

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

January, 2024 2nd Week

10 PM Compilation for the Month of January [Second Week] 2024

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Ancient History

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The Kadambas of Goa served as subordinates to the Chalukyas of Kalyana.
2. The study of Kadamba inscriptions has played a crucial role in deciphering the origins of the Chalukya dynasty.
3. Telugu language has been used in the majority of Kadamba inscriptions.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Geography

Q.2) With reference to the country Somalia, consider the following statements:

1. It is a country situated in the South Africa.
2. It is a landlocked country.
3. Cal Madow is a famous mountain range of this country.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Polity

Q.3) Consider the following:

1. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
2. Community-based organizations (CBOs)
3. Religious institutions
4. Government agencies and departments

How many of the above-mentioned entities are regarded as components of a 'Civil Society'?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

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Q.4) With reference to the National Medical Commission (NMC) consider the following statements:

1. It's one of the objectives is to set up and manage medical colleges in India.
2. The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) was introduced as a single entrance exam for all medical courses by the commission.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.5) With reference to the Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. They are different from the recognized Indian political parties due to their absence of formal organizational structures.
2. As per the new rules set by the Election Commission, they are now required to furnish audited accounts for the last three fiscal years for the allocation of symbols.

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

Q.6) With reference to the Indian Polity, consider the following statements:

1. 73rd Amendment Act, 1992 aimed at strengthening Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in urban areas.
2. Part IXA of the Constitution contains provisions related to Municipalities.
3. There are 29 subjects addressed in Schedule 11 concerning panchayats.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. Article 39A of the Indian Constitution requires the state to make provisions for securing just and humane conditions of work and for maternity relief.
2. The Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC) aims to offer free and competent legal services to the vulnerable sections of society in cases under the Supreme Court's jurisdiction.

Which of the statements(s) given above is/are correct?

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

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Q.8) Which one of the following is the most fundamental principle of the 'Rule of law'?

- a) Equality before the law
- b) Separation of powers
- c) Transparency and accountability
- d) Integrated Judiciary

Q.9) In the context of the Minority educational institutions in India, how many of the following statements are correct?

1. The term "minority character" in the educational institutions in India refers to the number of students admitted from minority communities.
2. The primary objective of granting minority character status under the Constitution of India is to ensure equal representation of all communities in educational institutions.
3. If a college has been granted minority character status, University Grants Commission (UGC) is responsible for determining and preserving this status.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.10) Which one of the following is the purpose of Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTL) in aviation?

- a) To regulate the maximum hours a pilot can spend on non-flying duties
- b) To limit the total time a crew member is on duty, including both flying and non-flying duties
- c) To determine the minimum rest period required for pilots between flights
- d) To establish the maximum speed at which an aircraft can operate

Acts & Policies

Q.11) With reference to the Kochi-Lakshadweep Islands Submarine Optical Fiber Connection (KLI-SOFC) project, consider the following statements:

1. The project aims to enhance security and defense capabilities in the Lakshadweep Island.
2. The project is being funded by the World Bank.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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Q.12) In the context of the “National Transit Pass System”, seen in the news recently, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It has been launched to facilitate the seamless transit of timber, bamboo, and other forest produce across the country through a single permit.
2. It is envisioned as a “One Nation-One Pass” regime.
3. Personalized travel plans and recommendations based on user preferences is one of the features included in the vision of NTPS.

Select the correct statements 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

Q.13) Which of the following are some of the priority research areas identified under Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research among Teaching Professionals (SMART 2.0) program?

- a) Bal Kasa, Malnutrition, and Insufficient lactation.
- b) Panchakarma and Marma therapy
- c) Cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and Chronic pain management.
- d) Yoga and Naturopathy practices

Q.14) Consider the following statements:

1. India's R&D expenditure is only 0.7% of GDP.
2. In India, higher education enrolment is more than 50%.
3. The rise in the number of private colleges, industrial training institutes (ITIs) and polytechnic colleges has led to a lowering of quality of higher education in India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.15) Consider the following pairs:

Sports Awards-----Specifications

1. Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar-----To recognize and encourage the contribution of various entities in the promotion of sports.
2. The Dronacharya Award-----The award recipients are honored for their exceptional performance in international sports events in the preceding four years.
3. The Major Dhyan Chand Award-----It is a lifetime achievement award given to honour sportspersons for their contributions, both during their active sporting career and after retirement.
4. The Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy-----It is given to recipients recognized for their outstanding performance in international and national sports.

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- a) Only one pair
- b) Only two pairs
- c) Only three pairs
- d) All four pairs

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Q.16) Consider the following statements with reference to the “PRERANA program”:

1. It is a week-long residential program for selected students, combining heritage with innovation through experiential and inspirational learning, enhanced with cutting-edge technology.
2. It will incorporate the principles of the Indian education system and the value-based education philosophy.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.17) Consider the following statements:

1. Enhancing and maintaining long-term observations across the atmosphere, ocean, geosphere, cryosphere, and solid earth.
2. Developing predictive models for weather, ocean, and climate hazards.
3. Promoting research in planetary sciences.
4. Exploring polar and high seas regions for new phenomena and resources.

Which one of the above components is NOT part of the “PRITHvi Vigyan” scheme?

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

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

1. One of the objectives of Inland Waterways Development Council (IWDC) is to coordinate river basin management and flood control measures across states.
2. Under Maritime India Vision 2030, the government aims to raise inland waterways' cargo modal share from 2% to 5%.

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

Q.19) Consider the following statements:

1. The National Landslide Susceptibility Mapping (NLSM) Programme launched by the government aims to create a dynamic National Landslide Susceptibility Geodatabase for India.
2. National Landslide Susceptibility Map (NLSM) also focuses on developing mitigation strategies for all landslide-prone regions.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

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Q.20) Mulya Pravah 2.0 guidelines have been recently issued by the University Grants Commission. Which one of the following is correct with reference to Mulya Pravah 2.0 guidelines?

- It aims to promote ethical practices and human values in higher education institutions.
- It aims to improve academic standards and research output in universities.
- It aims to increase funding and resources for higher education infrastructure.
- It aims to enhance employability skills of graduates and prepare them for the job market.

Q.21) With reference to the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, consider the following statements:

- Section 106 (2) of the BNS outlines a maximum punishment of 10 years and a fine in hit-and-run cases.
- Section 106 (2) is characterized as a bailable provision, allowing for the possibility of bail.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.22) With reference to Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, consider the following statements:

- It symbolizes a collective commitment to technological innovation, environmental sustainability, and social equality.
- PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana and Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana are being focused on during the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Index & Reports

Q.23) With reference to Child Marriage in India, consider the following statements:

- Child marriage is linked to higher infant mortality rates.
- As per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) report, West Bengal's child marriage rate remains high at 41.6% for women aged 20-24.
- Cultural and religious traditions are major factor contributing to child marriages in India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

International Relations/Organizations

Q.24) Consider the following statements with reference to the 'UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide':

1. It protects social class against the genocide.
2. Genocide is always punishable by death, while crimes against humanity are not.
3. The Convention outlines individual criminal responsibility for genocide which means Individuals who incite, commit, or conspire to commit genocide can be prosecuted.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.25) Which one of the following categories of cases is beyond the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice (ICJ)?

- a) Disputes between two or more states.
- b) Advisory opinions at the request of the UN General Assembly.
- c) Claims brought by individuals or private companies.
- d) Appeals from decisions of other international tribunals.

Q.26) With reference to India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), consider the following statements:

1. One of the core objectives of CEPA is to eliminate all tariffs on goods traded between India and the UAE.
2. Renewable energy, infrastructure development, education, and healthcare sectors are expected to benefit from CEPA.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.27) Which one of the following bodies is responsible for settling legal disputes between states and giving advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by the UN General Assembly, UN Security Council, and specialized agencies?

- a) International Criminal Court (ICC)
- b) International Court of Justice (ICJ)
- c) Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)
- d) International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)

Economy

Q.28) With reference to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), consider the following statements:

1. It aims at regulating the securities market and safeguarding the interests of investors.
2. SEBI is accountable to the Reserve Bank of India.
3. It has judicial power in regulating the securities market.
4. It was established on the recommendations of Rangarajan Committee.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Q.29) Which one of the following statements is the most accurate with reference to the term “Structured Negotiation”, seen in the news recently?

- a) It is a process where a neutral third party assists parties in reaching a mutually acceptable resolution.
- b) It is a process where parties and their attorneys work together to resolve disputes without going to court.
- c) It is a collaborative process where parties work together to achieve a shared agreement.
- d) It is a collaborative dispute resolution process that allows parties to resolve legal claims without resorting to formal litigation.

Q.30) Consider the following:

1. Reduce Import bill
2. Addressing protein deficiency
3. Enhancing soil fertility

Which of the above are the benefits of increasing production of ‘Pulses’ in India?

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

Q.31) For which one of the following cereals is India the largest producer and exporter?

- a) Wheat
- b) Millets
- c) Rice
- d) Sorghum

Q.32) In a K-shaped economic recovery, which one of the following groups or sectors are likely to benefit and experience growth?

- a) All sectors equally
- b) High-income individuals and technology-related industries
- c) Low-income individuals and traditional manufacturing sectors
- d) Government and public services

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Q.33) With reference to the Protection and Indemnity (P&I) club in the maritime industry, consider the following statements:

1. The primary function of a Protection and Indemnity (P&I) club is to offer liability coverage to shipowners and operators.
2. Engine breakdowns and mechanical failures of ships are covered by Protection and Indemnity (P&I) club.
3. International Group of P&I Clubs oversees and regulates Protection and Indemnity (P&I) clubs in the maritime sector.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Environment

Q.34) Green Cover Index is being developed for India's National Highways. Which one of the following is the primary objective of the "Green Cover Index"?

- a) It aims to calculate the economic value of trees planted along highways.
- b) It aims to rank national highways based on their aesthetic appeal.
- c) It aims to measure and rank the green cover of different national highways.
- d) It aims to monitor air quality levels near highway construction sites.

Q.35) With reference to India's electric vehicles (EV) Market, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The primary driver behind India's push towards electric vehicles (EVs) is reducing dependence on fossil fuels and air pollution.
2. Passenger cars EVs currently has the highest market share in India.

Select the correct statement(s) using the codes given below:

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

Q.36) In the context of the banking sector, what does the term "Green Deposit" refers to?

- a) Regular savings accounts with a focus on environmental sustainability.
- b) Fixed-term deposits where funds are specifically invested in green projects.
- c) Deposits earned by banks from recycling and waste management initiatives.
- d) Financial instruments linked to the performance of environmentally friendly companies.

Q.37) With reference to Wetland City Accreditation (WCA) Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. The scheme aims to provide financial assistance to cities for wetland restoration and infrastructure development.
2. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has established the scheme.
3. Presence of a Ramsar Site within the city limits is a criterion required for Wetland City Accreditation.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

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Q.38) Consider the following:

1. Soil
2. Contaminated Water
3. Digital Devices
4. Textiles

How many of the above items are potential sources of 'lead contamination'?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Q.39) Which one of the following species is the 'Corbett Tiger Reserve' most famous for?

- a) Asiatic Lion
- b) One-horned rhinoceros
- c) Bengal tiger
- d) Indian elephant

Q.40) Consider the following statements:

1. CTHs focus on protecting specific species, while CWH is about conserving entire ecosystems.
2. CTHs and CWHs both focus only on the protection of tiger populations.
3. CWHs allow for more human activity than CTHs.
4. CTHs are larger in size than CWHs.

How many of the above statements are correct with reference to the Critical Tiger Habitats (CTHs) and Critical Wildlife Habitats (CWHs)?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Q.41) With reference to Tricolime, a bio-pesticide and bio-fertiliser, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. Tricolime is often applied directly to the soil or along with seeds during planting.
2. The Trichoderma fungus in Tricolime parasitizes and kills harmful soil-borne pathogens, preventing plant diseases like root rot and wilt.

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

Q.42) In which one of the following states is the 'Eagle Nest Wildlife Sanctuary' located?

- a) Uttarakhand
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) West Bengal
- d) Himachal Pradesh

Science & Technology

Q.43) Consider the following statements with reference to Central Armed Police Force (CAPF):

1. They are under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
2. The largest CAPF in terms of personnel strength is the Border Security Force (BSF).
3. The primary role of CAPFs is to assist the state police in emergencies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.44) Consider the following:

1. Ayurveda
2. Siddha
3. Unani
4. Homeopathy

How many of the above Indian System of Medicines are covered under the purview of National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM)?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Q.45) Which one of the following statements best describes the term “Cyber Kidnapping”?

- a) It involves unauthorized use of a person's or organization's computing resources to mine cryptocurrencies without their knowledge or consent.
- b) It involves using digital means to coerce individuals or entities into paying a ransom or facing negative consequences, such as the release of compromising information.
- c) It involves manipulating individuals into disclosing confidential information or taking specific actions through psychological manipulation and deception.
- d) It impersonates high-ranking executives or authorities to trick employees into transferring funds, disclosing sensitive information, or taking other harmful actions.

Q.46) In which one of the following ways does agriculture contribute to antimicrobial resistance (AMR)?

- a) By promoting responsible antibiotic use in livestock
- b) By reducing the use of antibiotics in farming
- c) By using antibiotics as growth promoters in animals
- d) By avoiding veterinary care for animals

Q.47) In the context of the Defense Sector, the term “Acceptance of Necessity” (AON) refers to –

- a) It signifies the official approval by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) for a specific capital acquisition proposal for the armed forces.
- b) It refers to the permission granted by the Defense Ministry to initiate the martial trial against the offenders.
- c) It facilitates the alignment of resources with priority areas, optimizing national security efforts.
- d) Cybersecurity strategies in the defense sector heavily rely on the acceptance of necessity for robust measures to protect critical infrastructure from cyber threats.

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Q.48) With reference to the Artificial Intelligence, consider the following statements:

1. Enhancing natural human abilities is the fundamental concept behind Artificial Intelligence (AI).
2. General AI is less intelligent than Narrow AI.
3. Natural Language Processing (NLP) is considered a type of AI.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.49) Consider the following statements:

1. Camptothecin (CPT) is an important anti-cancer drug lead molecule which is extracted mainly from *Nothapodytes nimmoniana*.
2. *Nathapodytes nimmoniana* is a species of flowering plant widespread throughout India.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.50) Which one of the following is the primary target of the newly discovered class of antibiotics, 'Zosurabalpin,' in combating the drug-resistant bacterium *Acinetobacter baumannii*?

- a) Cell wall
- b) Ribosomes
- c) Lipopolysaccharide (LPS) transport
- d) DNA replication

Q.51) Consider the following pairs:

Space Missions-----Objectives

1. Aditya-L1-----Observing the solar atmosphere
2. Gaganyaan-1-----Manned spaceflights
3. Mangalyaan-2-----Exploring Venus to expand knowledge of the solar system.

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Q.52) Consider the following statements:

1. Plasma waves are oscillations or fluctuations in the density of charged particles, such as electrons and ions, within a plasma.
2. Plasma waves play a crucial role in energizing and transporting charged particles throughout the magnetosphere.
3. The planet Mars do not have any intrinsic magnetic field like Earth.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

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Q.53) "Direct-to-Mobile (D2M) technology" was seen in the news recently. In this regard, which one of the following statements is correct?

- a) It streams multimedia content directly to mobile devices without an internet connection.
- b) It enhances mobile network speeds and bandwidth.
- c) It improves location tracking accuracy for mobile phones.
- d) It enables direct communication between mobile devices without cell towers.

Q.54) Which one of the following primary fuels does a Polymer Electrolyte Membrane Fuel Cell (PEMFC) use?

- a) Methane
- b) Ethanol
- c) Hydrogen
- d) Gasoline

Q.55) Which of the following celestial bodies are most commonly associated with the L1 Lagrange point?

- a) The Sun and the Earth
- b) The Earth and the Moon
- c) The Moon and Mars
- d) Jupiter and Saturn

Q.56) Which one of the following is the primary difference between a hard landing and a normal landing in an airplane?

- a) The altitude at which the landing gear touches the runway
- b) The angle at which the airplane touches the runway
- c) The vertical speed of the airplane upon touchdown
- d) The amount of thrust used during the landing phase

Q.57) Which one of the following is the primary objective of a 'Bio-Imaging Bank'?

- a) To store and share high-quality biological images for research purposes.
- b) To diagnose diseases and monitor patient's health using medical imaging technologies.
- c) To develop and commercialize new imaging techniques for biological applications.
- d) To educate the public about the importance of bioimaging research.

Q.58) Consider the following statements:

1. India currently lacks access to surgical care.
2. India's current surgical system is based on civilian initiatives and subnational programmes.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

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Q.59) Consider the following statements with reference to the “Counter-drone System”, recently developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO):

1. It is a fully integrated anti-drone system that encompasses the detection, identification, and neutralization of drones.
2. It aims to provide air defense against conventional aircraft and missiles.
3. It uses radar systems for long-range detection and tracking.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.60) Which one of the following is correct with reference to the “Meissner effect”, seen in the news recently?

- a) It refers to the resistance of a superconductor at low temperature.
- b) It is the expulsion of magnetic flux from the interior of a superconductor.
- c) It is the increase in electrical conductivity with temperature in certain materials.
- d) It refers to the ability of a material to generate a magnetic field.

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Answer Key

1 - (a)	2 - (a)	3 - (c)	4 - (b)	5 - (b)	6 - (b)	7 - (b)	8 - (a)	9 - (d)	10 - (b)
11 - (d)	12 - (a)	13 - (a)	14 - (c)	15 - (b)	16 - (c)	17 - (c)	18 - (b)	19 - (a)	20 - (a)
21 - (a)	22 - (b)	23 - (b)	24 - (a)	25 - (c)	26 - (b)	27 - (b)	28 - (a)	29 - (b)	30 - (d)
31 - (d)	32 - (c)	33 - (b)	34 - (c)	35 - (c)	36 - (a)	37 - (d)	38 - (b)	39 - (c)	40 - (b)
41 - (c)	42 - (d)	43 - (b)	44 - (c)	45 - (b)	46 - (c)	47 - (a)	48 - (a)	49 - (a)	50 - (c)
51 - (a)	52 - (d)	53 - (a)	54 - (c)	55 - (a)	56 - (c)	57 - (a)	58 - (c)	59 - (b)	60 - (b)

Answers & Explanation

Ancient History

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Kadambas of Goa, also known as the Kadambas of Hangal or the Kadambas of Bayalnad, were a branch of the Kadamba dynasty that ruled in the Goa and North Karnataka regions from the 10th to the 14th centuries CE. They were initially independent but later became subordinates to the Chalukyas of Kalyana, a powerful dynasty that ruled parts of present-day Karnataka and Maharashtra from the 10th to the 12th centuries CE.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. While the Kadamba and Chalukya dynasties coexisted in the same general region and had interactions, the study of Kadamba inscriptions is not the primary source for understanding the origins of the Chalukya dynasty. The majority of Kadamba inscriptions are written in Sanskrit and Kannada. The use of Kannada was particularly prominent in the earlier periods of Kadamba rule.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

Geography

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Somalia is a country located in the Horn of Africa, in the easternmost part of the African continent. It is bordered by Ethiopia to the west, Djibouti to the northwest, the Gulf of Aden to the north, the Indian Ocean to the east, and Kenya to the southwest. Somalia is not a landlocked country. It has a long coastline that stretches over 3,000 kilometers along the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden.
- Statement 3 is correct. Cal Madow is a mountain range located in the northern part of Somalia, in the autonomous region of Puntland. It is considered one of the highest mountain ranges in Somalia, with peaks reaching up to 2,600 meters.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

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Polity

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- NGOs, CBOs, and religious institutions are regarded as components of civil society. Government agencies and departments, on the other hand, are not considered part of civil society as they are a part of the state and operate within the framework of the government. Civil society refers to the space between the government, the market, and the household, where individuals and organizations come together to express their common interests and work towards the common good.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Setting up and managing medical colleges in India is not the primary function of the National Medical Commission (NMC). The NMC is responsible for regulating medical education and practice in India, including granting recognition to medical qualifications, laying down standards of medical education, and ensuring compliance by medical institutions.
- Statement 2 is correct. The National Medical Commission (NMC) introduced the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) as a single entrance exam for all medical courses in India, including MBBS, BDS, and Ayurveda.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Registered Unrecognized Political Parties (RUPPs) have a formal organizational structure like other political parties. They have a set of rules and regulations that govern their functioning, including a constitution, office-bearers, and members. Their lack of electoral success in securing the required percentage of votes or seats sets them apart from recognized parties.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Election Commission of India introduced new rules requiring RUPPs to submit audited accounts for the previous three financial years to be eligible for the allocation of election symbols. This was done to enhance transparency and accountability in the electoral process, and to prevent the misuse of election symbols by shell or non-serious parties.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The 73rd Amendment Act, 1992 aimed at strengthening Rural Local Bodies (RLBs)/Panchayati Raj system in rural areas. It added Part IX to the Constitution, which contains provisions related to the functioning of Panchayats. The 74th Amendment Act, 1992 aimed at strengthening Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in urban areas, adding Part IXA to the Constitution.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Part IXA of the Constitution contains provisions related to Municipalities, which are urban local bodies responsible for providing civic amenities and local governance in urban areas. Part IXA was added by the 74th Amendment Act, 1992. Schedule 11 of the Constitution contains 29 subjects concerning Panchayats. These subjects include agriculture, land improvement, education, health, and social welfare.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Article 39A specifically mandates the provision of free legal aid to ensure access to justice for all citizens, regardless of their economic status or other disadvantages.

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- Statement 2 is correct. The Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC) is a statutory body established under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, to provide legal aid in the Supreme Court. Its aim is to offer free and competent legal services to vulnerable sections of society in cases under the Supreme Court's jurisdiction, ensuring that they have access to justice.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- The most fundamental principle of the rule of law is equality before the law. The principle of equality before the law is a cornerstone of the rule of law, which is a system of governance based on laws that are fairly applied and enforced. It means that everyone, regardless of their status or position, is subject to the same laws and legal procedures, and no one is above the law.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

9. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The term "minority character" in the context of educational institutions in India does not refer to the number of students from minority communities. Rather, it refers to the status of an institution that has been established and managed by a religious or linguistic minority community, as defined in the Constitution of India. It relates to the unique cultural and educational identity of institutions belonging to linguistic or religious minorities.
- The primary objective of granting minority character status to educational institutions under the Constitution of India is not to ensure equal representation of all communities. Instead, it aims to preserve and promote the distinct language, script, or culture of the minorities.
- If a college has been granted minority character status, the responsibility for determining and preserving this status typically lies with the National Commission for Minorities, not the University Grants Commission (UGC).

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTL) are regulatory requirements that are designed to prevent fatigue in aircrew members and ensure safe and efficient operation of aircraft.
- The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) recently mandated new regulations on flight duty time limitations (FDTL) for all airlines with effect from June 1.
- These involve the following provisions: 1. Longer rest periods (Now weekly rest periods have been increased to 48 hours from 36). 2. Shorter night duty hours. 3. Less landings (Night landings will be limited to 2 against the 6 earlier). 4. Mandated quarterly "fatigue reports" by airlines.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

Acts & Policies

11. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. KLI-SOFC project is primarily aimed at improving communication infrastructure and providing faster and more reliable internet connectivity to the Lakshadweep Islands. The KLI-SOFC project is being funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), which is a fund administered by the Government of India to provide telecom services in rural and remote areas.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

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12. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. National Transit Pass System has been launched to facilitate the seamless transit of timber, bamboo, and other forest produce across the country through a single permit. The NTPS is envisioned as a "One Nation-One Pass" regime, which aims to streamline the movement of forest produce across state boundaries and promote sustainable forest management.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The NTPS focuses on managing the movement of forest produce, not on personalized travel plans. It doesn't involve features like recommending travel routes or catering to individual preferences.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

- The SMART 2.0 program aims to promote research in Ayurveda among teaching professionals, and the priority research areas identified for the program include: Bal Kasa (childhood diseases), Malnutrition, Insufficient lactation, Abnormal Uterine Bleeding, Osteoporosis in post-menopausal women, Diabetes Mellitus (DM) II. The objective of 'SMART 2.0' is to generate tangible evidence to demonstrate the efficacy and safety of Ayurveda interventions and translating it into public health care. These priority areas were identified based on the current health challenges facing the population and the potential for Ayurveda to provide effective and safe solutions.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

14. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. India's R&D expenditure has historically been low, currently at around 0.7% of GDP, which is lower than the global average of around 2.2%. The rapid expansion of private institutions has brought challenges, including uneven quality, inadequate infrastructure, and focus on rote learning over critical thinking. Further, the governments and the University Grants Commission did not have the capacity to regulate these colleges.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. According to recent data, the gross enrollment ratio in higher education in India is around 27%, which means that only around 27% of the relevant age group is enrolled in higher education. This is still relatively low compared to other countries.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- 1 and 3 are correctly matched. The Dronacharya Award is given to coaches and trainers who have made exceptional contributions to the development of outstanding sportspersons in India, not based on their own sporting achievements. The Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy is awarded to universities for their outstanding performance in inter-university sports competitions, not individual athletes or national teams.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

16. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The PRERANA program is a week-long residential program designed for selected students in classes IX to XII, with the goal of combining heritage with innovation through experiential and inspirational learning, enhanced with cutting-edge technology. The program aims to provide students with a holistic learning experience that combines India's rich cultural heritage with modern technological advancements. The program incorporates the principles of the Indian education system, which emphasizes value-based learning and character development, while also

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promoting critical thinking, creativity, and innovation. The program's curriculum is designed to foster leadership skills, entrepreneurial spirit, and a deep appreciation for India's cultural heritage.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

17. Correct Answer is (C)

- PRITHvi Vigyan is a comprehensive scheme that will address all five components of the Earth system (atmosphere, hydrosphere, geosphere, cryosphere, and biosphere), enhancing the understanding of Earth System Sciences and delivering reliable services for the country. Promoting research in planetary sciences is not part of the scheme.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary objective of IWDC is to promote the development of India's riverine infrastructure for transportation and tourism. The coordination of river basin management and flood control measures across states is typically the responsibility of other agencies, such as the Central Water Commission or the National Disaster Management Authority.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Maritime India Vision 2030, launched by the government in 2021, aims to transform India into a leading maritime nation by leveraging its vast coastline and inland waterways. One of the key objectives of the vision is to increase the share of cargo transported through inland waterways from 2% to 5%. This is expected to reduce logistics costs, promote economic growth, and support sustainable development by shifting transportation from road to waterways.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The National Landslide Susceptibility Mapping (NLSM) Programme is a project initiated by the Government of India to create a dynamic National Landslide Susceptibility Geodatabase for India. The program aims to generate a comprehensive, spatially explicit database of landslide susceptibility at a national level using advanced remote sensing, geoinformatics, and field validation techniques. The database is intended to serve as a critical input for disaster management, land-use planning, and infrastructure development.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The National Landslide Susceptibility Map (NLSM) does not focus on developing mitigation strategies for all landslide-prone regions. Mitigation strategies are typically developed at the state or local level based on the specific geology, topography, and socio-economic conditions of the region. The NLSM serves as a tool to inform these strategies by identifying areas with high landslide susceptibility and the potential impact of landslides on communities and infrastructure.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

20. Correct Answer is (A)

- Mulya Pravah 2.0 guidelines have recently been issued by the University Grants Commission (UGC) with the aim of promoting ethical practices and human values in higher education institutions.
- The guidelines provide a framework for institutions to incorporate values such as honesty, integrity, empathy, tolerance, respect for diversity, and social responsibility into their curricula, teaching, and campus culture. Mulya Pravah 2.0 is a revised version of the earlier Mulya Pravah guidelines, which were issued in 2015. The new guidelines incorporate key recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which emphasizes the importance of ethical and value-based education.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

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21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Section 106 (2) of the Act outlines a maximum punishment of 10 years and a fine in hit-and-run cases. However, there is no provision which specifies the exact amount of fine to be imposed.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Section 106 (2) is a non – bailable section.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

22. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra aims to promote and publicize government welfare schemes. It aims to enroll potential beneficiaries of these schemes by collecting details during the yatra.
- Statement 2 is correct. The schemes that will be publicized through the yatra include Ayushman Bharat; PMJAY PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana; Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana among others.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

Index & Reports

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Child marriage is associated with a range of negative health outcomes, including higher infant mortality rates. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), girls who give birth before the age of 15 are five times more likely to die in childbirth than women in their twenties. Additionally, children born to young mothers are more likely to be of low birth weight and have a higher risk of death in infancy. As per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5 Report, West Bengal has one of the highest rates of child marriage in India, with 41.6% of women aged 20-24 having been married before the age of 18.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. While cultural and religious traditions may influence child marriage, they are not the major factor contributing to the problem. Poverty, gender inequality, and lack of education are the main drivers of child marriage in India.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

International Relations/Organizations

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Genocide Convention does not specifically protect social class against genocide. The convention protects four specific groups: national, ethnic, racial, and religious groups. Social class is not one of the protected groups. The Convention doesn't mandate the death penalty for genocide. Each country determines the punishment for genocide based on its domestic laws. Similarly, the punishment for crimes against humanity also varies depending on national legislation and international courts. Both genocide and crimes against humanity are considered serious offenses, and many countries have enacted harsh penalties for perpetrators.
- Statement 3 is correct. The Genocide Convention outlines individual criminal responsibility. Article III of the convention states that individuals who commit genocide, whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials, or private individuals, shall be punished. This includes those who incite, conspire, attempt, or participate in genocide.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

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25. Correct Answer is (C)

- The International Court of Justice (ICJ), also known as the World Court, is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It is located in The Hague, Netherlands, and its primary function is to settle legal disputes submitted to it by states.
- The ICJ can hear four types of cases: 1. Disputes between two or more states, 2. Requests for advisory opinions from authorized UN organs and specialized agencies, 3. Claims brought by states against international organizations, 4. Appeals from decisions of other international tribunals (if the tribunal's statute provides for an appeal to the ICJ)
- However, the ICJ cannot hear claims brought by individuals or private companies. This is because the ICJ's jurisdiction is limited to disputes between states, and it does not have the authority to hear cases brought by non-state entities.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. While reducing tariffs is a significant aspect of CEPA, eliminating all tariffs is not a core objective. The agreement focuses on gradually reducing tariffs on specific goods over a predetermined period.
- Statement 2 is correct. The CEPA is expected to benefit a wide range of sectors, including renewable energy, infrastructure development, education, and healthcare. By promoting investment and cooperation in these sectors, the agreement aims to stimulate economic growth and development in both India and the UAE.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- The ICJ is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations and is responsible for settling legal disputes between states. It is based in The Hague, Netherlands, and consists of 15 judges elected by the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council. The ICJ handles legal disputes between states and offers advisory opinions on legal matters referred to it by various UN entities. It is the primary judicial organ of the UN and plays a crucial role in maintaining international peace and security through the peaceful settlement of disputes.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

Economy

28. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. SEBI's main objective is to regulate the securities market and safeguard the interests of investors. It aims to maintain the stability of the securities market, protect investors from fraudulent activities, and ensure the smooth functioning of the market.
- Statements 2, 3 and 4 are incorrect. SEBI reports to the finance minister and is accountable to the Parliament through the finance minister. The finance minister can issue directives to SEBI on matters of policy, which SEBI is required to follow. SEBI has quasi-legislative powers in regulating the securities market, which means that it can make rules and regulations to implement the provisions of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, and the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992. SEBI was established on the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

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29. Correct Answer is (B)

- Green Deposits in the context of banking are fixed-term deposits where funds are specifically invested in green projects. This means that the money deposited into these accounts is used to finance environmentally friendly projects, such as renewable energy, clean technology, and sustainable infrastructure.
- For example, ICICI Bank's Green Deposits are fixed deposits where the funds are used to finance environmentally responsible projects such as renewable energy, clean transportation, and sustainable water management.
- Recently, the RBI has released updated guidelines to clarify key provisions related to the RBI's Green Deposits [Framework](#).

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

30. Correct Answer is (D)

- Structured negotiation is an alternative dispute resolution process that enables parties to resolve legal claims or disputes in a non-adversarial manner, without resorting to formal litigation.
- In structured negotiation, parties and their lawyers work together to identify their respective interests and concerns and to explore possible solutions that meet their needs.
- Structured negotiation is often used in disability rights cases, where plaintiffs and defendants work together to find solutions that promote accessibility and inclusion. It has also been used in other areas, such as employment discrimination, civil rights, and consumer protection cases.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

31. Correct Answer is (D)

- Reducing the import bill: India is one of the largest consumers and importers of pulses, with a significant portion of its consumption being met through imports. By increasing domestic production, India can reduce its dependence on imports and save on the import bill.
- Addressing protein deficiency: Pulses are an important source of protein. By increasing the availability and consumption of pulses, India can address protein deficiency and improve the nutritional status of its population.
- Enhancing soil fertility: Pulses are known for their ability to fix nitrogen from the atmosphere and improve soil fertility. By including pulses in crop rotation, farmers can enhance soil health and reduce their dependence on chemical fertilizers.
- Other benefits include: Address food-security concerns, Address environmental challenges, Low Water Requirement.
- India's imports of pulses have come down from a high of 6.61 million tonnes (mt) in 2016-17 to 2.7 mt in 2021-22, and further to 2.52 mt in 2022-23. The imports have declined mainly due to a sharp decline in the import of yellow peas (matar) and chickpea (chana) over the past 10 years. Pulses are also difficult to store and their shelf life is shorter than that of wheat and rice.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

32. Correct Answer is (C)

- India is the largest producer and exporter of rice globally. India is the world's largest producer and exporter of rice, accounting for around 20% of the world's production and nearly 40% of the global trade in rice. Both basmati and non-basmati rice contribute significantly to these figures.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

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33. Correct Answer is (B)

- A K-shaped recovery is a type of economic recovery in which different sectors or groups of people recover at different rates, resulting in a recovery that looks like the letter K when charted on a graph. In a K-shaped recovery, some sectors or groups experience rapid growth and recovery, while others continue to struggle.
- In a K-shaped recovery, high-income individuals and sectors that are well-positioned for the post-recession economy, such as technology-related industries, are likely to experience rapid growth and recovery.
- On the other hand, low-income individuals and sectors that were hit hardest by the recession, such as traditional manufacturing sectors, may continue to struggle. The K-shaped recovery can exacerbate existing inequalities and create new ones, leading to social and political tensions.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

34. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. P&I clubs are mutual insurance associations owned and controlled by their members, who are typically shipowners and operators. P&I clubs provide an important source of protection and risk management for the shipping industry, covering risks that are not typically covered by standard insurance policies. P&I clubs provide liability insurance to shipowners and operators against risks such as damage to third parties, property damage, and pollution. The International Group of P&I Clubs is a collective of 13 P&I clubs that provides oversight and regulation to the sector.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. P&I clubs typically do not cover engine breakdowns and mechanical failures of ships. Coverage under P&I insurance usually extends to third-party liabilities such as bodily injury, pollution, collision damage, and crew-related claims, but not to the physical damage or loss of the ship.
- Recently, India is planning to create its own protection and indemnity (P&I) entity, the India Club, to provide insurance for ships in Indian waters thereby reducing reliance on global firms.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

Environment

35. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Green Cover Index is being developed to measure and rank the green cover of different national highways in India, with the aim of promoting sustainable development and environmental conservation.
- The index is being developed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) in collaboration with ISRO's National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC).
- The index will be calculated using remote sensing and geographic information system (GIS) techniques to assess the tree cover, vegetation, and other green features along the highways.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

36. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Reducing dependence on fossil fuels and air pollution is the primary driver behind India's push towards electric vehicles (EVs). The government has set ambitious targets to increase the adoption of EVs and has implemented various policies and incentives to encourage their use.

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- Statement 2 is incorrect. Two-wheelers (scooters and motorcycles) currently account for the highest market share of EVs in India. While passenger cars EVs are gaining popularity, they have not yet overtaken two-wheelers in terms of market share.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

37. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Wetland City Accreditation (WCA) Scheme does not provide financial assistance to cities for wetland restoration and infrastructure development. The scheme's primary objective is to recognize and promote the conservation and wise use of urban wetlands, as well as to support cities in their efforts to protect these critical ecosystems. The Wetland City Accreditation (WCA) Scheme has been established by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. While having a Ramsar Site within the city limits can be an advantage and showcase strong wetland conservation efforts, it's not a mandatory criterion for WCA. Cities without Ramsar Sites can still be accredited based on their demonstrably significant wetland resources and effective management practices.
- Recently, MoEF&CC has nominated Indore (Madhya Pradesh), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), and Udaipur (Rajasthan) for Wetland City Accreditation (WCA).

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

38. Correct Answer is (B)

- Lead contamination is a serious environmental and public health issue that arises from the presence of lead in various substances, posing risks to both humans and the ecosystem. Soil and contaminated water are the primary sources of lead contamination. Digital devices and textiles are generally not considered significant sources of lead exposure as they generally don't contain significant amounts of lead.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

39. Correct Answer is (C)

- Corbett Tiger Reserve is one of the oldest and most successful tiger reserves in India. It played a crucial role in tiger conservation efforts and currently houses a significant population of these magnificent creatures. Tigers are the main attraction for visitors and the focus of much conservation work within the reserve. The reserve is known for its high population of Bengal tigers, which are a major tourist attraction and a key focus of conservation efforts.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

40. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Critical Tiger Habitats (CTHs) primarily aim to protect specific species, especially focusing on tiger populations, while Critical Wildlife Habitats (CWH) have a broader focus on conserving entire ecosystems. Generally, Critical Wildlife Habitats (CWHs) may allow for some human activities, while Critical Tiger Habitats (CTHs) have more stringent protection measures with limited human intervention.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. While CTHs specifically focus on the protection of tiger populations and their habitats, CWHs have a broader scope and aim to conserve various wildlife species and their habitats. The size of both Critical Tiger Habitats and Critical Wildlife Habitats can vary based on ecological considerations and the specific requirements for the conservation of targeted species.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

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41. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Trichoderma is a fungal biocontrol agent present in all soils. In simple term, it is a genus of fungi that can be found in most soils. ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kozhikode has developed a new granular lime-based Trichoderma formulation which is a fungal bio-control agent. Tricolime serves as a bio-pesticide and bio-fertiliser in crop production. Being a bio pesticide, it promotes plant growth and shields crops from soil-borne pathogens, all in a single application. Tricolime can be applied directly to the soil or along with seeds during planting to promote healthy growth and productivity in crops. Trichoderma helps to prevent plant diseases by parasitizing and killing harmful soil-borne pathogens, such as those that cause root rot and wilt.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

42. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Eagle Nest Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh, in northeastern India. The sanctuary is known for its rich biodiversity and is home to a wide variety of plant and animal species, including many rare and endangered species. It is situated in the biodiversity hotspot of Eastern Himalayas. It conjoins Sessa Orchid Sanctuary to the northeast and Pakhui Tiger Reserve across the Kameng river to the east. Eagle Nest's Wildlife Sanctuary is considered amongst the topmost birding destinations in the World. Dense strands of bamboo & patches of broadleaved evergreen forest covers the large altitudinal range. This Sanctuary is inhabited by two tribes, Bugun and Sherdukpen. The rare Bugun Liocichla bird (IUCN status: Critically Endangered) is found only in the Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

Science & Technology

43. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is correct. Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) are under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), which is responsible for their administration, policymaking, and operational control. The MHA also determines the operational priorities, tasks, and deployment of CAPFs across the country.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The largest CAPF in terms of personnel strength is the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). The BSF (Border Security Force) is the second-largest CAPF. The primary role of CAPFs is not to assist the state police in emergencies but to deal with internal security threats and maintain internal security, law and order, and border security.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

44. Correct Answer is (C)

- The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) oversees Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani systems of medicine. Homeopathy is not included under the NCISM. It falls under the Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH), a separate regulatory body established under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

45. Correct Answer is (B)

- Cyber kidnapping, also known as virtual kidnapping or digital kidnapping, is a form of online extortion that involves threatening to harm an individual or release sensitive information unless a ransom is paid. The perpetrators often use technology to hide their identities and may contact

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victims through phone calls, text messages, or social media. It involves using digital means to coerce individuals or entities into paying a ransom or facing negative consequences, such as the release of compromising information.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

46. Correct Answer is (C)

- Agriculture can contribute to antimicrobial resistance when antibiotics are used as growth promoters in livestock. When antibiotics are overused or used inappropriately in farming, it can lead to the development of resistant bacteria that can spread to humans through the food chain or through direct contact with animals.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

47. Correct Answer is (A)

- In the context of the Defense Sector, the term "Acceptance of Necessity" (AON) is a critical step in the defense procurement process in India. It refers to the official approval granted by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) for a specific capital acquisition proposal for the armed forces.
- The AON signifies the formal acceptance of the necessity for the proposed acquisition and marks the beginning of the procurement process. It enables the concerned authorities to initiate the procurement process, including feasibility studies, tendering, and contract negotiations.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

48. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The fundamental concept behind Artificial Intelligence (AI) is mimicking human intelligence in machines. The goal of AI is not to enhance human abilities, but to create intelligent systems that can perform tasks more efficiently or effectively than humans.
- General AI, also known as strong AI or artificial general intelligence (AGI), is a theoretical form of AI that possesses human-level intelligence and can perform any intellectual task that a human can. In contrast, Narrow AI, also known as weak AI, is designed to perform a specific task or set of tasks, such as facial recognition or language translation. General AI is considered to be more intelligent than Narrow AI as it possesses a broader range of cognitive abilities and can adapt to new tasks more effectively.
- Statement 3 is correct. Natural Language Processing (NLP) is a subfield of AI that focuses on enabling computers to understand, generate, and manipulate human language. It involves developing algorithms and systems that can analyze and interpret natural language data, such as text or speech, and perform tasks such as translation, sentiment analysis, and question-answering.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

49. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Camptothecin (CPT) is a powerful anti-cancer drug lead molecule that has been extracted primarily from *Nothapodytes nimmoniana*. CPT has shown significant anti-tumor activity against a variety of cancers, including ovarian, cervical, and lung cancer.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. *Nathapodytes nimmoniana* is not widespread throughout India but is endemic to the Western Ghats of India.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

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50. Correct Answer is (C)

- Zosurabalpin operates through a novel mechanism of action compared to traditional antibiotics. It doesn't directly target the cell wall, ribosomes, or DNA replication. Instead, it binds to a protein complex within the bacterium called LptD, which is essential for transporting lipopolysaccharides (LPS) to the outer membrane. LPS is a crucial component of the outer membrane, providing structural integrity and protecting the bacteria from various threats. By disrupting LPS transport, Zosurabalpin weakens the outer membrane, leading to bacterial death.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

51. Correct Answer is (A)

- 1 and 2 are correctly matched. Aditya-L1 is India's first dedicated solar observatory spacecraft, launched in September 2023. Its primary objective is to study the Sun's corona, chromosphere, and photosphere, providing valuable insights into solar activity, space weather, and its impact on Earth.
- Gaganyaan-1 aims to send three Indian astronauts into space for a low-Earth orbit mission, marking India's first human spaceflight.

Mangalyaan-2, also known as Mars Orbiter Mission 2 (MOM 2), is aimed at studying the Martian atmosphere and surface from its orbital path.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

52. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Plasma waves are a type of oscillation or fluctuation that occurs within a plasma, which is a hot and ionized gas consisting of electrons and ions. These waves are caused by the collective behavior of the charged particles in the plasma and can affect the behavior and properties of the plasma.
- Plasma waves play a crucial role in the dynamics of Earth's magnetosphere, which is the region around the planet dominated by its magnetic field. These waves can accelerate and transport charged particles, such as electrons and ions, throughout the magnetosphere, affecting the behavior of the radiation belts and auroras. The planet Mars do not have any intrinsic magnetic field therefore the high-speed solar wind coming from the Sun interacts directly with the Mars atmosphere.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

53. Correct Answer is (A)

- Direct-to-Mobile (D2M) technology is a new way of delivering multimedia content, such as video and audio, directly to mobile devices without the need for an internet connection.
- D2M uses broadcast networks, similar to those used for TV and radio, to transmit content directly to mobile devices. This means that users can access multimedia content even in areas with poor or no internet connectivity, or without using their mobile data.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

54. Correct Answer is (C)

- Recently, ISRO successfully tested a 100 W Polymer Electrolyte Membrane Fuel Cell Power System (FCPS) on the orbital platform POEM3. The aims were to evaluate the functioning of Polymer Electrolyte Membrane Fuel cells in space and gather data to support the design of systems for upcoming missions.
- Polymer electrolyte membrane (PEM) fuel cells, also called proton exchange membrane fuel cells, use a proton-conducting polymer membrane as the electrolyte. Hydrogen is typically used as the fuel.

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- These cells operate at relatively low temperatures and can quickly vary their output to meet shifting power demands. They are being developed mainly for transport applications, as well as for stationary and portable fuel-cell applications.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

55. Correct Answer is (A)

- The L1 Lagrange point is a specific location in the Sun-Earth system where the gravitational forces of the two bodies balance each other, allowing a spacecraft or satellite to maintain a stable orbit with minimal fuel consumption.
- The L1 Lagrange point lies approximately 1.5 million kilometers from Earth, towards the Sun. It is one of the five Lagrange points in the Sun-Earth system, named after the Italian-French mathematician Joseph-Louis Lagrange who discovered them.
- The other Lagrange points, L2, L3, L4, and L5, are associated with the Earth-Moon system, where L2 is being used for deep space observatories such as the James Webb Space Telescope. However, the L1 Lagrange point specifically refers to the Sun-Earth system.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

56. Correct Answer is (C)

- The primary difference between a hard landing and a normal landing in an airplane is the vertical speed of the airplane upon touchdown.
- A hard landing occurs when the airplane's vertical speed upon touchdown is higher than normal, resulting in a greater impact force on the landing gear and airframe. This can be caused by several factors, including incorrect flare timing, insufficient flare, or gusty winds. The severity of landings is quantified using "touch down g," which refers to the gravitational force exerted on the aircraft's tires at landing. Generally, a landing with a "touch down g" exceeding 1.8 is classified as hard, indicating the force was 1.8 times the aircraft's weight. Recently, the Japan airlines experienced hard landing.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

57. Correct Answer is (A)

- A Bio-Imaging Bank is a repository of digital images of biological specimens, such as tissues, cells, and molecules, acquired using various imaging techniques like microscopy, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and computed tomography (CT). The primary objective of a Bio-Imaging Bank is to provide a centralized, standardized, and accessible platform for storing and sharing biological images for research purposes.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

58. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Access to surgical care remains a significant challenge in India, especially in rural and remote areas. According to a study published in The Lancet, only 10% of the population in rural India has access to surgical care. The current surgical system is largely based on civilian initiatives and subnational programs. These include programs like the Surgical Care Affordability and Reduction of Poverty (SCARP) project, Aarogyasri Health Care Trust, and the Karunashraya Palliative Care Project, which aim to improve access to surgical care in specific regions or populations.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

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59. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The DRDO's counter-drone system is designed to provide a comprehensive solution for detecting, identifying, and neutralizing drones, making it a fully integrated anti-drone system. Radar systems are a crucial component of DRDO's counter-drone system. These operate across different frequencies to detect and track drones, even stealthy ones, at considerable distances. This allows for early identification and response to potential threats.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Its primary purpose is not air defense against conventional aircraft and missiles. DRDO's system specifically focuses on countering drones due to their unique characteristics and potential threats.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

60. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Meissner effect is a phenomenon that occurs in superconductors, which are materials that can conduct electricity with zero resistance at very low temperatures. When a superconductor is cooled below its critical temperature, it expels any existing magnetic fields from its interior, creating a magnetic shield around itself. This is known as the Meissner effect.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)