

# **10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation**

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*For UPSC CSE Prelims*

**[ 4<sup>th</sup> Week] Aug 2024**

## 10 PM Compilation August [Fourth Week] 2024

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## Art & Culture

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

1. Tholpavakoothu is a classical music style from Karnataka.
2. Rajaraja Chola I is the Chola king who is credited with significant contributions to the development of temple murals.

**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) Consider the following statements:**

1. India has six classical languages.
2. All the centres for classical languages function under the aegis of the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL).
3. Classical languages have a rich body of ancient literature considered as valuable heritage.

**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. National Sports Day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand.
2. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was launched on the National Sports Day.

**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

## Geography

**Q.4) The Philadelphi Corridor is located along the border of:**

- a) Israel and Jordan
- b) Gaza Strip and Egypt
- c) Israel and Lebanon
- d) Egypt and Sudan

**Q.5) With reference to mass wasting, consider the following statements:**

1. Mass wasting is primarily caused by tectonic activities.
2. Erosion of the landmass is a form of mass wasting.

**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 are the three main regions of the Pacific Islands?**

- a) Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia
- b) Oceania, Antarctica, Melanesia
- c) Micronesia, Japan, Polynesia
- d) Melanesia, Asia, Africa

**Q.7) Kursk is an important city located in which one of the following parts of Russia?**

- a) Eastern Russia
- b) Northern Russia
- c) Western Russia
- d) Southern Russia

**Q.8) With reference to cyclone, consider the following statements:**

- 1. Tropical cyclones cause less damage compared to land-originating cyclones.
- 2. Cyclones rotate counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere.
- 3. Cold air mass over mountains is the primary cause of a land-originating cyclone.

**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:**

- 1. The Ganga River drains into Bay of Bengal after a confluence with the river Meghna.
- 2. The Ganga Water Treaty, 1996 aimed to build a new dam on the Ganges River to generate hydroelectric power for both India and Bangladesh.

**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 pairs:**

Sectors-----Activities

- 1. Tertiary Sector-----Utilities (electricity & water supply)
- 2. Secondary Sector-----Construction
- 3. Tertiary Sector-----Trade

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

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

## Polity

**Q.11) With reference to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), consider the following statements:**

1. The Commission is empowered to visit any jail or other government-controlled facility to see the prisoners' living conditions.
2. The members of the NHRC can be removed by the Chief Justice of India on the grounds of judicial misconduct.

**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) Consider the following statements:**

Statement-I: The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 provides for reservations of disables in government jobs and incentives in non-government jobs.

Statement-II: Article 16 of the Indian Constitution directs the state to make provisions for securing the right to work, education, and public assistance in cases of disablement.

**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.13) In the context of the criminal justice system, the term 'Plea Bargaining' refers to:**

- a) A mandatory legal requirement for all accused individuals to confess to their crimes before a trial can proceed.
- b) The negotiation between a defendant and prosecutor where the defendant agrees to plead guilty to a lesser charge in exchange for a lighter sentence.
- c) The practice of appealing a court decision to a higher court.
- d) A judicial procedure where the judge decides the sentence before the trial begins, based on preliminary evidence presented by both parties.

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

1. The right to freedom of speech and expression guaranteed under the fundamental rights in the Constitution is not absolute.
2. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights acknowledges that free speech cannot be restricted for reasons such as maintaining public order, morals, and public health.

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

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

**Q.15) With reference to the e-Cabinet system, consider the following statements:**

1. The e-Cabinet system is designed to increase the number of cabinet meetings to ensure efficiency, transparency, and accountability in government operations.
2. The e-Cabinet system was developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

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

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

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

1. The Indian Constitution states that personal liberty should not be compromised except according to procedure established by law.
2. Self-incriminatory statements made by an accused to an investigating officer are admissible as evidence.

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

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

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

1. The Constitution mandates that local government elections must be held before the end of their five-year term.
2. State Election Commissions (SECs) are at the same level with the Election Commission of India (ECI) in terms of independence and transparency.

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

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

**Q.18) Consider the following statements:**

1. Lateral entry refers to the appointment of professionals from the private sector, public sector undertakings, and academia to senior and middle management positions in the government.
2. The concept of lateral entry was recommended by NITI Aayog to enhance governance.

**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. The Uniform Civil Code is a constitutional provision.
2. Minerva Mills Case highlighted the need for a Uniform Civil Code in India by addressing gender inequality in personal laws.

**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. India has never hosted the Olympics.
2. Khelo India Scheme focuses on upgrading sports infrastructure, developing talent, and promoting sports academies.
3. The central government has the primary authority to legislate and make laws regarding sports in India.

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

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

## Acts & Policies

**Q.21) With reference to the Bharat Health Initiatives for Sahyog Hita and Maitri (BHISHM), consider the following statements:**

1. The primary purpose of the BHISHM cubes under the BHISHM is to provide emergency medical care in disaster and conflict zones.
2. The BHISHM cube initiative a part of the project Make in India.
3. Large warehouse for storing medical supplies is one of the components of BHISHM Cube.

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

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

**Q.22) The primary goal of the 'Fit India Movement' is to:**

- a) Promote competitive sports
- b) Increase tourism in India
- c) Encourage physical activity in daily life
- d) Develop new fitness equipment

**Q.23) Which one of the following organizations is responsible for implementing the Vigyan Dhara Scheme?**

- a) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- b) Department of Science and Technology (DST)
- c) Ministry of Education
- d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

**Q.24) Consider the following statements regarding the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS):**

1. It ensures that government employees receive a pension equal to 50% of their average basic pay from the last 12 months before retirement, as long as they have served for at least 25 years.
2. Variable pension contributions feature of the UPS ensures that pensions keep pace with inflation.
3. It is available to both government and private sector employees.
4. In the event of an employee's death, the family will receive a pension amounting to 60% of the employee's pension.

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

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

**Q.25) Consider the following statements regarding the New India Literacy Programme (NILP):**

1. Literacy is defined as the ability to read, write, and compute with comprehension, including skills like digital and financial literacy.
2. Under the NILP, individuals are considered literate if they pass the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT).
3. Achieving "full literacy" is defined as reaching 100% literacy in a State or Union Territory.

**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.26) Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY):**

1. The primary objective of PMJDY is to ensure comprehensive financial inclusion by providing access to banking services to every household in India.
2. Only savings accounts can be opened under the PMJDY.
3. There is no requirement for a minimum balance to open PMJDY account.
4. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is responsible for implementing the PMJDY.

**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 regarding the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP):**

1. It aims to enhance India's manufacturing competitiveness by developing industrial cities with world-class infrastructure.
2. The programme includes the development of 10 industrial corridors across India.
3. National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT) is responsible for coordinating and unified development of all industrial corridors under NICDP.

**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

## Index & Reports

**Q.28) Hema Committee Report, seen in the news recently, is related to:**

- a) Investigation into corruption in the central government
- b) Analysis of the environmental impact of industrialization
- c) Recommendations for improving the infrastructure of the public transportation system
- d) Exposure of sexual harassment and exploitation of women in the Malayalam film industry

**Q.29) J.S. Verma Committee is related to which one of the following?**

- a) Formulation of India's foreign policy towards neighbouring countries.
- b) Restructuring of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) framework in India.
- c) Development of strategies for enhancing agricultural productivity in rural areas.
- d) Amendment of laws to improve the safety and security of women.



## International Relations/Organizations

**Q.30) India and the United States have recently entered into a bilateral Security of Supply Arrangement (SOSA). This implies:**

- It requires India to provide military bases to the United States in exchange for defence supplies.
- It mandates India to purchase a fixed amount of defence equipment from the United States each year.
- It ensures reciprocal priority support for defence goods and services between India and the United States to address supply chain disruptions.
- It eliminates all tariffs on defence trade between India and the United States.

**Q.31) With reference to the Pacific Islands Forum, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?**

- The forum aims to enhance cooperation among countries and territories of Oceania.
- India is one of the members of the Forum.
- The headquarter of the Forum is located in Fiji.

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

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

**Q.32) In the context of International Relations, 'Strategic Partnership' refers to:**

- The formalization of trade agreements and tariff reductions between two countries to boost economic ties.
- A long-term partnership between two countries covering defence, economics, technology, and diplomacy to achieve shared strategic goals.
- An agreement between two countries to support each other's political campaigns and electoral processes.
- A temporary alliance formed between countries to address specific short-term military conflicts or regional disputes.

**Q.33) With reference to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), consider the following statements:**

- It is an inter-governmental body established to set standards and promote effective implementation of measures to combat money laundering.
- International tax evasion is one of the focus areas of the FATF's recommendations.
- Red List and Blue List are maintained by the FATF to identify countries with strategic deficiencies in their anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regimes.

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

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

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

- Singapore has been a major source of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) for India.
- Singapore is one of India's largest trade partners within Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).
- India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is operational in Singapore.

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

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

**Q.35) Which of the following countries are members of the Quad?**

- a) United States, Canada, United Kingdom, and Australia
- b) United States, Japan, India, and Australia
- c) China, Russia, India, and Brazil
- d) United States, South Korea, Japan, and India

**Q.36) Which one of the following organizations established the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)?**

- a) Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)
- b) International Olympic Committee (IOC)
- c) World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)
- d) United Nations (UN)

**Q.37) With reference to the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Plus (OPEC+), consider the following statements:**

1. It is an alliance of oil-producing countries that aims to stabilize global oil prices by coordinating production levels among its members.
2. Iran is one of the member countries of OPEC+.
3. OPEC and OPEC+ are competing organizations.

**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 Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), consider the following statements:**

1. India is one of the founding members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).
2. English is an official language of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).
3. SCO covers approximately 80% of Eurasia and 40% of the world population.

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

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

**Q.39) The primary role of the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) in motorsport is to:**

- a) Organize car manufacturing exhibitions
- b) License and sanction motorsport events
- c) Provide financial support to racing teams
- d) Develop automotive technology

**Q.40) Consider the following statements with respect to the Joint Russian-Indian Commission on Cooperation in the Field of Emergency Management:**

1. The Joint Russian-Indian Commission focuses on enhancing cooperation in disaster management and emergency response.
2. The key areas of cooperation outlined in the working plan for 2025-2026 between India and Russia are trade agreements and economic policies.

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

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

**Q.41) Colombo Plan, seen in the news recently, is:**

- a) A military alliance between South Asian countries.
- b) An environmental conservation initiative for the Indian Ocean region.
- c) A trade agreement between Commonwealth nations.
- d) A regional intergovernmental organization focused on economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific.

**Q.42) With reference to Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI), consider the following statements:**

- 1. It aims to foster understanding and cooperation among its member institutions by facilitating the exchange of ideas and experiences in public auditing.
- 2. ASOSAI is one of the regional groups of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- 3. It also conducts joint audits of member countries to enhance transparency and accountability in public financial management.

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

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

**Q.43) Which of the following countries were originally identified as part of the "Fragile Five"?**

- a) China, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, and Thailand
- b) Brazil, India, Indonesia, Turkey, and South Africa
- c) Russia, Mexico, Argentina, Chile, and Peru
- d) Egypt, Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, and Morocco

## Economy

**Q.44) Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** Since the LPG (Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization) reforms in India, agricultural GDP has grown at a slower pace compared to the overall GDP.

**Statement-II:** Economic reforms in India encouraged a shift from cash crops to food grains after 1991.

**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.45) Disinflation is associated with which one of the following policy actions by a central bank?**

- a) Raising interest rates to reduce the money supply.
- b) Increasing government spending to boost demand.
- c) Lowering interest rates to encourage borrowing.
- d) Expanding the money supply through quantitative easing.

**Q.46) With reference to the Unified Lending Interface (ULI) tech platform, consider the following statements:**

1. It aims to simplify and speed up the credit appraisal process by enabling a seamless flow of digital information.
2. It is designed to cater to the large unmet demand for credit in the real estate and e-commerce sectors.
3. It operates on a consent-based model.
4. The platform has been developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

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

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

**Q.47) Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** India has a lower Female Labor Force Participation Rate (FLFPR) compared to the global average.

**Statement-II:** In India, women mostly have burden of care responsibilities within their families.

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

1. India's farm sector employment is low compared to other fast-growing G-20 emerging markets.
2. India needs to create more jobs in service and manufacturing sectors to increase the productivity in the agricultural sector.

**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) Consider the following:**

1. Cold storage and refrigerated transportation
2. Primary processing units for cereals and pulses
3. Solar panels for agricultural pumps
4. Logistics facilities including sorting and packaging units

**How many of the above are covered under the Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF)?**

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

**Q.50) Which one of the following best describes the role of a Self-Regulatory Organization (SRO) in the FinTech sector?**

- a) It acts as a governmental body enforcing financial regulations.
- b) It sets rules and standards for its members to ensure ethical business practices.
- c) It provides direct financial services to customers.
- d) It replaces the need for central banks in regulating FinTech companies.

**Q.51) If a credit rating agency revises India's real GDP growth projections upward, then which one of the following impacts can be observed on India's fiscal policy?**

- a) It would encourage the government to tighten monetary policy
- b) It would allow the government to increase public spending
- c) It would force the government to cut taxes immediately
- d) It would reduce the need for foreign direct investment

**Q.52) With reference to Vadhvan Port, consider the following statements:**

- 1. It will be one of India's largest deep-water ports and will provide direct connectivity to international shipping routes.
- 2. The port will serve as a gateway for India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor and International North-South Transportation Corridor.
- 3. Ministry of Defense and Indian Railways are involved in the joint venture for the development of Vadhvan Port.

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

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

**Q.53) With reference to National Co-operative Organics Limited (NCOL), consider the following statements:**

- 1. It aims to support organic farmers by providing a platform for the aggregation, certification, testing, branding, and marketing of organic products.
- 2. Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) and Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) are the main promoters of NCOL.

**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

## Environment

**Q.54) Consider the following statements:**

- 1. Gir Forest in Gujarat is currently the only natural habitat for Asiatic lions in India.
- 2. Kuno National Park is situated near the Satpura Range in Central 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.55) Consider the following statements:**

- 1. China, Russia, and Germany are the founding members of the Global Biofuels Alliance.
- 2. The Global Biofuels Alliance aims to contribute to climate action by promoting biofuels.
- 3. Brazil is the leading oil producer in Latin America.

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

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

**Q.56) Consider the following statements:**

1. Campbell Bay is located in the Lakshadweep islands.
2. Highly Sensitive Coastal Areas (CRZ 1A) prohibit new construction and industrial activities to protect the sensitive ecosystems.

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

1. Microbeads are used primarily as exfoliants and cleansers in personal care products.
2. Microbeads are biodegradable materials that can break down naturally over time.

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

1. Perform, Achieve, and Trade (PAT) sets absolute limits on emissions, while Emissions Trading (Cap and Trade) focuses on energy efficiency.
2. India has aimed to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 43% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels.

**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

## Science & Technology

**Q.59) The primary difference between A1 and A2 milk is:**

- a) The source of the milk
- b) The type of protein in the milk
- c) The fat content of the milk
- d) The lactose levels in the milk

**Q.60) Consider the following statements regarding the RHUMI- 1 rocket:**

1. It is India's first reusable hybrid rocket.
2. The rocket is also environmentally friendly.
3. It carried the largest payload ever launched by India.

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

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

**Q.61) Consider the following statements:**

1. Bhaskara-I was India's first satellite that was sent into the orbit.
2. The Indian government has allowed 100% foreign direct investment (FDI) in the space sector.
3. India has signed the Artemis Accords to advance its space exploration ambitions through international cooperation.

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

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

**Q.62) With reference to the BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) Policy, consider the following statements:**

1. The goal of this policy is to support innovation in research, development, and entrepreneurship in various fields related to biotechnology.
2. It also focuses on creating a biotechnology-driven economy by prioritizing genetically modified crops as the primary solution to global food security challenges.

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

1. The New Shepard-25 (NS-25) mission was aimed to carry a crew of six individuals on a brief sub-orbital spaceflight.
2. The NS-25 mission was designed to be environmentally friendly as it used a hybrid fuel system.

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

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

**Q.64) Which one of the following geological processes is believed to have led to the formation of ferroan anorthosite on the Moon?**

- a) Subduction of tectonic plates
- b) Crystallization from a global magma ocean
- c) Sedimentation in ancient lunar seas
- d) Erosion by solar winds

**Q.65) 'Codon de-optimisation' technique is used to develop vaccine. It involves:**

- a) Altering the protein structure by changing the amino acid sequence to enhance vaccine efficacy.
- b) Altering the genetic code of the virus to weaken it without changing the proteins it produces.
- c) Increasing the frequency of the most common codons to boost protein expression for stronger immune responses.
- d) Using chemical modifications to deactivate viral proteins, preventing replication entirely.

**Q.66) With reference to the IMDX Monkeypox Detection RT-PCR Assay, consider the following statements:**

1. It can be seamlessly integrated into existing laboratory workflows without the need for new equipment.
2. The assay targets a single region in the Mpox viral genome.

**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.67) L-dopa is used as a medication in the treatment of Parkinson's disease. Which one of the following is the unique properties of L-dopa for the treatment of Parkinson's disease?**

- a) Its longer half-life
- b) Its ability to cross the blood-brain barrier
- c) Its resistance to enzymatic degradation
- d) Its higher affinity for dopamine receptors

**Q.68) With reference to SHe-Box portal, consider the following statements:**

1. It serves as a unified resource to expand employment opportunities for women, aiming to enhance the Female Labor Force Participation Rate (FLFPR).
2. It is accessible to women working in both government and private sectors.

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

1. A nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) is a submarine used for attack missions.
2. INS Arighat, a nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, has enhanced propulsion and missile capabilities compared to the INS Arihant.

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

1. A fixed-dose combination (FDC) medicine refers to a pharmaceutical product that contains a single active ingredient formulated in different strengths.
2. In India, FDCs can only be approved by the central 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



## Answer Key

1 - (b)	2 - (c)	3 - (a)	4 - (b)	5 - (d)	6 - (a)	7 - (c)	8 - (a)	9 - (a)	10 - (b)
11 - (a)	12 - (c)	13 - (b)	14 - (a)	15 - (b)	16 - (a)	17 - (a)	18 - (c)	19 - (a)	20 - (a)
21 - (a)	22 - (c)	23 - (b)	24 - (b)	25 - (a)	26 - (b)	27 - (c)	28 - (d)	29 - (d)	30 - (c)
31 - (c)	32 - (b)	33 - (a)	34 - (d)	35 - (b)	36 - (b)	37 - (b)	38 - (a)	39 - (b)	40 - (a)
41 - (d)	42 - (a)	43 - (b)	44 - (c)	45 - (a)	46 - (c)	47 - (a)	48 - (b)	49 - (c)	50 - (b)
51 - (b)	52 - (b)	53 - (a)	54 - (a)	55 - (b)	56 - (b)	57 - (a)	58 - (d)	59 - (b)	60 - (a)
61 - (b)	62 - (a)	63 - (a)	64 - (b)	65 - (b)	66 - (a)	67 - (b)	68 - (b)	69 - (b)	70 - (b)

## Answers & Explanations

### Art & Culture

#### 1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Tholpavakoothu is not a music style but a traditional shadow puppetry art form from Kerala.
- Statement 2 is correct. Rajaraja Chola I is known for his contributions to temple architecture and art, including murals, during the Chola dynasty's reign.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

#### 2. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. India officially recognizes six languages as classical: Tamil, Sanskrit, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, and Odia. Classical languages are recognized for their rich literary tradition and valuable ancient literature, which is considered an important part of cultural heritage.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While four of the centers for classical languages (Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, and Odia) operate under the CIIL, the center for Tamil is autonomous, and Sanskrit is promoted through dedicated universities that receive direct funding from the Union Education Ministry.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is correct. National Sports Day in India is celebrated on August 29th every year to honour the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand, a legendary hockey player known as the "Wizard of Hockey". On National Sports Day, the President of India traditionally presents the National Sports Awards, which include the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna, Arjuna Award, Dronacharya Award, and Dhyan Chand Award, recognizing the achievements of athletes and coaches.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Fit India Movement was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on National Sports Day in 2019 to encourage Indians to prioritize fitness and integrate it into their daily lives. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, also known as the Clean India Mission, was launched on October 2, 2014, to coincide with Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary.

Source: [AIR](#)

**Geography**

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

- The Philadelphi Corridor is a narrow strip of land that runs along the entire border between the Gaza Strip and Egypt. It is a demilitarized buffer zone established under the 1979 peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. This corridor has been a strategic area due to its role in controlling movement and preventing smuggling between Gaza and Egypt. The corridor has been a focal point in ceasefire negotiations and conflicts involving Israel, Hamas, and Egypt.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Mass wasting is primarily driven by gravity, not tectonic activities. Erosion and mass wasting are related but distinct processes. Erosion involves the removal and transport of soil and rock by agents like water, wind, or ice, whereas mass wasting is the movement of rock and soil downslope under the influence of gravity without the need for a transporting medium.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- The Pacific Islands are traditionally divided into three main ethnogeographic regions: Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. These regions encompass a vast number of islands in the Pacific Ocean, each with distinct cultural and geographic characteristics.

Source: [DD News](#)

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

- Kursk is situated in the western part of Russia, closer to the border with Ukraine. It is part of the European portion of Russia and is located in the Central Federal District. The city is known for its historical significance, particularly the Battle of Kursk during World War II, which was one of the largest tank battles in history.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Tropical cyclones are known for causing significant damage due to their intense winds, heavy rainfall, and storm surges, which can lead to severe property damage, loss of life, and flooding. Land-originating cyclones are rare and typically less intense because they lack the energy source provided by warm ocean waters. Cyclones, including land-originating ones, are primarily caused by atmospheric disturbances around low-pressure areas. The formation of cyclones generally involves the rise of warm air and the inflow of cooler air, leading to a rotating system.
- Statement 2 is correct. Due to the Coriolis effect, cyclones rotate counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is correct. The Ganga River, along with the Brahmaputra (known as the Jamuna in Bangladesh), converges with the Meghna River before emptying into the Bay of Bengal.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Ganga Water Treaty of 1996 is a water-sharing agreement between India and Bangladesh, focusing on the equitable distribution of the Ganges River water, particularly at the Farakka Barrage. The treaty is valid for 30 years from its signing in 1996 and is subject to renewal by mutual consent. It is set to expire in 2026.

Source: [NDTV](#)

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

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- **Tertiary Sector - Utilities (electricity & water supply):** This pair is not correctly matched. Utilities such as electricity and water supply are considered part of the secondary sector because they involve industrial processes and infrastructure similar to manufacturing.
- **Secondary Sector - Construction:** This pair is correctly matched. The secondary sector includes activities related to manufacturing and construction, where raw materials are transformed into finished goods or infrastructure.
- **Tertiary Sector - Trade:** This pair is correctly matched. The tertiary sector encompasses services, including trade, which involves the distribution and sale of goods and services.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### Polity

#### 11. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The NHRC is mandated to visit jails and other institutions under the control of state governments to assess the living conditions of inmates and suggest remedial measures. This is part of its function under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The members of the NHRC, including the Chairperson, can be removed by the President of India on the grounds of proved misbehaviour or incapacity, but only after an inquiry conducted by a Supreme Court judge. The Chief Justice of India does not have the authority to remove NHRC members.

Source: [AIR](#)

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

- Statement I is correct. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 provides for reservations of disables in government jobs and incentives in non-government jobs. Section 34 of the Act mandates 4% reservation for persons with benchmark disabilities in government establishments. Section 35 requires the government to provide incentives to private sector employers to ensure at least 5% of their workforce is composed of persons with benchmark disabilities.
- Statement II is incorrect. Article 16 of the Indian Constitution deals with equality of opportunity in matters of public employment. It does not specifically mention provisions for securing the right to work, education, and public assistance for persons with disabilities. These provisions are aligned with Article 41 of the Directive Principles of State Policy which deals with the right to work, education, and public assistance in certain cases.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- In the context of the criminal justice system, the term 'Plea Bargaining' refers to a legal process where the defendant negotiates with the prosecutor to resolve a criminal case without going to trial. It involves the defendant agreeing to plead guilty to a lesser charge or to accept a lighter sentence, thus avoiding a lengthy and uncertain trial. The main purpose is to streamline the judicial process, reduce court burdens, and allow for quicker case resolutions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

#### 14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The right to freedom of speech and expression in India is not absolute and is subject to reasonable restrictions as outlined in Article 19(2) of the Indian Constitution. These restrictions can be imposed for reasons such as the sovereignty and integrity of India, security of the state, public order, decency or morality, and more.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, along with other international human rights instruments like the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), recognizes that freedom of expression can be subject to restrictions. These restrictions are permissible for reasons such as respecting the rights or reputations of others, protecting national security, public order, public health, or morals.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary purpose of the e-Cabinet system is not to increase the number of cabinet meetings but to streamline and improve the decision-making processes by digitizing them. This involves enhancing efficiency, transparency, and accountability by reducing paperwork and facilitating better communication and information management during cabinet meetings.
- Statement 2 is correct. The e-Cabinet system was developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), which is responsible for providing technology solutions to enhance governance processes in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is correct. The Indian Constitution, under Article 21, states that "No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law." This means that any restriction on personal liberty must follow a legal procedure that is established by law. The Indian Supreme Court has interpreted this to mean that the procedure must also be fair, just, and reasonable, thus aligning with the spirit of "due process" to some extent.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Article 20(3) of the Indian Constitution provides protection against self-incrimination, meaning that an accused cannot be compelled to be a witness against themselves. Therefore, self-incriminatory statements made under compulsion are generally not admissible as evidence.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is correct. The Constitution requires that elections to local bodies (panchayats and urban local governments) must be conducted before the end of their five-year term, similar to national and state legislative elections.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Although SECs are constitutionally established bodies, they are not as independent or transparent as the ECI. SECs often face interference from state governments, and their appointment process lacks the same level of autonomy and safeguards that protect the ECI's independence.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Lateral entry involves recruiting individuals from outside the traditional government service, such as the private sector, public sector undertakings, and academia, to fill mid and senior-level positions in government departments. The concept of lateral entry was recommended by bodies such as the Second Administrative Reforms Commission (2005) and NITI Aayog (2017) to enhance governance with fresh expertise.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is correct. The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is mentioned in Article 44 of the Indian Constitution as a Directive Principle of State Policy. Although it is not enforceable by law, it is a constitutional provision that guides the state to endeavor to secure a uniform civil code for the citizens of India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Minerva Mills case, decided by the Supreme Court of India, primarily dealt with the balance between fundamental rights and directive principles of state policy, focusing on the extent of Parliament's power to amend the Constitution. The Shah Bano case is the landmark case that highlighted the need for a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in India by addressing gender inequality in personal laws.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

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- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India has participated in the Olympics but has never hosted the Games. The Khelo India Scheme aims to enhance sports infrastructure, identify and nurture talent, and support sports academies, among other objectives.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Sports is a State subject in India, meaning that state governments have the primary authority to legislate and make laws regarding sports.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### Acts & Policies

#### 21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The BHISHM cubes are designed to deliver rapid emergency medical care, equipped with essential medicines and surgical tools for use in situations such as wars or natural disasters.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The BHISHM cube initiative is part of Project Aarogya Maitri, which aims at providing humanitarian aid. The BHISHM cubes are compact, mobile units designed for easy transportation and rapid deployment. Each BHISHM Cube consists of medicines and equipment for the first line of care for all kinds of injuries and medical situations. It also includes surgical equipment for a basic operation room that can manage 10 to 15 basic surgeries per day. The Cube has the capacity to handle about 200 cases of diverse nature in emergency situations such as trauma, bleeding, burns, and fractures, among others. It can also generate its own power and oxygen in limited amounts.

Source: [AIR](#)

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

- The Fit India Movement was launched with the aim of promoting a healthier lifestyle by encouraging people to incorporate physical activities and sports into their daily routines. The movement seeks to bring about behavioural changes towards a more active lifestyle, making fitness an integral part of everyday life for all citizens. It focuses on making fitness accessible and enjoyable for everyone, thereby improving overall health and well-being in India.

Source: [AIR](#)

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

- The Vigyan Dhara Scheme is a unified central sector scheme approved by the Union Cabinet, which merges three existing umbrella schemes under the Department of Science and Technology (DST). The scheme aims to enhance the Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) ecosystem in India by focusing on three main components: Science and Technology Institutional and Human Capacity Building, Research and Development, and Innovation, Technology Development, and Deployment.

Source: [AIR](#)

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

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. The UPS guarantees a pension for government employees equal to 50% of their average basic pay from the last 12 months before retirement, provided they have at least 25 years of service. The UPS provides a family pension amounting to 60% of the employee's pension in the event of their death.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The UPS adjusts for inflation by using inflation indexation and providing Dearness Relief. The UPS is specifically designed for central government employees, although it may be adopted by state governments. It is not available to private sector employees.

Source: [AIR](#)

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

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The definition of literacy under the NILP includes the ability to read, write, and compute with comprehension, as well as critical life skills such as digital and financial literacy. Individuals are considered literate under the NILP if they pass the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT).

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- Statement 3 is incorrect. Achieving "full literacy" is defined as reaching 95% literacy in a State or Union Territory.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 26. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The primary goal of PMJDY is to achieve comprehensive financial inclusion by providing banking services to every household, particularly targeting the unbanked and underbanked segments of society. PMJDY accounts can be opened with zero balance, and there is no requirement to maintain a minimum balance.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. While the scheme focuses on opening basic savings bank deposit accounts, it also provides access to other financial services such as credit, insurance, and pensions. The PMJDY is implemented by the Department of Financial Services under the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, not the Reserve Bank of India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 27. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The NICDP is designed to develop industrial cities in India with world-class infrastructure to boost manufacturing competitiveness and economic growth. The NICDIT is the implementing agency responsible for the coordinated and unified development of all industrial corridors under the NICDP.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NICDP involves the development of 11 industrial corridors across India.

Source: [AIR](#)

## Index & Reports

### 28. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Hema Committee Report, which has been in the news recently, is related to the issues faced by women in the Malayalam film industry. The report revealed alarming instances of sexual abuse, gender discrimination, and inhuman treatment of women in the industry. It highlighted issues such as the prevalence of the "casting couch," inadequate facilities for women on film sets, and the existence of a power structure that enables exploitation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 29. Correct Answer is (D)

- The J.S. Verma Committee was established in response to the 2012 Delhi gang rape incident. Its primary focus was to review and recommend amendments to criminal laws in India to enhance the safety and security of women. The committee proposed significant changes to the legal framework, including redefining rape, addressing sexual assault, and improving victim support mechanisms.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

## International Relations/Organizations

### 30. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Security of Supply Arrangement (SOSA) is a non-binding agreement between India and the United States that aims to enhance cooperation in defence by ensuring that both countries provide each other with priority support for defence goods and services. This arrangement is particularly focused on addressing unanticipated supply chain disruptions that could affect national security needs. Under SOSA, both nations commit to supporting each other's priority delivery requests for critical defence resources, thereby strengthening their defence relationship and industrial collaboration.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 31. Correct Answer is (C)

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- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Pacific Islands Forum is an inter-governmental organization that aims to enhance cooperation among countries and territories of Oceania. The headquarters of the Pacific Islands Forum is located in Suva, Fiji.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. India is not a member of the Pacific Islands Forum. The forum includes countries such as Australia, New Zealand, and various Pacific Island nations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 32. Correct Answer is (B)

- A strategic partnership is a comprehensive and long-term relationship between countries that encompasses various areas such as defence, economics, technology, and diplomacy. It aims to achieve mutual strategic goals and is less formal than an alliance. These partnerships are designed to foster cooperation on a wide range of issues, reflecting shared interests and goals between the states involved.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 33. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The FATF is an inter-governmental body created to set standards and promote effective implementation of measures to combat money laundering, terrorist financing, and other related threats.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. While the FATF's recommendations cover a wide range of financial crimes, including money laundering and terrorist financing, international tax evasion is not one of its primary focus areas. The FATF maintains a "black list" (High-Risk Jurisdictions subject to a Call for Action) and a "grey list" (Jurisdictions Under Increased Monitoring) to identify countries with deficiencies in their anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regimes.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 34. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Singapore has consistently been one of the largest sources of FDI for India. In the fiscal year 2023-24, Singapore was the largest source of FDI into India, contributing \$11.77 billion in investments. Singapore is a significant trade partner for India within ASEAN. It was the sixth largest global trade partner of India in 2023-24, accounting for a substantial portion of India's trade with ASEAN. India's UPI has been integrated with Singapore's PayNow system, allowing for seamless cross-border transactions between the two countries. Singapore is India's sixth largest trade partner with a share of 2.9 percent of India's overall trade.

Source: [DD News](#)

### 35. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, commonly known as the Quad, is a strategic forum comprising these four countries. It focuses on promoting a free and open Indo-Pacific region and involves cooperation on various issues, including security, economic development, and technology.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 36. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) was established in 1984 by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). CAS was created to provide a platform for resolving sports-related disputes through arbitration and mediation. It is designed to be independent and impartial, offering a quicker and more cost-effective alternative to traditional court proceedings for sports disputes. It operates with a large pool of arbitrators from around the world and has established ad hoc divisions for major sporting events like the Olympic Games.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 37. Correct Answer is (B)

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- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. OPEC+ is an alliance formed by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and 11 other non-OPEC oil-producing countries. The primary goal of OPEC+ is to stabilize global oil prices by coordinating production levels among its members to balance supply and demand in the oil market. Iran is a member of OPEC, and since OPEC+ includes both OPEC members and non-OPEC countries working together, Iran is indirectly part of OPEC+.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. OPEC and OPEC+ are not competing organizations. OPEC is a group of 13 oil-producing countries, while OPEC+ includes these 13 countries plus 11 additional non-OPEC countries that collaborate to influence global oil prices. The two groups work together, especially under the OPEC+ framework, to stabilize the oil market and are not competitors.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 38. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The SCO was founded in 2001 by China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. India, along with Pakistan, became a full member in 2017. The official languages of the SCO are Chinese and Russian.
- Statement 3 is correct. The SCO is noted for covering about 40% of the world's population and a significant portion of Eurasia. It is an influential economic and security bloc that has emerged as one of the largest trans-regional international organisations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 39. Correct Answer is (B)

- The FIA is the international governing body for motorsport, responsible for licensing and sanctioning events such as Formula One, World Rally Championship, and other major racing series. It establishes rules and regulations, ensuring that motorsport events are conducted safely and fairly.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 40. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The commission is aimed at enhancing collaboration between India and Russia in disaster management and emergency response, focusing on areas such as risk forecasting, emergency preparedness, and training of specialists.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The working plan for 2025-2026 focuses on disaster management and emergency response, including the use of space monitoring technologies, exchange of experiences in handling large-scale disasters, and training of fire and rescue specialists.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 41. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Colombo Plan is a regional intergovernmental organization established in 1951. Its primary focus is on the development of human resources and economic cooperation in South and Southeast Asia, and it extends to the broader Asia-Pacific region. The organization was initially formed to foster economic development and cooperation among its member countries, which include nations from the Commonwealth and other regions. Over the years, it has expanded its programs to include areas such as drug demand reduction, gender affairs, and environmental issues, while maintaining its core mission of promoting economic and social development through capacity building and technical assistance.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 42. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. ASOSAI's objectives include promoting understanding and cooperation among its members through the exchange of ideas and experiences in the field of public audit. India is a member of the Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI). India is a charter member of ASOSAI, and the CAG of India has been elected as the Chairman of ASOSAI for the period 2024-2027



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- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. ASOSAI is not associated with the Asian Development Bank. It is one of the regional groups of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI). ASOSAI does not conduct joint audits of member countries. Its primary functions include organizing conferences, promoting research, and facilitating training and education for government auditors.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 43. Correct Answer is (B)

- The term "Fragile Five" was coined by Morgan Stanley in 2013 to describe a group of emerging market economies that were particularly vulnerable due to their heavy reliance on foreign investment to finance their growth. The original "Fragile Five" consisted of Brazil, India, Indonesia, Turkey, and South Africa.

Source: [DD News](#)

### Economy

### 44. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Statement-I** is correct because, following the LPG reforms, India's agricultural GDP has grown at a slower pace compared to the overall GDP. Since 1991-92, India's overall GDP has grown at an average rate of 6.1% per year, while agricultural GDP has only grown at 3.3%.
- **Statement-II** is incorrect as the economic reforms encouraged a shift towards high-value, export-oriented cash crops rather than food grains.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 45. Correct Answer is (A)

- Disinflation refers to a slowdown in the rate of inflation, meaning that prices are still rising, but at a slower pace than before. A common policy action by central banks to achieve disinflation is to raise interest rates. By increasing interest rates, borrowing becomes more expensive, which reduces consumer and business spending. This decrease in demand helps to slow down the rate of inflation.

Source: [DD News](#)

### 46. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The ULI is designed to streamline and accelerate the credit appraisal process by facilitating a seamless and consent-based flow of digital information. ULI operates on a consent-based model, ensuring that borrowers' data privacy is maintained while facilitating the flow of digital information. ULI is anticipated to have a transformative impact on the lending sector, akin to the impact UPI had on the payments ecosystem in India.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. ULI is designed to cater to the large unmet demand for credit in the agricultural and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSME) sectors, particularly benefiting small and rural borrowers. The ULI has been developed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). ULI will consolidate data from sources like Aadhaar e-KYC, land records, and account aggregators, using a standardized API to facilitate quicker credit appraisals.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 47. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. Historically, India's female labour force participation rate (FLFPR) has been significantly lower than the global average. As of recent data, the global average FLFPR is around 50%, while India's FLFPR has been much lower, fluctuating between 23% to 37% in recent years. The FLFPR in India saw a significant rise from 23% in FY18 to 37% in FY23, but it still remains below the global average.
- Statement II is correct. In India, a significant percentage of women leave the workforce or do not participate in it due to care responsibilities, such as childcare and homemaking. Nearly 45% of women cited these reasons for leaving the workforce, indicating a substantial burden of care responsibilities placed on women within their families.

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- Hence, Statement-II explains Statement-I by highlighting that the burden of care responsibilities on women in India is a major factor contributing to the lower FLFPR.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 48. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India has a high percentage of its workforce employed in agriculture. According to the data, agriculture employs 42% of India's workforce, which is significant compared to other sectors and other fast-growing G-20 emerging markets.
- Statement 2 is correct. The shift from agriculture to services and manufacturing is necessary to enhance productivity and economic output. The transition to these sectors can help absorb the workforce moving away from agriculture, which is often characterized by low productivity and income. If service and manufacturing sectors create more jobs to absorb the surplus labour supply in the agricultural sector, productivity in the agricultural sector will naturally increase as a result of the reduced labour base, and the new supply/demand equilibrium will lead to higher income for the agricultural sector.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 49. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF) is a central sector scheme launched by the government to provide financial support for the development of agricultural infrastructure. The scheme aims to enhance the income of farmers by improving post-harvest management infrastructure and creating community farming assets. Loans under the scheme receive an interest subvention of 3% per annum, up to ₹2 crore, for a maximum period of seven years. The fund benefits a wide range of entities, including farmers, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), entrepreneurs, startups, and self-help groups. Solar panels for agricultural pumps are not covered under the AIF rather they are part of PM-KUSUM.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 50. Correct Answer is (B)

- A Self-Regulatory Organization (SRO) in the FinTech sector is a non-governmental entity that establishes and enforces rules, standards, and guidelines for its member companies to ensure they operate ethically and responsibly. SROs are designed to oversee certain aspects of their members' activities, promote best practices, and often provide a framework for compliance that aligns with national and international regulatory expectations. Unlike government bodies, SROs are typically industry-led, allowing for more flexibility and adaptability in response to rapid changes within the FinTech sector. To be recognized as an SRO-FT, the organization must be registered as a not-for-profit company under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013, and ensure that no single entity holds more than 10% of its paid-up share capital. SROs act as a bridge between the fintech industry and the RBI.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 51. Correct Answer is (B)

- An upward revision in GDP growth projections generally indicates a stronger economic outlook. This can lead to increased government revenues through higher tax collections due to improved economic activity. With more resources at its disposal, the government may have greater flexibility to increase public spending on infrastructure, social programs, and other development initiatives without significantly affecting fiscal deficits. This approach can further stimulate economic growth and support long-term development goals.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 52. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Vadhvan Port is planned to be one of India's largest deep-water ports, providing direct connectivity to international shipping routes, which will help reduce transit times and costs. Vadhvan Port is expected to play a significant role in the India-Middle East-Europe

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Economic Corridor (IMEC) and the International North-South Transportation Corridor (INSTC), enhancing India's trade connectivity with Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia. Vadhvan Port is located near Dahanu town in Palghar district. It will be developed as an all-weather Greenfield deep draft major port. The port will comprise nine container terminals, four multipurpose berths, four liquid cargo berths, a Ro-Ro berth, and a Coast Guard berth. On completion, Vadhvan Port will be one of the top ten ports of the world. This port will enhance India's maritime connectivity and further strengthen the country's position as a global trade hub.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. The development of Vadhvan Port is a joint venture between the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) and the Maharashtra Maritime Board.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 53. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. NCOL is established to act as an umbrella organization for the aggregation, certification, testing, branding, and marketing of organic products. It aims to support organic farmers by providing a comprehensive platform that covers the entire supply chain of organic products. NCOL has launched the 'Bharat Organics' brand, which includes products like tur dal, chana dal, sugar, rajma, basmati rice, and Sonamasoori rice. It is a multi-state cooperative society established in 2023 under the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The main promoter of NCOL is the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). Other promoters include well-known cooperatives such as Amul, NAFED, NCCF, and NCDC.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### Environment

#### 54. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Gir Forest in Gujarat is the last remaining natural habitat for Asiatic lions in India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Kuno National Park is located in the Sheopur district of Madhya Pradesh, near the Vindhya Hills.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

#### 55. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Global Biofuels Alliance was initiated by India during the G20 summit and includes founding members such as Argentina, Brazil, Canada, India, Italy, South Africa, and the USA.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Global Biofuels Alliance's objective is to promote the development and use of sustainable biofuels to reduce reliance on hydrocarbons and contribute to climate action. Brazil is the top oil producer in Latin America, with significant production from its offshore pre-salt oil reserves.

Source: [AIR](#)

#### 56. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Campbell Bay is located in the Nicobar district of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Campbell Bay is home to Indira Point, which is the southernmost point of India. Campbell Bay hosts INS Baaz, a forward operating base for the Indian Navy, which is strategically important for overseeing the crucial shipping lanes of the Malacca Strait and the Bay of Bengal.
- Statement 2 is correct. CRZ 1A areas are designated as highly sensitive coastal zones where new construction and industrial activities are generally prohibited to protect the fragile ecosystems, such as coral reefs and turtle nesting sites. Campbell Bay is designated as a Highly Sensitive Coastal Area (CRZ 1A).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

#### 57. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Microbeads are small plastic particles, typically less than 5 millimeters in size, used in personal care products for exfoliation and cleansing purposes. Microbeads are too

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small to be filtered out by sewage treatment plants, leading to their accumulation in rivers, lakes, and oceans, where they pose environmental hazards.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. Microbeads are made from synthetic plastics like polyethylene and are not biodegradable. They persist in the environment and contribute to plastic pollution. While countries like the U.S., U.K., Canada, France, and New Zealand have banned microbeads in products, India has not yet addressed this issue clearly.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

### 58. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Perform, Achieve, and Trade (PAT) scheme in India focuses on energy efficiency in energy-intensive industries by setting specific energy consumption targets. It does not set absolute limits on emissions. On the other hand, Emissions Trading, also known as "Cap and Trade," sets absolute caps on greenhouse gas emissions and allows entities to trade emission allowances to stay within the cap. India has not formally adopted the ETS approach and has resisted mandatory emission cuts. India's target under its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) is to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 45% below 2005 levels by 2030. India has set targets to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 45% below 2005 levels by 2030 and to achieve about 50% cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy sources by 2030. These targets are based on emissions intensity rather than absolute emissions reductions from a specific baseline year.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

## Science & Technology

### 59. Correct Answer is (B)

- A1 and A2 milk differ in the type of beta-casein protein they contain. Beta-casein is a major protein in cow's milk, and the difference between A1 and A2 milk lies in a specific genetic variation in this protein. A1 beta-casein has a histidine amino acid at position 67, whereas A2 beta-casein has a proline at the same position. This slight variation affects how the protein is digested and has been linked to different health effects. Recently, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has asked Food Business Operators (FBOs) and e-commerce FBOs to remove all claims regarding A1 and A2 types of milk and dairy products from all packaging.

Source: [AIR](#)

### 60. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India recently launched its first reusable hybrid rocket, named 'RHUMI-1.' This rocket was developed by Space Zone India. The RHUMI-1 rocket carried three Cube Satellites and fifty PICO Satellites. These satellites are intended to gather data for research on global warming and climate change. It followed a suborbital trajectory, meaning it reached space but did not complete an orbit around the Earth. RHUMI-1 is notable for its hybrid motor, which uses a combination of liquid and solid fuel to enhance efficiency and reduce costs. The rocket is also environmentally friendly, as it is 100% free of pyrotechnics and does not contain TNT.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Although RHUMI-1 carried a significant payload of 3 Cube Satellites and 50 PICO Satellites, it does not represent the largest payload ever launched by India. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched much larger payloads in the past.

Source: [DD News](#)

### 61. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Aryabhata was India's first satellite, launched in 1975. Bhaskara-I, launched in 1979, was India's first experimental remote sensing satellite.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Indian government has allowed up to 100% FDI in the space sector through the automatic route for certain activities, as part of its policy to enhance private sector participation. India signed the Artemis Accords, which are designed to promote international cooperation in space exploration.

Source: [DD News](#)

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

- Statement 1 is correct. The BioE3 Policy is designed to provide innovation-driven support for research and development and entrepreneurship across various thematic sectors in biotechnology. It aims to enhance biomanufacturing and accelerate technology development and commercialization. It aims to speed up the development and commercialization of new technologies by setting up specialized centers like biomanufacturing hubs, bio-AI hubs, and biofoundries. It also supports broader government goals like reducing carbon emissions and promoting environmentally friendly lifestyles.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While the BioE3 Policy aims to foster a biotechnology-driven economy, it does not specifically prioritize genetically modified crops as the primary solution to global food security challenges. Instead, it focuses on a wide range of areas including high-value bio-based chemicals, biopolymers, smart proteins, functional foods, precision biotherapeutics, climate-resilient agriculture, and more.

Source: [AIR](#)

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

- Statement 1 is correct. The NS-25 mission aimed to carry a crew of six individuals on a brief sub-orbital spaceflight, reaching an altitude above the Kármán line (100 km above Earth), which is internationally recognized as the boundary of space. Captain Gopichand Thotakura is India's first civilian astronaut who explored space as part of the New Shepard-25 mission by space company Blue Origin.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NS-25 mission used the New Shepard rocket, which is powered by a BE-3 engine using liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen. This engine produces only water vapor as a byproduct, making it environmentally friendly.

Source: [AIR](#)

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

- The concept of a Lunar Magma Ocean (LMO) is central to understanding the Moon's early geological history. This theory suggests that the Moon was once covered by a vast ocean of molten rock, formed as a consequence of a massive impact between the early Earth and a Mars-sized body. This collision resulted in the Moon's formation, with the intense heat from the impact causing the surface to remain molten for an extended period. As this magma ocean cooled, different minerals crystallized at various depths. Ferroan anorthosite, a type of rock rich in calcium and aluminium, is believed to have formed during this cooling process. These rocks floated to the surface due to their buoyancy, creating the Moon's initial crust.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Codon de-optimisation involves changing the codons to less common ones, which slows down protein translation and weakens the virus, but the proteins produced remain unchanged. Codon de-optimization is a technique used in vaccine development to weaken a virus by altering its genetic code without changing the proteins it produces. This technique involves modifying the virus's RNA or DNA sequence in such a way that the codons (the triplets of nucleotides that encode amino acids) used in the viral genome are less frequently used by the host organism. This leads to slower or less efficient translation of viral proteins, resulting in a weakened virus that can still stimulate an immune response without causing disease.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is correct. The IMDX Monkeypox Detection RT-PCR Assay is described as platform-agnostic, meaning it can fit into existing lab workflows with standard PCR setups, eliminating the need for new instruments.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The assay targets two distinct regions in the viral genome, covering both Clade I and Clade II variants of the virus, ensuring comprehensive detection across various strains.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- L-dopa is a precursor to dopamine and is used as a medication in the treatment of Parkinson's disease. By monitoring L-dopa levels, the sensor helps determine the appropriate drug dosage needed for effective disease management. L-dopa (levodopa) is converted into dopamine in the brain. Dopamine is a neurotransmitter that is deficient in individuals with Parkinson's disease, leading to symptoms such as tremors, stiffness, and difficulty with movement. L-dopa is unique in its ability to cross the blood-brain barrier, which dopamine itself cannot do. Once L-dopa crosses into the brain, it is converted into dopamine, helping to replenish the deficient levels in patients with Parkinson's disease.

Source: [AIR](#)

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

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The SHE-Box portal is designed to handle complaints of sexual harassment at the workplace. The platform maintains a comprehensive database of Internal Committees (ICs) and Local Committees (LCs) that are responsible for handling such complaints. These committees are established in workplaces to address issues of sexual harassment. Women can use SHE-Box to file complaints and monitor the progress of their cases. The system ensures that complaints are processed within a set timeframe. Associated ministry is Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- Statement 2 is correct. It is available for use by women employees in both government and private sectors to register complaints of workplace sexual harassment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is incorrect. An SSBN is a type of submarine that is powered by nuclear propulsion and is specifically designed to carry and launch ballistic missiles with nuclear warheads, serving as a strategic deterrent. It is not primarily used for attack missions, which are typically the role of nuclear-powered attack submarines (SSNs).
- Statement 2 is correct. INS Arighat features several improvements over INS Arihant, including enhanced propulsion technology and the ability to carry more missiles, making it more capable and advanced. Both INS Arihant and INS Arighat are powered by an 83-MW pressurized light-water reactor with enriched uranium. While they share similar dimensions and reactor specifications, INS Arighat benefits from several technological upgrades.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is incorrect. A fixed-dose combination (FDC) medicine refers to a pharmaceutical product that includes two or more active ingredients combined in a single dosage form, such as a pill or capsule.
- Statement 2 is correct. In India, fixed-dose combinations (FDCs) are considered new drugs and require approval from the central drug regulatory authority, which is the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO).

Source: [The Hindu](#)