

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Monthly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

July, 2024

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

INDEX

Art & Culture and Ancient History	2
Answer Key	4
Answers & Explanations	4
Geography	7
Answer key	11
Answers & Explanations	12
Polity	15
Answer Key	27
Answers & Explanations	27
Acts & Policies.....	37
Answer Key	43
Answers & Explanations	43
Index & Reports.....	49
Answer Key	49
Answers & Explanations	49
International Relations/Organizations	50
Answer Key	57
Answers & Explanations	58
Economy	64
Answer Key	74
Answers & Explanations	74
Environment.....	85
Answer Key	90
Answers & Explanations	90
Science & Technology	95
Answer Key	104
Answers & Explanations	104

Art & Culture and Ancient History

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

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

Q.2) Consider the following:

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

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

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

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

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.4) Consider the following:

- 1. High antiquity of early texts over 1500-2000 years
- 2. A body of ancient literature considered valuable heritage
- 3. The literary tradition must be original and not borrowed
- 4. The language must have at least 10 million native speakers

How many of the above are the criteria for recognizing a language as a classical language in India?

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

Q.5) In the ancient Indian history, the word 'Nadu Kal' refers to:

- a) Hero stone
- b) Memorial stone
- c) Planted stone
- d) Warrior stone

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Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The Paramara dynasty was founded by Krishnaraja or Upendra.
2. The Paramara dynasty emerged as an independent power after defeating the Pratiharas.
3. Bhumija architectural style is associated with the Paramara dynasty.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding the Nalanda University:

1. The university was founded by Chandragupta II.
2. Hiuen Tsang visited Nalanda during the reign of Harshavardhan.
3. The library of Nalanda University was called Dharmaganja.

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) With reference to the World Heritage Committee, consider the following statements:

1. It is responsible for implementing the UNESCO World Heritage Convention and managing the World Heritage List.
2. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is an advisory body of the Committee.
3. The Committee meets every two years to discuss management of existing World Heritage Sites and consider new nominations.

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 languages:

1. Tamil
2. Sanskrit
3. Malayalam
4. Odia
5. Kashmiri

How many of the above languages have been accorded the status of Classical Language?

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

Q.10) Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the 'Olympic Order'?

- a) It is an award given to countries that have hosted the most Olympic Games.
- b) It is a title awarded to athletes who have won the most gold medals in the Olympics.
- c) It is the highest award given to individuals for outstanding services to the Olympic movement.
- d) It is a ranking system for the best-performing sports teams during the Olympics.

Q.11) With reference to the Charaideo Moidam, a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) World Heritage Site, consider the following statements:

1. It is the first site from northeastern India to be recognized as a World Heritage Site in the cultural category.
2. The Moidams are similar to Egypt's pyramids.
3. The Moidams were used for the burial of common people in the Ahom Dynasty.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.12) Consider the following statements:

1. Charaideo was the first capital of the Ahom dynasty.
2. The royalty and nobles of the Ahom dynasty traditionally kept the mortal remains of their ancestors and their valuables in the Moidam.
3. Pratap Barua was a military general and commander-in-chief of the Ahom Kingdom, best known for his leadership in the Battle of Saraighat.

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

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

Q.13) Which one of the following areas is commonly associated with the Chenchu tribe?

- a) Sundarbans National Park
- b) Palkonda Hills
- c) Nallamala Hills
- d) Ranthambore National Park

Answer Key

1 - (a)	2 - (c)	3 - (a)	4 - (c)	5 - (a)	6 - (b)	7 - (d)
8 - (a)	9 - (c)	10 - (c)	11 - (b)	12 - (a)	13 - (c)	

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- 1, 2 and 3 are the required criteria. Classical language status in India is a prestigious recognition granted by the government to languages with a rich historical and literary heritage. The Government of India has established specific criteria for a language to be considered classical. These are: High antiquity of early texts/recorded history over a period of 1500-2000 years, A body of ancient literature/texts considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers, The literary tradition must be original and not borrowed from another speech community, the classical language and literature should be distinct from its modern forms. Currently, India officially recognizes six languages as classical: Tamil, Sanskrit, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Odia. However, consideration of Marathi language is underway. Languages designated as classical receive several benefits such as: Two major annual international awards for scholars of eminence in the language, Establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Studies in the Classical Language, etc.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- In ancient history, the term Nadu Kal refers to a hero stone. These stones were memorials erected to commemorate the honorable death of heroes in battle. They were significant during the Sangam period and were often inscribed with details of the hero's bravery and the battle in which they perished.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Paramara dynasty was founded by Upendra or Krishnaraja in the 9th century CE. The Paramara dynasty ruled over the Malwa region in central India from the 9th to the 14th centuries CE. The Bhumija style was developed in the Malwa region during the 10th-11th century CE under Paramara rule. It is considered one of the late developments of Nagara temple architecture and is closely associated with the Paramara dynasty.

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- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Paramaras emerged as an independent power after defeating the Rashtrakutas, not the Pratiharas.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Nalanda University was founded by Kumaragupta I of the Gupta dynasty in the 5th century AD. Pala dynasty provided significant patronage to Nalanda University after the Gupta period. Nalanda was ransacked by Bakhtiyar Khalji around 1200 AD.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Hiuen Tsang (also known as Xuanzang) visited India and Nalanda during the reign of King Harsha Vardhan in the 7th century AD. The university's libraries were collectively known as Dharmaganja, which comprised three main buildings: Ratnasagara, Ratnodadhi, and Ratnaranjaka.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The World Heritage Committee is responsible for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, defines the use of the World Heritage Fund and allocates financial assistance upon requests from States Parties. The World Heritage Committee has three advisory bodies that help inform its deliberations – International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS): Evaluates cultural sites nominated for World Heritage, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN): Evaluates natural sites nominated for World Heritage and advises on nature, and International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM): Provides expert advice on cultural site conservation and training activities.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The World Heritage Committee meets once a year. It has the final say on whether a property is inscribed on the World Heritage List or the List of World Heritage in Danger. It consists of representatives from 21 States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, elected by the UNESCO General Assembly.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Indian classical languages, or the Shastriya Bhasha or the Semmozhi, is an umbrella term for the languages of India having high antiquity, and valuable, original and distinct literary heritage. India officially recognizes six languages as Classical Languages: Tamil, Sanskrit, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, Odia.

Source: [AIR](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Olympic Order is the most prestigious award presented by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). It is given to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Olympic movement. This honour recognizes exceptional services and dedication to promoting the values and ideals of the Olympics. Recently, the International Olympic Committee Executive Board has decided to award India's first individual Olympic gold medallist Abhinav Bindra with the Olympic Order for his outstanding services to the Olympic Movement.

Source: [AIR](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Charaideo Moidams are the first cultural heritage site from northeastern India to be recognized by UNESCO. The Moidams are described as earthen burial mounds similar to the pyramids of Egypt.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Moidams were used primarily for the burial of Ahom kings and nobles.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Charaideo was established as the first capital by Sukaphaa, the founder of the Ahom dynasty, in 1253. The royalty and nobles of the Ahom dynasty traditionally kept the mortal remains of their ancestors and their valuables in the Moidam
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The commander-in-chief of the Ahom Kingdom during the Battle of Saraighat was Lachit Borphukan. The tallest statue of the great Ahom warrior Lachit Borphukan was unveiled on 9th March this year.

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Chenchu are an indigenous tribal group primarily found in the southern Indian states of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, and Odisha. The Chenchu are considered one of the oldest aboriginal tribes in India. They are mentioned in ancient Indian texts like the Manu Smriti, which describes them as early inhabitants of the Andhra Pradesh region. The Chenchu primarily inhabit the Nallamala forest region, particularly in the Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve (NSTR) which spans parts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Some Chenchu communities are also found in Karnataka and Odisha. They are classified as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG). Traditionally, the Chenchu were nomadic hunter-gatherers, relying on the forest for their sustenance.

Source: [AIR](#)

Geography

Q.1) Which one of the following is the characteristic of torrential rain?

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

Q.2) With reference to Minami-Torishima Island, which of the following statements are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.3) Which one of the following natural resources is abundant in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)?

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

Q.4) Mount Etna is an active volcano located in:

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

Q.5) Which of the following mountain ranges surround Pangong Tso?

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

Q.6) Which one of the following countries are involved in the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC)?

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

Q.7) Russia's Far East borders:

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

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. India's total fertility rate and mortality rate have seen a decline.
2. The proportion of the population living below the poverty line has increased in India.
3. India accounts for one-third of the global malnutrition burden.
4. India has a double burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCD).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.9) Which of the following best describes "replacement level fertility"?

- a) A Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of exactly 2.0 children per woman.
- b) A Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of approximately 2.1 children per woman.
- c) The minimum Total Fertility Rate (TFR) needed to prevent population decline.
- d) The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) needed to maintain the current population growth rate.

Q.10) Consider the following:

1. They are generally adapted to well-drained loamy soils.
2. The ideal temperature range for its growth is 15-30°C.
3. They prefer moderate to low rainfall conditions.

Which one of the following crops requires the above climatic conditions?

- a) Rice
- b) Pulses
- c) Cotton
- d) Coffee

Q.11) Which of the following statements about Red Sea are correct?

1. It is one of the coldest seas in the world.
2. The Sea gets its name due to the presence of red coral reefs.
3. Six countries border the Red Sea.
4. The Red Sea has no permanent rivers flowing into it.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.12) Consider the following statements with respect to the Cauvery River:

1. The Cauvery River originates from Andhra Pradesh.
2. Krishna is not a tributary of the Cauvery River.
3. The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) functions are storage, apportionment, regulation and control of Cauvery waters.

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.13) Which one of the following bodies of water does Oman border?

- a) Red Sea
- b) Mediterranean Sea
- c) Arabian Sea
- d) Caspian Sea

Q.14) Which one of the following best describes Tel Aviv's geographic location within Israel?

- a) Northern Israel, near the Lebanese border
- b) Central Israel, along the Mediterranean coast
- c) Southern Israel, near the Negev Desert
- d) Eastern Israel, near the Jordanian border

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Q.15) With reference to the Bagmati River, consider the following statements:

1. The river originates in Kathmandu Valley, Nepal.
2. The river joins the Ganges.
3. Bishnumati River is a tributary of Bagmati River.

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. The summer monsoon in India is called the northeast monsoon because the winds originate from Central Asia blowing over the Himalayas and into India.
2. The heat from West Asia and dust from its deserts affect the monsoon's circulation and variability 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.17) Which one of the following best describes the term 'heat stress'?

- a) It is the condition caused by the body's inability to cool down due to prolonged exposure to high temperatures, humidity, and physical exertion.
- b) It is the condition where the body temperature drops significantly due to prolonged exposure to cold environments.
- c) It is a psychological condition that occurs due to mental fatigue and stress.
- d) It is the result of dehydration caused by insufficient water intake without any influence from environmental temperature.

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the world's largest milk producer.
2. Gujarat is the largest milk-producing state in India.
3. Women play a significant role in India's dairy sector.

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

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

Q.19) The Godavari River basin extends over which of the following states?

- a) Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha
- b) Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, and Himachal Pradesh
- c) Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Goa, and Maharashtra
- d) Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Assam

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Q.20) Consider the following statements:

1. The abyssal zone of the ocean experiences photosynthesis.
2. The ocean floor contains vast quantities of polymetallic nodules rich in valuable metals.
3. The International Seabed Authority (ISA) is responsible for regulating deep-sea mining in international waters.

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

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

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the largest user of groundwater in the world for irrigation purposes.
2. India possesses about 4% of the world's freshwater resources.
3. Groundwater constitutes a relatively small portion of India's drinking water supply.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.22) Which of the following mountain ranges surround Pangong Lake?

- a) Himalayas, Karakoram, and Zaskar
- b) Changchenmo Range, Pangong Range, and Kailash Range
- c) Ladakh Range, Pir Panjal Range, and Dhauladhar Range
- d) Kunlun Range, Tanggula Range, and Hengduan Range

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

1. The Bohai Gulf is the innermost part of the Yellow Sea, situated on the northeastern coast of China.
2. China, Japan, South Korea borders the Yellow Sea.

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

- Russia's Far East is a vast and diverse region that encompasses the easternmost part of Russia and the Asian continent. This expansive territory stretches from Lake Baikal to the Pacific Ocean. The region's geography is characterized by its immense size and varied landscape. It borders two oceans - the Pacific and the Arctic - and shares land borders with Mongolia, China, and North Korea, as well as maritime boundaries with Japan and the United States. The Far East is rich in natural resources, playing a crucial role in Russia's economy. About one-third of Russia's coal reserves and hydro-engineering resources are located in the Far East. The region's forests comprise approximately 30% of Russia's total forest area.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

8. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 3 and 4 are correct. According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5, India's total fertility rate (TFR) decreased from 3.4 to 2 between 1992 and 2021, dropping below the replacement level of 2.1. There has been a significant drop in the mortality rate as well. The average life expectancy of Indians has also increased over time. India contributes a third of the global burden of malnutrition. India has a double burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCD).
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The proportion of the population living below the poverty line reduced from 48% to 10% between 1990 and 2019.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Replacement level fertility refers to the level of fertility at which a population exactly replaces itself from one generation to the next, without migration. This typically corresponds to a TFR of about 2.1 children per woman in most countries.

Source: [AIR](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- Pulses are typically grown in well-drained loamy soils and thrive in moderate to low rainfall conditions. They generally require a temperature range of 15-30°C, which is ideal for their growth. Pulses are known for their drought tolerance and ability to grow in areas with low to moderate rainfall. Pulses are both rabi and kharif crops.

Source: [AIR](#)

11. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Red Sea is an inlet of the Indian Ocean located between Africa and Asia. It connects to the Mediterranean Sea in the north via the Suez Canal and to the Gulf of Aden in the south via the Strait of Bab el-Mandeb. It is one of the saltiest and warmest seas in the world. The Red Sea has coral reefs, but they are not predominantly red. The name is more likely derived from the seasonal blooms of the red-colored cyanobacteria *Trichodesmium erythraeum* or from ancient references to the direction "south" associated with the colour red.
- Statements 3 and 4 are correct. The Red Sea is bordered by six countries: Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen. The Red Sea does not have any permanent rivers flowing into it. It is largely surrounded by desert regions, and while there are some intermittent streams or wadis, no permanent rivers reach the sea.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Cauvery River originates from Talakaveri in the Kodagu district of Karnataka. Its journey takes it through the states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, with small portions in Kerala and the Union Territory of Puducherry.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Krishna River is a separate major river in India and is not a tributary of the Cauvery River. The Cauvery has several important tributaries: Left bank: Harangi, Hemavati, Shimsha, and Arkavati and Right bank: Lakshmantirtha, Kabini, Suvarnavati, Bhavani, Noyil, and Amaravati. The CWMA's functions include the storage, apportionment, regulation, and control of Cauvery waters.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)

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- Oman borders the Arabian Sea along its southeastern coast. It shares land borders with Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen, while sharing maritime borders with Iran and Pakistan. The Arabian Sea forms the coastal border to the southeast while the Gulf of Oman is the northeast of the country. The country is bounded by the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Oman.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

- Tel Aviv is centrally located in Israel and lies along the Mediterranean coast. This location makes it a key city for economic, cultural, and technological activities in the country.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Bagmati River originates from the Bagdwar area in the Shivapuri Hills, located in the northwestern part of Kathmandu Valley, central Nepal. Kathmandu is situated on the banks of the Bagmati River. Bishnumati River as one of the tributaries of the Bagmati River.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Bagmati River ultimately joins the Narayani River. The merged waters of the Bagmati and Narayani eventually make their way southward and into the Ganges.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The summer monsoon in India is called the southwest monsoon because the winds come from the southwest direction, blowing over the Arabian Sea and into India. These winds bring rain to the country.
- Statement 2 is correct. The heat and dust from West Asia influence the monsoon's circulation and variability in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (A)

- Heat stress occurs when the body cannot get rid of excess heat, leading to an increase in core body temperature and potential health issues such as heat stroke, heat exhaustion, and heat cramps.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. India ranks first in milk production globally, contributing 24% of the world's total milk production. Women have over 70% participation in the dairy sector, playing a crucial role in its management and operations.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Uttar Pradesh is the largest milk-producing state in India.

Source: [AIR](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Godavari River is one of India's most significant waterways, often referred to as the "Dakshina Ganga" or the "Southern Ganges". It originates in the Western Ghats of central India, near Trimbakeshwar in Nashik, Maharashtra. It flows eastward across the Deccan Plateau before emptying into the Bay of Bengal. The river's journey takes it through several states, including Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The abyssal zone is a deep part of the ocean that does not receive sunlight, making photosynthesis impossible.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The ocean floor, particularly areas like the Clarion-Clipperton Zone, contains significant quantities of polymetallic nodules rich in metals such as manganese, nickel, copper, and cobalt. The ISA is the organization responsible for regulating deep-sea mining activities in international waters to ensure that such activities are conducted in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India is the largest user of groundwater globally, primarily for irrigation, which significantly supports its agricultural sector. India holds approximately 4% of the world's freshwater resources, which is relatively low compared to its population size, contributing to its water stress. India is considered one of the most water-stressed countries globally.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Groundwater constitutes a significant portion of India's drinking water supply, with over 85% of drinking water in rural areas and 50% in urban areas coming from groundwater sources.

Source: [AIR](#)

22. Correct Answer is (B)

- Pangong Lake, also known as Pangong Tso, is a high-altitude lake located in the Himalayas, spanning eastern Ladakh in India and West Tibet in China. Pangong Lake is an endorheic (landlocked) lake, meaning it does not drain into any external bodies of water like rivers or oceans. The lake is famous for its ability to change colours, displaying different shades of blue, green, and even red depending on the time of day and weather conditions. Pangong Lake is surrounded by the Changchenmo Range, Pangong Range, and Kailash Range, which are sub-ranges of the Karakoram Range and Gangdise Shan range.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Bohai Gulf (also known as Bohai Sea) is the innermost part of the Yellow Sea, located on the northeastern coast of China. Due to its proximity to Beijing, it is one of the busiest seaways in the world. The gulf is bordered by the Liaodong Peninsula to the northeast and the Shandong Peninsula to the south. The Yellow River, China's second-longest river, flows into the gulf.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Yellow Sea is bordered by China, North Korea, and South Korea. It's a marginal sea of the Western Pacific Ocean, located between mainland China and the Korean Peninsula. The Yellow Sea is also known as the North Sea and can be considered the northwestern part of the East China Sea.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

Polity

Q.1) Which one of the following statements best describes the purpose of the Motion of Thanks in the Parliament?

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

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Q.2) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

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

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.6) Who of the following administers the oath to newly elected members of a state legislative assembly?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.10) Consider the following statements;

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

1. The concept of whip in the Indian Parliament is derived from the judiciary's interpretation of voting rights.
2. The main purpose of a whip system in the Parliament is to ensure smooth functioning of the legislative process.

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) The purpose of designating some companies as Systemically Significant Digital Enterprises (SSDEs) is to:

- a) Promote innovation among large tech companies
- b) Increase tax revenue from digital businesses
- c) Regulate dominant digital platforms and prevent anti-competitive practice
- d) Encourage foreign investment in the digital sector

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Minister is not bound to communicate to the Governor all decisions made by the Council of Ministers regarding the administration of the state's affairs and proposals for legislation.
2. The Governor is not answerable to any court for the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of their office.

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.14) Consider the following statements:

1. Caste Census is a state subject.
2. The 10% reservation for economically weaker sections (EWS) are applicable to the OBCs, SCs and STs.
3. The Constitution provides for reservations in electoral constituencies in panchayats and municipalities for OBCs but it does not provide reservation to OBCs in electoral constituencies for MPs and MLAs.

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:

1. Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956
2. River Boards Act, 1956
3. National River Water Allocation Act, 1993

How many of the above laws aim to regulate inter-state river water sharing?

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

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Q.16) Consider the following statements:

1. The primary objective of setting up Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) is to create a pool of technical experts from tribal communities.
2. Under Article 275(1) of the Indian Constitution, grants are provided for the establishment of EMRS.

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 describes the difference between 'procedure established by law' and 'due process of law'?

- a) 'Procedure established by law' is more flexible than 'due process of law.'
- b) 'Procedure established by law' only checks if the procedure is followed, while 'due process of law' also examines if the law is fair, just, and reasonable.
- c) 'Due process of law' applies only to criminal cases, while 'procedure established by law' applies to civil cases.
- d) 'Procedure established by law' is only applicable in state laws, whereas 'due process of law' is applicable in both state and central laws.

Q.18) Which one of the following is NOT a fundamental right related to personal liberty in India?

- a) Protection from arbitrary arrest and detention
- b) Right to free legal aid
- c) Right to privacy
- d) Right to hold public office

Q.19) Consider the following statements:

1. The primary goal of the Public Distribution System (PDS) is to ensure food security by distributing essential food items at subsidized rates to economically vulnerable populations.
2. In India, the PDS operate under the Ministry of Rural Development.

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 Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is considered a 'State' under Article 12 of the Indian Constitution
2. Under the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946, the CBI is required to obtain consent from the concerned administrator of the Union Territories.
3. CBI is an independent agency and it do not function under the direct control of the Union government.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

1. A Money Bill contains provisions exclusively related to financial matters.
2. The Rajya Sabha cannot recommend amendments to the Money Bill.
3. A Money Bill is certified by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, while a Financial Bill is not.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

1. The Supreme Court of India has a sanctioned strength of 34 judges, including the Chief Justice of India.
2. The collegium system plays a crucial role in the selection and recommendation of candidates for the Supreme Court.
3. The Constitution of India has set the minimum age of 45 years for the appointment of judges to Supreme Court.

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) Consider the following statements:

1. Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) allows for audio-video examination of witnesses at the concerned police stations.
2. Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) mandates registering First Information Report (FIR) through electronic communication.

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. Right to play has been interpreted as a fundamental right of children under the Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.
2. South Asia has the highest percentage of children exposed to extreme high temperatures compared to other regions.

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

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.25) Consider the following statements:

1. The President of India is the constitutional authority responsible for notifying communities to be considered as Scheduled Castes.
2. West Bengal has the highest number of Scheduled Castes in India.
3. The State government is empowered to make changes in the Scheduled Castes List based on the recommendation of the State Backward Commission.

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 right to vote was provided to all women since the commencement of the Constitution.
2. The representation of women in State Legislative Assemblies is better than the representation in the Parliament.

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

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

Q.27) Consider the following statements:

1. The oath to the Supreme Court judges is administered by the President of India or a person appointed by the President for this purpose.
2. The oath taken by Supreme Court judges is as per the Third Schedule of the Indian Constitution.
3. Seniority among Supreme Court judges is determined by their age.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.28) Consider the following statements:

1. At present, India lacks specific laws aimed at addressing superstition.
2. Article 25 of the Indian Constitution permits reasonable restrictions on the grounds of economic stability, political harmony, and cultural preservation.

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

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

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Q.29) With reference to the Finance Commission, consider the following statements:

1. It recommends how tax revenues collected by the Central government should be distributed among the Centre and various States in the country.
2. The Centre is not legally bound to implement the suggestions made by the Finance Commission.
3. The vertical devolution of funds is usually decided based on a formula created by the Commission that takes into account a state's population, fertility level, income level, geography, etc.

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 regarding the Foreigners Tribunals (FTs):

1. They are created through the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order of 1964 under the Foreigners' Act of 1946.
2. All states in India use Foreigners Tribunals (FTs) to resolve disputes over whether a person is a foreigner.
3. It can act like a civil court in some matters.

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) With reference to the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), consider the following statements:

1. Under the British India, UPSC was established based on the recommendation of Lee's Commission.
2. The Chairman and members of the UPSC hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
3. The Chairman of UPSC is eligible for reappointment in the USPC after end of the tenure.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.32) In the context of criminal justice, what does the term 'remission' refers to?

- a) Temporary postponement of a sentence
- b) Reduction of the period of a sentence without changing its nature
- c) Substitution of a severe punishment with a lighter one
- d) Complete removal of both the sentence and the conviction

Q.33) Consider the following statements:

1. Reasonable Accommodation (RA) refers to changes or adjustments that help people with disabilities use their rights just like everyone else.
2. The Indian Constitution requires the government to create conditions where everyone, including Persons with Disabilities (PwD), can exercise their rights equally.

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 July 2024

Q.34) Consider the following statements:

1. Gig-workers are classified as part-time workers in the economy.
2. Code on Social Security, 2020 is the only central legislation that makes a reference to gig workers 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.35) Consider the following statements:

1. A money Bill can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha.
2. The money Bill needs only the approval of the Lok Sabha to become law.
3. The classification of a Bill as a money Bill by the Speaker comes under the judicial review.
4. Financial Bills of Category I and II do not enjoy the special procedure of money Bills.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.36) With reference to the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), consider the following statements:

1. It regulates the import of medical devices into India.
2. It operates under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
3. It sets and enforces the drug prices in India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.37) With reference to the fundamental rights of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. Article 32 is referred to as the 'heart and soul' of the Constitution.
2. Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression is available to both Indian citizens and foreigners.
3. Right to shelter is a fundamental right recognized through judicial interpretation.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.38) With reference to the Indian Constitution, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. The President's conduct cannot be reviewed by a court, tribunal, or body designated by Parliament even if there is a charge of impeachment for violating the Constitution.
2. No criminal proceedings can be started or continued against the President or a Governor while they are in office.

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.39) With reference to the Autonomous District Councils (ADCs), consider the following statements:

1. They have authority over all forest areas including reserved forests.
2. The Governor of a state with Sixth Schedule areas has the power to divide an autonomous district into multiple autonomous regions.
3. All members of ADCs are directly elected by the people.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.40) With reference to the Lok Adalat, consider the following statements:

1. The Lok Adalat is a tribunal.
2. Lok Adalat are conducted under the supervision of Legal Services Authority.
3. Both civil and criminal cases can be referred to Lok Adalat.
4. The award passed by a Lok Adalat is not appealable.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.41) Consider the following statements:

1. Only those persons are appointed as judges in the Supreme Court who are recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium.
2. The Constitution mandates reservation for specific classes of persons in the appointment of judges to the Supreme Court or High Court.

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 July 2024

Q.42) Consider the following statements:

1. Coal is the most abundant fossil fuel in India.
2. The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 governs coal mining eligibility in India.
3. The central government is primarily responsible for addressing illegal mining issues.

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.43) Consider the following statements:

1. If an ordinary Bill is returned by the President for reconsideration and is passed again by the state legislature with or without amendment, the Governor can reserve it again for the President's consideration.
2. When the President returns a Bill to the state legislature for reconsideration, the state legislature must act upon it within 3 months.

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.44) With reference to the NITI Aayog, consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body.
2. The Governing Council of NITI Aayog comprises the Prime Minister, all Chief Ministers of states, and Lieutenant Governors of Union Territories.
3. National Education Policy, 2020 is an initiative of NITI Aayog.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.45) Consider the following statements:

1. Articles 15 and 16 of the Indian Constitution ensure equality for all citizens in government policies and public jobs.
2. The Constitution guarantees 15% reservation for SCs and 7.5% for STs in jobs, education, and public sector enterprises at the central level.
3. The creamy layer refers to the less advantaged members within the Other Backward Class (OBC) category.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.46) With reference to the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), consider the following statements:

1. It is the highest decision-making body of the defence ministry on procurement.
2. The Council is headed by the Prime Minister of India.
3. Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) is a member of the Council.
4. The Council is responsible for the operational deployment of military units.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.47) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution (Eighty-Fourth Amendment) Act of 2001 states that the boundaries of constituencies can't be changed until after the first Census done after 2026.
2. The National Population Register (NPR) was first prepared in 2009.

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

1. Royalties are payments set by law and can only be collected by public authorities to pay for welfare programs and public services.
2. Parliament can impose limitations on States' power to tax minerals.

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.49) The Governor can act in his discretion to reserve a bill for the President, if:

- a) The bill is a Money Bill
- b) The bill affects the Centre-State relations
- c) The bill is passed unanimously by the State Legislature
- d) The bill pertains to the subjects in the State List only

Q.50) Consider the following statements:

1. The Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) is constituted by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to provide economic advice and recommendations.
2. The primary purpose of the Law Commission of India is to ensure the enforcement of laws and monitor their proper implementation.

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are incorrect. The NMC was established to replace the MCI as part of an effort to reform the regulatory framework governing medical education and practice in India. One of the

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

primary functions of the NMC is to regulate medical education and practice to ensure that quality standards are maintained. This includes setting and enforcing standards for medical institutions and practitioners. The NMC is responsible for conducting disciplinary proceedings against medical practitioners for professional misconduct through its Ethics and Medical Registration Board.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. The NMC focuses on improving overall medical education and practice standards but does not explicitly prioritize specialization.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Constitution of India is considered to have a quasi-federal framework. This means it exhibits characteristics of both a federation (strong central government with independent states) and a unitary state (strong central government with subordinate units). Special financial packages are an additional grant under Article 282, which falls under 'Miscellaneous Financial Provisions'.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The primary task of recommending grants to States in need of assistance is that of the Finance Commission, until Parliament makes legislation in this regard.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The concept of whip in the Indian Parliament is inherited from British colonial rule and is based on unwritten conventions of the parliamentary system, rather than being defined in the Constitution or other written laws. 'Whip' is mentioned neither in the Constitution of India, nor in the Rules of the House, nor in any Parliamentary Statute.
- Statement 2 is correct. The whip ensures smooth and efficient functioning of the business of the House. Its primary functions include ensuring party discipline, managing attendance, coordinating voting according to party lines, and facilitating efficient conduct of business in the House.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)

- The designation of certain companies as Systemically Significant Digital Enterprises (SSDEs) is primarily aimed at regulating large, dominant digital platforms and preventing anti-competitive practices in the digital economy. This classification is typically part of broader efforts to ensure fair competition, protect consumer interests, and maintain market integrity in the rapidly evolving digital landscape. SSDEs are usually large tech companies with significant market power and influence over digital ecosystems.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Article 167 of the Indian Constitution explicitly states that it is the duty of the Chief Minister to communicate to the Governor all decisions of the Council of Ministers relating to the administration of the state's affairs and proposals for legislation.
- Statement 2 is correct. According to Article 361 of the Indian Constitution, the Governor enjoys immunity from legal action for any act done in the exercise of their official duties.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The census is a Union subject in the Union List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. Only the Centre is entitled to conduct a census. However, under the Census Act of 1948, states can collect population data for various purposes such as implementing welfare schemes. However, states cannot conduct a full-fledged census independently. The 10% reservation for economically weaker sections (EWS) is not given to the OBCs, SCs, and STs. It is

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

specifically meant for individuals who are not covered under the existing reservations for SC, ST, and OBC categories.

- Statement 3 is correct. The Constitution provides for reservations in electoral constituencies in panchayats and municipalities for OBCs but does not provide reservation to OBCs in electoral constituencies for MPs and MLAs. While SCs and STs have reserved constituencies at all levels, such provisions for OBCs are only at the local government level.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956:** This act specifically aims to regulate inter-state river water sharing. It provides for the adjudication of disputes relating to waters of inter-state rivers and river valleys.
- **River Boards Act, 1956:** This act also aims to regulate inter-state river water sharing. It provides for the establishment of River Boards for the regulation and development of inter-state rivers and river valleys
- **National River Water Allocation Act, 1993:** There is no such act.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary objective of EMRS is to provide quality education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in remote areas, enabling them to avail reservation in higher and professional educational courses and access the best opportunities in education at par with the non-ST population. The focus is on comprehensive physical, mental, and social development, rather than specifically creating a pool of technical experts.
- Statement 2 is correct. Grants under Article 275(1) of the Indian Constitution are provided for the establishment of EMRS. These grants are aimed at promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes and raising the level of administration in Scheduled Areas to that of the rest of the state. Part of these funds is utilized to establish EMRS to provide quality education to ST students.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Procedure Established by Law:** This concept, enshrined in Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, means that a law is valid if it has been enacted following the correct procedure. It focuses on whether the legislative process was followed correctly, without assessing the fairness or justness of the law itself.
- **Due Process of Law:** This doctrine, originating from the U.S. Constitution, not only ensures that the correct procedure is followed but also examines whether the law is fair, just, and reasonable. It provides broader protection for individual rights by allowing the judiciary to evaluate both the procedural and substantive aspects of the law.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (D)

- Right to hold public office is not a fundamental right related to personal liberty. It is more related to political rights and the right to participate in public affairs, but it is not classified under the fundamental rights related to personal liberty.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The primary objective of the PDS is to ensure food security by distributing essential food items at subsidized rates to economically vulnerable populations.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The PDS operates under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The DSPE Act requires the CBI to obtain consent from state governments to extend its jurisdiction to states, not from the administrators of Union territories. Union territories are directly governed by the Central Government, so the consent requirement typically applies to states. The Supreme Court has clarified that the CBI operates under the administrative control and superintendence of the Union government, as per the DSPE Act.
- Statement 1 is correct. The CBI is considered an instrumentality of the State under Article 12 of the Indian Constitution, which includes all authorities and instrumentalities of the government.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. According to Article 110(1) of the Indian Constitution, a Money Bill contains only provisions dealing with specified financial matters such as taxation, borrowing of money, and appropriation of funds from the Consolidated Fund of India. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha certifies a bill as a Money Bill, and this certification is final. Financial Bills, on the other hand, do not require such certification by the Speaker.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Rajya Sabha can recommend amendments to a Money Bill, but it cannot reject or amend the bill itself. The Lok Sabha may choose to accept or reject the recommendations made by the Rajya Sabha.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Supreme Court of India has a sanctioned strength of 34 judges, including the Chief Justice of India. The collegium system, which consists of the Chief Justice of India and the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court, plays a crucial role in the selection and recommendation of candidates for the Supreme Court.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. There is no prescribed minimum age limit for the appointment of judges to the Supreme Court in the Constitution of India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Union Home Secretary has recently clarified that "police stations or the place under the control of the police department" should not be designated as a place for examination of witnesses. The BNSS allows for audio-video examination of witnesses, but not at police stations.
- Statement 2 is correct. Section 173 of the BNSS provides for registration of the FIR electronically.

Source: [AIR](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Article 21 guarantees the right to life and personal liberty. However, right to play has not been interpreted by the Supreme Court under the Article 21. Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child enshrines the right to play.
- Statement 2 is correct. According to the UNICEF data, 76% of children (about 460 million) in South Asia are exposed to extreme high temperatures. This is compared to a global average of one-third of children, making it the highest percentage worldwide.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Article 341 of the Indian Constitution empowers the President to specify the castes, races, or tribes which shall be deemed to be Scheduled Castes in relation to a state or union territory through a public notification.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Uttar Pradesh has the highest Scheduled Caste population in India followed by West Bengal. State governments do not have the authority to make changes to the Scheduled Castes List. Only the Parliament can amend or alter the SC list through a law, as specified in Article 341 of the Constitution.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Constitution of India, which came into force on January 26, 1950, provided universal adult suffrage to all citizens including women. Since the first Indian general election held in 1951–52, universal suffrage for all adult citizens was established under Article 326 of the Constitution of India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The percentage of women MPs in the Lok Sabha had been very low between 5% and 10% till 2004. It rose marginally to 12% in 2014 and currently stands at 14% in the 18th Lok Sabha. The representation in State Legislative Assemblies is even poorer with the national average being around 9%.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The oath to the Supreme Court judges is administered by the President of India or a person appointed by the President for this purpose, which is usually the CJI. The oath taken by Supreme Court judges is as per the Third Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Seniority among Supreme Court judges is determined by their date of induction and oath-taking, not by their age. A judge who takes oath earlier becomes senior to another who takes oath later.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India does not have a central law specifically targeting crimes related to superstition, witchcraft, or occult practices.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Article 25 of the Indian Constitution permits reasonable restrictions on the grounds of public order, morality, and health.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Finance Commission recommends the distribution of tax revenues between the Centre and the States. The recommendations of the Finance Commission are advisory in nature and not legally binding on the government.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Vertical devolution refers to the share of the total tax revenue that is allocated to the states as a whole from the central pool, not based on a formula considering individual state factors. The formula considering factors like population, income level, and geography is used for horizontal devolution, which determines the distribution among the states.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Foreigners Tribunals were established under the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, which was enacted under the Foreigners Act of 1946. Foreigners

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Tribunals have the powers of a civil court in certain matters, such as summoning individuals, requiring document production, and examining evidence.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. Foreigners Tribunals are primarily operational in Assam. Other states handle suspected illegal immigrants through local courts under the Foreigners Act, 1946.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Lee Commission, established in 1923, recommended the creation of a Public Service Commission. As a result, the first Public Service Commission was established on October 1, 1926. It gained constitutional status as an autonomous entity on January 26, 1950, and was renamed the Union Public Service Commission. The Chairman and members of the UPSC hold office for a term of 6 years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Chairman of the UPSC is ineligible for further employment either under the Government of India or under the Government of a State after their term ends.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- Remission refers to the reduction of the period of a sentence without changing its nature. This means that the duration of the sentence is reduced, but the original nature of the sentence remains the same.

Source: [The Times of India](#)

33. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. RA refers to changes or adjustments that help people with disabilities use their rights just like everyone else. This can include making buildings accessible, providing special equipment, or changing job duties to suit their needs. The Indian Constitution mandates the government to create an environment where all individuals, including PwDs, can effectively exercise their rights equally.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Gig workers are not classified as part-time workers; they are recognized as a distinct category of workers who operate outside the traditional employer-employee relationship. They are also referred to as independent contractors.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Code on Social Security, 2020, is the primary central legislation that mentions and addresses gig workers in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2, and 4 are correct. As per Article 109 of the Indian Constitution, a Money Bill can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha. A Money Bill only needs to be passed by the Lok Sabha. The Rajya Sabha can make recommendations on the Bill within 14 days, but these recommendations are not binding, and the Lok Sabha can choose to accept or reject them. Financial Bills of Category I and II do not follow the special procedure of Money Bills. They can be introduced in either House of Parliament and require approval from both Houses.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The classification of a Bill as a money Bill by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha is generally considered final and not subject to judicial review. However, the Aadhaar Act case is a notable example where the Supreme Court reviewed the Speaker's decision to classify the Bill as a money Bill. Hence, in general terms, it is not subject to judicial review, except in certain circumstances involving constitutional violations or illegality.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The CDSCO is responsible for the regulatory control over the import of drugs and medical devices into India. It operates under the Directorate General of Health Services, which is part of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The CDSCO does not set or enforce drug prices. The regulation of drug prices in India is the responsibility of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar referred to Article 32, which provides the right to constitutional remedies, as the "heart and soul" of the Constitution. The Right to Shelter has been recognized as a part of the Right to Life under Article 21 of the Constitution through judicial interpretation.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression under Article 19(1)(a) of the Indian Constitution is available only to Indian citizens, not to foreigners.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

38. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Article 361 of the Indian Constitution states that the President's conduct can be reviewed by a court, tribunal, or body designated by either House of Parliament for the investigation of a charge under Article 61 (impeachment for violation of the Constitution).
- Statement 2 is correct. Article 361(2) of the Indian Constitution provides that no criminal proceedings whatsoever shall be instituted or continued against the President or the Governor of a State in any court during their term of office.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

39. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Autonomous District Councils (ADCs) are special administrative bodies established under the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution to provide self-governance to tribal areas in certain northeastern states. ADCs have management powers over forests not being reserved forest. Reserved forests remain under the control of the state government. Not all members are directly elected; some are nominated by the Governor.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Governor of a state with Sixth Schedule areas have the power to divide an autonomous district into multiple autonomous regions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Lok Adalat are alternative dispute resolution forums. Lok Adalat are not tribunals but are organized under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, which allows for the resolution of disputes through conciliation and settlement.
- Statements 2, 3 and 4 are correct. Lok Adalat are primarily conducted under the supervision of Legal Services Authority. Lok Adalat can handle both civil and criminal cases. The decisions of Lok Adalat are final and binding, with no provision for appeal.

Source: [AIR](#)

41. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The appointment of judges to the Supreme Court is done based on the recommendations made by the Supreme Court Collegium. This system, established by a series of Supreme Court judgments known as the Three Judges Cases, involves the Chief Justice of India and

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court making these recommendations. Although the President of India formally appoints the judges, the recommendations of the Collegium are important.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Indian Constitution does not provide for reservations based on caste or class for the appointment of judges to the Supreme Court or High Courts. Judicial appointments are based on merit and seniority, and the process is governed by the Collegium system without any constitutional mandate for reservations.

Source: [AIR](#)

42. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Coal is the most abundant fossil fuel in India and is a major source of energy for the country. The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973, is a key legislation that governs coal mining in India, establishing guidelines and eligibility criteria for coal mining operations.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Illegal mining is considered a law-and-order issue, which falls under the jurisdiction of state governments. While the central government, through various ministries and agencies, plays a role in overseeing mining regulations, the primary responsibility for addressing illegal mining falls on state governments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

43. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. According to the Indian Constitution, when an ordinary Bill is returned by the President for reconsideration and is passed again by the state legislature, the President may or may not give his assent. The Governor does not have the authority to reserve the Bill again for the President's consideration once it has been reconsidered and passed by the state legislature. The Constitution specifies that when the President returns a Bill to the state legislature for reconsideration, the state legislature must act upon it within 6 months.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

44. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. NITI Aayog is neither a constitutional nor a statutory body; it is a policy think tank of the Government of India. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 was formulated by the Ministry of Education, not NITI Aayog.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Governing Council of NITI Aayog comprises the Prime Minister, all Chief Ministers of states and Union Territories with legislatures, and Lieutenant Governors of other Union Territories.

Source: [AIR](#)

45. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Articles 15 and 16 of the Indian Constitution ensure equality and prohibit discrimination on various grounds, and they allow for special provisions for the advancement of socially and educationally backward classes, including reservations in public employment. The Indian Constitution provides for reservations for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in jobs, educational institutions, and public sector enterprises at the central level, with the percentages set at 15% for SCs and 7.5% for STs.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The term "creamy layer" refers to the more advantaged or wealthier members within the OBC category who are excluded from reservation benefits to ensure that the benefits reach the truly disadvantaged members.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

46. Correct Answer is (B)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. DAC is the highest decision-making body of the defence ministry on procurement. Its members include Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) and chiefs of Army, Navy and Air Force.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. The DAC is headed by the Defence Minister of India. The DAC does not handle the operational deployment of military units.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

47. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Constitution (Eighty-Fourth Amendment) Act of 2001 was enacted to freeze the delimitation, or redrawing, of parliamentary and assembly constituencies until after the first Census conducted following the year 2026. This means that the current boundaries of electoral constituencies will remain unchanged until at least after the Census of 2031. The purpose of this amendment was to maintain consistency in representation and avoid frequent changes in constituency boundaries, which could disrupt the electoral process.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The National Population Register (NPR) is a database of the identities of all Indian residents. It was first prepared in 2010. The NPR is intended to create a comprehensive identity database by collecting demographic and biometric details of individuals residing in India. The data collected under NPR is used for various purposes, including improving the delivery of government services and ensuring more accurate population statistics.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

48. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Royalties are payments made to the owner of a resource (often the government) for the right to extract and use that resource. Royalties can be considered a form of compensation for the extraction of natural resources, and their use can vary.
- Statement 2 is correct. Parliament has the authority to impose restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce, and intercourse between states or within a state in the public interest, which includes the power to regulate and limit the taxation of minerals by states. The Centre can regulate mining development under Entry 54 of the Union List, but this doesn't include the power to impose taxes, which falls under the State legislatures. However, Parliament can impose limitations on States' power to tax, which could even mean a "prohibition" on imposing taxes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

49. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Governor can act in his discretion to reserve a bill for the President when the bill affects the Centre-State relations. This is specified under Article 200 of the Indian Constitution, which allows the Governor to reserve a bill for the consideration of the President if it is of such a nature that it may conflict with the laws made by Parliament or affect the powers of the Centre.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

50. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The EAC-PM is constituted by the Prime Minister's Office to provide economic advice and recommendations on various issues.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The primary purpose of the Law Commission of India is to recommend legal reforms and suggest improvements to existing laws, rather than enforcing laws and monitoring their implementation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Acts & Policies

Q.1) With reference to the Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.2) Consider the following:

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

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

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

Q.3) Consider the following pairs:

Scheme-----Target Beneficiaries

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

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.5) With reference to the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.6) Which one of the following is the primary objective of the Sampoornata Abhiyan recently launched by NITI Aayog?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.8) With reference to the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) Act, 2023, consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS):

1. Under the BNSS, officer in-charge of a police station cannot refuse to register an FIR on the basis of lack of jurisdiction.
2. The BNSS mandates videography during a search conducted by the police.
3. The word 'terrorist' has been defined by the BNSS.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.10) Consider the following pairs:

Schemes/Initiatives -----Features

1. Samagra Shiksha----- Improve school effectiveness and equitable learning outcomes
2. PM Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) ----- Promote lifelong learning for citizens aged 15 and above
3. Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society (ULLAS)-----Establish exemplar schools to showcase NEP 2020 implementation
4. Vidya Samiksha Kendra-----Enable data-driven decision making in education

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.11) With reference to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), consider the following statements:

1. It applies to all registered non-profit organizations (NPOs) receiving foreign funds.
2. Interest received on foreign contributions deposited in a bank is not considered a "foreign contribution" under the FCRA.
3. The act aims to prevent foreigners from influencing Indian electoral politics.

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) With reference to the GRSE Accelerated Innovation Nurturing Scheme (GAINS 2024), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to address challenges faced by shipyards and promote technology development through startups nurtured in India.
2. The scheme aligns with the 'Digital India' and 'Skill India' initiative of the government.

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 the primary objective of the e-FAST India initiative?

- a) Promote the use of electric cars for personal transportation
- b) Facilitate collaboration for freight electrification at scale
- c) Develop renewable energy sources for rural areas
- d) Create a network of electric buses for public transport

Q.14) Operation Dhanush II, seen in the news recently, is -

- a) A nationwide campaign to promote archery sports in India
- b) A joint naval exercise between India and Sri Lanka
- c) An anti-corruption drive targeting government officials
- d) An anti-infiltration operation by the Indian Army along the Line of Control.

Q.15) With reference to Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice (DISHA) programme, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to reduce pendency of cases in courts.
2. Tele-Law is one of its core components.
3. It also aims to secure justice as given in the Preamble and under Articles 39A, 14, and 21 of the Constitution of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.16) With reference to the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, consider the following statements:

1. As per the Act, adolescents aged 16 and above are exempted from trying as adults even if they are accused of committing a heinous offence.
2. The Act emphasizes holding adolescent offenders accountable while prioritizing rehabilitation.

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) The primary goal of the Khelo India Rising Talent Identification (KIRTI) initiative is to:

- a) Increase sports viewership in India
- b) Identify and nurture athletic talent across the country
- c) Build new sports stadiums in every state
- d) Organize international sports events in India

Q.18) Which one of the following is the primary objective of the Yashaswini awareness campaign?

- a) Provide loans to women entrepreneurs
- b) Educate women about health issues
- c) Promote agricultural practices among women
- d) Encourage women to participate in politics

Q.19) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the largest exporter of apparels globally.
2. Textile sectors in one of the sectors covered under the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme.

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 July 2024

Q.20) Consider the following:

1. The applicant must be an Indian citizen.
2. The household must have a valid electricity connection.
3. The applicant must own a house with a suitable roof for solar panel installation.
4. The household must have a minimum monthly electricity consumption of 300 units.

How many of the above are the eligibility criteria for the 'PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana'?

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

Q.21) With reference to Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX (ADITI) scheme, consider the following statements:

1. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is responsible for implementing the ADITI scheme.
2. Only large defence manufacturing companies are eligible to participate in the scheme.
3. It aims to facilitate partnerships between innovators and defence public sector undertakings (DPSUs).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.22) Consider the following pairs:

Schemes-----Objectives

1. NPS Vatsalya----- National Pension Scheme for minors
2. Samarthyaa----- Providing shelter and rehabilitation to women in difficult circumstances
3. Swadhar Greh----- Empowerment of women by providing public jobs

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

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

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

1. The Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) aims to oversee higher education institutions across all districts in India.
2. Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR) links to the Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) and integrates with DigiLocker for secure storage of academic documents.

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

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

Q.24) Consider the following pairs:

Initiatives-----Objectives

1. Project PARI----- Aimed at providing training and employment opportunities to unemployed youth and women in rural areas.
2. MANAS initiative----- Aimed at promoting mental health awareness and reducing the stigma associated with mental health issues.
3. Project UNNATI----- Aims to stimulate dialogue, reflection, and inspiration through public art installations.

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.25) Consider the following statements:

1. Caller ID spoofing refers to intercepting phone calls without authorization.
2. The Telecommunications Act, 2023 gives the Union Government the power to take control of any telecommunication service during emergencies.

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 Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme primarily incentivizes companies based on their:

- a) Profit margins
- b) Tax payments
- c) Production and export performance
- d) Research and development expenditure

Q.27) With reference to the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to boost exports of conventional agricultural products.
2. Integrated manure management is one of the components of PKVY.

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 July 2024

Q.28) With reference to the Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill, 2024, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to consolidate and modernize the regulatory framework for various broadcasting services under a single legislative framework, making the process more efficient and contemporary.
2. It increases the Union Government's control over digital media by classifying individual commentators and content creators as 'Digital News Broadcasters' and 'OTT Broadcasters,' respectively.
3. Content Evaluation Committees (CECs) are responsible for managing advertising revenue.

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 - (b)	2 - (c)	3 - (c)	4 - (c)	5 - (a)	6 - (b)	7 - (b)	8 - (b)	9 - (b)	10 - (b)
11 - (c)	12 - (a)	13 - (b)	14 - (d)	15 - (b)	16 - (b)	17 - (b)	18 - (a)	19 - (b)	20 - (c)
21 - (a)	22 - (b)	23 - (b)	24 - (a)	25 - (b)	26 - (c)	27 - (b)	28 - (a)		

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN): This scheme provides income support to all landholding farmer families in India, not limited to those with notified crops.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY): This crop insurance scheme is available to all farmers, including small and marginal farmers, but it is not exclusively for small and marginal farmers.
- Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY): This scheme aims to support farmers and allied sector workers.
- Namo Drone Didi: This scheme targets women members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs), providing them with agricultural drones and training.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The ANRF's Governing Board and Executive Council lack representation from Central or State universities or colleges. Despite the significant role these institutions play in India's education and research landscape, the current composition of the board and council does not include members from universities. The ANRF's Governing Board is chaired

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

by the Prime Minister of India. This high-level leadership aims to provide strategic direction and oversight for the foundation's activities.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. The ANRF is expected to receive a much larger portion of its budget from non-government sources. Specifically, around 70% of its funding is anticipated to come from industry, philanthropists, and other non-government sources.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The BNSS introduces the concept of Zero-FIR, which allows FIRs to be registered at any police station regardless of jurisdiction. The officer is legally bound to register and transfer such a case to the respective police station. The BNSS mandates that police raids and seizures must be videotaped to enhance transparency and accountability.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The definition of 'terrorism' is provided in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- 1 and 4 are correctly matched
- Samagra Shiksha aims to enhance school effectiveness as evaluated by equal access to education and equitable learning results.
- PM SHRI aims to establish exemplar schools that showcase NEP 2020 implementation.
- ULLAS is focused on promoting lifelong learning and bridge the gaps in basic literacy and critical life skills among citizens aged 15 and above.
- Vidya Samiksha Kendra aims to leverage data and technology to bring a big leap in learning outcomes and enhance the overall monitoring of the education system.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) applies to all registered NPOs that receive foreign contributions. These organizations must register with the Ministry of Home Affairs and comply with the regulations set forth by the FCRA. One of the primary objectives of the FCRA is to prevent foreign influence in Indian electoral politics and other areas that could be detrimental to national interests.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. According to the FCRA, the interest accrued on foreign contributions deposited in a bank is considered a "foreign contribution".

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The primary goal of GAINS 2024 is to address challenges in shipyards and promote technology development through startups nurtured in India. The scheme encourages Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Start-Ups to develop innovative solutions. The scheme aims to foster technological advancements in ship design and construction.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The scheme aligns with the 'Make in India' and 'Start-up India' policies.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- e-FAST India (Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport – India) is a platform designed to accelerate the adoption of electric freight vehicles in India. Its primary objective is to facilitate collaboration between various stakeholders to promote freight electrification at scale.

Source: [AIR](#)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

14. Correct Answer is (D)

- Operation Dhanush II was an anti-infiltration operation conducted by the Indian Army along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Keran sector of Kupwara district, Jammu and Kashmir. The operation resulted in the elimination of three terrorists and the recovery of weapons and other war-like stores.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice (DISHA) programme is a five-year initiative (2021-2026) launched by the Department of Justice, Government of India. The primary aim of DISHA is to provide comprehensive, holistic, integrated, and systemic solutions to ensure access to justice across India.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Its core components are: Tele-Law, Nyaya Bandhu and Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness Programmes. The programme is designed to secure justice as articulated in the Preamble and under Articles 39A, 14, and 21 of the Constitution of India.

Source: [The Times of India](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act allows for trying adolescents aged 16 and above as adults if they are accused of committing a "heinous" offence, which is defined as an offence with a minimum punishment of seven years or more. Even when juveniles are tried as adults, there are provisions for their care, protection, and rehabilitation.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 aims to balance accountability with rehabilitation. It emphasizes rehabilitation and social reintegration of children in conflict with law. The Act focuses on reformative approaches and alternatives to incarceration.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- The KIRTI initiative aims to streamline the process of identifying and nurturing sports talent at the grassroots level using modern ICT tools and global best practices. The primary goal is to discover promising athletes and provide them with the necessary support to develop their skills.

Source: [AIR](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- The primary objective of the Yashaswini awareness campaign is to support women entrepreneurs. This initiative, launched by the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME), aims to empower women by providing resources, training, and support for their entrepreneurial ventures. It includes formal education for women operating commercial enterprises and creating awareness about various MSME schemes they can utilize.

Source: [AIR](#)

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India is not the largest exporter of apparels globally. India is the fourth-largest exporter of garments globally.
- Statement 2 is correct. The textile sector is covered under the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, which aims to promote the production of high-value MMF (Man-Made Fiber) fabrics, garments, and technical textiles in the country.

Source: [AIR](#)

20. Correct Answer is (C)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- The PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana aims to provide free electricity to households in India by supporting the installation of rooftop solar panels. The initiative is part of a broader effort to promote renewable energy, reduce electricity costs for families, and contribute to environmental sustainability. The eligibility criteria are: The applicant must be an Indian citizen. The household must have a valid electricity connection. The applicant must own a house with a suitable roof for solar panel installation. The household must not have availed of any other subsidy for solar panels. However, the household must have a minimum monthly electricity consumption of 300 units is not an eligibility requirement.

Source: [AIR](#)

21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The ADITI scheme is implemented under the iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence) framework of the Department of Defence Production (DDP), Ministry of Defence. The ADITI scheme is aimed at supporting start-ups, MSMEs, and innovators, not just large defence manufacturing companies.
- Statement 3 is correct. The ADITI scheme aims to facilitate partnerships between innovators and defence public sector undertakings (DPSUs) to develop innovative and indigenous technological solutions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (B)

- The NPS Vatsalya scheme is a National Pension Scheme specifically designed for minors, allowing parents to contribute towards their children's future retirement savings.
- Samarthya is a sub-scheme of the Mission Shakti program, which is an initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development to empower women. The Samarthya sub-scheme includes the following components: Provides homes and institutional support for women facing destitution, including victims of trafficking and provides safe and secure places for working women in cities and areas with job potential.
- The Swadhar Greh Scheme is a government initiative by the Ministry of Women and Child Development that provides institutional support to women in difficult circumstances. The scheme's goal is to help women regain their dignity and lead their lives with support. Its primary focus is on immediate shelter and rehabilitation for women in difficult circumstances.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) is designed to collect and monitor comprehensive data on school education, covering primary to secondary levels, across all districts in India. It collects comprehensive data on school infrastructure, teachers, student enrolment, and academic performance.
- Statement 2 is correct. APAAR is a specialized identification system designed for all students in India, introduced as part of the National Education Policy 2020. It provides a unique identifier for students and links to the Academic Bank of Credit (ABC), which facilitates the storage and transfer of academic credits. It also integrates with DigiLocker for secure storage of academic documents.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Project PARI (Public Art of India) – it is an initiative by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, executed by Lalit Kala Akademi and the National Gallery of Modern Art, aiming to stimulate dialogue, reflection, and inspiration through public art installations.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- MANAS initiative – It is a mental health and well-being initiative aimed at promoting mental health awareness, providing mental health services, and reducing the stigma associated with mental health issues.
- Project UNNATI – It is a skill development and employment generation program aimed at providing training and employment opportunities to unemployed youth and women in rural areas.

Source: [AIR](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Caller ID spoofing is defined as deliberately falsifying the information transmitted to the recipient's caller ID display to disguise the caller's identity. It does not involve intercepting calls, but rather manipulating the caller identification information.
- Statement 2 is correct. Telecommunications Act, 2023 allows the Union Government to take over control and operation of any telecommunication service or network during times of "emergency" or in the interest of public safety.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme primarily incentivizes companies based on their production and export performance. The scheme offers financial incentives to eligible companies on incremental sales of products manufactured in domestic units, aiming to boost domestic manufacturing, reduce imports, and enhance exports.

Source: [AIR](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. PKVY aims to promote organic farming and produce agricultural products free from chemicals and pesticides, not conventional agricultural products.
- Statement 2 is correct. PKVY focuses on components that promote organic farming practices, such as manure management, bio-fertilizer production, and training on organic methods.

Source: [AIR](#)

28. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The bill aims to consolidate and modernize the regulatory framework for various broadcasting services under a single legislative framework. This is intended to make the process more efficient and up-to-date with current technological and industry trends. The bill increases the Union Government's control over digital media by classifying individual commentators and content creators as "Digital News Broadcasters" and "OTT Broadcasters," respectively. This classification brings these digital content creators under the regulatory purview of the government.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Content Evaluation Committees (CECs) are not responsible for managing advertising revenue. Their primary role is to evaluate and ensure that content adheres to the prescribed guidelines and standards. They are not involved in the financial aspects of advertising.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Index & Reports

Q.1) With reference to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR), 2021, which of the following statements are correct?

1. Maharashtra has the highest forest cover by area among all the states in India.
2. Delhi has the largest forest cover among seven major megacities.
3. Some north-eastern states saw a decrease in forest cover.

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.2) Consider the following statements:

1. India has the highest digital transactions globally.
2. India has seen improvement in all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the recently released SDG India Index for 2023-24.

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 regarding the Henley Passport Index:

1. Diplomatic relations with other nations is the primary metric used by the Henley Passport Index to rank passports.
2. The rank of Indian passport has improved in the 2024 ranking.

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 - (a)	3 - (b)
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Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. According to ISFR 2021, Madhya Pradesh has the highest forest cover by area in India.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The ISFR 2021 indicates that Delhi has the largest forest cover among the seven major megacities in India. The ISFR 2021 reports a decrease in forest cover in several north-eastern states, including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, and Meghalaya.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India leads the world in digital payments, accounting for 46% of global real-time digital transactions in 2022. India is far ahead in terms of digitisation and with UPI being used from street vendors to large shopping malls, the country has the highest digital transactions globally.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. SDG India Index 2023-24 reports a positive trend in the performance of States and UTs on many SDGs. However, not all goals have seen improvement. For example, there has been a decline in scores related to income and gender inequality (Goal 10).

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Henley Passport Index primarily ranks passports based on the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa.
- Statement 2 is correct. India has been ranked 82nd spot on a global passport index, allowing Indians visa-free entry to 58 countries. India's passport now ranks at an improved 82nd spot. The ranking is based on data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Source: [AIR](#)

International Relations/Organizations

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) The main purpose of a 'Bilateral Agreement on Consular Access' is to:

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.4) In the context of cross border transactions, the 'Project Nexus' refers to –

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- All four

Q.6) Consider the following:

- Partnership for security and sovereignty
- Partnership for the planet
- Partnership for economic growth
- Partnership for the people

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

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- All four

Q.7) With reference to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.8) With reference to the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD), consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.9) Consider the following pairs:

Organizations/Summit-----Objectives

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

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

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

Q.11) The Order of St Andrew the Apostle', Russia's highest civilian honour, is significant in Russian history because:

- a) It was established by Catherine the Great
- b) It is the oldest and highest order of chivalry in Russia
- c) It is exclusively awarded to military personnel
- d) It was created after the Russian Revolution

Q.12) Which one of the following countries is NOT a part of military exercise 'Birlestik-2024'?

- a) Azerbaijan
- b) Russia
- c) Kazakhstan
- d) Kyrgyzstan

Q.13) Consider the following statements regarding the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC):

1. Thailand hosts the permanent secretariat of BIMSTEC.
2. It is a grouping of seven South and Southeast Asian countries for multifaceted cooperation.
3. Leadership in the BIMSTEC is rotated in alphabetical order of country names.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.14) With reference to the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), consider the following statements:

1. United States, Australia, India, and Japan are members of Quad.
2. The Quad countries share a common concern about climate change.
3. Military dominance is a core principle of Quad.
4. It is primarily focused on Indo-Pacific region.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.15) Consider the following:

1. Artificial intelligence
2. Quantum technology
3. Renewable energy
4. Space

Which of the above are the key areas of focus under the U.S.-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET)?

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

Q.16) 'Hannibal Directive', seen in the news recently, is used in the context of:

- a) Environmental conservation strategy in the Amazon rainforest
- b) Counter-terrorism operations in Israel
- c) Space exploration mission guidelines by NASA
- d) Economic sanctions policy by the European Union

Q.17) With reference to India and Russia relation, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. India's imports from Russia, especially oil and fertilizers, have increased significantly in recent years.
2. India's RuPay and Russia's MIR payment systems will be integrated for seamless cross-border transactions.
3. Both the countries have signed Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS).

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.18) With reference to the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation (APACMC), consider the following statements:

1. It is an event organized by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to address various issues related to civil aviation in the Asia-Pacific region.
2. The conference has stressed on limiting passenger traffic for the India's aviation sector.
3. The conference describes India's position in the global aviation market as the most sustainable aviation market globally.

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:

Initiatives-----Key Focus Areas

1. Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)--- Maritime cooperation and connectivity aligning with UN SDGs 2030
2. The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)----- Blue economy, maritime safety, and disaster management
3. ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)----- Maritime ecology, security, resources, and capacity building

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.20) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India-UAE comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA) allows unlimited imports of gold, silver, platinum, and diamonds from the UAE into India with zero tariffs.

Statement-II: India-UAE comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA) aims at keeping prices of gold and silver competitive for Indian jewelers.

Statement-III: Gold, silver, platinum, and diamonds are in high demand in India.

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 explain Statement-I.
- c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explain Statement-I
- d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct.

Q.21) With reference to the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), consider the following statements:

1. The main objective of the Clean Economy pillar under the IPEF is to reduce tariffs on environmental goods.
2. Canada is a member of IPEF.
3. India has joined the trade pillar of IPEF.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.22) Consider the following statements regarding the International Court of Justice (ICJ):

1. ICJ do not hear cases against individuals.
2. The UN Security Council can enforce a judgment of the ICJ only in cases that involves threats to international peace and security.
3. The ICJ can issue binding resolutions to resolve conflicts.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.23) Consider the following pairs:

Groupings-----Objectives

1. Quad----- Economic cooperation among emerging markets
2. AUKUS----- Security partnership focusing on military capability in the Indo-Pacific
3. BRICS----- Promoting a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific region

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.24) With reference to the UN Water Convention, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It is also known as the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes.
2. Parties to the Convention are required to prevent, control, and reduce transboundary impacts, use transboundary waters in a reasonable and equitable way, and ensure their sustainable management.
3. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) services the UN Water Convention.
4. It is a legally binding instrument that promotes the sustainable management of shared water resources.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.25) With reference to Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to foster economic growth and regional stability through political and economic cooperation.
2. Myanmar is one of the founding members of ASEAN.
3. ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) provides aid and development assistance to member countries.

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

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

Q.26) With reference to G-4 countries, consider the following statements:

1. The aim of these countries is to collectively develop policies aimed at mitigating climate change.
2. India is one of the members of G-4.
3. The G4 countries have significant economic and political influence globally.

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.27) India's large population and diverse demographic profile contribute to its aspiration for a permanent UN Security Council seat primarily because:

- a) It represents a significant consumer market.
- b) It reflects the global population distribution.
- c) It enhances India's military power.
- d) It strengthens India's claim as a representative of the Global South.

Q.28) Consider the following statements:

1. The Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project, a component of the India's Act East policy, aims to connect Manipur with Myanmar.
2. The Act East policy focuses only on Southeast Asian 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.29) Consider the following statements regarding the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC):

1. It has equal representation of countries from South Asia and Southeast Asia.
2. China is an observer member of BIMSTEC.
3. BIMSTEC differ from South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) in terms of its geopolitical composition that it excludes Pakistan and includes Southeast Asian nations.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.30) With reference to the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), consider the following statements:

1. It is a regional organization focused on the Bay of Bengal.
2. Thailand is a member of both BIMSTEC and ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations).
3. India leads the sector of Agriculture and Food Security in BIMSTEC.

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

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.31) Consider the following statements regarding the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC):

1. The primary mission of the ADPC is to build the resilience of people and institutions to disasters and climate change impacts in Asia and the Pacific.
2. India is one of the members of ADPC.
3. The headquarters of the ADPC is located in Manila, Philippines.

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.32) Consider the following statements:

1. Disaster Recovery and Community Support (DRCS) partnership is an initiative of Quad grouping aimed at improving coordination for disaster relief operations and enhance regional cooperation.
2. Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA), an initiative of Quad, aims to improve maritime security in the Indian Ocean by using satellite data, training, and building capacity.

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) With reference to the International Labour Organization (ILO), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to advance social and economic justice through setting international labour standards.
2. It was created as part of the Treaty of Trianon.
3. World Labour Council is one of the main bodies of the ILO.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) is a broad-based agreement that covers trade in goods, services, and investments. It aims to enhance economic ties between the two countries by reducing tariffs and promoting market access across various sectors. Agriculture and fisheries were excluded from tariff reductions under the India-Korea CEPA due to their sensitive nature.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The key benefits for Indian businesses under the CEPA include tariff reductions on Indian goods exported to Korea, access to the Korean services market for Indian professionals, expanded investment opportunities, and increased bilateral trade.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

6. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

10. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

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- The Order of St Andrew the Apostle was established by Tsar Peter the Great in 1698, making it the oldest and highest order of chivalry in Russia. It was originally created to recognize outstanding civilian and military merit. Recently, PM Modi has received Russia's Highest Civilian Honour, The Order of St Andrew The Apostle.

Source: [AIR](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Birlestik-2024, meaning "Unification" in Kazakh, is a significant regional military exercise involving five Central Asian countries—Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. The exercise is notable for excluding major regional powers like Russia and China, marking a shift towards independent regional cooperation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The permanent secretariat of BIMSTEC is located in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. BIMSTEC is an international organization comprising seven member states from South Asia (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka) and Southeast Asia (Myanmar, Thailand). The chairmanship of BIMSTEC is rotated in alphabetical order of the member countries' names.

Source: [AIR](#)

14. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The Quad comprises the United States, Australia, India, and Japan. The Quad countries have acknowledged climate change as a significant threat and have discussed it in their meetings. The primary focus of the Quad is on the Indo-Pacific region.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. While the Quad does involve security cooperation, its core principles focus on ensuring a free, open, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region, rather than military dominance.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (C)

- Focus areas under iCET are: AI research agency partnership, Defense Industrial Cooperation, Defense Technological Cooperation, And Defense Startups, Innovation Ecosystems, Semiconductor Ecosystem Development, Cooperation on Human Spaceflight, Quantum technology, Advancement in 5G and 6G Technologies, and Adoption of OpenRAN network Technology in India, Biotechnology, Critical Minerals, Rare Earth Mineral Processing and Digital Technology. However, renewable energy is not a focus area.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Hannibal Directive refers to a controversial military protocol used by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), originally intended to prevent Israeli soldiers from being captured by enemy forces, even if it meant risking their lives.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

17. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India's imports from Russia, especially oil and fertilizers, have surged significantly since 2022, leading to a trade imbalance that both sides aim to address. Both countries have agreed to establish a system for settling trade transactions in their national currencies (rupee-rouble) to circumvent Western sanctions. This includes integrating India's RuPay and Russia's MIR payment systems for seamless cross-border transactions.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Statement 3 is incorrect. While the Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS) is ready for finalization and has been approved by the Russian side, it has not yet been signed by both countries.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation (APACMC) is organized by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to address various issues related to civil aviation in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The focus areas for India include making aviation more accessible and affordable, sustainability, and growth in passenger traffic. India is projected to have significant growth in passenger traffic, aiming to reach 250 million annually. The conference highlights that India is among the fastest-growing aviation markets in the world and emphasizes the importance of sustainability. However, it does not describe India as the most sustainable aviation market globally.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Only pair 2 is correctly matched.
- Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI): It focuses on maritime security, maritime ecology, marine resources, capacity building and resource sharing, disaster risk reduction and management, science, technology and academic cooperation, and trade, connectivity, and maritime transport. However, maritime cooperation and connectivity aligning with UN SDGs 2030 is not a primary focus area of IPOI.
- Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA): It focuses on blue economy, maritime safety and security, disaster risk management, trade and investment facilitation, fisheries management, and tourism and cultural exchanges.
- ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP): It focuses on maritime cooperation, connectivity, sustainable development, and economic development. However, maritime ecology, security, resources, and capacity building are not its primary focus areas.

Source: [AIR](#)

20. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement-I: The India-UAE CEPA allows for duty-free imports of gold, silver, platinum, and diamonds from the UAE into India, but this is being implemented gradually. For example, gold will be duty-free from 2026 and silver from 2030.
- Statement-II is correct. One of the main aims of the CEPA is to keep prices of gold and silver competitive for Indian jewelers. The agreement is intended to provide Indian jewelers with access to raw materials at more competitive prices.
- Statement III is correct. India is noted as a major importer and consumer of gold, silver, platinum, and diamonds. Hence, zero tariffs would reduce the import cost on the imported precious metals.
- Hence, both Statement II and Statement III help explain Statement I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) is a U.S.-led initiative to strengthen economic cooperation among countries in the Indo-Pacific region. United States, Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam are the members of IPEF. The IPEF is structured around four main pillars: Trade (Pillar I), Supply Chains (Pillar II), Clean Economy (Pillar III), Fair Economy (Pillar IV). The Clean Economy pillar focuses on advancing

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

cooperation on clean energy, climate-friendly technologies, and facilitating investments in climate-related projects, not on reducing tariffs on environmental goods. India has not joined the trade pillar of IPEF. India has joined the other three pillars (Supply Chains, Clean Economy, and Fair Economy) but has opted out of the trade pillar.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The ICJ only hears cases between states. It does not have jurisdiction over individuals, private entities, or organizations.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The UN Security Council can enforce ICJ judgments regardless of whether they involve threats to international peace and security. However, enforcement is challenging because any of the five permanent members of the Security Council can veto enforcement actions. The ICJ issues judgments and advisory opinions, not binding resolutions. While its judgments in contentious cases are binding on the parties involved, they require voluntary compliance by the states. The ICJ's advisory opinions are not binding.

Source: [The Times of India](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- Only 2 is correctly matched.
- The Quad (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue) primarily focuses on security and strategic issues in the Indo-Pacific region, particularly in response to China's growing influence.
- AUKUS is a security pact between the U.S., Australia, and the U.K. aimed at enhancing military capabilities, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region.
- BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) focuses on economic cooperation, sustainable development, and increasing multilateral trade and development among its member countries.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The UN Water Convention, also known as the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, was adopted in Helsinki in 1992 and entered into force in 1996. It is a legally binding instrument that promotes the sustainable management of shared water resources, supports the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), prevents conflicts, and fosters peace and regional integration. Parties to the Convention are required to prevent, control, and reduce transboundary impacts, use transboundary waters in a reasonable and equitable way, and ensure their sustainable management.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The UN Water Convention is serviced by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. ASEAN's primary objectives include promoting economic growth, regional stability, and cooperation among its member states through political and economic collaboration.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Myanmar is not one of the founding members of ASEAN. The founding members, who established ASEAN in 1967, are Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. Myanmar joined ASEAN later, in 1997. The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) is primarily focused on addressing political and security issues in the Asia-Pacific region.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary aim of the G-4 countries (Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan) is to support each other's bids for permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and to push for UNSC reforms to make it more representative and effective.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. India is one of the members of the G-4, along with Brazil, Germany, and Japan. The G-4 countries have seen significant growth in their economic and political influence, comparable to the current permanent members of the UNSC (P5).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (D)

- India's large and diverse population mirrors the global population, especially the developing world. This gives India a strong position to represent the Global South's interests. A permanent seat on the UN Security Council would let India better advocate for these nations and ensure their viewpoints are included in global decisions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project aims to connect the eastern Indian seaport of Kolkata with the Sittwe seaport in Myanmar and further extends to Mizoram. The Act East policy focuses on strengthening ties not only with Southeast Asian countries but also with East Asian countries, including Japan, South Korea, and others in the broader Asia-Pacific region.

Source: [AIR](#)

29. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. BIMSTEC has 5 members from South Asia (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka) and 2 from Southeast Asia (Myanmar, Thailand). China is not a member or an observer of BIMSTEC.
- Statement 3 is correct. BIMSTEC excludes Pakistan (which is part of SAARC) and includes Southeast Asian nations (Myanmar and Thailand).

Source: [AIR](#)

30. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. BIMSTEC is a regional organization that aims to promote technical and economic cooperation among countries around the Bay of Bengal. Its member states include Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Thailand is a member of both BIMSTEC and ASEAN.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Myanmar leads the sector of Agriculture and Food Security in BIMSTEC, while India leads the security sector, which includes counterterrorism and transnational crime.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The primary mission of the ADPC is to build the resilience of people and institutions to disasters and climate change impacts in Asia and the Pacific. ADPC is an autonomous International Organization for cooperation in and implementation of disaster risk reduction and building climate resilience in Asia and the Pacific region. India and eight neighbouring countries Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand are the founding members of ADPC. ADPC contributes to implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction through its various programs and initiatives.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The headquarters of the ADPC is located in Bangkok, Thailand.

Source: [AIR](#)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Quad has established a Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) partnership aimed at improving coordination for disaster relief operations in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Statement 2 is correct. The IPMDA is an initiative by the Quad that aims to enhance maritime security in the Indian Ocean by leveraging satellite data, training, and capacity building.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The International Labour Organization (ILO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations dedicated to promoting social justice and internationally recognized human and labour rights. It aims to promote social and economic justice by setting international labour standards.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The ILO was created as part of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919. The main bodies of the ILO are the International Labour Conference, the Governing Body, and the International Labour Office (Director-General). India is a founding member of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Economy

Q.1) The primary purpose of imposing anti-dumping duties is to:

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

Q.2) Which one of the following does a K-shaped recovery most likely indicate?

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the largest importer of coking coal in the world.
2. Mongolia is major coking coal exporting country to India.

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

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

Q.6) Which one of the following is NOT a function of the Spices Board of India?

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

Q.7) Consider the following:

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

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

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

Q.8) Consider the following:

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

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

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.10) Consider the following activities:

1. Supply of seeds and fertilizers
2. Direct marketing of agricultural produce
3. Providing legal advice to farmers
4. Offering financial and technical training

Which of the above activities are associated with Farmers' Producer Organization (FPO)?

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

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India's public health spending is low compared to developed countries.

Statement-II: India has a universal healthcare system that covers all citizens.

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.12) Consider the following:

1. Fines and penalties
2. Dividends from public sector enterprises
3. License fees
4. Goods and Services Tax (GST)

How many of the above are considered as Non-tax Revenue?

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. About half of Indian workforce is involved in agriculture.
2. India has a deficit in service trade but surplus in goods trade.

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.14) Consider the following pairs:

Ports-----States

1. Vizhinjam Port-----Tamil Nadu
2. Vadhavan Port-----Kerala
3. Machilipatnam Port-----Andhra Pradesh

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

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

Q.15) National currency settlement systems often involve a central bank. Which one of the following is likely an important role of the central bank in facilitating national currency settlement system?

- a) Setting interest rates for loans and deposits offered by commercial banks.
- b) Maintaining a record of all transactions happening within the system.
- c) Managing the foreign exchange reserves of the nation.
- d) Approving or denying individual bank transfers based on regulatory compliance.

Q.16) Which one of the following best describes a key principle of the circular economy?

- a) Prioritizing the extraction and consumption of new resources.
- b) Designing products for easy disassembly and reuse of materials.
- c) Promoting a disposable culture for faster product replacement.
- d) Prioritizing production efficiency without considering waste generation.

Q.17) Which one of the following sectors does the 'National Gopal Ratna Award' recognize?

- a) Fisheries
- b) Poultry farming
- c) Dairy farming
- d) Crop cultivation

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Goods and Services Tax (GST) has reduced state fiscal autonomy.

Statement-II: Under GST, states cannot independently decide tax rates.

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.19) Which one of the following categories holds the highest weightage in India's Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket?

- a) Housing
- b) Food and Beverages
- c) Fuel and Light
- d) Clothing and Footwear

Q.20) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) aims to promote exports from India.
- 2. Under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS), residents in India can open Foreign Currency Accounts (FCAs) in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at GIFT City.

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:

- 1. Stocks of foreign companies
- 2. Government bonds from other countries
- 3. Foreign real estate properties
- 4. Exchange-traded funds

How many of the above are considered types of foreign portfolio investment?

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

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The gig workers in India are not guaranteed minimum wage earnings.

Statement-II: In India, gig workers are not recognized as formal workers.

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

- 1. The financial transfers through Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and Central Sector Schemes (CSec Schemes) are statutory transfers.
- 2. The Finance Commissions recommend the States' share in the net tax revenue of the Union government.

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

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Q.24) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The financial transfer to States by the Union has seen a decline in recent years.

Statement-II: Revenue collection by the Union government through cess and surcharge has increased.

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.25) Which one of the following accounts in the balance of payments records a trade deficit?

- a) Capital Account
- b) Financial Account
- c) Current Account
- d) Reserve Account

Q.26) With reference to the Union Budget, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a revenue and expenditure statement of the government.
- 2. Article 112 of the Indian Constitution refers to the Union Budget as the Annual Financial Statement (AFS).
- 3. The Reserve Fund of India is a part of the structure of the Union Budget.
- 4. The 'Halwa Ceremony' in the Union Budget is a celebration after the Budget is presented.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.27) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India has become self-sufficient in grain production but not in pulses production.
- 2. Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for establishing and overseeing Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

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) A country which aims to deepen its economic relationship with another country is more likely to adopt a:

- a) Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA)
- b) Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)
- c) Bilateral investment treaty
- d) Free trade area

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Q.29) Consider the following statements:

1. Intergenerational equity is about ensuring that all generations have equal opportunities and outcomes.
2. If a government covers its expenses with tax revenue, future generations will have to pay higher taxes.
3. In developing states, households pay less in taxes than the value of public services they receive.
4. The Finance Commission (FC) prioritizes efficiency over equity while deciding tax revenue distribution formula for States.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.30) Consider the following statements:

1. India is one of the major agricultural export countries of the world.
2. A majority of farmers in India are small and marginal (SMF).
3. In India, a lack of proper supply chain is one of the reasons behind food price volatility.

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

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

Q.31) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the world's second-largest importer of palm oil.
2. Palm oil is used as both edible oil and biofuel.
3. Palm oil constitutes a significant portion of India's edible oil consumption.

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.32) Parametric insurance refers to:

- a) Insurance that requires physical verification of losses before a payout is made.
- b) Insurance that covers only specific high-value assets like luxury cars.
- c) insurance where compensation is determined by measurable parameters rather than verified losses.
- d) Insurance that offers coverage for financial market losses due to stock market crashes.

Q.33) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India's garment export market is declining compared to Vietnam and Bangladesh.

Statement-II: India imposes a high duty on imported garment raw materials.

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.34) With reference to the Economic Survey, consider the following statements:

1. It is prepared by the Finance Minister of India.
2. It serves as a report card of the economy's performance in the previous year.
3. It provides context and background for budget decisions.

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

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

Q.35) With reference to the Economic Survey 2023-24, how many of the following statements are correct?

1. India has a significant gap in the education system.
2. There has been a decline in the central expenditure on education.
3. Mental morbidity is higher in rural areas compared to urban areas.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.36) With reference to the Economic Survey 2023-24, consider the following statements:

1. Health expenditure has seen a decline from the central government.
2. India has become the world's largest arms importer.
3. There has been an improvement in the Female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR).

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

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

Q.37) With reference to the Union Budget 2024-25, which of the following statements are correct?

1. The angel tax on foreign investments received by start-ups has been increased.
2. The tax rates on both short-term and long-term capital gains have gone up.
3. Custom duties on gold, silver, and platinum have been lowered.

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.38) Consider the following statements regarding the Union Budget 2024-25:

1. The Budget has proposed safe-harbour rates for foreign mining companies selling raw diamonds in India.
2. It has proposed to set up an integrated technology platform and additional National Company Law Tribunals (NCLTs).
3. Allocation to fertilizer and food subsidies have increased in the Budget.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

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Q.39) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct regarding the Union-Budget 2024-25?

1. The Budget has proposed investment-grade energy audits for traditional MSMEs.
2. The budget allocation for Border Road Organization (BRO) has been reduced.

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.40) Consider the following statements regarding the Union Budget 2024-25:

1. The Budget proposes 2% equalisation levy on e-commerce transactions.
2. The Budget aims to bridge the gap between academic learning and practical application by fostering a culture of continuous learning and hands-on experience.
3. The Budget aims to promote of small modular reactors for nuclear energy.

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.41) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Currently, the India government does not offer a legal assurance for the Minimum Support Price (MSP).

Statement-II: Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) provide insurance coverage and financial support to farmers in the event of crop failure due to natural calamities, pests, and diseases.

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.42) With reference to the Union Budget 2024-25, consider the following statements:

1. The Budget includes measures to revive the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector through credit guarantees.
2. The Budget indicates that government is relying more on private investments.
3. The Budget has outlined initiatives to improve education and healthcare.
4. The Budget is inclined more towards a service-oriented economy rather than manufacturing.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

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Q.43) Consider the following statements:

1. Royalties paid by mining lease holders to the state governments are not considered taxes.
2. The central government can levy taxes on lands and quarries where minerals are found.

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.44) With reference to the Union Budget 2024-25, consider the following statements:

1. It introduced financial incentives for companies to hire more people.
2. Import duties on all electronic goods were raised to 40% to promote domestic manufacturing.

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.45) Standard Input Output Norms (SION) was seen in the news recently, is used in the context of:

- a) The development of green energy projects.
- b) The export and import policies in India.
- c) The financial regulation of cryptocurrency.
- d) The formulation of public health policies.

Q.46) Where is India's first integrated agri-export facility being established?

- a) Vadhavan Port
- b) Kandla Port
- c) Jawaharlal Nehru Port
- d) Chennai Port

Q.47) Consider the following statements:

1. In India, functional limitation is used to assess a person's physical disability.
2. Persons with disabilities (PwDs) have a low employment rate 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.48) Consider the following statements:

1. Digitalisation consistently boosts the traditional credit channel of monetary policy by increasing the number of bank loans.
2. Digitalisation makes it harder for consumers to compare prices and make purchasing decisions.
3. Digitalisation can create interconnected financial system with implications for financial stability.

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

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

Q.49) Consider the following statements regarding the Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs):

1. The primary objective of issuing SGBs is to reduce the demand for physical gold.
2. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issues Sovereign Gold Bonds on behalf of the Government of India.
3. The interest earned on SGBs is exempted from taxation.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.50) Consider the following statements:

1. The U.S. has become India's largest liquefied natural gas (LNG) supplier.
2. The U.S. is the world's largest LNG exporter.

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

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

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Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)

- Farmers' Producer Organizations facilitate farmers with access to improved technology, credit, better input and more markets to incentivise them to produce better quality commodities. These are legal entities formed by primary agricultural producers, mainly small and marginal farmers. An FPO is a type of Producer Organization where the members are farmers. It can be registered as a producer company, cooperative society, or any other legal form that allows profit-sharing among members. The key idea is to aggregate farmers to achieve economies of scale and enhance bargaining power. Of the activities mentioned above, providing legal advice to farmers is not an activity carried out by FPOs.

Source: [AIR](#)

11. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement-I is correct. India's public health spending as a percentage of GDP is significantly lower compared to developed countries. For instance, the U.S. spends nearly 16% of its GDP on healthcare, while India's public health spending has been around 1.12% to 1.35% of GDP.
- Statement-II is incorrect. While India has made efforts towards universal health coverage (UHC) with schemes like Ayushman Bharat, which aims to cover the poorest 40% of the population, it does not yet have a comprehensive universal healthcare system that covers all citizens without financial hardship.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)

- Non-tax revenue generally includes all government revenue that is not generated through taxes. This includes profits and dividends from public enterprises, fees for services, interest receipts, fines, and penalties. GST is not considered non-tax revenue; it is a form of tax revenue.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

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- Statement 1 is correct. According to the data, approximately 42.86% of the workforce in India was employed in agriculture in 2022.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. India has a trade deficit in goods and a trade surplus in services. Specifically, India's services trade surplus for FY 2023-24 was estimated at USD 162.05 billion, **while the merchandise trade deficit was significant.**

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (D)

- Vizhinjam Port – It is India's first deep-water container transshipment port. It is located about 14 km from Thiruvananthapuram, the capital city of Kerala.
- VadHAVAN port – This major greenfield port is part of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEEEC). It aims to double the country's container handling capacity. It is a proposed deep-sea port located in Palghar district of Maharashtra. The port will feature nine container terminals, multipurpose berths, and facilities for handling liquid cargo. It is expected to become one of the world's top 10 ports.
- Machilipatnam Port – It is located in the Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh. This modern, all-weather, deep-water, multi-purpose port is being developed in phases. The project includes berth-related piling works and land-side dredging, with significant progress already made on breakwater construction.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- In a national currency settlement system, the central bank plays a crucial role. Maintaining a record of all transactions happening within the system is one of the important roles played by the central bank in facilitating national currency settlement system. This role is essential because it ensures the smooth and secure clearing and settlement of transactions, which is fundamental to the stability and efficiency of the financial system. The central bank acts as a central ledger, ensuring transparency, accountability, and finality of settlements. This record allows for reconciliation, identification of potential errors, and overall monitoring of the system's health. The responsibility for regulating transactions in the national currency system with another country in India primarily falls under the jurisdiction of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The RBI operates under the framework provided by the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- The circular economy emphasizes minimizing waste and making the most of resources. This involves designing products in a way that their materials can be easily recovered, reused, and recycled at the end of their life cycles. By focusing on product longevity, resource efficiency, and the reduction of environmental impact, the circular economy seeks to create a closed-loop system where products and materials are continuously cycled back into the economy.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (C)

- The National Gopal Ratna Award specifically recognizes excellence in the dairy and livestock sector. It is described as one of the highest National Awards in the field of livestock and dairy sector. The award aims to encourage the milk producing farmers, dairy cooperative societies, Milk producer Companies, Dairy farmers Producers organizations. It is organized by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying as part of the National Milk Day celebration. The award focuses on recognizing contributions to indigenous cattle/buffalo breeding, milk production, and dairy cooperatives. The award is given under Rashtriya Gokul Mission.

Source: [AIR](#)

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18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. The implementation of GST has centralized the tax system, reducing the fiscal autonomy of states by subsuming many state taxes and limiting their ability to independently generate revenue.
- Statement II is correct. Under the GST regime, states do not have the power to set their own tax rates independently, which is a key aspect of fiscal autonomy.
- Therefore, Statement-II provides a direct explanation for Statement-I. The inability of states to set their own tax rates under GST is a significant reason why their fiscal autonomy has been reduced.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- Food and Beverages holds the highest weightage in India's Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket. This is because a significant portion of an average Indian household's expenditure is on food and related items. This category is given significant importance due to its direct impact on the cost of living for consumers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) allows resident individuals to remit up to USD 250,000 per financial year for any permitted current or capital account transactions, such as expenses for education, travel, medical treatment, and maintenance of relatives abroad. It's primarily a scheme to allow individuals to send money abroad for various purposes.
- Statement 2 is correct. The RBI has recently allowed resident individuals to open Foreign Currency Accounts (FCAs) in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at GIFT City under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS). This new provision expands the scope of LRS and allows residents to use these accounts for various permissible transactions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (C)

- Foreign portfolio investment involves the purchase of financial assets such as stocks, bonds, and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) that are passively held by investors without direct control over the companies or assets. These investments are characterized by their liquidity and the ability to diversify an investor's portfolio internationally. Foreign real estate properties are not considered part of foreign portfolio investments. Instead, they fall under foreign direct investment (FDI).

Source: [AIR](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement-I is correct. Many platforms for gig workers in India do not ensure that their workers earn at least the local minimum wage. The Fairwork India Ratings 2023 report highlighted that only a few platforms, such as BigBasket, Flipkart, and Urban Company, ensure their workers earn the minimum wage.
- Statement-II is correct. Currently, there is no specific legal framework in India that formally recognizes gig workers as formal workers. Even the Code on Social Security 2020 includes gig workers as informal self-employed workers. Since gig workers are not classified as formal employees, they are excluded from labor laws, including those related to minimum wages.
- Hence, Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

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- Statement 1 is incorrect. The financial transfers through Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and Central Sector Schemes (CSec) are non-statutory transfers to the states. These non-statutory grants are tied grants, i.e., they have to be spent on specific schemes for which the grants are allocated.
- Statement 2 is correct. Article 280 of the constitution, provides for the constitution of Finance Commission to recommend the distribution of net tax revenues between the central government and the state governments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. The Union government has been reducing financial transfers to states, especially as a proportion of gross tax revenue. For example, the share of states in gross tax revenue declined from 35% in 2015-16 to 30% in 2023-24.
- Statement II is correct. Revenue collection through cess and surcharge have significantly increased over the years. For instance, cess and surcharge collection rose from 5.9% of the Union government's gross tax revenue in 2015-16 to 10.8% in 2023-24.
- The increase in cess and surcharge collection (Statement-II) is one of the reasons for the decline in financial transfers to states (Statement-I). This is because cess and surcharge revenues are not shared with states, allowing the Union government to retain more of its tax collections.
- Therefore, Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (C)

- A trade deficit occurs when a country's imports exceed its exports, and this is recorded in the current account of the balance of payments. The current account includes transactions related to goods, services, income, and current transfers. When the value of imports of goods and services surpasses the value of exports, it results in a trade deficit, which is reflected in the current account balance.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Union Budget outlines the government's income (revenue) and spending (expenditure) for the upcoming financial year. Article 112 of the Indian Constitution refers to the Union Budget as the Annual Financial Statement (AFS).
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. There is no such fund called the Reserve Fund of India as part of the Union Budget structure. There are, however, other funds like the Contingency Fund and Public Account. The Halwa Ceremony is a tradition marking the beginning of the budget-making process, not a celebration after its presentation. It symbolizes the secrecy maintained during the budget preparation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India has become self-sufficient in grain production and has also achieved unprecedented growth in fishery and dairy production. However, India still imports pulses to meet its domestic demand. India has committed to become self-sufficient in pulses and oilseeds in the coming years.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is responsible for establishing and overseeing Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

Source: [AIR](#)

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28. Correct Answer is (B)

1. **CEPA:** Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreements are broader in scope than traditional Free Trade Agreements (FTAs). They cover not only trade in goods but also services, investment, intellectual property rights, government procurement, and regulatory issues. This makes them more suitable for countries looking to deepen economic relationships across multiple sectors. For instance, India-South Korea CEPA, India-UAE CEPA.
2. **TEPA:** While Trade and Economic Partnership Agreements also cover a wide range of areas, they are generally less comprehensive than CEPAs. They focus on market access, investment promotion, and may include sustainable development and other modern trade aspects, but they do not go as deep into regulatory and institutional frameworks as CEPAs. For instance, India-EFTA TEPA.
3. **Bilateral investment treaties and free trade areas** focus on investment protection and tariff reductions respectively, without including the broader regulatory and economic collaboration seen in CEPAs.

Source: [AIR](#)

29. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Intergenerational equity ensures fairness and justice between generations, aiming to provide equal opportunities and outcomes for present and future generations. In public finance, intergenerational equity implies that each generation should pay for the public services it uses, rather than passing on the burden to future generations through borrowing. In developing states, households often pay less in taxes than the value of the public services they receive, with the gap being filled by higher financial transfers from the Union government.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. If a government covers its expenses with tax revenue, it means the current generation is paying for the services they receive, avoiding the need for future generations to pay higher taxes. However, if the government borrows to cover expenses, future generations will have to pay higher taxes to repay this debt, leading to intergenerational inequity. The Finance Commission prioritizes equity over efficiency in its distribution formula to ensure fair redistribution of tax revenue among states.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. While India is a significant agricultural producer, its share in global agricultural exports is relatively low. India's agricultural exports fell by 8.2% in the fiscal year 2023-24, and its share in global agricultural exports is only 2.4%. India ranks second in global agriculture production, but its share in global agricultural exports is only 2.4%, placing it eighth in the world.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. According to the Agriculture Census 2015-16, 86.1% of Indian farmers are small and marginal, meaning they have landholdings smaller than 2 hectares. Supply chain constraints, including inadequate logistics, storage, and transportation, contribute to food price volatility in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India is the world's largest importer of palm oil. The primary sources of these imports are Indonesia and Malaysia. India is the second-largest consumer of palm oil globally, after Indonesia.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Palm oil has various uses, as an edible oil and as a feedstock for biofuel production. The Department of Food and Public Distribution states that about 57% of domestic demand for edible oils is met through imports, out of which palm oil constitutes about 59%. Additionally, in 2023, palm oil was the most consumed edible oil in India.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (C)

- Parametric insurance is defined as a type of insurance that provides pre-specified payouts based on the occurrence of a trigger event, without requiring actual loss assessment. Instead of requiring proof of actual loss or damage, these products trigger payments when predefined conditions, such as a certain amount of rainfall, flood levels, or wind speed, are met. For example, if a weather station records more than 100 mm of rain per day for two consecutive days, the insurance policy automatically pays out. This type of insurance eliminates the need for lengthy claims investigations and allows for faster payouts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement-I is correct. India's garment exports in 2023-24 stood at \$14.5 billion, which is lower than the \$15 billion exported in 2013-14. From 2013 to 2023, Bangladesh's garment exports grew by 69.6%, Vietnam's by 81.6%, while India's grew by only 4.6%.
- Statement-II is also correct. High import duties on fabrics and complex customs regulations force the industry to rely on domestic manufacturing, leading to increased costs. India has also historically imposed import duties on raw materials used in the garment industry to protect domestic producers.
- The high duties and import restrictions on raw materials (Statement-II) are directly contributing to the decline in India's garment exports compared to competitors like Vietnam and Bangladesh (Statement-I). Therefore, Statement-II provides the correct explanation for Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Economic Survey is prepared by the Ministry of Finance, specifically by the Chief Economic Adviser and their team, and is presented by the finance minister in Parliament.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Economic Survey reviews the performance of the economy over the past year. The Economic Survey provides valuable insights and context that help inform budget decisions.

Source: [AIR](#)

35. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Economic Survey highlights a significant gap between class standards and learning levels, which has widened since COVID-19. Further, only 51% of India's graduates are currently employable, highlighting a significant gap in the education system. The Economic Survey notes that the total central expenditure on education was ₹60,000 crore lower than budget estimates in FY24, and overall expenditure has seen a slight dip. The total Central expenditure on education has been around 2.8% of GDP, with a slight dip noted last year.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Economic Survey indicates that mental morbidity is higher in urban metropolitan regions (13.5%) compared to rural areas (6.9%).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Economic Survey indicates that government health expenditure (GHE) has increased, both as a share of GDP and in total health expenditure. India is a major arms importer, but it has not become the world's largest arms importer according to the Economic Survey. India has transitioned to being among the top 25 arms exporter nations.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Statement 3 is correct. The Economic Survey reports that the Female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) has risen from 23.3% in 2017-18 to 37% in 2022-23, driven mainly by the participation of rural women.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The angel tax on foreign investments received by start-ups has been scrapped. This move aims to ease financing challenges and support innovation within the startup ecosystem.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The tax rates on both short-term and long-term capital gains have gone up. Short-term capital gains on specified financial assets now attract a tax rate of 20% instead of 15%, and long-term gains on all financial and non-financial assets attract a tax rate of 12.5% instead of 10%. Custom duties on gold and silver have been lowered to 6%, which is expected to make these metals cheaper and potentially boost consumer demand.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

38. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Budget has proposed safe-harbour rates for foreign mining companies selling raw diamonds in India. This initiative aims to simplify tax compliance and attract more foreign suppliers to the diamond industry. The Budget has proposed to set up an integrated technology platform and additional National Company Law Tribunals (NCLTs) to enhance the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The allocation to fertilizer and food subsidies has decreased in the Budget. The food subsidy bill is projected at ₹2.05 lakh crore, and the fertilizer subsidy is fixed at ₹1.64 lakh crore, both of which are reductions compared to previous years.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

39. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Budget has proposed investment-grade energy audits for traditional MSMEs. This initiative is aimed at facilitating energy audits in 60 clusters, including those in the glass and ceramic industries, to help these sectors transition to cleaner energy sources.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The budget allocation for the Border Roads Organization (BRO) has increased. The allocation for BRO has been raised by 30% compared to the previous year.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Union Budget 2024-25 includes the withdrawal of the 2% equalisation levy on e-commerce transactions, effective from August 1, 2024.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Budget aims to bridge the gap between academic learning and practical application by fostering a culture of continuous learning and hands-on experience. The budget includes initiatives to promote the development of small modular reactors for nuclear energy, aiming to enhance energy security and sustainability.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

41. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement-I is correct. The Indian government has not implemented a legal guarantee for MSP, despite demands from farmers' organizations.
- Statement-II is correct. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) provide insurance coverage and financial support to farmers in the event of crop failure due to natural calamities, pests, and diseases.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- While both statements are correct, Statement-II does not explain the Statement-I. These are two separate aspects of agricultural policy in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

42. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1,2 and 3 are correct. The budget has introduced several measures to support MSMEs, including a credit guarantee scheme, Mudra loan limit increase, and other financial and regulatory supports. The budget continues to emphasize private investments, especially through initiatives like the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, which is aimed at boosting manufacturing and attracting private investment. The budget allocates increased funds for healthcare, including programs under the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PMABHIM) and Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY. Additionally, the budget focuses on education through increased allocations and programs aimed at improving infrastructure and access. It also includes significant allocations and initiatives for education, such as digital learning and vocational training, and healthcare, including increased funding and exemptions for certain cancer drugs.
- Statement 4 is incorrect. The budget places substantial emphasis on manufacturing, with initiatives like the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme and support for MSMEs in the manufacturing sector. It also includes measures like tax clarifications for new manufacturing units and incentives for sectors like green mobility and electronics manufacturing. Hence, it presents a balance between service sector and manufacturing.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

43. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Supreme Court has clarified that royalties are not considered taxes. They are payments made by the lessee for the use of mineral resources, and they constitute an expenditure incurred by the lessee and income for the lessor (usually the state government).
- Statement 2 is incorrect. State legislatures have the power to levy taxes on lands and quarries where minerals are found. This power is derived from Entry 49 (tax on lands and buildings) and Entry 50 (tax on mineral rights) of the State List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. The central government's role is primarily regulatory rather than taxing. Therefore, only state governments have the legislative competence to impose taxes on lands and quarries where minerals are found, while the central government's involvement is limited to regulation and development.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

44. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Union Budget 2024-25 introduced several Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) schemes aimed at boosting job creation. These schemes include financial incentives for companies to hire first-time employees and offer support for additional employment across various sectors.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Union Budget 2024-25 reduced customs duties on several electronic components, including mobile phones and chargers, to promote domestic manufacturing.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

45. Correct Answer is (B)

- Standard Input Output Norms (SION) are specifically used in the context of regulating and facilitating international trade in India. They are established by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to specify the quantity of inputs required to produce a unit of output for exporting purposes. SION plays a crucial role in determining exporters' eligibility for various benefits and incentives provided by the Indian government, and in ensuring uniformity and transparency in export-import processes.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Source: [The Hindu](#)

46. Correct Answer is (C)

- India's first integrated agri-export facility is being established at Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Mumbai. The development of this all-in-one agricultural facility will streamline logistics, reduce wastage, and provide better prices for agricultural products.

Source: [AIR](#)

47. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The current system in India uses percentage-based assessments rather than functional limitations. India's certification system for disabilities is based on practice of quantifying disabilities by percentage which is outdated and not supported by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- Statement 2 is correct. PwDs in India face significant barriers to employment, resulting in a low employment rate. The National Sample Survey in 2018 found that only 23.8% of PwDs were employed, whereas the Labour Force Participation Rate at the national level was 50.2% the same year.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

48. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Digitalisation can sometimes weaken the traditional credit channel by reducing reliance on bank loans in favour of alternative financing methods such as equity financing, digital lending platforms, or crowdfunding. Hence, it does not consistently or always boost the traditional credit channel. Digitalisation typically makes it easier for consumers to compare prices and make purchasing decisions by providing access to online price comparisons, reviews, and information.
- Statement 3 is correct. Digitalisation can lead to greater interconnectedness in the financial system through various digital platforms and innovations, which can impact financial stability by increasing the potential for systemic risks.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

49. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The primary objective of issuing SGBs is to reduce the demand for physical gold, thereby reducing the import of gold and helping to manage the country's current account deficit.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Sovereign Gold Bonds are issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on behalf of the Government of India. The interest earned on Sovereign Gold Bonds is taxable as per the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961. However, the capital gains tax arising on redemption of SGBs to an individual is exempted.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

50. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The U.S. has become India's second-largest LNG supplier, surpassing the UAE, but Qatar remains the largest supplier of LNG to India.
- Statement 2 is correct. The U.S. emerged as the world's largest LNG exporter in 2023, surpassing other major exporters like Qatar and Australia.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Environment

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

- 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.2) With reference to Water Hyacinth, consider the following statements:

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

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.3) Consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.4) With reference to the National Green Hydrogen Mission, consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.5) Consider the following pairs:

Initiatives-----Objective

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

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

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

Q.6) The government of India has been increasing the target percentage of ethanol blended with petrol under the Ethanol Blending Programme (EBP). This is because:

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

Q.7) Which one of the following animals can be easily found in Periyar National Park?

- a) Indian Rhinoceros
- b) Lion-tailed Macaque
- c) Blackbuck
- d) Great Indian Bustard

Q.8) With reference to dogfish shark, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. They hunt in packs similar to dogs.
2. All the species of these sharks are characterized by smooth dorsal fin spines.
3. These sharks are relatively larger compared to other shark species.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q 9) Consider the following statements:

1. Windamere palm tree is the state tree of Sikkim.
2. Rhododendron niveum tree is endemic to the eastern Himalayas and found in the Kyongnosla Alpine Sanctuary along the ancient Silk Route.

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.10) Consider the following:

1. Energy Storage Cells
2. EV Aggregates
3. Autonomous Driving Systems
4. Charging and Refuelling

How many of the above are the critical research categories identified in the e-mobility R&D Roadmap for India?

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

Q.11) Which of the following statements(s) is/are correct?

1. Indonesia is the world leader in nickel production and reserves.
2. Nickel is used in the electric vehicle (EV) industry.

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.12) Consider the following statements:

1. Some snakes are herbivorous.
2. Snakes can tolerate high temperatures and drought, reproduce quickly, and grow faster without consuming a lot of food.
3. Python snakes can survive for months with no food at all and no water.

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:

1. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) measures the impact of a project on the environment.
2. Climate change considerations are incorporated into the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as part of the project approval process.

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.14) Tree island planting is:

- a) A method of planting trees in straight rows to maximize space efficiency
- b) The practice of planting only one tree species together in a small area
- c) A method of planting trees in small concentrated patches to enhance ecosystem recovery
- d) A technique for growing trees in containers or raised beds

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the only G20 country that has fulfilled its commitments under the Paris Agreement.
2. The Bonn Challenge aims to reduce global carbon emissions by 50% by 2030.

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) With reference to the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), consider the following statements:

1. In India, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is responsible for granting EPR certificates.
2. In India, EPR certification is mandatory for electronic and electrical equipment.
3. Pharmaceuticals are covered under EPR regulations in India.

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

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

Q.17) With reference to the Loggerhead Sea turtle, consider the following statements:

1. It is a marine reptile known for its large head and powerful jaws.
2. It uses Earth's magnetic field to navigate back to the beaches where they were born to lay their eggs.
3. It is classified as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.18) Consider the following statements regarding the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Tax (CBAT):

1. It is a tariff on energy-intensive goods imported into the EU, such as iron, steel, and aluminium.
2. It aligns with the objectives of the Paris Agreement.
3. India's exports will see significant advantages from this taxation system.

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:

Statement-I: There has been a growing interest in exploring the Arctic region by different countries.

Statement-II: The Arctic region is warming faster than other parts of the world.

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.20) Consider the following statements:

1. Cheetahs are mostly found in eastern and southern Africa.
2. Cheetahs do not have a specific breeding season.
3. The savannah is the preferred habitat of cheetahs.
4. Cheetah relies on powerful large jaws to hunt their prey.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

1. Agarwood is primarily formed due to a fungal infection in the Aquilaria tree.
2. The agarwood is mainly used in food flavouring industry.
3. Agarwood is listed in Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

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

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

Q.22) Which one of the following government bodies in India is responsible for authorizing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) certificates for electronic product producers/importers?

- a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- b) Central Pollution Control Board
- c) National Green Tribunal
- d) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Q.23) Consider the following pairs:

Protected Areas-----Rivers

1. Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary----- River Banas
2. Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary----- River Gomati
3. Ranipur Tiger Reserve----- River Narmada

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

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

Q.24) Which one of the following statements best describes the term 'Woody Encroachment'?

- a) It refers to the gradual increase of tree and shrub cover in open ecosystems, such as grasslands and savannahs, often due to changes in land use and climate conditions.
- b) It is the process of deforestation in tropical rainforests, leading to a decrease in biodiversity and an increase in greenhouse gas emissions.
- c) It is the intentional planting of trees and shrubs in urban areas to increase green space and improve air quality.
- d) It is the practice of harvesting timber from forests in a sustainable manner to promote forest regeneration and biodiversity conservation.

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

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

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Lion-tailed Macaque:** This rare and endangered primate is endemic to the Western Ghats and is known to inhabit Periyar National Park. They are found in the states of Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu. They are listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List.
- **Indian Rhinoceros:** This species is not found in Periyar National Park. It's primarily found in other parts of India, such as Kaziranga National Park in Assam.
- **Blackbuck:** While blackbucks are found in some parts of India, they are not typically associated with the habitat of Periyar National Park. The park's terrain, which consists mainly of tropical evergreen and semi-evergreen forests, is not the preferred habitat for blackbucks.
- **Great Indian Bustard:** This critically endangered bird species is not found in Periyar National Park. It's found in dry grasslands and scrublands of other parts of India, not in the moist, forested areas of Periyar.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is correct. Dogfish sharks are known to hunt in packs, sometimes numbering in the thousands, which is why they are named after dogs.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. While some species of dogfish sharks, like the smooth dogfish (*Mustelus canis*), have smooth dorsal fin spines, others, such as the spiny dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*), have sharp spines in front of their dorsal fins. Even the newly discovered species - *Squalus hima*, has smooth dorsal fin spines. Dogfish sharks are relatively small compared to many other shark species.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The state tree of Sikkim is Rhododendron niveum. Palm trees typically thrive in tropical or subtropical climates, which are not the conditions found in Sikkim's mountainous terrain.
- Statement 2 is correct. Rhododendron niveum is endemic to the eastern Himalayas and is found in the Kyongnosla Alpine Sanctuary along the ancient Silk Route. Windamere palm tree is also located along the Silk Route. Both trees face threat to extinction.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)

- The e-mobility R&D Roadmap is a comprehensive plan launched by the Indian government to advance research and development in electric vehicle (EV) technology and related areas. The roadmap aims to position India as a global leader in e-mobility technology and reduce dependence on imports within the e-mobility value chain. The e-mobility R&D Roadmap for India focuses on four critical areas: Energy Storage Cells, EV Aggregates, Materials and Recycling, and Charging and Refuelling.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Indonesia has the world's largest nickel reserves and it also leads in the production. Indonesia's share in global nickel extraction grew from 5% in 2015 to 50% in 2023. Nickel is used in the production of electric batteries, specifically as a basis for lithium-ion batteries commonly used in electric vehicles.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. All snakes are carnivores. There are no herbivorous snakes.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Snakes can tolerate high temperatures and drought, reproduce quickly, and grow far faster than traditional sources of animal protein while consuming a lot less food. Python can survive for months with no food at all and no water.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. An EIA is a process that evaluates the likely environmental impacts of a proposed project or development, including inter-related socio-economic, cultural, and human-health impacts, both beneficial and adverse.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Climate change considerations are not usually incorporated in EIA. There is a growing recognition of the need to better integrate climate change impacts into EIAs, but it is not yet a consistent practice globally.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (C)

- Tree Island planting involves planting clusters of trees in small, concentrated patches. This method is designed to facilitate forest recovery by creating microenvironments that attract wildlife, improve biodiversity, and enhance ecosystem functions. It is considered a cost-effective and ecologically beneficial approach to forest restoration compared to traditional plantation methods.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and various reports have confirmed that India is the only G20 country to have fully met its commitments under the Paris Agreement.

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Bonn Challenge aims to restore 150 million hectares of degraded and deforested lands by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is an environmental policy approach that makes producers responsible for the entire lifecycle of their products, especially for the take-back, recycling, and final disposal of those products. The CPCB is the regulatory body that oversees the issuance of EPR certificates in India. EPR certification is mandatory for producers, importers, and brand owners of electronic and electrical equipment, as well as plastic products.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The focus of EPR is primarily on plastic waste, electronic equipment, and other similar products. Pharmaceuticals require different compliance measures, such as Pollution Board Licenses and adherence to Biomedical Waste Management Rules, but these are not explicitly part of the EPR framework.

Source: [The Times of India](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The loggerhead sea turtle is a marine reptile which is known for its large head and powerful jaws, which help it crush hard-shelled prey. Loggerhead sea turtles are known to use Earth's magnetic field to navigate back to the beaches where they were born to lay their eggs.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The loggerhead sea turtle is classified as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The CBAT applies to energy-intensive goods like iron, steel, and aluminium imported into the EU. The goal is to prevent local EU manufacturers, who follow strict fossil fuel emission norms, from being at a competitive disadvantage compared to manufacturers in developing countries with more lenient emission standards.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The CBAT goes against the spirit of the Paris Agreement, which emphasizes "Common but Differentiated Responsibilities." India is among the top eight countries that will be adversely affected by CBAM. In 2022, 27% of India's exports of iron, steel, and aluminium products, worth \$8.2 billion, went to the EU. Key sectors like steel are expected to be greatly affected by these new tariffs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement-I is correct: There has been a growing interest in exploring the Arctic region by different countries due to factors like resource exploration, new trade routes, geopolitical competition, and scientific research.
- Statement-II is correct: The Arctic region is warming faster than other parts of the world, and has significant implications for global climate patterns and environmental sustainability.
- Hence, Statement-II explains Statement-I because the rapid warming and melting ice in the Arctic region have made it more accessible, thereby increasing interest from various countries.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Cheetahs are primarily found in eastern and southern Africa, they don't have a fixed breeding season, and they prefer savannah habitats. While both grasslands

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

and savannahs provide the open spaces necessary for cheetahs to hunt, savannahs offer additional advantages such as scattered trees for shade and a higher diversity of prey species.

- Statement 4 is incorrect. Cheetahs rely on their speed, not powerful jaws, to hunt prey.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Agarwood, most commonly referred to as oud or oudh is a fragrant, dark and resinous wood used in incense, perfume, and small hand carvings. It forms in the heartwood of *Aquilaria* trees after they become infected with a type of *Phaeoacremonium* mold, *P. parasitica*. Agarwood forms when *Aquilaria* trees are infected by fungi, which triggers the production of a resin. Agarwood (*Aquilaria malaccensis*) is listed in Appendix II of CITES.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Agarwood is primarily used in perfumes, incense, and traditional medicine.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (B)

- The government body in India responsible for authorizing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) certificates for electronic product producers/importers is the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is an environmental policy approach that assigns significant responsibility to producers for the entire lifecycle of their products, especially for the treatment or disposal of post-consumer products.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary – It is located in the Rajsamand District of Rajasthan, near the historical Kumbhalgarh Fort. It is part of the Aravalli Mountain range. The sanctuary is primarily associated with the Banas River. Another river flowing nearby sanctuary is Gomati River. The sanctuary is also known for its diverse flora, including various species of trees and plants that thrive in the semi-arid climate of the region.
- Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary – Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary is the largest wildlife sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh. The sanctuary's main rivers are the Bamner and Baner, which are perennial rivers that flow through the sanctuary all year. These rivers are tributaries of Ken River. The sanctuary lies within the basins of the Narmada River and Ganges.
- Ranipur Tiger Reserve – Ranipur Tiger Reserve, located in the Chitrakoot district of Uttar Pradesh, is one of the newest tiger reserves in India. This reserve is located in the Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh. The Betwa and Dhasan, two significant rivers that pass through the area and supply the reserve's fauna with water, border the reserve.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Woody encroachment refers to the gradual increase in the density and cover of woody plants, such as trees and shrubs, in ecosystems that are typically dominated by grasses and herbaceous plants. This phenomenon is particularly prevalent in grasslands, savannas, and shrublands and can lead to significant ecological changes. Higher CO₂ levels due to climate change are causing more trees to grow in grasslands, which disrupts the balance of these ecosystems. This phenomenon, known as woody encroachment, is influenced by various factors in different parts of the world, such as fire suppression, land fragmentation, and changes in rainfall.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Science & Technology

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.2) With reference to the Project-76 and Project-75I of the Indian Navy, which of the following statements are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) in India:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.4) Which one of the following statements is correct about the 'top quark'?

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

Q.5) With reference to Global India AI Summit 2024, consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.6) With reference to the Aditya-L1 mission, consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.8) With reference to the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), consider the following statements:

1. Its main objective is to seed, grow, and promote research and development (R&D) across India's universities.
2. The ANRF can both fund and receive money from private sources, philanthropic organizations, and international bodies.
3. Its Governing Board is headed by the Education Minister of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.9) Which one of the following species of mosquito is primarily responsible for spreading the Zika virus?

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

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the Military Exercise Nomadic Elephant:

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

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

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

Q.11) The causative agent of Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM) is:

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

Q.12) Consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

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

Q.14) Which one of the following is the correct order of precedence for the gallantry awards?

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.16) With reference to Genome Editing, consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.17) Which of the following countries are participating in the joint military exercise MAITREE 2024?

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

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

1. National Quantum Mission (NQM) aims to accelerate quantum technology-led economic growth and innovation.
2. High quality polished gold is crucial for quantum research.

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.19) Consider the following statements:

1. Cervical cancer rates have declined globally.
2. Cervavac, India's indigenously produced vaccine, provides protection against all known Human Papillomavirus (HPV) types.
3. Cervavac vaccine uses virus-like particles (VLPs) produced using recombinant DNA (rDNA) techniques to prevent cervical cancer.

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 one of the following is the primary aim of the AI Experience Hub, recently inaugurated by the Indian Navy?

- a) Public education about artificial intelligence
- b) Training and familiarization of Navy personnel with AI applications
- c) Conducting basic research on cutting-edge AI technologies
- d) Developing and deploying complex AI systems for military operations

Q.21) The primary function of a regenerative braking system in electric vehicles is to:

- a) Convert kinetic energy into heat energy
- b) Convert kinetic energy into electrical energy
- c) Increase the speed of the vehicle
- d) Reduce the vehicle's weight

Q.22) Which one of the following best describes the primary goal of India's National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP)?

- a) Reduce TB incidence by 50% by 2025
- b) Eliminate TB as a public health problem by 2030
- c) Achieve TB elimination in India by 2025
- d) Reduce TB mortality by 75% by 2025

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Water microdroplets can carry electric charges.
- 2. Water microdroplets are capable of engaging in chemical reactions.
- 3. Water microdroplets can break down crystals like silica and alumina into nanoparticles.

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:

- 1. Border guarding
- 2. Counter-insurgency operations
- 3. Conducting air strikes
- 4. Disaster rescue operations

How many of the above are the main responsibilities of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) force?

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

Q.25) Consider the following statements regarding the Military Exercise Pitch Black:

- 1. It is an annual joint military exercise conducted between India and New Zealand.
- 2. The 2024 exercise will focus on Large Force Employment warfare aimed at strengthening international cooperation.

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 July 2024

Q.26) Consider the following statements:

1. The dengue virus is transmitted to humans when they are bitten by mosquitoes carrying the virus.
2. Dengue is endemic only to Asia.
3. The primary method for preventing dengue is through vaccination.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.27) Consider the following statements:

1. Stinger missile is an anti-tank missile.
2. The primary target of a Stinger missile is low-flying aircraft.
3. Infrared homing is the guidance system used by the Stinger missile.

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.28) Wolbachia bacteria was seen in the news recently, is:

- a) A new method to enhance crop yields by modifying plant genetics.
- b) A breakthrough in cancer treatment using bacterial therapy.
- c) A novel method for controlling mosquito populations.
- d) A discovery of bacteria that can degrade plastic waste.

Q.29) The primary objective of "One Scientist, One Product" program is to:

- a) Increase the number of scientists in agricultural research.
- b) Focus research efforts and improve efficiency in agricultural innovation.
- c) Reduce the overall number of agricultural products being researched.
- d) Assure scientists work on at least one product in their career.

Q.30) Consider the following statements:

1. Currently, the Indian space programme follows a supply-driven model.
2. Under the Project Soorya, ISRO aims to enhance satellite communication systems.

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.31) Positive Indigenisation List (PIL) was seen in the news recently, is:

- a) A list of imported defence items that are approved for use by the Indian armed forces.
- b) A catalogue of defence technologies India is willing to export to friendly nations.
- c) A register of foreign defence companies allowed to operate in India.
- d) A list of defence items that will only be procured from domestic manufacturers after specified timelines.

Q.32) With reference to the Chandipura virus (CHPV), consider the following statements:

1. It is primarily transmitted through the bite of infected ticks.
2. It is an enveloped RNA virus.
3. It has high mortality rate.

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.33) The term 'zero-dose children' refers to:

- a) Children who have not received any routine immunization services.
- b) Children who have only received the Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine at birth.
- c) Children under 5 years old who are unvaccinated against measles.
- d) Children who have received some vaccines but not completed the full immunization schedule.

Q.34) Fissile material is a substance that:

- a) Can sustain a nuclear fission chain reaction
- b) Is highly radioactive but cannot sustain a chain reaction
- c) Is used as a coolant in nuclear reactors
- d) Is a byproduct of nuclear fusion

Q.35) Consider the following statements regarding the disease primary amoebic meningoencephalitis (PAM):

1. Naegleria fowleri (brain-eating amoeba) is the most common cause of primary amoebic meningoencephalitis (PAM).
2. The amoeba enters the body through the nose when swimming in warm freshwater bodies.
3. The infection can be spread from person to person or by drinking contaminated water.

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.36) Consider the following pairs:

Diseases-----Causative Agents

1. Nipah Virus Infection----- Influenza A virus
2. Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM)----- Naegleria fowleri
3. Swine (H1N1) flu----- Influenza A virus subtypes H5 and H7
4. Avian Influenza----- Henipavirus

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

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.37) With reference to Neutrinos, consider the following statements:

1. They are tiny particles that don't have an electric charge.
2. They are massless.
3. Their spin direction is opposite to their motion.
4. They are the most abundant particles in the universe.
5. They rarely interact with matter.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.38) Consider the following statements:

1. Genetically Modified (GM) mustard is a crop that is resistant to drought and flooding.
2. Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) is the regulator of genetically modified organisms 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.39) With reference to the Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) system, consider the following statements:

1. It is a defence system designed to intercept and destroy ballistic missiles with ranges up to 10,000 km.
2. It enhances India's credibility of nuclear deterrence.
3. It uses S-400 and Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) for exo-atmospheric and endo-atmospheric interception.

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 Khaan Quest military exercise:

1. The aim of this exercise is to prepare the Indian Armed Forces for peacekeeping missions.
2. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and Mongolian Armed Forces co-sponsor the Khaan Quest exercise.
3. It will enable the participating countries to share their best practices in tactics, techniques and procedures for conduct of joint operations.

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

Q.41) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India has earned the title of the 'pharmacy of the world'.

Statement-II: Indian pharmaceutical companies produce medicines at a fraction of the cost compared to other countries.

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.42) With reference to the Sickle Cell Disease, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- 1. It is a group of inherited blood disorders that affect White Blood Cells (WBCs).
- 2. The disease is a lifelong illness.

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.43) Consider the following statements:

- 1. DNA is made up of building blocks called nucleotides.
- 2. The CRISPR-Cas9 tool works by using a guide-RNA (gRNA) to find and attach to a specific DNA sequence in the target genome.
- 3. The primary advantage of using FnCas9 over CRISPR-Cas9 in gene-editing is that FnCas9 does not require guide-RNA (gRNA).

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.44) Machine Unlearning (MUL) refers to:

- a) The process of teaching machines to learn new tasks without forgetting previously learned ones.
- b) A technique to enhance machine learning models by providing additional data.
- c) The process of selectively removing data from a machine learning model to protect privacy.
- d) A method to improve machine learning algorithms' computational efficiency.

Answer Key

1 - (a)	2 - (b)	3 - (c)	4 - (b)	5 - (b)	6 - (a)	7 - (b)	8 - (a)	9 - (c)
10 - (c)	11 - (a)	12 - (a)	13 - (a)	14 - (b)	15 - (b)	16 - (c)	17 - (b)	18 - (a)
19 - (c)	20 - (b)	21 - (b)	22 - (c)	23 - (d)	24 - (c)	25 - (b)	26 - (a)	27 - (b)
28 - (c)	29 - (b)	30 - (d)	31 - (d)	32 - (b)	33 - (a)	34 - (a)	35 - (a)	36 - (b)
37 - (b)	38 - (b)	39 - (a)	40 - (c)	41 - (a)	42 - (b)	43 - (a)	44 - (c)	

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The COAS is the highest-ranking military officer in the Indian Army and is responsible for its command, control, and administration. The tenure of Service Chiefs is 62 years of age or three years whichever is earlier. The COAS is appointed by the President of India, who acts on the advice of the Union Cabinet.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The COAS holds the rank of General, which is a four-star rank and the highest rank in the Indian Army during peacetime. Lieutenant General is a three-star rank below the COAS position.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The ANRF was established by an Act of Parliament in August 2023, replacing the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) set up in 2008. The main objective of the ANRF is to seed, grow, and promote research and development (R&D) across India's universities, colleges, research institutions, and R&D laboratories. The ANRF can both fund and receive money from private sources, philanthropic organizations, and international bodies.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Governing Board of the ANRF is headed by the Prime Minister of India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

9. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

11. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Wartime Gallantry Awards

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

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Vir Chakra: The third-highest wartime gallantry award, given for acts of gallantry in the presence of the enemy.

Peacetime Gallantry Awards

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The National Quantum Mission aims to seed, nurture, and scale up scientific and industrial R&D and create a vibrant & innovative ecosystem in Quantum Technology.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Diamonds with specific defects are crucial for quantum research.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Cervical cancer rates have declined globally and in India as well. However, it is still a major health concern in low- and middle-income countries. Cervavac uses virus-like particles (VLPs) produced using recombinant DNA techniques to elicit an immune response against HPV types 6, 11, 16, and 18.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Cervavac is a quadrivalent vaccine that provides protection against HPV types 6, 11, 16, and 18. It does not protect against all known HPV types. Cervavac is India's first indigenously developed Quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus vaccine. Cervavac works by

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

stimulating the immune system to produce antibodies that neutralize the virus, preventing its entry into cells and subsequent infection.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- The AI Hub is designed to foster exposure, learning, and encourage the use of AI tools and applications among Navy personnel to harness the transformative potential of artificial intelligence across various naval domains. The AI Hub is equipped with state-of-the-art AI tools and applications to enthuse personnel to take advantage of the transformational advances in artificial intelligence. The AI initiative aims to foster exposure, learning, and encourage germination and follow-up of use cases across multiple domains.

Source: [AIR](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- The primary function of a regenerative braking system in electric vehicles is to convert kinetic energy into electrical energy. It is a brake system designed to convert the kinetic energy of the wheels to a form that can be stored and used for other purposes. Regenerative braking is one type of dynamic braking.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (C)

- India's National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP) has set an ambitious goal to eliminate tuberculosis (TB) in India by 2025, which is five years ahead of the global target. This goal is stated in the National Strategic Plan (NSP) for Tuberculosis Elimination 2017-2025. The program aims to rapidly reduce the burden of TB, including its morbidity and mortality, while working towards complete elimination by 2025.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Water microdroplets can carry electric charges, which can influence their chemical reactivity and other properties. Water microdroplets can engage in chemical reactions, often at accelerated rates compared to bulk water. This is due to factors such as high electric fields and increased surface area. Recent research has shown that water microdroplets can break down crystals like silica (SiO₂) and alumina (Al₂O₃) into nanoparticles.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) is a border guarding force of India deployed along its borders with Tibet Autonomous Region. It is one of the five Central Armed Police Forces, established in 1962 in the aftermath of the Sino-Indian War of 1962. At present, the ITBP guards 3,488 km long India-China borders ranging from the Karakoram Pass in Ladakh to Jachep La in Arunachal Pradesh. Apart from this, the Force also has important roles in many internal security duties and operations against the Left-Wing Extremism in the state of Chhattisgarh. ITBP also conducts relief and rescue operations as 'First Responders' for natural calamities in the Himalayan region. However, conducting air strikes is not one of its functions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Exercise Pitch Black is not an annual event, but a biennial exercise. It is a multinational exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

- Statement 2 is correct. The 2024 exercise will be focusing on Large Force Employment warfare aimed at strengthening international cooperation. The exercise provides an opportunity for strengthening the ability of the participating nations to deploy over large distances, support integrated operations in the Indo-Pacific region and building strong aviation associations.

Source: [AIR](#)

26. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Dengue is primarily transmitted through the bite of infected mosquitoes, particularly *Aedes aegypti*.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. While dengue is endemic in many parts of Asia, it is not limited to Asia. The WHO states that dengue is now endemic in more than 100 countries across multiple regions, including the Americas, Africa, Eastern Mediterranean, South-East Asia, and Western Pacific. The primary method for preventing dengue is vector control, i.e., reducing mosquito populations and preventing mosquito bites. Vaccination is a tool, but it's not the primary method.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Stinger missile is a surface-to-air missile. It is designed to target low-flying aircraft such as helicopters and planes. It was developed by the United States. Stinger missiles are known for their fire-and-forget capability. India has approved the acquisition of an Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS), which includes the deployment of Stinger missiles.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The primary target of the Stinger missile is low-flying aircraft, including helicopters and planes. The Stinger missile uses an infrared homing guidance system to lock onto the heat emitted by the target's engine.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

28. Correct Answer is (C)

- Wolbachia is a genus of bacteria that infects many arthropods, including insects like mosquitoes and wasps. The bacteria manipulate their hosts' reproductive systems. In mosquitoes, Wolbachia is used to reduce the spread of diseases like dengue and Zika by interfering with mosquito reproduction and virus transmission. Similarly, Wolbachia manipulates the reproduction of the wasp *Encarsia formosa* to eliminate male offspring. Wolbachia bacteria are present in insect eggs, but they are absent in the sperm.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (B)

- The "One Scientist, One Product" program aims to streamline and focus the research efforts of ICAR's scientists to enhance efficiency and productivity in agricultural innovation. Each scientist or group of scientists is tasked with developing a specific product, technology, model, concept, or publication, with regular monitoring to ensure progress and avoid duplication of efforts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Indian space program has shifted from a supply-driven model to a demand-driven model following reforms in 2019-2020. In the demand-driven model, satellites are built and launched only if there is existing demand for their services. Project Soorya, also known as the Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV) project, aims to develop a new launch vehicle with greater payload capacity and reusability. It focuses on building the country's own space station and sending Indians to the Moon.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

31. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Positive Indigenisation List (PIL) is an initiative by India's Ministry of Defence to promote domestic defence manufacturing and reduce import dependence. It contains a list of defence items that will be procured only from Indian manufacturers after specified timelines. The PIL aims to boost self-reliance (Aatmanirbharta) in defence production and minimize imports by Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs).

Source: [AIR](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Chandipura virus is primarily transmitted through the bite of infected sandflies.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Chandipura virus is an RNA virus. It is described as an enveloped RNA virus. The Chandipura virus is associated with high mortality rates, especially in children.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (A)

- Zero-dose children are those who have not received any routine immunization services, specifically lacking the first dose of the diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTP) vaccine. This term is used to identify and address gaps in immunization coverage. Recently, a UNICEF report highlights that India has a high number of zero-dose children.

Source: [AIR](#)

34. Correct Answer is (A)

- Fissile materials are capable of sustaining a nuclear fission chain reaction when struck by low-energy (thermal) neutrons. Examples include uranium-235, plutonium-239, and uranium-233.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Naegleria fowleri, often referred to as the "brain-eating amoeba," is the primary cause of primary amoebic meningoencephalitis (PAM). The amoeba typically enters the body through the nose when people swim or dive in warm freshwater bodies such as lakes, rivers, and ponds. Naegleria fowleri is an amoeba that thrives in warm freshwater environments.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. PAM cannot be spread from person to person, nor can it be contracted by drinking contaminated water. PAM is extremely rare. It is also highly fatal, with a mortality rate of over 97%. Treatment typically involves a combination of drugs. However, despite treatment, the survival rate is extremely low.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (B)

- The causative agent of Nipah virus is the Nipah virus itself, which belongs to the Henipavirus genus in the family Paramyxoviridae.
- Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM) is caused by Naegleria fowleri.
- Swine (H1N1) flu is caused by the Influenza A virus.
- Avian Influenza is caused by Influenza A virus subtypes H5 and H7.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1, 3 and 5 are correct. Neutrinos are tiny particles that carry no electric charge. Neutrinos are left-handed, meaning their spin direction is opposite to their motion. Neutrinos rarely interact with matter, making them difficult to study. Neutrinos are tiny particles that can

10 PM MCQs Compilation July 2024

pass through almost anything, making them potential tool for new communication methods, especially in challenging environments like underwater.

- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. Neutrinos are not massless; they have a small mass. Neutrinos are the second most abundant particles in the universe, with photons being the most abundant. Neutrinos are produced when particles called leptons (like muons, electrons, and taus) interact with matter.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

38. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. GM mustard (specifically DMH-11) is primarily developed for yield enhancement and herbicide tolerance, not for drought or flood resistance.
- Statement 2 is correct. Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) is the regulator for genetically modified organisms in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

39. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The Phase-II BMD system is designed to intercept ballistic missiles with a range of up to 5,000 km. The Phase-II BMD system includes the AD-1 and AD-2 interceptors, which are designed for more advanced and longer-range threats. The AD-1 is capable of both low exo-atmospheric and endo-atmospheric interception, while the AD-2 is intended for high-altitude exo-atmospheric interception.
- Statement 2 is correct. The BMD system enhances India's defensive capabilities and strengthens its nuclear deterrence by providing a shield against incoming ballistic missiles.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Khaan Quest began in 2003 as a bilateral exercise between the United States and Mongolian Armed Forces. In 2006, it evolved into a multinational peacekeeping exercise. The exercise aims to prepare participants, including the Indian Armed Forces, for peacekeeping missions in multinational environments. It also aims to gain United Nations training and certification for participants. The exercise allows participating countries to share best practices in tactics, techniques, and procedures for conducting joint operations.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The exercise is co-sponsored by the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command and hosted by the Mongolian Armed Forces.

Source: [AIR](#)

41. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. India is widely recognized as the "pharmacy of the world" due to its significant role in global pharmaceutical production and distribution.
- Statement II is correct. India's pharmaceutical industry is known for producing high-quality medicines at much lower costs compared to many other countries.
- Therefore, both statements are correct, and Statement-II provides correct explanation for Statement-I.

Source: [AIR](#)

42. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Sickle Cell Disease primarily affects Red Blood Cells (RBCs), not White Blood Cells (WBCs). The disease causes the red blood cells to become rigid, sticky, and shaped like sickles or crescent moons.
- Statement 2 is correct. Sickle Cell Disease is a lifelong condition. Individuals with this disease typically require ongoing medical care to manage symptoms and prevent complications.

Source: [AIR](#)

43. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. DNA (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) is composed of smaller units called nucleotides. Each nucleotide consists of three components: Nucleobase, Phosphate Group and Sugar (Deoxyribose). These nucleotides are arranged in a double helix structure. CRISPR-Cas9 is a revolutionary gene-editing technology that allows scientists to make precise changes to the DNA of living organisms. The CRISPR-Cas9 system uses a guide-RNA (gRNA) to locate and bind to a specific DNA sequence in the genome.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Both FnCas9 and CRISPR-Cas9 require guide-RNA (gRNA) to target specific DNA sequences. FnCas9, derived from *Francisella novicida*, is known for its high precision but traditionally has lower efficiency compared to SpCas9. The primary advantage of FnCas9 is its precision, not the absence of gRNA.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

44. Correct Answer is (C)

- Machine Unlearning (MUL) refers to the process of selectively removing the influence of specific data points from machine learning models. This process is crucial for addressing privacy concerns and ensuring compliance with data protection regulations. The process involves identifying the data to be unlearned, modifying the model, and retraining or adjusting it accordingly.

Source: [The Hindu](#)