

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

[2nd Week] Sep 2024

10 PM Compilation September [Second Week] 2024

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Art & Culture

Q.1) In which one of the following states is the Nuakhai festival celebrated?

- a) West Bengal
- b) Odisha
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Kerala

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. 'Gora' is a novel written by Rabindranath Tagore.
2. The Sahitya Akademi Award is a lifetime achievement award for Indian authors.

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.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Ocean has oceanic tunnels connecting it to the Pacific Ocean and the Southern Ocean.
2. During the pre-monsoon season, the Arabian Sea gets warmer than the Bay of Bengal.
3. Vertical wind shear removes energy from developing cyclones.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. Reduced sea ice in the central Arctic leads to less rainfall in western and peninsular India but increases rain in central and northern India.
2. The Circumglobal Teleconnection (CGT) is an atmospheric pattern observed in the Southern Hemisphere particularly during the summer 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.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Warm ocean current is the main factor for causing high tides.
2. High tide carries in sand that is rich in minerals.

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

Polity

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. Steering Committee for National Sample Surveys (NSS) aims to review and advise on survey methodology including sampling frame, sampling design, and survey instruments for National Sample Surveys.
2. The tenure of the Steering Committee for National Sample Surveys is two years.
3. The decennial census is conducted by state governments.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Consider the following:

1. Examining bills referred by the Speaker or Chairman
2. Reviewing annual reports of Ministries or Departments
3. Considering matters of day-to-day administration
4. Considering long-term policy documents

Which of the above are functions of the Department-related Standing Committees?

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

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Live-in relationships are not illegal in India.
2. Property rights are not granted to children born in live-in relationships.
3. Live-in relationships lack the legal rights and social acceptance that come with traditional marriages.

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

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India has faced difficulties in recalling drugs from the market that fail quality tests.

Statement II: The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) lacks the legal power to make rules that are binding and have the force of law.

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.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Census Act of 1948 mandates that the Census in India be conducted every ten years.
- 2. In India, the Census is carried out using direct data collection techniques such as household surveys and enumerations.
- 3. A register-based Census uses data collected from administrative registers maintained by government agencies.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.11) With reference to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), how many of the following statements are correct?

- 1. The Chairperson of the PAC is selected from the opposition.
- 2. PAC could not summon officials of regulators without evidence.
- 3. Members of the PAC are elected for a term of two years.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.12) With reference to the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to align all laws, policies, programs, and administrative actions with child rights as outlined in the Indian Constitution and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).
- 2. It has the powers of a criminal court during its inquiries.
- 3. All members of NCPCR are appointed by the Central government.

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.13) Consider the following statements:

1. Drowning has been officially identified as a public health crisis in India.
2. India lacks a consolidated legal provision for preparing and responding to public health 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.14) Consider the following statements:

1. Article 20(3) of the Indian Constitution prohibits compelling an accused to be a witness against themselves.
2. The right to remain silent ceases to apply once a person is formally accused of an offence.

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

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

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Constitution declares Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language of the Union of India.
2. The Indian Constitution mandates the Union government to promote the spread of Hindi language.
3. The Official Language Act of 1963 holds government officials accountable for not using Hindi in official communication.

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) In the context of human rights violations, which one of the following does NOT fall within the jurisdiction of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)?

- a) Investigating complaints of human rights violations by private individuals
- b) Investigating complaints of human rights violations by public servants
- c) Taking suo moto cognizance of human rights violations
- d) Examining factors, including acts of terrorism, that limit people's ability to enjoy their human rights.

Q.17) Which one of the following entities is empowered to refer cases of anti-competitive practices to the Competition Commission of India (CCI) for investigation?

- a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- b) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- c) The Central Government
- d) The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)

Q.18) With reference to the Central Information Commission (CIC), consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body.
2. The Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners serve for a term of five years or until they reach the age of 65, whichever is earlier.
3. The Chief Justice of India is a part of the committee that recommends appointments to the CIC.

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

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

Q.19) Which one of the following statements about Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF) contributions is correct?

- a) It accepts mandatory contributions from public sector undertakings
- b) It only accepts donations from Indian citizens
- c) It accepts voluntary donations from individuals and institutions
- d) It receives regular budgetary support from the government

Q.20) The objective of Operation Chakra-II launched by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is to:

- a) Address domestic tax evasion and financial irregularities within Indian companies.
- b) Combat transnationally organized cyber-enabled financial crimes within India.
- c) Monitor and regulate cryptocurrency exchanges to prevent illegal transactions.
- d) Enhance cybersecurity infrastructure for government institutions to protect against hacking attempts.

Acts & Policies

Q.21) With reference to Sakhi Niwas scheme, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It aims to promote availability of safe and conveniently located accommodation for working women in urban, semi-urban, and rural areas.
2. The maximum gross income limit for working women to avail hostel facilities in metropolitan cities is ₹50,000 per month.
3. Health insurance is included in the scheme for the children of residents.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.22) With reference to the Vibrant Village Programme (VVP), consider the following statements:

1. The programme aims to improve quality of life in border villages and reverse outmigration.
2. It includes villages located along the western border region with Pakistan.
3. It focuses on the concept of 'One State-One Crop' for developing sustainable eco-agribusinesses.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.23) With reference to Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), consider the following statements:

1. It is the world's largest publicly funded health assurance scheme.
2. All senior citizens aged 70 and above are eligible for the insurance coverage under the scheme regardless of their income level.
3. Senior citizens aged 70 and above who have private health insurance are also eligible for benefits under the AB PM-JAY.
4. The scheme limits benefits to a maximum of four family members per household.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.24) Consider the following statements regarding the 'Mission Mausam':

1. It aims to strengthen research and development, and capacity in atmospheric sciences, weather surveillance, modelling, forecasting, and management.
2. The Ministry of Earth Sciences is the nodal body for implementing the Mission.
3. A key element of Mission Mausam is the establishment of new meteorological stations in rural areas.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.25) Consider the following:

1. Installation of Weather Radars
2. Cloud-Simulation Chamber
3. Weather Interventions System
4. Orbital Climate Satellites

How many elements mentioned above are included in Mission Mausam?

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

Q.26) Consider the following pairs:

Policies-----Features

1. PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP)----- Area-based development programme
2. National Logistics Policy-----Unified Logistics Interface Platform
3. Smart Cities Mission----- Geographic Information System (GIS)-based planning platform

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.27) Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G):

1. It aims to ensure "Housing for All" in rural areas by 2024.
2. Beneficiaries under PMAY-G are identified by the verification of income certificates by the Gram Sabha.
3. Financial assistance is transferred directly to the Aadhaar-linked bank or post office accounts of the beneficiaries.

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) The primary objective of the 'Navika Sagar Parikrama' expedition is to:

- a) Demonstrate and enhance the role of women in maritime operations through a global circumnavigation voyage.
- b) Map unknown areas in international waters with oceanographic research.
- c) Establish new international maritime trade routes to boost India's economic ties with South American nations.
- d) Develop advanced naval warfare strategies by simulating combat scenarios during the voyage.

Q.29) With reference to the District Mineral Foundation (DMF), established under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015, consider the following statements:

1. The primary objective of the DMF is to enhance mineral production and encourage mineral exploration activities.
2. The Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) is implemented through the DMFs.

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

International Relations/Organizations

Q.30) With reference to Swiss Peace Summit, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to strengthen bilateral relations between Switzerland and other countries.
2. Environmental protection, human rights, and disarmament are the three main focus areas of the Summit.

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) With reference to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), consider the following statements:

1. GCC provides a significant portion of India's crude oil imports.
2. Iran is one of the members of GCC.
3. Renewable energy and infrastructure are a major focus of investment of GCC countries into India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.32) Consider the following pairs:

Organizations-----Headquarters

1. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)----- Shanghai, China
2. Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)----- Jakarta, Indonesia
3. BRICS New Development Bank----- Beijing, China

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Q.33) In the context of the recent agreements signed during the Abu Dhabi Crown Prince's visit to India, which one of the following was NOT part of the agreements signed between India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)?

- a) Long-term LNG supply agreement
- b) Civil nuclear cooperation agreement
- c) Food Parks Development
- d) Free Trade Agreement

Q.34) With reference to the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), consider the following statements:

1. It does not have a permanent secretariat or headquarters.
2. It functions as an informal strategic forum rather than a formal alliance.
3. The concept of 'QUAD Plus' refers to expanding QUAD membership to include more countries.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.35) Which one of the following statements about the UN Security Council reform is incorrect?

- a) The reform aims to increase the representation of emerging powers
- b) The reform requires a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly
- c) The reform can be achieved without the support of all permanent members
- d) The reform includes proposals to limit the use of the veto

Q.36) Consider the following statements regarding the Financial Action Task Force (FATF):

1. It is an international body established to combat money laundering, terrorist financing, and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system.
2. It also provides recommendations for improving global economic growth, reducing global poverty, and guidelines for central bank monetary policies.
3. India's positive outcomes in the FATF review enhance its attractiveness as an investment destination.

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.37) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the first country to sign a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
2. The largest group of foreign residents living in the UAE is Indians.

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.38) Which one of the following best describes the geopolitical significance of the TAPI (Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India) pipeline?

- a) It reduces Central Asian dependence on Russian energy routes
- b) It increases India's influence in the Central Asia
- c) It strengthens China's Belt and Road Initiative
- d) It promotes European energy security

Q.39) With reference to International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), consider the following statements:

1. It is responsible for developing Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) to ensure the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation.
2. It is a specialized agency of the United Nations.
3. International Emissions Trading Scheme for Aviation (IETSA) is an effort taken by ICAO to address environmental sustainability in global aviation.

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:

1. Under the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA), Australia offers India zero-duty access on most of its exports.
2. India and Australia are both members of Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).

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) The Delhi Declaration on Civil Aviation, adopted recently at the 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference, proposed which one of the following tourism initiatives to boost the aviation sector?

- a) International Beach Circuit
- b) International Buddhist Circuit
- c) International Heritage Circuit
- d) International Wildlife Circuit

Q.42) With reference to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), consider the following statements:

1. It is the only UN organ where all member states have equal representation.
2. The election for the UNGA President is conducted by a simple majority vote of the member states present and voting in the General Assembly.
3. It has the authority to overrule decisions made by the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.43) 'Operation Sadbhav' has been recently launched by the Indian government to:

- a) Conduct joint military exercises between India and neighboring countries to improve regional security cooperation
- b) Enhance India's mineral exploration capabilities in Southeast Asia through strategic partnerships.
- c) Establish a network of advanced weather monitoring stations across the Himalayan region to improve climate change research
- d) Provide emergency humanitarian assistance to flood-affected areas in northern Laos

Economy

Q.44) The Goods and Services Tax (GST) compensation cess is utilized for:

- a) Covering the revenue shortfall faced by states due to the transition to GST.
- b) Reducing the GST rates on essential goods and services.
- c) Providing grants to small businesses impacted by GST changes.
- d) Providing subsidies to exporters and composition taxpayers.

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Q.45) With reference to District Agro-Meteorology Units (DAMUs), consider the following statements:

1. DAMUs are setup to provide weather information specifically for agriculture.
2. The DAMUs are located in meteorological observatories to enhance the collection of weather-specific data.
3. The advice by the DAMUs is sent out twice a week for free in local languages.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.46) If credit growth continues to outpace deposits in the banks, then it will lead to which one of the following scenarios?

- a) Banks will see increased profitability and stability
- b) Banks may face liquidity challenges
- c) Banks will see a significant increase in current and savings account deposits
- d) Banks will approve fewer loans to prevent excess liquidity in the system

Q.47) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India's trade deficit with China has declined significantly in recent years.

Statement-II: India has employed strict measures to restrict imports from China.

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) Consider the following statements:

1. Retail inflation primarily measures changes in consumer prices.
2. A rising retail inflation rate generally indicate increasing unemployment in an economy.

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.49) Consider the following statements:

1. All taxpayers are required to pay cess, but surcharge applies only to those earning above a specific income level.
2. Revenue collected through cess and surcharges by the central government is shared with the states.

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

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

Q.50) Which one of the following best describes the main function of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) parks?

- a) It attracts large multinational companies for foreign direct investment by providing them with dedicated spaces.
- b) It consolidates MSMEs into large industrial clusters for increased government oversight and regulation.
- c) It provides MSMEs with essential infrastructure, shared facilities, and a supportive ecosystem to enhance their growth and competitiveness.
- d) It establishes self-contained ecosystems where MSMEs are insulated from market competition and economic fluctuations.

Q.51) The primary objective of implementing a Minimum Export Price (MEP) is to:

- a) Increase global competitiveness
- b) Maximize export revenue
- c) Protect domestic market prices
- d) Encourage foreign investment

Q.52) With reference to Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry (BHASKAR) initiative, which of the following statements are correct?

- 1. It facilitates seamless interaction across sectors by bridging gaps between startups, investors, mentors, and other stakeholders.
- 2. It provides each stakeholder with a unique Startup ID.
- 3. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is responsible for launching BHASKAR.

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.53) Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) framework, seen in the news recently, aims to:

- a) Implement a nationwide carbon trading system for the top 1000 listed companies to offset their environmental impact
- b) Establish a government-led fund to finance sustainable development projects proposed by listed entities
- c) Enhance transparency and accountability by mandating companies to disclose their Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices.
- d) Promote cross-border mergers and acquisitions by aligning international tax regulations

Environment

Q.54) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The widespread adoption of Green Hydrogen across the world will lead to a decrease in global energy prices due to its lower production costs compared to fossil fuels.
- 2. The primary objective of the National Green Hydrogen Mission is to establish India as a global hub for the production, usage, and export of green hydrogen and its derivatives.

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) With reference to Golden langur, consider the following statements:

1. In India, they are only found in Assam.
2. It is classified as Endangered on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.

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.56) With reference to PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) scheme, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It seeks to replace the FAME-II (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles in India Phase II) program.
2. It has introduced Aadhaar-authenticated e-vouchers to simplify the EV purchasing process.
3. It will provide subsidies for purchasing electric cars and will also fund the establishment of R&D units for advancing EV technology.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Science & Technology

Q.57) Consider the following pairs:

Military Exercises-----Objectives

1. Yudh Abhyas Exercise----- Counter-terror operations under UN mandate
2. Malabar Naval Exercise----- Naval cooperation and interoperability in the Indo-Pacific
3. Exercise Indra----- Enhancing interoperability with the U.S. Army
4. Mitra Shakti Exercise----- Counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism with Sri Lanka

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Q.58) Consider the following statements:

1. The main objective of amphibious operations by the Indian armed forces is to expand and secure territorial control over strategic areas.
2. The recently released amphibious doctrine emphasizes the importance of jointness and integration across the armed forces.

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.59) With reference to the Mpox virus, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. Vector-borne is the primary mode of transmission of Mpox virus.
2. The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the current public health emergency in response to the clade 2 strain of the Mpox virus.

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.60) Consider the following statements:

1. The photoelectric effect is a phenomenon where electrons are emitted from a material when it absorbs electromagnetic radiation.
2. The photoelectric effect is fundamental to solar cells.

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.61) With reference to the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT), consider the following statements:

1. It has been established based on the constitutional provision.
2. The primary objective of the CSTT is to evolve and standardize scientific and technical terminology in Hindi and other Indian languages.
3. Lack of scientific research in India is the main challenge faced by CSTT.

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.62) Which one of the following is the significance of the 'Samanvay' platform launched as part of cybercrime prevention efforts?

- a) It's a social media platform for cybersecurity professionals
- b) It's a one-stop portal for cybercrime data repository and sharing
- c) It's a cybersecurity training platform for government employees
- d) It's an e-commerce platform for cybersecurity products

Q.63) With reference to the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), consider the following statements:

1. It is designed as a funding body to stimulate science and engineering research in India.
2. ANRF intend to address the current gaps in the Indian research landscape by offering grants and scholarships to school-level students.
3. The Prime Minister of India chairs the Governing Board of the ANRF.

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.64) Organ-on-a-chip technology, an innovative field within biomedical engineering, finds application in which one of the following?

- a) Creating robotic surgical assistants with autonomous capabilities for minimally invasive procedures.
- b) Enhancing the design of large-scale bioreactors for more efficient industrial fermentation processes.
- c) Fabricating biodegradable electronic implants for neural stimulation
- d) Simulating and studying the effects of drugs on human organs in a controlled lab environment.

Q.65) Consider the following statements with respect to the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS):

1. GPS (Global Positioning System) is the most widely used GNSS system globally.
2. In agriculture, GNSS provides real-time weather data to predict and mitigate agricultural losses.

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

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

Q.66) With reference to the disease cholera, consider the following statements:

1. It is a viral respiratory disease.
2. It is preventable and treatable.
3. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include the aim to eradicate cholera by 2030.

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

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

Q.67) With reference to the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It publishes university-level textbooks in Indian languages.
2. 'Shloka' is an online platform to host and provide searchable access to the glossaries created by the CSTT.

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

1. Dark patterns are design strategies intended to enhance user trust by making privacy settings more visible and accessible.
2. Dark Pattern is considered unfair under India's Consumer Protection Act, 2019.

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.69) With reference to the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VL-SRSAM), consider the following statements:

1. It is designed to neutralize various aerial threats at close ranges.
2. It has been developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

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) With reference to Nipah Virus, consider the following statements:

1. It is a zoonotic virus that causes a serious and fatal disease in both humans and animals.
2. Nipah virus outbreaks are most commonly reported in the regions of Africa, primarily Nigeria and South Africa.

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

Answers & Explanations

Art & Culture

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Nuakhai festival is celebrated in the Indian state of Odisha. It is an agricultural festival primarily observed in Western Odisha and also in some parts of Southern Chhattisgarh. The festival marks the welcoming of the new rice harvest and is deeply rooted in the agrarian culture of the region. It involves offering the first grains of the harvest to deities before consuming them with family, symbolizing gratitude and unity.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Gora is a novel written by Rabindranath Tagore. It is set in colonial Bengal and is one of Tagore's most significant works, exploring themes of nationalism and identity.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Sahitya Akademi Award is not a lifetime achievement award. It is an annual literary honor given to authors of outstanding books of literary merit published in any of the major Indian languages recognized by the Sahitya Akademi, including English and Rajasthani.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Geography

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Indian Ocean is connected to the Pacific Ocean through the Indonesian seas, which bring warm water into the Indian Ocean. It is also connected to the Southern Ocean, allowing the exchange of water masses. Vertical wind shear, which is the change in wind speed and direction with altitude, can disrupt the structure of a developing cyclone by tilting and weakening its convective clusters, thereby removing energy from it.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Bay of Bengal is generally warmer than the Arabian Sea, especially during the pre-monsoon season, which supports the formation of depressions and cyclonic activity.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The reduction of sea ice in the central Arctic is associated with increased rainfall in central and northern India, while it leads to decreased rainfall in western and southern peninsular India. Whereas, reduced sea ice in the Barents-Kara Sea causes atmospheric disruptions that lead to unpredictable monsoon behavior.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Circumglobal Teleconnection (CGT) is an atmospheric pattern observed in the Northern Hemisphere, particularly during the summer months. The CGT influences weather patterns across the Northern Hemisphere, affecting temperature, precipitation, and extreme weather events. The CGT also interacts with the Indian Summer Monsoon (ISM), where strong monsoon precipitation can influence the development and maintenance of the CGT.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. High tides are primarily caused by the gravitational pull of the moon on Earth's oceans. The moon's gravity creates tidal forces that cause the water to bulge out on the side of Earth closest to the moon and on the opposite side, resulting in high tides.
- Statement 2 is correct. High tides can transport and deposit sand that is rich in minerals onto the shore. The action of tides, along with waves and currents, can sort and concentrate mineral-rich sands, particularly in coastal environments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Polity

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Steering Committee for National Sample Surveys is tasked with reviewing and advising on survey methodology, including sampling frame, sampling design, and survey instruments for National Sample Surveys. The tenure of the Steering Committee for National Sample Surveys is specified to be two years.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The decennial census in India is conducted by the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- The functions of the Department-related Standing Committees include examining bills referred by the Speaker or Chairman, reviewing annual reports of Ministries or Departments, and considering long-term policy documents. Considering matters of day-to-day administration is not a function of the Department-related Standing Committees. They do not consider matters of day-to-day administration of the ministries or departments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Live-in relationships are not illegal in India. The Supreme Court has recognized them as part of the right to life under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, and they are not considered a criminal offense. While live-in relationships are not illegal, they do not enjoy the same legal status and social acceptance as traditional marriages. They lack specific legal frameworks and are often viewed differently in societal contexts.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Children born out of live-in relationships are recognized as legal heirs and have the right to inherit the property of their parents, as per the Supreme Court.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. India has struggled with effectively recalling drugs that fail quality tests due to the lack of a robust, legally binding recall system. This has been a significant issue in the Indian pharmaceutical regulatory framework.
- Statement II is correct. While the DCGI can propose guidelines and policies, it lacks the authority to enforce these as binding laws. Only the Ministry of Health or the Drug Regulation Section of the Ministry can initiate the process to create binding rules or legislation. This limitation is a major reason why India lacks a mandatory recall law, despite the DCGI's initiatives.
- Hence, Statement-I describes the problem of ineffective drug recalls, and Statement-II provides the reason for this issue.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Census Act of 1948 provides the legal framework for conducting the census in India but does not mandate that it be conducted every ten years. The decennial (every ten years) census is a convention that has been followed since 1881, but it is not a requirement specified by the Act.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The traditional method of conducting the census in India involves direct data collection through household surveys and enumerations, where enumerators visit households to gather information. The upcoming census is set to be India's first digital census, incorporating technology to enhance data collection efficiency and accuracy. A register-based census relies on data collected from various administrative registers maintained by government agencies,

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rather than through direct enumeration. Whereas, dynamic census is an extension of the register-based approach, where the census database is continuously updated with real-time data on social, economic, and demographic activities.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Traditionally, the Chairperson of the PAC is appointed by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and is usually a member from the opposition party. The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India (CAG) could not audit SEBI without a mandate from the Centre, and similarly, the PAC could not summon officials of regulators without evidence of "flaws" in finances provided by the government.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Members of the PAC are elected annually, with each member serving a term of one year.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The NCPCR's primary objective is to ensure that all laws, policies, programs, and administrative frameworks align with the child rights perspective as enshrined in the Indian Constitution and the UNCRC. It is a statutory body established under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005. It consists of a Chairperson and six members, all appointed by the Central Government.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NCPCR has the powers of a civil court, under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, while inquiring into matters under the CPCR Act, 2005.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Drowning is not officially recognized as a public health crisis in India, despite the significant number of annual fatalities. Drowning causes around 38,000 deaths each year in India, making it a major public health issue. However, it has not been given the status of a public health crisis.
- Statement 2 is correct. India does not have a single, consolidated legal framework specifically for public health emergency preparedness and response. Existing legal provisions are scattered across various laws, such as the Epidemic Diseases Act and the Disaster Management Act, which are not specifically designed for public health emergencies.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Article 20(3) provides protection against self-incrimination, stating that no person accused of an offence shall be compelled to be a witness against themselves.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The right to remain silent, as protected under Article 20(3), applies specifically to individuals who have been formally accused of an offence. This protection is available from the point of formal accusation and continues throughout the legal proceedings, including during police interrogation and trial.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Article 343 of the Indian Constitution declares Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language of the Union of India. Article 351 of the Indian Constitution mandates the Union government to promote the spread and development of the Hindi language.

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- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Official Language Act of 1963 does not hold government officials accountable for not using Hindi. Instead, it provides for the continued use of English alongside Hindi for official purposes and does not impose penalties for not using Hindi.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (A)

- The NHRC primarily deals with human rights violations by public servants and government entities. It does not have the mandate to investigate violations committed by private individuals. The NHRC can investigate complaints against public servants, take suo moto cognizance of human rights violations, and examine factors like terrorism that limit human rights enjoyment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct answer is (C)

- Under the provisions of the Competition Act, 2002, the Central Government has the authority to refer cases related to anti-competitive practices to the Competition Commission of India (CCI) for investigation. While regulatory bodies like SEBI and NCLT deal with other specialized areas of governance, it is the Central Government that plays this key role in matters concerning competition law enforcement.

Source: [AIR](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Central Information Commission is a statutory body established under the Right to Information Act, 2005. The Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners hold office for a term of five years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The committee that recommends appointments to the CIC consists of the Prime Minister as the Chairperson, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (C)

- The PMNRF accepts only voluntary contributions from individuals, organizations, trusts, companies, and institutions. It does not receive mandatory contributions from public sector undertakings, nor does it receive regular budgetary support from the government. Additionally, it accepts donations from both Indian citizens and foreign nationals. It is a fund established in India to provide financial assistance to individuals affected by natural and man-made disasters.

Source: [AIR](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- Operation Chakra-II focuses on dismantling the infrastructure of organized cyber-enabled financial crimes. The CBI has partnered with national and international agencies, as well as private sector giants like Microsoft and Amazon, to tackle these crimes.

Source: [AIR](#)

Acts & Policies

21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Sakhi Niwas scheme aims to provide safe and conveniently located accommodation for working women in urban, semi-urban, and rural areas where employment opportunities exist. The scheme specifies that working women are entitled to hostel facilities if their gross income does not exceed ₹50,000 per month in metropolitan cities and ₹35,000

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per month in other places. It is a scheme under Mission Shakti. Further, the government is working on setting up new women's hostels, known as 'Nirbhaya' hostels, which will provide residential facilities and transit stays for women attending interviews or exams.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. The scheme provides daycare facilities for the children of residents but does not include health insurance.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 is correct. The VVP is designed to improve the quality of life in border villages and encourage people to remain in their native locations, thereby reversing outmigration. The program covers states including Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, and the Union Territory of Ladakh. It is a Centrally sponsored scheme. The Vibrant Villages Programme operates on Hub and Spoke model.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The VVP specifically focuses on villages situated along India's northern border with China and Nepal. The VVP focuses on the concept of "One Village-One Product" for developing sustainable eco-agribusinesses. Gram Panchayats assist district administration in creating Vibrant Village Action Plans.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. AB PM-JAY is the world's largest publicly funded health assurance scheme, providing health coverage of ₹5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization. The Union Cabinet has approved health coverage for all senior citizens aged 70 and above, irrespective of their income, under the AB PM-JAY. Senior citizens aged 70 and above who have private health insurance are eligible to avail benefits under the AB PM-JAY.
- Statement 4 is incorrect. The AB PM-JAY does not impose a cap on family size or age of members, meaning all members of an eligible family can avail the benefits without any such limitation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Mission Mausam is designed to enhance research and development in atmospheric sciences, focusing on weather surveillance, modelling, forecasting, and management. The Ministry of Earth Sciences is the nodal body responsible for implementing Mission Mausam.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The mission focuses on deploying next-generation radars, satellite systems, and high-performance supercomputers. However, establishment of new meteorological stations in rural areas is not one of its components.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Installation of Weather Radars:** Mission Mausam includes the installation of up to 60 weather radars as part of its infrastructure upgrade to improve weather forecasting capabilities.
- **Cloud-Simulation Chamber:** The mission plans to set up a cloud-simulation chamber at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology in Pune to enhance the precision of rain cloud modeling and support weather modification research.
- **Weather Interventions System:** Mission Mausam involves research into weather interventions, such as cloud seeding and modifying clouds to control rainfall, which is part of the broader goal of understanding and potentially altering weather patterns.
- **Orbital Climate Satellites** is not a part of Mission Mausam.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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26. Correct Answer is (A)

- Only 2 is correctly matched.
- **PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP):** The PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan is a GIS-based planning platform aimed at integrating infrastructure planning across various ministries and departments to improve connectivity and project execution.
- **National Logistics Policy:** The National Logistics Policy includes the Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP), which aims to integrate digital services related to the transportation sector into a single portal.
- **Smart Cities Mission:** The Smart Cities Mission focuses on area-based development, which involves transforming existing areas through retrofitting and redevelopment to improve urban living conditions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. PMAY-G aims to ensure "Housing for All" in rural areas by 2024. It provides a pucca house with basic amenities to all houseless households and those living in kutcha and dilapidated houses in rural areas by 2024. The financial assistance under PMAY-G is transferred directly to the Aadhaar-linked bank or post office accounts of the beneficiaries to ensure transparency and efficiency.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Beneficiaries under PMAY-G are identified using the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) data and verified by the Gram Sabhas.

Source: [AIR](#)

28. Correct Answer is (A)

- Navika Sagar Parikrama was designed to promote women empowerment by having an all-women crew from the Indian Navy circumnavigate the globe, showcasing their capabilities and promoting gender equality in maritime operations. This initiative involves Indian Navy officers undertaking a global circumnavigation voyage aboard the Indian Naval Sailing Vessel (INSV) Tarini.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary objective of the DMF is to work for the interest and benefit of persons and areas affected by mining-related operations, focusing on welfare and sustainable development in mining-affected regions.
- Statement 2 is correct. The PMKKKY is implemented through the District Mineral Foundations (DMFs). The scheme uses funds generated by DMFs to carry out developmental and welfare projects in mining-affected areas.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

International Relations/Organizations

30. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The summit's main objective is to facilitate dialogue and negotiations aimed at ending the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine. The main focus areas of the summit include nuclear safety, food security, and humanitarian concerns related to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. India has not signed the peace document from the Summit.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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31. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. GCC countries contribute almost 35% of India's oil imports and 70% of its gas imports. GCC countries have shown strong interest in investing in India's renewable energy and infrastructure sectors, among others.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The GCC is composed of six member countries: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Source: [AIR](#)

32. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):** The headquarters of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is in Beijing, China.
- **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN):** The headquarters of ASEAN is in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- **BRICS New Development Bank:** The headquarters of the BRICS New Development Bank is in Shanghai, China.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (D)

- India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for civil nuclear cooperation, marking a significant development in their bilateral relations. Other MoUs signed between two nations are: long-term liquefied natural gas (LNG) supply, enhance UAE's participation in India's strategic petroleum reserves, developing food parks in Gujarat. However, Free Trade Agreement was not part of the agreements between India and the UAE during the recent visit.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Quad operates as an informal grouping without a permanent secretariat or headquarters. The Quad is described as an informal strategic forum comprising the United States, India, Japan, and Australia, and it does not operate as a formal alliance.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The "Quad Plus" refers to engaging non-member countries on specific issues without formally expanding the Quad's membership. It involves flexible, issue-based cooperation with additional countries rather than a formal expansion.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (C)

- Reform of the Security Council requires not only a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly but also the agreement of all five permanent members (P5), as they hold veto power.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The FATF is an intergovernmental organization established in 1989 to combat money laundering, terrorist financing, and other threats to the global financial system's integrity. India has been placed in the "regular follow-up" category, a distinction shared with countries like France, Italy, Russia, and the United Kingdom. This indicates a high level of compliance with FATF standards. India's positive outcomes in the FATF review have improved its credibility and reputation as a financially stable and secure nation, making it more attractive for investments.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The FATF's primary focus is on combating financial crimes such as money laundering and terrorist financing. It does not provide recommendations for global economic growth, poverty reduction, or central bank monetary policies.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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37. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The CEPA is the first bilateral trade agreement signed by the UAE and marks a milestone in the economic relations between India and the UAE. It is also the first trade agreement in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region that India has signed. Indians form the largest expatriate community in the UAE, constituting about 28% of the total population.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

38. Correct Answer is (A)

- The TAPI pipeline (Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India) holds significant geopolitical importance primarily because it provides Central Asian countries, particularly Turkmenistan, with an alternative route to export their natural gas, thereby reducing their heavy dependence on traditional Russian-controlled energy corridors. It also provides an opportunity for Turkmenistan to expand its gas export markets beyond China. The pipeline originates from the Galkynysh Gas Field in Turkmenistan, one of the largest gas fields in the world. It runs through Afghanistan and Pakistan, ending in Fazilka, India. Each country involved will receive a portion of the gas: Pakistan and India will each get 42%, while Afghanistan will get 16% and also earn around \$500 million annually in transit fees.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

39. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. ICAO develops and publishes International Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) to promote safety, security, efficiency, and environmental sustainability in international civil aviation. ICAO is a specialized agency of the United Nations, established to manage the administration and governance of the Chicago Convention and to promote the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. ICAO has implemented the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) to address environmental sustainability and reduce emissions in global aviation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) aims to enhance trade and investment opportunities between the two countries by providing preferential market access and reducing tariffs on a wide range of goods and services. The ECTA provides India with zero-duty access to approximately 96.4% of its exports to Australia. Both India and Australia are members of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

41. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Delhi Declaration on Civil Aviation, adopted at the 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation, proposed the creation of an International Buddhist Circuit. This initiative aims to connect holy places associated with Lord Buddha across Asia, boosting regional tourism and benefiting the civil aviation sector, travelers, and the economies of the countries involved. Delhi declaration is a comprehensive framework aimed at enhancing regional cooperation, addressing emerging challenges, and promoting sustainable growth in the civil aviation sector across the Asia-Pacific region.

Source: [AIR](#)

42. Correct Answer is (B)

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- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The UNGA is the only UN body where all 193 member states have equal representation, each having one vote. The President of the UNGA is elected by a simple majority vote of the member states present and voting.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The UNGA does not have the authority to overrule decisions made by the ICJ. The ICJ is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and its decisions are binding on the parties involved in the case. Moreover, the UN General Assembly can request advisory opinions from the International Court of Justice (ICJ), but these opinions are non-binding.

Source: [AIR](#)

43. Correct Answer is (D)

- Operation Sadbhav has been launched by the Indian government to provide urgent humanitarian aid to countries affected by Typhoon Yagi, specifically focusing on delivering relief supplies to flood-hit areas in Laos, as well as in Myanmar and Vietnam.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Economy

44. Correct Answer is (A)

- The GST compensation cess is specifically designed to compensate Indian states for any loss of revenue they experience due to the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST). When GST was introduced, it replaced numerous state and central taxes, potentially leading to revenue shortfalls for states, especially those heavily reliant on manufacturing taxes. To address this, the central government promised to compensate states for five years, using funds collected from a cess on luxury and sin goods.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

45. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. District Agro-Meteorology Units (DAMUs) are specifically established to provide weather-related advisories tailored for agricultural purposes, helping farmers make informed decisions based on weather forecasts. The advisories prepared by DAMUs were disseminated twice a week, specifically on Tuesdays and Fridays, and were provided free of cost in local languages to ensure accessibility for farmers.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. DAMUs were set up within Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in collaboration with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Their primary function is to use weather data provided by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) to prepare agricultural advisories.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

46. Correct Answer is (B)

- If credit growth (the amount of money banks lends out) continues to outpace deposits (the money people keep in the bank), banks could face liquidity challenges. This means they might struggle to have enough readily available funds to meet withdrawal demands or other financial obligations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

47. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statement I is incorrect. India's trade with China remains substantial. Even with restrictions, imports from China have increased, and India's trade deficit with China has grown.
- Statement II is correct. India has implemented various measures to restrict imports from China, including anti-dumping duties, quality checks, and other non-tariff barriers, as part of efforts to protect domestic industries and reduce dependency on Chinese goods.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

48. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Retail inflation primarily measures changes in consumer prices. Retail inflation is measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which tracks the changes in prices paid by consumers for a basket of goods and services over time.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. A rising retail inflation rate does not generally indicate increasing unemployment in an economy. The relationship between inflation and unemployment is described by the Phillips Curve, which suggests an inverse relationship: as inflation rises, unemployment tends to decrease, and as inflation falls, unemployment tends to increase.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

49. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Cess is levied on all taxpayers, regardless of their income level, as it is a tax on tax meant for specific purposes like education or health. Whereas, a surcharge is only applicable to high-income earners, typically those with an income above a certain threshold. Surcharge is for general revenue while cess is for specific purposes. Cess is typically temporary, while surcharge has no defined end date.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Revenue collected through cess and surcharges is not shared with the states. These funds are retained by the central government and do not form part of the divisible pool of taxes that are distributed among the states. Currently, surcharges and cess constitute about one-fifth of the Union's Gross Tax Revenue.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

50. Correct Answer is (C)

- MSME parks are intended to provide essential infrastructure, shared facilities, and a supportive ecosystem. These parks help MSMEs by offering necessary resources such as land, utilities, and business development services, which enhance their growth and competitiveness by reducing operational costs and facilitating access to markets and technology.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

51. Correct Answer is (C)

- The MEP is used as a policy tool to set a floor price for the export of certain commodities. It prevents these commodities from being sold at excessively low prices in international markets, which could lead to domestic shortages, price spikes, and destabilization of local markets. By ensuring that exports are sold at reasonable prices, MEPs help maintain price stability and protect the interests of domestic consumers and producers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

52. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. BHASKAR is designed to serve as a centralized hub that facilitates seamless interaction and collaboration among startups, investors, mentors, and other stakeholders within the entrepreneurial ecosystem. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, is responsible for launching the BHASKAR initiative.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The initiative provides each stakeholder with a unique BHASKAR ID to ensure personalized interactions and tailored experiences across the platform.

Source: [AIR](#)

53. Correct Answer is (C)

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- The Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) framework is a comprehensive reporting mechanism introduced by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to enhance transparency and accountability among Indian companies regarding their Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Environment

54. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. While green hydrogen is a promising clean energy source, its production costs are currently higher compared to fossil fuels. The production cost of green hydrogen is expected to decrease over time due to technological advancements and increased scale, but it is not yet lower than fossil fuel costs.
- Statement 2 is correct. The National Green Hydrogen Mission aims to establish India as a global leader in the production, utilization, and export of green hydrogen and its derivatives, contributing to India's self-reliance in clean energy and supporting the global clean energy transition.

Source: [AIR](#)

55. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The golden langur, also known as Gee's golden langur, is endemic to a small region in western Assam, India, and the neighboring foothills of the Black Mountains in Bhutan. The golden langur is known for its striking coat, which ranges from cream to golden. In India, it is primarily found in forest reserves such as Chirang, Manas, and Ripu, and in the western part of Manas National Park. The golden langur is classified as Endangered on the IUCN Red List, listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and Appendix I of CITES. They are facing habitat loss caused by deforestation and the conversion of forests into farmland and human settlements. This habitat loss has been severe in Assam's Kokrajhar and Bongaigaon districts.

Source: [DD News](#)

56. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The primary aim of the PM E-Drive Scheme is to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles across India. It seeks to replace the previous FAME-II (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles in India Phase II) program. The scheme introduces Aadhaar-authenticated e-vouchers to simplify the EV purchasing process. These vouchers are generated through the scheme's portal at the time of purchase and sent directly to the buyer's mobile number, allowing them to claim subsidies at dealerships.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The scheme has a financial outlay of ₹10,900 crore over two years, focusing on providing subsidies and incentives to boost the purchase and use of electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers, buses, ambulances, and trucks. However, it does not include subsidies for electric cars. There is also no such proposal to provide funding for the establishment of R&D units for advancing EV technology.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Science & Technology

57. Correct Answer is (C)

- 1, 2 and 4 are correctly matched.
- **Yudh Abhyas Exercise:** Yudh Abhyas is a joint military exercise between India and the United States, focusing on enhancing interoperability and conducting UN peacekeeping operations, which include counter-terrorism activities under the UN mandate. It is set to begin at the Mahajan field firing ranges in Rajasthan.

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- **Malabar Naval Exercise:** The Malabar Naval Exercise is a multilateral naval exercise involving India, the United States, Japan, and Australia, focusing on increasing naval cooperation and interoperability, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **Exercise Indra:** Indra is a joint military exercise between India and Russia, focusing on counter-terror operations under the United Nations mandate.
- **Mitra Shakti Exercise:** The Mitra Shakti Exercise is a joint military exercise between India and Sri Lanka, focusing on counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

58. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The amphibious capabilities empower the Armed Forces to conduct a variety of operations in the Indian Ocean Region, both during war and peace. It includes a multitude of operations in the Indian Ocean Region for both war and peace, emphasizing multi-domain operations, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and maintaining regional security. The operations are described as crucial components of multi-domain operations and serve as examples of cohesion and integration among the Armed Forces.
- Statement 2 is correct. The newly released joint doctrine for amphibious operations highlights the importance of jointness and integration among the Indian Armed Forces. It is designed to enhance the coordination and cohesion necessary for effective amphibious operations, demonstrating the synergy across all military branches.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

59. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The primary mode of transmission for the Mpox virus is not vector-borne. Instead, it primarily spreads through close, intimate contact, particularly during sexual activity, as well as through direct contact with respiratory droplets, skin lesions, or contaminated materials. While animal-to-human transmission can occur through bites or scratches from infected animals, this is not the main mode of human-to-human transmission in the current outbreak. The WHO declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) for the upsurge of Mpox in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and other regions, specifically due to clade Ib, which is part of clade I strain. Clade I is more virulent, with symptoms that are generally more severe. Clade I have a higher rate of person-to-person transmission, especially through respiratory droplets and close contact. The fatality rate for Clade I is higher than Clade II.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

60. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The photoelectric effect occurs when light or other forms of electromagnetic radiation hit a material, causing it to emit electrons. This happens because the energy from the photons (light particles) is transferred to the electrons in the material. If this energy exceeds a certain threshold, known as the work function of the material, it can free the electrons from the surface, resulting in their emission. Solar cells, or photovoltaic cells, rely on the principles of the photoelectric effect to convert sunlight into electricity. When sunlight strikes the semiconductor material in a solar cell, it excites electrons, freeing them and creating electron-hole pairs. These free electrons are then captured and directed by an electric field within the solar cell, generating an electric current.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

61. Correct Answer is (A)

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- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The CSTT was established under clause (4) of Article 344 of the Indian Constitution, which provides for the formation of a commission to make recommendations regarding the progressive use of Hindi for official purposes. However, it is not a Constitutional body. The main objective of the CSTT is to develop and standardize scientific and technical terminology in Hindi and other Indian languages.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The main challenges faced by CSTT are related to the development and dissemination of terminology in various Indian languages, rather than issues directly related to the lack of scientific research in India. The CSTT focuses on creating and distributing glossaries, dictionaries, and other educational resources.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

62. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Samanvay platform, launched as part of cybercrime prevention efforts, is designed to serve as a comprehensive data repository for cybercrime. It facilitates data sharing, crime mapping, data analytics, and coordination among law enforcement agencies across India. This platform acts as a centralized system to enhance cooperation and improve the effectiveness of cybercrime investigations by providing a unified space for accessing and analyzing cybercrime data.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

63. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The ANRF is established as a funding body to promote and support research and development (R&D) in science and engineering across India's universities, colleges, and research institutions. It aims to provide strategic direction and financial support to foster a culture of research and innovation. It aims to establish a ₹50,000 crore corpus, with a significant portion coming from non-government sources, including private industry. The Prime Minister of India serves as the ex-officio President of the Governing Board of the ANRF, providing strategic leadership and direction to the foundation. The Board has decided to implement a "hub and spoke" model, pairing universities with nascent research capabilities with top-tier institutions for mentorship.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The ANRF focuses on promoting research and development at the university and institutional levels rather than offering grants and scholarships specifically to school-level students. Its primary aim is to enhance research capabilities in higher education and research institutions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

64. Correct Answer is (D)

- Organ-on-a-chip (OOC) technology is designed to mimic the physiological environment and functionality of human organs on a microfluidic chip. This technology is used extensively in drug development and testing, as it allows researchers to simulate and study the effects of drugs on human organs in a controlled laboratory setting. It provides a more accurate and ethical **alternative to traditional animal testing** by replicating the complex interactions within human tissues and organs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

65. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) are a collection of satellite constellations that provide geolocation and time information to users worldwide. GPS, developed and operated by the United States, is the most widely recognized and used GNSS system worldwide.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. GNSS is primarily used in agriculture for precision farming, which involves tasks such as mapping fields, monitoring crop health, and guiding machinery with high precision. While GNSS can be integrated with other technologies that provide weather data, it does not directly provide real-time weather data itself.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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66. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Cholera is an acute diarrheal infection caused by the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*. It is primarily spread through contaminated food and water. The goal of eradicating cholera by 2030 is part of the "Ending Cholera: A Global Roadmap to 2030" initiative launched by the Global Task Force on Cholera Control (GTFCC).
- Statement 2 is correct. Cholera is preventable through measures such as ensuring access to clean water, proper sanitation, and hygiene practices. It is also treatable, primarily with oral rehydration solutions, and in severe cases, with antibiotics and intravenous fluids.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

67. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The CSTT is involved in the publication of university-level textbooks in Indian languages through its collaboration with Hindi Granth Academies, textbook boards, and university cells. The CSTT provides grants and coordinates the production of these books, ensuring they contain standardized terminology.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The online platform for accessing CSTT's glossaries is called "Shabd". Shabd allows users to search for scientific and technical terms in Indian languages and provides a central repository for CSTT's terminologies.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

68. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Dark patterns are design strategies that manipulate or deceive users into taking actions they might not intend, such as making purchases, sharing data, or subscribing to services.
- Statement 2 is correct. Dark patterns are considered unfair trade practices under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, in India. The Central Consumer Protection Authority has issued guidelines to prevent and regulate dark patterns, recognizing them as practices that deceive or coerce consumers into making choices that are not in their best interest.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

69. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The VL-SRSAM is designed to neutralize various aerial threats from aircraft, helicopters, drones, and sea-skimming targets, at close ranges. It is based on the Astra Mark-1 air-to-air missile. The missile features a fibre-optic gyroscope-based inertial guidance system for mid-course flight and active radar homing for terminal phase targeting. It has both lock-on before launch (LOBL) and lock-on after launch (LOAL) capabilities, with mid-course updates provided via datalink. It is a ship-borne weapon system.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The VL-SRSAM has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Source: [AIR](#)

70. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Nipah virus is a zoonotic virus, meaning it can be transmitted from animals to humans. It causes severe disease in humans, leading to fatal outcomes, with a case fatality rate ranging from 40% to 75%.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Nipah virus outbreaks have primarily been reported in parts of Asia, particularly in countries like Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Philippines.

Source: [The Hindu](#)