower, and bifurcation of the outstanding debt into sustainable debt and equity/quasi-equity instruments which are expected to provide upside to the lenders when the borrower turns around. In order to make sure that that the entire exercise is carried out in a transparent and prudent manner, S4A envisages that the resolution plan will be prepared by credible professional agencies, while an Overseeing Committee, set up by the Indian Banks Association, in consultation with the RBI, comprising of eminent experts will independently review the processes involved in preparation of the resolution plan, under the S4A, for reasonableness and adherence to the provisions of these guidelines, and opine on it.

Source: ForumIAS

**Q.10) Consider the following statements:**

1. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) helps in promoting the financial inclusion in the country.
2. NPCI has launched RuPay, a card payment scheme.

**Which of the following 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:** National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), an umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India, is an initiative of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA) under the provisions of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, for creating a robust Payment & Settlement Infrastructure in India. NPCI, during its journey, has made a significant impact on the retail payment systems in the country. Dedicated to the nation by our former President, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, endorsed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and later made the card of choice for the ambitious Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, RuPay is now a known name. RuPay is an indigenously developed Payment System – designed to meet the expectation and needs of the Indian consumer, banks and merchant eco-system. RuPay supports the issuance of debit, credit and prepaid cards by banks in India and thereby supporting the growth of retail electronic payments in India.

**Source:** ForumIAS



## *Polity*

**Q.1) Which one of the following statement is correct?**

- a) In India, the same person cannot be appointed as Governor for two or more States at the same time
- b) The Judges of the High Court of the States in India are appointed by the Governor of the state just as the Judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President
- c) No procedure has been laid down in the Constitution of India for the removal of a Governor from his/her post
- d) In the cases a Union Territory having a legislative setup the Chief Minister is appointed by the Lt. Governor on the basis of majority support

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** In India, the same person cannot be appointed as Governor for two or more States at the same time - This option is incorrect because according to the 7th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956, the same person can be appointed as Governor for two or more States at the same time.

- The Judges of the High Court of the States in India are appointed by the Governor of the state just as the Judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President - This option is incorrect because the High Court Judges are also appointed by the President as in the case of Judges of the Supreme Court. But, the procedure is slightly different. The appointment of Chief Justice of High Court is dealt with in Article 217 of the Constitution which states that he is appointed by the President in consultation with the Chief Justice of India as well as the Governor of the state in question. The collegium headed by the Chief Justice of India gives recommendations for the appointment of High Court Judges.
- In the cases a Union Territory having a legislative setup the Chief Minister is appointed by the Lt. Governor on the basis of majority support - This option is also incorrect because the Section 45 in the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963 states that the Chief Minister must be appointed by the President. Rest of the Ministers is appointed by the President on the advice of the Chief Minister.
- Thus, the only correct statement is No procedure has been laid down in the Constitution of India for the removal of a Governor from his/her post.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.2) Which one of the following comes under the 'State List' under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India?**

- a) Relief of the disabled and unemployable
- b) Regulations of labour and safety in mines
- c) Regulation and control of manufacture, supply and distribution of salt
- d) Social security and social insurance

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** State List:

- The seventh schedule under Article 246 of the constitution deals with the division of powers between the union and the states.

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- It contains three lists: Union List, State List and Concurrent List.
- The union list details the subjects on which Parliament may make laws while the state list details those under the purview of state legislatures.
- The concurrent list, on the other hand, has subjects in which both Parliament and state legislatures have jurisdiction. However, the Constitution provides federal supremacy to Parliament on concurrent list items in case of a conflict.
- The State List is a list of 61 (Originally 66) items in the Schedule Seven to the Constitution of India.
- The respective state governments have exclusive power to legislate on matters relating to these items.
- 'Relief of the disabled and unemployable' comes under the state list of the seventh schedule.

Source: Laxmikanth

**Q.3) Match the Articles of The Indian Constitution given in column 1 with corresponding provisions given in column II and provide the correct answer from the option given below:**

**Column I**

1. Article 153
2. Article 154
3. Article 155
4. Article 156

**Column II**

- a. Appointment of Governor by the President
- b. Mandates office of Governor
- c. Specifies Term of the Governor
- d. Specifies Executive Authority of Governor

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** GOVERNOR

152. Definition of state
153. Governors of states
154. Executive power of state
155. Appointment of governor
156. Term of office of governor
157. Qualifications for appointment as governor
158. Conditions of governor's office
159. Oath or affirmation by the governor
160. Discharge of the functions of the governor in certain contingencies
161. Power of governor to grant pardons, etc., and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases
162. Extent of executive power of state

**Source: Laxmikanth**

**Q.4) Which of the following is not in the concurrent list of the Indian Constitution?**

- a) Criminal Procedure
- b) Sale of Electricity
- c) Archaeological sites
- d) Public Order

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Some of the topics in Concurrent List (LIST-III)

1. Criminal Law, including all matters included in the Indian Penal Code.
2. Criminal procedure, including all matters included in the Code of Criminal Procedure.
3. Preventive detention for reasons connected with the security of a state, the maintenance of public order, or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the community.
4. Archaeological sites and remains other than those of national importance.

**Source: Laxmikanth**

**Q.5) Which of the following is/are correct regarding the office of Governor in India?**

1. One Governor can act as Governor of more than one State.
2. The Governor has the power to grant pardons, reprieves, remission of punishment to persons convicted under the State Law.
3. The Governor is appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Chief Minister of the respective State.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Office of Governor**

- 7th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 facilitated the appointment of same person as a governor of 2 or more states.
- Under Article 161 of the Constitution, the Governor of a state can grant pardons, reprieves, respites and remissions of punishment or suspend, remit and commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence against a state law.
- The Governor is appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.

**Governor:**

- He is the chief executive head of the state.
- But, like the President, he is the nominal executive head.
- He also acts as an agent of the central Government.

**Source: Laxmikanth**

**Q.6) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Constitution provides for the abolition or creation of legislative councils in states.
2. Such a specific resolution must be passed by the state assembly by a simple majority.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Constitution provides for the abolition or creation of legislative councils in states. Accordingly, the Parliament can abolish a legislative council (where it already exists) or create it (where it does not exist), if the legislative assembly of the concerned state passes a resolution to that effect. Such a specific resolution must be passed by the state assembly by a special majority, that is, a majority of the total membership of the assembly and a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the assembly present and voting.

**Source: Laxmikanth**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements.**

1. The legislative assembly consists of representatives directly elected by the people on the basis of universal adult franchise
2. Its maximum strength is fixed at 500 and minimum strength at 60.

**Which of the above given statement is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The legislative assembly consists of representatives directly elected by the people on the basis of universal adult franchise. Its maximum strength is fixed at 500 and minimum strength at 60.

**Source: Laxmikanth**

**Q.8) Salary allowance and other services conditions of the State Chief Information Commissioners are similar to which of the following:**

- a) Election commissioner
- b) Chief Secretary of the state government
- c) Chief Information Commissioner
- d) Chief Justice of Supreme Court

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Salary allowance and other services conditions of the State Chief Information Commissioners are similar to the Election Commissioner of India.

**Source: Laxmikanth**

**Q.9) Who is final interpreter of the provisions of the constitution of India in the state legislative assembly?**

- a) Speaker
- a) b)President
- b) Prime Minister
- c) Chief Minister

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Speaker of state legislative assembly is the final interpreter of the provisions of the Constitution of India, the rules of procedure and conduct of business of assembly, and also the legislative precedents, within the assembly.

**Source: Laxmikanth**

**Q.10) On which of the following basis the seats are reserved for the SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha and the state legislative assemblies?**

- a) Area
- b) Population
- c) Gender
- d) Locality

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Seats are to be reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Lok Sabha or the Lower House of the Parliament and the state legislative assemblies on the basis of population ratios.

**Source: Laxmikanth**

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## Geography

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**Q.1) The soils that cannot retain moisture and are infertile are the:**

- a) Desert sands
- b) Alluvial soils
- c) Laterites
- d) Black cotton soils

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Desert Sands:

Desert soils form in areas where the demand for water by the atmosphere (evaporation) and plants (transpiration) is much greater than precipitation. Deserts cover 20 to 33% of the Earth's land surface and can be found in the tropics, at the poles, and in between. It has a low content of nitrogen and organic matter with very high calcium carbonate and phosphate, thus making it infertile. It thus is susceptible to wind erosion and supports a low density of population. Kankar or impure Calcium carbonate content is high which restricts the infiltration of water.

**Sources: NCERT**

**Q.2) With reference to Tropical Evergreen Forests, consider the following statements:**

1. They are found in warm and humid areas with annual precipitation of over 200 cm.
2. They are well stratified, with different layers of vegetation.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Tropical Evergreen Forests:**

- These forests are found in the western slope of the Western Ghats, hills of the northeastern region and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- They are found in warm and humid areas with annual precipitation of over 200 cm and mean annual temperature above 22 degrees centigrade.
- Tropical evergreen forests are well stratified, with layers closer to the ground and are covered with shrubs and creepers, with short structured trees followed by a tall variety of trees.
- In these forests, trees reach great heights up to 60 m or above.
- There is no definite time for trees to shed their leaves, flowering, and fruition.
- As such these forests appear green all year- round.
- Species found in these forests include rosewood, mahogany, ebony, etc.

**Sources: NCERT**

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

1. Community forestry combines forestry with agriculture, thus, altering the simultaneous production of food, fodder, fuel, timber, and fruit.
2. Agro-forestry is a term applied to the process under which farmers grow trees for commercial and non-commercial purposes on their farmlands

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation: Farm Forestry:**

- Farm forestry is a term applied to the process under which farmers grow trees for commercial and non-commercial purposes on their farmlands Agro-Forestry and Community Forestry Agro-forestry is the raising of trees and agriculture crops on the same land inclusive of the waste patches.
- It combines forestry with agriculture, thus, altering the simultaneous production of food, fodder, fuel, timber, and fruit.
- Community forestry involves the raising of trees on public or community land such as the village pasture and temple land, roadside, canal bank, strips along railway lines, and schools, etc.
- The community forestry programme aims at providing benefits to the community as a whole.
- Community forestry provides a means under which the people of landless classes can associate themselves in tree-raising and thus, get those benefits that otherwise are restricted for landowners.

**Sources: NCERT**

**Q.4) With reference to Reforestation, consider the following statements:**

1. Reforestation is the establishment of trees in an area where no previous tree cover exists.
2. Reforestation can be used to rebuild natural habitats and mitigate global warming.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation: Reforestation:**

- Reforestation is the natural or intentional restocking of existing forests that have been previously depleted or degraded.
- Reforestation can be used to rebuild natural habitats and ecosystems, mitigate global warming since forests facilitate bio-sequestration of atmospheric carbon dioxide, etc.
- Reforestation need not be only used for recovery of accidentally destroyed forests. It is also done intentionally. For e.g. in many counties where pulp and paper industry is dominant, trees are planted to replace those that have been cut down.

**Sources: NCERT**

**Q.5) Which of the following can be the possible impacts of Deforestation on the Environment?**

1. Drier Climates
2. Change inflow of winds
3. Floods and landslides
4. Reduced Genetic variations

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation: Deforestation:**

- Indiscriminate felling of trees as a result of urbanization, industrialization, mining operations, and use of wood for domestic and other purposes have caused heavy depletion of forests. This is called deforestation.
- Deforestation results in the conversion of forest land to a non-forest use.

**Causes**

**of**

**Deforestation**

**Agriculture:** As per UNFCCC, agriculture is the direct cause of deforestation. Subsistence farming, commercial agriculture, shifting cultivation, and industrial logging all-cause deforestation.

- Developmental Projects like hydroelectric projects, reservoirs etc. require immense deforestation.
- Raw Material requirements Overgrazing by cattle Other causes like mining, overpopulation, and urbanization, floods, forest fires due to climate change etc.

**Impacts**

**of**

**Deforestation**

**Environmental Impacts:** Deforestation is a contributor to global warming and is often cited as one of the major causes of the enhanced greenhouse effect as it causes carbon stores held in the soil to be released.

- Deforestation affects wind flows, water vapor flows and absorption of solar energy thus clearly influencing local and global climate.
- The water cycle is also affected by deforestation. Trees extract groundwater through their roots and release it into the atmosphere. When part of a forest is removed, the trees no longer transpire this water, resulting in a much drier climate.
- Deforestation causes: Increase in the rate of soil erosion. This can further lead to flooding in the river and makes the soil susceptible to landslides.
- Removal or destruction of significant areas of forest cover has resulted in a degraded environment with reduced biodiversity. Deforestation can destroy genetic variations (such as crop resistance) irretrievably.

**Economic**

**Impacts:**

A short-term economic gain made by conversion of forest to agriculture, or over-exploitation of wood products, typically leads to a loss of long-term income and long-term biological productivity.

**Sources: NCERT**



**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding soil degradation:**

1. It is caused by soil erosion.
2. The degree of soil degradation depends upon the amount of rainfall and wind velocity.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Soil Degradation:**

- It can be defined as the decline in soil fertility i.e when the nutritional status declines and depth of the soil go down due to erosion and misuse.
- Soil degradation is the main factor leading to the depleting soil resource base in India. The degree of soil, degradation varies from place to place according to the topography, wind velocity and amount of rainfall.

**Sources: NCERT**

**Q.7) Which of the following soils has the highest salt content?**

- a) Desert soil
- b) Black soil
- c) Peaty soil
- d) Laterite soil

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Desert or Arid Soil:**

- Arid soils range from red to brown in color.
- They are generally sandy in structure and saline in nature.
- In some areas, the salt content is so high that common salt is obtained by evaporating the saline water. Due to the dry climate, high temperature and accelerated evaporation, they lack moisture and humus.
- Nitrogen is insufficient and the phosphate content is normal. Lower horizons of the soil are occupied by 'kankar' layers because of the increasing calcium content downwards.
- The 'Kankar' layer formation in the bottom horizons restricts the infiltration of water, and as such when irrigation is made available, the soil moisture is readily available for sustainable plant growth.
- Arid soils are characteristically developed in western Rajasthan, which exhibits characteristic arid topography. These soils are poor and contain little humus and organic matter.

**Sources: NCERT**

**Q.8) Which of the following statements is incorrect regarding Regur soils?**

- a) These are highly fertile
- b) These suit leguminous crops
- c) These are good for citrus fruits
- d) Regur soils on uplands are more productive.

**ANS: D**

**Explanation: Regur soils:**

- Black soils are essentially mature and fertile soils which have been produced by relief and climate, rather than by a particular type of rock. Chemically, the black soils are rich in lime, iron, magnesia, and alumina. Owing to their iron-rich granular structure makes them resistant to wind and water erosion. They are poor in humus yet highly moisture-retentive, thus responding well to irrigation. They also contain potash.
- This soil has been used for growing a variety of crops for centuries without adding fertilizers and manures, with little or no evidence of exhaustion. These soils are best suited for cotton crops. Hence these soils are called regur and black cotton soils. Other major crops grown on the black soils include leguminous crops, wheat, jowar, linseed, Virginia tobacco, castor, sunflower and millets.
- Rice and sugarcane are equally important where irrigation facilities are available. Large varieties of vegetables and fruits including citrus fruits are also successfully grown on the black soils.
- A typical black soil is highly argillaceous with a large clay factor, 62 percent or more. In general, black soils of uplands are of low fertility while those in the valleys are very fertile.

**Sources: NCERT**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the Peaty soil and the Forest soil?**

1. Unlike Peaty soil, forest soil is acidic with low humus content.
2. Forest soil is loamy and silty on valley sides, while peaty soil, at many places, is alkaline in nature.

**Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation: Peaty Soil:**

- They are found in the areas of heavy rainfall and high humidity, where there is a good growth of vegetation.
- Thus, a large quantity of dead organic matter accumulates in these areas and this gives rich humus and organic content to the soil.
- Organic matter in these soils may go even up to 40-50 percent.
- These soils are normally heavy and black in color. In many places, they are alkaline also.
- It occurs widely in the northern part of Bihar, the southern part of Uttarakhand and the coastal areas of West Bengal, Odisha, and Tamil Nadu.

**Forest Soils**

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- These are formed in the forest areas where sufficient rainfall is available. The soils vary in structure and texture depending on the mountain environment where they are formed.
- They are loamy and silty on valley sides and coarse-grained in the upper slopes. In the snow-bound areas of the Himalayas, they experience denudation and are acidic with low humus content. The soils found in the lower valleys are fertile

**Sources: NCERT**

**Q.10) Which of the following is/are the main agent(s) of soil erosion?**

- a) Wind and water
- b) Rocks
- c) Sand
- d) None of these

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Soil Erosion:**

- Soil erosion has been defined as the gradual removal of the topsoil by running water, wind, glacier, sea waves, anthropogenic agents and animals.
- Soil erosion is a universal phenomenon.
- According to one estimate about 75, 000 million tonnes of soil is removed by these agents annually. - In India, about 6000 million tonnes of soil are removed annually. Topsoil is currently lost 16 to 300 times faster than it can be replaced (which takes 200 to 1000 years).

**Agents of soil Erosion:**

- Running water: Uniform removal of soil Rill erosion Gully erosion (e.g. northern Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, M.P. U.P) Wind Erosion: Mainly in the arid and semi-arid regions.

**Sources: NCERT**

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## *Environment*

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements:**

1. Photic zone is the upper layer of the aquatic ecosystems.
2. In aphotic zone, only respiration activity takes place.

**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:** Based on light penetration and plant distribution they are classified as photic and aphotic zones

**Photic zone:**

- It is the upper layer of the aquatic ecosystems, up to which light penetrates and within which photosynthetic activity is confined.
- The depth of this zone depends on the transparency of water.
- Both photosynthesis and respiration activity takes place.
- photic (or “euphotic”) zone is the lighted and usually well-mixed portion that extends from the lake surface down to where the light level is 1% of that at the surface.

**Aphotic zone:**

- The lower layers of the aquatic ecosystems, where light penetration and plant growth are restricted form the aphotic zone.
- Only respiration activity takes place.
- aphotic zone is positioned below the littoral and photic zones to bottom of the lake where light levels are too low for photosynthesis. Respiration occurs at all depths so the aphotic zone is a region of oxygen consumption. This deep, unlit region is also known as the profundal zone.

**Source: Shankar IAS**

**Q.2) With reference to eutrophication, which of the following statement is/are correct?**

1. The nutrient-enrichment of the lakes promotes the growth of algae, aquatic plants and various fauna. This process is known as cultural eutrophication.
2. The nutrient enrichment of lakes at an accelerated rate is caused by human activities and the consequent ageing phenomenon is known as Natural eutrophication.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The nutrient-enrichment of the lakes promotes the growth of algae, aquatic plants and various fauna. This process is known as natural eutrophication. Similar nutrient enrichment

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of lakes at an accelerated rate is caused by human activities (discharge of wastewaters or agricultural runoff) and the consequent ageing phenomenon is known as 'cultural eutrophication'.

**Source: Shankar IAS**

**Q.3) Which of the following given statement is/are correct?**

1. Aquatic plant nutrient flux in oligotrophic lake is high.
2. Oxygen in the hypolimnion of eutrophic is absent.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** General Characteristics of Oligotrophic and eutrophic Lakes

Type of lake			
Sl.no	Parameter	Oligotrophic	Eutrophic
1.	Aquatic plant production	Low	Eliminated due to Eutrophication
2.	Aquatic animal production	Low	Eliminated due to Eutrophication
3.	Aquatic plant nutrient flux	Low	High
4.	Oxygen in the hypolimnion (bottom layer)	Present	Absent
5.	Depth	Tend to be deeper	Tend to be shallower
6.	Water quality for domestic & industrial uses	Good	Poor
7.	Total salts or conductance	Usually lower	Sometimes higher
8.	Number of plant and animal species	Many	Fewer

**Source: Shankar IAS**

**Q.4) Ameenpur Lake, the first Biodiversity Heritage Site under the biodiversity act, 2002 is located in which of the following state?**

- a) Telangana
- b) Bihar
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Madhya Pradesh

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Ameenpur Lake - First Biodiversity Heritage Site**

Ameenpur Lake gets the status of the first Biodiversity Heritage Site in the country under the biodiversity act, 2002. It is an ancient man-made lake in a western part of Telangana. Biodiversity Heritage Site is areas of biodiversity importance, which harbor rich biodiversity, wild relatives of crops, or areas, which lie outside the protected area network. Biodiversity Heritage sites are managed by a locally constituted Biodiversity Management Committee and get funding for its protection.

**Source: Shankar IAS**

**Q.5) Which of the following about the causes of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) is/are correct?**

- 1. Unusual warm water is conducive to blooms.
- 2. Nutrient deficiency of water, especially phosphates and nitrogen.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: What are the causes of these blooms?**

- Blooms occur when several colonies start combining rapidly when conditions such as nutrient concentrations, salinity and temperature are optimal.
- Blooms can be due to a number of reasons. Two common causes are nutrient enrichment and warm waters.
- Nutrient enrichment of water, especially phosphates and nitrogen, is often the result of pollution and can cause algal blooms.
- Water temperature has also been related to the occurrence of algal blooms, with unusually warm water being conducive to blooms.

**Source: Shankar IAS**

**Q.6) Which of the following statement about wetland ecosystem is/are correct?**

1. Wetlands are areas intermediate in character between deepwater and terrestrial habitats.
2. One of the functions performed is filtration of sediments and nutrients from surface water.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Wet Land Ecosystem**

- Wetlands are areas intermediate in character between deepwater and terrestrial habitats, also transitional in nature, and often located between them.
- These habitats experience periodic flooding from adjacent deepwater habitats and therefore supports plants and animals specifically adapted to such shallow flooding or water logging of the substrate, were designated as wetlands.
- They included lake littorals (marginal areas between highest and lowest water level of the lakes), floodplains (areas lying adjacent to the river channels beyond the natural levees and periodically flooded during high discharge in the river) and other marshy or swampy areas where water gets stagnated due to poor drainage or relatively impervious substrata & Bogs, fens and mangroves due to similar ecological characteristics

**Functions of Wetlands**

- Habitat to aquatic flora and fauna, as well as numerous species of birds, including migratory species.
- Filtration of sediments and nutrients from surface water
- Nutrients recycling
- Water purification
- Floods mitigation
- Maintenance of stream flow
- Ground water recharging
- Provide drinking water, fish, fodder, fuel, etc
- Control rate of runoff in urban areas
- Buffer shorelines against erosion
- Comprise an important resource for sustainable tourism, recreation and cultural heritage
- Stabilization of local climate
- Source of livelihood to local people
- Genetic reservoir for various species of plants (especially rice)
- Supporting specific diversity

**Source: Shankar IAS**

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**Q.7) Consider the following statements:**

1. Dominant producer in a lake are macrophytes, while in a wetland are phyto plankton.
2. There is thermal stratification in a lake and not in a wetland.

**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: Comparison between Lake and Wetlands**

Sl. no	Characteristic	Lake	Wetland (shallow lake)
1.	Origin	various process	Fluvial/ Geomorphic processes
2.	Water turnover	Permanent	Permanent or Temporary
3.	Water level changes	relatively small	Relatively Large
4.	Littoral: Pelagial ratio	Small	Large
5.	Thermal stratification	Yes	No
6.	Vertical mixing	Thermally regulated	Wind regulated
7.	Dominant Producer	Phyto plankton	Macrophytes
8.	Food chain	Grazing Pathway	Detritus Pathway
9.	Nutrient Cycles	Microbial loops less important	Microbial loop dominant
10.	Productivity	Low	High
11.	Trophic status	Oligo trophic	Mostly Eutrophic (Except desirable in bogs)
12.	Biodiversity	Generally low	Generally high
13.	Functions- Flood control	Less Significant	Significant
14.	Groundwater recharge	Negligible/low	Low-high
15.	Waste treatment	No	Yes
16.	Management objectives	Control of eutrophication High Water quality	Biodiversity conservation Specific Functions

**Source: Shankar IAS**



**Q.8) Which of the following statement is/are correct?**

1. Kannimara teak is one of the largest living teak tree in the world.
2. Kannimara tree has been awarded 'Mahavriksha Puraskar' by the Government of India.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Kannimara teak is one of the largest living teak tree in the world. It has an amazing girth of 6.48m and a crown height of 48.75m. It is believed to be around 400 years old.

According to the local tribal belief here when this tree was tried to cut down, the blood spurted out from the place of cut. This tree was being since then worshipped by the local tribes in Parambikulam as "Virgin tree". Kannimara - 'Kanni' means 'Virgin'. This tree has been awarded 'Mahavriksha Puraskar' by the Government of India.

**Source: Shankar IAS**

**Q.9) Which of the following statement is/are correct?**

1. Floating treatment wetland works on the basis of hydroponics technique.
2. The Nekkampur Lake in Hyderabad is the largest floating treatment wetland in the country.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Nekkampur Lake - First FTW Lake**

The Nekkampur Lake, Hyderabad is the largest floating treatment wetland in the country. Floating treatment wetland works on the basis of hydroponics technique. Hydroponics permits plants to grow on the water with the help of sunlight (no need of soil). A floating island unit is essentially a platform designed using styrofoam, bamboo, gunny bags and coir and it performs the function of a wetland.

**Source: Shankar IAS**

**Q.10) Montreux Record is the principal tool under which of the following convention?**

- a) Ramsar Convention
- b) Basel Convention
- c) Stockholm Convention
- d) Bonn Convention

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Montreux Record**

Montreux Record is the principal tool under the Ramsar Convention, is a register of wetland sites on the List of Wetlands of International Importance. It highlights those sites where adverse changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur as a result of technological developments, pollution or other human interference and which are therefore in need of priority conservation attention. It is maintained as part of the Ramsar List.

Montreux Record are employed to identify priority sites for positive national and international conservation attention. Sites may be added to and removed from the Record only with the approval of the Contracting Parties in which they lie.

**Source: Shankar IAS**

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## *History*

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**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the Militant Nationalist:**

1. They did not believe in the capacity of the masses to challenge authority.
2. They believed that true nationalists should always be ready for personal sacrifice.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation: Militant Nationalism:**

- A radical trend of a militant nationalist approach to political activity started emerging in the 1890s and it took concrete shape by 1905.
- By the dawn of the twentieth century, a band of nationalist thinkers had emerged who advocated a more militant approach to political work.
- These included Raj Narain Bose, Ashwini Kumar Datta, Aurobindo Ghosh and Bipin Chandra Pal in Bengal; Vishnu Shastri Chiplunkar and Bal Gangadhar Tilak in Maharashtra; and Lala Lajpat Rai in Punjab. Tilak emerged as the most outstanding representative of this school of thought.

**The reason behind the growth of Militant nationalism:**

- Recognition of the True Nature of British Rule
- Growth of Confidence and Self-Respect
- Growth of Education
- International Influences
- Reaction to Increasing Westernisation
- Dissatisfaction with Achievements of Moderates
- Reactionary Policies of Curzon
- Existence of a Militant School of Thought
- The emergence of a Trained Leadership

**The basic tenets of this school of thought were:**

- Hatred for foreign rule, Indians should work out their own salvation.
- Swaraj to be the goal of the national movement.
- Direct political action was required.
- Belief in capacity of the masses to challenge the authority.
- Personal sacrifices are required and a true nationalist to be always ready for it.

**Source: NCERT**

**PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2022**

**Q.2) Which of the following events happened during the tenure of Lord Curzon?**

1. Two British officials were assassinated by the Chapekar brothers.
2. Agriculture research institute at PUSA.

**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: B**

**Explanation: Lord Curzon:**

Following are the important events happened during the tenure of Lord Curzon (1899-1905):

- Lord Curzon set up a Famine Commission.
- The Punjab Land Alienation Act of 1900 prohibited the sale of agricultural lands for its attachment in execution of a decree.
- Agricultural banks were established.
- In 1904, the cooperative credit society's act was passed.
- The Department of Agriculture was established in 190
- He founded on agricultural research Institute at Pusa.
- Commission was appointed in 1901 to consider the problems of education.
- In order to preserve and protect the ancient monuments of India, he passed the Ancient Monuments Protection Act, and the Archaeological Department was established in 190.
- The setup of the Police Commission under the Chairmanship of Sir Andrew Frazer in 190
- A Criminal Investigation Department was opened in each district. In 1901 the Imperial Cadet Corps was set up.
- Split in congress took place in 1907.
- Assassination by Chapekar brothers was done in 1897.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Who among the following is/are associated with the "Swadeshi Sangam Samiti"?**

- a) Alluri Sitarama Raju
- b) Pingali Venkayya
- c) V.O. Chidambaram Pillai
- d) All of the above

**ANS: C**

**Explanation: Swadeshi Sangam:**

In Tirunelveli, (Tamil Nadu), V.O. Chidambaram Pillai, Subramania Siva and some lawyers formed the Swadeshi Sangam which inspired the local masses.

These samitis generated political consciousness among the masses through magic lantern lectures, swadeshi songs, providing physical and moral training to their members, social work during famines and epidemics, organisation of schools, training in swadeshi crafts and arbitration courts.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) Which of the following statements is/are not correct regarding Women's Organisations during British Rule?**

1. All India Women's Conference (AIWC) is considered the first major Indian women's organisation set up by women.
2. Sarla Devi Chaudhurani founded the Arya Mahila Samaj.

**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: Women's Organisations:**

- In 1910, Sarla Devi Chaudhurani convened the first meeting of the Bharat Stree Mahamandal in Allahabad. Considered as the first major Indian women's organisation set up by a woman, its objectives included the promotion of education for women, abolition of the purdah system and improvement in the socio-economic and political status of women all over India.
- Ramabai Ranade founded the Ladies Social Conference (Bharat Mahila Parishad), under the parent organisation National Social Conference, in 1904 in Bombay.
- Pandita Ramabai Saraswati founded the Arya Mahila Samaj to serve the cause of women. She pleaded for improvement in the educational syllabus of Indian women before the English Education Commission which was referred to Queen Victoria.
- The All India Women's Conference (AIWC), founded by Margaret Cousins in 1927, was perhaps the first women's organisation with an egalitarian approach. Its first conference was held at Ferguson College, Pune. Important founding members included Maharani Chinnabai Gaekwad, Rani Sahiba of Sangli, Sarojini Naidu, Kamla Devi Chattopadhyaya and Lady Dorab Tata.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements about Morley Minto Reforms 1909:**

1. Number of elected members in Imperial Legislative Council was increased.
2. Provision for reservation of seats for landlords and British capitalist in India was removed.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Morley Minto Reforms, 1909:**

It increased the number of elected members in Imperial Legislative Council and the provincial councils. But most of the elected members were indirectly elected, by the provincial councils in case of Imperial Legislative Council and by municipal committees and district boards in case of Provincial Councils.

Some of the elected seats were reserved for landlords and British capitalists in India.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Saddler Commission was established to review the:**

- a) The functioning of Calcutta University.
- b) Condition of Minorities in British India.
- c) Problems of Secondary education in British India.
- d) None of the above

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Saddler Commission (The Calcutta University Commission of 1917):**

- In 1917 the Government of India appointed a Commission to study and report on the problems of Calcutta University. Dr. M.E. Saddler, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leeds, was appointed its Chairman. The Commission included two Indian members, namely Sir Ashutosh Mukherjee and Dr. Zia-ud-din Ahmad.
- While the Hunter Commission had reported on problems of secondary education and the University Commission of 1902 mainly on the different aspects of university education, the Saddler Commission reviewed the entire field from school education to university education.
- The Saddler Commission held the view that the improvement of secondary education was a necessary condition for the improvement of university education.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Which of the following commission is related to the reforms in civil services?**

- a) Islington Commission
- b) Frazer Commission
- c) Hartog Commission
- d) Saddler Commission

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Islington Commission, 1912:**

It is a Royal Commission formed to recommend reforms in the Public Service of British India with Lord Islington as its chairman. A ten-member commission, which included three Indians, was given the task of examining the Indian demand to increase the number of Indians in the Higher Civil Services and, most importantly, holding the simultaneous examination in India. The commission was guided by three principal considerations:

- Firstly, to maintain high standards of civil administration in British India;
- Secondly, to safeguard the paramount interest of British rule; and
- Thirdly, to satisfy the reasonable aspirations of Indians and promote friendly relations between Indians and Europeans for better governance.
- The commission completed its report in 1915, but owing to the outbreak of the First World War, the report was not published until 1917.

It recommended:

- 25 percent of the posts in the superior civil service should be filled from among Indians, partly by direct recruitment and partly by promotion
- The examination for the recruitment of civil servants should be held in India.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the annulment of the partition of Bengal in 1911?**

1. A separate Assam province was created.
2. The capital of British India was moved to Bombay from Calcutta in 1911.

**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: Annulment of the partition of Bengal in 1911:**

- Owing to mass political protests, the partition was annulled in 1911.
- New provinces were created based on linguistic lines rather than religious lines. Bihar and Orissa Province was carved out of Bengal. (Bihar and Orissa became separate provinces in 1936).
- A separate Assam province was created.
- The capital of British India was moved to Delhi from Calcutta in 1911.
- Despite the annulment, the partition did create a communal divide among the Hindus and Muslims of Bengal.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding Swarajists and No-changers:**

1. Motilal Nehru, along with C. Rajagopalachari and M.A. Ansari were called as Swarajists.
2. The 'No-changers' followed the 'end or mend strategy' and advocated concentration on constructive work.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation: Swarajists and No-changers:**

- The 'Swarajists' section was led by C.R. Das, Motilal Nehru, and Ajmal Khan. They wanted an end to the boycott of legislative councils so that the nationalists could enter them to expose the basic weaknesses of these assemblies and use these councils as an arena of political struggle to arouse popular enthusiasm.
- In other words, they advocate 'end or mend' these councils, i.e., if the government did not respond to the nationalists' demands, then they would obstruct the working of these councils.
- The other school of thought led by C. Rajagopalachari, Vallabhbhai Patel, Rajendra Prasad, and M.A. Ansari came to be known as the 'No changers'.
- They opposed council entry and 'end or mend strategy'. They advocated concentration on constructive work, and continuation of boycott and non-cooperation, and quiet preparation for the resumption of the suspended civil disobedience programme.

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- The No-Changers argued that parliamentary work would lead to neglect of constructive work, loss of revolutionary zeal and to political corruption. Constructive work would prepare everyone for the next phase of civil disobedience.

**Source: NCERT**

### **Q.10) The Hartog Committee Report was appointed to:**

1. Survey the growth of importance of civil services in British India.
2. Survey the economic conditions of Indians.

**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: D**

**Explanation: Hartog Committee:**

- In 1929, the Hartog Committee submitted its report. This Committee was appointed to survey the growth of education in British India.
- It “devoted far more attention to mass education than Secondary and University Education”. The committee was not satisfied with the scanty growth of literacy in the country and highlighted the problem of ‘Wastage’ and ‘Stagnation’ at the primary level.
- It mentioned that the great waste of money and efforts which resulted because of the pupils leaving their schools before completing the particular stage of education. Its conclusion was that “out of every 100 pupils (boys and girls) who were in class I in 1922-23, only 18 were reading in class IV in 1925-26. Thus, resulted in a relapse into illiteracy. So, it suggested the following important measures for the improvement of primary education.
  - Adoption of the policy of consolidation in place of multiplication of schools;
  - Fixation of the duration of the primary course to four years;
  - Improvement in the quality, training, status, pay, service condition of teachers
  - Relating the curricula and methods of teaching to the conditions of villages in which children live and read
  - Adjustment of school hours and holidays to seasonal and local requirements
  - Increasing the number of Government inspection staff.

**Source: NCERT**