

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Monthly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

August, 2024

10 PM MCQs Compilation August 2024

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Art & Culture

Q.1) In the context of epigraphy, the term estampage refers to:

- a) A digital scanning technique used to create 3D models of inscriptions.
- b) The process of chemically treating stone surfaces to enhance the visibility of inscriptions.
- c) A method of copying inscriptions by making an exact imitation on inked paper.
- d) The act of translating ancient scripts into modern languages for easier interpretation.

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Tarangam is a unique aspect of Kuchipudi where the dancer wears a costume that is colourful and elaborate, often featuring traditional attire.
- 2. The basic rhythmic unit in Bharatanatyam is tala.

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

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The World Crafts Council (WCC) aims to empower artisans and safeguard the heritage of traditional crafts.
- 2. Cities recognized by the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) for crafts and folk arts are also recognized as World Craft Cities.
- 3. One of the criteria for a city to be recognized as a World Craft City is that it must host an annual international craft fair.

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:

- 1. Thadou
- 2. Paite
- 3. Hmar

In which one of the following regions is it possible to find all three tribes?

- a) Manipur
- b) Assam
- c) Nagaland
- d) Tripura

Q.5) Which one of the following is the correct order of precedence for the gallantry awards in India?

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

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Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Eri Silk:

1. It is considered the world's only vegan silk.
2. Its production is mainly concentrated in the North-Eastern states of India.
3. It cannot be dyed.

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 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.8) 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.9) 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

Answer Key

1 - (c)	2 - (b)	3 - (a)	4 - (a)	5 - (a)	6 - (a)	7 - (b)	8 - (c)	9 - (a)
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Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

- Estampage is a traditional method used in epigraphy to create accurate copies of inscriptions. It involves placing a special paper over the inscription, applying ink, and then pressing the paper to capture the details of the engraving. This technique allows epigraphists to study and analyze

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inscriptions without damaging the original stone or metal surface. Recently, the ASI has taken an initiative to copy significant stone inscriptions found at the Thalishwarar temple.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Tarangam is a unique and notable aspect of Kuchipudi, where the dancer performs intricate rhythmic patterns on the edge of a brass plate, often balancing a pot on their head.
- Statement 2 is correct. In Bharatanatyam, the basic rhythmic unit is known as tala. Tala forms the foundation for the rhythmic patterns and timing of the dance movements.

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The WCC is a non-profit, non-governmental organization affiliated with UNESCO, established to promote the preservation, protection, and development of traditional crafts and foster economic development through crafts.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. While some cities may be recognized by both the UCCN and WCC, these recognitions are independent of each other. For example, Srinagar was recognized by the UCCN in 2021 and later by the WCC in 2024, but not all UCCN cities are automatically recognized as World Craft Cities. The criteria for being recognized as a World Craft City include having a rich tradition of crafts, a significant population of skilled artisans, active promotion and development of craft traditions, commitment to preserving cultural heritage, evidence of innovation and creativity in craft practices, and strong community involvement and support for the craft sector.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Thadou, Paite, and Hmar communities are all indigenous tribes located in Manipur, India. These tribes are part of the ethnic landscape of Manipur, where they have historically settled and continue to reside.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- The correct order of precedence for the gallantry awards is: Param Vir Chakra, Ashoka Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Vir Chakra, Shaurya Chakra. Gallantry awards in India are prestigious honours given to individuals, both military and civilian, who display exceptional bravery and self-sacrifice. Gallantry awards are announced twice a year—on Republic Day (January 26) and Independence Day (August 15). These awards are open to all ranks of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, as well as personnel from other lawfully constituted forces and civilians. Awards can be given posthumously and are recognized with a medal and ribbon.

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Eri silk is often referred to as "peace silk" or "vegan silk" because the moth is not killed during the extraction process; it naturally exits the cocoon, making it a cruelty-free option compared to traditional silk production. Eri silk production is predominantly concentrated in the North-Eastern states of India, particularly Assam, as well as in Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Manipur.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Eri silk can be dyed, and it is often dyed using natural dyes from plant extracts, which is a common practice in its production.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

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7. 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](#)

8. 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](#)

9. 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](#)

Modern Indian History

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Rabindranath Tagore is often referred to as the Poet of the East.
2. Visva Bharati University was founded by Rabindranath Tagore.
3. Kapalkundala is a famous book written by Rabindranath Tagore.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) With reference to the Quit India Movement, consider the following statements:

1. The Quit India Movement aimed to achieve immediate and complete independence from British rule, rejecting any compromise or delay.
2. The Jallianwala Bagh massacre was a major cause for the launch of the Quit India Movement.
3. The British government responded to the Quit India Movement by arresting major Congress leaders.
4. Sarojini Naidu is known for hoisting the Indian flag at the Gowalia Tank Maidan during the Quit India Movement.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer Key

1 - (b)	2 - (b)
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Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Rabindranath Tagore is often referred to as the "Poet of the East" because of his profound contributions to literature and his international acclaim. He played a pivotal role in introducing Indian culture to the West and was the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913 for his work Gitanjali. Rabindranath Tagore founded Visva-Bharati University in 1921. The university aimed to blend the best of Eastern and Western educational traditions and promote holistic learning.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Kapalkundala is a famous novel written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay. Some of the famous books written by Tagore are: Gitanjali, Manasi, Gora, Ghare-Baire, Chitrangada, Sonar Tari, The Post Office, etc.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Quit India Movement, launched by Mahatma Gandhi on 8 August 1942, demanded an immediate end to British rule in India, as highlighted by the "Do or Die" slogan. The British government arrested major Congress leaders, including Gandhi, Nehru, and Patel, the day after the movement was launched.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. The immediate cause for the Quit India Movement was the failure of the Cripps Mission and the hardships caused during World War II. Aruna Asaf Ali is known for hoisting the Indian flag at the Gowalia Tank Maidan during the Quit India Movement.

Source: [AIR](#)

Geography

Q.1) Which one of the following statements is correct about the South China Sea?

- a) It is bordered by South Korea.
- b) It has significant oil and natural gas reserves.
- c) It is deeper than the East China Sea.
- d) It is connected to the Sea of Japan.

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. Currently, only genetically modified cotton is approved for cultivation in India.
2. Wheat is a common crop that is genetically modified for cultivation globally.
3. GM crops are modified to introduce traits like pest resistance, higher yields, improved nutritional value, and resistance to environmental challenges.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.3) Which one of the following is Sudan's primary natural resources?

- a) Diamonds
- b) Petroleum
- c) Timber
- d) Uranium

Q.4) In which one of the following oceans is Fiji located?

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

Q.5) Consider the following pairs:

Geographical Terms-----Definitions

1. Avulsion----- A significant length of a river or stream channel which no longer conveys fluvial discharge as part of an active fluvial system.
2. Sand dikes ----- A seam of sedimentary material that fills an open fracture in and cuts across sedimentary rock strata or layering in other rock types.
3. Paleochannel----- The process in which river flows are diverted out of an established channel into a new course at a lower elevation on the adjacent surface.

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.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The mantle makes up more than 80% of the Earth's volume.
2. Inner core is responsible for generating Earth's magnetic field.
3. Oceanic crust is hotter than continental crust.
4. The reaction between seawater and mantle rocks on or near the seafloor releases hydrogen.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the geographical location of Diego Garcia Island?

- a) Diego Garcia is located in the South Atlantic Ocean.
- b) Diego Garcia is a part of the Chagos Archipelago in the Indian Ocean.
- c) Diego Garcia is situated west of the Maldives in the Arabian Sea.
- d) Diego Garcia is an island in the Pacific Ocean, near the Philippines.

Q.8) With reference to the country Timor-Leste, consider the following statements:

1. It is a country in Southeast Asia.
2. It is a landlocked country.
3. It is a member country of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

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

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. Kharif crops are grown during the dry season.
2. Temperature is the primary factor that determines the sowing time of kharif crops.
3. Rice is a major kharif crop grown in the deltaic regions of India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.10) Consider the following:

1. Gravitational Pull of the Moon
2. Melting Polar Ice
3. Movement of Air Currents
4. Tectonic Plate Movements
5. Deforestation

How many of the above factors are primarily responsible for slowing down earth's rotation?

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

Q.11) With reference to the Aravalli Range, consider the following statements:

1. It is known as a natural green wall in northwestern India.
2. The range acts as a transition zone between the Thar Desert and the Gangetic plain.
3. Taragarh is the highest peak of the Aravalli Range.
4. Sabarmati River originates from the Aravalli Range.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.12) Consider the following statements:

1. Poland is located to the east of Ukraine.
2. Poland is a member of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).
3. Poland is India's largest trade partner in Central Europe.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.13) Which one of these geographical features is NOT found near Demchok?

- a) Charding Nullah stream
- b) Indus River
- c) Pangong Tso lake
- d) Hot springs

Q.14) Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the Super Blue Moon?

- a) It is a rare celestial event where a full moon is both a supermoon and the second full moon in a calendar month.
- b) It is a rare event when two full moons occur in a single month and the second moon is slightly farther from Earth, making it appear smaller.
- c) It is a phenomenon where the moon is closer to Earth and appears blue in colour due to scattering of light in the atmosphere.
- d) It is a full moon that coincides with a lunar eclipse causing it to appear blue.

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Territorial disputes and construction activities in the South China Sea have led to significant damage to coral reefs and loss of marine life.
- 2. The Geneva Conventions provides the legal framework for maritime claims and disputes in the South China Sea.
- 3. Strait of Malacca connects the South China Sea to the Indian Ocean.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.16) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Teesta River originates from Brahmaputra Glacier.
- 2. The Teesta River is considered suitable for hydropower development due its large number of tributaries.
- 3. The Teesta River flow through Assam and Meghalaya before entering Bangladesh.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.17) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- 1. A Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) is a gradual release of water from a glacial lake.
- 2. The National Glacial Lake Outburst Floods Risk Mitigation Programme aims to perform hazard assessments, install automated monitoring stations, and set up early warning systems for glacial lakes and downstream regions.

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.18) 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.19) 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.20) 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.21) 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.22) 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.23) 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.24) 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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- The South China Sea is known to contain large reserves of oil and natural gas. The U.S. Energy Information Agency estimates that the South China Sea holds about 190 trillion cubic feet of natural gas and 11 billion barrels of oil in proved and probable reserves. The South China Sea is bordered by several countries, including China, Taiwan, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei, Indonesia, and Vietnam, but not South Korea. The South China Sea is connected to the East China Sea via the Taiwan Strait and to the Pacific Ocean via the Luzon Strait, but it is not directly connected to the Sea of Japan.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Bt cotton is the only genetically modified crop that is commercially cultivated in India. GM crops are modified for various traits such as pest resistance, higher yields, improved nutritional value, and resistance to environmental challenges.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While there have been field trials and some regulatory approvals (e.g., in Argentina), genetically modified wheat is not commonly grown commercially on a global scale.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Petroleum is Sudan's primary natural resource, significantly contributing to the country's GDP and export revenues. Petroleum accounts for a substantial portion of Sudan's total exports, making it a crucial natural resource for the country's economy.

Source: [The Indian Express](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Fiji, officially known as the Republic of Fiji, is an island country located in Melanesia, part of Oceania in the South Pacific Ocean. Fiji is an archipelago consisting of more than 330 islands, of which about 110 are permanently inhabited, and over 500 smaller islets. Fiji is situated about 2,000 km north-northeast of New Zealand and approximately 3,150 km from Sydney, Australia.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- Avulsion is the rapid abandonment of a river channel and the formation of a new river channel. This process occurs when a river changes its course abruptly, often during large floods or due to the buildup of sediment that elevates the riverbed above the surrounding floodplain.
- A sand dike, also known as a clastic dike, is a seam of sedimentary material that fills an open fracture and cuts across sedimentary rock strata or other rock types. These dikes form when sediment is injected into cracks due to fluid pressure or when sediment falls into open cracks from above.

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- A paleochannel is a significant length of a river or stream channel that no longer conveys fluvial discharge as part of an active fluvial system. These channels are remnants of ancient rivers and can be preserved as surface features or buried by younger sediments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. The mantle, which lies between the Earth's crust and core, accounts for about 84% of Earth's volume. The reaction between seawater and mantle rocks on or near the seafloor releases hydrogen, which in turn forms compounds such as methane, which underpin microbial life.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Earth's magnetic field is generated by the outer core. The outer core consists of molten iron and nickel, and its convection currents create the magnetic field. The oceanic crust is generally denser but not hotter than the continental crust. It is generally understood that the oceanic crust is not necessarily hotter than the continental crust. Instead, the oceanic crust is denser and thinner compared to the continental crust.

Source: [DD News](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Diego Garcia is a coral atoll and the largest of the 60 small islands that make up the Chagos Archipelago, located in the central Indian Ocean. It is known for its strategic military significance. The island belongs to Mauritius, is controlled by the United Kingdom, and is occupied by the United States. China also has an interest in the island. The island is close to India and plays a crucial role in U.S. military operations, including surveillance and regional security, particularly to counter China's ambitions in the Indo-Pacific region.

Source: [DD News](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Timor-Leste, also known as East Timor, is a country located in Southeast Asia. It occupies the eastern half of the island of Timor, along with the exclave of Oecusse on the northwestern part of the island, and the smaller islands of Atauro and Jaco. It became fully sovereign on May 20, 2002.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Timor-Leste is not landlocked; it has a coastline along the Timor Sea. It shares land border with Indonesia. Timor-Leste is not a full member of ASEAN. It has been granted observer status and received in-principle approval for membership, but it is still in the process of becoming a full member.

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Kharif crops, also known as monsoon crops, are grown during the rainy season, typically from June to October, when they benefit from the monsoon rains. The primary factor for sowing Kharif crops is the onset of the monsoon rains, as these crops rely heavily on rainfall for growth.
- Statement 3 is correct. Rice is a major Kharif crop in India and is predominantly grown in rain-fed areas, including deltaic regions, which receive substantial rainfall during the monsoon season.

Source: [AIR](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Gravitational pull of the Moon:** The Moon's gravity creates a tidal bulge on Earth, and the disparity between the bulge's position and the Moon's pull creates a torque that slows down Earth's rotation over billions of years. This process, known as tidal braking, adds about 2.3 milliseconds to the length of a day each century.

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- **Movement of air currents:** As air currents push against mountains and pull-on Earth's surface through friction, they change Earth's rotation rate slightly. For example, during El Niño years, the Earth spins slightly slower due to the way the winds shift.
- **Melting Polar Ice:** As glaciers melt and sea levels rise, relatively more mass flows from near the poles to closer to Earth's equator. This redistribution of mass slows down Earth's rotation and gradually lengthens our days.
- **Tectonic Plate Movements:** While tectonic activity can cause minor changes in Earth's rotation, such as speeding it up in some cases (e.g., due to earthquakes), it is not a primary factor in the long-term slowing of Earth's rotation.
- **Deforestation:** Deforestation impacts the environment and climate but does not significantly alter the planet's rotational dynamics.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The Aravalli Range is referred to as a natural green wall in northwestern India, acting as a barrier against the expansion of the Thar Desert and providing ecological benefits. The Aravalli Range serves as a transition zone between the Thar Desert and the Gangetic plain. The Sabarmati River is one of the rivers that originates from the Aravalli Range.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The highest peak of the Aravalli Range is Guru Shikhar, located on Mount Abu.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Poland is located to the west of Ukraine. Lviv is the largest city in western Ukraine and is located near the Poland-Ukraine border. Poland is bordered to the north by the Baltic Sea and shares its eastern border with Ukraine.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Poland has been a member of NATO since 1999, and its membership is highlighted as a significant aspect of its national defense strategy. Poland is India's largest trade partner and export destination in the Central European region. Food processing sector is a significant area of economic collaboration between India and Poland.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)

- Pangong Tso lake is the geographical feature that is NOT found near Demchok. Demchok is located at the confluence of the Charding Nullah and Indus River, in the Nyoma tehsil of Leh district, Ladakh, near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and China. It is a significant area due to its strategic location along the disputed border between India and China. After the 1962 Sino-Indian War, the village of Demchok was divided in two parts, with Demchok, Ladakh administered by India and Dêmqog, Tibet Autonomous Region administered by China. The two parts are separated by the Charding Nullah stream which marks the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Supermoon:** This occurs when the full moon is at its closest point to Earth in its elliptical orbit, known as perigee. This proximity makes the moon appear larger and brighter than usual in the night sky.
- **Blue Moon:** This term traditionally refers to the second full moon within a single calendar month. Since the lunar cycle is about 29.5 days, occasionally two full moons can fit into one month, making the second one a "blue moon." The term "blue moon" does not refer to the colour of the moon.

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- **Super Blue Moon:** When these two phenomena coincide—meaning the second full moon of the month is also a supermoon—it results in what is called a Super Blue Moon. This is a rare event, occurring roughly once every 10 years, offering a spectacular view as the moon appears both larger and brighter.

Source: [The Times of India](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Territorial disputes and activities such as island-building have caused extensive damage to coral reefs and marine ecosystems in the South China Sea. The Strait of Malacca is a crucial maritime passage that connects the South China Sea to the Indian Ocean.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The legal framework for maritime claims and disputes in the South China Sea is primarily provided by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Teesta River originates from the Tso Lhamo Lake in North Sikkim, India, and is fed by glaciers such as the Pauhunri Glacier. The Teesta River is considered suitable for hydropower development, due to its rapid descent from high elevations and its high velocity, rather than the number of tributaries. The Teesta River flows through the Indian states of Sikkim and West Bengal before entering Bangladesh.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. A GLOF is characterized by the sudden release of a significant amount of water from a glacial lake. This sudden discharge can cause catastrophic flooding downstream.
- Statement 2 is correct. The National Glacial Lake Outburst Floods Risk Mitigation Programme's goals include conducting detailed technical hazard assessments, installing automated weather and water level monitoring stations, and establishing early warning systems for glacial lakes and downstream areas.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. 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](#)

19. 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](#)

20. 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](#)

21. 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](#)

22. 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](#)

23. 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](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

- **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

Q.1) With reference to the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), consider the following statements:

1. The President of India appoints the Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).
2. The maximum tenure of the UPSC Chairman is six years or until the age of 65 years.
3. A candidate for the UPSC Chairman position must possess at least 15 years of service in either Central or State government roles.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

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Q.2) Consider the following:

1. A bill imposing income tax
2. A bill regulating government borrowing
3. A bill imposing fines for traffic violations
4. A bill establishing a National Health Insurance Scheme

How many of the above can be considered as a Money Bill?

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. NITI Aayog aims to foster competitive federalism by creating indices and ranking states.
2. NITI Aayog possess financial authority or enforcement powers for fiscal transfer to 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.4) In the context of the Indian Polity, which one of the following is NOT a core element of a 'Privilege Motion'?

- a) Breach of privilege
- b) Notice given to the Speaker
- c) Immediate discussion
- d) Motion moved by a member

Q.5) Which one of the following writs cannot be issued against the President of India or the Governor of a State?

- a) Habeas Corpus
- b) Mandamus
- c) Certiorari
- d) Quo Warranto

Q.6) With reference to the Indian National Flag, consider the following statements:

1. Pingali Venkayya designed the original flag.
2. The flag was first presented in the Lahore Session, 1929 of the Indian National Congress.
3. The ratio of the width (height) to the length of the flag is 2:3.
4. The diameter of the Ashoka Chakra is specified to be one-fourths of the height of the white band.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) With reference to the Competition Commission of India (CCI), consider the following statements:

1. CCI is empowered to promote competition advocacy and awareness.
2. It can emphasize sustainability policies and encourage enterprises collaboration for green innovations.

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

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

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Demands for Grants are the proposals made by the government for the allocation of funds to various ministries and departments.
2. Estimates Committee in the Parliament scrutinizes the Demands for Grants for each ministry.
3. If a Demand for Grant is not approved by the Parliament, the Finance Minister can reallocate funds from other grants.
4. The Appropriation Bill seeks to withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the approved demands.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.9) Which one of the following is a key feature of Zero Hour in the Parliament?

- a) Ministers are required to provide written answers.
- b) It is a formal procedure listed in the parliamentary rules.
- c) It allows Members of Parliament MPs to raise matters with or without prior permission from the Chair.
- d) It is used for the introduction of new bills.

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. The Lieutenant Governor (L-G) of Delhi has the authority to nominate aldermen to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) without requiring the aid and advice of the Delhi Government.
2. The power of the Lieutenant Governor to nominate aldermen to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi is established by the Constitution of India.

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

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

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: In India, killing of stray dogs by municipal authorities is prohibited.

Statement-II: Showing compassion for animals is a fundamental duty of every citizen, as enshrined in the Constitution.

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

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

Q.12) With reference to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. The Speaker protects the rights and privileges of the members of the House.
2. In the event of a tie during a vote in the House, the Speaker has the authority to adjourn the session.
3. The work and conduct of the Speaker cannot be discussed or criticized in the Lok Sabha except on a substantive motion.
4. The Speaker is the final interpreter of the Constitution within the House.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. The Chairman of Rajya Sabha can be removed from office by a resolution passed by an effective majority in the Rajya Sabha and agreed to by a simple majority in the Lok Sabha.
2. When a resolution for the removal of the Chairman of Rajya Sabha is under consideration, the Chairman shall preside over the sitting but shall not be entitled to vote.

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

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

Q.14) Consider the following pairs:

Parliamentary Procedures-----Purpose

1. Censure Motion----- Ensures members can perform their duties effectively
2. Adjourn sine die----- House is suspended indefinitely
3. Privilege Motion----- Expresses disapproval of government policies

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.15) Consider the following statements:

1. India is a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention.
2. India lacks specific domestic laws addressing the needs of refugees.
3. Refugees have the inherent right to life under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

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Q.16) Consider the following statements:

1. A population Census forms the basis for generating indicators for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
2. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is responsible for conducting the decennial Census in India.
3. Caste Census provides insights into the socio-economic conditions and needs of different caste groups.

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

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

Q.17) Consider the following statements:

1. Under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), political parties are defined as companies.
2. In a parliamentary democracy, the cabinet, led by the Prime Minister or Chief Minister, is the ultimate authority on policy-making.
3. The judiciary does not evaluate the correctness or motives behind a policy made by the cabinet.

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

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

Q.18) With reference to the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), consider the following statements:

1. It is a ranking methodology adopted by the Indian government to rank institutions of higher education in India.
2. Skill Development Institutes, Online Universities, and Research Centers are new categories introduced in the NIRF 2024 rankings.
3. International Student Exchange Programs is one of the broad parameters considered in the NIRF rankings.

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.19) Consider the following statements:

1. The right to fair and speedy trial is implicit in the right to life under Article 21.
2. The right to access public services is an example of individual liberty.

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 pairs:

Terms-----Features

1. Parole----- A system of releasing a prisoner without suspending the sentence and the period of release is treated as remission of the sentence
2. Probation----- An offender is allowed to serve their sentence in the community under supervision instead of going to prison
3. Furlough----- Temporary release of an inmate from prison for a specified period

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.21) Consider the following statements:

1. Directive Principles of State Policy are only guidelines and do not create any justiciable rights in favour of any person.
2. Directive Principles of State Policy override Fundamental Rights in case of conflict.

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

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

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

1. The 103rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019 introduced 10% reservation for economically weaker sections (EWS) in civil posts and services.
2. There is no reservation for promotions in top-level (Class A) civil services.

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.23) With reference to the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to regulate matters related to the violation of consumer rights.
2. It has the authority to seize the assets of the advertising company in connection with misleading advertisements.
3. It has the authority to order the recall of goods or withdrawal of services that are considered dangerous, hazardous, or unsafe.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.24) Consider the following statements regarding the lateral entry into the civil services:

1. Ministry of Home Affairs is responsible for the selection of candidates through the lateral entry system.
2. The main purpose of lateral entry is to bring in domain expertise from the private sector to improve efficiency and introduce innovative approaches in governance and policy formulation.
3. Lateral entries can be made in all the ministries of the government.
4. Implementing lateral entry into the system could create an equitable framework for career advancement among all officers.

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:

1. Corruption is the abuse of entrusted power for private gain which can occur in both the public and private sectors.
2. Corruption has decreased with globalization.
3. High levels of corruption between government and businesses leads to significant rent-seeking activities.

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

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

Q.26) Consider the following statements:

1. Only the elected members of the State Legislative Assemblies are eligible to vote in Rajya Sabha elections.
2. None of the Above (NOTA) option is applicable in Rajya Sabha elections.
3. Rajya Sabha elections, including by polls, use the first-past-the-post system.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.27) Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the Prorogation of the Indian Parliament?

- a) Prorogation can only occur after the House is adjourned sine die
- b) The Rajya Sabha is dissolved during prorogation
- c) The President can prorogue the House even while it is in session
- d) Prorogation requires the approval of the Supreme Court

Q.28) Which one of the following is a key difference between a Bar Association and a Bar Council in India?

- a) Bar Associations are responsible for disciplinary actions against advocates, while Bar Councils are not.
- b) Bar Councils are voluntary organizations, while Bar Associations are statutory bodies.
- c) Bar Councils regulate the legal profession and education, while Bar Associations primarily serve as professional bodies for lawyers.
- d) Bar Associations have the authority to grant recognition to law colleges while Bar Councils do not.

Q.29) With reference to the Competition Commission of India (CCI), consider the following statements:

1. It is tasked with ensuring fair competition in the market by eliminating anti-competitive practices and protecting consumer interests.
2. The Chairperson and members of the CCI are appointed by the President of India.
3. Under the Competition Act 2002, the CCI possess power to issue licenses for new businesses.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.30) Consider the following statements:

1. The primary function of the Lokayukta is to investigate allegations of corruption against public officials in the state.
2. Karnataka was the first Indian state to establish the institution of Lokayukta.
3. Lokayukta is a constitutional body in India.
4. Governor appoints the Lokayukta in a state.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.31) With reference to the new rules for seaplane operations, consider the following statements:

1. Only scheduled operators can provide seaplane services.
2. Pilots with a commercial pilot license (CPL) will be qualified as seaplane-rated pilots.
3. Seaplane operations fall under the under the UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme.

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 statements:

1. A Waqf property cannot be sold or inherited.
2. Under the Income-Tax Act of 1961, family waqfs are generally exempt from paying income tax.
3. If there are no successors to family waqf, the revenues from the property are absorbed by the state.
4. The Waqf Bill 2024 states that a Muslim can only create a family waqf with up to one-third of their property if they intend to exclude their heirs from it.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.33) 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.34) 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.35) 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.36) 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.37) 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.38) 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.39) 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.40) 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.41) 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

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Q.42) 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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Chairman and other members of the UPSC are appointed by the President of India. The Chairman of the UPSC serves a term of six years or until reaching the age of 65, whichever comes first.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. There is no specific qualification mentioned in the Constitution of India for the Chairman of the UPSC. However, it is mandated that 50% of the members should have held government office for at least 10 years. Rose Millian Bathew Kharbuli was the first Indian woman to serve as the UPSC chairman from September 23, 1992 to August 23, 1996. Preeti Sudan is the second woman to head the UPSC.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- According to Article 110, a Money Bill is one that contains only provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters: the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration, or regulation of any tax, the regulation of the borrowing of money by the Union government, the custody of the Consolidated Fund of India or the Contingency Fund of India, the payment of money into or the

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withdrawal of money from any such fund, etc. A bill imposing fines for traffic violations and a bill establishing a National Health Insurance Scheme cannot be considered a Money Bill.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. NITI Aayog promotes competitive federalism by encouraging healthy competition among states through transparent rankings in various sectors. This includes indices such as the School Education Quality Index, State Health Index, Composite Water Management Index, Sustainable Development Goals Index, India Innovation Index, and Export Competitiveness Index.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. NITI Aayog does not have financial authority or enforcement powers for fiscal transfers to states. Its role is primarily that of a think tank and policy advisor without the power to enforce financial decisions. The financial powers and decisions on transfers are handled by the Ministry of Finance.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- "Immediate discussion" is NOT a core element of a privilege motion. While the privilege motion may lead to a discussion if admitted, the immediate discussion is not a guaranteed or intrinsic part of the privilege motion process. The Speaker or Chairperson first scrutinizes the motion, and only if it is deemed valid, it may be referred to the Privileges Committee or lead to further discussion.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Mandamus is issued to compel a public official or body to perform a duty they are legally obligated to complete. However, it cannot be issued against the President of India or the Governor of a State to compel them to perform their duties. This prohibition is outlined in Article 361, which provides immunity to the President and Governors from being answerable to any court for the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of their office.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Pingali Venkayya is credited with designing the flag that eventually evolved into the current Indian National Flag. The official ratio of the width to the length of the Indian National Flag is 2:3.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. The flag designed by Pingali Venkayya was first presented at the Indian National Congress session in 1921 in Bezwada (now Vijayawada). The diameter of the Ashoka Chakra is specified to be three-fourths of the height of the white band.

Source: [AIR](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Under Section 49(3) of the Competition Act, 2002, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is empowered to take measures to promote competition advocacy and awareness. The CCI can emphasize sustainability policies and encourage enterprises to collaborate for green innovations. It can release guidance notes on sustainability agreements and exemption methods under the Competition Act, 2002, to support these initiatives.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. Demands for Grants are formal requests for funds made by various ministries or departments of the government as part of the annual budgetary process. The Appropriation Bill authorizes the government to withdraw funds from the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the expenditures approved by Parliament through the Demands for Grants.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. It is the Departmental Standing Committees that scrutinize the Demands for Grants for each ministry. If a Demand for Grant is not approved by the Parliament, the Finance Minister cannot unilaterally reallocate funds from other grants. If a Demand for Grant is not approved by the Parliament, the concerned ministry or department will not receive funds for that fiscal year. Any reallocation or additional expenditure requires approval through supplementary grants or re-appropriation approved by Parliament.

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

- Zero Hour is a unique parliamentary innovation in India that allows Members of Parliament (MPs) to raise issues of urgent public importance without the need for prior notice. It is an informal device, not mentioned in the parliamentary rules, and takes place immediately after the Question Hour, starting at 12 noon. MPs must give notice to the Speaker/Chairman before 10 am on the day of the sitting, but the Speaker/Chairman has the discretion to allow or decline the matter to be raised.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Supreme Court ruled that the L-G has the power to nominate aldermen to the MCD without the aid and advice of the Delhi Government. This power is derived from the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957, and is considered a statutory duty rather than an executive power of the state government.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The power of the L-G to nominate aldermen is established by the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957, which is a statutory law enacted by Parliament, not directly by the Constitution of India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement I is correct. The killing of stray dogs by municipal authorities is prohibited under the Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules, 2001, and the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. These laws mandate humane methods such as sterilization and vaccination for managing stray dog populations.
- Statement II is correct. Article 51A(g) of the Indian Constitution states that it is the fundamental duty of every citizen to protect and improve the natural environment, including forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife, and to have compassion for living creatures.
- However, the prevention of killing stray dogs is not primarily due to the fundamental duty of compassion, but rather because it is governed by specific laws. The prohibition on killing stray dogs is specifically governed by the Animal Birth Control Rules and related laws, rather than the constitutional duty of compassion. Hence, Statement-II is not the direct explanation for Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 3 and 4 are correct. The Speaker is responsible for safeguarding the rights and privileges of the members of the Lok Sabha, ensuring that parliamentary proceedings are conducted smoothly and fairly. The work and conduct of the Speaker cannot be discussed or criticized in the Lok Sabha except on a substantive motion, which is intended to safeguard the

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independence and impartiality of the office. The Speaker is the final interpreter of the provisions of the Constitution, the Rules of Procedure, and the Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. In the event of a tie during a vote in the House, the Speaker does not adjourn the session but instead exercises a casting vote to break the deadlock.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. According to Article 67(b) of the Indian Constitution, the Vice-President, who is the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, can be removed from office by a resolution passed by an effective majority of all the then members of the Rajya Sabha and agreed to by the Lok Sabha with a simple majority.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. When a resolution for the removal of the Vice-President (Chairman of the Rajya Sabha) is under consideration, the Chairman does not preside over the sitting. Instead, the Deputy Chairman or any other member appointed by the Rajya Sabha presides over the session.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Only 2 is correctly matched.
- A censure motion is a formal statement of disapproval against a government or a specific policy, typically moved by the opposition. It is used to criticize the government or its policies.
- Adjourn sine die means to adjourn a meeting without setting a date for resumption, effectively suspending the session indefinitely.
- A privilege motion is moved when a member feels that there has been a breach of parliamentary privilege by another member or minister.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India is not a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. India does not have specific legislation to address the problem of refugees, despite their increasing inflow. This absence of legal frameworks poses significant challenges for the protection and inclusion of refugees, especially those with disabilities. The Supreme Court of India has consistently held that the fundamental right to life under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution applies to all persons, including refugees.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The population census is a critical source of data used to generate indicators for the SDGs. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is involved in monitoring and publishing various statistical indicators that align with the SDGs, making the Census data fundamental to these efforts. A caste Census can help provide insights into the socio-economic conditions and needs of different caste groups, aiding in the formulation of targeted policies to address social inequality and uplift marginalized communities.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Ministry of Home Affairs, specifically the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, is responsible for conducting the decennial Census in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Political parties are not defined as companies under the PMLA. However, the PMLA can apply to political parties under certain conditions, as they can be considered an "association of individuals" under Section 70, which deals with offenses by companies.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. In a parliamentary democracy, the cabinet, headed by the Prime Minister or Chief Minister, is the highest decision-making body responsible for policy-making.

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The judiciary does not assess the correctness or motives of policies made by the cabinet, as policy decisions are considered the prerogative of the executive branch.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) is a methodology adopted by the Indian government to rank higher education institutions in India.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The new categories introduced in the NIRF 2024 rankings are State Public Universities, Skill Universities, and Open Universities. The broad parameters considered in the NIRF rankings include teaching, learning, resources, graduation outcomes, research, perception, outreach, and inclusivity, but not International Student Exchange Programs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The right to a fair and speedy trial is implicit in the right to life under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. This right ensures that legal proceedings are conducted without unreasonable delays, which is essential to uphold the principles of justice. The Supreme Court has consistently recognized that a fair and speedy trial is a fundamental aspect of the right to life and personal liberty.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The right to access public services is more related to social and economic rights rather than individual liberty as defined under Article 21, which focuses on life and personal liberty.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Parole:** Parole is a system of releasing a prisoner before the completion of their sentence, with the release being conditional. The period of release is not treated as a remission of the sentence; instead, the individual is still serving their sentence but under supervision in the community. The release is conditional, meaning the parolee must adhere to specific terms and conditions, such as regular check-ins with a parole officer and possibly residing in a halfway house. Failure to comply can result in returning to prison.
- **Probation:** Probation allows an offender to serve their sentence in the community under supervision instead of going to prison. It is typically ordered by a court and involves adhering to specific conditions. Unlike parole, probation is a court-ordered period of supervision in the community, typically instead of serving time in prison. It involves conditions set by the court, and probationers must report to a probation officer. It can also be part of a split sentence, where the offender serves time in jail before being released on probation.
- **Furlough:** Furlough refers to the temporary release of an inmate from prison for a specified period, often for reasons such as family visits or medical treatment. It does not reduce the overall sentence and is usually granted for specific reasons, such as attending a family event or medical treatment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. DPSPs are non-justiciable, meaning they are not legally enforceable by the courts. They serve as guidelines for the government to frame policies aimed at achieving social and economic welfare.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Fundamental Rights typically take precedence over DPSPs. Fundamental Rights are supreme and enforceable. If there's a conflict between a law based on Directive Principles and a Fundamental Right, the law will be struck down as it violates the Fundamental Right. However, there have been instances where the Supreme Court has balanced both while interpreting the Constitution.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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22. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The 103rd Amendment introduced a 10% reservation for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in government jobs and educational institutions. Reservations in promotions are not applicable for certain top-level posts in Group A services, particularly those with a grade pay of Rs. 8700 or higher.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The CCPA is established to regulate matters related to the violation of consumer rights, unfair trade practices, and misleading advertisements. It has the power to order the recall of goods or withdrawal of services that are deemed dangerous, hazardous, or unsafe.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. It can conduct search and seizure operations as part of its investigations, but it does not have the authority to seize assets of advertising companies.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1, 3 and 4 are incorrect. The selection of candidates through the lateral entry system is overseen by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). Lateral entries are not made in all ministries. For instance, certain ministries like Home, Defence, Personnel, and Corporate Affairs are typically not included in lateral entry recruitment. While lateral entry can bring in new expertise and perspectives, it does not ensure a standardized or equitable framework for career advancement among all officers. The integration of lateral entrants may face challenges related to career progression and alignment with existing civil service structures.
- Statement 2 is correct. The lateral entry system aims to infuse fresh talent and specialized knowledge from the private sector into government roles, thereby enhancing efficiency and introducing innovative practices in governance and policy-making.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Corruption involves the misuse of power for personal benefit, and it is not limited to the public sector. It can manifest in various forms across both public and private sectors, such as bribery, embezzlement, and other unethical practices. When there is significant corruption in the relationship between governments and businesses, it often leads to rent-seeking activities. Rent-seeking involves efforts to gain economic benefits through manipulation or exploitation of the political environment, rather than through productive economic activity, which can distort markets and hinder economic development.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Globalization has in some cases exacerbated corruption by increasing opportunities for cross-border bribery, money laundering, and other corrupt practices. The increased interconnectedness of global markets can sometimes create environments where corruption is more challenging to control.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The representatives of states in the Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of the state legislative assemblies using a system of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Supreme Court of India ruled that the NOTA option is not applicable in Rajya Sabha elections. It is only available in direct elections like those for the Lok Sabha and state assemblies. Rajya Sabha elections use the system of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote, not the first-past-the-post system.

Source: [AIR](#)

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27. Correct Answer is (C)

- Prorogation is the termination of a session of Parliament by the President. It doesn't require the House to be adjourned sine die. The President has the power to prorogue the House at any time, even while it is in session. Prorogation typically occurs after the House is adjourned sine die, but there is no constitutional restriction preventing the President from proroguing the House while it is still in session.

Source: [AIR](#)

28. Correct Answer is (C)

- Bar Councils, such as the Bar Council of India, are statutory bodies established under the Advocates Act, 1961, responsible for regulating legal education and the legal profession. They set standards for professional conduct, oversee disciplinary actions, and recognize law colleges. On the other hand, Bar Associations are professional organizations that represent the interests of lawyers and provide support and services to their members.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The CCI is responsible for promoting fair competition, eliminating anti-competitive practices, and protecting consumer interests.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Chairperson and members of the CCI are appointed by the Central Government. The CCI does not have the power to issue licenses for new businesses. Its role is to regulate competition and prevent anti-competitive practices.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. The Lokayukta is an anti-corruption authority that investigates allegations of corruption against public officials in the state. The Governor appoints the Lokayukta in a state, often based on recommendations from a selection committee.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Maharashtra was the first state to implement the Lokayukta system, with the Maharashtra Lokayukta and Upa-Lokayuktas Act passed in 1971. The Lokayukta is a statutory body established under the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The new rules allow non-scheduled operators to provide seaplane services, expanding the scope of operations beyond just scheduled operators.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The new rules allow pilots with a commercial pilot license (CPL) to qualify as seaplane-rated pilots, making it easier for them to operate seaplanes. The simplified regulations for seaplane operations are aimed at encouraging their use under the regional air connectivity scheme UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik). The scheme includes initiatives to promote seaplane services to improve connectivity in regions where traditional airport infrastructure is not feasible.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. Once a property is designated as waqf, it is considered to be owned by God, and its corpus cannot be sold or inherited. Only the benefits or income generated by the waqf property can be used for the designated charitable or religious purposes. The Waqf Bill 2024 includes a provision that a family waqf should not result in the denial of inheritance rights to the heirs, including women heirs. A Muslim can create a family waqf with up to one-third of their property if they intend to exclude their heirs.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. While religious and charitable waqfs are exempt from paying income tax under the Income-Tax Act of 1961, family waqfs are not generally exempt and are

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required to pay income tax. Family waqfs are required to pay income tax, even when part of their income is intended for religious or charitable purposes. Additionally, estate duty (a tax on the transfer of property after someone's death) is applicable when property passes from one beneficiary to another, even though, according to waqf principles, the property is not supposed to be transferred or sold. When the line of succession fails in a family waqf, the income is typically redirected towards charitable purposes such as education, development, and welfare, rather than being absorbed by the state.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. 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](#)

34. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement I is correct. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 provides for reservations of disabled 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](#)

35. 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](#)

36. 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](#)

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37. 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](#)

38. 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](#)

39. 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](#)

40. 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](#)

41. 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](#)

42. Correct Answer is (A)

- 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

Q.1) With reference to the Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak Bill 2024, consider the following statements:

1. It empowers the central government to make rules for the investigation of any air accident or incident.
2. The Bill introduces new taxes on aviation fuel.
3. The Bill, through its provisions, aims to support Make in India initiative.

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

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

Q.2) Which one of the following statements best describes the concept of 'One Health'?

- a) It is a framework that deals with environmental health issues separately from human and animal health.
- b) It is an environmental program aimed at preserving biodiversity and preventing climate change.
- c) It is a veterinary initiative that primarily deals with the welfare and treatment of domestic animals.
- d) It is an approach that integrates the health of humans, animals, and the environment to achieve optimal health outcomes.

Q.3) With reference to the Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill, 2024, consider the following statements:

1. The Bill proposes the establishment of a comprehensive disaster database at both the national and state levels.
2. The Bill proposes the establishment of a National Crisis Management Committee for better disaster management in urban areas.
3. It aims to strengthen the working of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

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.4) With reference to the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, consider the following statements:

1. This Act made education a fundamental right in India for children between the ages of 6 and 14.
2. The primary objective of the Act is to ensure education from pre-school to eighth standard.
3. The Act mandates that all private schools must reserve 15% of their seats for children from socially disadvantaged and economically weaker sections.
4. The Act prohibits any screening procedure for admission to ensure non-discrimination and equal access to education.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. The aim of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) is to ensure that no one goes hungry by providing free food grains to the most vulnerable sections of society.
2. The primary objective of the Price Monitoring System (PMS) mobile app is to facilitate online shopping for the underprivileged communities.

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) With reference to the Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) scheme, consider the following statements:

1. Manufacturing and service sectors are primarily targeted by the ELI scheme.
2. Ministry of Labour and Employment is responsible for implementing the scheme.
3. Low-interest loans are provided under the scheme to the employer as incentives.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to offer health insurance to unorganized sector workers.
2. The spouse can continue the scheme by paying regular contributions if the subscriber of the scheme dies before attaining the age of 60 years.
3. Under the scheme, family pension is applicable only to the spouse.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.8) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), consider the following statements:

1. The scheme aims to promote medical research and increase the number of doctors in rural areas.
2. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is the nodal ministry for the implementation of the scheme.

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

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

Q.9) With reference to the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, consider the following statements:

1. Tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Tripura are exempted from the provisions of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019.
2. Applicants seeking citizenship under the CAA can give any document issued by the State or Union government or any quasi-judicial authority in India.
3. The Act states that all legal proceedings against eligible individuals regarding illegal migration or citizenship will be transferred to special courts.

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.10) Consider the following statements regarding Nandini Sahakar Scheme:

1. The scheme aims to improve socio-economic status of women and supports entrepreneurial dynamism of women through women cooperatives.
2. National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is responsible for implementing the Nandini Sahakar Scheme.

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

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

Q.11) With reference to the Clean Plant Programme (CPP), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to reduce the cost of production for horticultural crops.
2. Food Corporation of India (FCI) is responsible for implementing the Clean Plant Programme (CPP) in India.

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

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

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Q.12) Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN Yojana:

1. The scheme focuses on promoting second-generation (2G) ethanol projects using lignocellulosic biomass and other renewable feedstocks.
2. The scheme is backed by Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to help make projects that are economically feasible.
3. It aligns with India's goal to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2070.
4. Centre for High Technology (CHT) a technical body under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, is responsible for implementing the scheme.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements regarding the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024:

1. The Bill states that any government property identified or declared as waqf property, before or after the enactment of this Act, will not be recognized as waqf property.
2. It empowers the Central Government to audit any waqf at any time, using auditors appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India or designated officers.
3. It assigns the responsibility of surveying waqf properties and determining their validity to waqf tribunals.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.14) Consider the following statements regarding the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri-Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY):

1. National Health Authority (NHA) is responsible for implementing the AB PM-JAY at the national level.
2. It provides health insurance coverage to all Indians regardless of their income or social status.
3. It is the world's largest government-funded health assurance scheme.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.15) 'Model Solar Village' under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana refers to:

- a) A village that has completely replaced fossil fuels with solar energy for all its energy needs.
- b) A village with a fully solar-powered electricity grid supplying power to all households.
- c) A village where every household has installed a rooftop solar panel for self-consumption.
- d) A village that has successfully reduced its carbon footprint to zero through solar energy adoption.

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Q.16) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to enhance the use of solar energy for irrigation and reduce farmers' dependence on diesel and kerosene.
2. Risk-free income through the sale of surplus solar energy is a benefit of the scheme for farmers.
3. The purpose of the Feeder Level Solarisation (FLS) component of the PM-KUSUM scheme is to install standalone solar-powered agriculture pumps.
4. Installation of new solar pumps is not allowed in dark zones/areas notified by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB).

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.17) Consider the following pairs:

Schemes-----Ministries

1. PM Awas Yojana----- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
2. PM Surya Ghar----- Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
3. PM Vishwakarma schemes----- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

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

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

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

1. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a government program that provides rural employment.
2. In agriculture, the MGNREGA is implemented only during the cultivation season.

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) With reference to the National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to facilitate the sustainable development of handloom weavers into cohesive, self-managing, and competitive socio-economic units.
2. It includes export subsidies for handloom products to support the weavers' ability to compete in international markets and enhance their economic stability.

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:

Statement-I: The demand of work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has increased in recent years.

Statement-II: A large number of populations live in rural areas in India.

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.21) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Over-the-top (OTT) communication platforms are considered as 'access services' under the Telecommunications Act of 2023.
- 2. Net neutrality is the principle through which Internet Service Providers (ISPs) can charge different rates for different types of content.

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

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

Q.22) Consider the following statements regarding the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP):

- 1. The objective of the PMEGP is to promote large-scale industrialization and attract foreign direct investment in urban areas.
- 2. Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is responsible for implementing the PMEGP at the national level.
- 3. Any individual above 18 years of age is eligible to apply for assistance under the PMEGP scheme.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.23) 'SMILE program' is an initiative by the Indian Government for:

- a) Promoting digital literacy and internet access in rural areas across India.
- b) Offering financial incentives to startups in the technology sector to boost innovation.
- c) Providing comprehensive support and rehabilitation for marginalized groups such as transgenders.
- d) Enhancing agricultural productivity through advanced irrigation techniques and subsidies for farmers.

Q.24) 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.25) 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.26) 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.27) 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.28) 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.29) 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

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Q.30) 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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024 aims to replace the Aircraft Act, 1934. It empowers the Central Government to make rules regulating the design, manufacture, maintenance, possession, use, operation, sale, export or import of any aircraft or class of aircraft and for securing the safety of aircraft operations. The Bill empowers the Central Government to make rules for various aspects of aviation, including the investigation of air accidents and incidents. The Bill includes provisions to regulate the design, manufacture, and maintenance of aircraft, which aligns with the objectives of the Make in India initiative by promoting domestic manufacturing and maintenance in the aviation sector.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The focus of the Bill is on regulatory aspects, ease of doing business, and supporting the aviation sector, but not on taxation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (D)

- One Health is a collaborative, multisectoral, and transdisciplinary approach that recognizes the interconnection between people, animals, plants, and their shared environment. It aims to achieve optimal health outcomes by recognizing the interconnections between human health, animal health, and environmental health. It's recognized by major international organizations like the World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) as a crucial framework for addressing complex health challenges.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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3. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Bill seeks to create a disaster database at both the national and state levels, which will include various details such as disaster assessment, fund allocation, expenditure, preparedness and mitigation plans, risk registers, and other relevant matters. The Bill empowers the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to prepare disaster plans at the national level and allows the NDMA to appoint experts and consultants as necessary to perform its functions, which can be seen as measures to strengthen its working.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The bill proposes the establishment of an "Urban Disaster Management Authority" for state capitals and large cities with municipal corporations for better disaster management in urban areas.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The 86th Amendment to the Constitution inserted Article 21A, which made education a fundamental right for all children between the ages of 6 and 14. Although the RTE Act, 2009, explicitly applies to children aged between six and 14, the Madras High Court ruled that this does not preclude younger children from being admitted to kindergarten under the Act. The Court emphasized that the primary objective of the RTE Act is to ensure education from pre-school to eighth standard. The RTE Act prohibits any screening procedure for admission to ensure non-discrimination and equal access to education.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The RTE Act mandates that private unaided schools reserve 25% of their seats for children from socially disadvantaged and economically weaker sections.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The PMGKAY was launched to provide free food grains to the poor and vulnerable sections of society during crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure that no one goes hungry.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The primary objective of the PMS mobile app is to monitor and track the prices of essential commodities to ensure price stability and prevent inflation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The primary objective of the ELI scheme is to incentivize companies to create new employment opportunities by offering financial incentives for each new hire. This is designed to boost job creation and reduce unemployment. The ELI scheme primarily targets the manufacturing and service sectors. These sectors are crucial for economic growth and have significant potential for job creation, which aligns with the scheme's objectives. The Ministry of Labour and Employment is the government body responsible for implementing the ELI scheme. This ministry oversees labor policies and employment-related initiatives, making it the appropriate authority for this scheme.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The ELI scheme provides financial incentives primarily in the form of tax rebates and financial grants, not low-interest loans. The focus is on direct financial support to encourage hiring rather than providing loans.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The PM-SYM scheme is a pension scheme designed to provide old age protection and social security to unorganized sector workers.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. If a beneficiary dies before reaching the age of 60, the spouse can continue the scheme by making regular contributions or choose to exit the scheme and receive

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the beneficiary's contribution with interest. The family pension under the PM-SYM scheme is applicable only to the spouse, who will receive 50% of the pension received by the beneficiary.

Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary objectives of PMSSY are to correct regional imbalances in the availability of affordable and reliable tertiary healthcare services and to augment facilities for quality medical education in the country. PMSSY has two components: - Setting up of AIIMS and Upgradation of Government Medical College (GMC)/ Institutions.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is the nodal ministry responsible for the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana.

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The CAA does not apply to the tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Tripura as these areas are protected under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution and the Inner Line Permit system. The rules have been amended to allow applicants to submit documents issued by the State or Union government or any quasi-judicial authority in India to establish their roots.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Act does not mention transferring legal proceedings to special courts. Instead, it states that any pending proceedings against eligible individuals regarding illegal migration or citizenship will stand abated (i.e., will be nullified) upon the conferment of citizenship.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Nandini Sahakar Scheme is a comprehensive initiative launched by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) to support women cooperatives in India. It is designed to improve the socio-economic status of women by supporting their entrepreneurial ventures through cooperatives. It provides a framework for financial assistance, project formulation, hand-holding, and capacity development. There is no cap on the financial assistance provided to women cooperatives. The assistance can cover infrastructure, margin money, and working capital. The scheme is open to cooperatives registered under any State or Central Act with at least 50% women as primary members. The scheme aligns with the principles of Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India).

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

11. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The primary objective of the Clean Plant Programme is to provide access to virus-free, high-quality planting materials, which can lead to improved crop yields, better quality produce, and enhanced income opportunities for farmers. The focus is on enhancing productivity and quality rather than directly reducing the cost of production. The Clean Plant Programme is implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB) in association with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. It falls under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). The programme aligns with the Mission LiFE and One Health initiatives, promoting sustainable and eco-friendly agricultural practices. Clean Plant Centres (CPCs), Certification and Legal Framework, and Enhanced Infrastructure are its key components.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 3 and 4 are correct. The Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN Yojana aims to support the development of 2G ethanol projects using lignocellulosic biomass and other renewable

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feedstocks. The scheme aligns with India's goal to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2070 and supports the Make in India initiative. The Centre for High Technology (CHT) is the implementation agency for the Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN Yojana. The Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN Yojana has been extended for five more years, now running until 2028-29. The scheme's scope has been broadened to include biofuels made from various sources like agricultural leftovers, forestry waste, industrial by-products, and algae. The updated scheme now includes "bolt-on" and "brownfield" projects. This means existing facilities can be upgraded or modified to improve their operations and efficiency.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The scheme is supported by the Indian government through Viability Gap Funding (VGF).

Source: [DD News](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Bill specifies that government properties identified or declared as waqf, before or after the enactment, will not be considered waqf properties. The Bill gives the Central Government the authority to audit waqf properties at any time using auditors appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India or designated officers.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Bill shifts the responsibility of surveying waqf properties from survey commissioners to district collectors. The district collectors are also responsible for determining the validity of waqf properties.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The National Health Authority (NHA) is responsible for implementing the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri-Jan Arogya Yojana at the national level. AB PM-JAY is recognized as the world's largest government-funded health assurance scheme, providing coverage to over 50 crore (500 million) people.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. AB PM-JAY specifically targets the bottom 40% of the population, focusing on poor and vulnerable families based on criteria from the Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011, and does not provide coverage to all Indians regardless of income or social status. AB PM-JAY aims to provide health cover of ₹5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation to approximately 55 crore beneficiaries corresponding to 12.34 crore families constituting the bottom 40% of the population.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- The "Model Solar Village" under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana refers to a village that has fully transitioned to solar power for meeting its energy needs, thus becoming self-reliant in energy. This initiative is part of a broader government scheme aiming to promote solar energy adoption across rural areas in India. Each district will have one designated Model Solar Village, selected based on its ability to implement solar energy solutions, with the goal of setting a sustainable example for other villages.

Source: [AIR](#)

16. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The PM-KUSUM scheme is designed to replace high-cost diesel pumps with solar energy, thus reducing farmers' reliance on diesel and providing a more reliable power source for irrigation. Farmers can sell surplus solar power generated under the scheme to distribution companies (DISCOMs), providing them with an additional income stream. The installation of new solar pumps is not permitted in dark zones, which are areas with depleted groundwater levels as notified by the CGWB.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Feeder Level Solarisation (FLS) component, which is part of Component-C of the PM-KUSUM scheme, is actually aimed at solarizing grid-connected

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agricultural pumps at the feeder level. This involves installing solar power plants to provide daytime reliable solar power to entire feeders that serve agricultural pumps.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) - Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** - Launched in 2015, PMAY aims to address the urban housing shortage among the Economically Weaker Section (EWS), Low Income Group (LIG), and Middle-Income Group (MIG) categories, including slum dwellers, by providing a pucca house to all eligible urban households. The scheme promotes affordable housing through a Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) and aims to ensure housing for all by 2022.
- **PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana - Ministry of New and Renewable Energy** - This scheme aims to install rooftop solar panels on one crore houses to generate electricity from solar energy, thereby reducing electricity costs for middle-class and poor households. It promotes sustainable energy practices and aims to decrease reliance on traditional energy sources by providing up to 300 units of free electricity each month.
- **PM Vishwakarma Scheme - Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** - The PM Vishwakarma Scheme is designed to provide holistic support to artisans and craftspeople, offering access to collateral-free credit, skill training, modern tools, incentives for digital transactions, and market linkage support. The scheme aims to enhance the skills and productivity of artisans, enabling them to access new growth opportunities.

Source: [AIR](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. MGNREGA is an Indian government program aimed at enhancing livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. MGNREGA is a demand-driven program that provides employment throughout the year and is not limited to the cultivation season. It aims to provide employment during periods when there is less agricultural work available to prevent rural-urban migration and to support rural livelihoods.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The NHDP is designed to support the sustainable development of handloom weavers, helping them organize into cohesive, self-managing, and competitive socio-economic units.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NHDP includes marketing assistance to promote handloom products in both domestic and international markets. However, there is no export subsidies for handloom products in the programme guidelines. The focus is more on developing marketing infrastructure and providing market access initiatives rather than direct export subsidies.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Statement-I:** The demand for work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has increased in recent years. There has been a sharp increase in demand by 48.8% in April 2024.
- **Statement-II:** A large number of the population lives in rural areas in India. According to the data, 63.4% of India's population lived in rural areas as of 2024.
- However, the increase in demand for MGNREGA work is more directly attributed to factors such as unemployment and stagnant wages rather than just the large rural population. Therefore,

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while Statement-II is true, it is not the direct explanation for the increased demand described in Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. There is a discussion about whether OTT platforms should be classified under access services. The Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) argues that OTT communication services should be considered access services under the new Telecommunications Act, but this is a matter of debate and not a settled classification. Net neutrality is the principle that ISPs should treat all internet traffic equally, without charging different rates or discriminating based on content type.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary objective of PMEGP is to generate employment opportunities through the establishment of micro-enterprises in both rural and urban areas.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is the nodal agency responsible for implementing the PMEGP at the national level. Any individual above 18 years of age is eligible to apply for assistance under the PMEGP scheme.

Source: [AIR](#)

23. Correct Answer is (C)

- The SMILE program, which stands for Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise, is a government initiative launched by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in India. The program aims to provide comprehensive support and rehabilitation for marginalized groups, specifically targeting the transgender community and individuals engaged in begging. This includes welfare measures, medical facilities, counseling, education, skill development, and economic opportunities to help these individuals achieve sustainable livelihoods.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. 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](#)

25. 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](#)

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26. 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](#)

27. 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](#)

28. 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).
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Achieving "full literacy" is defined as reaching 95% literacy in a State or Union Territory.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. 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](#)

30. 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

Q.1) With reference to Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024, consider the following statements:

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1. India is the topmost-ranked country in South Asia.
2. The index is released by the World Economic Forum (WEF).

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) Gadgil Committee Report, seen in the news recently, is used in the context of:

- a) Protection of Western Ghats
- b) Constitutional Reforms
- c) Urban development planning
- d) Ganga Action Plan

Q.3) With reference to the India's National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), consider the following statements:

1. It measures income inequality across different states.
2. Alkire-Foster methodology is used for calculating the National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) in India.
3. Twelve indicators are included in India's National Multidimensional Poverty Index.
4. Maternal health and bank accounts are included in India's National MPI but they are not part of the Global MPI.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.4) 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.5) 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.

Answer Key

1 - (c)	2 - (a)	3 - (c)	4 - (d)	5 - (d)
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Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India has been recognized as the topmost-ranked country in South Asia in the Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024. India is ranked 39th among 119 countries, according to the Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024 report published by the World Economic Forum.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Gadgil Committee Report, also known as the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP) Report, is specifically related to the conservation and protection of the Western Ghats. The report was commissioned by the Ministry of Environment and Forests of India and submitted in 2011. It provided recommendations for the sustainable development and ecological preservation of the Western Ghats, an area recognized for its rich biodiversity and ecological significance.

Source: [DD News](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) measures multiple deprivations across health, education, and standard of living.
- Statements 2, 3 and 4 are correct. The Alkire-Foster Methodology is used for calculating India's National MPI. India's National MPI includes twelve indicators across three dimensions: health, education, and standard of living. India's National MPI includes maternal health and bank accounts, which are not part of the Global MPI.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. 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](#)

5. 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

Q.1) In the context of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, which one of the following best describes the concept of "supply chain resilience"?

- a) Diversifying sources of critical goods and materials to prevent disruptions.
- b) Eliminating all trade barriers to ensure smooth logistics operations.
- c) Creating a unified digital platform for real-time supply chain management.
- d) Establishing a centralized supply chain authority for the Indo-Pacific region.

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Q.2) The term 'Five Mutuals,' recently mentioned in the news, is associated with:

- The economic cooperation framework between the United States and the European Union.
- The environmental conservation agreement among BRICS nations.
- The principles guiding China-India bilateral relations.
- The trade agreement between ASEAN countries.

Q.3) Consider the following pairs:

Initiatives/Projects-----Features

- India-Middle East Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC)---- Enhance connectivity and trade between India, the Middle East, and Europe
- Chabahar Port----- Provide India with a strategic maritime route to Afghanistan and Central Asia
- I2U2 Initiative ----- Promote economic cooperation and development among India, Israel, the UAE, and the USA

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

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

Q.4) With reference to the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation - BIMSTEC, how many of the following statements are correct?

- BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting is the highest decision-making body of BIMSTEC.
- Dhaka Declaration led to the establishment of BIMSTEC.
- Thailand is the permanent secretariat of BIMSTEC.
- BIMSTEC Business Summit aims to facilitate economic collaboration and explore ways for regional connectivity, energy security, inclusive growth, and sustainable development.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.5) Which one of the following is the primary significance of the Agartala-Akhaura railway project?

- It is the first railway project between India and Nepal.
- It is the first railway project between the North Eastern States of India and Bangladesh.
- It connects India with Bhutan.
- It is the longest railway project in India.

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- India and New Zealand are both members of International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- Pharmaceuticals, precious metals and jewellery, textiles and apparel are major exports from India to New Zealand.
- India and New Zealand have signed a customs cooperation agreement to simplify and strengthen trade between the two countries by making customs procedures easier.

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.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is a part of India's efforts to improve connectivity under the "Neighbourhood First" policy.
2. SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) initiative is integrated with Indian maritime initiatives such as the Act East Policy and Project Sagarmala.

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

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

Q.8) Consider the following:

1. Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining
2. Equal pay for equal work
3. Elimination of forced labour
4. Abolition of child labour

Which of the above are fundamental principles and rights under the International Labour Organization's (ILO's) project 'Promoting Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW)'?

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. Bangladesh is the largest South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) member country in terms of land area.
2. International trade is one of the areas of cooperation in SAARC.
3. India is the largest economy in the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.10) With reference to the International Court of Justice (ICJ), which of the following statements are correct?

1. It can hear cases of environmental disputes between the countries.
2. The ICJ's advisory opinions are not legally binding.
3. The ICJ has appellate jurisdiction.
4. Only UN member states can bring cases before the ICJ.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: A 'Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)' is World Health Organization's (WHO's) highest form of alert.

Statement-II: A PHEIC signifies an extraordinary event that poses a public health risk to other countries through the international spread of disease.

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

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

Q.12) Which one of the following areas is a focus of the 'Enhanced Strategic Partnership' between India and Malaysia?

- a) Space exploration
- b) Renewable energy and technology
- c) Textile manufacturing
- d) Traditional agriculture

Q.13) With reference to India's Act East Policy, consider the following statements:

- 1. The '4 C's' emphasized in India's Act East Policy are Connectivity, Communication, Collaboration, and Culture.
- 2. India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway Project is a key connectivity initiative under the Act East Policy.

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. A Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) is an agreement between two countries to protect investments made by investors from both countries.
- 2. One key feature of BITs is that they allow foreign investors to directly sue the host country in an international tribunal if they believe their rights under the treaty have been violated.
- 3. BITs require host states to prioritize foreign investor interests over domestic concerns.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Malaysia hosts the third largest community of Persons of Indian Origin (PIO).
- 2. India is Malaysia's largest trading partner.
- 3. Malaysia is a member both Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and BRICS.

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

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

Q.16) Consider the following statements:

1. Poland is a global leader in food processing.
2. Poland and India are full time members of International Energy Agency (IEA).
3. Under the Jam Saheb Memorial Youth Exchange Programme, 20 young people from Poland will visit India every year.

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

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

Q.17) India and the United States have recently entered into a bilateral Security of Supply Arrangement (SOSA). This implies:

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

Q.18) With reference to the Pacific Islands Forum, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.19) In the context of International Relations, 'Strategic Partnership' refers to:

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

Q.20) With reference to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), consider the following statements:

1. It is an inter-governmental body established to set standards and promote effective implementation of measures to combat money laundering.
2. International tax evasion is one of the focus areas of the FATF's recommendations.
3. 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?

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

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Q.21) Consider the following statements:

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

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.22) 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.23) 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.24) 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.25) 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.26) 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

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Q.27) 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.28) 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.29) 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.30) 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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- The concept of supply chain resilience involves strategies to ensure that supply chains can withstand and quickly recover from disruptions, such as natural disasters, geopolitical tensions, or pandemics. Diversifying sources of critical goods and materials is a key strategy to enhance resilience, as it reduces dependency on a single source or region, thereby mitigating the risk of supply chain interruptions.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

- The term "Five Mutuals" refers to a set of principles recently highlighted in the context of China-India relations. The "Five Mutuals" are intended to serve as guiding principles to enhance and stabilize the bilateral relationship between China and India. The five mutual include: mutual respect, mutual understanding, mutual trust, mutual accommodation and mutual accomplishment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (D)

- The IMEEC aims to enhance connectivity and trade between India, the Middle East, and Europe by creating a new economic corridor that facilitates the movement of goods and services.
- The Chabahar Port in Iran provides India with a strategic maritime route to Afghanistan and Central Asia, bypassing Pakistan. This port is crucial for India's trade and strategic interests in the region.
- The I2U2 initiative aims to promote economic cooperation and development among India, Israel, the UAE, and the USA. It focuses on leveraging the strengths of these countries to foster collaborative projects and economic growth.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The highest decision-making body of BIMSTEC is the BIMSTEC Summit, which is comprised of the heads of state or government of the member states. BIMSTEC was established through the Bangkok Declaration on June 6, 1997. The permanent secretariat of BIMSTEC is located in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Statement 4 is correct. The BIMSTEC Business Summit aims to facilitate economic collaboration and explore ways for regional connectivity, energy security, inclusive growth, and sustainable development.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Agartala-Akhaura railway project marks a significant milestone in enhancing connectivity, trade, and people-to-people contact between India and Bangladesh. It connects Agartala, the capital of Tripura in India's Northeast, with Akhaura in Bangladesh. The project is expected to reduce travel time between Agartala and Kolkata from 31 hours to 10 hours and facilitate trade by providing a shorter route to the Port of Chattogram in Bangladesh.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. New Zealand has joined the International Solar Alliance, making both India and New Zealand members. Pharmaceuticals, precious metals and gems, textiles, and apparel are among the main exports from India to New Zealand. India and New

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Zealand have signed a customs cooperation agreement to facilitate and strengthen trade between the two countries.

Source: [AIR](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is a multi-modal transportation network that aims to enhance connectivity between India, Iran, Russia, and other countries in Central Asia and Europe. It primarily focuses on connecting India with Central Asia and Europe rather than its immediate neighbours in South Asia. The "Neighbourhood First" policy is more focused on enhancing relations and connectivity with India's immediate neighbours in South Asia, such as Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Sri Lanka. Moreover, the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project is an initiative aimed at enhancing connectivity between India and its neighbours, particularly Myanmar.
- Statement 2 is correct. The SAGAR initiative is integrated with other Indian maritime initiatives. It focuses on enhancing maritime security and fostering economic growth in the Indian Ocean region. SAGAR is linked with initiatives like the Act East Policy, which aims to strengthen ties with Southeast Asian countries, and Project Sagarmala, which focuses on port development and modernization in India. These initiatives collectively enhance India's maritime capabilities and regional influence.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (C)

- Promoting Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (FPRW) aims to promote effective recognition of freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, elimination of child labour, abolition of forced labour, elimination of all forms of discrimination, and the promotion of a safe and healthy working environment. The fundamental principles and rights at work convention (of the ILO) applies to all ILO member-States whether they have ratified it or not. It is part and parcel of the ILO's Constitution. Indian cotton and hybrid cotton seeds are currently listed by the U.S. Labor Department as goods produced by child or forced labour. To combat this, Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) and ILO have launched a project called "Promoting Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work" (FPRW). This project aims to improve working conditions for cotton farmers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India is the largest SAARC member country in terms of land area.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. SAARC focuses on several areas of cooperation, including international trade, which is a significant part of its agenda. India is the largest economy among the BIMSTEC member countries.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The ICJ has jurisdiction over contentious cases between states, which can include environmental disputes, as long as the states involved consent to the court's jurisdiction. Advisory opinions issued by the ICJ are not legally binding, though they carry significant legal and moral weight.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. The ICJ does not have appellate jurisdiction; it functions as a court of first and only instance in the cases it hears. While the majority of cases are brought by UN member states, non-member states can also bring cases before the ICJ, provided they accept the court's jurisdiction.

Source: [DD News](#)

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11. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Statement-I is correct:** PHEIC is the highest level of alert issued by WHO to signal a serious public health risk that requires international attention and response.
- **Statement-II is correct.** The International Health Regulations (IHR) of 2005 defines PHEIC as an extraordinary event that poses a risk to other states through the international spread of disease and may require a coordinated international response.
- Hence, Statement-II provides the reasoning behind why a PHEIC is considered the highest form of alert.

Source: [DD News](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Enhanced Strategic Partnership between India and Malaysia is a multifaceted collaboration aimed at strengthening bilateral ties across various domains. The partnership includes initiatives to enhance trade and investment, with a target to achieve a trade volume of \$25 billion. Both nations have engaged in regular defense exercises and cooperation agreements, reinforcing trust and strategic ties. The partnership acknowledges India's technological prowess and includes collaborations like the India-Malaysia Startup Bridge and the Malaysia India Digital Council to foster innovation and digital growth. The partnership emphasizes cultural affinity and increased two-way tourist movement, reflecting the close ties between the peoples of both countries. It also includes renewable energy and technology, as both countries are working to strengthen their ties in these sectors.

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The 4 C's of India's Act East Policy are Culture, Connectivity, Commerce, and Capacity Building.
- Statement 2 is correct. The India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway Project is a significant connectivity initiative under India's Act East Policy. India's Act East Policy is a strategic initiative launched in 2014 to enhance economic, strategic, and cultural ties with countries in Southeast Asia and the wider Asia-Pacific region. This policy builds upon the earlier Look East Policy introduced in 1991, which primarily focused on economic integration with Southeast Asian countries.

Source: [AIR](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. BITs are agreements between two countries designed to protect and promote investments made by investors from each country in the other's territory. BITs often include provisions for investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS), which allows investors to bring claims against the host country in international arbitration if they believe their rights under the BIT have been breached.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. While BITs provide protections for foreign investors, they do not explicitly require host states to prioritize foreign investor interests over domestic concerns. Instead, they establish standards for treatment to prevent unfair practices.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Malaysia is reported to host the third largest PIO community in the world, following the United States and the United Arab Emirates.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. While India is a significant trading partner for Malaysia, it is not the largest. Malaysia's top trading partners include Singapore, China, the United States, Hong Kong, and Japan. However, India is the largest trading partner for Malaysia within the Southeast Asian region. Malaysia is a member of ASEAN but is not yet a member of BRICS. Malaysia has applied for BRICS membership, but it has not been finalized.

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Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Poland is recognized as a leading producer in the food processing industry, particularly in sectors like meat, dairy, and processed fruits and vegetables. It is one of the largest food processing industries in the EU. The Jam Saheb Memorial Youth Exchange programme will invite 20 Polish youths annually to visit India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While Poland is a full member of the IEA, India is not. India is currently an associate member and has begun talks to become a full member.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. 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](#)

18. Correct Answer is (C)

- 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](#)

19. 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](#)

20. 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](#)

21. 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

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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](#)

22. 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](#)

23. 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](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

- 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](#)

25. 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](#)

26. 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](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

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- 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](#)

28. 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](#)

29. 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
- 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](#)

30. 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

Q.1) Which one of the following is a likely consequence of sustained decline in core industries on India's foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows?

- a) There will be an increase in FDI due to cheaper acquisition opportunities.
- b) There will be a decrease in FDI due to reduced investor confidence.
- c) There will be a complete shift of FDI to the service sector.
- d) There will be no impact on FDI inflows.

Q.2) Which one of the following statements describes the term 'Indexation'?

- a) It refers to the practice of adjusting the interest rates on loans based on the credit score of the borrower.
- b) It is the process of linking the value of a financial asset to the performance of a specific stock market index.
- c) It refers to adjusting the nominal value of wages, benefits, or financial instruments to account for changes in the cost of living or inflation.
- d) It is a method used by companies to increase the prices of their products based on market demand and competition.

Q.3) Consider the following pairs:

Corridors ----- Key Features

- 1. Ayodhya Ring Road----- Four-lane access-controlled ring road for pilgrims
- 2. Tharad-Ahmedabad Corridor ----- National high-speed corridor improving connectivity between two cities
- 3. Agra-Gwalior Corridor----- Six-lane high-speed corridor connecting two key national highways

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.4) Consider the following:

- 1. Coffee
- 2. Rubber
- 3. Cotton
- 4. Maize

For how many of the above crops is the Minimum Support Price (MSP) provided?

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

Q.5) In which one of the following ways does a US Federal Reserve rate cut impact foreign investment in India?

- a) It will decrease foreign investment in India
- b) It will have no impact on foreign investment in India
- c) It will increase foreign investment in India
- d) It will lead to the withdrawal of foreign investment from India

Q.6) Zero-based budgeting (ZBB) refers to:

- a) A budgeting method where expenses are based on historical spending patterns and adjusted for inflation.
- b) A financial strategy that involves cutting all non-essential expenses to zero each year.
- c) A budgeting method where each expense item is justified for the current period, regardless of the spending levels of the past year.
- d) A budgeting approach that only applies to capital expenditures and ignores operational costs.

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Q.7) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Union Budget 2024-25 has lowered the Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on imported chemicals.

Statement-II: India is a major pharmaceutical and chemicals manufacturer and also an exporter of complex chemicals.

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.8) The Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) aims to:

- a) Provide financial assistance to large-scale industries.
- b) Encourage banks to lend more to priority sectors.
- c) Provide concessional credit to farmers.
- d) Reduce the overall fiscal deficit of the country.

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

- 1. In India, a significant portion of the population is employed in agriculture, but productivity remains low.
- 2. The Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization (LPG) reforms have not resulted in a substantial reduction in poverty levels in India.
- 3. India has not been able to effectively utilize its surplus labour to expand its manufacturing sectors.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.10) Consider the following pairs:

Committees----- Definition of Poverty Line (PL)

- 1. Lakdawala ----- Suggested using state-specific poverty lines updated with Consumer Price Index Number for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) and Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL), based on calorie consumption.
- 2. Tendulkar----- Recommended a uniform poverty line for both rural and urban India.
- 3. Rangarajan----- Reverted to separate poverty line baskets for rural and urban areas and included normative levels of nourishment, clothing, and other non-food expenses.

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.11) Which one of the following statements is correct?

- a) A lower fiscal deficit always results in a credit rating upgrade.
- b) A lower fiscal deficit can reduce the perceived risk of lending to the government.
- c) A lower fiscal deficit leads to an increase in per capita income.
- d) A lower fiscal deficit decreases investor confidence.

Q.12) If indexation benefits are removed from Long-Term Capital Gains (LTCG) taxation, which one of the following strategies would likely become less attractive to investors?

- a) Holding investments for longer periods.
- b) Investing in tax-exempt securities.
- c) Using capital losses to offset gains.
- d) Making use of tax-saving instruments.

Q.13) In which one of the following ways does an unchanged repo rate impact the government's fiscal policy?

- a) It forces the government to increase taxes
- b) It allows the government to maintain current borrowing costs
- c) It requires the government to immediately reduce spending
- d) It does not affect the fiscal policy

Q.14) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- 1. Headline Inflation includes all items in the consumer price index (CPI).
- 2. High Food inflation directly influences core inflation.

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.15) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Headline inflation is a measure of the total inflation within an economy.
- 2. Headline inflation is less volatile than core inflation.
- 3. The value money falls with the increase in headline inflation.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.16) Which one of the following factors is most likely to cause the Indian Rupee to appreciate against the US Dollar?

- a) A decrease in the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) benchmark interest rate.
- b) An increase in foreign portfolio investment (FPI) inflows into Indian equity markets.
- c) A significant increase in India's crude oil imports.
- d) A rise in US Federal Reserve interest rates.

Q.17) In the context of financial markets, short selling refers to:

- a) Buying a security with the expectation that its price will increase.
- b) Lending money to a company to finance its operations.
- c) Selling a borrowed security with the expectation that its price will decrease.
- d) Purchasing a government bond with a fixed interest rate.

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India has a poor ranking in Human Development Index (HDI).

Statement-II: India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is low.

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

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

Q.19) Which one of the following statements correctly explains the 'Stakeholder Capitalism'?

- a) It is a form of government intervention where the state becomes the primary stakeholder in all businesses.
- b) It is a system where corporations are oriented to serve the interests of all their stakeholders, including customers, suppliers, employees, shareholders, and local communities.
- c) It is a model where companies prioritize government regulations over business interests to ensure compliance.
- d) It is a government policy that regulates businesses to ensure they prioritize profit over all other concerns.

Q.20) The primary objective of the Marginal Cost of Funds-based Lending Rate (MCLR) introduced by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is to:

- a) Increase the profitability of banks
- b) Ensure faster transmission of monetary policy rates to borrowers
- c) Stabilize the cash flow of banks
- d) Provide a fixed interest rate for borrowers

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

1. Under inflation targeting, if inflation is above the target, the central bank will lower interest rates to bring inflation back to the target level.
2. In India, a significant amount of the household spending goes towards food.
3. When the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) raises the repo rate, it sometimes increases the core inflation.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

1. Khadi represents both India's rich history and its progress in modern times.
2. In handlooms, the Goods and Services Tax (GST) only applies to the finished products.

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.23) In the context of finance, 'Rights Issue' refers to:

- a) A public offering of shares to new investors at market price.
- b) Issuing bonds to raise capital for debt repayment.
- c) Allowing shareholders to purchase additional shares at a premium to the market price.
- d) Raising additional capital from existing shareholders

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Q.24) The primary objective of India's Duty-Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) Scheme is to:

- a) Provide subsidies to Indian exporters to enhance their competitiveness in international markets.
- b) Encourage foreign direct investment in India's manufacturing sector by offering tax incentives to multinational companies.
- c) Increase tariffs on all imports to protect domestic industries from foreign competition.
- d) Facilitate market access for exports from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to India by reducing or eliminating tariffs on eligible products.

Q.25) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India-KLEMS is a framework used to measure industry-level total factor productivity (TFP).
- 2. The KLEMS framework is used to collect data on employment.

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

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

Q.26) With reference to the Digital General Crop Estimation Survey (DGES), consider the following statements:

- 1. It enables efficient allocation of water, fertilizers, and other resources by providing detailed insights into crop health and soil conditions.
- 2. The data from DGES will be used to generate crop production statistics through FASAL program (Forecasting Agricultural output using Space, Agro-meteorology, and Land-based observations).

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

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

Q.27) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Health is a state subjects in India.
- 2. India exceeds the World Health Organization's recommended spending on healthcare.

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

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

Q.28) 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.29) 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.30) 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.31) 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.32) 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.33) 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

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Q.34) 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.35) 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.36) 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.37) 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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- A sustained decline in core industries would indicate a broader economic slowdown. This would negatively impact investor confidence, as core industries are often seen as a barometer of a country's overall economic health. Consequently, FDI inflows would likely decrease as investors become more cautious about investing in a country with weakening core industries.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

- Indexation is a financial concept and practice used to adjust the value of various economic elements to account for changes in the general price level, typically due to inflation. The goal is to neutralize the effect of inflation on the asset's value over time. By using indexation, you can adjust an investment's purchase price to reflect the impact of inflation more accurately. This carries over into tax liability because a higher purchase price leads to lower profits and lower taxes. Adjusting for inflation using indexation allows an investor to reduce long-term capital gains, bringing down taxable income. Recently, the Finance Minister in the Budget proposed taxing all long-term gains at a flat rate of 12.5%, but without using indexation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Ayodhya Ring Road: A 68-kilometer, four-lane ring road will be constructed around Ayodhya. The project aims to facilitate seamless travel for pilgrims visiting the Ram Mandir. The road will improve connectivity for tourists arriving from airports in Lucknow and Ayodhya, as well as from major railway stations. The total cost for this project is ₹3,935 crore.
- Tharad to Ahmedabad Corridor: A 214-kilometer, six-lane high-speed corridor will be developed between Tharad and Ahmedabad in Gujarat. This corridor will connect two major national highways: the one from Amritsar to Jamnagar and the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway. It will provide efficient freight transport routes from industrial areas in Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan to major ports in Maharashtra. The project aims to improve logistics and economic activities in these regions.
- Agra to Gwalior Corridor: A national high-speed corridor will be built, connecting Agra to Gwalior. The corridor will be 88 kilometers long and will cost ₹4,613 crore. This project aims to improve transportation links and reduce travel time between these two cities.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Minimum Support Price (MSP) is a form of market intervention by the Government of India to ensure agricultural producers against any sharp fall in farm prices. The MSP is announced by the Government of India for certain crops at the beginning of each sowing season based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). Out of the four crops listed, MSP is provided for two crops: cotton and maize.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (C)

- A US Federal Reserve rate cut typically makes US assets less attractive due to lower returns, prompting investors to seek higher returns in other markets. This often leads to an increase in foreign investment in emerging markets like India, where the potential for higher returns is greater.

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Source: [DD News](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

- Zero-based budgeting (ZBB) is a budgeting method where every expense must be justified for each new period, starting from a "zero base." This approach requires organizations to build their budgets from scratch, rather than simply adjusting previous budgets.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statement-I is incorrect: The Union Budget 2024-25 initially increased the Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on laboratory chemicals from 10% to 150%, but this was later rolled back to 10% for chemicals used in research and development purposes, excluding undenatured ethyl alcohol.
- Statement-II is correct: India is a major player in the global pharmaceuticals and chemicals industry, being a significant manufacturer and exporter of complex chemicals and pharmaceutical products.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (C)

- The primary objective of the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme is to offer short-term agricultural loans to farmers at subsidized interest rates. This is done to support their working capital requirements and allied activities such as animal husbandry, dairy, fisheries, and beekeeping. The scheme provides an interest subvention to lending institutions so that farmers can avail loans at a concessional interest rate, thereby reducing their financial burden and promoting agricultural productivity.

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Nearly three-quarters of India's families depend on rural incomes, with a significant portion of the labour force engaged in agriculture. However, the productivity in this sector is relatively low due to factors like inadequate irrigation, lack of modern technology, and small fragmented land holdings. Despite having a large working-age population, India has struggled to shift its surplus labour from agriculture to manufacturing, which remains a challenge for economic growth. The manufacturing sector has not expanded sufficiently to absorb the excess labour from agriculture.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The LPG reforms of 1991 significantly reduced poverty levels in India. Between 1991 and 2011, the poverty rate fell from approximately 50% to around 20%, pulling millions out of poverty.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (D)

- **Lakdawala Committee:** The Lakdawala Committee recommended state-specific poverty lines and updating them using CPI-IW and CPI-AL, based on calorie consumption.
- **Tendulkar Committee:** The Tendulkar Committee recommended a uniform poverty line basket (PLB) across rural and urban India, moving away from separate PLBs.
- **Rangarajan Committee:** The Rangarajan Committee reverted to separate poverty line baskets for rural and urban areas and included normative levels of nourishment, clothing, and other non-food expenses.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

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- A lower fiscal deficit indicates better fiscal management and reduces the perceived risk of lending to the government, which can positively influence sovereign credit ratings.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

- Indexation benefits allowed investors to adjust the purchase price of an asset for inflation, thereby reducing the taxable capital gains when the asset was sold after a long holding period. Without indexation, the tax liability on long-term holdings may increase, making this strategy less attractive.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- An unchanged repo rate impacts the government's fiscal policy by allowing the government to maintain current borrowing costs. This is because the repo rate, set by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), influences the interest rates at which the government can borrow money. When the repo rate remains stable, it provides consistency in borrowing costs, which helps the government plan its budget without the need for immediate adjustments in taxation or spending.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Headline inflation is the total inflation within an economy and includes all items in the CPI, including volatile components like food and energy prices.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Food inflation directly impacts headline inflation due to its inclusion in the CPI, but it does not directly influence core inflation, which excludes food prices. Core inflation excludes food and fuel prices, so high food inflation does not directly influence core inflation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Headline inflation measures the total inflation within an economy, including all commodities such as food and energy prices, which tend to be volatile. Rising inflation, including headline inflation, erodes the purchasing power of money, meaning that the value of money falls as inflation increases.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Headline inflation is more volatile than core inflation because it includes food and energy prices, which are subject to frequent fluctuations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Foreign portfolio investments increase the demand for the Indian Rupee as foreign investors need to convert their USD into INR to invest in Indian markets. This increased demand for INR leads to its appreciation. Conversely, factors like lower interest rates, higher crude oil imports, and rising US interest rates could lead to a depreciation of the Rupee.

Source: [AIR](#)

17. Correct Answer is (C)

- In the context of financial markets, short selling is a strategy where an investor borrows a security, such as a stock, and sells it on the market, anticipating that its price will decrease. Short selling is a way to profit from falling prices, but it carries significant risks. If the price of the security increases instead of decreasing, the investor can face unlimited losses, as there is no cap on how high a stock price can go.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (C)

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- **Statement-I is correct:** India has a poor ranking in the Human Development Index (HDI). India ranks 134th out of 193 countries in the Human Development Index, which is considered a medium human development category but still reflects a relatively low ranking globally.
- **Statement-II is incorrect:** India has experienced strong GDP growth, with recent growth rates being among the highest globally. For example, India's GDP growth rate was estimated at 8.2% for the financial year 2023-24, indicating robust economic growth.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- Stakeholder Capitalism is a model of corporate governance where companies are oriented to serve the interests of all their stakeholders, not just their shareholders. This approach recognizes that businesses have responsibilities beyond generating profits for investors. It is a system where corporations are oriented to serve the interests of all their stakeholders, including customers, suppliers, employees, shareholders, and local communities. Under Stakeholder Capitalism, companies strive to create value for all these groups, balancing financial success with social responsibility and ethical considerations. This approach contrasts with the traditional Shareholder Primacy model, which focuses primarily on maximizing shareholder value.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- The MCLR system was implemented to improve the transmission of policy rate changes into the lending rates of banks, ensuring that changes in the RBI's policy rates are quickly reflected in the interest rates offered to borrowers. This approach aims to enhance transparency and ensure that bank loans are available at fair rates to both lenders and borrowers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Under inflation targeting, if inflation is above the target, the central bank typically raises interest rates to reduce inflation by decreasing spending and demand.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. A significant portion of household expenditure in India is allocated to food. In India, nearly 50% of household spending goes towards food, which is much higher compared to countries like the U.S., where it's less than 10%. Raising the repo rate can sometimes lead to an increase in core inflation because businesses may raise prices to maintain profit margins despite higher borrowing costs and reduced sales. However, generally, raising the repo rate is intended to reduce inflation by making borrowing more expensive, thereby reducing spending and slowing down inflation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Khadi is deeply rooted in India's history, particularly as a symbol of the freedom struggle led by Mahatma Gandhi. It represents self-reliance and unity among Indians. In modern times, khadi has seen a resurgence in popularity, embraced by fashion designers and promoted as an eco-friendly and sustainable textile, reflecting both tradition and contemporary relevance.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. GST applies to both finished handloom products and raw materials. There have been calls to roll back the 5% GST on handloom clothes and raw materials due to the financial distress it causes to weavers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (D)

- Rights Issue refers to a method by which a company raises additional capital by offering its existing shareholders the opportunity to purchase additional shares at a discounted price, in proportion to their current holdings.

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Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (D)

- The DFTP Scheme is designed to provide duty-free and preferential market access to products originating from Least Developed Countries (LDCs). This scheme aims to enhance trade opportunities for LDCs by allowing their products to enter the Indian market with reduced or zero tariffs, thereby supporting economic development in these countries.

Source: [DD News](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. KLEMS stands for Capital (K), Labour (L), Energy (E), Material (M) and Services (S). The India-KLEMS framework is designed to measure industry-level total factor productivity (TFP), which involves analyzing inputs like capital, labour, energy, materials, and services to assess how efficiently these resources are used to produce goods and services.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The KLEMS framework itself does not directly collect data on employment. Instead, it utilizes employment data from other official sources such as the Census of India and labour surveys. The employment figures in the KLEMS framework are derived from these external sources rather than being collected directly by the framework itself.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Digital General Crop Estimation Survey (DGCES) primarily focuses on providing accurate crop area estimation and yield calculations through scientifically designed crop cutting experiments. It does not provide detailed insights into crop health and soil conditions for resource allocation. It will provide plot-level data with geotagged areas of crops, enabling accurate crop area estimation and improving the reliability of agricultural statistics. Remote sensing and geospatial analysis technologies are primarily used in the DGCES to enhance data accuracy. Geospatial referencing in the DGCES allows for precise location-based data collection of crop plots, enhancing data transparency and accuracy.
- Statement 2 is correct. The DGCES is part of initiatives that include the revamped FASAL program, which uses remote sensing and other technologies to generate accurate crop production statistics.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Health is primarily a state subject in India, meaning that state governments are primarily responsible for healthcare services.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. India spends less than the World Health Organization's recommendation on healthcare. The WHO recommends that countries spend at least 6% of their GDP on health, whereas India's spending is significantly lower, at less than 2% of GDP.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. 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](#)

29. 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

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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](#)

30. 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](#)

31. 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.
- 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](#)

32. 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](#)

33. 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),

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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](#)

34. 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](#)

35. 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](#)

36. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Vadnavan 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. Vadnavan Port is expected to play a significant role in the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) and the International North-South Transportation Corridor (INSTC), enhancing India's trade connectivity with Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia. Vadnavan 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, Vadnavan 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 Vadnavan Port is a joint venture between the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) and the Maharashtra Maritime Board.

Source: [AIR](#)

37. 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

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Pumped Storage Hydropower (PSH) can store excess energy generated during peak production times and release it when needed.
2. At present, India does not have installed pumped storage capacity.
3. PSH can operate independently of the grid.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 empowers the Central Government to declare Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs) in India.
2. Agriculture is generally prohibited in Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs).
3. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) supports the protection of Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESAs) by focusing on biodiversity conservation.
4. Proximity to urban centers, availability of natural resources, and potential for tourism development are the key criteria used by the government in India to designate an area as ecologically sensitive.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.3) Which one of the following practices is more likely to be found in organic farming but not in natural farming?

- a) Use of compost
- b) No-till farming
- c) Polyculture
- d) Natural pest control

Q.4) Consider the following:

1. Saltwater flooding
2. Microplastics
3. Sea waves

How many of the factors mentioned above would affect coastal plants?

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

Q.5) With reference to the sloth bear, consider the following statements:

1. They are mostly nocturnal.
2. They are found in India.
3. They are listed Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.6) Consider the following:

1. Nitrogen fixation
2. Carbon sequestration
3. Soil erosion prevention

Which of the above ecological roles are performed the Indian Siris tree (Albizia lebbek)?

- 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 statements:

1. Desertification is a cause of deforestation.
2. Crop rotation is a major contributor to deforestation in tropical regions.
3. A significant environmental consequence of deforestation is increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
4. Selective logging and wildfires sometimes harm the climate more than deforestation.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. The Great Barrier Reef is the largest living ecosystem in the world.
2. Ocean acidification contributes to coral bleaching by reducing the amount of oxygen in the water.
3. The most significant impact of coral bleaching is the increased fish populations due to reduced coral predation.

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. Fly ash is mainly composed of oxides of silicon, aluminium, iron, calcium, and magnesium.
2. Fly ash is primarily produced as a byproduct of automobile exhaust.
3. Using fly ash in concrete reduces the amount of cement needed, which in turn lowers CO₂ emissions associated with cement production.
4. Improper disposal of fly ash can lead to ozone layer depletion due to the dispersing of harmful gases into the atmosphere.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. Environment Protection Act, 1986 governs the approval process for non-forestry activities in wildlife sanctuaries in India.
2. Any non-forestry activity on forest land requires approval from 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

Q.11) Which one of the following examples is closely related to the term 'Just Transition'?

- a) A company transitioning to renewable energy without any job losses or reskilling programs for its workers.
- b) The establishment of a new coal mine with promises of future investments in renewable energy.
- c) Establishing a wildlife conservation program that restricts local communities from accessing forest resources without providing alternative livelihoods.
- d) A coal-dependent region developing a comprehensive plan involving government, industry, and labour unions to transition to renewable energy.

Q.12) Consider the following:

1. World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
2. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
3. Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
4. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

How many of the above international organizations are actively involved in addressing Human-Animal Conflict?

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

Q.13) Consider the following:

1. Maize
2. Broken rice
3. Wasted fruits
4. Bamboo
5. Mustard seeds

How many of the above can be used for ethanol production?

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

Q.14) Consider the following statements:

1. Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary is a protected area located in the Western Ghats of Kerala.
2. Chenthuruni River flows through the Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary.

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. Ballast water carries invasive species into other countries that destroy ecosystems.
2. The Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention helps to prevent the spread of potentially harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in ships' ballast water.
3. India is one of the signatories of Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.16) Consider the following pairs:

Ramsar Sites-----States

1. Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary-----Tamil Nadu
2. Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary-----Kerala
3. Tawa Reservoir----- Madhya Pradesh

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.17) Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) norms is used in the context of:

- a) Setting the maximum allowable weight for commercial vehicles.
- b) Setting fuel efficiency standards for vehicles to reduce CO2 emissions.
- c) Determining the maximum allowable levels of pollutants in industrial wastewater discharged by manufacturing facilities.
- d) Establishing guidelines for the production and use of alternative fuels.

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

1. Microplastics are defined as natural plastic particles smaller than 1 mm.
2. Microplastics enter the food chain through environmental contamination and can also result from contamination during food processing and packaging.
3. Wheat contains higher concentrations of microplastics compared to other crops.

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

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

Q.19) Consider the following:

1. Ethanol
2. Biodiesel
3. Green hydrogen
4. Natural gas
5. Nuclear energy

How many of the above are considered as Green Fuel?

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

Q.20) Which one of the following is a harmful effect of golden algae blooms?

- a) Production of toxins that kill fish
- b) Reduction of water temperature
- c) Increase in water pH
- d) Decrease in water salinity

Q.21) With reference to Grasslands, which of the following statements are correct?

- 1. They are characterized by sandy soils with no vegetation.
- 2. They are distributed mainly in semiarid and arid area.
- 3. They play a crucial role in carbon storage and nutrient cycling.
- 4. They are crucial habitats for Bengal florican.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India has lower costs for producing solar and wind energy compared to the global average.
- 2. Polysilicon is a major component in solar modules.
- 3. Green ammonia production emits no carbon dioxide.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Ethanol blending can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save India a significant amount in foreign exchange by cutting down on oil imports.
- 2. First-Generation Ethanol (1G) is derived from non-food biomass such as agricultural residues.
- 3. Rice is the primary crop used for ethanol production in India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.24) 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

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Q.25) 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.26) 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.27) 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.28) 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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Pumped Storage Hydropower (PSH) works by pumping water to a higher elevation during times of excess energy production and releasing it to generate electricity when needed, effectively storing and releasing energy as required.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. India has installed pumped storage capacity. For example, the Tehri Dam in Uttarakhand includes a pumped storage component, and there are other such facilities in the country. PSH systems are typically integrated with the grid. They store energy when there is excess generation and release it during periods of high demand, thus supporting grid stability and reliability.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, empowers the Central Government to declare ESZs around protected areas to act as buffers and regulate certain activities to protect the environment.
- Statements 2, 3 and 4 are incorrect. Agriculture, along with horticultural practices, rainwater harvesting, and organic farming, is generally permitted in ESZs. The UNFCCC primarily focuses on climate change and its impacts rather than directly on biodiversity conservation or the protection of ESAs. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is more aligned with biodiversity conservation efforts. The criteria for designating ESAs focus on ecological significance, such as the presence of endemic species, unique landscapes, and critical habitats.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- In natural farming, the philosophy is to avoid any external inputs, including compost, and rely entirely on natural processes and local resources. Organic farming, on the other hand, allows and often encourages the use of organic fertilizers such as compost to enhance soil fertility.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Saltwater flooding:** This can cause significant tissue death in coastal plants, impacting their overall health and resilience.
- **Microplastics:** These primarily impact plant reproduction and can alter growth and photosynthetic efficiency, thereby affecting the plants' ability to capture water, nutrients, and sunlight.
- **Sea waves:** These contribute to coastal erosion and can affect the root systems and stability of coastal plants, thereby impacting their growth and survival.

Source: [DD News](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Sloth bears are one of the eight bear species found globally. These bears have long, shaggy dark brown or black fur and curved claws, which are the longest among bear species. Sloth bears are primarily nocturnal, meaning they are most active during the night. Sloth bears are found in India. They inhabit various forested areas and grasslands across the country. Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary in Karnataka and the Jessore Sloth Bear Sanctuary in Gujarat are dedicated sanctuary for sloth bears.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Sloth bears are listed as "Vulnerable" on the IUCN Red List.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

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6. Correct Answer is (D)

- **Nitrogen fixation:** Albizia lebbeck is capable of fixing nitrogen from the atmosphere, which helps to enrich the soil and support other plant species.
- **Carbon sequestration:** Albizia lebbeck plays a role in carbon sequestration, as it is a tree that absorbs carbon dioxide during photosynthesis and stores carbon in its biomass.
- **Soil erosion prevention:** Albizia lebbeck helps in soil conservation and erosion control, particularly in areas prone to landslides.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Desertification is the process by which fertile land becomes desert, often due to factors like drought, deforestation, and improper agricultural practices. While deforestation can contribute to desertification, desertification itself is not a cause of deforestation. Crop rotation is an agricultural practice that involves growing different types of crops in the same area in sequenced seasons to improve soil health and reduce pests and diseases. It is generally considered a sustainable practice and is not a major contributor to deforestation. However, slash-and-burn agriculture is a major contributor to deforestation in tropical regions.
- Statements 3 and 4 are correct. Deforestation leads to the release of stored carbon dioxide in trees back into the atmosphere, contributing to global warming and climate change. Recent studies suggest that selective logging and wildfires can have significant adverse impacts on the climate, sometimes even more than deforestation, due to the ongoing and widespread nature of these activities.

Source: [DD News](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system and the largest living structure on Earth, composed of over 2,900 individual reefs and 900 islands stretching for over 2,300 kilometres.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Ocean acidification affects corals by reducing the availability of calcium carbonate, which corals need to build their skeletons. It does not directly reduce the amount of oxygen in the water. Coral bleaching is primarily caused by increased sea temperatures, which stress the corals and cause them to expel the symbiotic algae living in their tissues. The most critical consequence of coral bleaching is the loss of coral health and biodiversity. Bleached corals are more susceptible to disease and death, which can lead to the collapse of the entire reef ecosystem. This negatively affects fish populations and other marine life that depend on healthy coral reefs for habitat and food.

Source: [DD News](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Fly ash contains oxides of silicon, aluminium, iron, calcium, and magnesium, among other elements. Incorporating fly ash into concrete reduces the demand for cement, thereby lowering CO₂ emissions from cement production.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. Fly ash is primarily produced as a byproduct of burning coal in power plants. While improper disposal of fly ash can lead to environmental contamination, it is not directly linked to ozone layer depletion. Ozone depletion is primarily caused by substances like chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). Improper disposal of fly ash can lead to groundwater contamination due to the leaching of toxic compounds and heavy metals. Fly ash is a byproduct of coal combustion and is not used as fuel. It has various applications in construction and manufacturing, but not as a fuel source.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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10. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The approval process for any non-forestry activities on forest land, including in wildlife sanctuaries, is governed by the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. This act mandates that any conversion of forest land to non-forest purposes requires prior approval from the Central Government. The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 ensures that any such activities are regulated to prevent deforestation and to protect forest ecosystems. The Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW) is the statutory authority who exercises complete administrative control over Protected Areas within a state.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, mandates that any non-forestry activity on forest land requires prior approval from the Central Government.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (D)

- Just Transition involves a fair and equitable shift from fossil fuels to cleaner energy sources. It emphasizes the importance of collaboration between different stakeholders to address the social and economic challenges associated with the transition. This approach involves collaboration between government, industry, and labour unions to ensure that workers and communities affected by the transition are supported through job retraining, financial assistance, and other measures to mitigate the social and economic impacts. This ensures that the shift to renewable energy is fair and equitable for all stakeholders involved.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (D)

- All four of the international organizations – World Wildlife Fund (WWF), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)—are actively involved in addressing Human-Animal Conflict.

Source: [DD News](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)

- Mustard seeds are not used for ethanol production. They are more commonly associated with biodiesel production and other industrial uses. Ethanol production requires feedstocks that are rich in fermentable sugars or starches, such as maize, sugarcane, or broken rice. Mustard seeds do not have significant amounts of these components, making them unsuitable for ethanol production.

Source: [AIR](#)

14. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the Western Ghats, in the Kollam district of Kerala. The sanctuary is located on either side of the Shendurney River, which is also referred to as the Chenthuruni River. It features a mix of evergreen and deciduous forests, along with rolling hills, streams, and rivers, creating a lush and diverse landscape. *Asceua tertia* is a newly identified species of ground-dwelling spider, discovered in the Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Ballast water can introduce invasive marine species to new environments, which can have devastating effects on local ecosystems. The BWM Convention aims to prevent the spread of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens by establishing standards and procedures for managing and controlling ships' ballast water and sediments.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. India is not one of the signatories of the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary** – The Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary is located in Tamil Nadu. It is a large shallow wetland that serves as a crucial habitat for a variety of species. The sanctuary acts as a feeding and nesting habitat for resident bird species and is an important feeding ground for migratory birds during their seasonal movements. The sanctuary has been designated as a Ramsar site.
- **Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary** – The Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary is located in Tamil Nadu. The Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary covers an area of 51.56 square kilometers and includes a brackish shallow lake connected to the Bay of Bengal. It is situated on the Central Asian Flyway, making it an important stopover site for migratory bird species. It is also a Ramsar site.
- **Tawa Reservoir** – The Tawa Reservoir is located in Madhya Pradesh. The Tawa Reservoir is formed by the confluence of the Tawa and Denwa rivers and is located within the Satpura Tiger Reserve. It serves as an important habitat for aquatic flora and fauna, including many rare and endangered species of plants, reptiles, and insects. The reservoir is a vital habitat for local and migratory birds. It has been designated as a Ramsar site.

Source: [AIR](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) norms are regulations that set fuel efficiency standards for vehicles. These standards are designed to improve the average fuel economy of cars and light trucks, thereby reducing fuel consumption and lowering greenhouse gas emissions like CO₂. CAFE standards encourage automakers to produce more fuel-efficient vehicles, which helps in reducing the environmental impact of transportation and decreasing reliance on fossil fuels.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Microplastics are not defined as natural particles; they are synthetic. Microplastics are small plastic fragments that result from the breakdown of larger plastic debris or are manufactured at a small size. Microplastics are generally defined as plastic particles less than 5 mm in diameter. Studies have shown that crops like wheat and lettuce tend to have lower concentrations of microplastics compared to the surrounding soil. Root vegetables like carrots are more likely to contain higher concentrations of microplastics compared to other crops. This is because most plastic particles accumulate in plant roots.
- Statement 2 is correct. Microplastics can enter the food chain through contamination during food processing and packaging. However, a significant entry point for microplastics into the food chain is environmental contamination. Microplastics are prevalent in oceans, rivers, and soils, where they can be ingested by marine and terrestrial organisms. These organisms are then consumed by larger animals and eventually humans, integrating microplastics into the food chain.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Natural Gas:** Natural gas is a fossil fuel and is not considered a green fuel. Although it burns cleaner than coal or oil, it is non-renewable and the extraction process can result in significant methane emissions, a potent greenhouse gas.
- **Nuclear Energy:** While nuclear energy is a low-carbon energy source, it is not classified as a green fuel because the uranium used in nuclear reactors is non-renewable.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (A)

- Golden algae, specifically *Prymnesium parvum*, produce toxins that are harmful to gill-breathing organisms such as fish, leading to significant fish kills. These toxins disrupt the respiration process in fish, causing them to die from asphyxiation. The harmful effect of golden algae blooms is production of toxins that kill fish.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Grasslands are characterized by vast open areas dominated by grasses and have very few trees. They are ecosystems with significant vegetation, primarily grasses, and are not barren or devoid of vegetation.
- Statements 2, 3 and 4 are correct. Grasslands are often found in regions with limited rainfall, which prevents the growth of forests and supports grass dominance. They are typically located in areas that are not dry enough to become deserts but not wet enough to support forests. Grasslands are important for carbon storage and nutrient cycling. They contribute to biogeochemical cycles and help regulate climate by storing carbon in their soils. The Bengal florican is a bird species that inhabits grassland habitats, making these ecosystems crucial for its survival. The Kachchh district in Gujarat, India, is home to one of the country's largest grassland areas, known as Banni.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. India benefits from lower costs in solar photovoltaic (PV) and wind energy compared to global averages, making it a competitive player in renewable energy production. Polysilicon is a fundamental material used in the production of solar cells, which are essential components of solar panels. India is set to establish its first polysilicon manufacturing unit, which will help reduce the cost of solar modules. Green ammonia is produced using renewable energy sources and does not emit carbon dioxide during its production process. Green ammonia can be used as a zero-carbon fuel in the maritime industry. Green ammonia is produced using hydrogen obtained through water electrolysis and nitrogen separated from the air, utilizing renewable energy sources. Green ammonia can be used as an alternative fuel for internal combustion engines, offering a zero-carbon emission option for transportation and energy sectors.

Source: [DD News](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Ethanol blending reduces greenhouse gas emissions and helps India save on foreign exchange by reducing oil imports.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. First-Generation Ethanol (1G) is produced from sugar or starch-based feedstocks like corn, wheat, sugarcane, and beet, not from non-food biomass. Sugarcane is the primary crop used for ethanol production in India, with ethanol being a byproduct of the sugar-making process.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. 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](#)

25. 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

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to climate action. Brazil is the top oil producer in Latin America, with significant production from its offshore pre-salt oil reserves.

Source: [AIR](#)

26. 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](#)

27. 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 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](#)

28. 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

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the military exercise 'Tarang Shakti 2024':

1. It aims to showcase India's defence capabilities and enhance cooperation among the participating militaries.
2. The exercise will be conducted in two phases.
3. Australia, Bangladesh, Greece, and Singapore will participate in phase one of Tarang Shakti 2024.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Consider the following:

1. Enhancing security
2. Increasing transaction speed
3. Reducing operational costs
4. Strengthening privacy

How many of the above are benefits of Alternative Factor Authentication (AFA)?

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. India has the fourth highest lung cancer cases in the world.
2. Smoking tobacco is the main risk factor for lung cancer.
3. India lacks a proper screening mechanism for lung cancer.

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

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

Q.4) Which one of the following is a common cause of 'Encephalitis'?

- a) Bacterial infection
- b) Viral infection
- c) Fungal infection
- d) Parasitic infection

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India faces double burden of malnutrition.

Statement-II: Urban areas in India have poor dietary habits and lifestyle routine.

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.6) With reference to the Axiom-4 mission, consider the following statements:

1. It will be India's first mission to Mars.
2. It will be a purely robotic mission.
3. It is a joint mission by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and European Space Agency (ESA).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

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Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The primary goal of the National Research Foundation (NRF) is to generate profit from funded research projects.
2. The Union Budget 2024-25 has increased the budget allocation to scientific Research & Development.

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

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

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Lithium-ion batteries are widely used in electric vehicles, mobile devices, and energy storage systems.
2. Chile is the largest lithium producer in the world.
3. In India, lithium reserves have been discovered, but extraction has not yet begun.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.9) A quartz clock is different from an atomic clock in terms of:

- a) The type of power source used.
- b) The accuracy and precision of timekeeping.
- c) The size and weight of the device.
- d) The ability to display different time zones.

Q.10) Sucralose is considered a non-caloric sweetener because:

- a) It is metabolized very slowly by the body.
- b) It is not metabolized by the body and is excreted unchanged.
- c) It is broken down into glucose and fructose.
- d) It contains fewer carbohydrates than sucrose.

Q.11) With reference to the Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar award, consider the following statements:

1. It recognizes and honour outstanding and inspiring scientific, technological, and innovation contributions by researchers, technologists, and innovators.
2. Medicine, Agriculture, Environmental Science, and Technology are some of the categories available for the award.
3. Both Indian citizens and foreign nationals are eligible for the award.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

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Q.12) Consider the following statements:

1. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has the authority to declare a disaster as a national calamity in India.
2. Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) is followed by India for disaster risk reduction.

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

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

Q.13) Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the Kavach system used in Railways?

- a) It has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- b) Kavach system communicates with trains through satellite communication.
- c) Kavach is designed only for high-speed trains and cannot be used on regular passenger trains.
- d) It regulates the train's speed according to permissible limits.

Q.14) The primary objective of 'Operation Dudhi' was to:

- a) Prevent smuggling of wildlife and forest products
- b) Conduct a counter-insurgency operation against militants
- c) Evacuate Indian citizens from a conflict zone
- d) Incorporate Portuguese territories into India

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

1. The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) grants approval for clinical trials of drugs in India.
2. Certain drugs that have been approved in the U.S. are exempted from undergoing additional clinical trials in India.
3. The Central Government may waive local clinical trials for new drugs in India if the drug is a generic version of an existing drug.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.16) With reference to deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA), consider the following statements:

1. It carries all the information needed for the body's structure, appearance, and functions.
2. It is present in every cell of the human body.
3. The amount of DNA can vary between different biological sources.
4. Short Sequence Arrays (SSAs) helps to distinguish one person's DNA from another's.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.17) 'BPAL regimen' is a type of treatment used for:

- a) Viral infections
- b) Tuberculosis
- c) Diabetes management
- d) Bacterial infections

Q.18) Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE)?

- a) It is the measure of how much nitrogen is absorbed by the soil from fertilizers.
- b) High NUE always results in the highest crop yields.
- c) Leguminous plants have lower NUE compared to non-leguminous plants.
- d) It is the ratio of nitrogen absorbed by the plant to the total nitrogen applied to the soil.

Q.19) With reference to the military exercise Udara Shakti, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a joint military exercise between India and Malaysia.
- 2. F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft was used in the exercise.
- 3. The Udara Shakti 2024 exercise was conducted at Chennai, India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.20) Which one of the following finds applications of 'Bioinformatics'?

- a) Developing new synthetic fertilizers.
- b) Analyzing genetic sequences to understand disease mechanisms.
- c) Designing architectural structures.
- d) Storing physical samples in biological laboratories.

Q.21) Which one of the following best explain the term 'Deepfakes'?

- a) A type of deep learning algorithm used for image recognition.
- b) A technique for creating fake audio or video content.
- c) A form of encryption used to protect sensitive data.
- d) A new programming language for developing artificial intelligence applications.

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India has become the fourth country to reach moon's southern polar region.
- 2. India has established Indian National Satellite System (INSAT) for resource management and disaster monitoring.

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.23) The primary purpose of the Defence Research and Development Organisation's (DRDO's) Long Range Glide Bomb (LRGB) 'GAURAV' is to:

- a) Provide close air support for ground troops
- b) Accurately strike distant targets while minimizing risk to the launching aircraft
- c) Intercept and destroy enemy aircraft
- d) Conduct electronic warfare and jamming operations

Q.24) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) will be operationalised for basic research and prototype development.

Statement-II: The Indian government is interested in supporting research that can be turned into marketable products.

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

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

Q.25) With reference to the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), consider the following statements:

- 1. The primary purpose of NLEM is to promote the export of Indian pharmaceuticals ensuring that they are available at affordable costs and with assured quality.
- 2. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) is responsible for capping the prices of medicines listed in the NLEM.

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

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

Q.26) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Space weather refers to the conditions and phenomena in space that are influenced by the Sun's activity.
- 2. Supergranular cells are a pattern of convection cells found on the Sun's photosphere.
- 3. The solar cycle refers to the changes in the Sun's temperature after the solar minimum.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.27) With reference to the mpox, consider the following statements:

- 1. It causes flu-like symptoms and pus-filled lesions on the body.
- 2. Mpox virus is primarily transmitted through contaminated food.

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

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

Q.28) How many of the following statements are correct regarding the National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS)?

1. It aims to provide timely and precise pest management advisories to farmers.
2. The role of Artificial intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) in the NPSS is to detect crop issues and provide timely information to farmers.
3. 'Farmer's Friend' is the name of the AI-powered chatbot developed by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare to assist farmers.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.29) With reference to the bacterium Wolbachia, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. They do not harm humans or animals.
2. Wolbachia is introduced into the Aedes mosquitoes through the process of genetic engineering.

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.30) Consider the following statements regarding the EOS-08 Mission, recently launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO):

1. It is designed to improve Earth observation capabilities.
2. Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) payload is a part of the EOS-08 satellite.
3. The EOS-08 satellite operates in a Circular Low Earth Orbit.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.31) With reference to the Krishi-Decision Support System (DSS), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to provide real-time data for crop management, productivity enhancement, and disaster warnings in agriculture.
2. It leverages blockchain technology to provide comprehensive agricultural management solutions.
3. It promotes sustainable agriculture by helping stakeholders understand cropping patterns and encouraging the cultivation of diverse crops through crop mapping and monitoring.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.32) Consider the following statements:

1. The three foundational pillars of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in India are e-governance, digital literacy, and internet connectivity.
2. Under India's presidency of the G-20, the first-ever multilateral agreement on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) was achieved with the establishment of a Global DPI Repository.

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

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

Q.33) The primary objective of the 'Bhavishya' software is to:

- a) Manage government employee's attendance
- b) Track pension sanction and payment processes
- c) Facilitate online tax filing
- d) Monitor government project deadlines

Q.34) Operation Parakram' was aimed at:

- a) Annexing Pakistan-occupied Kashmir
- b) Conducting joint military exercises with the United States
- c) Pressuring Pakistan to take action against cross-border terrorism
- d) Establishing an independent Khalistan state

Q.35) Consider the following statements:

1. The Gaganyaan mission is aimed at launching a satellite network for global internet coverage and enhancing connectivity worldwide.
2. The Samudrayaan mission is India's first manned ocean mission, focusing on exploring deep-sea resources such as metals, minerals, and biodiversity.
3. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is responsible for developing the technology for the Samudrayaan mission.

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

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

Q.36) Consider the following statements:

1. A vaccine-derived poliovirus (VDPV) is a strain of poliovirus that has been genetically engineered to be more effective.
2. India has been declared polio-free by the World Health Organization (WHO).

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

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

Q.37) Which one of the following statements correctly explains the 'Fourth Industrial Revolution'?

- a) It involves the convergence of digital, biological, and physical technologies, driving the creation of smart factories and AI-driven decision-making.
- b) It focuses on the automation of manufacturing processes using advanced machinery and minimal human intervention.
- c) It refers to the widespread adoption of renewable energy technologies, aiming to replace fossil fuels and reduce carbon emissions globally.
- d) It is driven by the proliferation of e-commerce and online platforms, leading to a transformation in global trade and consumer behaviour.

Q.38) Consider the following statements:

1. Sun's magnetic fields help move energy and matter from the Sun's inner layers to its outer layers.
2. The Sun's magnetic field maintains a consistent strength from its surface to its outermost layers.

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

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

Q.39) Consider the following statements:

1. Polioviruses are mainly spread through the faecal-oral route.
2. The oral polio vaccine (OPV) contains a live but weakened virus that is used to immunize people against polio.
3. The Indian government does not consider vaccine-associated paralytic poliomyelitis (VAPP) to be polio.

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.40) Consider the following pairs:

Missions-----Objective

1. Aditya L1----- Focused on studying the solar atmosphere and solar magnetic storms
2. Gaganyaan TV-D1----- Enhances meteorological observations and weather forecasting
3. XPoSAt----- Dedicated to measuring X-ray polarization from celestial sources
4. INSAT-3DS----- Aims to test the Crew Escape System for human spaceflight safety

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.41) 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.42) 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.43) 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.44) 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.45) 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.46) 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.47) '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.48) 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.49) 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.50) 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.51) 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.52) 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 - (b)	3 - (d)	4 - (b)	5 - (b)	6 - (d)	7 - (b)	8 - (b)	9 - (b)
10 - (b)	11 - (b)	12 - (b)	13 - (d)	14 - (b)	15 - (b)	16 - (b)	17 - (b)	18 - (d)
19 - (a)	20 - (b)	21 - (b)	22 - (d)	23 - (b)	24 - (a)	25 - (b)	26 - (a)	27 - (a)
28 - (b)	29 - (a)	30 - (c)	31 - (c)	32 - (b)	33 - (b)	34 - (c)	35 - (b)	36 - (b)
37 - (a)	38 - (a)	39 - (d)	40 - (a)	41 - (b)	42 - (a)	43 - (b)	44 - (a)	45 - (a)
46 - (b)	47 - (b)	48 - (a)	49 - (b)	50 - (b)	51 - (b)	52 - (b)		

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India is set to host its first multinational air exercise, 'Tarang Shakti 2024', in two phases starting on August 6th in Sular, Tamil Nadu. The first phase is to be held in Sular, Tamil Nadu, from 6th to 14th August, and the second phase in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, from 29th August to 14th September. The exercise aims to showcase India's defence capabilities and enhance cooperation among the participating militaries.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Phase one will see participation from France, Germany, Spain, and the United Kingdom, while phase two will include Australia, Bangladesh, Greece, Singapore, UAE, and the USA.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Enhancing security:** This is a primary benefit of AFA. By requiring an additional, dynamically created authentication factor, AFA significantly enhances the security of digital transactions.
- **Increasing transaction speed:** AFA typically involves additional steps for authentication, which might actually slow down the transaction process rather than speed it up. Therefore, increasing transaction speed is not a benefit of AFA.
- **Reducing operational costs:** Implementing AFA usually involves additional technology and processes, which might initially increase operational costs. While it could potentially reduce costs associated with fraud over time, this is not a direct or immediate benefit.
- **Strengthening privacy:** AFA can help strengthen privacy by ensuring that only authorized users can complete transactions, thereby protecting personal and financial information.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Lung cancer is the most common type of cancer and the leading cause of cancer-related deaths worldwide. In India, lung cancer rates are increasing rapidly, contributing to 10% of cancer deaths. India is the fourth highest in the world for lung cancer cases. Smoking tobacco is the main risk factor for lung cancer. In India, lung cancer is usually detected only at advanced stages (Stage 3 or 4), when it's no longer curable, leading to poor survival rates. Many patients already have cancer spread to other parts of the body by the time

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it's diagnosed. This delay is often due to inadequate screening, lack of resources, and a high rate of tuberculosis (TB), which can make it harder for primary care doctors to identify lung cancer.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Encephalitis is the inflammation of the active tissues of the brain, leading to swelling. This condition can be life-threatening and requires prompt medical attention. Viral infections are the most common cause of encephalitis. While bacterial, fungal, and parasitic infections can also cause encephalitis, they are less frequent compared to viral causes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement I is correct. India faces a double burden of malnutrition, characterized by the coexistence of undernutrition (such as stunting, wasting, and underweight) and overnutrition (such as overweight and obesity).
- Statement-II is correct. Urban areas in India are experiencing a shift towards poor dietary habits and lifestyle routines, including increased consumption of processed and high-calorie foods, sedentary lifestyles, and other factors contributing to the rise in overweight and obesity.
- However, poor dietary habits and lifestyle routines in urban areas do not explain the double burden of malnutrition across the entire country. The double burden includes issues in both urban and rural areas, with undernutrition more prevalent in rural areas and overnutrition more common in urban settings.
- Therefore, Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Axiom-4 mission is a mission to the International Space Station (ISS), involving Indian astronauts training for and participating in a space mission in collaboration with NASA and Axiom Space. The mission involves human astronauts, specifically Indian astronauts who will be trained and participate in the mission to the ISS. The Axiom-4 mission is a collaboration between ISRO and NASA. The Axiom-4 mission is the fourth private astronaut mission to the ISS.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary goal of the NRF is to promote and support research and innovation for societal, scientific, and technological advancement, not to generate profit. The NRF aims to enhance research funding, promote interdisciplinary research, and address national development challenges.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Union Budget 2024-25 has increased the budget allocation to scientific Research & Development. For example, the budget for the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) has increased by 2% over the previous year. There has also been a 10% increase in the CSIR budget.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Lithium-ion batteries are widely used in electric vehicles, mobile devices, and energy storage systems due to their high energy density and long lifespan. Lithium reserves have been discovered in India, particularly in Jammu & Kashmir, but extraction has not yet commenced.

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- Statement 2 is incorrect. Australia is currently the largest producer of lithium in the world, followed by Chile. Chile is home to half of the viable lithium reserves globally and is the world's second-largest lithium producer. It accounts for about 36% of the global trade.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Quartz clocks are accurate to within a few seconds per month, relying on the consistent oscillation of a quartz crystal. Atomic clocks, on the other hand, are far more accurate and precise, with deviations of only a few billionths of a second per day. Atomic clocks use the vibrations of atoms (such as cesium or hydrogen) to keep time, which provides a much higher level of accuracy and stability.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- Sucralose is a chemically modified form of sucrose, where three hydroxyl groups are replaced with chlorine atoms. This alteration makes sucralose much sweeter than sucrose (table sugar)—approximately 600 times sweeter—while also rendering it resistant to metabolism by the human body. When sucralose is consumed, it passes through the digestive system largely unchanged. The body does not break it down for energy, so it is not absorbed into the bloodstream to any significant extent. Instead, it is excreted unchanged in the urine. This lack of metabolism means that sucralose does not provide calories or contribute to blood glucose levels, making it an effective non-caloric sweetener for people looking to reduce their caloric intake or manage their blood sugar levels.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar aims to recognize notable and inspiring contributions made by scientists, technologists, and innovators in various fields of science, technology, and technology-led innovation. Medicine, Agriculture, Environmental Science, and Technology are some of the categories available for the award. The award covers a broader range of 13 domains, including Physics, Chemistry, Biological Sciences, Mathematics & Computer Science, Earth Science, Engineering Sciences, Atomic Energy, Space Science and Technology, and others.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The award is specifically designed for Indian citizens and persons of Indian origin residing abroad who have made exceptional contributions benefiting Indian communities or society. Foreign nationals are not eligible.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The NDMA does not have the authority to declare a disaster as a national calamity. There is no legal or executive provision in India to declare a natural calamity as a national calamity. This authority lies with the central government, which takes such decisions based on various factors and inputs from the NDMA and other relevant agencies.
- Statement 2 is correct. India follows the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) for its disaster risk reduction strategies. The framework emphasizes understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk governance, investing in disaster risk reduction, and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery.

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (D)

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- Kavach has been developed by the Research Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO) in collaboration with Indian Railways. Kavach uses ultra-high frequency radio communication and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) for communication. Kavach is designed to be used on both high-speed and regular passenger trains. Kavach automatically applies brakes if the train passes a signal at danger (red signal) or if it detects another train on the same track. It also regulates the train's speed according to permissible limits. The system adheres to SIL-4 standards, which is the highest level of safety integrity, ensuring an extremely low probability of failure. The system features centralized live monitoring of train movements through the Network Monitoring System (NMS). It is one of the least expensive automatic train collision prevention technologies, making it a cost-effective solution for Indian Railways. It is an indigenously developed Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system by Indian Railways.

Source: [AIR](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

- Operation Dudhi was a counter-insurgency operation carried out by the Assam Rifles in Jammu and Kashmir, where they successfully eliminated 72 militants, making it one of the most successful operations of its kind in India's history.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The DCGI, who heads the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), is responsible for reviewing and approving clinical trial applications for new drugs in India. Whereas, Clinical Trials Registry - India (CTRI) is responsible for the registration of clinical trials in India. The Indian government has waived the requirement for local clinical trials for certain drugs that have been approved in countries like the U.S., U.K., Japan, Australia, Canada, and the European Union, provided they fall into specific categories such as orphan drugs for rare diseases, gene and cellular therapy products, and others.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Generic drugs are copies of already approved brand-name drugs. They undergo their own set of tests to prove bioequivalence but do not require full-scale clinical trials like new drugs. The waivers are primarily for new drugs with significant therapeutic advances or those used in specific situations like pandemics or rare diseases.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. DNA, or deoxyribonucleic acid, is the genetic material found in the nuclei of cells in living organisms. DNA carries all the information needed for the body's structure, appearance, and functions, encoded in sequences of four chemical bases: Adenine (A), Guanine (G), Thymine (T), and Cytosine (C), along with a sugar-phosphate backbone. The quantity of DNA can vary depending on the biological material. Blood and saliva are generally richer sources of DNA, whereas teeth and hair roots typically contain less DNA. It is to note that the amount of DNA does not vary significantly from one somatic cell to another. However, the amount of DNA varies between different biological sources.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. DNA is present in almost every cell of the human body, except for mature red blood cells. Short Tandem Repeats (STRs) help to distinguish one person's DNA from another's.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- BPaL (Bedaquiline, Pretomanid, Linezolid) regimen is a groundbreaking treatment for multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB). This regimen includes three drugs: bedaquiline (B), pretomanid (Pa), and linezolid (L). The BPaL regimen reduces the treatment duration from the traditional 18-24 months to just 6 months.

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Unlike older regimens that required multiple drugs, including injectables, BPaL is an all-oral regimen, making it easier for patients to adhere to the treatment. The World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended the BPaL regimen as a treatment option for most forms of drug-resistant TB.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (D)

- NUE is a key metric in agriculture that measures how effectively a plant utilizes the nitrogen available to it. This includes nitrogen from both natural sources (like organic matter in the soil) and artificial sources (such as fertilizers). It is calculated by taking the amount of nitrogen that the plant actually absorbs and uses for growth and dividing it by the total amount of nitrogen that was applied to the soil. This gives an indication of how much of the applied nitrogen is being effectively used by the plant.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The exercise Udara Shakti is a joint military exercise between the Indian Air Force and the Royal Malaysian Air Force, conducted in Malaysia.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The exercise involved the Su-30 fighter jets from both the Indian and Malaysian air forces. The exercise was conducted at Kuantan, Malaysia.

Source: [AIR](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- Bioinformatics is extensively used to analyze genetic sequences, which helps in understanding the mechanisms of diseases, identifying genetic variations, and developing targeted treatments. Bioinformatics involves using computer technology to collect, store, analyze, and interpret biological data. This includes data related to DNA, RNA, and protein sequences. The main goal of bioinformatics is to increase our understanding of biological processes and systems. It is used to tailor medical treatments to individuals based on their genetic makeup, helping predict disease susceptibility and response to treatments. Bioinformatics and machine learning are used to analyze complex data and provide personalized nutrition advice (Precision nutrition).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Deepfakes are a type of synthetic media where artificial intelligence techniques are used to replace a person in an existing image or video with someone else's likeness. This technology relies on deep learning algorithms and neural networks to analyze and learn the facial features and expressions of the target person, allowing for the realistic synthesis of fake audio-visual content.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. India became the fourth country to land on the moon and the first to reach its southern polar region. The INSAT system is primarily used for telecommunications, broadcasting, meteorology, and search and rescue operations. Whereas, Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) satellites are used for resource management and disaster monitoring. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced August 23 as "National Space Day." India is celebrating its maiden National Space Day on August 23 with the theme "Touching Lives while Touching the Moon: India's Space Saga."

Source: [AIR](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

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- The GAURAV is designed as an air-launched glide bomb capable of hitting targets at long distances with high accuracy using a sophisticated navigation system. It is intended to enhance India's defence capabilities by allowing precise strikes from a safe distance, thereby minimizing the risk to the aircraft launching it.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement-I: The ANRF is intended to support basic research and prototype development, as indicated by the government's plans to operationalize it for these purposes.
- Statement-II: The Indian government has shown interest in supporting research that can lead to marketable products, as evidenced by its emphasis on prototype development and the encouragement of private sector involvement in research funding.
- Hence, the ANRF's focus on prototype development aligns with the government's interest in turning research into marketable products. This suggests that the government's broader interest in commercializing research supports the operational goals of the ANRF.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary purpose of the NLEM is not to promote the export of pharmaceuticals but to ensure the availability of essential medicines that satisfy the priority healthcare needs of the population at affordable costs and with assured quality within the country. The focus is on rational use, cost-effectiveness, and accessibility of medicines for the domestic population.
- Statement 2 is correct. The NPPA is responsible for fixing and regulating the prices of medicines listed in the NLEM to ensure they are available at affordable rates.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Space weather is influenced by solar activity, including solar wind, solar flares, and coronal mass ejections, which can affect the Earth's magnetosphere and technological systems. Supergranular cells are large convection patterns on the Sun's photosphere, characterized by horizontal flows and a typical size of about 30,000 kilometers.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The solar cycle refers to the approximately 11-year cycle of changes in the Sun's magnetic activity, including variations in sunspot numbers, solar radiation, and solar flares.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Mpox (formerly known as monkeypox) causes flu-like symptoms such as fever, chills, muscle aches, and swollen lymph nodes. It also leads to a rash that progresses through stages, eventually forming pus-filled lesions (pustules) before scabbing over and healing. The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared mpox a global public health emergency for the second time in two years. The health emergency declaration came following an outbreak of the viral infection in the Democratic Republic of Congo which subsequently spread to neighbouring countries including Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Mpox is primarily transmitted through close contact with an infected person or animal, or through contact with contaminated materials such as bedding. It can also spread through respiratory droplets during prolonged face-to-face contact.

Source: [AIR](#)

28. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The NPSS is designed to offer timely and precise pest management advisories to farmers using digital technologies like AI and ML. It aims to reduce

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farmers' reliance on pesticide retailers and encourage a scientific approach to pest management. By analyzing data with AI tools, the system helps in effective pest control and management. Farmers can take photos of crops affected by pests and send them to experts through the system. This helps in diagnosing and treating pest issues accurately and timely. AI and ML are used in the NPSS to analyze data, detect pest issues, and provide timely information and advisories to farmers.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. "Kisan e-Mitra" is the name of the AI-powered chatbot developed by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare to assist farmers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Wolbachia is safe for humans and animals, as it cannot make people or animals sick. It naturally occurs in many insects but not in Aedes mosquitoes. Wolbachia can have a symbiotic relationship with its host, offering benefits like resistance to viral infections (mutualism) but also potentially harming the host by reducing its lifespan (parasitism). Wolbachia could help fruit flies resist viral infections.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Wolbachia is introduced into Aedes mosquitoes through a process called transinfection, which does not involve genetic engineering. The genetic material of the mosquito is not altered, and therefore, it is not considered genetic modification.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The EOS-08 satellite is an Earth Observation Satellite designed to enhance capabilities in monitoring and observing the Earth's environment, as indicated by its advanced payloads for satellite-based surveillance and environmental monitoring. The EOS-08 satellite is designed to operate in a Circular Low Earth Orbit at an altitude of 475 km.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The EOS-08 satellite carries three primary payloads: the Electro Optical Infrared Payload (EOIR), the Global Navigation Satellite System-Reflectometry payload (GNSS-R), and the SiC UV Dosimeter.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Krishi-DSS provides real-time data-driven insights on weather patterns, soil conditions, crop health, and more, which are essential for crop management, enhancing productivity, and issuing disaster warnings like pest attacks and heavy rain. The Krishi-DSS uses crop mapping and monitoring to analyze cropping patterns, which helps in understanding crop rotation practices and promotes sustainable agriculture by encouraging the cultivation of diverse crops. It has been developed using technology similar to the flagship Gati Shakti initiative to deliver early warnings about potential disasters such as pest attacks and extreme weather events.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Krishi-DSS system primarily uses geo-spatial and satellite technology to provide its services. The platform can be used to monitor drought conditions, providing valuable information for managing water resources and planning agricultural activities. It offers information on weather patterns, soil conditions, crop health, and crop acreage.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The three foundational pillars of DPI in India are digital identity (Aadhaar), real-time fast payment systems (UPI), and data management (Data Empowerment Protection Architecture - DEPA).
- Statement 2 is correct. Under India's G-20 presidency, a Global DPI Repository was established, marking the first multilateral consensus on DPI.

Source: [DD News](#)

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33. Correct Answer is (B)

- The primary objective of the Bhavishya software is to track pension sanction and payment processes. The Bhavishya system is designed to provide online tracking of the pension sanction and payment process for retiring employees and administrative authorities, ensuring transparency and timely disbursement of retirement benefits.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

34. Correct Answer is (C)

- Operation Parakram was a large-scale military mobilization by India in response to the December 2001 terrorist attack on the Indian Parliament. The primary objective was to pressure Pakistan to take decisive action against terrorist groups operating from its soil, such as Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Muhammad, which were believed to be responsible for the attack and other cross-border terrorist activities in India. The operation aimed to demonstrate India's resolve and military preparedness to counter Pakistan's alleged support for terrorism, but stopped short of an outright declaration of war.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The Gaganyaan mission is focused on demonstrating India's capability to conduct human spaceflight to Low Earth Orbit (LEO). The technology for the Samudrayaan mission is being developed by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), which is under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Samudrayaan mission is India's first manned ocean mission, designed to explore deep-sea resources, including metals, minerals, and biodiversity, using a submersible vehicle.

Source: [AIR](#)

36. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Vaccine-derived poliovirus (VDPV) is not genetically engineered to be more effective. Instead, it is a strain that has mutated from the weakened live virus used in the oral polio vaccine (OPV). This mutation can occur in communities with low immunization coverage, leading to a form of the virus that can cause paralysis similar to the wild poliovirus.
- Statement 2 is correct. India was declared polio-free by the WHO in 2014, after reporting no new cases of wild polio for three consecutive years.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Fourth Industrial Revolution represents a fusion of technologies blurring the lines between the physical, digital, and biological spheres. It is marked by advancements such as artificial intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT), robotics, and biotechnology. These innovations enable smart factories where machines communicate and make decisions autonomously, significantly transforming industries and societies.

Source: [AIR](#)

38. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The magnetic fields in the Sun's atmosphere act as channels for transporting energy and mass from the Sun's inner layers to its outer layers, such as the corona.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The magnetic field does not remain constant; it varies with height in the solar atmosphere. The strength and configuration of the magnetic field change as it extends from the photosphere to the chromosphere and into the corona.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

39. Correct Answer is (D)

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- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Polioviruses are primarily transmitted through the fecal-oral route. The OPV contains a live, attenuated (weakened) virus, which is used for immunization against polio. The weakened virus stays in the intestines for a short time and is then excreted in the stool. In very rare cases, the virus can change (or mutate) and regain its ability to cause the disease. When this happens, it's called vaccine-derived poliovirus (VDPV). The Indian government does not consider vaccine-associated paralytic poliomyelitis (VAPP) to be polio because these cases happen infrequently and do not pose much risk to other people.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (A)

- Aditya L1 – The Aditya L1 mission is designed to study the Sun's corona, chromosphere, and photosphere, as well as solar storms and the solar magnetic field.
- Gaganyaan TV-D1 – The Gaganyaan TV-D1 mission is part of India's human spaceflight program and focuses on testing the Crew Escape System for astronaut safety.
- XPoSat – XPoSat is India's mission dedicated to analyzing the polarization of X-rays from bright celestial sources.
- INSAT-3DS – INSAT-3DS is a meteorological satellite aimed at improving weather forecasting and monitoring land and ocean surfaces.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

41. 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](#)

42. 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](#)

43. 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](#)

44. 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](#)

45. 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](#)

46. 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](#)

47. 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](#)

48. 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.

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- 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](#)

49. 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](#)

50. 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](#)

51. 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](#)

52. 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](#)