

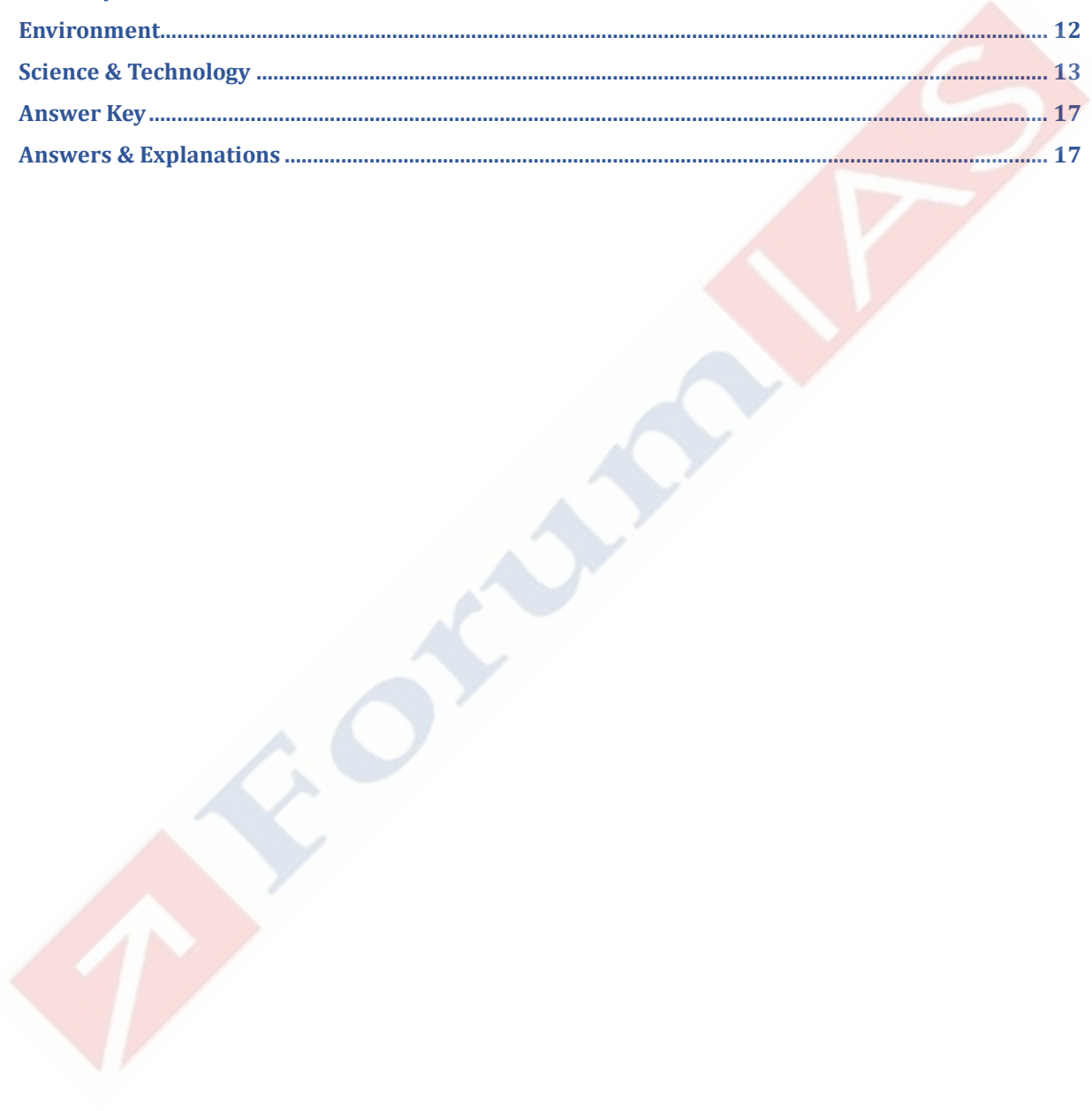
10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

[1st Week] July, 2024

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Art & Culture

Q.1) These colourful umbrellas are traditionally handmade and crafted using natural materials like palm leaves and bamboo for the frame and cloth for the canopy. They are designed to withstand harsh monsoon weather conditions. Which one of the following is described above?

- a) Karthumbi Umbrellas
- b) Jivika Umbrellas
- c) Arogya Umbrellas
- d) Samriddhi Umbrellas

Q.2) Consider the following:

- 1. Quality and quantity of publishing in the city
- 2. Hosting literary events and festivals
- 3. Having a population of over 1 million people
- 4. Active involvement of media in promoting literature

How many of the above criteria are required for a city to be designated as a UNESCO City of Literature?

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

Q.3) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- 1. The UNESCO World Heritage Committee is a body responsible for implementing the World Heritage Convention and managing the World Heritage List.
- 2. The World Heritage Convention, 1972 ensures that participating states cooperate with each other and provide financial support to all World Heritage sites globally.

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

Geography

Q.4) Which one of the following is the characteristic of torrential rain?

- a) Light drizzle over an extended period
- b) Moderate rainfall with occasional breaks
- c) Extremely heavy rainfall in a short period
- d) Steady rain over several days

Q.5) With reference to Minami-Torishima Island, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It is the westernmost territory of Japan.
2. The shape of the island is close to an equilateral triangle.
3. The island is located in the transitional zone between tropical and subtropical climates.
4. Cobalt and nickel were recently discovered in large quantities on the seabed off Minami-Torishima Island.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.6) Which one of the following natural resources is abundant in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)?

- a) Oil
- b) Gold
- c) Cobalt
- d) Natural Gas

Q.7) Mount Etna is an active volcano located in:

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

Q.8) Which of the following mountain ranges surround Pangong Tso?

- a) Himalayas and Aravalli Range
- b) Karakoram Range and Kailash Range
- c) Eastern Ghats and Western Ghats
- d) Vindhya Range and Satpura Range

Q.9) Which one of the following countries are involved in the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC)?

- a) India, Myanmar, Japan
- b) India, Iran, Russia
- c) India, Indonesia, Singapore
- d) India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka

Polity

Q.10) Which one of the following statements best describes the purpose of the Motion of Thanks in the Parliament?

- a) Formally approve all government policies mentioned in the President's address.
- b) Provide a platform for members of Parliament to express gratitude to the President.
- c) Initiate a debate on the government's agenda and key issues facing the nation.
- d) Offer Parliament an opportunity to amend the Constitution.

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

1. Adjournment sine die is done by the Speaker, while prorogation is done by the President
2. When the Lok Sabha is adjourned sine die, pending Bills are transferred to the Rajya Sabha.
3. The adjournment sine die of the Lok Sabha does not affect ongoing work of Parliamentary Committees.

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.12) Consider the following statements:

1. Cabinet Committees are established in India based on provisions within the Constitution.
2. The composition and number of Cabinet Committees can be changed by the Prime Minister.
3. Membership in a Cabinet Committee is restricted to Cabinet Ministers only.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.13) With reference to the National Medical Commission (NMC), consider the following statements:

1. It was established to replace the Medical Council of India (MCI).
2. It regulates medical education and practice to ensure quality standards.
3. The NMC emphasizes the importance of prioritizing specialization over general practice.
4. Conducting disciplinary proceedings against doctors for misconduct is one of the functions of the NMC.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.14) Consider the following statements:

1. Member of Parliaments (MPs) can take their oath in the Lok Sabha in any of the 22 languages specified in the Constitution.
2. According to the recent amendments by the Lok Sabha Speaker, an MP can add any remarks, slogans, or expressions as prefixes or suffixes to the prescribed oath.
3. The Second Schedule of the Constitution provides the exact wording for the oath or affirmation that MPs must take.
4. If an MP deviates from the prescribed form of oath during the ceremony, the oath will be deemed invalid and needs to be retaken correctly.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.15) Who of the following administers the oath to newly elected members of a state legislative assembly?

- a) The Speaker of the Assembly
- b) The Chief Minister
- c) The Governor or a person appointed by the Governor
- d) The President of India

Q.16) Consider the following statements:

1. Article 25 of the Indian Constitution guarantees the freedom to hold religious beliefs and also to express them through appropriate outward acts.
2. The Indian Constitution subordinates the freedom of religion to other fundamental rights.
3. The freedom of religion protects practices rooted in superstition in a religion.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.17) Consider the following statements:

1. Right to property has been derived from Article 21 by the Supreme Court of India.
2. Article 21 of the Constitution that includes speedy trial applies to all accused irrespective of the nature of the crime.

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.18) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution of India has a quasi-federal framework.
2. The primary task of recommending grants to States in need of assistance is of the Parliamentary Committees.
3. Special financial packages given to states are additional grant under Article 282 of the Indian Constitution.

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

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

Q.19) Consider the following statements;

1. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha has the authority to delete or expunge words, phrases, and expressions from the records if they are considered defamatory, indecent, unparliamentary, or undignified.
2. Rules of the Lok Sabha ensures that MPs should give advance notice before making defamatory allegations against other MPs.
3. The defamatory words are expunged only in the Lok Sabha while MPs of the Rajya Sabha are handed a list of the words that are not allowed in the Rajya Sabha.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Acts & Policies

Q.20) With reference to the Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), consider the following statements:

1. The BNSS mandates mandatory life imprisonment for offences punishable with seven years of imprisonment or more.
2. The BNSS mandates compulsory audio-video recording of search and seizure in each criminal case where an offence attracts punishment of seven years or more.

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.21) Consider the following:

1. Broadband Highways
2. Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity
3. Digital Agriculture
4. IT for Jobs

How many of the above are the part of the nine pillars of the Digital India initiative?

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

Q.22) Consider the following pairs:

Scheme-----Target Beneficiaries

1. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) ---- All farmers with notified crops
2. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)-----Small and marginal farmers
3. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)----- Farmers and allied sector workers
4. Namo Drone Didi-----Women members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs)

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Copyright Act, 1957 does not handle authorship and ownership issues related to Artificial Intelligence (AI).
2. The K.S. Puttaswamy judgment by the Supreme Court of India laid the groundwork for privacy rights in the country.

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.24) With reference to the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to promote cities that provide core infrastructure, clean and sustainable environment, and a decent quality of life to citizens through the application of 'smart solutions'.
2. The long-term vision of the Smart Cities Mission is to create cities that only prioritize economic growth.
3. Cities are selected to be part of the SCM on the recommendation of international urban planning experts.

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 is the primary objective of the Sampoornata Abhiyan recently launched by NITI Aayog?

- a) Increase tourism in rural areas
- b) Achieve saturation of key indicators in Aspirational Districts and Blocks
- c) Promote industrial development in backward regions
- d) Implement new agricultural technologies

Q.26) Consider the following statements:

1. Indian Standards Institution (ISI) mark is issued by the Quality Council of India.
2. The ISI mark is mandatory for stainless steel and aluminium utensils.

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) With reference to the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) Act, 2023, consider the following statements:

1. The board and the executive council created under the Act do not have any members from Central or State universities or colleges.
2. Its Governing Board is headed by the Prime Minister of India.
3. 30% of the ANRF budget is estimated to come from non-government sources.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

International Relations/Organizations

Q.28) Consider the following statements:

1. Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) aims to bridge the gap between theory and practice on AI by supporting cutting-edge research and applied activities.
2. World Bank hosts the Secretariat for GPAI.
3. The New Delhi Declaration adopted at the 2023 GPAI Summit acknowledges the need to harness new opportunities and mitigate risks arising from AI development, deployment, and use.

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.29) The main purpose of a 'Bilateral Agreement on Consular Access' is to:

- a) Facilitate trade agreements between the two countries.
- b) Ensure fair trials for citizens detained abroad.
- c) Promote cultural exchange programs between the two countries.
- d) Grant consular officials access to detained citizens from their country.

Q.30) Consider the following statements:

1. The India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) is an agreement that focuses on trade in goods, services, and investments.
2. A key benefit of the India-Korea CEPA for Indian businesses is stricter quality control measures for Indian products.
3. Agriculture and fisheries were excluded from tariff reductions under the India-Korea CEPA due to their sensitive nature.

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.31) In the context of cross border transactions, the 'Project Nexus' refers to –

- a) A new global cryptocurrency for international payments
- b) A system to replace existing domestic instant payment systems
- c) A platform for direct currency exchange between central banks
- d) An initiative to connect multiple domestic instant payment systems globally for faster cross-border payments.

Q.32) Consider the following statements regarding the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):

1. Both India and Pakistan are members of SCO.
2. The SCO is governed by the Heads of State Council (HSC).
3. French is one of its official languages.
4. The decision within the SCO is made through majority vote.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.33) Consider the following:

1. Partnership for security and sovereignty
2. Partnership for the planet
3. Partnership for economic growth
4. Partnership for the people

How many of the above are the pillars of the 'Indo-French Horizon 2047 Roadmap'?

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

Q.34) With reference to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), consider the following statements:

1. The primary purpose of NATO is to uphold human rights and democratic values worldwide.
2. The role of the North Atlantic Council within NATO is to conduct NATO's public relations campaigns.
3. The principle of "Collective Defense" enshrined in NATO implies that an attack on one member is considered an attack on all.

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

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

Q.35) With reference to the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to form a military alliance against China.
2. South Korea is one of the member countries.

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.36) Consider the following pairs:

Organizations/Summit-----Objectives

1. BRICS----- Economic collaboration and geopolitical influence
2. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)----- Regional security, economic cooperation, and political stability
3. Group of 20 (G20) ----- International economic cooperation and financial stability
4. East Asia Summit----- Strategic dialogue and cooperation on key regional challenges

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.37) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: A majority of gold and silver are imported to India from the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Statement-II: Under the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), India has agreed to reduce silver import duties to 0% over ten years.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Economy

Q.38) The primary purpose of imposing anti-dumping duties is to:

- a) Increase government revenue
- b) Protect domestic industries from unfair competition
- c) Reduce imports overall
- d) Impose fine on foreign companies

Q.39) Which one of the following does a K-shaped recovery most likely indicate?

- a) Overall GDP growth
- b) National unemployment rate
- c) Income inequality measures
- d) Inflation rate

Q.40) Consider the following statements:

1. Approval from the Ministry of Defence is a requirement for setting up a Greenfield airport in India
2. According to the guidelines, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) should not grant a license for a new greenfield airport if it is within 150 kilometres of an existing civilian airport.

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.41) Consider the following statements:

1. The introduction of the Goods and Service Tax (GST) has reduced urban local bodies (ULBs) tax revenue.
2. Cities in India contribute around 66% of India's GDP.
3. The Finance Commission is established under Article 110 of the Indian Constitution.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.42) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the largest importer of coking coal in the world.
2. Mongolia is major coking coal exporting country to 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.43) Which one of the following is NOT a function of the Spices Board of India?

- a) Granting certificates for the export of spices
- b) Providing warehousing facilities abroad for spices
- c) Regulating the sale of spices within India
- d) Promoting cooperative efforts among cardamom growers

Q.44) Consider the following:

1. Modernization of port infrastructure
2. Promotion of cruise tourism
3. Development of a skilled workforce for the maritime sector
4. Encouragement of deep-sea fishing

How many of the above are focus areas under the 'Maritime India Vision 2030'?

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

Q.45) Consider the following:

1. Enforce and summon the attendance of any person in the tribunal
2. Require the discovery and production of documents in the tribunal
3. Issue commissions for the examination of documents or witnesses
4. Issue new regulations for the securities market

How many of the above are the functions of the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT)?

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

Q.46) Consider the following statements:

1. India currently has 10 major ports.
2. The government has allowed 100% foreign direct investment (FDI) in the ports sector.
3. Container ships currently handle about 16% of the world's maritime trade.
4. Vadhavan Port, being developed, will operate under all weather conditions, ensuring uninterrupted operations throughout the year.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Environment

Q.47) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India has set a target of achieving 500 GW of installed renewable energy capacity by 2030 and reaching net zero by 2070.

Statement-II: Under the Low-Carbon Energy Programmatic Development Policy Operation, the World Bank is providing finances to help India accelerate the development of low-carbon energy.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.48) With reference to Water Hyacinth, consider the following statements:

- It grows slowly in aquatic environments.
- It blocks sunlight and oxygen from reaching submerged plants.
- It is helpful in bioremediation of wastewater by absorbing pollutants.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Q.49) Consider the following statements:

- Gharials can live in both freshwater and saltwater environments.
- Gharials are found only in India and Nepal.
- Gharials are listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Q.50) With reference to the National Green Hydrogen Mission, consider the following statements:

- The scheme is being implemented by the National Institute of Solar Energy.
- It will contribute to India's goal to become Aatma Nirbhar through clean energy and serve as an inspiration for the global Clean Energy Transition.
- Steam methane reformation is the primary method of producing green hydrogen as per the National Green Hydrogen Mission.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Q.51) Consider the following pairs:

Initiatives-----Objective

1. Green Development Pact----- Reduce the carbon footprint by promoting clean energy sources.
2. Global Biofuels Alliance----- Increase the adoption of biofuels globally for cleaner energy.
3. International Solar Alliance----- Facilitate cooperation among countries for sustainable development.

Which of the above pairs(s) is/are correctly matched?

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

Q.52) The government of India has been increasing the target percentage of ethanol blended with petrol under the Ethanol Blending Programme (EBP). This is because:

- a) Ethanol is more expensive to produce than petrol.
- b) Ethanol has lower energy content compared to petrol.
- c) Higher ethanol blend reduces dependence on imported oil and promotes a renewable fuel source.
- d) Ethanol blending significantly increases engine capacity.

Science & Technology

Q.53) Consider the following statements:

1. Supercapacitors have higher capacitance and energy storage capacity compared to conventional capacitors.
2. Coconut husk biowaste-derived activated carbon is unsuitable for creating high-performance supercapacitors due to its poor efficiency.

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.54) With reference to the Project-76 and Project-75I of the Indian Navy, which of the following statements are correct?

1. Project-76 of the Indian Navy aims to build nuclear-powered submarines.
2. Project-76 is fully indigenous while Project-75I involves foreign collaboration.
3. Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) is a key technology mandated for the submarines under Project-75I.

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

Q.55) Consider the following statements regarding the Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) in India:

1. The primary role of the Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) in India is to command and control the Indian Army.
2. The tenure of the Chief of the Army Staff is 3 years or until the age of 62, whichever is earlier.
3. The Chief of the Army Staff hold the rank of Lieutenant General.
4. The Chief of the Army Staff is appointed by the President of India on the advice of the Union Cabinet.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.56) Which one of the following statements is correct about the 'top quark'?

- a) It is the lightest of all observed elementary particles.
- b) It is the most massive of all observed elementary particles.
- c) It does not participate in weak interactions.
- d) It was discovered in 2008.

Q.57) With reference to Global India AI Summit 2024, consider the following statements:

1. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) is hosting Global India AI Summit 2024.
2. The Summit aims to position India as a global leader in AI innovation.
3. Application of AI in space exploration is one of the key focus areas of the Summit.
4. 'AI for Climate Change' is a theme of the Global India AI Summit 2024.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.58) With reference to the Aditya-L1 mission, consider the following statements:

1. Halo orbit used by the Aditya-L1 mission is an elliptical orbit around the Sun.
2. Aditya-L1 is a solar observatory spacecraft sent by ISRO.
3. The halo orbit of Aditya-L1 is chosen because it allows the spacecraft to observe the entire surface of the Sun.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.59) Consider the following statements:

1. The Access Network (AN) of a cellular network has equipment that provides connectivity to other networks, such as the Internet.
2. The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) 2061-2024 standard includes various types of base stations, such as macro-BS for large coverage areas and Wi-Fi for high-speed connectivity within villages.

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.60) With reference to the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), consider the following statements:

1. Its main objective is to seed, grow, and promote research and development (R&D) across India's universities.
2. The ANRF can both fund and receive money from private sources, philanthropic organizations, and international bodies.
3. Its Governing Board is headed by the Education Minister of 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.61) Which one of the following species of mosquito is primarily responsible for spreading the Zika virus?

- a) Anopheles
- b) Culex
- c) Aedes
- d) Mansonia

Q.62) Consider the following statements regarding the Military Exercise Nomadic Elephant:

1. It is a joint Military Exercise between India and Mongolia.
2. The 2024 Exercise was conducted at Assam (Jorhat).
3. It aims to enhance joint military capabilities for counter-insurgency operations under the UN mandate, focusing on semi-urban and mountainous terrain.

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

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

Q.63) The causative agent of Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM) is:

- a) Naegleria fowleri
- b) Streptococcus pneumoniae
- c) Herpes simplex virus (HSV)
- d) Plasmodium falciparum

Q.64) Consider the following statements:

1. Asteroids are made up of ice, dust, and rocky materials.
2. Asteroids do not exhibit a coma or tail.
3. Apophis asteroid is the nearest asteroid to the Earth.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.65) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: In India, the overall computer literacy is low.

Statement-II: Many schools and colleges in India lack the necessary infrastructure and qualified teachers to provide adequate computer training.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.66) Which one of the following is the correct order of precedence for the gallantry awards?

- a) Param Vir Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra, Vir Chakra, Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra
- b) Param Vir Chakra, Ashoka Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Vir Chakra, Shaurya Chakra
- c) Ashoka Chakra, Param Vir Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Vir Chakra, Shaurya Chakra
- d) Param Vir Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra, Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Vir Chakra, Shaurya Chakra

Q.67) Consider the following statements:

- 1. African Swine Fever (ASF) poses a significant threat to human health.
- 2. ASF can survive for long periods in the environment posing a risk of indirect transmission.

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.68) With reference to Genome Editing, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a method to modify an organism's DNA.
- 2. CRISPR-Cas9 is a popular tool for genome editing because it can cut DNA at any random location.
- 3. It can help a faster growth and enhance breeding in the fish.

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.69) Which of the following countries are participating in the joint military exercise MAITREE 2024?

- a) India and China
- b) India and Thailand
- c) Thailand and Malaysia
- d) India and Myanmar

Answer Key

1 - (a)	2 - (c)	3 - (a)	4 - (c)	5 - (c)	6 - (c)	7 - (a)	8 - (b)	9 - (b)	10 - (c)
11 - (c)	12 - (a)	13 - (c)	14 - (a)	15 - (c)	16 - (b)	17 - (b)	18 - (d)	19 - (b)	20 - (b)
21 - (c)	22 - (c)	23 - (c)	24 - (a)	25 - (b)	26 - (b)	27 - (b)	28 - (c)	29 - (d)	30 - (c)
31 - (d)	32 - (b)	33 - (c)	34 - (c)	35 - (d)	36 - (d)	37 - (a)	38 - (b)	39 - (c)	40 - (c)
41 - (b)	42 - (a)	43 - (c)	44 - (c)	45 - (c)	46 - (c)	47 - (a)	48 - (b)	49 - (b)	50 - (a)
51 - (c)	52 - (c)	53 - (a)	54 - (b)	55 - (c)	56 - (b)	57 - (b)	58 - (a)	59 - (b)	60 - (a)
61 - (c)	62 - (c)	63 - (a)	64 - (a)	65 - (a)	66 - (b)	67 - (b)	68 - (c)	69 - (b)	

Answers & Explanations

Art & Culture

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Karthumbi Umbrellas are traditionally handmade umbrellas known for their durability and craftsmanship. They are crafted using natural materials such as palm leaves and bamboo for the frame, combined with cloth for the canopy. These umbrellas are specifically designed to withstand the harsh weather conditions of the monsoon, making them a popular choice in regions like Kerala, India, where they are commonly used. Attapadi's tribals of Kerala own 'Karthumbi' brand of colourful umbrellas.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

- 3 criteria are required for a city to be designated as a UNESCO City of Literature. These are: Quality and quantity of publishing in the city, hosting literary events and festivals, Active involvement of media in promoting literature. **Other criteria are:** Literature, drama, and/or poetry playing an important role in the city, Involvement by the publishing sector in translating literary works from diverse national languages and foreign literature, hosting literary events and festivals, which promote domestic and foreign literature, etc. Recently, Kozhikode, a city in Kerala, India, has achieved a significant milestone by becoming India's first UNESCO City of Literature. **Kozhikode is the first Indian city to receive this honor.** UNESCO's City of Literature programme is part of the wider **Creative Cities Network**.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

10 PM Compilation July [First Week] 2024

- Statement 1 is correct. The World Heritage Committee is responsible for implementing the World Heritage Convention and managing the World Heritage List. It meets annually, consists of representatives from 21 States Parties, and has final say on inscribing sites on the World Heritage List. The World Heritage Committee has representatives from 21 State Parties to the World Heritage Convention (1972) elected by the General Assembly.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The World Heritage Convention, 1972 does not ensure that participating states provide financial support to all World Heritage sites globally. Instead, it establishes the World Heritage Fund, which provides financial assistance for heritage conservation projects, but this is not automatic for all sites. States Parties are primarily responsible for the protection and conservation of their own World Heritage sites, and they agree to do so with their own resources.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Geography

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Torrential rain is characterized by exceptionally heavy rainfall occurring over a short duration, often leading to rapid and intense accumulation of precipitation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Minami-Torishima Island is the easternmost island in Japan. Minami-Torishima Island, also known as Marcus Island, is an isolated Japanese coral atoll in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.
- Statements 2, 3 and 4 are correct. The shape of the island is close to an equilateral triangle. It is located in the transitional zone between tropical and subtropical climates. Cobalt and nickel which are crucial for making electric car batteries were recently discovered in large quantities on the seabed off Minami-Torishima Island.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

- The DRC holds a significant portion of the world's cobalt reserves, making it a critical player in the global supply of this mineral, which is essential for batteries and the energy transition.

Source: [AIR](#)

7. Correct Answer is (A)

- Mount Etna is situated on the east coast of Sicily, Italy, which is in Europe. It is one of the tallest active volcanoes in Europe. Mount Etna is classified as a stratovolcano.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Karakoram Range and Kailash Range are both located in the western Himalayas and surround Pangong Tso. Pangong Tso even has a sub-range called the Pangong Range on its southern shore. It is a disputed region between India and China.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- The International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is a multi-modal transportation network established to facilitate efficient cargo transportation between India, Iran, and Russia, among other countries. The primary route connects India to Russia through Iran, and it aims to enhance trade connectivity and reduce transportation costs and time between these regions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Polity

10. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Motion of Thanks is a special motion in the Parliament of India that follows the President's address to both Houses at the beginning of the first session each year and the first session after each general election. The primary purpose of the Motion of Thanks is to initiate a comprehensive debate on the address delivered by the President, which outlines the government's agenda and key issues facing the nation.

Source: [AIR](#)

11. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Adjournment sine die is performed by the presiding officer of the House (Speaker in the case of Lok Sabha), while prorogation is done by the President of India. The adjournment sine die of the Lok Sabha does not affect the ongoing work of Parliamentary Committees, which continue to function even when the House is not in session.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. When the Lok Sabha is adjourned sine die, pending bills are not transferred to the Rajya Sabha. Instead, they remain pending in the Lok Sabha and do not lapse.

Source: [AIR](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Cabinet Committees are not established based on provisions within the Constitution. They are extra-constitutional and are established under the Government of India Transaction of Business Rules, 1961. Membership in a Cabinet Committee is not restricted to Cabinet Ministers only. It can include other ministers and even special invitees.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Prime Minister has the authority to change the composition and number of Cabinet Committees. The Prime Minister chairs most Cabinet Committees, except for a few specific ones.

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are incorrect. The NMC was established to replace the MCI as part of an effort to reform the regulatory framework governing medical education and practice in India. One of the primary functions of the NMC is to regulate medical education and practice to ensure that quality standards are maintained. This includes setting and enforcing standards for medical institutions and practitioners. The NMC is responsible for conducting disciplinary proceedings against medical practitioners for professional misconduct through its Ethics and Medical Registration Board.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The NMC focuses on improving overall medical education and practice standards but does not explicitly prioritize specialization.

Source: [AIR](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. MPs can take their oath in the Lok Sabha in any of the 22 languages specified in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. If an MP deviates from the prescribed form of oath during the ceremony, the oath will be deemed invalid and needs to be retaken correctly.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. According to recent amendments by the Lok Sabha Speaker, MPs cannot add any remarks, slogans, or expressions as prefixes or suffixes to the prescribed oath. The new clause specifically prohibits this practice. The Third Schedule of the Constitution provides the exact wording for the oath or affirmation that MPs must take.

Source: [AIR](#)

15. Correct Answer is (C)

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- Article 188 of the Indian Constitution, which states that every member of the Legislative Assembly or the Legislative Council of a State shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the Governor, or some person appointed in that behalf by him, an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Article 25 of the Indian Constitution guarantees the freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice, and propagate religion, which includes expressing religious beliefs through outward acts. The freedom of religion under Article 25 is subject to public order, morality, and health, as well as to the other provisions of the fundamental rights, thereby making it subordinate to other fundamental rights
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The freedom of religion protects only those practices that are essential and integral to the religion. Practices based on superstition or non-essential accretions are not protected under Article 25.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Right to Property was originally a fundamental right enshrined in the Constitution, but it was removed by the 44th Amendment in 1978. It is now considered a human right under Article 300A.
- Statement 2 is correct. The right to a speedy trial is part of Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, which ensures the right to life and personal liberty. The Supreme Court has consistently held that this right applies to all accused persons, regardless of the nature of the crime.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Constitution of India is considered to have a quasi-federal framework. This means it exhibits characteristics of both a federation (strong central government with independent states) and a unitary state (strong central government with subordinate units). Special financial packages are an additional grant under Article 282, which falls under 'Miscellaneous Financial Provisions'.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The primary task of recommending grants to States in need of assistance is that of the Finance Commission, until Parliament makes legislation in this regard.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Rule 380 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha gives the Speaker the discretion to expunge any words or expressions used in debate that are considered defamatory, indecent, unparliamentary, or undignified. Rule 353 of the Lok Sabha requires MPs to give advance notice before making allegations. This allows the concerned Minister to conduct an inquiry and present the facts when the MP makes the allegation in the House.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha have provisions for expunging defamatory or unparliamentary words. Rule 261 of the Rajya Sabha gives the Chairman similar powers to expunge remarks as Rule 380 does for the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. Both houses maintain lists of unparliamentary words, but expunction is not limited to the Lok Sabha alone.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Acts & Policies

20. Correct Answer is (B)

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- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) does not mandate mandatory life imprisonment for offenses punishable with seven years or more. The actual punishment for such offenses would depend on the specific crime and the discretion of the court.
- Statement 2 is correct. The BNSS mandates compulsory audio-video recording of search and seizure in each criminal case and mandatory forensic examination in all cases where an offence attracts punishment of seven years or more. This provision aims to increase transparency and accountability in police procedures.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (C)

- Digital India is a program to develop India in a learning future. It is an Umbrella Program surrounded by numerous govt. Departments. The focus is on IT reframing. It aims to enable changes for making technology central. The nine pillars of Digital India include Broadband Highways, Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity, Public Internet Access Programme, e-Governance, e-Kranti, Information for All, Electronics Manufacturing, IT for Jobs, and Early Harvest Programmes. Digital Agriculture is not one of them.

Source: [AIR](#)

22. Correct Answer is (C)

- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN): This scheme provides income support to all landholding farmer families in India, not limited to those with notified crops.
- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY): This crop insurance scheme is available to all farmers, including small and marginal farmers, but it is not exclusively for small and marginal farmers.
- Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY): This scheme aims to support farmers and allied sector workers.
- Namo Drone Didi: This scheme targets women members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs), providing them with agricultural drones and training.

Source: [AIR](#)

23. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Indian Copyright Act of 1957 does not explicitly address AI-generated works or recognize AI as an author. The 161st Parliamentary Standing Committee Report also found that the Copyright Act is "not well equipped to facilitate authorship and ownership by Artificial Intelligence. The K.S. Puttaswamy judgment, delivered by the Supreme Court of India in 2017, established the right to privacy as a fundamental right protected under Articles 14, 19, and 21 of the Indian Constitution. This landmark decision laid the foundation for privacy jurisprudence in India and influenced subsequent legislation like the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. SCM aims to promote cities that provide core infrastructure, a clean and sustainable environment, and a decent quality of life to citizens through the application of 'smart solutions'.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The long-term vision of the Smart Cities Mission is not solely to prioritize economic growth. Instead, it focuses on sustainable and inclusive development, improving the quality of life, and creating replicable models for other cities. Cities are selected to be part of the SCM through a competitive process known as the Smart Cities Challenge, which involves a countrywide competition among cities.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- NITI Aayog launched the nationwide Sampoornata Abhiyan campaign, aiming to achieve saturation in 12 key social sector indicators across 500 aspirational blocks and 112 aspirational districts. This three-month campaign, running from July 4 to September 30, 2024, focuses on themes including health, nutrition, agriculture, social development, and education. The campaign aims to accelerate progress towards full saturation of identified indicators in these aspirational areas, fostering comprehensive development across various social sectors.

Source: [AIR](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The ISI mark is issued by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).
- Statement 2 is correct. The government has made the ISI mark mandatory for stainless steel and aluminum kitchen utensils to conform to national quality standards.

Source: [AIR](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The ANRF's Governing Board and Executive Council lack representation from Central or State universities or colleges. Despite the significant role these institutions play in India's education and research landscape, the current composition of the board and council does not include members from universities. The ANRF's Governing Board is chaired by the Prime Minister of India. This high-level leadership aims to provide strategic direction and oversight for the foundation's activities.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The ANRF is expected to receive a much larger portion of its budget from non-government sources. Specifically, around 70% of its funding is anticipated to come from industry, philanthropists, and other non-government sources.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

International Relations/Organizations

28. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. GPAI's focus aligns with bridging the theory-practice gap in AI through supporting practical applications of responsible AI development. The New Delhi Declaration reflects a core objective of GPAI, which is to promote responsible AI development while acknowledging both potential benefits and risks.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) hosts the GPAI Secretariat.

Source: [AIR](#)

29. Correct Answer is (D)

- A Bilateral Agreement on Consular Access is a formal agreement between two countries that specifically addresses how consular officials can assist and communicate with their citizens who are detained or imprisoned in the other country. The primary purpose of such an agreement is to ensure that consular officials have the right and ability to visit, communicate with, and provide assistance to their nationals who are in custody abroad.

Source: [AIR](#)

30. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) is a broad-based agreement that covers trade in goods, services, and investments. It aims to enhance economic ties between the two countries by reducing tariffs and promoting market access across various sectors. Agriculture and fisheries were excluded from tariff reductions under the India-Korea CEPA due to their sensitive nature.

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- Statement 2 is incorrect. The key benefits for Indian businesses under the CEPA include tariff reductions on Indian goods exported to Korea, access to the Korean services market for Indian professionals, expanded investment opportunities, and increased bilateral trade.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (D)

- Project Nexus is described as an initiative "to enable instant cross-border payments by connecting multiple domestic instant payment systems (IPS) globally. It is designed to standardize the way domestic instant payment systems connect to each other, allowing a single connection to reach all countries in the network. Nexus, conceptualised by the Innovation Hub of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), aims to connect FPSs of four ASEAN countries (Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand); and India, who would be the founding members and first mover countries of this platform.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Both India and Pakistan became full members of the SCO. The Heads of State Council (HSC) is the supreme decision-making body of the SCO.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. The Russian and Chinese are the official languages of the SCO. The SCO bodies take decisions by agreement without vote and their decisions shall be considered adopted if no member State has raised objections during its consideration (consensus). Decisions are taken through consensus rather than majority voting. SCO's secretariat is in Beijing, China. It is a regional cooperation forum.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (C)

- Under the Horizon 2047 framework, India and France have established **three essential pillars** to further deepen their enduring partnership: Partnership for security and sovereignty, Partnership for the planet, Partnership for the people. The Indo-French Horizon 2047 Roadmap is a comprehensive strategic vision document that outlines the future of bilateral relations between India and France over the next 25 years.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. NATO's primary purpose is to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of its members through political and military means, and to guarantee the freedom and security of all member countries. The North Atlantic Council (NAC) is described as the principal political decision-making body of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), consisting of permanent representatives of its member countries. It has decision-making powers and is responsible for setting up subsidiary bodies for various policy functions.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The principle of "Collective Defense" is a core aspect of NATO. This is explicitly stated in Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty, which says that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. While the QUAD is concerned with countering China's influence in the Indo-Pacific region, it is not explicitly a military alliance against China. The primary objective of the QUAD is to ensure a free, open, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region through strategic cooperation among its members. The QUAD consists of four member countries: the United States, Australia, India, and Japan. South Korea is not a member of the QUAD.

Source: [AIR](#)

36. Correct Answer is (D)

- BRICS aims to enhance economic cooperation among its member countries and has increasing geopolitical influence on global affairs.
- The SCO focuses on regional security, promoting economic cooperation, and fostering political stability among its member states.
- The G20's primary focus is on promoting international economic cooperation and ensuring global financial stability.
- The East Asia Summit aims at strategic dialogue and cooperation on various regional issues, including political, security, and economic challenges.

Source: [AIR](#)

37. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. A majority of gold and silver are imported to India from the United Arab Emirates (UAE). India's imports of gold and silver from the UAE surged 210% in 2023-24 to \$10.7 billion.
- Statement II is correct. Under the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), India has agreed to reduce silver import duties to 0% over 10 years.
- Hence, Statement-II explains the significant increase in imports from the UAE, as the reduced duties make it more economically attractive to import silver (and gold) from the UAE, leading to the majority of these imports coming from there.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Economy

38. Correct Answer is (B)

- The primary purpose of imposing anti-dumping duties is to protect domestic industries from unfair competition. Dumping occurs when foreign companies sell goods in a foreign market at a price below their domestic market price or below their cost of production. This can harm domestic industries by undercutting their prices and leading to market distortion. To counteract this, governments may impose anti-dumping duties on these imported goods. Anti-dumping duties help safeguard domestic industries from unfair competition and ensure a level playing field in the market.

Source: [AIR](#)

39. Correct Answer is (C)

- A K-shaped recovery most likely indicates income inequality measures. This type of economic recovery is characterized by a divergence in economic outcomes across different segments of the population or sectors of the economy. In a K-shaped recovery, some parts of the economy or population groups recover quickly and prosper, while others continue to struggle or decline.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The approval process for setting up a Greenfield airport in India involves multiple agencies, including the Ministry of Defence (MoD). The Ministry of Civil Aviation's Greenfield Airports Policy, 2008, outlines that the proposal for a new airport must go through a two-stage approval process. This includes obtaining 'Site Clearance' and 'In-Principle' approval. During this process, relevant stakeholders, such as the Ministry of Defence, are consulted to ensure compliance with various regulations and to address any strategic concerns. The guidelines state that no Greenfield airport would be allowed within an aerial distance of 150 Km of an existing civilian airport. However, if a Greenfield airport is proposed within 150 km of an

existing civilian airport, the impact would be examined, and such cases would be decided by the government on a case-by-case basis.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

41. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The implementation of GST has absorbed various local taxes such as octroi and entry taxes, which were significant sources of revenue for ULBs. This absorption has adversely affected the finances of local governments. Cities play a crucial role in India's economy, contributing approximately 66% of the country's GDP.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Finance Commission is established under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

42. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India, the world's second-largest steelmaker, is the largest importer of coking coal.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While India is exploring the possibility of importing coking coal from Mongolia and has initiated discussions and logistical planning, Mongolia is not currently a major supplier of coking coal to India. The major suppliers of coking coal to India are Australia, the United States, and Russia.

Source: [AIR](#)

43. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Spices Board of India is a statutory body established under the Spices Board Act, 1986. Its primary functions include: Developing, promoting, and regulating the export of spices, granting certificates for the export of spices, providing warehousing facilities abroad for spices, Promoting cooperative efforts among cardamom growers. Regulating the sale of spices within India is not a function of the Spices Board.

Source: [AIR](#)

44. Correct Answer is (C)

- Maritime India Vision 2030 (MIV 2030) is a comprehensive blueprint aimed at transforming India's maritime sector over the next decade. Launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, this vision seeks to enhance the country's maritime capabilities, boost economic growth, and position India as a global maritime leader. However, encouragement of deep-sea fishing is not one of the focus areas.

Source: [AIR](#)

45. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) is a statutory body established under the provisions of Section 15K of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Act, 1992. It was created to hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by SEBI or by an adjudicating officer under the SEBI Act. SAT also hears appeals against orders issued by other financial regulators such as the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI). Amongst the functions mentioned above, issuing new regulations for the securities market is not a function of SAT. This function lies with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

Source: [AIR](#)

46. Correct Answer is (C)

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- Statement 1 is incorrect. India has 13 major ports and 176 non-major ones. Out of these functional ports are – 12 major and 64 non-major — and nine more under development.
- Statements 2, 3 and 4 are correct. In recent years, the government has initiated policy measures to attract private investments in the ports sector, including allowing 100 % foreign direct investment (FDI). Container ships today handle almost 16% of the world's maritime trade. VadHAVAN Port is set to become a major port in India. It is an all-weather port that will operate under all weather conditions, ensuring uninterrupted operations throughout the year.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Environment

47. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. India has set a target of achieving 500 GW of installed renewable energy capacity by 2030 and reaching net zero by 2070.
- Statement-II is correct. Under the Low-Carbon Energy Programmatic Development Policy Operation, the World Bank is providing finances to help India accelerate the development of low-carbon energy. The World Bank has approved a second round of 1.5 billion dollars in financing to help India accelerate the development of low-carbon energy. The financing is extended to promote a market for green hydrogen, electrolysers, and increased renewable energy penetration.
- Hence, Statement-II provide an explanation for Statement-I. The World Bank's financing through the Low-Carbon Energy Programmatic Development Policy Operation is directly aimed at helping India achieve its low-carbon energy targets, including the goals mentioned in Statement-I.

Source: [AIR](#)

48. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Water hyacinth is known for its rapid growth and reproduction.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The fast spread of water hyacinth due to significant anthropogenic impacts the reception of sunlight and oxygen by other native underwater creatures, diminishing biodiversity. Water hyacinth is an aquatic plant that absorbs lead to supply nutrition for growth and reduces water pollution effectively since it absorbs lots of phosphorus and nitrogen from water contaminated with toxic waste materials. **Benefits of Water Hyacinth:** Water purification, Bioremediation, Biomass production, Erosion control, Habitat provision. **Disadvantages of water hyacinth:** Invasive nature, Ecological disruption (Reduce biodiversity by displacing native plants and animals, Block sunlight, Deplete oxygen levels in the water), Water flow obstruction, Increased water loss through evapotranspiration, Vector breeding.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

49. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Gharials are freshwater reptiles and cannot live in saltwater environments. Unlike crocodiles, which can live in both freshwater and saltwater environments, gharials are restricted to freshwater habitats.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Gharials currently survive only in the waters of India and Nepal. Gharials are listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List due to various threats to their habitat and population.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

50. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The National Green Hydrogen Mission is implemented by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). The National Green Hydrogen Mission focuses on green hydrogen production through electrolysis using renewable energy sources.

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- Statement 2 is correct. A core objective of the National Green Hydrogen Mission is to make India a leader in green hydrogen production and inspire a global clean energy transition through Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliance) in clean energy.

Source: [AIR](#)

51. Correct Answer is (C)

- The **Green Development Pact**, as outlined in the G20 New Delhi Declaration, aims to promote sustainable development and reduce carbon emissions through various means, including clean energy adoption.
- The **Global Biofuels Alliance** was launched to foster global collaboration and expedite the global uptake of biofuels as a cleaner energy source.
- The primary objective **International Solar Alliance** is to promote solar energy adoption and cooperation among member countries, particularly those between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

52. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Government of India is promoting the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme to enhance India's energy security, reduce import dependency on fuel, save foreign exchange, and address environmental issues. India currently imports 85% of its oil requirements. The E20 program (20% ethanol blending) can save the country \$4 billion (Rs 30,000 crore) annually. Ethanol is extracted from sugarcane, broken rice, and other agricultural produce, making it a renewable fuel source.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Science & Technology

53. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Supercapacitors have significantly higher capacitance compared to conventional capacitors. This translates to a greater ability to store electrical charge.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The coconut husk biowaste-derived activated carbon holds immense promise for sustainable and efficient green solutions for high-performance supercapacitors owing to its availability, low cost, and eco-friendly nature.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

54. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Project-76 focuses on building conventional diesel-powered submarines, not nuclear-powered ones. India has a separate project (Project-75 Alpha) for nuclear attack submarines.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Project-76 aims for indigenous design and construction of submarines, making it a significant step towards self-reliance. Project-75I, on the other hand, involves the acquisition of new submarines from foreign vendors with a technology transfer element. Project-75I prioritizes submarines equipped with Air-Independent Propulsion (AIP) technology. This allows them to stay submerged for longer durations without needing to surface for air, enhancing their stealth and operational capabilities.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

55. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The COAS is the highest-ranking military officer in the Indian Army and is responsible for its command, control, and administration. The tenure of Service Chiefs is 62 years of age or three years whichever is earlier. The COAS is appointed by the President of India, who acts on the advice of the Union Cabinet.

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- Statement 3 is incorrect. The COAS holds the rank of General, which is a four-star rank and the highest rank in the Indian Army during peacetime. Lieutenant General is a three-star rank below the COAS position.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

56. Correct Answer is (B)

- The top quark is extremely heavy and unstable, breaking down into lighter particles almost instantly. It is heavier than many molecules, such as water, copper, and caffeine. The mass of the top quark is crucial in physics because it helps us learn about the Higgs boson, another important particle. The top quark is much heavier than other similar particles. It was discovered in 1995.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

57. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) is hosting the Global India AI Summit 2024. The summit aims to establish India as a global leader in AI innovation, ensuring that AI benefits are accessible to all and contribute to the nation's socio-economic development.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. The key focus areas of the summit include Compute Capacity, Foundational Models, Datasets, Application Development, Future Skills, Startup Financing, and Safe AI. AI for Future Skills one of the key focus areas of the summit and a key theme of the Summit. The Summit will serve as a pivotal platform for global stakeholders to collaborate, innovate, and shape the future of artificial intelligence. The summit also aims to set new benchmarks for addressing the multifaceted challenges and opportunities presented by AI.

Source: [AIR](#)

58. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The halo orbit used by the Aditya-L1 mission is a periodic, three-dimensional orbit around the Lagrange point 1 (L1) of the Sun-Earth system. This orbit is roughly perpendicular to the line joining the Earth and the Sun. The halo orbit around the L1 point allows Aditya-L1 to continuously observe the Sun without any occultation or eclipse, providing an unobstructed view of solar activities. However, it does not allow observation of the entire surface of the Sun, but rather continuous observation of the Sun.
- Statement 2 is correct. Aditya-L1 is a solar observatory spacecraft sent by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to study the Sun.

Source: [AIR](#)

59. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. A cellular network can be divided into two sub-networks: the Access Network (AN) and the Core Network (CN). The AN consists of base stations that provide wireless connectivity to mobile devices in a limited geographical area, called the coverage area. The CN of a cellular network has equipment that provides connectivity to other networks, such as the Internet. Unlike AN base station, the CN operates in a central location, and possibly far from any of the base stations.
- Statement 2 is correct. The IEEE-2061 standard includes a heterogeneous Access Network (AN) with different types of base stations coexisting. It mentions macro-BS for large coverage areas and Wi-Fi for high-speed connectivity within villages.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

60. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The ANRF was established by an Act of Parliament in August 2023, replacing the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) set up in 2008. The main objective

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of the ANRF is to seed, grow, and promote research and development (R&D) across India's universities, colleges, research institutions, and R&D laboratories. The ANRF can both fund and receive money from private sources, philanthropic organizations, and international bodies.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Governing Board of the ANRF is headed by the Prime Minister of India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

61. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Aedes species, particularly Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus, are the main vectors for the transmission of the Zika virus.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

62. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Military Exercise Nomadic Elephant is a joint Military Exercise between India and Mongolia. It aims to enhance joint military capabilities for counter-insurgency operations under the UN mandate, focusing on semi-urban and mountainous terrain.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The 2024 Exercise was conducted at the Foreign Training Node in Umroi, Meghalaya.

Source: [AIR](#)

63. Correct Answer is (A)

- PAM is caused by Naegleria fowleri, commonly known as the "brain-eating amoeba", which lives in warm freshwater. It enters the body through the nose and travels to the brain. Symptoms of PAM include headache, fever, nausea, vomiting, altered mental status, and seizures.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

64. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Asteroids are primarily composed of metals and rocky materials, with some containing carbon compounds. They do not contain significant amounts of ice, which is a characteristic of comets. While Apophis will make a very close approach to Earth in 2029, it is not the nearest asteroid to Earth in general. There are many near-Earth asteroids that come closer to Earth at different times.
- Statement 2 is correct. Unlike comets, asteroids do not develop a coma or tail because they lack volatile materials that sublimate when they approach the Sun.

Source: [AIR](#)

65. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. Computer literacy in India stands at 24.7% among individuals aged 15 years and above. This low percentage indicates that overall computer literacy in India is low.
- Statement II is correct. Many schools and colleges in India lack the necessary infrastructure and qualified teachers to provide adequate computer training. Only 47.5% of schools in India have computer facilities while only 33.9% of schools have internet access.
- Therefore, Statement-II provides an explanation for Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

66. Correct Answer is (B)

- The order of precedence for these gallantry awards is as follows: Param Vir Chakra, Ashoka Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Vir Chakra, Shaurya Chakra. Gallantry awards in India are instituted by the Government of India to honor acts of bravery and sacrifice by the officers/personnel of the Armed Forces, other lawfully constituted forces, and civilians. These awards recognize exceptional

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courage, valor, and self-sacrifice in both wartime and peacetime scenarios. These awards are given on Independence Day and Republic Day.

Wartime Gallantry Awards

- Param Vir Chakra: The highest military award in India, awarded for the most conspicuous bravery or some daring or pre-eminent act of valor or self-sacrifice in the presence of the enemy.
- Maha Vir Chakra: The second-highest military decoration, awarded for acts of conspicuous gallantry in the presence of the enemy.
- Vir Chakra: The third-highest wartime gallantry award, given for acts of gallantry in the presence of the enemy.

Peacetime Gallantry Awards

- Ashoka Chakra: The highest peacetime military award for valor, courageous action, or self-sacrifice away from the battlefield.
- Kirti Chakra: The second-highest peacetime gallantry award, awarded for conspicuous bravery or self-sacrifice away from the battlefield.
- Shaurya Chakra: The third-highest peacetime gallantry award, given for acts of gallantry away from the battlefield.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

67. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. African Swine Fever (ASF) does not pose a threat to human health. It is not a danger to human health, but it has devastating effects on pig populations and the farming economy.
- Statement 2 is correct. The virus is highly resistant in the environment, meaning that it can survive on clothes, boots, wheels, and other materials. It can survive for extended periods.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

68. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Genome editing is a method to modify an organism's DNA. It allows scientists to make precise changes to the DNA of various organisms, including plants, bacteria, and animals. Genome editing can help in faster growth and enhance breeding in fish. It has been used in aquaculture to improve traits such as growth rate, disease resistance, and reproductive control.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. CRISPR-Cas9 is popular because it can cut DNA at specific locations, not random ones. The system uses a guide RNA to direct the Cas9 enzyme to a precise spot in the genome, ensuring targeted cuts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

69. Correct Answer is (B)

- The joint military exercise MAITREE 2024, between the Indian Army and the Royal Thailand Army, is currently underway in Tak Province, Thailand. This exercise marks a significant milestone in fostering military cooperation and enhancing the operational capabilities of the two nations under the United Nations charter.

Source: [AIR](#)