

# 9 PM Current Affairs Monthly Compilation

For UPSC CSE mains examination



June  
2024

Features :

Arranged as per syllabus Topics  
Most complete coverage of major  
News Papers editorials

## 10 PM MCQs Compilation June 2024

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## Art & Culture, Ancient and Medieval History

**Q.1) A puppet show is composed of characters with detailed costume, interchangeable heads with various expressions, and elaborate movements that illustrate emotions and actions. Which one of the following types of puppetries has been described above?**

- a) String puppets
- b) Shadow puppets
- c) Rod puppets
- d) Glove puppets

**Q.2) It is an ancient local custom practiced in some parts of India, in which a married man can legitimize an affair with a married woman by formally providing financial support for her. This practice is known as:**

- a) Samarthya
- b) Anubandh
- c) Murdhaprishtha
- d) Nata Pratha

**Q.3) Which one of the following instruments is the 'sarod' derived from?**

- a) Sitar
- b) Veena
- c) Rabab
- d) Tanpura

**Q.4) Which one of the following is the primary significance of the 'Raja Parba' festival celebrated in Odisha?**

- a) Celebrating the harvest season
- b) Onset of monsoon season
- c) Celebrating womanhood and the menstrual cycle of Mother Earth
- d) Commemorating a historical event

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

1. The Satnamis were a group of Sufi mystics advocating for religious tolerance.
2. The Satnami revolt occurred during the reign of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb.

**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.6) Consider the following statements:**

1. Nalanda University was established by the Maurya Dynasty.
2. Nalanda University is considered the world's first residential university.
3. Fa Hein, a Chinese scholar, visited Nalanda University and wrote about its architecture and learning.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.7) With reference to the burial practices of the ancient civilization, consider the following statements:**

1. Burial practices evolved with advancing civilizations.
2. Burial positions and funerary rites were almost similar across different cultures.
3. Burial styles provide insight into societal structure of the civilization.

**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.8) Which one of the following is the primary purpose of the Vishwa Hindi Samman award?**

- a) Recognize outstanding contributions to Hindi literature within India.
- b) Honor individuals and institutions who significantly promote Hindi globally.
- c) Provide financial assistance to aspiring Hindi writers.
- d) Recognize excellence in teaching and research related to the Hindi language.

### Answer Key

1 - (c)	2 - (d)	3 - (c)	4 - (c)	5 - (b)	6 - (a)	7 - (c)	8 - (b)
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### Answers & Explanations

**1. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Rod puppets are known for their detailed costumes, interchangeable heads with various expressions, and the ability to perform elaborate movements that illustrate emotions and actions. These puppets are typically manipulated using rods attached to their heads and hands, allowing for precise and expressive control. Recently, Padma Shri Maguni Charan Kuanr passed away. He made contributions to the field of art for keeping alive the dying art of rod puppetry and promoting the traditional rod puppet dance.

Source: [AIR](#)

**2. Correct Answer is (D)**

- Nata Pratha is a controversial practice where a married man provides financial support to the family of a married woman with whom he has had an extramarital affair. In some communities, this custom is seen as a way to legitimize the relationship and avoid conflict within the community. Currently, in the name of this practice, the girls in some communities of States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Gujarat are sold either on stamp paper or otherwise in the name of illegal or child marriage, mostly by their own families.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**3. Correct Answer is (C)**

- The sarod instrument evolved from the Afghan rabab (an instrument with a similar long neck, strings, and a skin belly), which was brought to India in the 16th century and later developed into its modern form in the 19th century. Sarod is a stringed instrument made of coconut shell, tun wood, drone, shikri, and ivory. This is a traditional instrument that is found in various parts of

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North India. A popular plucked instrument, it is used in North Indian classical music for solo concerts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Raja Parba is a unique three-day festival celebrated in Odisha that honours womanhood, fertility, and the menstrual cycle. It derives its name from the words 'Raja' meaning menstruation and 'Parba' meaning festival. The festival is based on the belief that Mother Earth (Bhudevi or Bhumi), considered the wife of Lord Vishnu, undergoes menstruation during these three days. It marks the Earth's period of rejuvenation before the arrival of the monsoon season.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Satnamis were not Sufi mystics. They were a Hindu sect in northern India, particularly in the region of present-day Haryana. The Satnamis were known for their strict adherence to monotheism and rejection of idol worship, but they were not associated with Sufism.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Satnami revolt occurred during the reign of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb in 1672. The revolt was a significant uprising against the Mughal authorities due to oppressive policies and heavy taxation.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

### 6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Nalanda University was founded in the 5th century CE during the Gupta Empire, under the patronage of Kumaragupta I. Fa Hien was a Chinese Buddhist monk who visited India in the 5th century CE, but he did not visit Nalanda University specifically. The Chinese scholars who visited Nalanda and wrote detailed accounts about it were Hiuen Tsang (7th century CE) and I-Tsing (7th century CE).
- Statement 2 is correct. Nalanda University is widely considered the world's first residential university or international center of higher learning. It attracted scholars and students from across Asia and had residential facilities for thousands of students and teachers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 7. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Burial practices evolved and became more elaborate as civilizations advanced. For example, the ancient Egyptians developed intricate mummification techniques and constructed grand tombs like the pyramids for their pharaohs. Burial styles, including the type of grave, grave goods, and funerary rites, provide valuable insights into the societal structure of ancient civilizations.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Burial positions, funerary rites, and associated customs varied significantly across different cultures and regions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 8. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Vishwa Hindi Samman is awarded to Hindi scholars from India and other countries for their exceptional contributions to the Hindi language, promoting it on a global scale. This award is given by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

## Geography

**Q.1) The island country Samoa is located in which one of the following oceans?**

- a) Atlantic Ocean
- b) Indian Ocean
- c) Arctic Ocean
- d) Pacific Ocean

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

1. Odisha is the largest producer of iron ore in India.
2. Limestone is produced from bauxite ore.

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

**Statement-I:** Volcanic eruption cools the Earth's surface temporarily by creating particles that reflect sunlight back into space.

**Statement-II:** Volcanoes eruption releases smoke containing sulfur dioxide.

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

1. Stratosphere is a dry layer of the atmosphere where clouds and rain don't form.
2. Water vapor in the atmosphere helps in building the ozone layer.

**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) In the geographical context, the 'Carnian Pluvial Episode' is primarily known for causing:**

- a) A massive volcanic eruption and global cooling.
- b) A period of widespread glaciation and ice sheets.
- c) An extended period of intense global rainfall.
- d) The extinction of dinosaurs and the rise of mammals.

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

1. During the summer solstice in the northern hemisphere, the Sun is directly overhead at the equator.
2. Arctic Circle experiences 24 hours of daylight during the summer solstice in the northern hemisphere.

**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.7) A heat dome is:**

- a) A low-pressure system that brings cool and wet weather
- b) A high-pressure system that traps hot air over a region
- c) A type of cloud formation that causes heavy rainfall
- d) A weather pattern associated with cold fronts

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

- 1. The North Indian Ocean doesn't generate as many cyclones as the Pacific Ocean.
- 2. The Indian Ocean is among the fastest warming oceans.
- 3. The Indian Ocean's northern boundary is connected to the Pacific and Southern Oceans.
- 4. The warming Indian Ocean affects wind circulation, influencing the Pacific Ocean's heat uptake and modulating global warming rates.

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

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

**Q.9) Craters are primarily formed by:**

- a) Volcanic eruptions
- b) Impact of meteorites or asteroids
- c) Erosion by wind and water
- d) Tectonic plate movements

**Q.10) Which one of the following countries borders the Darfur region to the west?**

- a) Central African Republic
- b) Libya
- c) Chad
- d) Ethiopia

**Q.11) With reference to the Adyar river, consider the following statements:**

- 1. It is a west flowing river.
- 2. It originates from the Malaipattu tank near Manimangalam village in Tamil Nadu.
- 3. The river forms estuary at its mouth.

**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. Kollam Port is located on the eastern coast of India.
- 2. Kollam port has been designated as an authorised Immigration Check Post (ICP) for entry and exit from India with valid travel documents for all classes of passengers.

**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.13) Consider the following statements:**

1. The moisture conditions of the pre-monsoon season play a critical role in determining the nature of forest fires.
2. The high moisture there is, the greater the impact of the forest fires.
3. Forest fires are a major source of black carbon which significantly contribute to glacier melt in the Himalayas.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.14) Consider the following statements:**

1. Snow persistence refers to the fraction of time snow remains on the ground.
2. Western disturbances are high-pressure systems originating from the Mediterranean, Caspian, and Black Seas, bringing heat to the Hindu Kush Himalayas region in summer.

**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.15) Consider the following statements:**

1. The primary factor that distinguishes Kharif crops from Rabi crops is the duration of crop cycle.
2. Kharif crops usually require 100-110 cm of rainfall.
3. Wheat is a type of kharif crop.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.16) Consider the following statements:**

1. Chenab River originates and ends within the same country.
2. The Chenab Bridge connects Dugga and Bakkal stations.

**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) Armenia is bordered by which of the following countries?**

- a) Turkey, Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Iran
- b) Russia, Turkey, Azerbaijan, and Iran
- c) Turkey, Georgia, Russia, and Iran
- d) Turkey, Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Iraq

**Q.18) Agadem oil field is located in:**

- a) South Africa
- b) Venezuela
- c) Niger
- d) Chad



**Q.19) With reference to the country Togo, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a country in the East Africa.
2. India and Togo have cordial bilateral relations.
3. It is a landlocked country.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

### Answer Key

1 - (d)	2 - (a)	3 - (a)	4 - (a)	5 - (c)	6 - (b)	7 - (b)	8 - (d)	9 - (b)	10 - (c)
11 - (b)	12 - (b)	13 - (b)	14 - (a)	15 - (a)	16 - (b)	17 - (a)	18 - (c)	19 - (a)	

### Answers & Explanations

**1. Correct Answer is (D)**

- Samoa is an island nation situated in the central South Pacific Ocean. It is part of the region known as Polynesia and is located approximately halfway between Hawaii and New Zealand. The Pacific Ocean is the largest and deepest of the world's oceanic divisions, and Samoa is one of the many island nations within this vast ocean.

Source: [AIR](#)

**2. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. Odisha is the largest producer of iron ore in India, accounting for over half of the country's production. Iron ore is extracted from rocks and minerals rich in iron oxides, primarily hematite and magnetite.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Bauxite is used to extract aluminium, not limestone. Limestone is a sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate. Rajasthan is the largest producer of limestone in India.

Source: [AIR](#)

**3. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement-I is correct. Volcanic eruptions can cool the Earth's surface temporarily by releasing aerosols, such as sulfur dioxide, which form sulfate aerosols that reflect sunlight back into space, increasing the Earth's albedo and reducing the amount of solar radiation reaching the surface.
- Statement-II: Sulfur dioxide is one of the primary gases released during volcanic eruptions, along with water vapor and carbon dioxide. When SO<sub>2</sub> is released into the atmosphere, it can form sulfate aerosols, which contribute to the cooling effect described in Statement I.
- Hence, both statements are correct, and Statement II provides the correct explanation for Statement I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**4. Correct Answer is (A)**

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- Statement 1 is correct. The stratosphere is a dry layer of the atmosphere with very low water vapor content. Because of this dryness, clouds and rain are generally absent in the stratosphere. The stratosphere is characterized by its stable temperature layers and lack of vertical mixing, which further prevents cloud formation.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Water vapor in the atmosphere does not help in building the ozone layer. Instead, the ozone layer is formed through the photolysis of molecular oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) by ultraviolet (UV) light, which produces ozone (O<sub>3</sub>). Instead, water vapor in the stratosphere can contribute to ozone depletion through the formation of hydroxyl radicals (OH) that participate in catalytic cycles destroying ozone.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 5. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Carnian Pluvial Episode (CPE) occurred approximately 234 to 232 million years ago during the Late Triassic period. It was marked by significant climatic changes, including increased global temperatures, humidity, and rainfall. This period of intense global rainfall was triggered by volcanic eruptions, particularly from the Wrangellia Large Igneous Province. These eruptions released large amounts of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, leading to global warming and an intensified hydrologic cycle, which resulted in increased rainfall and runoff.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 6. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. During the summer solstice in the northern hemisphere, which occurs around June 21, the Sun is directly overhead at the Tropic of Cancer (23.5° N latitude), not at the equator.
- Statement 2 is correct. During the summer solstice, the Arctic Circle experiences 24 hours of daylight, a phenomenon known as the "midnight sun".

Source: [AIR](#)

### 7. Correct Answer is (B)

- A heat dome occurs when a high-pressure system traps a mass of hot air, causing prolonged periods of high temperatures and often leading to extreme heat waves.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 8. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The North Indian Ocean is the least active tropical cyclone basin, generating fewer cyclones compared to the Pacific Ocean, which is the most active basin. The Indian Ocean, particularly the western tropical Indian Ocean, has been warming at a rate faster than any other region of the tropical oceans. The enhanced warming of the tropical Indian Ocean influences wind circulation patterns, which in turn affect the heat uptake in the Pacific Ocean and modulate global warming rates.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The northern boundary of the Indian Ocean is closed off by the Asian landmass, with only tiny connections to the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea. The southern Indian Ocean is connected to the Pacific and Southern Oceans through oceanic tunnels.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Craters are formed by the high-velocity impact of smaller objects like meteorites, asteroids or comets striking the surface of a larger solid body like a planet or moon.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 10. Correct Answer is (C)

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- Darfur is a region in the westernmost part of Sudan. It roughly corresponds to the five present-day states of Sudan - West Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, East Darfur, and Central Darfur. It is bordered by Chad to the west, the Central African Republic to the southwest, and Libya to the northwest. The region consists mainly of a semi-arid plain, with the Marrah Mountains, a range of volcanic peaks.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Adyar river flows from west to east. It is one of the three rivers which winds through Chennai (Madras), Tamil Nadu, and joins the Bay of Bengal at the Adyar estuary.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Adyar river starts from Malaipattu tank near Manimangalam village in Sriperumbudur taluk at about 15 kilometres (9 mi) west of Tambaram in South Chennai. It flows through Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur and Chennai districts for about 42.5 kilometres before joining the Bay of Bengal in Adyar, Chennai. Here it forms an estuary, which extends from Adyar Bridge to the sandbar at the edge of the sea, with some small islets in between.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Kollam Port is located on the south-west coast of India in Kerala. It is the second largest port in Kerala by volume of cargo handled and facilities and one of the four Kerala ports having immigration checkpoint (ICP) facility.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Ministry of Home Affairs authorized Kollam port in Kerala as an Immigration Check Post (ICP), allowing entry and exit from India for all classes of passengers holding valid travel documents.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The moisture conditions during the pre-monsoon season play a critical role in determining the nature and intensity of forest fires. Drier conditions during this period increase the likelihood of more severe fires. Forest fires are a major source of black carbon emissions in the Himalayan region. The black carbon particles absorb sunlight and contribute significantly to the accelerated melting of Himalayan glaciers.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The lower the moisture content, the greater the impact of forest fires. Dry conditions facilitate the spread and intensity of fires, while higher moisture levels tend to dampen fire behavior.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Snow persistence indeed refers to the fraction of time snow remains on the ground. Snowmelt contributes 23% of the total water flow in the 12 major river basins originating from the HKH mountains.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Western disturbances are low-pressure systems originating from the Mediterranean, Caspian, and Black Seas, and they bring rain and snow to the Hindu Kush Himalayas region in winter.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The primary distinguishing factor between Kharif and Rabi crops is the season in which they are grown, not the duration of their crop cycle. Kharif crops are grown during the monsoon season (June to October), while Rabi crops are grown in the winter season

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(October to March). Wheat is a Rabi crop. Wheat is typically sown in the winter months and harvested in the spring.

- Statement 2 is correct. Kharif crops typically require a good amount of rainfall, ranging from 100-110 cm to support their growth during the monsoon season.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Chenab River originates in India but flows into Pakistan before joining the Indus River. Specifically, it flows through the Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir, India, into the plains of Punjab, Pakistan, before ultimately flowing into the Indus River.
- Statement 2 is correct. Key stations along the Chanb Bridge route are – Reasi, Bakkal, Dugga, and Sawlakote—located in Reasi district, Jammu & Kashmir.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 17. Correct Answer is (A)

- Armenia is bordered by Turkey to the west, Georgia to the north, Azerbaijan to the east, Iran to the south. Armenia has recently announced that it has recognised the State of Palestine. It is the latest country to do so during the war in Gaza, saying it was against “violence towards civilian populations.”

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 18. Correct Answer is (C)

- Agadem oil field is located in Niger. China and Niger have signed a deal for exporting the oil from this field. It is a 1,930-km pipeline intended to export oil from Niger's Agadem field to Benin's port of Cotonou.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Togo officially the Togolese Republic is a country in West Africa. It is bordered by Ghana to the west, Benin to the east and Burkina Faso to the north. It is one of the least developed countries and extends south to the Gulf of Guinea, where its capital, Lomé, is located. It has a coastline along the Gulf of Guinea.
- Statement 2 is correct. India and Togo have established cordial bilateral relations, with various high-level visits and cooperation in multiple sectors.

Source: [AIR](#)

## Polity

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

1. The primary demand of the Telangana movement that led to the formation of the state was lesser political representation for Telangana within Andhra Pradesh.
2. Gentlemen's Agreement was signed to safeguard the interests of Telangana during its merger with Andhra Pradesh in 1956.
3. Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 led to the formation of Telangana.

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.2) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Constitution of India states that no person shall be deprived of their property except by the authority of law.
2. The right to property is a Constitutional right as well as human right.
3. The fundamental right to property was removed by the 42nd Amendment Act of 1976.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

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

Rights-----Provided by

1. Right to Work-----Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)
2. Right to Education-----Article 22 of the Indian Constitution
3. Right to Food-----National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013
4. Right to Health-----Article 47 of the Indian Constitution

**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.4) Which one of the following features best illustrates the federal structure of the Indian Constitution?**

- a) Supremacy of the Parliament
- b) A written constitution with a division of powers
- c) Single citizenship
- d) Emergency powers of the Union

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

1. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) is a quasi-judicial body.
2. Under the Companies Act 2013, the NCLT has power to freeze the assets of a company.

**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.6) Consider the following statements:**

1. The President of India has absolute discretion to dissolve the Lok Sabha in certain situations.
2. The power to dissolve the Lok Sabha reflects the principle of Parliamentary sovereignty of the Indian government.
3. When the Lok Sabha is dissolved before its term ends, it results in postponement of all ongoing legislative processes.
4. When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, its members immediately lose their representative character.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

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

1. Cabinet Minister is the highest-ranking position in the Union Council of Ministers.
2. As per the Constitution of India, the maximum number of ministers allowed in the Union Council of Ministers is 10% of the total members of the Lok Sabha.
3. Minister of State (Independent Charge) is one of the categories of ministers in the Union Council of Ministers.
4. The concept of "collective responsibility" in the context of the Council of Ministers implies that all ministers must agree on every decision.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

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

1. Property disputes exceeding a specific value limit.
2. Corruption and economic offences cases.
3. Matrimonial disputes and cases related to domestic violence.
4. Cases involving heinous crimes with severe punishments.

**How many of the above types of cases are usually heard in Fast Track Special Courts (FTSC)?**

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

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

1. In the First Past the Post (FPTP) electoral system, candidates must secure more than 50% of the votes to win.
2. FPTP can result in a mismatch between the percentage of votes a party receives and the number of seats it wins.
3. Proportional Representation (PR) is an electoral system designed to ensure that parties gain seats in proportion to the number of votes they receive.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the Quality Council of India (QCI):**

1. The Quality Council of India is the apex organization in India responsible for establishing and operating the third-party national accreditation system.
2. The Prime Minister of India appoints the Chairperson of the Quality Council of India (QCI).
3. It is responsible for conducting inspections of companies or organizations that are not adhering to the prescribed quality standards.

**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.11) Consider the following statements:**

1. The concept of Special Category Status (SCS) was first brought into existence through the recommendations made by the Fifth Finance Commission.
2. A primary objective of granting SCS to a state is to grant it greater autonomy in managing its resources.

**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.12) Consider the following statements:**

1. Informing an accused of the grounds of arrest in writing is a fundamental right under Article 22 of the Constitution.
2. Investigating officers (IOs) are not required to present the accused in custody at the time of filing the charge sheet if the accused has been cooperating and the investigation can be completed without arrest.
3. Currently, there is no legal requirement to provide a copy of the arrest memo to the accused at the time of arrest.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.13) Consider the following statements with reference to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha:**

1. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker are elected by a simple majority of the House members.
2. There are no specific qualifications required to become the Speaker.
3. The Speaker often represents the Lok Sabha and speaks on its behalf in public or at international events.

**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.14) Consider the following statements:**

1. Three sessions of Lok Sabha are conventionally held in a year.
2. The maximum gap permissible between two sessions of Parliament is 3 months.
3. Impeachment of the President of India can be taken up during the Lok Sabha sessions.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.15) Consider the following statements:**

1. Article 24 of the Indian Constitution prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in any factory, mine or other hazardous employment.
2. As per the Child Labour Act 2016, employment of children is prohibited in both hazardous and non-hazardous occupations.
3. As per the 2011 Census, Bihar has the highest incidence of child labour in India.
4. PENCIL (Platform for Effective Enforcement of No Child Labour) portal monitor and track child labour cases.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.16) Consider the following statements regarding the Lok Sabha Speaker:**

1. The Prime Minister proposes the name of the candidate for Speaker after consultations with opposition parties.
2. In order to be elected as the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the person must not hold any office of profit under the government.
3. The outgoing Speaker presides over the first sitting of a newly constituted Lok Sabha when the Speaker is elected.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.17) Which one of the following is the objective of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) Sankalan of Criminal Laws app?**

- a) Provide a comprehensive database of criminal laws in India
- b) Facilitate online filing of FIRs
- c) Track the status of ongoing criminal cases
- d) Serve as a legal research tool for lawyers

**Q.18) Which of the following are members of the Upper Yamuna River Board?**

- a) Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi
- b) Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan
- c) Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Gujarat
- d) Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Delhi

**Q.19) Consider the following statements:**

1. Opposition is the essence of any democratic governance.
2. Inclusivity means the absence of differences in a society.

**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.20) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Central Information Commission (CIC) is a constitutional body.
2. A citizen can approach the CIC if they are denied access to information requested under the Right to Information Act, 2005.

**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.21) Consider the following statements regarding the Inter-State Council:**

1. Inter-State Council is a permanent constitutional body.
2. It is responsible for adjudicating and resolving inter-state water disputes.
3. The Inter-State Council is required to meet at least three times a year.
4. The Inter-State Council is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.22) Consider the following statements:**

1. In a parliamentary democracy, the Prime Minister is only the head of the Council of Ministers.
2. Article 74 of the Indian Constitution mandates a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President.
3. In the parliamentary system, a non-Parliamentary Executive is independent of Parliament and is less responsible to the legislature.

**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.23) With reference to the National Commission for Women (NCW), consider the following statements:**

1. The objective of the Commission is to advise the government on policy matters affecting women's rights.
2. If a woman faces gender discrimination in her workplace, the NCW can offer legal representation for a court case against the employer.

**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) Consider the following statements:**

1. Delimitation aims to balance Lok Sabha seat shares according to state population sizes.
2. An updated census is crucial for proper implementation of welfare schemes like the National Food Security Act.

**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

## 10 PM MCQs Compilation June 2024

### Q.25) Consider the following statements:

1. The Parliament Security Service (PSS) is the in-house security organization responsible for providing proactive, preventive, and protective security to the Parliament House Complex in India.
2. The Rajya Sabha Chairman is the overall security in-charge at the Parliament complex.

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.26) With reference to the pro tem Speaker, consider the following statements:

1. The primary constitutional function of a pro tem Speaker is to administer oath to newly elected members of the legislature.
2. The pro tem Speaker usually selected based on educational qualifications.
3. The Prime Minister of India appoints the pro tem Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
4. When a permanent Speaker is elected, the office of pro tem Speaker is automatically dissolved.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

### Q.27) Consider the following statements:

1. Indra Sawhney v. Union of India was the landmark case that established the 50% ceiling on reservations in India.
2. The 50% reservation cap in India is meant to ensure complete equality of opportunity for all social groups.
3. The 50% reservation cap in India applies uniformly to all government jobs and educational institutions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

### Q.28) With reference to the Autonomous District Councils (ADCs), how many of the following statements are correct?

1. Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh have Autonomous District Councils as per the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.
2. ADCs are a form of federalism.
3. ADCs have powers to impose taxes and collecting land revenue.
4. Only assent of the Governor is required for the laws made by the ADCs to come into effect.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

## 10 PM MCQs Compilation June 2024

### Q.29) Consider the following statements:

1. The National Testing Agency (NTA) is an autonomous agency under the Department of Higher Education of the Ministry of Education of India.
2. NTA is responsible for conducting Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) exam.

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.30) Consider the following statements with respect to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha:

1. The office of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha is never left vacant.
2. The term 'pro tem speaker' is mentioned in the Constitution of India.
3. The Speaker certifies a Bill to be a Money Bill.
4. The election of the Speaker is held on a date fixed by the Prime Minister of India.
5. The Tenth Schedule allows Speaker to resign from their political party on being elected to their office.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

### Q.31) Consider the following statements:

1. The Vice-President of India nominates the Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha.
2. The Prime Minister, if member of the Lok Sabha, is always the Leader in Lok Sabha, but not necessarily in Rajya Sabha.

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.32) Consider the following statements:

1. Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) is India's water tower and also the critical provider of invaluable ecosystem goods and services.
2. The Supreme Court of India has recognized sustainable development as the fundamental right.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

### Q.33) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. Spiritual benefits of a devotee form the part of the right to privacy.
2. Article 24 of the Indian Constitution guarantees the freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice, and propagate religion.

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.34) eSakshya (e-evidence) mobile application aims to:**

- a) File police complaints online
- b) Record and upload crime scene evidence
- c) Track court case proceedings
- d) Register new police officers

**Q.35) Consider the following pairs:**

**Articles of the Constitution-----Provisions**

- 1. Article 355-----Power of the states to entrust functions to the Union
- 2. Article 352-----Proclamation of Emergency
- 3. Article 365----- Obligation of states and the Union
- 4. Article 356-----President's Rule

**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.36) Consider the following statements:**

- 1. The President of India has the authority to call for a joint sitting of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
- 2. One-third of the total number of members of both the Houses is the quorum required to constitute a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament.
- 3. Constitution Amendment Bill cannot be referred to a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament.
- 4. The President of India presides over a joint sitting of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.37) Consider the following statements:**

- 1. In order to claim the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) position in the Lok Sabha, a party needs to be the largest opposition party and have at least 10% of House members.
- 2. In India, there is a practice of forming a shadow cabinet.
- 3. The role of the LoP includes providing checks and balances on the ruling government, ensuring debate, and representing alternative viewpoints.
- 4. The functions of the LoP are defined in the Lok Sabha Rules of Procedure.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Q.38) Consider the following statements:**

- 1. Geological conservation aims to preserve India's most significant geological features.
- 2. Geological Survey of India (GSI) lacks regulatory power to enforce preservation.
- 3. India lacks a policy for geo-heritage conservation.

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

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

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### Q.39) Consider the following statements:

1. An adjournment motion can be moved only in the Lok Sabha.
2. 50 members' support is required for an adjournment motion to be admitted in Lok Sabha.
3. An adjournment motion involves an element of appreciation of the government.
4. An adjournment motion can be moved in the Lok Sabha only after Question Hour.

### How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

### Q.40) Consider the following statements:

1. Consent in medical treatment in India from the patient fall under the Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.
2. Under the doctrine of 'informed consent,' the doctor must provide patients with comprehensive information about a proposed medical treatment or procedure.

### 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

## Answer Key

1 - (b)	2 - (b)	3 - (b)	4 - (b)	5 - (c)	6 - (b)	7 - (a)	8 - (b)	9 - (b)	10 - (b)
11 - (a)	12 - (c)	13 - (d)	14 - (b)	15 - (c)	16 - (a)	17 - (a)	18 - (a)	19 - (a)	20 - (b)
21 - (b)	22 - (a)	23 - (a)	24 - (c)	25 - (a)	26 - (b)	27 - (a)	28 - (b)	29 - (a)	30 - (a)
31 - (b)	32 - (c)	33 - (a)	34 - (b)	35 - (b)	36 - (b)	37 - (b)	38 - (d)	39 - (b)	40 - (c)

## Answers & Explanations

### 1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary demand of the Telangana movement was not lesser political representation but addressing economic disparities, perceived neglect, and injustices in the distribution of water, budget allocations, and jobs.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Gentlemen's Agreement was signed in 1956 to safeguard the interests of Telangana during its merger with Andhra Pradesh. The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, led to the formation of Telangana by bifurcating Andhra Pradesh.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Article 300A of the Indian Constitution states that no person shall be deprived of their property except by the authority of law. The right to property is considered a

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constitutional right under Article 300A and has also been recognized as a human right by the Supreme Court of India.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. The fundamental right to property was removed by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 3. Correct Answer is (B)

- 1 and 3 are correctly matched.
- **Right to Work:** The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) provides the right to work by guaranteeing at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to rural households whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.
- **Right to Education:** The Right to Education is provided under Article 21A of the Indian Constitution. Article 21A states that the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine.
- **Right to Food:** The National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013, provides a legal right to subsidized food grains to approximately two-thirds of India's population.
- **Right to Health:** Article 47 is a Directive Principle that directs the State to raise nutrition, standard of living and public health standards. However, it does not provide for the right to health. DPSPs are directives not rights.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 4. Correct Answer is (B)

- A written constitution that clearly delineates the division of powers between the central and state governments is a hallmark of a federal structure. It ensures that both levels of government operate within their respective domains.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 5. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) is a quasi-judicial body. It was established under the Companies Act, 2013, to adjudicate issues related to company law and insolvency. Under the Companies Act 2013, the NCLT has the power to freeze the assets of a company. This power is part of its broader mandate to address issues of oppression and mismanagement, and to ensure that the interests of stakeholders are protected.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 6. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The President of India does not have absolute discretion to dissolve the Lok Sabha. The President generally acts on the advice of the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers as per Article 74 of the Indian Constitution. The power to dissolve the Lok Sabha is part of the constitutional framework and reflects the executive's role in the parliamentary system, not parliamentary sovereignty. Parliamentary sovereignty pertains to the supremacy of Parliament in legislative matters, whereas the dissolution power involves the executive branch (the President) acting on the advice of the Prime Minister. The power to dissolve the Lok Sabha reflects principle of the responsible government of the Indian government.
- Statements 3 and 4 are correct. Dissolution of the Lok Sabha terminates all pending business, including bills, motions, resolutions, and notices. These legislative processes lapse and must be reintroduced in the next session if they are to be considered again. When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, its members immediately cease to be representatives, losing their legislative powers. Although they may continue to perform certain administrative functions until the new Lok Sabha is constituted, they no longer have legislative authority.

Source: [AIR](#)

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### 7. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are incorrect. The highest-ranking position in the Union Council of Ministers is the Prime Minister, followed by the Deputy Prime Minister (if any), and then the Cabinet Ministers. According to the Constitution of India, the total number of ministers in the Council of Ministers must not exceed 15% of the total number of members of the Lok Sabha. The concept of "collective responsibility" means that all ministers share joint responsibility for decisions and must support them publicly, even if they personally disagree. If a minister cannot support a decision, they are expected to resign.
- Statement 3 is correct. The Union Council of Ministers includes categories such as Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State (Independent Charge), and Ministers of State.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Heinous Crimes with Severe Punishments: FTSCs primarily handle cases involving heinous crimes, such as rape and sexual assault, especially those under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.
- Corruption and Economic Offences Cases: FTSCs also deal with cases involving corruption and economic offenses, particularly those investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
- Property disputes exceeding a specific value limit: These are generally not handled by FTSCs, which focus on criminal cases.
- Matrimonial disputes and cases related to domestic violence: FTSCs typically don't handle civil matters like matrimonial disputes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. In the FPTP system, the candidate with the most votes wins, even if they do not secure more than 50% of the votes.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. FPTP often results in a discrepancy between the percentage of votes received and the number of seats won, as it tends to over-represent larger parties and under-represent smaller ones. PR systems aim to allocate seats in the legislature proportionally to the votes received by political parties.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 10. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The QCI is the apex organization responsible for setting up and overseeing India's third-party national accreditation system. This system ensures the credibility and competence of certification bodies that evaluate adherence to quality standards across various sectors. The Chairperson of QCI is appointed by the Prime Minister of India.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. While QCI promotes quality standards, it doesn't directly conduct inspections. Its primary function is to accredit certification bodies that have the expertise to assess companies or organizations against specific quality standards. These accredited certification bodies then perform the inspections and issue relevant quality certifications.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 11. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The concept of SCS was introduced based on the recommendations of the Fifth Finance Commission in 1969. It was done to benefit a few States through special grants from the Centre. The focus was on States that had socio-economic issues and geographical disadvantages, such as hilly States.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The primary objective of granting SCS is to assist the development of states that face geographical and socio-economic disadvantages, not to grant greater autonomy in managing resources.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**12. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The Supreme Court has held that the right to be informed about the grounds of arrest flows from Article 22(1) of the Constitution, and any infringement of this fundamental right would vitiate the process of arrest and remand. The Supreme Court has clarified that there is no need for an accused to be arrested in every case while submitting a charge sheet. If the accused has not been arrested during the investigation and has cooperated, the accused can seek remedies like anticipatory bail, exemption from personal appearance, or regular bail. Currently, there is no explicit legal requirement to provide a copy of the arrest memo to the accused at the time of arrest. Although the arrest memo includes important details and is signed by both the IO and the accused, the law does not mandate that a copy be provided to the accused.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**13. Correct Answer is (D)**

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker are elected by a simple majority of the members present and voting in the Lok Sabha. The Constitution of India does not prescribe any specific qualifications for being elected as the Speaker. The Speaker often represents the Lok Sabha and speaks on its behalf in public or at international events.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

**14. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Traditionally, the Indian Parliament holds three sessions each year: The Budget Session (February to May), The Monsoon Session (July to September), The Winter Session (November to December). The process of impeachment of the President can be initiated in either House of Parliament, including the Lok Sabha. The resolution to impeach the President must be passed by a two-thirds majority of the total membership of the House initiating the process. If the resolution is passed, it is then sent to the other House, which investigates the charges. If the second House also passes the resolution by a two-thirds majority of the total membership, the President stands impeached.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. According to Article 85 of the Indian Constitution, there should not be a gap of more than six months between two sessions of Parliament.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**15. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. Article 24 of the Indian Constitution prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in any factory, mine or other hazardous employment. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 prohibits employment of children below 14 years in all occupations and processes, both hazardous and non-hazardous. However, it allows children to help in family enterprises and work as artists, provided it does not affect their education. The PENCIL portal launched by the government monitors and tracks child labour cases for effective enforcement of laws against child labour.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. According to the 2011 Census data, Uttar Pradesh had the highest number of child workers among states followed by Bihar.

Source: [AIR](#)

**16. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The Speaker is elected by the Lok Sabha members from among themselves. The Prime Minister does not propose the name of the candidate for Speaker. The senior-most member of the Lok Sabha, known as the Pro-tem Speaker, presides over the first sitting of a newly elected Lok Sabha and conducts the election of the Speaker.



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- Statement 2 is correct. The Speaker should not hold any office of profit under the government to avoid any conflict of interest.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 17. Correct Answer is (A)

- NCRB has launched a Mobile App “NCRB Sankalan of Criminal Laws” to serve as a comprehensive guide providing complete information about the new criminal laws at one place. This App is a compilation of new criminal laws namely Bharatiya Nayaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam. It provides an Index linking all Chapters and Sections of the new laws.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 18. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB) consists of one nominee each from the states of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, and the National Capital Territory of Delhi, along with representatives from other central agencies. The board is responsible for regulation and supply of water from all storages and barrages up to and including the Okhla Barrage, Maintenance of minimum flow in the Yamuna from ecological considerations, Framing rules and regulations for water accounting and keeping concurrent records of flows and withdrawals, etc.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Opposition is the largest non-government party or coalition of parties who are elected representatives of peoples, who are not members of the ruling party. Opposition is the essence of any democratic governance.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. An inclusive society recognizes and celebrates the diversity of its members, promoting equal opportunities and eliminating barriers to full participation. It goes beyond mere coexistence, aiming for the genuine integration of all individuals, regardless of their origin, gender, sexual orientation, abilities, or any other unique traits." Inclusivity does not mean the absence of differences but the harmonious coexistence of these differences.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 20. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Central Information Commission (CIC) is a statutory body established under the Right to Information Act, 2005. It does not have any constitutional status.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Right to Information Act, 2005 allows citizens to file an appeal with the Central Information Commission if their request for information is denied by a public authority. The CIC can then direct the public authority to provide the requested information.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Inter-State Council is not a permanent constitutional body, but rather a recommendatory body established through a Presidential Order based on Article 263 of the Constitution. The Inter-State Council is not responsible for adjudicating or resolving inter-state water disputes. This function is generally carried out by tribunals constituted under the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956.
- Statements 3 and 4 are correct. The Inter-State Council is supposed to meet at least three times a year, although in practice it has met far less frequently. The Prime Minister of India is the Chairman of the Inter-State Council.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**22. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. In a parliamentary democracy, the Prime Minister is the head of the Council of Ministers. The Council of Ministers is a group of ministers who are responsible for running the government departments. The Prime Minister leads this council and is the most powerful figure in the government. Article 74 of the Indian Constitution mandates a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President. The President is the nominal head of state, while the Prime Minister is the real head of government.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. In a parliamentary system, the executive (including the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers) is derived from the legislature and is responsible to it. A non-Parliamentary Executive, which is more characteristic of a presidential system, is independent of the legislature and less responsible to it.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**23. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. The NCW's primary objective is to safeguard and promote the rights and welfare of women in India, and to advise the government on policies and laws related to women's issues.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While the NCW can take up cases of violation of women's rights, including gender discrimination at the workplace, it does not directly provide legal representation or fight court cases on behalf of complainants. Instead, its role is to investigate complaints, facilitate redressal of grievances, monitor proper implementation of laws, and recommend measures to the government.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**24. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Delimitation refers to periodic attempts to ensure that the shares of different States in Lok Sabha seats are similar to their respective population shares, and also that all constituencies have the same population size as far as possible, as required under Article 81 of the Constitution. An updated census provides vital data on population distribution, which is crucial for the effective implementation of various social welfare schemes. For instance, the National Food Security Act allocates food grains to states based on their population. An outdated census could lead to inaccurate allocation of resources and disadvantages for some states.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**25. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. The Parliament Security Service (PSS) is the in-house security force responsible for securing the Parliament House Complex in India. They provide proactive, preventive and protective security measures to Members of Parliament (MPs), visitors, and employees within the complex.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Lok Sabha Speaker is the overall in-charge of security at the Parliament complex that houses several buildings.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**26. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. The primary constitutional function of a pro tem Speaker is to administer the oath of office to newly elected members of the legislature. Once a permanent Speaker is elected by the House, the office of pro tem Speaker automatically ceases to exist.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The pro tem Speaker is usually selected based on seniority as a legislator, not educational qualifications. By convention, the senior-most member in terms of legislative experience is typically appointed as the pro tem Speaker. The President of India appoints the pro tem Speaker of the Lok Sabha. This is done on the advice of the government.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**27. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. The Indra Sawhney v. Union of India case in 1992 (also known as the Mandal Commission case) was the landmark case that established the 50% ceiling on reservations in India.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The 50% reservation cap was not meant to ensure complete equality of opportunity for all social groups. Rather, it was established to strike a balance between affirmative action and the principle of equality. The Supreme Court held that reservations should be "exercised in a fair manner and within reasonable limits" to avoid destroying "the very concept of equality". While the 50% cap was initially meant to apply broadly, there have been several exceptions and challenges to this rule over the years. For example: Tamil Nadu has maintained 69% reservation since 1993, despite the cap. The 103rd Constitutional Amendment in 2019 introduced a 10% quota for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), which was implemented over and above the existing 50% reservation.

Source: [AIR](#)

**28. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution provides for the administration of tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram. Autonomous District Councils (ADCs) are a form of decentralization, not federalism. This is because they provide a degree of autonomy to tribal areas within states, allowing them to self-govern and make laws on certain subjects. In contrast, federalism involves a division of power between a central government and regional governments, which is not the case with ADCs.
- Statements 3 and 4 are correct. ADCs are empowered to assess and collect land revenue and impose certain specified taxes within their jurisdictions. The laws made by the ADCs require the assent of the Governor to come into effect.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**29. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. The National Testing Agency (NTA) is an autonomous agency under the Department of Higher Education of the Ministry of Education of India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While the NTA conducts many entrance exams, GATE is not one of them. GATE is jointly conducted by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and seven Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) on behalf of the National Coordination Board (NCB)-GATE, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**30. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are incorrect. The office of the Speaker can be vacant due to absence, resignation, or removal. In such cases, the Deputy Speaker or a member appointed by the President performs the duties of the Speaker. However, the office of the Speaker is never left vacant between the dissolution of one Lok Sabha and the first meeting of the next. Hence, Om Birla who was the Speaker of the 17th Lok Sabha continues in that post till June 24 when the first meeting of the 18th Lok Sabha is scheduled. The Constitution does not explicitly mention the term "pro tem speaker"; it is a convention used to appoint a temporary Speaker. The President of India sets the date for the election of the Speaker.
- Statements 3 and 5 are correct. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha has the authority to certify whether a bill is a Money Bill, and this decision is final. The Tenth Schedule provides an exemption for the Speaker to resign from their political party upon being elected to maintain impartiality, although it has never been done in practice.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**31. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Prime Minister nominates a minister who is a member of the Rajya Sabha to function as the Leader of the House.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Prime Minister is usually the Leader of the House in Lok Sabha if they are a member of the Lok Sabha. However, in the Rajya Sabha, the Leader of the House is a minister who is a member of the Rajya Sabha and is nominated by the Prime Minister.

Source: [AIR](#)

**32. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) is often referred to as India's water tower due to its significant role in providing water resources. It also offers invaluable ecosystem goods and services, including rich biodiversity and forest cover. The Supreme Court of India has recognized the right to a healthy environment, which includes sustainable development, as part of the fundamental right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**33. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court ruled that if the right to privacy includes sexual and gender orientation, it also includes spiritual orientation. This means that spiritual practices and benefits are considered part of an individual's right to privacy.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Article 24 of the Indian Constitution deals with the prohibition of employment of children in factories, mines, and other hazardous employment. The freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice, and propagate religion are guaranteed under Article 25 of the Indian Constitution.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**34. Correct Answer is (B)**

- The eSakshya (e-evidence) mobile application is designed to help police record and upload crime scene evidence digitally. It allows police to record scenes of crime, search and seizure in criminal cases, and upload the files to a cloud-based platform. It aims to fulfill the requirements of the new Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), which mandates compulsory audio-video recording of search and seizure in each criminal case. The application was developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**35. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Article 355 states that it is the duty of the Union to protect every State against external aggression and internal disturbance and to ensure that the government of every State is carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.
- Article 352 - Proclamation of Emergency
- Article 365 states that if a State fails to comply with or to give effect to any directions given by the Union, it will be lawful for the President to hold that a situation has arisen in which the government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.
- Article 356 - President's Rule

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**36. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. According to Article 108 of the Indian Constitution, the President can summon a joint sitting of both Houses to resolve deadlocks over bills. Constitutional Amendment Bills are excluded from the provision of joint sittings.

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- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. The quorum for a joint sitting is one-tenth of the total number of members of both Houses. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha presides over joint sittings.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 37. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. According to the regulations, to be recognized as the Leader of the Opposition, the leader of the largest opposition party must have at least 10% of the total strength of the Lok Sabha. The Leader of the Opposition plays a crucial role in ensuring that the government remains accountable, facilitating debate, and presenting alternative policies and viewpoints.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. India does not have a formal practice of forming a shadow cabinet, unlike some parliamentary systems such as the United Kingdom. The functions of the LoP are not defined in the Lok Sabha rules of procedure. The position of LoP is a statutory post recognized by the Salaries and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977, but its specific functions are not outlined in the Lok Sabha rules.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 38. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Geological conservation seeks to ensure the survival of the best representative examples of India's geological features and events. While GSI is involved in identifying and declaring geo-heritage sites, it currently lacks strong regulatory power to enforce preservation. India currently lacks a specific policy or legislation for geo-heritage conservation. The draft Geo-heritage Sites and Geo-relics Bill, 2022 is an attempt to address this gap, but it has not yet been enacted into law.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 39. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The adjournment motion is a procedure exclusive to the Lok Sabha and is not permitted in the Rajya Sabha. For an adjournment motion to be admitted, it must have the support of at least 50 members of the Lok Sabha.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. An adjournment motion is intended to draw attention to a matter of urgent public importance and typically involves an element of censure against the government. Although typically discussed after Question Hour, there is no strict rule that it must be moved only after Question Hour.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 40. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Consent in medical treatment in India from the patient falls under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, which guarantees the right to life and personal liberty. This includes the right to make informed decisions about one's own medical treatment. Under the doctrine of 'informed consent,' the doctor must provide patients with comprehensive information about a proposed medical treatment or procedure. This includes details about the nature of the treatment, its benefits, risks, alternatives, and the consequences of refusing treatment, enabling the patient to make an informed decision.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

## Acts & Policies

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

**Initiatives/Programmes-----Features**

1. MISHTI Programme-----Focuses on individual and community behaviour change for environmental sustainability
2. Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) initiative-----Provides financial and technical assistance for mangrove conservation and restoration
3. Puneet Sagar Abhiyaan-----Involves cleaning and awareness campaigns for water bodies
4. GRIHA III compliance-----Provides a rating system for the environmental performance of buildings

**Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?**

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

**Q.2) Which one of the following is the primary objective of the "Apashisht Mukht Sainya Abhiyan" (AMSA)?**

- a) Promote the use of electric vehicles in the Indian Army
- b) Make the Indian Army landfill-free by March 2027
- c) Construct new green buildings for the Indian Army
- d) Implement hydrogen fuel cell technology in the Indian Army

**Q.3) Which one of the following is the primary purpose of the ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account)-based Scan and Share service?**

- a) Enable digital registration for patients at hospital OPDs
- b) Create a unified health record for patients
- c) Facilitate online consultations with doctors
- d) Provide access to health insurance schemes

**Q.4) With reference to the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, consider the following statements:**

1. The scheme provides insurance coverage and offer loans at subsidized rates to farmers.
2. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is responsible for the implementation of the scheme.
3. Institutional landholders are not eligible for benefits under the scheme.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

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

1. Subsidy on interest rate for home loan
2. Ownership rights in the name of female members of the family
3. Free electricity connection for the new house
4. Financial assistance for construction of toilets

**How many of the above are the benefits offered under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)?**

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

**Q.6) Consider the following:**

1. Sewage treatment infrastructure
2. River-front development
3. Biodiversity conservation
4. Construction of dams and barrages

**How many of the above are the pillars of the 'Namami Gange Programme'?**

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

**Q.7) With reference to the Interest Equalisation Scheme (IES), consider the following statements:**

1. It aims to promote foreign direct investment in export-oriented industries.
2. Under the scheme, imported inputs used must undergo substantial value addition in India.
3. The scheme is available only to exporters availing the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme.

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

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

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

1. The primary objective of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is to provide Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) to every rural household.
2. JJM prioritizes participation of women self-help groups (SHGs) in the planning and implementation.
3. Goa has become the first 'Har Ghar Jal' state by providing 100% household tap connections in rural areas under Jal Jeevan Mission.

**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.9) Consider the following:**

1. International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT)
2. Greenfield International Airport
3. Renewable Energy Power Plant
4. Oil Refinery

**How many of the above are part of the proposed 'Great Nicobar Project'?**

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

**Q.10) Consider the following statements:**

1. The '5G Intelligent Village' initiative aims to develop rural areas into self-sufficient smart cities.
2. The 'Quantum Encryption Algorithm' aims to represent a cutting-edge approach to securing digital communication channels by leveraging the principles of quantum mechanics in 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.11) With reference to India's Deep-Sea Ocean Mission, which of the following statements are correct?**

1. Matsya 6000 is the name of the manned submersible vehicle being developed under the Deep-Sea Ocean Mission.
2. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is the nodal agency implementing the Deep-Sea Ocean Mission.
3. The mission also aims to develop indigenous technologies for deep-sea exploration and resource utilization.

**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.12) With reference to the Post Office Act, 2023, which of the following statements are correct?**

1. The government may intercept an article transmitted through India Post on specified grounds.
2. The Director General of Postal Services will have powers to make regulations on various matters including tariffs for services and supply of postage stamps.
3. It provides for offences and penalties for lapses in postal services.

**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.13) With reference to the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024, consider the following statements:**

1. The Act aims to prevent unfair means in public examinations and ensure transparency, fairness, and credibility.
2. Possessing unauthorized study material during the exam is considered an unfair means under the Act.
3. Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) exams are covered under the Act.

**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.14) Consider the following:**

1. Mobile Manufacturing and Specified Electronic Components
2. Automobiles and Auto Components
3. Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
4. Drones and Drone Components

**How many of the above sectors are covered under the Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI)?**

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



**Q.15) With reference to the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) initiative, consider the following statements:**

1. It aims to foster innovation and technology development in Defence and Aerospace.
2. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is responsible for funding and managing iDEX.
3. The primary function of the iDEX Investor Hub (iIH) is to accelerate investments in the Defence sector.
4. The initiative mandates that all Indian military equipment be domestically produced.

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

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

**Q.16) Consider the following:**

1. Preserving tribal traditions and customs
2. Empowering Gram Sabhas in Scheduled Areas
3. Promoting industrialization in tribal regions
4. Protecting tribal rights over natural resources

**Which of the above are objectives of the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA), 1996?**

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

**Q.17) With reference to the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), consider the following statements:**

1. Community-driven and demand-driven approach is a feature of the Jal Jeevan Mission's implementation approach.
2. 25 litres per capita per day is the target service level for piped water supply under JJM.
3. Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) is a stakeholder in the implementation of JJM.

**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.18) With reference to the Agnipath Scheme, consider the following statements:**

1. It recruits soldiers, sailors and airmen into the three-armed services.
2. Government-sponsored higher education is provided to Agniveers upon completion of their 4-year service.
3. The scheme aims to bring down the average age of the armed forces.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.19) Consider the following pairs:**

**Health Missions-----Objectives**

1. Paediatric Rare Genetic Disorders (PRaGeD) mission-----Screening and genetic diagnosis of rare genetic disorders in children
2. Indian Tuberculosis Genomic Surveillance Consortium (InTGS) project-----Genomic surveillance of Mycobacterium tuberculosis strains
3. IndiGen project----- Create a comprehensive catalog of genetic variations in Indian populations
4. Genome India project----- Create a reference genome grid for the Indian population

**Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?**

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

**Q.20) Which of the following statements are correct regarding PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana?**

1. It provides subsidies for installing rooftop solar panels for residential houses and using solar energy for electricity.
2. Any Indian citizen with a valid electricity connection and a suitable rooftop is eligible to apply for the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.
3. The government subsidy will cover up to 40% of the cost of installation of the solar panels.
4. Another key benefit of the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana is subsidized housing loans.

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

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

**Q.21) Which one of the following is the objective of MSME TEAM Initiative?**

- a) Facilitate online registration and filing for MSMEs.
- b) Facilitating MSMEs for onboarding on to the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) by providing financial assistance.
- c) Connect MSMEs with potential investors and venture capitalists.
- d) Facilitate mergers and acquisitions between MSMEs.

**Q.22) With reference to the Telecommunications Act, 2023, which of the following statements are correct?**

1. It aims to establish a modern framework for governing the telecommunications sector.
2. It replaces the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, and the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933.
3. It introduces a centralized billing system to support innovation in the telecom sector.
4. Digital Bharat Nidhi is the new name for the Universal Service Obligation Fund under the Act.

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

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

## Answer Key

1 - (d)	2 - (b)	3 - (a)	4 - (b)	5 - (c)	6 - (c)	7 - (b)	8 - (d)	9 - (c)	10 - (b)	11 - (c)
12 - (a)	13 - (c)	14 - (c)	15 - (b)	16 - (d)	17 - (c)	18 - (b)	19 - (a)	20 - (b)	21 - (b)	22 - (c)

## Answers & Explanations

### 1. Correct Answer is (D)

- **MISHTI Programme:** This program focuses on the conservation and restoration of mangrove habitats along the shorelines of India, providing financial and technical assistance to local communities for mangrove plantation activities.
- **Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) initiative:** This initiative encourages a lifestyle that focuses on mindful and deliberate utilization of resources to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.
- **Puneet Sagar Abhiyaan:** This campaign involves cleaning sea shores and other water bodies of plastic and other waste materials, raising awareness about the importance of cleanliness.
- **GRIHA III compliance:** GRIHA (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) provides a rating system for the environmental performance of buildings, covering various aspects such as sustainable site planning, energy and water optimization, and waste management.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 2. Correct Answer is (B)

- The "Apashisht Mukh Sainya Abhiyan" (AMSA) is an initiative by the Indian Army aimed at achieving sustainable waste management practices within its establishments. The primary objective of AMSA is to make the Indian Army landfill-free by March 2027.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 3. Correct Answer is (A)

- ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account)-based Scan and Share service allows patients to conveniently register for Out-Patient Department (OPD) appointments by scanning a QR code displayed at the OPD registration counter, thereby instantaneously sharing their ABHA profile for registration. This innovation significantly reduces waiting times and enhances the efficiency of the registration process.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana provides financial support of Rs. 6,000 annually to eligible farmers, disbursed in three equal installments of Rs. 2,000 each.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is responsible for the implementation of the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana. Institutional landholders are excluded from receiving benefits under the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana. The scheme targets individual small and marginal farmers, not institutions holding land.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 5. Correct Answer is (C)

- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) is a flagship housing scheme launched by the Government of India with the aim of providing affordable housing to the urban and rural poor. The scheme

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is divided into two main components: PMAY-Urban (PMAY-U) and PMAY-Gramin (PMAY-G). Free electricity connection for the new house is not a benefit under PMAY.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 6. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Namami Gange Programme is an Integrated Conservation Mission launched by the Government of India in June to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution and conservation and rejuvenation of the National River Ganga. Its main pillars are: Sewage Treatment Infrastructure, River-Front Development, River-Surface Cleaning, Biodiversity Conservation, Afforestation, Public Awareness, Industrial Effluent Monitoring, Ganga Gram (Villages on Ganga banks).

Source: [AIR](#)

### 7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The Interest Equalisation Scheme is designed to provide subsidies on interest rates for pre-shipment and post-shipment export credit to eligible exporters, particularly in the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector. Its primary goal is to make Indian exports more competitive by reducing the financing costs for exporters. The IES is available to a broad range of exporters, including those in the MSME sector and manufacturers, regardless of their participation in the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme.
- Statement 2 is correct. For export products to qualify under the IES, they must originate from India, which includes meeting the criteria for substantial value addition if imported inputs are used. This ensures that the exported goods are sufficiently processed or manufactured in India, adhering to the rules of origin as outlined in the Foreign Trade Policy.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 8. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The primary objective of the Jal Jeevan Mission is to provide Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) to every rural household by 2024. This mission aims to ensure safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections. JJM prioritizes the participation of women self-help groups (SHGs) in the planning and implementation of the mission. Women are encouraged to be actively involved in decision-making processes, which includes planning, implementation, and maintenance of water supply infrastructure. Goa has become the first 'Har Ghar Jal' state by providing 100% household tap connections in rural areas under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 9. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Great Nicobar Project, officially known as the "Holistic Development of Great Nicobar Island," is a mega infrastructure project proposed by the Indian government on the Great Nicobar Island, the southernmost island of the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago. The project aims to develop the island into a strategic maritime hub and a sustainable tourism destination. Its key components are: International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT), Greenfield International Airport, Power Plant, Township and Area Development. However, Oil Refinery is not a part of the Great Nicobar Project.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 10. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The 5G Intelligent Village initiative aims to harness the benefits of 5G technology to uplift rural communities by addressing critical pillars such as agriculture, education, healthcare, governance, and sustainability.

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- Statement 2 is correct. The Quantum Encryption Algorithm (QEA) aims to develop an India-specific algorithm that ensures unparalleled security, advanced encryption capabilities, and ultrafast and efficient encryption by leveraging the principles of quantum mechanics.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 11. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Matsya 6000 is a three-person submersible designed to reach depths of 6,000 meters under the sea as part of the Samudrayaan mission, which is a component of the Deep Ocean Mission. One of the key objectives of the Deep-Sea Ocean Mission is to develop indigenous technologies for deep-sea mining, manned submersibles, and underwater robotics, as well as for the exploration and sustainable utilization of ocean resources.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) is the primary agency responsible for implementing the Deep Ocean Mission, under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 12. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Act allows the central government to empower officers to intercept, open or detain any postal article on grounds such as security of the state, public order, emergency, public safety, or contravention of the Act or other laws. The Act provides for the appointment of a Director General of Postal Services who can make regulations regarding activities necessary for postal services, specify charges/tariffs, and regulate the supply and sale of postage stamps and stationery.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Act removes all offences and penalties that were present in the previous 1898 Act, except for allowing recovery of unpaid postal charges as arrears of land revenue. There are no specific offences or penalties prescribed for lapses in postal services by officials.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 13. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The primary objective of the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024, is to prevent unfair means in public examinations and ensure transparency, fairness, and credibility. The Act covers examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) along with other central recruitment and entrance exams conducted by bodies like the Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs), and the National Testing Agency (NTA).
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Act defines "unfair means" to include various malpractices such as leaking question papers, assisting candidates during exams, tampering with computer networks, impersonation, and conducting fake examinations. However, it does not specifically mention possessing unauthorized study material during the exam as an unfair means.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 14. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme aims to boost domestic manufacturing and exports across various sectors. Sectors included in the PLI scheme are: Mobile Manufacturing and Specified Electronic Components, Critical Key Starting Materials/Drug Intermediaries & Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, Manufacturing of Medical Devices, Automobiles and Auto Components, Pharmaceuticals Drugs, Specialty Steel, Telecom & Networking Products, Electronic/Technology Products, White Goods (ACs and LEDs), Food Products, Textile Products: MMF segment and technical textiles, High Efficiency Solar PV Modules, Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery, Drones and Drone Components. Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning are not covered under the Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**15. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The primary goal of iDEX is to promote innovation and technology development in the Defence and Aerospace sectors by engaging industries, including MSMEs, start-ups, individual innovators, R&D institutes, and academia. The iDEX Investor Hub (iIH) was launched to accelerate investments in the Defence sector, aiming to augment the growth of the startup ecosystem by facilitating investments.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. iDEX is funded and managed by the Defence Innovation Organization (DIO). The DIO is a 'not for profit' company formed under the aegis of the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence. While iDEX aims to foster innovation and self-reliance in Defence and Aerospace, it does not mandate that all Indian military equipment be domestically produced. The initiative focuses on creating an ecosystem for innovation and technology development rather than imposing production mandates.

Source: [AIR](#)

**16. Correct Answer is (D)**

- PESA Act aims to safeguard and preserve the traditions and customs of tribal communities, empower Gram Sabhas with specific powers conducive to tribal requirements and to make them the nucleus of all activities, protect the rights of tribal communities over natural resources. However, it does not promote industrialization in tribal areas.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**17. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Jal Jeevan Mission emphasizes a community-driven and demand-driven approach, involving extensive community participation in planning, implementation, management, operation, and maintenance of in-village water supply systems. Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs), also known as Pani Samitis, play a crucial role in the planning, implementation, management, operation, and maintenance of village water supply systems under the Jal Jeevan Mission.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The target service level for piped water supply under the Jal Jeevan Mission is 55 litres per capita per day.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**18. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Agnipath Scheme recruits personnel below the rank of commissioned officers into the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force. The government has stated that the Agnipath scheme would bring down the average age of the armed forces from 32 to 26 years in line with the age profile of major armies worldwide.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While Agniveers receive a lump sum amount and skill certificates, there is no specific provision for government-sponsored higher education upon completion of their service.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**19. Correct Answer is (A)**

- IndiGen project – IndiGen aims to create a reference genome grid for the Indian population, not a complete catalog of variations. This grid serves as a baseline for comparison, allowing researchers to identify specific variations in individuals.
- Genome India project – Genome India likely focuses on whole genome sequencing of a large number of individuals to utilize this reference grid in public health applications.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**20. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The scheme provides subsidies for installing rooftop solar panels for residential houses and using solar energy for electricity. Any Indian citizen with a valid electricity connection and a suitable rooftop is eligible to apply for the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana. The government subsidy will cover up to 40% of the cost of installation of the solar panels. The scheme aims to reduce carbon emission.
- Statement 4 is incorrect. Subsidized housing loans is not a benefit of the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana. India's installed rooftop solar (RTS) capacity increased by 2.99 GW in 2023-2024. Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan are leading states in roof top solar installation in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**21. Correct Answer is (B)**

- The MSME TEAM Initiative aims to facilitate the onboarding of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) onto the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC). This initiative provides financial assistance to MSMEs to help them integrate into the ONDC platform. Another recently launched campaign is the Yashasvini campaign which is a series of mass awareness campaigns for formalizing women owned informal micro enterprises and providing capacity building, training, handholding and mentorship to the women owned enterprises.

Source: [AIR](#)

**22. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The Act aims to amend and consolidate laws relating to development and operation of telecommunication services and networks, replacing older laws to incorporate a modern framework for regulating the sector. The Telecommunications Act, 2023 seeks to repeal and replace the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933. The Act renames the Universal Service Obligation Fund as Digital Bharat Nidhi.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Act introduces a regulatory sandbox mechanism to support innovation in the telecom sector.

Source: [AIR](#)

## International Relations/Organizations

**Q.1) The 'Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion' is presented by which one of the following organizations?**

- a) World Health Organization (WHO)
- b) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- c) International Labour Organization (ILO)
- d) World Bank

**Q.2) Which one of the following is the primary objective of the 'eMigrate project'?**

- a) Promote tourism in India.
- b) Automate the emigration process and protect Indian workers from exploitation.
- c) Facilitate international trade.
- d) Enhance diplomatic relations with other countries.

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

1. World Health Assembly (WHA) serves as the decision-making body of the World Health Organization (WHO).
2. World Health Assembly approves the appointment of the WHO Director-General.
3. The WHA is composed of delegations from all WHO member states.
4. WHA implements health programs in member states.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

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

1. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN).
2. The Human Development Report is published by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

**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) In the context of the World History, the 'D-Day' refers to the:

- a) Signing of the German surrender document ending World War II.
- b) Invasion of Normandy in France by Allied forces during World War II.
- c) Bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the United States.
- d) Landing of Soviet troops on the beaches of Normandy in France.

### Q.6) Which one of the following international treaties regulates the use of white phosphorus in warfare, especially its use against civilians?

- a) Geneva Conventions
- b) Framework on Certain Standardized Military Arms
- c) Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons
- d) Biological Weapons Convention

### Q.7) Which one of the following countries is NOT a member of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF)?

- a) India
- b) China
- c) Japan
- d) Australia

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

**Statement-I:** India's universities' rankings among G20 nations have decreased recently in the QS World University Rankings.

**Statement-II:** India's expenditure on education is relatively low compared to global standards.

**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.9) Consider the following statements:**

1. The European Parliament (EP) is a key legislative body within the European Union (EU).
2. Elections for the European Parliament are held every four years.
3. There is no uniform electoral procedure across the EU.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.10) With reference to the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Plus (OPEC+), consider the following statements:**

1. The Declaration of Cooperation (DoC) serves as a framework for cooperation and coordination between OPEC and non-OPEC countries within OPEC+.
2. Canada is the observer state of OPEC+.
3. OPEC+ decisions can significantly influence global oil prices by coordinating supply cuts or increases.

**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.11) Consider the following:**

1. Increased Transaction Costs
2. Enhanced Financial Transparency
3. Economic Integration

**How many of the above are the benefits of integrating India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) with the UAE's payment infrastructure?**

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

**Q.12) Consider the following statements:**

1. The objective of the initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) is to enhance cooperation in critical and emerging technologies between India and the US.
2. United States, United Kingdom, India, and Japan are the members of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad).

**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.13) Which one of the following is NOT a pillar of India's Neighbourhood First Policy?**

- a) Strengthening bilateral ties
- b) Promoting regional security and stability
- c) Encouraging unilateral trade concessions for neighbours
- d) Enhancing people-to-people connectivity

**Q.14) In which one of the following ways does the adoption of a United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolution impact the legal obligations of UN member states?**

- a) Member states can choose whether or not to comply
- b) Member states are legally obligated to comply with the resolution
- c) Member states must seek approval from their national parliaments before complying
- d) Member states are only morally obligated to comply

**Q.15) Consider the following statements:**

- 1. The BRICS members include 30% of the world's land surface and 41% of the global population.
- 2. All members states of BRICS are members of the G20.
- 3. BRICS countries produce about 44% of the world's crude oil.

**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.16) With reference to the Group of Seven (G7), which of the following statements are correct?**

- 1. The G7 is an intergovernmental organization consisting of the major developed economies of the world.
- 2. Russia was a member of the G7.
- 3. The G7 focuses exclusively on economic issues and does not address global security concerns or environmental challenges.
- 4. G7 countries represent a minority of the global population.

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

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

**Q.17) Consider the following pairs:**

**International Agreements-----Features**

- 1. India-Japan Industrial Competitiveness Partnership----- Improving economic connectivity and infrastructure development across multiple regions.
- 2. India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor----- Enhancing industrial competitiveness through technological and manufacturing collaboration.
- 3. Migration and Mobility Agreement----- Facilitating the movement of skilled professionals and managing migration flows.

**How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?**

- a) Only one pair
- b) Only two pairs
- c) All three pairs
- d) None of the pairs

**Q.18) With reference to Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET), consider the following statements:**

- 1. One of its aims is to reduce India's reliance on European technological partnerships.
- 2. Development of 5G and 6G telecommunication technologies is one of the key focus areas under iCET.
- 3. Under the iCET, India and the US have decided to install 330 kW of solar energy.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.19) Consider the following statements regarding the Mineral Security Partnership (MSP):**

1. It aims to ensure critical minerals are produced, processed, and recycled responsibly.
2. Russia is one of the member countries of MSP.
3. Iron ore is one of the critical minerals targeted by MSP.

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

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

**Q.20) Consider the following statements:**

1. There has been an increase in the tourists visiting Antarctic in recent years.
2. Currently, there is no international body that exclusively regulates tourism in Antarctica.
3. The Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) is the only platform for international cooperation on Antarctic issues.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.21) Consider the following statements:**

1. A mercenary is a member of the armed forces of a party to the conflict.
2. Under the international humanitarian law (IHL), being a mercenary, itself does not constitute a specific 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.22) Consider the following:**

1. Graphite
2. Gallium
3. Indium

**Which of the above minerals are included in the India-U.S. Initiative for Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET)?**

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

**Q.23) Consider the following statements:**

1. In India, everyone enjoys constitutional rights guaranteed under Articles 14, 20, and 21 irrespective of nationality.
2. India is a signatory to the UN Refugee Convention.
3. India lacks a domestic asylum framework.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.24) Consider the followings statements:**

1. The Asia-Pacific focuses on emerging markets and economic cooperation whereas the Indo-Pacific includes broader strategic and geopolitical considerations.
2. India has emerged as a key player in the Asia-Pacific region.
3. The Quad grouping represent Indo-Pacific region.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.25) Consider the following statements:**

1. Sharing of water of Teesta River during dry seasons is one of the disputes between India and Bangladesh.
2. Assam and Meghalaya are primarily involved in the Teesta River dispute from the Indian side.
3. Rangeet river is a major tributary of the Teesta River.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.26) Consider the following statements:**

1. The primary reason for India's strategic interest in maintaining strong relations with Myanmar is to counter China's growing influence in Southeast Asia.
2. Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project aims to enhance connectivity between India and Myanmar.
3. Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram share border with Myanmar.
4. The Sittwe Port in Myanmar serves as a key military base for India.

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

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

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

**Statement-I:** Despite the high agricultural production in Argentina, farmers are not selling their produce.

**Statement-II:** Argentina is facing unfavourable economic and political conditions.

**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

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**Q.28) With reference to the Ganga Water Sharing Treaty 1996, consider the following statements:**

1. The treaty ensures a minimum level of water flow to Bangladesh during the dry season.
2. Jharkhand plays a crucial role in the implementation and negotiation of the Ganga Water Sharing Treaty.

**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.29) Consider the following statements:**

1. International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) is affiliated with the World Crafts Council (WCC) and supports its initiatives.
2. The objective of the World Crafts Council (WCC) in establishing the World Craft City Programme is to promote modern industrial techniques in craft production.
3. Srinagar has become the fourth Indian city to be recognized as a World Craft City by the World Crafts Council (WCC).

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.30) Consider the following statements:**

1. India is the world's largest consumer and second-largest producer of sugar.
2. The International Sugar Organization (ISO) is the only worldwide forum for the exchange of views by major sugar producing, consuming and trading countries at an intergovernmental level.
3. Brazil is set to chair the International Sugar Organisation in 2024.

**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) Consider the following statements:**

1. The China-Maldives Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership for 2024-2028 aims to enhance political, economic, and social cooperation between China and the Maldives.
2. ASEAN Free Trade Area (FTA) is a key focus of the China-Maldives Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership.

**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.32) Consider the following statements:**

1. India is the fourth largest trading partner for Africa.
2. Under the Indian Technical Cooperation and Economic Support Scheme (ITCESS), professionals from Africa are trained for capacity building.

**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.33) The core objective of the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) norms is to:**

- a) Promote sustainable forestry practices within the EU.
- b) Reduce the EU's market impact on global deforestation.
- c) Increase tariffs on imported timber products.
- d) Regulate carbon emissions from the transportation sector.

**Q.34) Consider the following:**

- 1. MQ-9B unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs)
- 2. GE-414 jet engines
- 3. Eurojet EJ200

**How many of the above falls under the initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) framework?**

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

**Q.35) With reference to the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), consider the following statements:**

- 1. United Nations brokered the Indus Water Treaty.
- 2. Indus Waters Tribunal has been established under the treaty to implement its provisions.
- 3. Under the treaty, India has rights to use western rivers for non-consumptive uses like hydropower.
- 4. Waters of Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej rivers are allocated for unrestricted use by India.

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

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

**Q.36) Consider the following pairs:**

**Places in News-----Reasons**

- 1. Bolivia-----Military coup
- 2. Sudan-----Civil war
- 3. Myanmar-----Killing of Buddhist monk

**Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?**

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

**Q.37) India has been placed in the 'regular follow up category' in the "Mutual Evaluation Report of India" by Financial Action Task Force (FATF). What does this imply?**

- a) India is now subject to increased monitoring by FATF due to strategic deficiencies in its financial crime prevention regime.
- b) India has been placed on FATF's "grey list" of jurisdictions under increased monitoring for money laundering and terrorist financing risks.
- c) India has demonstrated a high level of technical compliance with FATF standards and its anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing regime is achieving good results.
- d) India has significant deficiencies in its anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing systems.

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### Q.38) Consider the following statements:

1. BRICS is primarily focused on promoting economic cooperation and development among member nations.
2. The economic goal set by BRICS leaders for 2050 is to eliminate all trade barriers among members.

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.39) With reference to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), consider the following statements:

1. The "Shanghai Spirit" refers to an annual summit of SCO leaders.
2. Space exploration is not a key focus for cooperation within the SCO.
3. The SCO's approach to regional security can be described as comprehensive and multidimensional.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

### Q.40) Consider the following statements regarding the Colombo Process:

1. The Colombo Process is a Regional Consultative Process comprising 12 member States from Asia.
2. The forum facilitates the exchange of best practices on managing overseas employment.

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

## Answer Key

1 - (a)	2 - (b)	3 - (c)	4 - (a)	5 - (b)	6 - (c)	7 - (b)	8 - (d)	9 - (b)	10 - (d)
11 - (b)	12 - (a)	13 - (c)	14 - (b)	15 - (c)	16 - (c)	17 - (a)	18 - (a)	19 - (a)	20 - (b)
21 - (b)	22 - (a)	23 - (b)	24 - (b)	25 - (b)	26 - (c)	27 - (a)	28 - (a)	29 - (a)	30 - (a)
31 - (a)	32 - (a)	33 - (b)	34 - (b)	35 - (d)	36 - (d)	37 - (c)	38 - (a)	39 - (b)	40 - (c)

## Answers & Explanations

**1. Correct Answer is (A)**

- The Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion is established and presented by the World Health Organization (WHO). This award recognizes individuals, institutions, and/or governmental or non-governmental organizations that have made significant contributions to health promotion. Recently, the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) in Bengaluru has been awarded the Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion for 2024 by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Source: [AIR](#)

**2. Correct Answer is (B)**

- The eMigrate project is an initiative by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) with the primary objective of automating the emigration process and protecting Indian workers from exploitation. It aims to create a centralized and transparent system that links all stakeholders involved in the emigration lifecycle, including Indian missions, employers, recruiting agents, emigrants, and insurance agencies.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

**3. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The WHA is the governing body that sets policies and priorities for the WHO. The WHA approves the appointment of the WHO Director-General. The WHA is composed of delegations from all WHO member states.
- Statement 4 is incorrect. The WHA does not implement health programs in member states. The WHA focuses on setting global health goals, policies, and budget. Implementation is typically done by member states and WHO regional offices.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

**4. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN). Its primary mission is to lead international efforts to defeat hunger, improve nutrition, and ensure food security worldwide.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Human Development Report is published by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**5. Correct Answer is (B)**

- D-Day, which occurred on June 6, 1944, was the day on which Allied forces launched a massive invasion on the beaches of Normandy, France. This operation, known as Operation Overlord, was a pivotal moment in World War II, leading to the liberation of Western Europe from Nazi occupation. The term "D-Day" specifically refers to the day the invasion began and is one of the most significant events in the history of the war.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**6. Correct Answer is (C)**

- The use of white phosphorus in warfare, particularly concerning its use against civilians, is regulated under Protocol III of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW). This protocol specifically deals with incendiary weapons and imposes restrictions on their use to safeguard civilians. The CCW aims to minimize harm to both civilians and combatants in armed



conflicts by regulating the use of weapons that can cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**7. Correct Answer is (B)**

- The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) is an economic initiative launched by U.S. The framework aims to strengthen economic partnerships among participating countries to enhance resilience, sustainability, inclusiveness, economic growth, fairness, and competitiveness in the Indo-Pacific region. The IPEF is structured around four main pillars: Trade, Supply Chains, Clean Economy, Fair Economy. India, Japan, and Australia are all members of the IPEF, while China is not.

Source: [AIR](#)

**8. Correct Answer is (D)**

- Statement I is incorrect. India registered the highest growth in university representation among G20 nations in QS World University Rankings. India saw an increase of 318 percent, from 11 varsities in the 2015 edition of this ranking to 46 in the 2025 edition.
- Statement-II is correct. India's expenditure on education has been relatively low compared to global standards. As of the 2023-24 fiscal year, the allocation for education was about 2.9% of the country's GDP. In comparison, developed countries like the United States and the United Kingdom allocate around 6% and 4.2% of their GDP to education, respectively.

Source: [AIR](#)

**9. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The European Parliament is one of the main legislative bodies of the EU, sharing legislative and budgetary powers with the Council of the European Union. It plays a crucial role in passing EU laws, approving the EU budget, and overseeing other EU institutions. There is no uniform electoral procedure across the EU; each member state conducts the elections according to its own national laws, although they must adhere to certain common principles, such as proportional representation.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Elections for the European Parliament are held every five years by universal adult suffrage.

Source: [AIR](#)

**10. Correct Answer is (D)**

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The Declaration of Cooperation (DoC) was established to create a collaborative framework between OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing countries. It aims to stabilize the global oil market through coordinated efforts and dialogue. Canada is an observer state of OPEC+. Other observer states include Egypt, Norway, and Oman. OPEC+ has a substantial impact on global oil prices. By coordinating production levels, OPEC+ can manage supply to influence oil prices, ensuring market stability and addressing economic fluctuations. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies led by Russia is together known as OPEC+.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**11. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Increased Transaction Costs: This is not a benefit. In fact, one of the key advantages of integrating UPI with the UAE's payment infrastructure is the reduction in transaction costs.
- Enhanced Financial Transparency: The integration of UPI with the UAE's payment infrastructure enhances financial transparency by leveraging advanced digital payment technologies.
- Economic Integration: The integration fosters greater economic integration by facilitating seamless cross-border transactions and reducing dependency on intermediary currencies.

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- Note: RuPay cards are now accepted via the Mercury payment gateway in the UAE, and UPI payments are possible through Mashreq Bank.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 12. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The iCET aims to enhance cooperation in critical and emerging technologies between India and the US, focusing on areas such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, semiconductors, and wireless telecommunication.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The members of the Quad are the United States, Australia, India, and Japan.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 13. Correct Answer is (C)

- The pillars of India's Neighbourhood First Policy include strengthening bilateral ties, promoting regional security and stability, and enhancing people-to-people connectivity. However, encouraging unilateral trade concessions for neighbours is not a pillar of this policy.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 14. Correct Answer is (B)

- UNSC resolutions are legally binding on all UN member states under Article 25 of the UN Charter, which states that members agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 15. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The BRICS members encompass approximately 29.3% of the world's land surface and 41% of the global population. The expanded BRICS group now collectively represents about 44% of global crude oil production.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Not all BRICS member states are members of the G20. For example, South Africa is the only African member of the G20, and some of the newly added BRICS members like Ethiopia and Iran are not part of the G20.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 16. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The G7 is an intergovernmental political and economic forum consisting of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States, which are major advanced economies. Russia was a member of the G7 from 1997 until 2014, when it was suspended following the annexation of Crimea. During that period, the group was known as the G8. The G7 countries represent around 10% of the world's population but generate about 45% of global GDP. They also account for about 75% of global official development assistance recorded by the OECD. So, the G7 countries represent a minority of the global population but a significant portion of global GDP and economic power.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. While the G7 was initially focused on economic issues, over the years it has broadened its agenda to cover a wide range of global issues, including foreign and security policy, trade, climate change, development, and more.
- Note: The G7's share of the world's population has been decreasing since 2000, mainly due to the growth of other countries' populations, such as China and India. The G7's share of the world's GDP has also declined over time, from nearly 70% in 1989 to 44% in 2021.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 17. Correct Answer is (A)

- Only 3 is correctly matched

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- **India-Japan Industrial Competitiveness Partnership:** This initiative focuses on enhancing industrial competitiveness through technological and manufacturing collaboration between India and Japan.
- **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor:** This initiative seeks to improve economic connectivity and infrastructure development across the regions involved.
- **Migration and Mobility Agreement:** This agreement aims to facilitate the movement of skilled professionals and manage migration flows between India and other countries.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The iCET initiative does not aim to reduce India's reliance on European technological partnerships. Rather, it aims to deepen the strategic technology partnership between India and the United States across various critical and emerging technology areas. The focus areas include cooperation in areas like semiconductors, artificial intelligence, quantum computing, biotechnology, and clean energy technologies, but no specific target for solar energy installation.
- Statement 2 is correct. Development of 5G and 6G telecommunication technologies, including advancing cooperation on research and development, facilitating deployment and adoption of Open RAN in India, is one of the key focus areas under the iCET initiative.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The MSP aims to ensure that critical minerals are produced, processed, and recycled in a responsible manner that supports the economic development of countries while adhering to high environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Russia is not a member of the MSP. The current members include Australia, Canada, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Sweden, Norway, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union. Iron ore is not one of the critical minerals targeted by the MSP. The MSP focuses on minerals such as cobalt, nickel, lithium, rare earth elements (REEs), and other minerals essential for clean energy technologies, electric vehicles, and advanced electronics.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 20. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Tourism in Antarctica has seen a significant increase, with numbers rising from a few thousand in the early 1990s to over 100,000 in the 2022-23 season. While there are guidelines and self-regulation by the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) and some provisions under the Antarctic Treaty System (ATS), there is no dedicated body solely responsible for regulating tourism in Antarctica.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The ATCM is a primary platform for international cooperation on Antarctic issues, but it is not the only one. Other bodies, such as the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), also play significant roles.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Mercenaries are not members of the armed forces of a party to the conflict. They are individuals who fight for a party to the conflict without being nationals of that party or a neutral state, nor motivated by ideals or for gain.
- Statement 2 is correct. Under International Humanitarian Law (IHL), being a mercenary, itself does not constitute a specific crime. However, mercenaries can be prosecuted for violations of IHL, such as war crimes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**22. Correct Answer is (A)**

- The minerals included in the iCET are: Graphite, Gallium, Germanium, Lithium, Rare Earth Elements (REE). The iCET aims to drive partnership in the supply chains for graphite, gallium, and germanium. It also promotes India's role in the Mineral Security Partnership through co-investing in a lithium resource project in South America and a rare earths deposit in Africa.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**23. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Fundamental Rights guaranteed by Articles 14, 20, 21, 21A, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 are available to all persons whether citizens or foreigners. India does not have a standard policy to deal with refugees" and lacks "a codified central legislation" on refugee protection. The refugee law framework in India is primarily based on executive decisions, court judgments, and the UNHCR's assistance.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. India has not signed the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol. India remains one of the few liberal democracies not to have signed or ratified the UN Refugee Convention.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**24. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Asia-Pacific is primarily an economic concept, focusing on economic cooperation and emerging markets. The Indo-Pacific, on the other hand, is a broader strategic and geopolitical concept that includes maritime security and cooperation in addition to economic considerations. The Quad grouping, consisting of the United States, Australia, India, and Japan, is representative of the Indo-Pacific region.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While India has been increasing its engagement in the broader Indo-Pacific region, it is not typically considered a key player in the Asia-Pacific region specifically. India is more prominently involved in the Indo-Pacific strategy and is seen as a pivotal player in this broader region.

Source: [AIR](#)

**25. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Teesta River dispute revolves around the equitable distribution of the river's waters, particularly during the dry season, to meet the agricultural, drinking water, and other needs of both nations. The Rangit (or Rangit) River is a major tributary of the Teesta River.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Teesta River dispute primarily involves the Indian states of Sikkim and West Bengal from the Indian side.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**26. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India's strategic interest in Myanmar is influenced by the need to counter China's growing presence in Southeast Asia. Myanmar's strategic location makes it a key player in the regional dynamics, and maintaining strong relations with Myanmar helps India to balance China's influence in the region. The Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project is an important initiative by India to enhance connectivity with Myanmar. It includes road, river, and sea routes to link India's northeastern states with Myanmar, facilitating trade and movement between the two countries.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. The Indian states that share a border with Myanmar are Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, and Mizoram. The Sittwe Port in Myanmar, developed

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under the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project, is primarily intended for enhancing commercial connectivity, not as a military base for India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 27. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. Argentina has experienced a bumper harvest, but farmers are holding back on selling their produce.
- Statement II is correct. Several unfavourable economic and political conditions, including high inflation, increased taxes, low global prices, delays in easing exchange rate controls and political challenges faced by President Javier Milei's administration are the reasons behind farmer not selling the produce.
- Hence, Statement II provides an explanation for Statement I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 28. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The 1996 Ganga Water Sharing Treaty is a significant agreement between India and Bangladesh aimed at resolving long-standing disputes over the allocation of the Ganges River's waters. The treaty guarantees that each country will receive 35,000 cusecs of water in alternate 10-day cycles during the critical dry period from March 11 to May 10. It outlines specific water-sharing arrangements at the Farakka Barrage, a critical point where the Ganges River enters Bangladesh from India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Ganga Water Sharing Treaty is primarily an agreement between the central governments of India and Bangladesh. The negotiations and implementation of the treaty are managed at the national level, involving the governments of India and Bangladesh. The key points of implementation are at the Farakka Barrage in West Bengal, and the treaty's provisions are managed by the Joint Committee formed by representatives from both countries.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 29. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is affiliated with the World Crafts Council (WCC) and supports its initiatives. The objectives of the World Craft City Programme include global recognition, government advocacy, local innovation, knowledge exchange, and collaborative opportunities.
- Statement 3 is correct. Srinagar has become the fourth Indian city to be recognized as a 'World Craft City' by the World Crafts Council (WCC). The other three Indian cities previously recognized as World Craft Cities are – Jaipur (Rajasthan), Malappuram (Kerala), Mysore (Karnataka).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 30. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India is the largest consumer and the second-largest producer of sugar globally, with a significant share in both global sugar consumption and production. The International Sugar Organization (ISO) is the only intergovernmental body that serves as a unique forum for major sugar-producing, consuming, and trading countries to exchange views and collaborate on sugar-related matters.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. India is set to chair the International Sugar Organisation in 2024.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 31. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The China-Maldives Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership for 2024-2028 aims to enhance political, economic, and social cooperation between China and the

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Maldives. It includes cooperation in areas such as the blue economy, digital economy, infrastructure development, and disaster risk mitigation.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The China-Maldives Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership includes cooperation in infrastructure development projects linked to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 32. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India is the fourth largest trading partner for Africa, with bilateral trade valued at approximately \$100 billion in 2023.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme, professionals from Africa and other regions are being trained. The Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme is a flagship initiative of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, aimed at enhancing capacity building and fostering international cooperation. ITEC provides training to thousands of professionals from over 160 countries across Asia, Africa, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, and the Pacific and Caribbean nations.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 33. Correct Answer is (B)

- The EUDR's primary goal is to ensure that products consumed in the EU are not linked to deforestation happening elsewhere in the world. It does this by setting regulations for companies placing certain commodities on the EU market.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 34. Correct Answer is (B)

- MQ-9B unmanned aerial vehicles and GE-414 jet engines are making progress along with defence industrial collaborations under the initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) framework. However, Eurojet EJ200 does not fall under iCET.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 35. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Indus Waters Treaty was brokered by the World Bank. The treaty does not establish an Indus Waters Tribunal but sets up a Permanent Indus Commission.
- Statements 3 and 4 are correct. Under the treaty, India has rights to use the western rivers for non-consumptive uses like hydropower. The waters of Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej rivers are allocated for unrestricted use by India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 36. Correct Answer is (D)

- Bolivia – There was an attempted military coup in Bolivia, which was thwarted by the government.
- Sudan – Sudan is experiencing a civil war, with significant conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF).
- Myanmar – A senior Buddhist monk was killed by soldiers in Myanmar, which has caused significant outrage and tension.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 37. Correct Answer is (C)

- The "regular follow-up" category is the most favourable outcome in a FATF evaluation. It signifies that India's efforts to combat money laundering and terrorist financing are considered effective. While there are areas for improvement, such as speeding up prosecutions in these cases, overall, India has been commended for its progress.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**38. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. BRICS aims to deepen, broaden, and intensify cooperation within the grouping and among individual countries for sustainable, equitable, and mutually beneficial development. The focus includes economic cooperation in sectors such as trade, agriculture, infrastructure, and energy.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. There is no such specific economic goal set by BRICS leaders for 2050 to eliminate all trade barriers among members. Instead, the focus is on broader economic cooperation and development, as well as addressing global financial and economic issues.

Source: [AIR](#)

**39. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The "Shanghai Spirit" refers to the guiding principles of the SCO, emphasizing mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for diverse civilizations, and the pursuit of common development.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The main goals of the SCO are strengthening mutual confidence and good-neighbourly relations among the member countries; promoting effective cooperation in politics, trade and economy, science and technology, culture as well as education, energy, transportation, tourism, environmental protection and other fields. However, space exploration is not a primary focus. The SCO takes a comprehensive and multidimensional approach to regional security, addressing issues like terrorism, separatism, extremism, and fostering economic cooperation and cultural exchanges.

Source: [AIR](#)

**40. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Colombo Process is a Regional Consultative Process comprising 12 Member States from Asia, which primarily serve as countries of origin for migrant workers. The forum facilitates the exchange of best practices on managing overseas employment. Last month, India assumed the chair of the Colombo Process for the first time since its inception. The Secretariat of the Colombo Process is hosted by International Organisation for Migration (IOM) with its headquarters in Geneva.

Source: [AIR](#)

## Economy

**Q.1) For which one of the following reasons, many governments maintain their gold reserves in foreign vaults, such as the Bank of England?**

- a) Save storage fees
- b) Enhance economic sovereignty
- c) Reduce dependence on foreign entities
- d) Mitigate risks associated with geopolitical tensions

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

1. India currently imports coking coal from Australia.
2. Mongolia has one of the largest copper mines in the world.

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

1. Virtual Payment Address (VPA) in the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is a unique identifier for online shopping.
2. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) manages the Immediate Payment Service (IMPS).

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

1. The maximum investment allowed by overseas instruments in Indian securities is capped at 10% of their net assets.
2. A feeder fund pool capital from investors and invest it in a master fund.

**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 advance estimate of major agricultural crops, how many of the following statements are correct?**

1. The primary purpose of the advance estimates of agricultural crops is to estimate the production of various crops for planning and policy-making.
2. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare releases the advance estimates of major agricultural crops in India.
3. Advanced estimates rely heavily on final harvest data from previous years.

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

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

**Q.6) The primary purpose of a 'benchmark index' is to:**

- a) Track the performance of individual companies
- b) Measure the overall health of a stock market
- c) Predict future stock market movements
- d) Identify undervalued stocks for investment

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

1. Pharmaceuticals form the India's largest export category.
2. India's overall exports have risen in recent years.
3. Netherlands is among top five exports destination of India.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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



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

1. Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR) is the rate at which banks lend money to each other.
2. VRRR helps in absorbing excess liquidity from the banking system.

**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.9) Which one of the following is the primary functions of a 'Clearing Corporation' in the financial markets?**

- a) Regulating the stock exchanges
- b) Facilitating the settlement of trades
- c) Issuing new securities
- d) Providing investment advice

**Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the Indian toy industry:**

1. The India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) has granted Indian toys zero-duty access to the UAE market.
2. The increase in Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on imported toys has encouraged domestic production by making imported toys more expensive.

**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.11) Consider the following:**

1. Stock Exchanges
2. Clearing Corporations
3. Commercial Banks
4. Insurance Companies

**How many of the above are part of Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs)?**

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

**Q.12) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to leave the repo rate unchanged. Which one of the following this likely indicate about the current economic situation?**

- a) The economy is experiencing high inflation and the RBI wants to control it by tightening credit.
- b) The economy is facing a slowdown and the RBI wants to stimulate growth by making credit cheaper.
- c) The RBI believes the current economic conditions are stable and there's no need for immediate monetary policy adjustments.
- d) The RBI is waiting to see the impact of previous policy changes before taking further action.

**Q.13) Consider the following statements:**

1. The central government in India is primarily responsible for collecting major taxes such as personal income tax (PIT).
2. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is collected only by the central government.
3. The devolution of resources from the Centre to the states is set at 51%.
4. The central government sets the terms of reference for the Finance Commission.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.14) It is a mechanism designed to facilitate cross-border transaction between India and other countries using their respective local currencies without the need for an intermediary currency like the US Dollar. Which one of the following frameworks helps in facilitating this?**

- a) Regional Trade Facilitation (RTF) Framework
- b) Digital Payment Integration (DPI) Framework
- c) Local Currency Settlement (LCS) Framework
- d) Cross-Border Currency Harmonization (CBCH) Framework

**Q.15) Consider the following statements:**

1. UPI Lite was introduced to enable small value payments in a quick and seamless manner through an on-device wallet.
2. The UPI Lite auto-replenishment facility will be incorporated into Real-Time Payments (RTP) Framework.

**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.16) The primary objective of the Digital Payments Intelligence Platform proposed by the RBI is to:**

- a) Increase the transaction limits for digital payments.
- b) Mitigate payment fraud risks and enhance the safety of digital transactions.
- c) Promote the use of cryptocurrencies in digital payments.
- d) Standardize global trade regulations.

**Q.17) Consider the following statements:**

1. India's shipbuilding and financing dominates the world.
2. Indian seafarer remittances contribute approximately 15% of all foreign direct investment in India annually.

**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:**

1. Population size of the state
2. Fiscal responsibility of the state government
3. Level of economic development in the state
4. The cost of providing essential services in the state

**Which of the above factors are considered when determining the devolution of taxes to states?**

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

**Q.19) Consider the following statements:**

1. The financial sector appears healthy when lending expands.
2. India's household debt-service-to-income ratio is among the highest in the world.
3. A household debt boom adds to productive capacity in the economy in the long term.

**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.20) Which of the following statements are correct?**

1. When a country holds significant gold reserves, it can influence the exchange rate of its currency.
2. Gold is often used as a hedge against inflation.
3. India is one of the largest exporters of gold.
4. When the US dollar depreciates, gold prices tend to rise, and vice versa.

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

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

**Q.21) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is calculated based on a variable basket that changes every year.
2. Appreciation of the domestic currency is one of the causes of food price inflation.

**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.22) Consider the following:**

1. Stock markets
2. External debt servicing costs
3. Domestic borrowing costs

**How many of the above in India will be impacted if the US Federal Reserve increases the interest rate?**

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

**Q.23) Consider the following statements:**

1. There has been a significant reduction in the consumption gap between the top and bottom income groups in urban areas.
2. The expansion of rural roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and their integration with National Highways have enhanced connectivity and altered consumption patterns in rural areas.
3. Southern and northern states have lower average Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) compared to eastern states.

**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.24) Consider the following statements regarding the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs):**

1. NBFCs cannot accept deposits repayable on demand.
2. NBFCs are allowed to offer interest rates higher than banks.
3. Deposit insurance facility is available for deposits with NBFCs.
4. The RBI has the power to cancel the Certificate of Registration of an NBFC.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Q.25) Which one of the following is generally considered a structural cause behind a country's persistent trade deficit?**

- a) Overvalued domestic currency
- b) Lack of export competitiveness
- c) Strong domestic economic growth
- d) Rising global commodity prices

**Q.26) Compared to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), Wholesale Price Index (WPI):**

- a) Is a more accurate measure of overall inflation in the economy.
- b) Responds to price changes faster due to its focus on earlier stages of the supply chain.
- c) Includes the cost of services along with goods.
- d) Is directly relevant to the spending habits of individual consumers.

**Q.27) Consider the following ports:**

1. Vadhavan Port
2. Kuchdi Port
3. Vizhinjam Port
4. Mundra Port

**Which of the above ports are the Greenfields port India?**

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

**Q.28) Consider the following items:**

1. Healthcare services
2. Electricity
3. Natural gas

**How many of the above are included under the Goods and Services Tax (GST)?**

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

**Q.29) Which one of the following best describes the relationship between a high repo rate and inflation?**

- a) High repo rate leads to low inflation
- b) High repo rate leads to high inflation
- c) High repo rate has no effect on inflation
- d) High repo rate leads to deflation

**Q.30) With reference to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), consider the following statements:**

1. It is a statutory body established under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.
2. The primary function of the IBBI is representing creditors in insolvency proceedings.
3. The role of the Insolvency Professional Agencies (IPAs) under the IBBI is to develop professional standards and code of ethics for insolvency professionals.

**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) Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** India's electronics components demand is largely met through imports from China.

**Statement-II:** India's domestic electronics manufacturing sector is still developing and lacks the capacity to meet the growing demand for electronic components.

**Statement-III:** China has developed a highly integrated and efficient supply chain for electronics manufacturing.

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

- a) Both statement-II and Statement-III are correct and both of them explain Statement-I.
- b) Both statement-II and Statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement-I.
- c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement-I.
- d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct.

**Q.32) A 'K-shaped economic recovery' refers to a situation where:**

- a) All sectors of the economy experience a uniform decline followed by a regrowth.
- b) The overall economy grows steadily, but some sectors experience stagnation.
- c) Different sectors of the economy recover at uneven rates, with some improving and others remaining stagnant or declining.
- d) The economy experiences a rapid and short-lived growth followed by a sharp decline.

**Q.33) Consider the following statements:**

1. More than 40% of the India's workforce is employed in agriculture.
2. India is one of the nations that is most vulnerable to risks associated with water management and has the poorest access to basic services among G-20 economies.
3. India's water shortage can impact its sovereign credit rating.

**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.34) Consider the following statements:**

1. Japanese yen-denominated debt is the largest component of India's external debt.
2. India has a relatively low debt-to-GDP ratio compared to other developing 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.35) Consider the following statements:**

1. The minimum Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) requirement under Basel III norms is 11%.
2. Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital shows the bank's core capital available to absorb losses.

**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) The Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) has clarified that Employee Stock Option Plans (ESOPs), Employee Stock Purchase Plans (ESPPs), and Restricted Stock Units (RSUs) provided by foreign firms to their Indian employees will not attract Goods and Services Tax (GST) under certain conditions. Which one of the following best explains the condition?**

- a) If the shares are listed on the Indian stock exchange.
- b) If the reimbursement is done on a cost-to-cost basis without any additional charges.
- c) If the employees are from the IT sector.
- d) If the shares are issued by an Indian holding company.

**Q.37) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) is an important economic indicator that measures the combined and individual performance of production in eight core industries in India.
2. Coal has the highest weightage in the Index of Eight Core Industries.
3. Textiles is one of the eight core industries in India.

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

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

**Q.38) Ways and Means Advances (WMA) is a facility provided by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to:**

- a) Provide long-term loans to state governments
- b) Finance infrastructure projects
- c) Help governments manage temporary mismatches in cash flows
- d) Regulate monetary policy

## Answer Key

1 - (d)	2 - (c)	3 - (b)	4 - (b)	5 - (b)	6 - (b)	7 - (b)	8 - (b)	9 - (b)	10 - (c)
11 - (b)	12 - (c)	13 - (b)	14 - (c)	15 - (a)	16 - (b)	17 - (b)	18 - (d)	19 - (a)	20 - (c)
21 - (d)	22 - (c)	23 - (a)	24 - (c)	25 - (b)	26 - (b)	27 - (a)	28 - (d)	29 - (a)	30 - (c)
31 - (a)	32 - (c)	33 - (d)	34 - (b)	35 - (b)	36 - (b)	37 - (b)	38 - (c)		

## Answers & Explanations

### 1. Correct Answer is (D)

- Many governments, including India, maintain their gold reserves in foreign vaults to mitigate risks associated with geopolitical tensions and ensure the safety and accessibility of their reserves. Storing gold in multiple locations around the world, particularly in key financial hubs like London, New York, and Zurich, helps protect these reserves from regional conflicts or instability that might affect their safety if stored solely within the home country. Additionally, these locations facilitate easier access for international transactions and financial operations. Moreover, the RBI has brought back 100 tonnes of Gold from the Vault of UK to India. This is a major shift in the Economic Policy of the RBI, as it will now hold most of its Gold in its own vault. By bringing back gold reserves, the RBI signals its confidence in the Indian economy's stability and resilience. Holding gold domestically enhances India's monetary stability, providing a buffer against economic shocks and currency volatility. It will also enhance India's economic sovereignty.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 2. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India currently imports coking coal from Australia, the U.S., and Russia. Australia is the largest supplier of coking coal to India, accounting for 59% of overall shipments in FY24. Mongolia is home to the Oyu Tolgoi mine, which is one of the largest copper mines in the world. The mine is expected to produce significant amounts of copper, making it a major player in the global copper market.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. A Virtual Payment Address (VPA) is a unique identifier used in UPI transactions, not specifically for online shopping. It allows users to send and receive money without sharing sensitive bank details.
- Statement 2 is correct. The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) manages the Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) as well as the UPI.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 4. Correct Answer is (B)

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- Statement 1 is incorrect. The maximum investment allowed by overseas instruments in Indian securities is capped at 20% of their net assets. The Indian government often implements regulations to control foreign investment in the Indian stock market. One such regulation limits the maximum investment allowed by overseas instruments (foreign investors) in Indian securities to a certain percentage of their net assets.
- Statement 2 is correct. A feeder fund pools capital from investors and invests it in a master fund. This structure allows for the consolidation of investments and the achievement of economies of scale.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The primary purpose of the advance estimates of agricultural crops is to estimate the production of various crops for planning and policy-making. This helps in making informed decisions regarding market regulation, public distribution, export and import policies, and other major policy decisions during the agricultural season. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is responsible for releasing the advance estimates of major agricultural crops in India.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Advanced estimates do not rely heavily on final harvest data from previous years. Instead, they are based on a combination of factors including area sown, yield rates from crop cutting experiments, remote sensing data, and other inputs such as weather conditions and reports from state agricultural departments.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 6. Correct Answer is (B)

- A benchmark index is designed to represent the performance of a specific market or sector, providing a picture of its overall health and trends. It serves as a standard measure used to evaluate the performance of an investment portfolio relative to the overall market or a specific segment of it. Benchmark indices are crucial tools in investment management, providing a reference point for comparing returns, developing investment strategies, managing risk, and allocating assets.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Pharmaceuticals are a significant export category for India, but they are not the largest. The largest export categories include refined petroleum, diamonds, and packaged medicaments, with refined petroleum being the top export.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. India's exports have shown an increase, with a rise of \$1.19 billion from January 2023 to January 2024. The Netherlands has emerged as India's third- largest export destination after the U.S. and UAE during 2023-24. India's trade surplus with the Netherlands rose to \$17.4 billion in FY24 from \$13 billion in FY23.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR) is not the rate at which banks lend money to each other. Instead, it is the rate at which the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) borrows money from banks for a variable period through an auction process.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR) is a monetary policy tool used by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to manage liquidity in the banking system. Unlike the fixed reverse repo rate, which is predetermined by the RBI, the VRRR rate is determined through an auction process, allowing market forces to influence the rate. This mechanism helps the RBI absorb excess liquidity from the banking system more effectively.

Source: [The Hindu](#)



**9. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Clearing corporations, also referred to as clearing houses or clearing firms, are essential institutions within the financial system that act as intermediaries between buyers and sellers in various financial transactions. They play a critical role in ensuring the smooth, efficient, and secure settlement of trades. Clearing corporations ensure the timely and efficient settlement of trades by acting as intermediaries between buyers and sellers, managing the transfer of securities and funds.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**10. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) has granted Indian toys zero-duty access to the UAE market, which is expected to boost exports of Indian toys to the UAE. The increase in Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on imported toys from 20% to 60% in February 2020, and subsequently to 70% in March 2023, has made imported toys more expensive, thereby encouraging domestic production.

Source: [AIR](#)

**11. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs) are financial entities that provide the essential infrastructure for the functioning of the securities market. They facilitate trading, clearing, settlement, record-keeping, and storage of securities. MIIs include Stock Exchanges, Clearing Corporations, and Depositories. Commercial Banks and Insurance Companies are not considered part of MIIs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**12. Correct Answer is (C)**

- The RBI's decision to keep the repo rate unchanged often indicates that the central bank believes the current economic conditions are stable. This means that inflation is within a manageable range, and economic growth is steady. For instance, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das mentioned that inflation is moving closer to the target and growth is holding better than expected, which justifies maintaining the status quo on the repo rate.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**13. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. The Centre is primarily responsible for collecting major taxes such as personal income tax (PIT), corporation tax, customs duty, and excise duty. The Union Cabinet approves the terms of reference for the Finance Commission, which includes recommending the formula for sharing revenues between the Centre and the States.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. GST is a dual tax system where both the Centre and the States collect GST. The Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) is collected by the Centre, and the State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) is collected by the States for intrastate transactions. Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) is collected by the Centre for interstate transactions. The share of States from the divisible pool (vertical devolution) stands at 41% as per the recommendation of the 15th FC.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**14. Correct Answer is (C)**

- The Local Currency Settlement (LCS) Framework is a mechanism designed to facilitate cross-border transactions between India and other countries using their respective local currencies, such as the Indian Rupee (INR) and the UAE Dirham (AED), without the need for an intermediary currency like the US Dollar. The LCS framework offers direct bilateral settlements in INR and AED, reducing dependency on intermediary currencies and lowering transaction costs. Additionally, it

facilitates easier access to trade credit and export advances in partner currencies, fostering greater economic integration.

Source: [AIR](#)

**15. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. UPI Lite was introduced in September 2022 to enable small value payments quickly and seamlessly through an on-device wallet.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The auto-replenishment facility for UPI Lite will be incorporated into the e-mandate framework. The Reserve Bank has proposed to bring an auto-replenishment facility for UPI Lite wallet. As per an official statement, RBI plans to bring UPI Lite within the e-mandate framework. Accordingly, if the balance in the UPI wallet goes below a threshold amount set by the customer, the fund will move from his/her account to the wallet without additional authentication or pre-debit notification.

Source: [AIR](#)

**16. Correct Answer is (B)**

- RBI is mulling to set up a Digital Payments Intelligence Platform to mitigate payment fraud risks. RBI has said that even though the payment ecosystem which includes banks, NPCI, card networks, payment aggregators, and payment apps take various measures on an ongoing basis to protect customers from digital frauds, there is a need for network-level intelligence and real-time data sharing across payment systems to prevent such frauds in the future.

Source: [AIR](#)

**17. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India has become a significant player in global shipping, with many Indian seafarers manning ocean-going ships. However, it does not dominate the world in shipbuilding and financing.
- Statement 2 is correct. Indian seafarer remittances are typically equivalent to some 15% of all foreign direct investment that comes into the country every year.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**18. Correct Answer is (D)**

- Population size of the state: This is a significant factor in the devolution formula. The 15th Finance Commission, for instance, assigns a 15% weightage to the population based on the 2011 Census.
- Fiscal responsibility of the state government: This is indirectly considered through the "Tax Effort" criterion, which rewards states for higher tax collection efficiency. The 15th Finance Commission assigns a 2.5% weightage to tax and fiscal efforts.
- Level of economic development in the state: This is considered through the "Income Distance" criterion, which measures the distance of a state's income from the state with the highest per capita income. States with lower per capita income receive a higher share to maintain equity. The 15th Finance Commission assigns a 45% weightage to income distance.
- The cost of providing essential services in the state: This factor is indirectly considered through various grants and the overall assessment of state needs. The Finance Commission also considers the cost of providing essential services when recommending grants-in-aid to states facing revenue deficits.

Source: [AIR](#)

**19. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. When lending expands, it often indicates that financial institutions are confident in the economy and are willing to extend credit to households and businesses. This can be seen as a sign of a healthy financial sector. India's household debt-service ratio (DSR) is

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approximately 12%, which is higher than that of many advanced economies such as China, France, the UK, and the US, despite these countries having higher household debt levels.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. A debt boom can lead to increased consumption in the short term, but it doesn't necessarily translate to long-term productive capacity growth. In fact, excessive household debt can lead to financial strain and hinder future investment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 20. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. Holding significant gold reserves can enhance a country's economic stability and influence the exchange rate of its currency. Central banks often use gold reserves to support their currencies during turbulent times. Gold is widely regarded as a hedge against inflation because its value tends to remain stable or increase when the purchasing power of fiat currencies declines. There is an inverse relationship between the value of the US dollar and gold prices. When the US dollar depreciates, gold prices tend to rise, and when the US dollar appreciates, gold prices tend to fall.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. India is not one of the largest exporters of gold; rather, it is one of the largest importers of gold. In 2022, India imported \$35.8 billion in gold, making it the 5th largest importer of gold in the world.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 21. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The CPI is calculated based on a fixed basket that does not change every year. Appreciation of the domestic currency does not cause food price inflation; rather, it is the depreciation of the currency that can lead to higher imported food prices and inflation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 22. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Stock Markets:** An increase in US interest rates can lead to capital outflows from emerging markets, including India, as investors seek higher returns in the US. This can cause a decline in stock market indices in India due to reduced foreign investment.
- **External Debt Servicing Costs:** Higher US interest rates can lead to a stronger US dollar, increasing the cost of servicing external debt for countries like India, which have debt denominated in US dollars.
- **Domestic Borrowing Costs:** A global rise in interest rates often follows a US Fed rate hike. This can make it more expensive for Indian businesses and individuals to borrow money domestically as Indian banks may raise their interest rates to stay competitive with international markets.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 23. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. As per the Survey on Household Consumption Expenditure (HCES) for 2022-23, there has been a significant reduction in the consumption gap between the top and bottom income groups in urban areas. A decline in the Gini coefficient across urban and rural areas suggests a reduction in income inequality between 2011-12 and 2022-23. The decline is sharper in urban areas. The expansion of rural roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and their integration with National Highways, have enhanced connectivity and altered consumption patterns in rural areas.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Reports suggest that Southern and northern states have higher average MPCE compared to eastern states. Average MPCE in the southern and northern States remains close to twice as high as that in their eastern counterparts. Southern and northern states generally have higher average MPCE compared to eastern states.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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### 24. Correct Answer is (C)

- Deposit insurance facility is not available for deposits with NBFCs. Unlike banks which are covered under deposit insurance (up to a specific limit), deposits with NBFCs are not insured.
- NBFCs are not allowed to accept deposits that are repayable on demand. They can only accept deposits for a minimum period of 12 months and a maximum period of 60 months.
- NBFCs can offer higher interest rates on deposits compared to banks, subject to a ceiling rate prescribed by the RBI. Currently, the maximum interest rate an NBFC can offer is 12.5% per annum.
- The RBI has the authority to cancel the registration of an NBFC under certain circumstances, such as failure to pay the required premium for three consecutive periods or if the NBFC is prohibited from accepting fresh deposits.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 25. Correct Answer is (B)

- Structural factors like low productivity, lack of innovation, poor infrastructure etc. can hamper the competitiveness of a country's exports in the global market. This lack of competitiveness is a key structural reason for persistent trade deficits.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 26. Correct Answer is (B)

- The WPI typically responds to price changes faster because it measures the prices of goods at the wholesale level, which is at an earlier stage in the supply chain compared to the retail prices tracked by the CPI. This makes WPI a leading indicator of price changes that might eventually affect consumer prices.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 27. Correct Answer is (A)

- VadHAVAN Port is a proposed greenfield deep draft major port project approved by the Union Cabinet in Maharashtra. Kuchdi Port is one of the 10 potential Greenfield sites identified by the Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) for the development of major ports in Gujarat over the next 25 years. Vizhinjam Port is a greenfield international deepwater multipurpose seaport project being developed in Kerala on a public-private partnership (PPP) basis. Mundra Port is an existing operational port in Gujarat, which was established in 1995. It is not a Greenfield port project. Major greenfield ports of India are: Nargol Port, Modhva Port, Mithi Viridi Port, Positra Port, Dahej Port, Kuchdi Port, Sartanpar Port, Jakhau Port, New Hazira Port, Chanch Port, VadHAVAN Port, Murbe Port, Keni Port, Ramayapatnam Port, Machilipatnam Port, Bhavanapadu Port, Vizhinjam Port, Tajpur Port.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 28. Correct Answer is (D)

- Under the current taxation regime, all healthcare services doctors and hospitals provide are exempt from GST. Supply of electricity is exempted under GST. Natural gas is also not included in the GST.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 29. Correct Answer is (A)

- A high repo rate makes borrowing more expensive for commercial banks, which in turn pass on these higher costs to consumers and businesses. This leads to reduced spending and investment, thereby decreasing the money supply in the economy. As a result, inflationary pressures are reduced.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**30. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The IBBI was established on October 1, 2016, under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016. Insolvency Professional Agencies (IPAs) are responsible for developing professional standards, a code of ethics, and acting as the first level regulator for insolvency professionals.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The IBBI's primary functions include registering and regulating insolvency professionals, insolvency professional agencies, and information utilities, among other regulatory and oversight roles. It does not represent creditors in insolvency proceedings.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**31. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement-I is correct: India's electronics components demand is largely met through imports from China. The expansion of India's electronics production is becoming increasingly dependent on imported components from China and Hong Kong.
- Statement-II is correct. India's domestic electronics manufacturing sector is still developing and lacks the capacity to meet the growing demand for electronic components. The underdeveloped domestic industry lacks the capacity to fulfill the growing demand for components.
- Statement-III is correct. China has built a business eco-system that cannot be found elsewhere in Asia. Its developed supply chain benefits manufacturers in both procurement and distribution processes.
- Hence, both Statement-II and Statement-III explain Statement-I: India's developing domestic manufacturing sector (Statement-II) necessitates imports to meet demand. China's highly integrated and efficient supply chain (Statement-III) makes it an attractive source for these imports.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**32. Correct Answer is (C)**

- A K-shaped recovery occurs when, following a recession, different parts of the economy recover at different rates, times, or magnitudes. This type of recovery is characterized by the divergent performance of various sectors, industries, or demographic groups, where some sectors experience robust growth while others continue to struggle or decline.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**33. Correct Answer is (D)**

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. According to the data, more than 40% of India's workforce is employed in agriculture. Moody's has identified India as one of the sovereigns most vulnerable to risks associated with water management and noted that it has the poorest access to basic services, including water, among G-20 economies. Moody's has warned that India's growing water shortage and climate change-driven natural disasters can negatively impact the country's sovereign credit strength.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**34. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. U.S. dollar-denominated debt remained the largest component of India's external debt, with a share of 53.8% at end-March 2024, followed by debt denominated in the Indian rupee (31.5%), yen (5.8%), SDR (5.4%), and euro (2.8%).
- Statement 2 is correct. India's external debt-to-GDP ratio is around 18.6% to 18.7%, which is relatively low compared to many other developing countries.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**35. Correct Answer is (B)**

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- Statement 1 is incorrect. Basel III mandates that banks must maintain a minimum total capital adequacy ratio of 8%. However, with the additional capital conservation buffer, the total requirement increases to 10.5%.
- Statement 2 is correct. Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital refers to a bank's core capital, which is available to absorb losses and is considered the highest quality of regulatory capital. CET1 must be at least 4.5% of risk-weighted assets under Basel III.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 36. Correct Answer is (B)

- If the domestic subsidiary reimburses the foreign holding company for the cost of securities/shares on a cost-to-cost basis, no GST will be applicable. If the foreign holding company charges an additional amount over the cost of securities/shares, GST will be levied on this additional amount. The reimbursement of shares as part of employee compensation is not subject to GST unless additional charges are involved. This decision benefits multinational companies like Google, Microsoft, Oracle, and Walmart, whose Indian employees receive these stock options.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 37. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is correct. The ICI is a crucial indicator that reflects the health of the core industrial sector in India. It tracks the performance of eight key industries.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. As of 2023, Refinery Products hold the highest weightage in the ICI, followed by Electricity and Steel. Weightage can change over time. The eight core industries are Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, Fertilizers, Steel, Cement, and Electricity.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 38. Correct Answer is (C)

- Ways and Means Advances (WMA) is a mechanism used by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to provide short-term financial assistance to the Indian government, specifically state governments. It helps them bridge temporary gaps between their receipts and expenditures.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

## Environment

### Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding Hoolock Gibbon:

1. It is the only ape native to India.
2. It swings through the rainforest canopy.
3. The western hoolock is categorized as Vulnerable in IUCN List of Threatened Species.

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.2) Consider the following statements:**

1. Heat generated from air conditioners and other machinery adds to the Urban Heat Island (UHI) Effect.
2. The World Health Organization considers a wet-bulb temperature of around 30°C to be near the limits of human survivability.
3. In India, a heatwave in coastal areas is declared when the maximum temperature departure is 4.5°C or more from normal.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.3) Which one of the following best explain the 'altruism' in nature?**

- a) It is a behaviour that benefits the individual at the expense of the group.
- b) It is a behaviour that benefits other organisms at a cost to the individual performing the behaviour.
- c) It is a behaviour that ensures the survival of the fittest individuals in a population.
- d) It is a behaviour that is only observed in human societies and not in animals.

**Q.4) Consider the following statements with reference to the World Environment Day:**

1. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) leads the global celebrations of World Environment Day.
2. The theme for World Environment Day 2024 is 'Ecosystem Restoration'.
3. Saudi Arabia is hosting the global celebrations for World Environment Day 2024.

**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.5) Match the following with their statutory status:**

**Organizations/Schemes-----Statutory Status**

1. National Board for Wildlife-----Statutory body under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
2. National Tiger Conservation Authority-----Statutory body under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and amended in 2006
3. Project Elephant-----Centrally Sponsored Scheme under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change

**Which of the pairs are correctly matched?**

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

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

1. Informal recycling workers are responsible for recycling a majority of plastics.
2. The Global Plastics Treaty is a significant attempt to establish a legally binding agreement aimed at reducing and eliminating plastic pollution.
3. The International Alliance of Waste Pickers (IAWP) aims to promote recycling technologies for waste management.

**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) With reference to the *Thismia malayana* plant, which of the following statements are correct?**

1. It is a plant found in temperate forest.
2. These plants do not perform photosynthesis.
3. Its flowers are pollinated by fungus and other small insects.

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

1. Particulate matter (PM) is a mixture of tiny solid particles and liquid droplets floating in the air.
2. The “Air of the Anthropocene” project is an international effort that combines art and science to show air pollution in a visual way using light painting.

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.9) With reference to the Placenta Mammals, consider the following statements:**

1. They have a placenta that nourishes the fetus during gestation.
2. African elephant is a placental mammal.
3. Placental mammals are classified under the subclass Eutheria.

**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.10) With reference to the Przewalski's horse (Asian wild horse), consider the following statements:**

1. They have shorter legs compared to domestic horses.
2. They have a large head, thick neck, and an erect mane with no forelock.
3. They are categorized as ‘Extinct in the Wild’ in the IUCN List of Threatened Species.

**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.11) Consider the following statements:**

1. The ocean absorbs over 90% of excess heat from global warming, resulting in higher ocean temperatures and sea-level rise.
2. The principle of ‘prevention or no harm rule’ requires states to regulate shared natural resources to avoid significant transboundary harm to other states.
3. International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) decisions are binding only on the states that are directly involved in the dispute.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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



**Q.12) With reference to the Nagarahole Tiger Reserve, consider the following statements:**

1. Moyar River separates Nagarahole National Park from Bandipur National Park.
2. Project Tiger is the primary conservation initiative under which Nagarahole Tiger Reserve operates.

**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.13) Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** India is the world's largest source of nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O).

**Statement-II:** India uses a significant amount of nitrogen-based fertilizers.

**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.14) Which one of the following animals can generate name-like calls during contact calls, addressing another individual specifically?**

- a) Elephant
- b) Leopard
- c) Orangutan
- d) Chimpanzee

**Q.15) With reference to Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary, consider the following statements:**

1. The primary vegetation type found in the sanctuary is temperate broadleaf forest.
2. The sanctuary is famous for its conservation efforts of Bengal Tiger.
3. One of the key objectives behind establishing the sanctuary is for conserving the broad-leaved oak forests.

**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.16) Consider the following:**

1. Restore at least 20% of the EU's land and sea areas by 2030
2. Restore all ecosystems in need by 2050
3. Achieve zero pollution in urban areas by 2040
4. Restore at least 30% of habitats covered by the new law from poor to good condition by 2030.

**How many of the above are targets set by the European Union (EU's) Nature Restoration Law?**

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

**Q.17) Superhydrophobic catalysts, seen in the news recently, is associated with:**

- a) Cheaper production of solar panels
- b) Water purification systems
- c) Cost-effective biodiesel production
- d) Desalination plants

**Q.18) With reference to the Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, consider the following statements:**

1. It has the highest density of Indian One-Horned Rhinoceros in the world.
2. Hoolock Gibbon can be found in the sanctuary.
3. It was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1972.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.19) Consider the following statements:**

1. Offshore wind terminals are port facilities that support the construction, operation, and manufacturing of offshore wind power projects.
2. India's first offshore wind terminals will be developed in Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

**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.20) With reference to the Petrocosmea arunachalense plant, consider the following statements:**

1. It lacks a persistent woody stem above ground.
2. It is the only known species of the genus Petrocosmea found in India.
3. It can be found in the Eastern Himalayas.

**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.21) The organisms 'newts, salamanders, and caecilians' are:**

- a) Aquatic
- b) Terrestrial
- c) Amphibians
- d) Metamorphic

**Q.22) Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** India has launched Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles (FAME) scheme to encourage faster adoption and manufacturing of electric and hybrid vehicles in India.

**Statement-II:** India's road transport sector is the third most greenhouse gas emitting sector.

**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.23) "Ele-fence project" was seen in the news recently, is associated with:**

- a) Protecting endangered bird species
- b) Preventing wild animal intrusion into human habitats
- c) Enhancing agricultural productivity
- d) Reducing air pollution in urban areas

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### Q.24) Consider the following statements:

1. The island of Great Nicobar is the southernmost tip of India.
2. The Great Nicobar is home to Jarawas tribes.
3. The giant leatherback turtle and Nicobar megapode are listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection Act), 1972.

### 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.25) Consider the following statements with reference to the Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP):

1. The purpose of setting up the park is in-situ conservation of wildlife.
2. India's largest leopard safari has been inaugurated in this park.

### 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.26) Which one of the following states is NOT included in the jurisdiction of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM)?

- a) Delhi
- b) Haryana
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

### Q.27) Consider the following statements regarding the mainland serow (*Capricornis sumatraensis*):

1. It is native to the Himalayas, Southeast Asia, and China.
2. They have brightly coloured fur with blue and green patches.
3. They are categorized as 'Vulnerable' in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

### 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

## Answer Key

1 - (a)	2 - (b)	3 - (b)	4 - (c)	5 - (d)	6 - (a)	7 - (b)	8 - (c)	9 - (d)	10 - (a)
11 - (c)	12 - (b)	13 - (d)	14 - (a)	15 - (c)	16 - (c)	17 - (c)	18 - (a)	19 - (a)	20 - (c)
21 - (c)	22 - (b)	23 - (b)	24 - (c)	25 - (b)	26 - (d)	27 - (c)			

## Answers & Explanations

**1. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Hoolock Gibbon is the only ape species native to India. It is unique to India's northeast and is the only ape species found in the country. Hoolock Gibbons are known for their ability to swing through the rainforest canopy using a form of locomotion called brachiation.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The western hoolock gibbon is categorized as Endangered while the eastern hoolock gibbon is categorized as Vulnerable.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**2. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The heat emitted by air conditioners and other machinery contributes to the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect by increasing the ambient temperature in urban areas. In India, a heatwave in coastal areas is declared when the maximum temperature departure is 4.5°C or more from normal, provided the actual maximum temperature is 37°C or more.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The World Health Organization considers a wet-bulb temperature of around 38.5°C to be near the limits of human survivability.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**3. Correct Answer is (B)**

- In evolutionary biology, altruism is defined as a behaviour that reduces the fitness of the individual performing the behaviour while increasing the fitness of other individuals in the population. This concept is well-documented in various animal species, where individuals may sacrifice their own resources, time, or even lives for the benefit of others, thereby enhancing the overall fitness of the group.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**4. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. World Environment Day, celebrated annually on June 5th, is a global event dedicated to raising awareness and promoting action for the protection of the environment. Established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972 during the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, the first World Environment Day was observed in 1973 with the theme "Only One Earth". The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) leads the global celebrations of World Environment Day. Saudi Arabia is hosting the global celebrations for World Environment Day 2024.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The theme for 2024 is "Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience".

Source: [AIR](#)

**5. Correct Answer is (D)**

- National Board for Wildlife (NBWL): It is a statutory body constituted under Section 5A of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (WLPA).
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA): It is a statutory body established under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which was amended in 2006 to strengthen tiger conservation.
- Project Elephant: It is a centrally sponsored scheme launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change in 1992.

Source: [AIR](#)

**6. Correct Answer is (A)**

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- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. According to the United Nations Environment Programme, informal recycling workers are responsible for recycling 85% of the 9% of plastic waste that is recycled globally. The Global Plastics Treaty aims to create a global, legally binding agreement to address plastic pollution comprehensively, covering aspects from production to waste management.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The primary focus of the IAWP is to advance the rights and strengthen the organizing of waste pickers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. *Thismia malayana* is found in the tropical rainforests of Peninsular Malaysia.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. *Thismia malayana* is a mycoheterotrophic plant, meaning it does not perform photosynthesis. Instead, it steals nutrients from underground fungi. The flowers of *Thismia malayana* are pollinated by fungus gnats and other small insects. This plant thrives in low-light conditions of dense forest understories. It is typically found hidden in leaf litter and growing near tree roots or old rotten logs. *Thismia malayana* is very sensitive to environmental changes. It has been classified as Vulnerable according to the IUCN Red List criteria.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

### 8. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Particulate matter (PM) is a complex mixture of small solid particles and liquid droplets suspended in the air, including both organic and inorganic particles such as dust, pollen, soot, smoke, and liquid droplets. The "Air of the Anthropocene" project is an international initiative that combines art and science to visualize air pollution through light painting, aiming to raise awareness and spark discussions about air quality.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

### 9. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Placental mammals, or eutherians, possess a complex placenta that provides nutrients and oxygen to the developing fetus. The African elephant is a placental mammal and falls under the subclass Eutheria, which includes all mammals that give birth to live young that have been nourished prior to birth via a placenta.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

### 10. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Przewalski's horses are described as stockily built with shorter legs compared to domestic horses. They have a large head, thick neck, and an erect mane with no forelock. These horses are genetically distinct from domestic horses and have a unique evolutionary history.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. They are currently listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 11. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Covering more than 70% of Earth's surface, our global ocean has a very high heat capacity. It has absorbed 90% of the warming that has occurred in recent decades due to increasing greenhouse gases, and the top few meters of the ocean store as much heat as Earth's entire atmosphere. The no-harm rule is a widely recognised principle of customary international law whereby a State is duty-bound to prevent, reduce and control the risk of environmental harm to other states. ITLOS rulings are legally binding only on the parties directly involved in the specific dispute brought before the tribunal.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**12. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Kabini River separates Nagarhole National Park from Bandipur National Park. Nagarhole National Park, also known as Rajiv Gandhi National Park, is a wildlife reserve in the South Indian state of Karnataka. Part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, the park is backed by the Brahmagiri Mountains and filled with sandalwood and teak trees
- Statement 2 is correct. Project Tiger is the primary conservation initiative under which Nagarhole Tiger Reserve operates.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**13. Correct Answer is (D)**

- Statement I is incorrect. India is the world's second-largest source of nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), a potent greenhouse gas. In 2020, India accounted for nearly 11% of global man-made N<sub>2</sub>O emissions, second only to China at 16%.
- Statement II is correct. The major source of N<sub>2</sub>O emissions in India comes from the use of nitrogen-based fertilizers. According to a global assessment, agricultural production using nitrogen fertilizers and animal manure contributed 74% of total anthropogenic N<sub>2</sub>O emissions in the last decade.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**14. Correct Answer is (A)**

- As per a recent study, elephants have their own names that they use to address each other. This research places elephants among the very small number of species known to address one another in this way. Wild African elephants use name-like calls to address each other, a rare behaviour among nonhuman animals.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**15. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Binsar is a protected wildlife area comprising oak, rhododendron and pine forests on a mountain rising up to 8000 ft. It is situated 30 kilometres north east of Almora in the Kumaon region of the state of Uttarakhand in North India. It is home to temperate broadleaf forests, primarily consisting of oak and rhododendron trees at higher altitudes. One of the main reasons for establishing Binsar as a wildlife sanctuary in 1988 was to conserve and protect the shrinking broad-leaved oak forests of the Central Himalayan region.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Bengal Tiger is not found in the sanctuary.

Source: [AIR](#)

**16. Correct Answer is (C)**

- The European Union (EU) Nature Restoration Law is a landmark piece of legislation aimed at reversing the decline of biodiversity and restoring degraded ecosystems across the EU. It is a key component of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and aligns with international environmental commitments, such as the UN Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Achieve zero pollution in urban areas by 2040 is not a target set by the EU's Nature Restoration Law.

Source: [AIR](#)

**17. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Recently, a team of scientists developed a "spherical superhydrophobic activated carbon catalyst" that can significantly reduce the cost of producing biodiesel by over 60%.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**18. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Statement 1 is correct. Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary in Assam, India has the highest density of one-horned rhinos in the world.

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- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Hoolock Gibbons are not found in Pobitora. Their habitat is typically rainforests, not grasslands. Hoolock Gibbons are found in the Hollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary and around Kaziranga National Park. Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary is a wildlife sanctuary on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra in Morigaon district in Assam, India. It was declared in 1987.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Offshore wind terminals are specialized port facilities designed to support various activities related to offshore wind power projects, including construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of offshore wind farms. They provide essential infrastructure such as deep-water quays, heavy-duty load-bearing areas, storage yards, and facilities for assembling and transporting large wind turbine components.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. India's first offshore wind projects and associated terminals are planned to be developed along the coast of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 20. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. *Petrocosmea arunachalense* is an "herbaceous plant species", which means it lacks a persistent woody stem above ground. *Petrocosmea arunachalense* was discovered in the West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh, which is part of the Eastern Himalayas region.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. *Petrocosmea arunachalense* is notable for being only the second known species of the genus *Petrocosmea* found in India.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 21. Correct Answer is (C)

- Amphibians are a class of vertebrates that typically live part of their lives in water and part on land. This matches the characteristics of newts and salamanders, which often have both aquatic and terrestrial life stages. While caecilians are less well-known, they are also amphibians. Caecilians are limbless amphibians that spend most of their lives burrowed under soil. Amphibians include frogs, toads, newts, salamanders, and caecilians, among others.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 22. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement-I is correct. The FAME (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid & Electric Vehicles) scheme was launched by India to encourage faster adoption and manufacturing of electric and hybrid vehicles.
- Statement-II is correct. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA) report, India's road transport sector is the third most greenhouse gas emitting sector, after energy and agriculture. The report states that road transport accounts for about 12% of India's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, making it the third largest emitting sector.
- However, Statement-II is not the explanation for Statement-I. The FAME scheme was launched to promote electric vehicle adoption and manufacturing, not because the road transport sector is the third largest emitter.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 23. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Ele-fence project is an artificial intelligence-based smart fence being installed in Wayanad, Kerala, to address the increasing human-wildlife conflict, particularly involving elephants. It is the

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country's first artificial intelligence-based smart fence. The project is being implemented by White Elephant Technologies in collaboration with the Kerala Forest Department.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 24. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Great Nicobar is the southernmost tip of India, with Indira Point being the southernmost point of the island and the country. Both the giant leatherback turtle and the Nicobar megapode are listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which provides them with the highest level of protection.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Great Nicobar is home to the Shompen and Nicobarese tribes. The Jarawas inhabit the South and Middle Andaman Islands.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 25. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The main objective of Bannerghatta Biological Park is ex-situ conservation. The main objective of the zoo is ex-situ conservation.
- Statement 2 is correct. A large leopard safari has been recently inaugurated at Bannerghatta Biological Park. This is a first for South India and the largest leopard safari in the country.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 26. Correct Answer is (D)

- The CAQM covers "the National Capital Region (NCR) and its Adjoining Areas" which refers to "areas in the states of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh adjoining the NCR where any source of pollution may cause adverse impact on air quality in the NCR." The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) is a statutory body established by the Indian government to address air quality issues in the National Capital Region (NCR) and adjoining areas.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 27. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The mainland serow is native to the Himalayas, Southeast Asia, and China. The mainland serow is related closely to the red serow. The mainland serow is listed in CITES Appendix I and is categorized as Vulnerable in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. The species is vulnerable due to habitat loss and degradation, hunting, and disease.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The mainland serow does not have brightly colored fur with blue and green patches. Its coat is usually dark brown or black, with lighter-colored fur on the underbelly and legs. The mainland serow is territorial and lives alone or in small groups. The mainland serow inhabits hilly forests above an elevation of 300 m (980 ft), but descends to 100 m (330 ft) in winter. The species has a large head with long, curving horns that are present in both males and females.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

## Science & Technology

### Q.1) Which one of the following best describes the 'Dark Web'?

- a) A part of the internet accessible through standard web browsers and search engines.
- b) A network of websites that are intentionally hidden and accessible only with specific software, configurations, or authorization.
- c) A section of the internet used solely for legal activities and research purposes.
- d) The entirety of the internet including all public and private networks.



**Q.2) Which one of the following is the primary purpose of multinational military exercises like 'Red Flag' and 'RIMPAC'?**

- a) Disaster relief training
- b) Show of force and regional dominance
- c) Improving interoperability between allied forces
- d) Testing new weaponry and military technology

**Q.3) With reference to Nipah virus-like particles (NiV-VLPs), consider the following statements:**

- 1. These particles can be used to develop antibodies and antiviral drugs in a safer lab environment.
- 2. The VLPs are contagious and harmful as the Nipah Virus.

**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.4) Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API), seen in the news recently, is**

- a) Used to provide a pleasant taste or color to the medication.
- b) A packaging material for drugs.
- c) A substance responsible for the therapeutic effect of a drug.
- d) Used to extend the shelf life of the medication.

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

- 1. A protein is a large, complex molecule that is a key building block of life.
- 2. Recombinant proteins are naturally occurring protein in specific types of bacteria.

**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.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Parallel RANS Solver for Aerospace Vehicle Aero-thermo-dynamic Analysis (PraVaHa):**

- 1. It is a software designed to simulate external and internal flows on aerospace launch vehicles.
- 2. It is designed to utilize single-core processor of computer architecture.
- 3. It simulates airflow under perfect gas and real gas conditions.

**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) Which one of the following statements best describes the primary function of the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya app?**

- a) Sell e-books directly to users.
- b) Provide access to a vast collection of digital learning resources.
- c) Manage the inventory of physical libraries across India.
- d) Offer online courses and certifications.

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

1. Running Army Goodwill Schools
2. Conducting infrastructure development projects
3. Organizing national integration tours
4. Providing direct financial aid to families

**How many of the above are part of 'Operation Sadbhavana'?**

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

**Q.9) A gene that promotes altruistic behaviour that benefits both the recipient and the organism is referred to as:**

- a) Kin selection gene
- b) Reciprocal altruism gene
- c) Green beard gene
- d) Selfish gene

**Q.10) Consider the following statements:**

1. Rabies is a zoonotic disease.
2. Rabies is a bacterial infection that mainly affects the respiratory system.
3. Rabies can be prevented through vaccination.

**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.11) Consider the following statements:**

1. The objective of China's Chang'e-6 mission is to map the lunar surface in high resolution.
2. Chang'e-6 targeted moon's South Pole-Aitken Basin for its landing and sample collection.

**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.12) Milgromian Dynamics (MOND) is a proposed alternative to Newtonian gravity that explains:**

- a) The behaviour of objects at very high velocities near the speed of light.
- b) The motion of galaxies and galactic clusters where gravity seems stronger than expected.
- c) The trajectory of spacecraft during interplanetary travel.
- d) The formation of black holes and other extreme gravity phenomena.

**Q.13) Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** India has maximum number of cases of Tuberculosis in the world.

**Statement-II:** A significant portion of the Indian population lives in poor conditions.

**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.14) Consider the following statements:**

1. Biopharmaceuticals are produced using non-living systems like chemical reactors, synthetic polymers, or inorganic catalysts.
2. National Biopharma Mission aims to make India a hub for affordable and effective biopharmaceutical products.
3. India leads in the production of biosimilars in the world.

**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 statements:**

1. Phenome India project aims to create India-specific risk prediction models for cardio-metabolic diseases.
2. Phenome India project has been launched by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

**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.16) Consider the following statements:**

1. Cancer is a genetic disease caused by mutations in DNA.
2. Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) is a method for detecting specific proteins in a sample.

**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) Which one of the following best explains the difference between Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn's Disease, types of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)?**

- a) Ulcerative colitis affects the entire gastrointestinal (GI) tract, while Crohn's disease is limited to the colon.
- b) Ulcerative colitis causes inflammation only in the inner lining of the colon, while Crohn's disease can affect deeper layers of the GI tract.
- c) Ulcerative colitis is always caused by a bacterial infection, while Crohn's disease is an autoimmune disease.
- d) Ulcerative colitis has a clear genetic link, while Crohn's disease does not.

**Q.18) Consider the following statements:**

1. India's health care services are dominated by the public health care services.
2. Health is in the State List of the Indian Constitution.
3. Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) are standard prescribed for both public and private hospitals in India.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Q.19) Consider the following statements:**

1. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanners work by using strong magnetic fields and radio waves to generate images of internal organs.
2. Positron emission tomography (PET) is a type of MRI scan.

**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.20) In modern astronomy, which one of the following is the significance of Hydrogen Line?**

- a) It helps in detecting black holes.
- b) It is used to study the structure and dynamics of galaxies.
- c) It is used to measure the temperature of stars.
- d) It helps in identifying exoplanets.

**Q.21) Consider the following pairs:**

**Aditya's L1 Payloads-----Features**

1. Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC)-----To measure and analyze the energy and mass of solar wind electrons and ions.
2. Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT)-----To study the Sun's ultraviolet emissions and capture high-resolution images of the Sun's atmosphere.
3. High Energy L1 Orbiting X-ray Spectrometer (HEL1OS) ----To observe the dynamic events in the solar corona and provide high-resolution X-ray spectra of solar flares
4. Plasma Analyser Package for Aditya (PAPA)----To image the solar corona and study the temperature, velocity, density, and heating of the solar corona

**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.22) Consider the following:**

1. Telecommunications
2. Scientific research
3. Military operations
4. Wristwatches
5. Global Positioning System

**In how many of the above areas do 'atomic clocks' find application?**

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

**Q.23) Consider the following:**

1. Weather forecasting
2. Breaking complex encryption codes
3. Simulating the behaviour of large molecules for drug discovery
4. Sending high-definition videos

**Which of the above are potential applications of quantum computers?**

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

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**Q.24) Consider the following statements:**

1. Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) has more variants circulating in a single patient than influenza generates in a year worldwide.
2. The human immune system produces antibodies specific to viral surface proteins through A-cells.

**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.25) Consider the following statements:**

1. Antimicrobial resistance can automatically lead to the increased risk of developing chronic diseases like diabetes and cancer.
2. Rational antibiotic use is key to combating antimicrobial resistance (AMR) crisis.

**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.26) The 'Truenat platform' was seen in the news recently is related to:**

- a) The development of a rapid molecular test for diagnosing tuberculosis.
- b) A new method for COVID-19 vaccination.
- c) An innovative approach to cancer treatment.
- d) A breakthrough in diabetes management.

**Q.27) With reference to the introduction of Calling Name Presentation (CNAP) in telecommunication networks, consider the following statements:**

1. It will facilitate mobile number portability by the user without the need of visiting the store.
2. It requires the originating service provider to send the caller's name during call setup.

**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.28) Which one of the following technologies is utilized by 'Digi Yatra' for passenger identification?**

- a) Fingerprint recognition
- b) Iris recognition
- c) Facial recognition
- d) Voice recognition

**Q.29) With reference to the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 strain, consider the following statements:**

1. It spreads only in birds.
2. The common symptoms of H5N1 are similar to those of influenza-A illnesses.

**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.30) With reference to the CRISPR-Cas9 Gene Therapy in the context of sickle cell disease, which of the following statements are correct?**

1. The primary genetic defect that causes sickle cell disease is the mutation in the hemoglobin B gene.
2. CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing aims to treat sickle cell disease by introducing beneficial mutations in the HBB gene to mimic hereditary persistence of fetal hemoglobin (HPFH).
3. The function of the Cas9 protein in the CRISPR-Cas9 system is that it acts as a guide RNA to locate the target DNA sequence.

**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.31) Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) contribute to a cycle of poverty hindering economic development and attracting less commercial investment in treatments and research.

**Statement-II:** Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) are a group of infectious diseases that primarily affect populations in tropical and subtropical regions.

**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.32) Which one of the following treatments is most commonly used to reduce the frequency of sickle cell crises in patients with Sickle Cell Disease?**

- a) Antibiotics
- b) Hydroxyurea
- c) Blood transfusions
- d) Bone marrow transplant

**Q.33) Consider the following statements:**

1. According to the World Health Organisation, no level of alcohol content in liquor is safe for human consumption.
2. Spurious liquor is characterised by the liquid mixture containing methanol with alcohol.
3. The most common way to produce methanol is through direct oxidation of methane using gold nanoparticle catalysts.

**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.34) Which one of the following aircrafts was used to carry and release the Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV) during the landing experiment missions?**

- a) C-130J Super Hercules
- b) Boeing C-17 Globemaster
- c) Chinook Helicopter
- d) Mi-26 Helicopter

**Q.35) Consider the following statements:**

1. India has a high organ donation rate compared to other countries.
2. No Indian donor is permitted to donate his organs to a foreigner unless they are a near relative of the recipient.

**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 statements:**

1. A part of the fission energy carried away by neutrons is called the prompt fission neutron spectrum.
2. India is currently in the first-stage of nuclear power programme.

**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.37) Consider the following statements:**

1. Ethanol is legal liquor for consumption.
2. A majority of methanol is produced biologically.
3. During ethanol production, methanol can also be produced.

**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.38) Consider the following:**

1. Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags
2. Onboard computer and brake interface equipment
3. Centralized live monitoring system
4. Satellite-based communication system

**Which of the above are part of the Kavach System?**

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

**Q.39) Which one of the following is the primary goal of the 'National STOP Diarrhoea Campaign, 2024'?**

- a) Reduce childhood diarrhoea cases by 50%
- b) Attain zero child deaths due to childhood diarrhoea
- c) Increase awareness about diarrhoea prevention
- d) Distribute Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) packets to all households

**Q.40) Consider the following:**

1. Precision agriculture
2. Designing urban areas
3. Toll collection

**In how many of the above areas Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) find application?**

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

**Q.41) Consider the following statements:**

1. India has a comprehensive National Security Strategy (NSS)
2. NSS promotes better coordination among the military branches and various national security agencies.

**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.42) The primary purpose of the Microwave Obscurant Chaff (MOC) technology developed by DRDO is to:**

- a) Enhance radar detection capabilities
- b) Obscure radar signals and create a microwave shield
- c) Improve communication between naval vessels
- d) Increase the speed of naval rockets

**Q.43) With reference to India's nuclear doctrine, which of the following statements are correct?**

1. Limited use policy is the cornerstone of India's nuclear doctrine.
2. The Prime Minister of India has the authority to authorize the use of nuclear weapons in India.
3. In case of a major attack by biological or chemical weapons, India's nuclear doctrine allow for the use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states.
4. The significance of the "credible minimum deterrent" in India's nuclear strategy is to prioritize the development of non-nuclear weapons.

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

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

**Q.44) Consider the following:**

1. Agriculture
2. Preventing soil contamination
3. Power plant furnace

**Which of the above find application of Geotextiles?**

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

**Q.45) HbA1c testing was seen in the news recently, is associated with:**

- a) Diagnosing and monitoring diabetes.
- b) Monitoring cholesterol levels in the blood.
- c) Diagnosing and monitoring hypertension.
- d) Measuring the oxygen-carrying capacity of red blood cells.



## Answer Key

1 - (b)	2 - (c)	3 - (a)	4 - (c)	5 - (a)	6 - (c)	7 - (b)	8 - (c)	9 - (c)
10 - (c)	11 - (b)	12 - (b)	13 - (a)	14 - (b)	15 - (a)	16 - (a)	17 - (b)	18 - (a)
19 - (a)	20 - (b)	21 - (b)	22 - (c)	23 - (a)	24 - (a)	25 - (b)	26 - (a)	27 - (d)
28 - (c)	29 - (b)	30 - (a)	31 - (b)	32 - (b)	33 - (a)	34 - (c)	35 - (b)	36 - (a)
37 - (c)	38 - (a)	39 - (b)	40 - (b)	41 - (b)	42 - (b)	43 - (b)	44 - (a)	45 - (a)

## Answers & Explanations

### 1. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Dark Web is a part of the internet that is not used by traditional search engines and cannot be accessed using standard web browsers like Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, or Microsoft Edge. Instead, it requires special software, the most common of which is the Tor Browser. This software allows users to access hidden websites and services while maintaining anonymity. The Dark Web is often associated with illicit activities due to its anonymity, but it is also used for legitimate purposes, such as providing secure communication channels for whistleblowers, journalists, and activists in oppressive regimes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 2. Correct Answer is (C)

- The primary purpose of multinational military exercises like Red Flag and RIMPAC is to improve interoperability between allied forces. These exercises provide realistic training environments where participating nations can exchange tactics, techniques, and procedures, thereby enhancing their ability to operate together effectively in various combat scenarios. Exercise Red Flag is a two-week advanced aerial combat training exercise held several times a year by the United States Air Force (USAF). It aims to provide realistic air-combat training for military pilots and other flight crew members from the United States and allied countries. The Rim of the Pacific Exercise (RIMPAC) is the world's largest international maritime warfare exercise. It is held biennially during June and July in and around the Hawaiian Islands.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. NiV-VLPs can be used to develop antibodies and antiviral drugs in a safer lab environment because they mimic the virus's structure without containing its genetic material, making them non-infectious and safe to handle.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. NiV-VLPs are not harmful like the Nipah Virus because they do not contain viral genetic material and cannot cause disease.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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### 4. Correct Answer is (C)

- The API is the component of a drug that produces the intended therapeutic effects. It is the primary ingredient that is biologically active and responsible for the drug's efficacy in treating a condition or disease. It supports the manufacture of essential medicines. India has recently sent 90 tonnes of nine 'Made in India' Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) to Cuba.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 5. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Proteins are large, complex molecules that play critical roles in the structure, function, and regulation of the body's tissues and organs. They are essential building blocks of life.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Recombinant proteins are not naturally occurring in specific types of bacteria. Recombinant proteins are proteins that are artificially produced by introducing specific genes (Recombinant DNA) into host organisms, such as bacteria or yeast.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

### 6. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. PraVaHa is designed to simulate both external flows around aerospace vehicles (like launch vehicles) and internal flows within engines. PraVaHa is operational to simulate airflow for both perfect gas and real gas conditions. This capability is crucial for accurate aerodynamic and aerothermal analysis of aerospace vehicles.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. PraVaHa is specifically designed to utilize both CPU and GPU architectures for parallel processing, making it more efficient for complex Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) simulations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 7. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Department of School Education signed an MoU with the National Book Trust in New Delhi to create an institutional framework for the Digital Library Platform, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya. The primary function of the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya app is to provide access to a vast collection of digital learning resources, including quality non-academic books across various genres and languages. This initiative aims to make educational and recreational reading materials easily accessible to students and the general public.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 8. Correct Answer is (C)

- Operation Sadbhavana (Goodwill) is an initiative by the Indian Army aimed at addressing the needs and aspirations of people affected by terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. The operation focuses on various welfare activities to foster national integration, community development, and empowerment. However, providing direct financial aid to families is not a part of the operation.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 9. Correct Answer is (C)

- A green beard gene promotes altruistic behaviour that benefits both the recipient and the organism with the gene by enabling individuals to recognize and preferentially help others with the same gene, identified by a unique observable trait.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 10. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Rabies is a zoonotic, viral disease preventable by vaccine, caused by the RABV virus. Domestic dogs are the primary transmitters of the rabies virus to humans in up

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to 99% of cases. It can affect both domestic and wild animals. Rabies can be prevented through vaccination, both pre-exposure and post-exposure.

- Statement 2 is correct. Rabies is a viral infection, not a bacterial one, and it primarily affects the central nervous system, not the respiratory system.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

### 11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary objective of China's Chang'e-6 mission is to collect and return samples from the far side of the Moon, specifically from the South Pole-Aitken Basin. The mission involves collecting approximately 2 kg of lunar soil and rock samples and returning them to Earth for study.
- Statement 2 is correct. Chang'e-6 targeted the South Pole-Aitken Basin for its landing and sample collection. This basin is a significant and scientifically valuable region on the far side of the Moon, and the mission successfully landed there to collect samples.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Milgromian Dynamics (MOND) was developed to address the discrepancies observed in the rotation curves of galaxies and the dynamics of galactic clusters without invoking dark matter. It modifies Newton's laws at very low accelerations, which are characteristic of the outer regions of galaxies and inter-galactic forces within galaxy clusters. This modification helps explain why the observed gravitational effects in these regions are stronger than what would be expected based on the visible matter alone.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 13. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Statement-I** is correct: India has the maximum number of cases of Tuberculosis in the world, accounting for 27% of the global TB cases in 2022, as reported by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- **Statement II is correct.** Poverty and poor living conditions are significant factors contributing to the spread of TB. Overcrowding and malnutrition weaken the immune system, making people more susceptible to the disease.
- Therefore, both statements are true, and statement II helps explain why India has a higher number of TB cases.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 14. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Biopharmaceuticals are produced using living systems such as microorganisms, plant cells, or animal cells.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The National Biopharma Mission aims to make India a hub for affordable and effective biopharmaceutical products, focusing on the development of new vaccines, bio-therapeutics, diagnostics, and medical devices. India leads in the production of biosimilars globally, with the highest number of approved biosimilars compared to other regions, including the US and Europe.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Phenome India, also known as PI-CHeCK (Phenome India-CSIR Health Cohort Knowledgebase), is a project focused on creating India-specific risk prediction models for cardio-metabolic diseases. This initiative is focused on understanding the unique risk factors and

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incidence rates of these diseases within the Indian population, considering ethnic diversity and varied lifestyle patterns

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Phenome India project was launched by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). CSIR is India's largest research and development organization, and it initiated this project to advance precision medicine through Predictive, Personalized, Participatory, and Preventive (P4) healthcare tailored to the Indian population.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

### 16. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Cancer is a genetic disease caused by mutations in DNA. These mutations can lead to uncontrolled cell growth and division, which leads to cancer.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) is a method used for sequencing DNA and RNA. NGS allows for the rapid sequencing of large amounts of genetic material by sequencing millions of small fragments simultaneously.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 17. Correct Answer is (B)

- Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn's Disease are the two types of IBD. Ulcerative colitis causes inflammation only in the inner lining of the colon, while Crohn's disease can affect deeper layers of the GI tract.

Feature	Ulcerative Colitis (UC)	Crohn's Disease (CD)
Location of Inflammation	Limited to the colon (large intestine) and rectum	Can occur anywhere along the gastrointestinal (GI) tract, from the mouth to the anus
Pattern of Inflammation	Continuous inflammation starting at the rectum and extending proximally	Intermittent inflammation with healthy areas between inflamed regions
Depth of Inflammation	Affects only the innermost lining (mucosa) of the colon	Can affect all layers of the bowel wall, from the mucosa to the serosa
Symptoms	More likely to cause rectal bleeding, blood in stools, and continuous symptoms	Can cause a wider variety of symptoms, including mouth sores, anal tears, ulcers, infections, and narrowing of the intestine
Complications	Increased risk of colon cancer, particularly with long-standing disease	Higher risk of complications such as strictures, fistulas, and abscesses

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The private sector is the dominant player in the healthcare arena in India, accounting for about 70% of total healthcare expenditure. The Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) are specifically prescribed for public healthcare facilities, such as Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs), and District Hospitals. These standards are not mandated for private hospitals.
- Statement 2 is correct. Health is currently under the State List of the Indian Constitution, meaning that state governments have the primary responsibility for healthcare.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. MRI scanners use strong magnetic fields and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body.

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- Statement 2 is incorrect. PET scans and MRI scans are different types of imaging techniques. PET scans use a radioactive tracer to show how tissues and organs are functioning, while MRI scans use magnetic fields and radio waves to create detailed images of the body's structures.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 20. Correct Answer is (B)

- The hydrogen line is important for studying the structure, dynamics, and mapping of galaxies like the Milky Way by detecting the radiation from hydrogen clouds within galaxies.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 21. Correct Answer is (B)

- 2 and 3 are correctly matched.
- Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC) – It is designed to image the solar corona and study its dynamics, including coronal mass ejections (CMEs) and magnetic field measurements.
- Plasma Analyser Package for Aditya (PAPA) – It is an energy and mass analyzer for in-situ measurements of solar wind electrons and ions, not for imaging the solar corona.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 22. Correct Answer is (C)

- Atomic clocks are used for high-speed data transfer and synchronization in telecommunications. Atomic clocks are used in various scientific research, including geophysics, metrology, and testing theories of relativity. Atomic clocks are used for precise timekeeping in military applications. Atomic clocks are integral to the functioning of GPS and other global navigation satellite systems. However, wristwatches are not a common application area for atomic clocks, as they are typically too large and complex for consumer-grade wristwatches.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 23. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Weather forecasting:** Weather forecasting involves simulating and analyzing vast amounts of data related to atmospheric conditions. Quantum computers can potentially handle these large datasets more efficiently and run more complex models than classical computers, leading to more accurate and timely weather predictions.
- **Breaking complex encryption codes:** One of the most well-known potential applications of quantum computers is their ability to break complex encryption codes.
- **Simulating the behaviour of large molecules for drug discovery:** Quantum computers are expected to revolutionize drug discovery by simulating the behaviour of large molecules at the quantum level.
- **Sending high-definition videos:** This is not a potential application of quantum computers. Sending high-definition videos is a data transmission task that does not necessarily require the unique capabilities of quantum computers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. HIV is a highly mutable virus, meaning it constantly changes its genetic makeup. This rapid mutation allows HIV to evade the immune system and creates a vast pool of variants within a single infected person. This is significantly more than the number of variants generated by influenza globally in a year.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The human immune system produces antibodies specific to viral surface proteins through B cells, not A cells. B cells are activated by T cells and then differentiate into plasma cells that produce antibodies tailored to the specific viral proteins they encountered.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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### 25. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. AMR does not directly cause chronic diseases such as diabetes or cancer. However, AMR can complicate the management and treatment of these chronic diseases.
- Statement 2 is correct. Rational use of antibiotics is crucial in the fight against AMR. Proper prescribing practices, ensuring the right antibiotic is used for the right infection, and avoiding unnecessary use are essential measures to slow the spread of resistance.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 26. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Truenat Platform is an innovative, indigenous molecular diagnostic platform developed by Molbio Diagnostics, a Goa-based company in India. It is a real-time quantitative micro-PCR system designed to provide rapid and accurate diagnosis of various infectious diseases, including tuberculosis (TB).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 27. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. CNAP is a supplementary service that displays the caller's name to the called party, it has no direct relation to mobile number portability. The caller's name (CNAM) is not sent by the originating service provider during call setup. Instead, the terminating service provider performs a database lookup using the caller's phone number to retrieve the name information from a trusted data source and display it to the called party. It aims to empower subscribers to identify callers and take an informed decision on receiving calls from unknown/spam callers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 28. Correct Answer is (C)

- Digi Yatra is a digital initiative by the Ministry of Civil Aviation in India, aimed at providing a seamless and contactless travel experience for air passengers using facial recognition technology. The initiative is designed to enhance passenger convenience and improve airport efficiency.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 29. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The H5N1 virus primarily infects birds, but it can also spread to humans and other mammals through close contact with infected birds or contaminated environments.
- Statement 2 is correct. The common symptoms of H5N1 infection in humans are similar to those of influenza-A illnesses, including fever, cough, sore throat, muscle aches, and respiratory problems.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 30. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Sickle cell disease is caused by a mutation in the HBB gene that instructs the body to produce abnormal hemoglobin. CRISPR-Cas9 can be used to introduce various modifications to address sickle cell disease, including potentially correcting the mutation or introducing changes to promote fetal hemoglobin production. India has aimed to eradicate sickle cell disease by 2047.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. In the CRISPR-Cas9 system, the Cas9 protein acts as a nuclease (molecular scissor) that cleaves the target DNA at a specific location guided by the guide RNA. The guide RNA molecule itself recognizes and binds to the target DNA sequence.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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### 31. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Statement-I is correct:** NTDs disproportionately affect impoverished communities. They can cause chronic illness, disability, and even death, hindering a person's ability to work and earn a living. This keeps families trapped in poverty and discourages investment in research and development of treatments.
- **Statement-II is correct:** NTDs are a group of infectious diseases prevalent in tropical and subtropical regions.
- Therefore, while both statements are correct, Statement-II does not provide the correct explanation for Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 32. Correct Answer is (B)

- Hydroxyurea is the primary and most commonly used treatment to reduce the frequency of sickle cell crises in patients with Sickle Cell Disease (SCD).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 33. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there is no safe level of alcohol consumption for health. Spurious liquor is characterized by the presence of methanol along with alcohol.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The most common way to produce methanol is to combine carbon monoxide and hydrogen in the presence of copper and zinc oxides as catalysts at 50-100 atm of pressure and 250° C.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 34. Correct Answer is (C)

- The aircraft used to carry and release the Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV) during the landing experiment (LEX) missions was the Chinook Helicopter. ISRO successfully conducted the third and final RLV LEX mission. The mission demonstrated the autonomous landing capability of the RLV under more challenging release conditions and severe wind conditions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 35. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India has a low organ donation rate compared to other countries. The deceased organ donation rate in India has remained consistently below one donor per million population for a decade, which is significantly lower than countries like Spain and the United States, which have achieved rates of 30 to 50 donors per million population.
- Statement 2 is correct. According to the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994, and its amendments, an Indian donor can only donate organs to a foreigner if they are a near relative of the recipient. This ensures that organ donation is carried out within the legal framework and ethical standards.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 36. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The prompt fission neutron spectrum (PFNS) refers to the energy distribution of neutrons emitted immediately after fission, which is a critical component of nuclear reactors.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. India has already progressed beyond the first stage of its nuclear power programme. The first stage involved the use of pressurized heavy water reactors (PHWRs) fueled by natural uranium, which has been operational since the 1960s. The country has since moved on to the second stage, which involves the use of fast breeder reactors (FBRs) fueled by plutonium,

and is planning to transition to the third stage, which will utilize advanced heavy water reactors (AHWRs) fueled by thorium.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**37. Correct Answer is (C)**

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Ethanol, commonly known as alcohol, is legal for consumption in most countries, including India, where it is regulated and sold as alcoholic beverages. During the fermentation process used to produce ethanol, a small amount of methanol can be a byproduct.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The majority of methanol production is industrial, using natural gas and other carbon-based feedstocks. Methanol is made from fossil fuels like coal and is extremely toxic, even in small amounts. Ethanol is produced biologically.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**38. Correct Answer is (A)**

- Kavach is an automatic train protection (ATP) system indigenously developed by Indian Railways through Research Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO). Kavach broadly comprises a stationary control unit or station unit, a radio unit, and an array of passive radio frequency identifier (RFID) tags positioned at station and block sections. The onboard equipment comprises a brake interface, a computer connected to a speed sensor, RFID reader, radio unit, and display unit. If the locomotive is running beyond the safe speed limit, an alert is sounded to the loco pilot for five seconds before initiating the brakes and bringing the train to a complete stop. The Kavach system does not use a satellite-based communication system. It primarily relies on ultra-high radio frequencies and is being developed to be compatible with 4G LTE technology.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**39. Correct Answer is (B)**

- The campaign aims to eliminate child deaths caused by diarrhoea through various measures, including the distribution of ORS and zinc, extensive information, education, and communication (IEC) efforts, and collaboration across multiple sectors. The goal behind the STOP Diarrhoea Campaign is to attain zero child deaths due to childhood diarrhoea.

Source: [AIR](#)

**40. Correct Answer is (B)**

- A global navigation satellite system (GNSS) is a network of satellites broadcasting timing and orbital information used for navigation and positioning measurements. GNSS find application in number of areas such as precision agriculture, weather forecasting, surveying and mapping, toll collection. However, GNSS is not typically used directly for designing urban areas.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**41. Correct Answer is (B)**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India does not currently have a comprehensive National Security Strategy. Efforts are underway to develop one, but it has not yet been finalized or implemented.
- Statement 2 is correct. One of the anticipated benefits of a National Security Strategy is that it would promote better coordination among the military branches and various national security agencies by providing a clear framework and common goals.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

**42. Correct Answer is (B)**

- The primary purpose of the Microwave Obscurant Chaff (MOC) technology developed by DRDO is to obscure radar signals and create a microwave shield around platforms and assets, thus reducing radar detection.

Source: [AIR](#)



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### 43. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 4 are incorrect. India's nuclear doctrine is based on the principle of "No First Use" and "Massive Retaliation". The "credible minimum deterrent" refers to maintaining a nuclear arsenal sufficient to deter potential adversaries.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Political Council of the Nuclear Command Authority, which is chaired by the Prime Minister, is the sole body authorized to order the use of nuclear weapons. India's nuclear doctrine states that in the event of a major attack against India or Indian forces anywhere by biological or chemical weapons, India retains the option of retaliating with nuclear weapons.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 44. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Agriculture:** Geotextiles are used in various agricultural applications like Soil separation and filtration, Weed control, Reinforcement.
- **Preventing soil contamination:** Geotextiles act as effective barriers for containment and filtration purposes.
- **Power plant furnace:** Geotextiles are not typically used directly in power plant furnaces due to the extreme heat and harsh environment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 45. Correct Answer is (A)

- HbA1c testing is specifically linked to monitoring blood sugar levels over time, which is crucial for diagnosing and managing diabetes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)