



10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Monthly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

September, 2024

INDEX

Art & Culture and Ancient India.....	2
Answer Key	4
Answers & Explanations	4
Modern Indian History	6
Answer Key	6
Answers & Explanations	6
Geography	6
Answer Key	8
Answers & Explanations	8
Polity	10
Answer Key	19
Answers & Explanations	19
Acts & Policies.....	28
Answer Key	36
Answers & Explanations	36
Index & Reports.....	44
Answer Key	45
Answers & Explanations	45
International Relations/Organizations.....	46
Answer Key	56
Answers & Explanations	56
Economy.....	66
Answer Key	73
Answers & Explanations	73
Environment.....	81
Answer Key	86
Science & Technology.....	92
Answer Key	100
Answers & Explanations	100

Art & Culture and Ancient India

Q.1) With reference to the Walled City of Jaipur, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, consider the following statements:

1. It was one of the first planned cities in India.
2. The city was laid out according to Vedic architecture principles.
3. Raja Man Singh was the founder of the Walled City of Jaipur.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. The Viharas in India were originally constructed as places for storing Buddhist relics.
2. The architectural design of the Vishwashanti Buddha Vihara is inspired by the entry gate of the Sanchi Stupa.

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) Who among the following presents the National Teachers Award?

- a) The Prime Minister of India
- b) The President of India
- c) The Minister of Education
- d) The Chief Justice of India

Q.4) In which one of the following states is the Nuakhai festival celebrated?

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar (RVP):

1. It is a prestigious national award instituted by the Government of India to recognize outstanding contributions in science, technology, and innovation.
2. The four categories of the Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar are Vigyan Ratna, Vigyan Shri, Vigyan Yuva-Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, and Vigyan Team.
3. Scientists, technologists, and innovators working only in government organizations are eligible for the award.
4. The Prime Minister of India heads the Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar Committee (RVPC) that selects the awardees.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The urn burial tradition in India is primarily associated with the Indus Valley Civilization.
2. The discovery of urn burials in India provides important insights into the trade networks of the Indus Valley Civilization.

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. Lapidary Art
2. Horse Domestication
3. Iron Tools
4. Water Harvesting Methods
5. Underground Drainage Systems
6. Coins

How many of the above are associated with the Indus Valley Civilization?

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

Q.9) Which one of the following best describes Koodiyattam?

- a) A classical dance form from Tamil Nadu that focuses on solo performances.
- b) A traditional martial art form from Andhra Pradesh known for its acrobatic movements.
- c) A classical Sanskrit theatre tradition from Kerala that involves elaborate gestures and expressions.
- d) A folk dance from Karnataka performed during harvest festivals.

Q.10) Which of the following cities in India are part of the Buddhist Circuit?

- a) Bodh Gaya, Sarnath, Kushinagar, and Allahabad
- b) Rajgir, Nalanda, Varanasi, and Ranchi
- c) Sravasti, Vaishali, Bodh Gaya, and Nalanda
- d) Kushinagar, Rajgir, Sanchi, and Hyderabad

Answer Key

1 - (a)	2 - (b)	3 - (b)	4 - (b)	5 - (a)	6 - (b)	7 - (d)	8 - (a)	9 - (c)	10 - (c)
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Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Jaipur is considered one of the first planned cities in modern India. It was designed with a grid layout and developed in a single phase, making it a significant example of early urban planning in India. The city was planned according to principles of Vastu Shastra, which is a traditional Indian system of architecture that aligns with Vedic principles. The planning was done under the guidance of architect Vidyadhar Bhattacharya, incorporating these ancient guidelines. The Walled City of Jaipur is renowned for its distinctive pink-coloured buildings.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Walled City of Jaipur was founded by Sawai Jai Singh II. Sawai Jai Singh II established the city in 1727 as a new capital for his kingdom. In 2019, Jaipur's Walled City was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This recognition highlights its exceptional urban planning and architecture, which reflects a blend of ancient Hindu, Mughal, and Western influences.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Viharas were originally constructed as monasteries or living quarters for Buddhist monks. They served as places for study, meditation, and living, rather than specifically for storing Buddhist relics.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Vishwashanti Buddha Vihara's entry gate is based on the design of the entry gate of the Sanchi Stupa in Madhya Pradesh.

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- The National Teachers' Award is conferred by the President of India. This prestigious award ceremony is held annually on Teachers' Day, which is celebrated on September 5th, marking the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, a former President of India and a renowned educator. The award recognizes and honours the remarkable contributions of teachers who have significantly improved the quality of education and enriched the lives of their students. Each award includes a certificate of merit, a cash prize, and a silver medal, and the awardees are given the opportunity to meet the Prime Minister of India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

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

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The RVP is a prestigious national award established by the Government of India to honor significant contributions in science, technology, and innovation. The RVP includes four categories: Vigyan Ratna for lifetime achievements, Vigyan Shri for distinguished contributions, Vigyan Yuva (which replaces the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize) for young scientists, and Vigyan Team for collaborative efforts.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. The eligibility for the RVP extends to scientists, technologists, and innovators working in both government and private sector organizations, as well as individuals working outside any organization and including those of Indian origin abroad. The Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar Committee (RVPC) is headed by the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The burial customs of the Indus Valley Civilization (IVC) primarily included complete burials, cremation, and partial burials, but not specifically urn burials. Urn burials in India are primarily associated with the Megalithic period, which is generally dated from around 1000 BCE to 300 BCE in South India. These burials are characterized by the use of large stone structures, such as dolmens and cairns, and the placement of urns containing human remains and grave goods beneath these structures. Urn burials are more related to burial practices and cultural aspects rather than trade activities. One of the most famous sites for urn burials in India is Adichanallur, located in present-day Thoothukudi district, Tamil Nadu.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- **Lapidary Art:** The Indus Valley Civilization was known for its exquisite lapidary work, including the crafting of beads and other ornaments from semi-precious stones.
- **Horse Domestication:** There is no substantial evidence that the people of the Indus Valley Civilization domesticated horses.
- **Iron Tools:** The Indus Valley Civilization was a Bronze Age civilization and did not have iron tools.
- **Water Harvesting Methods:** Indus Valley Civilization had advanced water management systems, including reservoirs and wells.
- **Underground Drainage Systems:** The Indus Valley Civilization is renowned for its sophisticated underground drainage systems.
- **Coins:** Indus Valley Civilization did not use coins for trade; they relied on barter systems and standardized weights and measures.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Koodiyattam is a traditional performing art form from Kerala, India. It is known for its combination of ancient Sanskrit theatre with elements of local traditions. It is characterized by its highly stylized acting, elaborate makeup, and symbolic use of costumes, focusing on detailed facial expressions and hand gestures. It has been recognized by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. It is one of the oldest classical theatre forms in the world.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Buddhist Circuit is a network of significant pilgrimage destinations associated with the life and teachings of Gautama Buddha. It spans across India and Nepal, encompassing key sites that hold religious and historical importance for Buddhists worldwide. Sites in the Buddhist Circuit: Bodh Gaya, Sarnath, Kushinagar, Rajgir and Nalanda, Sravasti, Vaishali (India) and Lumbini in Nepal.

Source: [DD News](#)

Modern Indian History

Q.1) Who among the following introduced the concept of 'Antyodaya'?

- a) Dadabhai Naoroji
- b) C. Rajagopalachari
- c) B.R. Ambedkar
- d) Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya

Answer Key

1 - (d)

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (D)

- Antyodaya is a concept and philosophy that emphasizes the upliftment of the most disadvantaged and marginalized individuals in society. The term "Antyodaya" literally translates to "rise of the last person," reflecting a commitment to addressing the needs of those at the bottom of the socio-economic pyramid. The philosophy was popularized by Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya.

Source: [AIR](#)

Geography

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Mediterranean Sea borders Sudan to the northeast.
2. Sudan shares its longest border with Libya.
3. Sudan is located in Southern Africa.

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.5) Demchok and Depsang have been major areas of contention in the border disputes between India and China. Considering this, which one of the following statements is correct?

- a) Depsang is a high-altitude desert, while Demchok is forested
- b) Depsang is a flat plain suitable for tank maneuvers, while Demchok is mountainous
- c) Depsang borders Pakistan as well as China, while Demchok only borders China
- d) Depsang has no water bodies, while Demchok is situated near rivers

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. Fjords are long, narrow inlets with steep sides or cliffs, created by the process of glacial erosion.
2. Seiche is a large oceanic wave generated by underwater volcanic activity.

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

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The Red Sea borders Lebanon to the west.
2. Syria and Israel share land borders with Lebanon.

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) Which of the following countries borders the East China Sea?

- a) China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan
- b) Japan, South Korea, Philippines, Malaysia
- c) China, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia
- d) Taiwan, North Korea, Cambodia, Laos

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. Permafrost is a layer of ice that forms on lakes and rivers.
2. Permafrost thawing releases greenhouse gases like methane and carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

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

1. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. Sudan does not border the Mediterranean Sea. It is located in Northeast Africa and has a coastline along the Red Sea to the northeast. Sudan shares its longest border with South Sudan. Sudan is located in Northeast Africa. It is situated at the crossroads of Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East. Nile River flows through Sudan.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Indian Ocean is connected to the Pacific Ocean through the Indonesian seas, which bring warm water into the Indian Ocean. It is also connected to the Southern Ocean, allowing the exchange of water masses. Vertical wind shear, which is the change in wind speed and direction with altitude, can disrupt the structure of a developing cyclone by tilting and weakening its convective clusters, thereby removing energy from it.

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Bay of Bengal is generally warmer than the Arabian Sea, especially during the pre-monsoon season, which supports the formation of depressions and cyclonic activity.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Depsang Plains are known for their relatively flat terrain, which makes them suitable for military maneuvers, including the movement of tanks. In contrast, Demchok is situated in a more mountainous region with complex terrain. Demchok is situated in the Leh district of Ladakh, India. It lies near the confluence of the Charding Nullah and the Indus River. The Depsang Plains are located in Northern Ladakh, near the strategic Daulat Beg Oldi post and the Karakoram Pass. The plains are part of the Aksai Chin region controlled by China but claimed by India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Fjords are formed by glacial erosion, where glaciers carve out deep U-shaped valleys that are later flooded by seawater once the glaciers retreat.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. A seiche is a standing wave that occurs in an enclosed or partially enclosed body of water, such as lakes, bays, or fjords. It is caused by factors like atmospheric pressure changes, seismic activity (such as earthquakes), or tsunamis.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Lebanon is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea to the west.
- Statement 2 is correct. Lebanon shares a border with Syria to the north and east and with Israel to the south.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- The East China Sea is a marginal sea located to the east of China. It is bordered by China to the west, Japan to the east, South Korea to the north, and Taiwan to the south.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Permafrost is a permanently frozen layer of soil, rock, or sediment that remains below 0°C for at least two consecutive years. It consists of soil, gravel, and sand bound together by ice. It is found beneath the Earth's surface rather than on bodies of water like lakes and rivers.
- Statement 2 is correct. When permafrost thaws, the organic material within it begins to decompose, releasing greenhouse gases such as methane and carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Polity

Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to LGBTQIA+:

1. The Supreme Court of India has recognised same-sex marriages as a constitutional right.
2. The LGBTQIA+ couples can avail the facilities of ration card.
3. The LGBTQIA+ couples can open joint bank accounts and nominate each other as beneficiaries.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) With reference to the Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to handle civil disputes cases more efficiently.
2. The FTSC scheme was launched as a Centrally Sponsored 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.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The collegium system involves senior judges making decisions about judicial appointments without government interference.
2. The National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act aimed to include representatives from the judiciary, executive, and civil society.
3. Kesavananda Bharati Case led to the establishment of the collegium system in India.

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

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

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. Deception detection tests (DDTs) are scientific procedures employed to detect probable deception during interrogation.
2. DDTs do not violate fundamental rights of the accused.
3. A person's choice to speak is part of their right to privacy.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.5) With reference to the Parliamentary Standing Committees, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to provide detailed scrutiny of bills, budgets and government actions.
2. Members are appointed to Standing Committees based on seniority in Parliament.
3. They allow for more collaborative and less politically charged discussions compared to the full Parliament sessions.
4. They are permanent and constituted every year or periodically.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Constitution mandates that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and High Courts be conducted in English, unless Parliament decides otherwise.
2. The Indian Constitution allows the Chief Minister of the State to authorize the use of Hindi or another official language in the State's High Court.
3. At present, only four High Courts in India are allowed to use Hindi in their proceedings.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding the Law Commission of India:

1. It is a statutory body, established by an Act of Parliament.
2. It serves as an advisory body to Ministry of Law and Justice.
3. It is reconstituted every five years.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Nationalizing literary works means they will no longer be covered by copyright protection.
2. In India, copyright laws transfer the rights of authors to their heirs after their death.

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

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. The 'creamy layer' refers to the more affluent members within a reserved category who may not need the benefits of reservation.
2. According to Dr. Ambedkar, economic disparities is the primary source of graded inequality in India.
3. The Mahad satyagraha was led by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the Public Accounts Committee (PAC):

1. It is composed of 15 members from Lok Sabha and 7 from Rajya Sabha.
2. It reviews the performance of regulatory bodies established by Acts of Parliament.
3. Ministers can be members of PAC.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.11) Which one of the following bodies is responsible for conducting the National Exit Test (NExT)?

- a) Medical Council of India
- b) National Medical Commission
- c) All India Institute of Medical Sciences
- d) Central Board of Secondary Education

Q.12) Consider the following statements:

1. The government can request reconsideration and is not bound to accept a Collegium recommendation, even if reiterated.
2. The Chief Justice of a High Court cannot make decisions on judicial appointments alone.

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

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.14) Consider the following:

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

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

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

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.16) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

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

Q.17) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.18) With reference to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), how many of the following statements are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.19) With reference to the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.20) Consider the following statements:

1. Drowning has been officially identified as a public health crisis in India.
2. India lacks a consolidated legal provision for preparing and responding to public health emergencies.

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

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

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.23) In the context of human rights violations, which one of the following does NOT fall within the jurisdiction of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)?

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

Q.24) Which one of the following entities is empowered to refer cases of anti-competitive practices to the Competition Commission of India (CCI) for investigation?

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

Q.25) With reference to the Central Information Commission (CIC), consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.26) Which one of the following statements about Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF) contributions is correct?

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

Q.27) The objective of Operation Chakra-II launched by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is to:

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

Q.28) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Currently, there are no specific constitutional provisions in India that allow for holding simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.
- 2. Simultaneous elections would strengthen federalism by giving more power to states.
- 3. The Election Commission is a permanent commission which draws all its powers from the Constitution.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.29) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Part XVIII of the Indian Constitution deals with the Emergency provisions.
- 2. The Seventh Schedule to the Indian Constitution distributes the power between the Union and States.
- 3. Article 355 allows the President to impose President's Rule if a state government fails to function constitutionally.

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

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

Q.30) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The number of death sentences in India has risen.

Statement-II: The Indian government has decided to reduce the rate of heinous crimes 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.31) Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Constitution designates both English and Hindi as official languages.
2. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has adopted two language formulas to promote linguistic diversity.
3. The NEP 2020 shifts the focus from English to regional languages.

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. India has a single integrated judicial system with a hierarchical structure.
2. Civil cases constitute the largest part of the backlog in subordinate courts.
3. The government is a party to about 50% of all pending cases.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.33) Consider the following statements:

1. The Collegium system was primarily established to speed up the process of judicial appointments.
2. The Collegium system mandates that reiterated recommendations by the Collegium must be approved by the government as a convention.

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

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

Q.34) De-notified Tribe refers to:

- a) Nomadic communities in India that are officially recognized as Scheduled Tribes (ST) by the Indian government.
- b) Social groups that have been legally classified as backward castes due to their economic and social disadvantages.
- c) Communities that were historically listed as criminal tribes under colonial law but were delisted after India's Independence.
- d) Nomadic tribes that have been granted special status under the Indian Constitution for their unique cultural practices.

Q.35) Among the three branches of the government, the judiciary holds a position of pre-eminence due to:

- a) Its role in the enforcement and interpretation of Constitutional provisions.
- b) Its authority to initiate and pass legislation independently of the Parliament.
- c) Its exclusive mandate to enforce legal provisions by directing both the legislature and executive in matters of governance.
- d) Its power to revise the Constitution and modify its fundamental principles to reflect evolving social norms.

Q.36) Which one of the following statements best describes the term 'Secularism'?

- a) It means the state and religion are separate, and the government does not allow any religious influence in its affairs.
- b) It means the state treats all religions equally and does not favor or oppose any religion, while protecting the freedom of religion for everyone.
- c) It means the government promotes all religions equally and allows them to participate in the governance of the country.
- d) It means the government supports the majority religion but ensures that the rights of minority religions are protected.

Q.37) Consider the following statements regarding the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs):

- 1. These are judicial entities that prosecute financial crimes and impose penalties on government officials for mismanagement of public resources.
- 2. The International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) sets standards and promotes good practices for SAIs globally.
- 3. In India, the SAI is represented by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.38) Consider the following statements regarding the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR):

- 1. It is a constitutional body.
- 2. It is responsible to ensure that laws and policies align with child rights perspectives.
- 3. It issues directions that are binding on concerned persons or authorities.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.39) With reference to the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, consider the following statements:

- 1. The primary role of the CAG is to audit the accounts of the Union and state governments and report any discrepancies to the appropriate authorities.
- 2. The CAG's tenure is renewable upon the recommendation of the Prime Minister.
- 3. The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) scrutinizes the CAG's reports to hold the government accountable for any financial irregularities.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.40) Which one of the following best describes the Indian Constitution as a 'living document'?

- It allows for constant reinterpretation by state legislatures, reflecting regional interests and political agendas.
- It is interpreted strictly in accordance with the literal meaning of its provisions, ensuring stability and continuity over time.
- It can adapt to changing social, economic, and political conditions through judicial interpretation and legislative amendments.
- It incorporates checks and balances to ensure that no amendments can be made without the approval of the judiciary.

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Supreme Court of India has not recognized same-sex marriages as a constitutional right. While the Court has acknowledged the importance of the issue and the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals to cohabit and be free from discrimination, it has left the decision to legalize same-sex marriages to Parliament and state legislatures.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Union government has issued advisories to ensure that LGBTQIA+ couples are considered part of the same household for the purpose of ration cards. This means they can apply for and receive ration cards without facing discrimination. The Department of Financial Services has clarified that LGBTQIA+ couples cannot be prevented from opening joint bank accounts and are allowed to nominate each other as beneficiaries. This measure is part of broader efforts to ensure equal access to financial services for LGBTQIA+ individuals.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. FTSCs are specifically established to expedite the trial process for cases related to sexual offenses, particularly those involving rape and violations under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act).
- Statement 2 is correct. The FTSC scheme was launched as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, which means it is primarily funded by the central government with contributions from state governments. The scheme was initiated to ensure the swift disposal of cases related to sexual offenses, using funds from the Nirbhaya Fund.

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The collegium system in India is a mechanism where senior judges, including the Chief Justice of India and the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court, make decisions about judicial appointments and transfers without interference from the executive branch of the government. The NJAC was proposed to include representatives from the judiciary (the Chief Justice of India and two senior judges), the executive (the Union Law Minister), and two eminent persons from civil society, aiming to make the judicial appointment process more transparent and participatory.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Kesavananda Bharati case is known for establishing the "basic structure" doctrine of the Indian Constitution, which ensures that certain fundamental features of the Constitution cannot be altered by amendments. The collegium system was established through a series of Supreme Court judgments known as the Three Judges Cases.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. DDTs, such as polygraph tests, narco-analysis, and brain mapping, are scientific methods used to detect deception during interrogations. The right to privacy, as recognized by the Supreme Court of India, includes a person's autonomy over their own choices, including the decision to speak or remain silent. This is part of the broader interpretation of the right to privacy under Article 21 of the Constitution.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The use of DDTs has been questioned for potentially violating fundamental rights, particularly the right against self-incrimination under Article 20(3) and the right to privacy under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. The Supreme Court of India has ruled that these tests cannot be administered without the consent of the accused, highlighting concerns about their impact on fundamental rights.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 3 and 4 are correct. Parliamentary Standing Committees are tasked with the detailed examination of legislative proposals, budgets, and government actions to ensure effective governance and accountability. Standing Committees provide a platform for more collaborative and less politically charged discussions compared to the full Parliament sessions. They operate in a more informal setting, which allows members to engage in detailed and constructive deliberations beyond party lines. Standing Committees are permanent committees that are reconstituted every year or periodically. They continue to function on an ongoing basis, unlike ad hoc committees, which are temporary and dissolve after completing their specific tasks. There are 24 such Standing committees, with 16 under the Lok Sabha (lower house) and 8 under the Rajya Sabha (upper house).
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Members of Standing Committees are not appointed based on seniority. Instead, they are appointed or elected by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha or the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, or through consultation between them, and their selection may consider various factors, including party representation and expertise.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Article 348(1) of the Indian Constitution specifies that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and every High Court shall be conducted in English unless Parliament provides otherwise by law. Currently, only the High Courts of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar are authorized to use Hindi in their proceedings.

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

- Statement 2 is incorrect. Article 348(2) of the Constitution allows the Governor of a State, with the previous consent of the President, to authorize the use of Hindi or any other language used for any official purposes of the State in the proceedings of the High Court.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The Law Commission is not a statutory or constitutional body. It is an ad hoc executive body constituted by the Government of India. The Law Commission is reconstituted every three years. The first Law Commission in India was established in 1834 during British rule under the Charter Act of 1833, chaired by Lord Macaulay. The first Law Commission of independent India was established in 1955, chaired by M.C. Setalvad, the then Attorney-General of India.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Law Commission serves as an advisory body to the Ministry of Law and Justice, providing recommendations for legal reforms and improvements in the legal system.

Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Nationalizing literary works, particularly in Tamil Nadu, involves placing them in the public domain, which means they are no longer covered by copyright protection and can be freely used by the public without restrictions. In India, the Copyright Act, 1957 provides that the rights of authors are transferred to their heirs after their death. The copyright protection for literary, dramatic, musical, and artistic works lasts for the lifetime of the author plus an additional 60 years after their death.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The term "creamy layer" is used to describe the economically advanced members within the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and, in some contexts, within other reserved categories. These individuals are considered to be well-off and, therefore, not in need of the benefits provided by reservations, such as educational and job quotas. The Mahad Satyagraha, held in 1927, was led by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. It was a significant protest against the caste system, aiming to assert the rights of Dalits to access public water sources, and it marked a pivotal moment in the Dalit emancipation movement.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar identified the caste system as the primary source of graded inequality in India. Graded inequality, as per Ambedkar, refers to the hierarchical nature of the caste system, where different castes experience varying levels of privilege and oppression, creating a complex social structure that perpetuates inequality.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Public Accounts Committee is a parliamentary committee that consists of 22 members. Specifically, 15 members are elected from the Lok Sabha, which is the lower house of India's Parliament, and 7 members are elected from the Rajya Sabha, the upper house. The PAC is tasked with examining the accounts and financial statements of the government, which includes reviewing the performance of regulatory bodies established by Acts of Parliament. This involves scrutinizing how these bodies utilize public funds and whether they adhere to the financial regulations and objectives set by the government.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Ministers are not allowed to be members of the PAC. This rule is in place to maintain the committee's independence and impartiality, ensuring that it can effectively scrutinize

government expenditure without conflicts of interest arising from having members who are part of the executive branch.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- The National Medical Commission is responsible for conducting the National Exit Test (NExT). The NExT is designed to replace the NEET PG and FMGE exams, serving as a single examination for medical graduates in India to obtain a license to practice and to qualify for postgraduate medical courses. The National Exit Test (NExT) for AYUSH will be applicable to students who had enrolled from the 2021-22 academic session onwards.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. When the Collegium reiterates its recommendation, the government is generally bound to accept it. The Supreme Court has stated that if the Collegium reiterates a recommendation, it should be binding on the Union government, and the appointment should be processed and completed within a specified timeframe.
- Statement 2 is correct. The process of judicial appointments is not the prerogative of a single individual, including the Chief Justice of a High Court. It must involve collective consultation and deliberation by the High Court Collegium, which includes the Chief Justice and the two senior-most judges of the High Court.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Article 343 of the Indian Constitution declares Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language of the Union of India. Article 351 of the Indian Constitution mandates the Union government to promote the spread and development of the Hindi language.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Official Language Act of 1963 does not hold government officials accountable for not using Hindi. Instead, it provides for the continued use of English alongside Hindi for official purposes and does not impose penalties for not using Hindi.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Central Information Commission is a statutory body established under the Right to Information Act, 2005. The Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners hold office for a term of five years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

- Statement 3 is incorrect. The committee that recommends appointments to the CIC consists of the Prime Minister as the Chairperson, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

28. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Currently, there are no specific constitutional provisions in India that allow for holding simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. Implementing such a system would require significant amendments to the Constitution. The Election Commission of India is a permanent constitutional body established under Article 324 of the Constitution, responsible for conducting free and fair elections in India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Simultaneous elections are often criticized because they might weaken federalism by focusing more on national issues and ignoring regional concerns.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Part XVIII of the Indian Constitution, which includes Articles 352 to 360, deals with emergency provisions. The Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution outlines the distribution of powers between the Union and State governments through three lists: the Union List, State List, and Concurrent List.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Article 355 states that it is the duty of the Union to protect states against external aggression and internal disturbances and to ensure that state governments function according to constitutional provisions. Whereas Article 356 provides for the President's Rule in case of failure of constitutional machinery in a state.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement I is correct. The data shows that trial courts in India have given more death sentences recently. In 2023, there were 120 death sentences recorded. This number is the highest in the last twenty years.
- Statement II is also correct. The Indian government has been taking various measures to address and reduce heinous crimes, including legislative changes and reforms in the criminal justice system.
- However, Statement-II does not directly explain why there are more death sentences. The increase in death penalties is mainly due to changes in how courts operate and new laws, rather than efforts to reduce serious crimes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Indian Constitution recognizes both Hindi and English as official languages for the central government. The NEP 2020 emphasizes the use of regional languages as the medium of instruction, especially in the early years of schooling.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NEP 2020 promotes a three-language formula, encouraging students to learn three languages, including their regional language, another Indian language, and one foreign language.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. India has a single integrated judicial system with a hierarchical structure, consisting of the Supreme Court at the top, followed by High Courts at the state level, and subordinate courts (including district courts) at the lower levels. The government is involved in a significant portion of pending litigation in India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While civil cases are part of the backlog, criminal cases constitute a larger portion of the pending cases in subordinate courts. As of recent data, there are approximately 3.06 crore criminal cases pending compared to 1.08 crore civil cases in these courts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Collegium system was established to ensure judicial independence by giving the judiciary a significant role in the appointment of judges, rather than speeding up the process.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Collegium system requires that if the Collegium reiterates a recommendation, the government is expected to approve it as a matter of convention.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (C)

- De-notified Tribes (DNTs) in India refer to communities that were previously classified as "criminal tribes" under the British colonial Criminal Tribes Act of 1871. This law labeled certain tribes as inherently criminal, subjecting them to strict surveillance and control. After India's independence, the Act was repealed in 1949, and these communities were "de-notified," meaning they were officially removed from the list of criminal tribes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (A)

- The judiciary's pre-eminence lies in its ability to interpret and enforce the Constitution. Through judicial review, courts can invalidate any legislative or executive action that violates constitutional principles, ensuring the rule of law. The judiciary acts as the guardian of the Constitution and the protector of individual rights.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (B)

- Secularism involves maintaining a neutral stance by the state regarding religious matters. Secularism ensures that no religion is given preferential treatment or discriminated against. Thus, upholding the freedom of religion and belief for all individuals.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. SAs are not judicial entities. They are independent national institutions responsible for auditing government activities and ensuring accountability in the use of public funds. They do not have the authority to prosecute or impose penalties; instead, they provide oversight and report their findings to legislative bodies.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. INTOSAI is an autonomous, independent, and non-political organization that works to promote auditing standards, good governance of SAs, and SA independence worldwide. It serves as an umbrella organization for the external government audit community. The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India is the Supreme Audit Institution of India. It is responsible for auditing all receipts and expenditures of the Government of India and state governments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

38. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The NCPCR is a statutory body established under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005. The NCPCR has the power to recommend measures for effective implementation of child rights laws and policies, but it does not have the authority to issue binding directions. It can only recommend initiation of proceedings or suggest remedial measures.
- Statement 2 is correct. The NCPCR ensures that all laws, policies, programs, and administrative mechanisms are in consonance with the child rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Source: [AIR](#)

39. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The CAG's primary function is to audit the receipts and expenditures of the Union and state governments, as well as government-owned corporations, and report findings to the Parliament or state legislatures. The PAC examines the audit reports submitted by the CAG to ensure financial accountability and scrutinizes government expenditures.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The CAG is appointed for a term of six years or until reaching the age of 65, whichever is earlier, and the tenure is not renewable. The appointment is made by the President of India, and there is no provision for renewal based on the Prime Minister's recommendation.

Source: [AIR](#)

40. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Indian Constitution is described as a 'living document' because it has the capacity to adapt and evolve over time in response to changing social, economic, and political conditions. This dynamic nature allows the Constitution to uphold its core principles of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity while being responsive to the needs of a modern and changing society.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Acts & Policies

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the Telecommunications Act, 2023:

1. Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) Fund, established under the Act, aims to replace the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).
2. DBN funds are first credited to the Consolidated Fund of India before allocation.
3. Digital Bharat Nidhi Fund also provides subsidies for smartphone purchases to enhance digital connectivity and accessibility in underserved regions.

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. Agri Stack
2. Krishi Decision Support System (DSS)
3. Soil Profile Maps
4. Digital Crop Insurance Scheme

Which of the above are the pillars of the Digital Agriculture Mission (DAM)?

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. India recognizes heatwaves as a notified disaster to enhance preparedness and response measures, allowing for better resource allocation and implementation of Heat Action Plans.
2. Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill, 2024 proposes the creation of an 'Urban Disaster Management Authority' for state capitals and cities with municipal corporations.

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) With reference to Smart Cities Mission, consider the following statements:

1. Cities are selected for the Smart Cities Mission through a two-stage competitive process known as the "Smart Cities Challenge".
2. Area-Based Development (ABD) in the Smart Cities Mission focuses on rural areas outside the city limits.

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

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) aims to boost health preparedness by setting up health centers, public health units, and critical care hospital blocks in every district.
2. The Human Resources for Health and Medical Education (HRHME) programme seeks to increase the spending in healthcare by facilitating Public-Private Partnerships (PPP).

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 National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013, consider the following statements:

1. The primary difference between Priority Households (PHH) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households under the NFSA is that PHH receive more food grains than AAY households.
2. NITI Aayog is responsible for determining the state-wise coverage of beneficiaries under the NFSA.

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

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

Q.7) With reference to Critical Mineral Mission, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. The mission aims to enhance exploration and mining activities within India to increase the domestic output of critical minerals.
2. Under the mission, India seeks to establish long-term supply contracts with South-East Asian countries.

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.8) With reference to Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), consider the following statements:

1. Swachh Survekshan under the SBM is a training program for sanitation workers aimed at enhancing their skills, awareness, and safety practices in waste management and cleanliness maintenance.
2. SBM has helped in reducing infant mortality.

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

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the 'Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari' initiative:

1. The initiative aims to strengthen community involvement in water conservation.
2. Ministry of Jal Shakti is leading the 'Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari' initiative.
3. Government-centric approach has been emphasized for the success of this initiative.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.10) With reference to Sakhi Niwas scheme, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.11) With reference to the Vibrant Village Programme (VVP), consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.12) With reference to Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements regarding the 'Mission Mausam':

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.14) Consider the following:

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

How many elements mentioned above are included in Mission Mausam?

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

Q.15) Consider the following pairs:

Policies-----Features

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

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.16) Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G):

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.17) The primary objective of the 'Navika Sagar Parikrama' expedition is to:

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

Q.18) With reference to the District Mineral Foundation (DMF), established under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015, consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.19) With reference to the Namami Gange Programme, how many of the following statements are correct?

1. Under the programme, Arth Ganga focuses on promoting religious rituals along the River Ganga.
2. Disaster Management is one of the main pillars of the Namami Gange Programme.
3. Under the programme, the goal of developing Ganga Grams is to turn villages along the river into models of sustainable development.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.20) With reference to NPS Vatsalya Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It is designed to help parents and guardians to save for their children's future by contributing to a pension account specifically made for minors.
2. The scheme is open to Indian citizens, Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs).
3. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is responsible for managing the scheme.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

1. The benefits of the Employees' Pension Scheme can be availed only if the employee has provided a service for at least 10 years.
2. eShram Portal aims to provide health insurance to unorganized workers.

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) With reference to the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to generate employment opportunities through the establishment of micro-enterprises in rural and urban areas.
2. Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is responsible for implementing PMEGP at the national level.
3. The scheme offers beneficiaries financial assistance through direct cash transfers.
4. It offers higher subsidies for government employees.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.23) Consider the following:

1. Price Support Scheme (PSS)
2. Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS)
3. Agricultural Market Assurance Scheme (AMAS)
4. Farmers' Income Stabilization Fund (FISF)

How many of the above are the components of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) scheme?

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

Q.24) With reference to Pradhan Mantri-Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA), consider the following statements:

1. The National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) has been integrated into PMJUGA to promote tourism in tribal areas by providing financial assistance for developing tourist homestays.
2. It aims to promote sustainable agricultural practices among Forest Rights Act (FRA) patta holders to help them maintain and conserve forests.
3. The role of the Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST) under the PMJUGA is to provide financial literacy programs for tribal communities.

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 Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), consider the following statements:

1. The concept of "Swachhagrahis" in the SBM is closely inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's Salt Satyagraha.
2. Waste-to-wealth initiative is a part of the SBM.
3. Cleanliness Target Units (CTUs) under the SBM target individual household cleanliness.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.26) With reference to Pradhan Mantri Jaiw Indhan Vatavaran Anukool Fasal Awashesh Nivaran (PM-JI-VAN) Yojana, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to create an ecosystem for setting up commercial projects and boost Research and Development in the second-generation (2G) ethanol sector.
2. Municipal solid waste and fossil fuel waste are primarily targeted for ethanol production under the PM-JI-VAN Yojana.

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 regarding the PM Surya Ghar Scheme:

1. It aims to boost solar rooftop capacity and enable residential households to generate their own electricity.
2. The scheme aims to help India meet India's climate commitments by achieving 100% renewable energy dependency by 2040.

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:

1. Recognition through PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID card
2. Skill upgradation through basic and advanced training
3. Collateral-free loans up to Rs. 3 lakhs
4. Provision of free raw materials for crafts production

How many of the above benefits are provided under the PM Vishwakarma Yojana?

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

Q.29) The primary vision of Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) 2.0 is to:

- a) Eliminate open defecation in urban areas
- b) Achieve garbage free status for all cities
- c) Provide toilets to every household
- d) Clean all water bodies in urban areas

Q.30) With reference to Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It establishes civilian governance in conflict zones.
2. Under AFSPA, the exclusive power to designate an area as “disturbed” rests with the Central Government.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.31) Which one of the following is the objective of the Plan for Reliability Improvement and Maintenance Effectiveness (PRIME) initiative introduced by the Indian Railways?

- a) It aims to increase the speed of trains across the network.
- b) It aims to enhance the reliability and maintainability of railway signaling systems.
- c) It aims to reduce the cost of railway operations.
- d) It aims to expand the railway network to rural areas.

Q.32) With reference to the National Credit Framework (NCrF), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It aims to unify academic, vocational, and experiential learning by allowing credits earned in one stream to be recognized across others.
2. It is applicable only to public educational institutions.
3. National School Education Qualification Framework (NSEQF) is one of the components of the NCrF.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.33) With reference to the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS), how many of the following statements are correct?

1. It combines elements of both the Old Pension Scheme and the National Pension Scheme.
2. There is a guaranteed minimum pension for retirees who have served at least 10 years.
3. It allows employees to switch back to the National Pension Scheme after opting for the UPS.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.34) With reference to Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, consider the following statements:

1. It covers a wide range of hospitalization expenses, including pre- and post-hospitalization, but does not cover Outpatient Department (OPD) expenses.
2. One Herb, One Standard Initiative has been launched under the Yojana.

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

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

Q.35) The NAMASTE scheme, introduced by the government, aims to:

- Provide subsidized housing to sanitation workers in urban areas
- Eliminate manual scavenging and promote mechanization of sanitation work
- Offer free higher education to children of manual scavengers
- Establish a national database of traditional cleaning practices

Q.36) Consider the following statements:

- The National Pension System (NPS) is a mandatory retirement scheme for all employees.
- The NPS classified as 'Defined Benefit Scheme'.

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

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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The "Digital Bharat Nidhi" is a fund established under the Telecommunications Act, 2023, aimed at enhancing telecommunication services in India, particularly in underserved and remote areas. It is intended to replace the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to address issues such as underutilization of funds and bureaucratic inefficiencies, and to broaden the scope of enhancing telecom services in underserved areas. The funds for the Digital Bharat Nidhi are first credited to the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI) before being allocated to various projects under the DBN.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. DBN does not provide provides subsidies for smartphone purchases.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (D)

- The DAM aims to build Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) that will offer farmer-centric digital services and relay timely and reliable information to farmers, leveraging technologies like data analytics, artificial intelligence, and remote sensing. The DAM includes the Digital General Crop Estimation Survey (DGCES), which aims to create a tech-based ecosystem to provide accurate

estimates of agricultural production by leveraging scientifically designed crop-cutting experiments. The three key pillars of DAM are:

- **Agri Stack:** This is a key component of the Digital Agriculture Mission. It involves creating a comprehensive digital database for farmers, including land records, crop information, and other relevant data. The Farmers' Registry under AgriStack will assign digital identity numbers (Farmer IDs) to farmers, which will be linked to various local data such as land records, livestock ownership, and crops sown.
- **Krishi Decision Support System (DSS):** This is another pillar of the Digital Agriculture Mission. It aims to create a geospatial system to integrate remote sensing data related to crops, soil, weather, and water resources.
- **Soil Profile Maps:** This is also a pillar of the Digital Agriculture Mission. It involves creating detailed soil profile maps to support agricultural planning and management.
- **Digital Crop Insurance Scheme** is not a pillar of the Digital Agriculture Mission.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Heatwaves are not officially classified as a notified disaster under India's Disaster Management Act, 2005. Although there is a strong case for recognizing heatwaves as disasters due to their increasing frequency and severity, which would facilitate better resource allocation and preparedness through Heat Action Plans, they have not yet been formally designated.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill, 2024, includes a proposal to establish an 'Urban Disaster Management Authority.' This new authority is intended to address the unique challenges faced by urban areas, which are often more vulnerable to certain types of disasters due to higher population densities and complex infrastructure. By focusing on state capitals and cities with municipal corporations, the bill aims to enhance urban resilience and ensure that disaster management strategies are tailored to the specific needs of urban environments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is correct. The Smart Cities Mission uses a two-stage competitive process called the "Smart Cities Challenge" to select cities. In the first stage, states and Union Territories shortlist potential cities based on specific criteria. In the second stage, these shortlisted cities compete by preparing proposals, and the best proposals are selected for funding and development.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Area-Based Development (ABD) under the Smart Cities Mission focuses on transforming existing urban areas within city limits through retrofitting, redevelopment, and greenfield development. The goal is to improve infrastructure and services in these areas, making them more liveable and sustainable.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is correct. Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) aims to boost health preparedness by setting up health centers, public health units, and critical care hospital blocks in every district. The PM-ABHIM is designed to strengthen healthcare infrastructure across India, focusing on critical care and primary health centers, as well as setting up health units and critical care blocks.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Human Resources for Health and Medical Education (HRHME) program seeks to fill healthcare gaps by expanding medical professionals, enhancing training, and improving infrastructure. The HRHME program aims to address shortages in healthcare personnel and improve the quality of medical education and infrastructure.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Under the NFSA, Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households, which are considered the "poorest of the poor," receive 35 kg of food grains per family per month. In contrast, Priority Households (PHH) receive 5 kg of food grains per person per month. The state-wise coverage of beneficiaries under the NFSA was initially determined by the erstwhile Planning Commission, which has now been replaced by NITI Aayog. However, the responsibility for identifying eligible households within this coverage is primarily with the state governments and Union Territories, not NITI Aayog.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. One of the primary objectives of the Critical Mineral Mission is to boost domestic production by enhancing exploration and mining activities within India. This initiative aims to reduce import dependency and ensure a stable supply of critical minerals for various industries.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While the Critical Mineral Mission does aim to secure international supplies through long-term contracts, the focus has been primarily on resource-rich countries, especially in Africa, rather than South-East Asia. The mission involves engaging with mineral-rich countries to secure a stable supply of critical minerals.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Swachh Survekshan is not a training program for sanitation workers. Instead, it is an annual cleanliness survey conducted to assess the performance of cities and towns in India on various sanitation and cleanliness parameters. It aims to foster competition among cities to improve their sanitation standards and promote citizen participation in the mission.
- Statement 2 is correct. Studies have shown that the Swachh Bharat Mission, through its focus on improving sanitation and increasing access to toilets, has contributed to a significant reduction in infant mortality in India. The construction of toilets and the reduction of open defecation have been linked to improved public health outcomes, including a decrease in infant and child mortality rates.

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The 'Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari' initiative emphasizes enhancing community involvement in water conservation efforts. It aims to mobilize citizens, local bodies, industries, and stakeholders to implement rainwater harvesting structures and promote sustainable water management practices. The 'Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari' initiative emphasizes enhancing community involvement in water conservation efforts. It aims to mobilize citizens, local bodies, industries, and stakeholders to implement rainwater harvesting structures and promote sustainable water management practices. The initiative aligns with the ongoing "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" campaign.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The initiative emphasizes a "whole-of-society" approach rather than a government-centric one. It focuses on community partnership and ownership, encouraging collective action from all sections of society to enhance water conservation efforts.

Source: [AIR](#)

10. Correct Answer is (A)

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Sakhi Niwas scheme aims to provide safe and conveniently located accommodation for working women in urban, semi-urban, and rural areas where employment opportunities exist. The scheme specifies that working women are entitled to hostel facilities if their gross income does not exceed ₹50,000 per month in metropolitan cities and ₹35,000 per month in other places. It is a scheme under Mission Shakti. Further, the government is working on setting up new women's hostels, known as 'Nirbhaya' hostels, which will provide residential facilities and transit stays for women attending interviews or exams.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The scheme provides daycare facilities for the children of residents but does not include health insurance.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Installation of Weather Radars:** Mission Mausam includes the installation of up to 60 weather radars as part of its infrastructure upgrade to improve weather forecasting capabilities.
- **Cloud-Simulation Chamber:** The mission plans to set up a cloud-simulation chamber at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology in Pune to enhance the precision of rain cloud modeling and support weather modification research.

- **Weather Interventions System:** Mission Mausam involves research into weather interventions, such as cloud seeding and modifying clouds to control rainfall, which is part of the broader goal of understanding and potentially altering weather patterns.
- **Orbital Climate Satellites** is not a part of Mission Mausam.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

17. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Arth Ganga initiative within the Namami Gange Programme focuses on a sustainable development model that emphasizes economic activities related to the river,

such as natural farming, livelihood generation, and promoting cultural heritage and tourism. The main pillars of the Namami Gange Programme include sewage treatment infrastructure, riverfront development, river surface cleaning, biodiversity conservation, afforestation, public awareness, industrial effluent monitoring, and initiatives like Ganga Gram.

- Statement 3 is correct. The concept of Ganga Grams aims to transform villages along the river into models of sustainable development by implementing various ecological and infrastructural improvements.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The NPS Vatsalya Scheme is designed to allow parents and guardians to contribute to a pension account for their minor children, aiming to secure their financial future. The scheme allows Indian citizens, NRIs, and OCIs to participate, thereby making it accessible to a broad range of individuals.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The NPS Vatsalya Scheme is managed under the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

Source: [AIR](#)

21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. To be eligible for pension benefits under the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), an employee must have completed a minimum of 10 years of service by the time they reach the age of 58.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The eShram portal primarily aims to create a national database of unorganized workers and facilitate the delivery of social security and welfare schemes to them.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. PMEGP is designed to create jobs by setting up micro-enterprises in both rural and urban regions of India. KVIC acts as the nodal agency for implementing PMEGP across India.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. PMEGP provides financial assistance in the form of a subsidy on project costs, which is given through banks as part of a credit-linked subsidy scheme. The scheme provides higher subsidies for special categories such as SC/ST, OBC, minorities, women, ex-servicemen, and those in the northeastern region.

Source: [AIR](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) is an umbrella scheme launched by the Government of India to ensure that farmers receive remunerative prices for their produce and to control price volatility of essential commodities. The key components of PM-AASHA are- Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF), Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS), and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The Swadesh Darshan scheme has been integrated into PMJUGA for promoting tourism in tribal areas by developing tourist homestays. The DAPST under PMJUGA is primarily for allocating funds for the implementation of various interventions.

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

- Statement 2 is correct. PMJUGA includes promoting sustainable agricultural practices among FRA patta holders to help them maintain and conserve forests. The overall goal of the initiative is to improve the livelihoods of tribal communities, ensure the saturation of basic schemes in tribal villages, and promote sustainable development practices.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The term "Swachhagrahi" is inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's Champaran Satyagraha. This reflects a commitment to cleanliness like the commitment to non-violence and justice demonstrated in the Satyagraha movement. Cleanliness Target Units (CTUs) under the SBM do not specifically emphasize individual household cleanliness but rather focus on transforming difficult and dirty spots through targeted cleanliness drives.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Waste to Wealth Mission is considered a scientific arm of the Swachh Bharat Mission. It aims to leverage technology for waste management and to create economic value from waste.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The PM-JI-VAN Yojana provides financial support to set up Second Generation (2G) ethanol projects using lignocellulosic biomass and other renewable feedstocks. It aims to enhance commercial viability and promote R&D for developing and adopting technologies in the 2G ethanol sector. India's first 2G ethanol plant was established by Indian Oil Corporation at Panipat.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The primary focus of the PM-JI-VAN Yojana is on using lignocellulosic biomass and other renewable feedstocks, such as agricultural residues, forestry waste, and non-food biofuel feedstocks, for ethanol production. The scheme provides financial support through Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to make 2G ethanol projects economically viable.

Source: [AIR](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The PM Surya Ghar Scheme is designed to increase the adoption of solar rooftop systems, allowing residential households to generate their own electricity. This initiative is part of India's broader strategy to enhance renewable energy capacity and reduce dependence on traditional energy sources.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The scheme does not specifically aim to achieve 100% renewable energy dependency by 2040. Instead, India has set a target of achieving 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030 as part of its climate commitments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana is a central sector scheme launched by the Government of India to support traditional artisans and craftspeople. The Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MoMSME) is responsible for implementing the scheme in collaboration with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and the Department of Financial Services (DFS). The scheme does not provide free raw materials for crafts production. Instead, it offers toolkit incentives and other forms of support like marketing and digital transaction incentives.

Source: [AIR](#)

29. Correct Answer is (B)

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

- Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) 2.0, launched as a continuation of the original Swachh Bharat Mission, aims to make all cities in India "Garbage Free" by 2026. The mission focuses on comprehensive solid waste management, which includes the segregation of waste at the source, door-to-door collection, scientific processing of all types of municipal solid waste, and remediation of legacy dumpsites.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. AFSPA does not establish civilian governance; rather, it grants special powers to the armed forces to maintain public order in areas designated as "disturbed." The Act allows military personnel to take actions such as arresting without a warrant and using force under certain conditions. Both the Central Government and the Governor of a state have the authority to declare an area as "disturbed" under AFSPA.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Plan for Reliability Improvement and Maintenance Effectiveness (PRIME) initiative introduced by the Indian Railways aims to enhance the reliability and maintainability of signaling systems, which are crucial for safe train operations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The NCrf is designed to integrate academic, vocational, and experiential learning, allowing credits to be recognized across different streams. This integration supports lifelong learning and facilitates mobility between various educational streams. The NCrf includes the National School Education Qualification Framework (NSEQF) as one of its components, alongside the National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF) and the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF).
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NCrf applies broadly across the education system in India, including both public and private educational institutions. It aims to create a unified framework for credit accumulation and transfer across all types of institutions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The UPS is designed to integrate features from both the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) and the National Pension System (NPS). This creates a hybrid model that offers a guaranteed minimum pension while also allowing for investment-based growth. The UPS guarantees a minimum pension for employees who have completed at least 10 years of service, ensuring a basic level of financial security in retirement.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Once an employee opts for the UPS, they cannot switch back to the National Pension Scheme (NPS). The choice between UPS and NPS is final.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The PMJAY scheme provides coverage for a wide range of hospitalization expenses, including pre-hospitalization and post-hospitalization costs. However, it does not cover OPD expenses.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The "One Herb, One Standard" initiative is not part of the Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. It is an initiative by the Ministry of Ayush to standardize herbal medicines and improve their quality.

Source: [AIR](#)

35. Correct Answer is (B)

- The NAMASTE Scheme (National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem) is an initiative by the Indian government aimed at improving the safety, dignity, and livelihoods of sanitation workers in urban areas. It aims to transform the lives of sanitation workers by eliminating manual scavenging, promoting mechanization, and ensuring their safety and dignity through various supportive measures.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The National Pension System (NPS) is not mandatory for all employees. It is a voluntary retirement savings scheme for most individuals, although it is mandatory for government employees (except for armed forces) who joined service on or after January 1, 2004. The NPS is classified as a 'Defined Contribution Scheme'. In a defined contribution scheme, the contributions are fixed, but the benefits received at retirement depend on the investment performance of the contributions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Index & Reports

Q.1) Justice J.S. Verma Committee, often seen in the news, is related to which one of the following?

- a) Reforms in the Indian banking sector to enhance financial inclusion.
- b) Recommendations for amendments to criminal laws to address sexual violence.
- c) Development of a national policy for renewable energy sources.
- d) Establishment of guidelines for corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives.

Q.2) With reference to Asia Power Index, consider the following statements:

1. The index is published by Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).
2. In the 2024 edition of the Index, India has secured the position of the third most powerful nation in Asia.

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) Biplab Kumar Sharma Committee, seen in the news recently, was associated with which one of the following?

- a) Implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST)
- b) Reforms in the Indian Education System
- c) Implementation of Clause 6 of the Assam Accord
- d) Development of Smart Cities in India

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the Global Innovation Index (GII):

1. It is an annual ranking that assesses the innovation performance of countries worldwide.
2. The index is published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
3. India has shown improvement in GII 2024 ranking.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.5) In which one of the following ways will the Repairability Index in the mobile and electronics sector help consumers?

- a) It will provide a mandatory warranty extension for all electronic devices, ensuring free repairs for a specified period.
- b) It will provide consumers with information on the ease of repairing products, helping them make informed purchasing decisions based on repairability.
- c) It will guarantee that all electronic products will come with a lifetime warranty, ensuring no repair costs for consumers.
- d) It will guarantee that all components of a device are made from biodegradable materials, ensuring environmental sustainability.

Answer Key

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

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Justice J.S. Verma Committee was established in response to the horrific gang rape incident in Delhi in December 2012. The committee, chaired by Justice J.S. Verma, a former Chief Justice of India, was tasked with reviewing existing laws and suggesting amendments to improve the legal framework for dealing with sexual violence against women.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Asia Power Index is published by the Lowy Institute, an Australian think tank.
- Statement 2 is correct. In the 2024 edition of the Asia Power Index, India has surpassed Japan to become the third most powerful nation in Asia.

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Biplab Kumar Sharma Committee was specifically associated with addressing Clause 6 of the Assam Accord. The clause aims to safeguard the cultural, social, and linguistic identity of the Assamese people.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Global Innovation Index (GII) is an annual ranking that evaluates the innovation performance of countries around the world. India has improved its position in the GII 2024, moving up to 39th place from its previous rank.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The GII is published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) has established a committee of experts to create a framework for a Repairability Index in the mobile and electronics sector. The Repairability Index will provide consumers with information on the ease of repairing different products, helping them make more informed decisions. Standardizing repairability assessments will enable consumers to compare products based on how easily they can be repaired, encouraging a more mindful and sustainable approach to product use.

Source: [DD News](#)

International Relations/Organizations

Q.1) With reference to Colombo Security Conclave (CSC), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to create a platform for closer cooperation in maritime security and address regional security threats.
2. India, Bangladesh, and Nepal are the founding members of the CSC.
3. Observer states of CSC have no role in decision-making.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) aims to reduce India's dependence on ASEAN for raw materials.
2. AITIGA is part of India's "Act East" policy.

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.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Brunei is a landlocked country.
2. India and Brunei elevated their relations to a 'Comprehensive Economic Partnership' during the recent visit of the Indian Prime Minister.

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) With reference to Global Digital Compact (GDC), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to ensure responsible use of digital technologies and address the digital divide.
2. The principles of the Global Digital Compact are inspired by the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.
3. The United Nations play an important role in development and implementation of the GDC by providing financial incentives for countries to adopt digital technologies.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Brunei is one of the leading exporters of liquefied natural gas (LNG).
2. The United States is Brunei's largest trading partner and investor.
3. India has shifted its oil imports from Brunei to Russia in recent years.

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.6) With reference to International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol), consider the following statements:

1. It is the world's largest international police organization.
2. It is tasked with addressing and mitigating military-related offenses.
3. In Interpol's General Assembly, each member country has one vote, and decisions are made by a simple majority vote.
4. A Blue Notice, issued by the Interpol, is a request to law enforcement worldwide to locate and provisionally arrest a person pending extradition, surrender, or similar legal action.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) With reference to International Solar Alliance (ISA), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. The eligibility criteria for full membership in the ISA is that the countries must be located between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.
2. The ISA has proposed implementing solar taxes as a financing mechanism to support solar projects in its member countries.
3. International Solar Festival, organized by the ISA, celebrates the transformative impact of solar energy.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. India-Singapore Strategic Dialogue Framework facilitates regular high-level dialogue between India and Singapore on various sectors.
2. The Prime Minister of India recently interacted with participants of the India Ready Talent Programme, which prepares young Singaporeans to explore business opportunities in India.

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

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

Q.9) With reference to the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD), which of the following statements are correct?

1. It conducts joint military exercises known as Malabar.
2. Its secretariat is located in Tokyo.
3. It focuses on areas like Artificial Intelligence (AI), quantum computing, and biotechnology.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.10) The Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) was seen in the news recently, is associated with:

- a) The economic integration of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member states
- b) The military alliance between North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) countries
- c) The collective security framework of the African Union (AU).
- d) The European Union's (EU) approach to international security and crisis management

Q.11) With reference to Swiss Peace Summit, consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.12) With reference to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.13) Consider the following pairs:

Organizations-----Headquarters

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

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Q.14) In the context of the recent agreements signed during the Abu Dhabi Crown Prince's visit to India, which one of the following was NOT part of the agreements signed between India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)?

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

Q.15) With reference to the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.16) Which one of the following statements about the UN Security Council reform is incorrect?

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

Q.17) Consider the following statements regarding the Financial Action Task Force (FATF):

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

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

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

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.19) Which one of the following best describes the geopolitical significance of the TAPI (Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India) pipeline?

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

Q.20) With reference to International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.22) The Delhi Declaration on Civil Aviation, adopted recently at the 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference, proposed which one of the following tourism initiatives to boost the aviation sector?

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

Q.23) With reference to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.24) 'Operation Sadbhav' has been recently launched by the Indian government to:

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

Q.25) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. The Geneva and Genocide Conventions both impose obligations on states to refrain from supplying weapons to nations that may be committing war crimes.
2. India is a signatory to the Geneva Convention but has not signed the Genocide Convention.

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.26) The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) can be best described as:

- a) A collective security arrangement like North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- b) An informal strategic dialogue focused on cooperation and coordination
- c) A counterweight to China's Belt and Road Initiative
- d) A United Nations-backed initiative to counter terrorism in the Indo-Pacific

Q.27) Consider the following statements regarding the European Commission:

- 1. It acts as a judicial body resolving disputes between member states of the European Union (EU).
- 2. It also negotiates international agreements on behalf of the EU.

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. The Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) is a bilateral commission established under the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) to implement and manage the treaty's provisions.
- 2. According to the Indus Water Treaty, the annual water flow from the six rivers in the Indus system is equally shared between India and Pakistan.

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

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

Q.29) Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) was seen in the news recently, is associated with:

- a) Providing duty-free access to certain goods from developing countries to the U.S. market.
- b) Establishing a global framework for regulating digital currencies.
- c) Implementing international standards for cybersecurity in financial institutions.
- d) Coordinating global efforts to combat climate change through carbon trading mechanisms

Q.30) With reference to the United Nations Summit of the Future, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- 1. It aims to enhance global governance mechanisms to address contemporary and future challenges.
- 2. Global Trade Compact is a key component of the United Nations Summit of the Future.
- 3. The Paris Agreement serves as a foundation for discussions at the United Nations Summit of the Future.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.31) Consider the following statements regarding the India-Bangladesh Extradition Treaty:

1. The 'principle of territoriality' in the treaty mandates that the crime for which extradition is sought must be recognized as a punishable offense in both countries.
2. A valid reason for denying an extradition request under the treaty is if the offense is deemed political in nature.

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

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

Q.32) With reference to the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), consider the following statements:

1. The IPEF partners collectively represent 40% of the global GDP.
2. IPEF lacks comprehensive dispute settlement procedures like other Free Trade Agreements (FTAs).
3. India has participated in two pillars of the IPEF but has an observer status in Supply Chain Resilience pillar.

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.33) Consider the following statements:

1. India plays a crucial role as a major arms supplier to Israel.
2. India and Israel collaborate in areas such as biotechnology, information technology, and space technology.

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) The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is in charge of monitoring compliance with which one of the following treaties?

- a) Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)
- b) Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)
- c) Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START)
- d) Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (ABM)

Q.35) The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) conducts mutual evaluations of its member countries to assess their compliance with its standards. Which one of the following sectors is NOT evaluated during such reviews?

- a) Banking and financial institutions
- b) Law enforcement and judicial systems
- c) Public procurement processes
- d) Regulatory frameworks for non-profit organizations

Q.36) In the recent meeting of QUAD, which one of the following programs has been expanded to cover the Indian Ocean region under India's leadership?

- a) Quad Infrastructure Fellowship Program
- b) Indian Ocean Security and Surveillance Initiative (IOSSI)
- c) Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA)
- d) Quad Coast Guard Cooperation

Q.37) With reference to the 'Pact for the Future', recently adopted by the United Nations, consider the following statements:

- 1. It emphasizes the importance of reforms in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).
- 2. Under the Pact, Global Digital Compact is an agreement to standardize global digital currencies.
- 3. The Pact aims to completely eliminate nuclear weapons.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.38) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The African Union is a permanent member of the G-20.
- 2. Canada, Australia, Italy, United States, and United Kingdom are the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

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. India's legal framework does not require the government to review international humanitarian law (IHL) compliance of countries receiving defense exports.
- 2. India is a signatory to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).
- 3. The Geneva Conventions, which is binding on India, obligates all states to respect and to ensure respect for IHL.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.40) With reference to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), consider the following statements:

- 1. It has ten non-permanent members elected for two-year terms by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
- 2. It has the authority to amend the UN Charter.

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) With reference to the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), consider the following statements:

1. It promotes sustainable economic development and improves infrastructure connectivity in Asia.
2. It was established as a subsidiary of the World Bank.
3. It only allows Asian countries as members.

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

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

Q.42) Which one of the following best describes the geopolitical features of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)?

- a) A primarily Central Asian regional organization with a focus on internal security
- b) A global organization aimed at challenging the United Nations (UN) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- c) A platform for resolving maritime disputes in East Asia
- d) An energy cooperation forum between Asian and European nations

Q.43) Consider the following statements regarding the India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA):

1. It is India's first trade agreement with a developed country in the Southern Hemisphere.
2. It facilitates the movement of professionals and students between the two countries.

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

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

Q.44) Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement, seen in the news recently, is:

- a) A treaty focused on regulating fishing quotas within national waters to prevent overfishing and ensure sustainable fish stocks.
- b) An agreement aimed at establishing global standards for carbon emissions trading to combat climate change.
- c) A framework for international collaboration on the conservation of terrestrial biodiversity hotspots within national borders.
- d) An agreement aimed at conserving and sustainably using marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

Q.45) Consider the following statements:

1. An amendment to the UN Charter is essential for a country to achieve permanent membership in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).
2. The veto power of current permanent members of the UNSC can block the addition of new permanent members.

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

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

Q.46) With reference to the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network) consider the following statements:

1. It serves as a platform for international collaboration in addressing corruption and financial crimes.
2. It was initiated by the G-20.
3. It plays a critical role in assisting countries with the implementation of United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC).

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.47) Consider the following pairs:

Organizations-----Objective

1. Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad)----- Countering China's influence
2. BRICS----- Accessing Central Asian markets
3. Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)---- Promoting sustainable development

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.48) 'Declaration on Future Generations' is associated with which one of the following?

- a) Summit of the Future
- b) Next Generation Leadership Summit
- c) Global Economic Outlook
- d) Health for All Initiative

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 is correct. The CSC focuses on creating a platform for cooperation in maritime security and addressing regional security threats, including counter-terrorism, trafficking, and cybersecurity. There are five pillars of cooperation under the CSC namely Maritime Safety and Security; Countering

Terrorism and Radicalisation; Combating Trafficking and Transnational Organised Crime; Cyber Security and Protection of Critical Infrastructure and Technology; and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief.

- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The CSC was originally established as a trilateral maritime security dialogue among India, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives in 2011. It was later expanded and renamed in 2020 to include Mauritius as a member. Bangladesh was initially an observer but officially became the fifth full member of the CSC during the 8th Deputy National Security Adviser (DNSA) level meeting on July 10, 2024. Currently, Seychelles holds observer status in the CSC. Observer states participate actively in discussions and can influence the decision-making processes, even though they do not have formal voting rights. Their involvement allows them to contribute significantly to the conclave's activities.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) is designed to enhance economic cooperation by reducing tariffs on goods traded between India and ASEAN countries, thereby facilitating trade. ASEAN is a significant source of imports for India, including raw materials like energy products and vegetable oils.
- Statement 2 is correct. The AITIGA is part of India's "Act East" policy, which aims to strengthen economic, strategic, and cultural ties with the Asia-Pacific region, including ASEAN countries. The policy emphasizes enhancing trade and connectivity with ASEAN as a central component.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Brunei is not a landlocked country. It is located on the northern coast of the island of Borneo in Southeast Asia and has a coastline along the South China Sea. Brunei is the only sovereign state entirely on Borneo; the remainder of the island is divided between its multi-landmass neighbours of Malaysia and Indonesia. During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit, India and Brunei elevated their bilateral ties to an Enhanced Partnership.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The GDC aims to promote responsible use of digital technologies, address the digital divide, and foster a secure and inclusive digital environment. One of its objectives is to improve international governance of emerging technologies, like AI, so they align with fundamental human rights and values.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The principles of the GDC are inspired by the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The UN facilitates cooperation and encourages multistakeholder involvement but does not directly offer financial incentives.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Brunei is one of the leading suppliers of LNG, primarily supplying to customers in the Asian region. India has increased its imports of Russian oil, which has affected its oil trade with Brunei.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While the United States does engage in trade with Brunei, China is Brunei's largest trading partner and foreign investor.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Interpol is the world's largest international police organization, with 196 member countries. It facilitates cross-border police cooperation and supports efforts to combat international crime. In Interpol's General Assembly, each member country is represented, and decisions are typically made by a simple majority vote. It is headquartered in Lyon, France.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. Interpol's mandate does not include addressing military-related offenses. Its focus is on transnational crime, such as terrorism, cybercrime, and organized crime. Interpol is prohibited from engaging in activities of a political, military, religious, or racial character. A Blue Notice is not used for arrest purposes. Instead, it is used to collect additional information about a person's identity, location, or activities in relation to a criminal investigation. It helps in locating or identifying individuals but does not request their arrest.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Initially, the ISA was open to countries located fully or partially between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn. However, as of 2018, membership was opened to all member states of the United Nations, regardless of their geographic location. The ISA focuses on innovative financing mechanisms, such as the Global Solar Facility, to support solar projects. There is no such mechanism like solar tax.
- Statement 3 is correct. The International Solar Festival, organized by the ISA, aims to celebrate and highlight the transformative power of solar energy, its role in powering new opportunities, and advancing sustainable development goals.

Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) serves as a platform for high-level dialogue between the two countries. It focuses on enhancing economic cooperation and identifying new areas for collaboration across various sectors, including digitalization, energy, skills development, healthcare, and more. It aims to review the progress in bilateral collaboration and explore new opportunities to further elevate and broaden the strategic partnership between India and Singapore.
- Statement 2 is correct. The India Ready Talent Programme is an initiative launched by Enterprise Singapore (EnterpriseSG) in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), with support from the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) of Singapore. The programme aims to prepare young Singaporean talent to tap into the growing business opportunities in India. The prime minister met with interns from both countries — Singapore students who did internships through the India Ready Talent Programme and pupils from Odisha who are working in Singapore companies.

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Malabar exercise is a naval exercise involving the United States, Japan, and India as permanent partners, with Australia rejoining in 2020. It is associated with the QUAD nations. The QUAD focuses on emerging and critical technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI), quantum computing, and cybersecurity.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The QUAD does not have a formal secretariat or headquarters. It is a strategic forum without a formal structure like a secretariat.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) is a key component of the European Union's efforts to manage international security and crisis situations. It is part of the EU's broader Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and enables the EU to take a leading role in peacekeeping operations, conflict prevention, and strengthening international security. The CSDP involves both civilian and military missions aimed at preserving peace, preventing conflicts, and supporting international stability, in line with the principles of the United Nations Charter.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (C)

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

24. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Geneva Conventions require states to "respect and ensure respect" for international humanitarian law, which includes refraining from arms transfers if they are likely to be used in violations of these conventions. The Genocide Convention obligates states to prevent genocide, which includes not supplying arms that could be used for such acts.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. India has ratified both the Geneva Conventions and the Genocide Convention.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Quad is an informal strategic dialogue between four countries: the United States, Japan, India, and Australia. It focuses on cooperation and coordination in the Indo-Pacific region. It addresses regional security challenges, promotes a rules-based international order, and ensures freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific. It also discusses other areas of mutual interest such as climate change, health security, and technology.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The European Commission does not function as a judicial body. Instead, its primary roles include proposing legislation, implementing decisions, and ensuring that EU laws are applied correctly across member states. The judicial role within the EU is handled by the European Court of Justice, which interprets EU law and resolves disputes.
- Statement 2 is correct. The European Commission is responsible for negotiating international agreements on behalf of the EU, representing the interests of the EU in global matters.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The PIC was established under the IWT to oversee and manage the treaty's implementation. The PIC is mandated to meet at least once a year, alternately in India and Pakistan, to discuss and resolve issues related to the treaty.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The IWT allocates the waters of the six rivers between the two countries, but not equally. The annual flow of Eastern Rivers (Beas, Ravi, Sutlej) is allocated to India, and the annual flow of Western Rivers (Indus, Chenab, Jhelum) are allocated to Pakistan.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) is a trade preference program established by the United States to provide duty-free access to certain goods from developing countries. This program aims to promote economic growth and development in these countries by increasing their exports to the U.S. market.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. One of the primary objectives of the United Nations Summit of the Future is to strengthen global governance to tackle current and future challenges.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The summit focuses on components like the Global Digital Compact. The Our Common Agenda report, presented by the UN Secretary-General, serves as a foundational document for discussions at the United Nations Summit of the Future. It outlines a vision for strengthening global cooperation and addressing contemporary and future challenges.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The principle of dual criminality in the treaty mandates that the crime for which extradition is sought must be recognized as a punishable offense in both countries.
- Statement 2 is correct. The treaty includes a provision allowing refusal of extradition for offenses considered political in nature. However, this exemption has limitations, and certain serious crimes are excluded from this category.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) partners collectively represent around 40% of the global GDP. Unlike traditional Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), the IPEF does not have comprehensive dispute settlement mechanisms. It focuses more on cooperation and setting standards rather than binding commitments and enforcement.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. India has joined Pillars II to IV of IPEF, which include Supply Chain Resilience, Clean Economy, and Fair Economy. India maintains observer status only in Pillar I, which is related to Trade.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India is not a major arms supplier to Israel; rather, Israel is one of the key arms suppliers to India. India imports a substantial amount of defense technology and equipment from Israel. This makes Israel one of India's top arms suppliers.
- Statement 2 is correct. India and Israel have established collaborations in various high-tech sectors, including biotechnology, information technology, and space technology. These collaborations are part of their broader strategic partnership, which includes joint research and development initiatives.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- The IAEA plays a crucial role in the implementation of the NPT by ensuring that nuclear materials are used for peaceful purposes and not diverted to nuclear weapons. This is achieved through a system of safeguards, which include inspections and monitoring to verify compliance with the treaty's provisions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) conducts mutual evaluations to assess the compliance of its member countries with anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-terrorist financing (CFT) standards. Public procurement processes are not evaluated during FATF mutual evaluations.

Source: [AIR](#)

36. Correct Answer is (C)

- During the recent Quad Summit, the Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA) was expanded to include the Indian Ocean region, with India taking a leadership role in this initiative. The IPMDA aims to enhance maritime domain awareness by monitoring illegal activities at sea, such as unregulated fishing and other unlawful activities. This expansion involves deploying advanced technologies and providing new training programs to strengthen the maritime capabilities of partner countries in the region.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Pact for the Future includes commitments to reform the UN Security Council. It aims to make UNSC more effective and representative, addressing historical under-representation issues, particularly concerning Africa. The Pact includes a recommitment to nuclear disarmament with a clear goal of totally eliminating nuclear weapons.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Global Digital Compact within the Pact is focused on digital cooperation and AI governance, including internet connectivity and making online spaces safe.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

38. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The African Union has been made a permanent member of the G-20.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The permanent members of the UNSC are China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

39. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. India's domestic laws, such as the Foreign Trade Act and the Weapons of Mass Destruction Act, do not obligate the government to assess IHL compliance when exporting defense goods, unlike some other countries like the UK and EU members. The Geneva Conventions are binding on India and include obligations under Common Article 1 to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. India has not signed the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The UNSC consists of 15 members, including five permanent members and ten non-permanent members. The non-permanent members are elected by the UNGA for two-year terms. Elections are held annually to replace five of the ten non-permanent members.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The UNSC does not have the authority to amend the UN Charter. Amendments to the UN Charter require a two-thirds majority vote in the General Assembly and must be ratified by two-thirds of UN member states, including all permanent members of the Security Council.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

41. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The AIIB's primary objective is to foster sustainable economic development and improve infrastructure connectivity in Asia by investing in infrastructure and other productive sectors.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The AIIB was created as an independent multilateral development bank, proposed by China. The aim was to provide an alternative to Western-dominated financial institutions like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Its membership is open to countries worldwide, not just Asian countries. It includes members from various regions, including Europe, Africa, Oceania, and the Americas.

Source: [AIR](#)

42. Correct Answer is (A)

- The SCO is a regional organization that primarily focuses on political, economic, and security cooperation among its member states. It includes several Central Asian countries as well as major powers like China and Russia. It aims to ensure regional stability and security, particularly through joint efforts in counter-terrorism, separatism, and extremism.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

43. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The ECTA represents India's first trade agreement with a developed country in the Southern Hemisphere, specifically Australia. The ECTA includes provisions that facilitate the movement of professionals and students between India and Australia. For instance, Indian graduates in STEM fields will have extended post-study work visas in Australia.

Source: [AIR](#)

44. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement, also known as the "Treaty of the High Seas," is a landmark international treaty adopted under the United Nations Convention on the

Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). It was finalized on June 2023. It aims of conserving and sustainably using marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, which include the high seas and international seabed areas. India has signed the agreement.

Source: [AIR](#)

45. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. An amendment to the UN Charter is required to add new permanent members to the UNSC. This process involves approval by two-thirds of the UN General Assembly and ratification by all five current permanent members of the UNSC. The veto power held by the current permanent members means that any one of them can block amendments to the UN Charter. Since amendments require ratification by all five permanent members, their veto power effectively allows them to prevent such changes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

46. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The GlobE Network facilitates transnational cooperation in combating corruption. It enables law enforcement authorities to work together across borders to detect, investigate, and prosecute corruption offenses. The GlobE Network originated from the Riyadh Initiative, which was proposed during the Anti-Corruption Working Group meeting and welcomed at the G20 Riyadh Summit in 2020.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The GlobE Network is associated with the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). It complements and coordinates with international cooperation platforms related to UNCAC.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

47. Correct Answer is (A)

- QUAD - The Quad, consisting of the United States, India, Japan, and Australia. It is primarily focused on countering China's growing influence in the Indo-Pacific region. It aims to address security concerns and promote a free and open Indo-Pacific.
- BRICS – BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) is a group of emerging economies that focuses on various economic issues and cooperation among its members. One of the main objectives of BRICS is to promote sustainable, fair, and inclusive growth among its member countries.
- SCO – The SCO focuses on strengthening relations among member states and promoting cooperation in various areas. This also includes trade and economics, which involves accessing Central Asian markets.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

48. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Declaration on Future Generations is a key component of the Pact for the Future adopted at the UN Summit of the Future. It includes commitments to ensure meaningful opportunities for young people to participate in decisions that shape their lives and to address challenges such as climate change, digital divides, and inequalities. It was highlighted in the UN's Our Common Agenda report.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Economy

Q.1) The windfall tax is calculated:

- a) as a fixed percentage of all profits
- b) based on the average profits over a few years
- c) as a percentage of profits exceeding a baseline level
- d) as a flat fee for all companies

Q.2) Consider the following:

- 1. Issuing credit cards
- 2. Providing Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT)
- 3. Offering QR card-based transactions
- 4. Facilitating insurance and mutual fund investments

Which of the above services are provided by India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)?

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India's domestic steel production has decreased.

Statement-II: India has adopted stricter environmental regulations and sustainability targets for steel plants.

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

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

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Unified Lending Interface (ULI) is a digital platform that helps lenders access a customer's financial and non-financial data.
- 2. ULI is expected to have a similar transformative impact on the lending landscape as Unified Payments Interface (UPI) had on the payments ecosystem.

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

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

Q.5) With reference to AgriSURE Fund, consider the following statements:

- 1. The fund aims to subsidize agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilizers, and equipment to lower costs and boost yields.
- 2. The World Bank plays a significant role in supporting the AgriSURE Fund.
- 3. The fund is a part of Alternative Investment Fund (AIF).

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

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

Q.6) Which one of the following principles is central to the Gandhian model of development?

- a) Industrialization
- b) Globalization
- c) Decentralization
- d) Urbanization

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Globally, there has been a decline in labour income.

Statement-II: Many young people are not working, studying, or receiving training.

Statement-III: Businesses across the globe are implementing automation technologies and artificial intelligence (AI) systems into their operations and processes.

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

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

Q.8) The primary purpose of a Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) is to:

- a) Limit the total volume of imports to a country
- b) Allow a specific quantity of a product to be imported at a reduced tariff rate
- c) Apply a uniform tariff rate on all imports
- d) Eliminate tariffs on agricultural products

Q.9) With reference to the Centralized Pension Payment System (CPPS), consider the following statements:

1. It provides a unified system that allows pension payments to be made through any bank or branch in India.
2. It requires pensioners to transfer their Pension Payment Orders (PPO) when changing locations.

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

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

Q.10) Which one of the following correctly describes Vertical Fiscal Imbalance (VFI)?

- a) It occurs when subnational governments collect more revenue than they spend, transferring excess funds to the national government.
- b) It measures the difference between actual and potential tax revenue collection at different levels of government.
- c) It represents the mismatch between expenditure responsibilities and revenue-raising powers of different tiers of government within a federation.
- d) It quantifies the degree of fiscal autonomy of local governments in setting their own tax rates and bases.

Q.11) Which of the following statements are correct regarding the impact of the increasing fiscal deficit?

1. It leads to increased debt-to-GDP ratio.
2. It can lead to an increase in household savings.
3. It crowds out the private sector investment from the economy.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.12) The Goods and Services Tax (GST) compensation cess is utilized for:

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

Q.13) With reference to District Agro-Meteorology Units (DAMUs), consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.14) If credit growth continues to outpace deposits in the banks, then it will lead to which one of the following scenarios?

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

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

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

Q.16) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.17) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.18) Which one of the following best describes the main function of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) parks?

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

Q.19) The primary objective of implementing a Minimum Export Price (MEP) is to:

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

Q.20) With reference to Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry (BHASKAR) initiative, which of the following statements are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.21) Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) framework, seen in the news recently, aims to:

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

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

- 1. India leads the world in milk production and ranks second globally in fish production.
- 2. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) aims to promote inland tourism through fishery-based activities.

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) Which one of the following initiatives is a part of White Revolution 2.0 to support dairy farmers financially?

- a) Introduction of RuPay Kisan Credit Cards
- b) Subsidies on dairy equipment
- c) Free veterinary services
- d) Tax exemptions for dairy farmers

Q.24) Consider the following statements regarding the Minimum Support Price (MSP):

- 1. It is a price guarantee scheme intended to ensure that farmers receive a minimum price for their produce.
- 2. It increases the fiscal deficit due to higher procurement costs.
- 3. It can result in market distortions with private traders benefiting from MSP more than farmers.

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

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

Q.25) Which one of the following actions is the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) expected to take immediately in response to a U.S. Federal Reserve interest rate reduction?

- a) The RBI is likely to increase its interest rates.
- b) The RBI is likely to decrease its interest rates.
- c) The RBI is likely to maintain its current interest rates.
- d) The RBI is likely to adopt a wait-and-see approach.

Q.26) With reference to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council, consider the following statements:

1. The Union Finance Minister serves as the Chairperson of the GST Council.
2. A meeting of the GST Council requires a quorum of two-thirds of its total members.
3. The Council is responsible for adjudicating GST disputes between taxpayers and tax authorities.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.27) Consider the following statements:

1. The real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is calculated on a base year.
2. The National Statistical Office (NSO) is responsible for revising the GDP series.
3. If a country's Gross National Product (GNP) is significantly higher than its GDP, it signifies that the country has a large number of foreign-owned companies operating domestically.

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.28) Consider the following statements:

1. Indonesia supplies a significant amount of coal to India.
2. India ranks as the world's largest importer of coal.

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

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

Q.29) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. The Economic Survey 2024 suggests that India should rely on imports from China instead of integrating into Chinese supply chains through Chinese investments.
2. India is ranked highest among emerging and developing countries as a potential alternative investment destination to China.

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:

1. Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) aims to reduce reliance on private vehicles by promoting the use of public transit, walking, and cycling.
2. India's National Transit-Oriented Development Policy, 2017 encourages cities to become growth hubs through economic and transit planning.

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

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

Q.31) Which one of the following best describes the term Unemployment Rate (UR)?

- a) It is the ratio of the labor force participation rate to the total population.
- b) The proportion of the economically active population that is currently engaged in part-time employment but seeking full-time opportunities.
- c) The percentage of the labor force that is currently not employed but actively seeking and available to work.
- d) It measures the ratio of individuals who have voluntarily left their jobs to those who are currently employed.

Q.32) Which of the following are included in 'Make in India' initiative?

1. Automobile and Auto Components
2. Pharmaceuticals
3. Renewable Energy
4. Universal Basic Income

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.33) Which one of the following factors is most likely to cause the Indian rupee to appreciate against the US dollar?

- a) Rising inflation in India
- b) Increase in foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows into India
- c) India having a large trade deficit with the US
- d) High interest rates in the US compared to India

Q.34) Which one of the following best describes the impact of a K-shaped recovery on economic inequality?

- a) It reduces economic inequality by ensuring uniform growth across all sectors.
- b) It stabilizes economic inequality by balancing growth between the public and private sectors.
- c) It increases economic inequality by creating divergent recovery paths for different sectors.
- d) It temporarily shifts economic inequality before returning to pre-recovery levels.

Q.35) With reference to Vizhinjam International Seaport, consider the following statements:

1. It's the first solar-powered port in India.
2. It is expected to reduce India's dependence on foreign ports for transshipment.

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

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

Q.36) Consider the following statements:

1. A significant portion of India's foreign exchange reserves is allocated for crude purchases.
2. A reduced import bill could weaken the Indian Rupee, leading to higher inflation.

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

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

Q.37) Consider the following statements:

1. China is the largest producer of rice globally.
2. India is a leading exporter of rice globally.

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

- The windfall tax is applied only to profits that exceed a predetermined baseline or threshold, which represents typical earnings. This method targets extraordinary profits that are considered excessive or unearned, often due to external factors like market disruptions or regulatory changes.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (D)

- The primary aim of IPPB is to provide accessible, affordable, and reliable banking services to the common man, particularly targeting the unbanked and underbanked segments in both urban and rural areas. One of the standout features of IPPB is its doorstep banking service, which leverages the extensive postal network of over 1.55 lakh post offices and 3 lakh postal employees, including postmen and Gramin Dak Sevaks, to deliver banking services directly to customers' homes. IPPB offers services through a combination of digital platforms (such as mobile and internet banking) and physical presence (such as counter operations at post offices and micro-ATMs). IPPB is a payments bank and, by regulation, it cannot issue credit cards. Payments banks are restricted to offering limited banking services and cannot provide credit facilities like loans or credit cards.

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement-I is correct. India's domestic steel production has decreased by 8% in the first half of the year.
- Statement II is incorrect. India has seen a rise in steel imports, especially from China and Vietnam, which has led to a decrease in demand for locally produced steel. This is because imported steel is **cheaper, making it more attractive to Indian manufacturers.**

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. ULI is a digital platform designed to facilitate the seamless flow of both financial and non-financial data from multiple sources to lenders. This platform aims to streamline the credit appraisal process by providing lenders with easy access to comprehensive customer data, thereby making lending more efficient and reducing the need for extensive documentation. ULI is anticipated to revolutionize the lending landscape in India, much like how UPI transformed the payments ecosystem. By providing a standardized, digital platform for accessing credit-related data, ULI aims to make credit more accessible, especially for underserved segments like small and rural borrowers, similar to how UPI made digital payments widely accessible and efficient. ULI uses standardized Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) that allow different financial institutions to connect easily. This "plug and play" approach simplifies the integration of diverse data sources, reducing technical complexities. Lenders gain streamlined access to comprehensive customer data, enabling more accurate credit decisions and reducing fraud risks.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The AgriSURE Fund is primarily focused on supporting startups and agripreneurs in the agriculture sector through equity and debt investments, particularly in high-risk, high-impact activities. The fund is supported by contributions from the Government of India, NABARD, and other institutions, including private investors.
- Statement 3 is correct. The AgriSURE Fund is established as a Category-II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF).

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Gandhian model of development emphasizes decentralization, which involves empowering local communities and promoting self-sufficiency. This approach is reflected in Gandhi's concept of Swaraj, which emphasizes self-reliance and local governance. Decentralization is a key aspect of Gandhi's philosophy, with a focus on empowering individuals and communities rather than relying on centralized authority.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement-I: According to the ILO report, the global labour income share has declined over the past two decades.
- Statement II is correct. According to the recent data and report by the ILO, 21.7% of youth between 15 and 24 years were neither in education, employment, nor training (NEET). As per the reports, a fifth of young people were not in employment, education or training (NEET) in 2023.
- Statement III is correct. Businesses globally are increasingly implementing automation technologies and artificial intelligence (AI) systems, which is contributing to changes in labour dynamics.
- However, only Statement-III explains Statement-I. The decline in labour income is largely attributed to technological advancements and automation, including AI, which increase productivity but can reduce the share of income going to workers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- A Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) is a trade policy tool used in international trade that permits a certain quantity of a product to be imported at a lower tariff rate. Once the specified quantity is reached, any additional imports of that product are subject to a higher tariff rate. This mechanism serves several purposes such as Regulating Imports, Protecting Domestic Industries, Facilitating Trade Agreements. While TRQs are associated with imports, they can also be part of export arrangements under specific international trade agreements or bilateral arrangements, providing preferential access to certain markets.

Source: [DD News](#)

9. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The CPPS is designed to provide a national-level centralized system that allows pension payouts through any bank or branch in India. This initiative is part of the modernization efforts for the Employees' Pension Scheme, enabling pensioners to receive their pensions from any bank, any branch, anywhere in the country.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. One of the key features of the CPPS is that it eliminates the need for pensioners to transfer their Pension Payment Orders (PPO) when they relocate or change banks or branches. The system ensures uninterrupted pension delivery across India without the need for such transfers.

Source: [AIR](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)

- VFI refers to the situation where there is a mismatch between the revenue-raising powers and expenditure responsibilities of different levels of government, such as central and subnational governments. Typically, central governments have greater revenue-raising capabilities, while subnational governments (like states or provinces) have more expenditure responsibilities but limited revenue sources. This imbalance necessitates financial transfers from the central government to the subnational governments to enable them to meet their expenditure obligations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. A fiscal deficit occurs when a government's expenditures exceed its revenues, necessitating borrowing to cover the gap. This borrowing increases the national debt. As the debt increases while GDP remains constant or grows at a slower rate, the debt-to-GDP ratio rises. Crowding out occurs when government borrowing drives up interest rates, making it more expensive for the private sector to borrow and invest. This is a common concern with high fiscal deficits, as increased government borrowing can compete with the private sector for available funds, potentially leading to higher interest rates and reduced private investment.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. An increasing fiscal deficit does not lead to an increase in household savings. It can have the opposite effect. Higher borrowing costs due to increased government borrowing can reduce disposable income and thus decrease household savings.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (A)

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

21. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) framework is a comprehensive reporting mechanism introduced by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to enhance

transparency and accountability among Indian companies regarding their Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India is the world's largest producer of milk. Additionally, India ranks as the second-largest fish producer globally, following China, due to its robust aquaculture sector.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) focuses on sustainable development of the fisheries sector, enhancing fish production and productivity, doubling fishers' incomes, and generating employment opportunities.

Source: [AIR](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- The introduction of RuPay Kisan Credit Cards for dairy farmers is a key initiative under White Revolution 2.0. This initiative aims to provide dairy farmers with easier access to financial resources by offering interest-free cash credit. White Revolution 2.0 seeks to formally include women in the workforce by involving them in milk procurement processes. By depositing earnings directly into women's bank accounts, it aims to recognize their contribution and provide them with financial independence.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. MSP is a government intervention designed to provide farmers with a minimum price for their crops, ensuring they are protected against sharp declines in market prices. The MSP scheme can increase the fiscal deficit because it involves substantial government expenditure on procuring crops at the guaranteed prices, especially when market prices are lower than the MSP. This leads to increased fiscal spending and potential storage costs for procured goods.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. MSP may distort the market by incentivizing farmers to produce crops covered by MSP. This may result in overproduction of these crops and potential neglect of non-MSP crops, causing imbalances in agricultural production. Market distortion is done by farmers favoring MSP based crops rather than private traders benefiting from it.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (D)

- The RBI may adopt a "wait-and-see" approach to observe how the U.S. rate cut impacts global liquidity, foreign exchange rates, and capital inflows/outflows. India's economic conditions might not always align with the U.S., so a direct rate cut response is unlikely without a careful evaluation of domestic needs and international market reactions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Union Finance Minister is the Chairperson of the GST Council.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The quorum for a GST Council meeting is one-third of its total members. The GST Council primarily makes recommendations on tax rates, exemptions, and other policy matters, but it does not adjudicate disputes between taxpayers and tax authorities.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (C)

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Real GDP is calculated using base-year prices to adjust for inflation, allowing for a more accurate comparison of economic output over time. In India, the National Statistical Office (NSO), under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, is responsible for calculating and revising GDP figures, including updating the base year for GDP calculations.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. If a country's GNP is significantly higher than its GDP, it indicates that the country's nationals or companies are earning substantial income from abroad. The reverse—GDP being higher than GNP would suggest significant foreign ownership within the country.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Indonesia is a major supplier of thermal coal to India. Indonesia is the source for 45% of India's seaborne coal imports.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. India is the second-largest importer of coal globally, after Japan.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Economic Survey 2024 advocates for India to integrate into Chinese supply chains through foreign direct investment (FDI) from China, rather than relying solely on imports. The survey suggests that attracting Chinese investments would be more advantageous for boosting India's exports and participating in global supply chains.
- Statement 2 is correct. The UN report highlights India as a top investment destination, especially as Western companies look beyond China for their investments. India's economic growth and large domestic market make it an appealing alternative for global investors.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. TOD is designed to create urban environments that encourage the use of public transportation, walking, and cycling, thereby reducing dependence on private vehicles. The National TOD Policy introduced by India in 2017 aims to transform cities into growth hubs by integrating economic development with transit planning, promoting sustainable urban growth.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (C)

- The unemployment rate is the percentage of people in the labor force who are not currently employed but are actively looking for work and are available to start working. It serves as a key economic indicator, reflecting the health of an economy. A high unemployment rate suggests economic challenges, while a low rate indicates a strong job market. The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2023-24 reports no significant change in the overall unemployment rate (UR), which remains at 3.2%, like the previous year. The Labour Force Participation Rate has increased both in rural and urban areas.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Automobile and Auto Components:** This sector is a significant focus of the Make in India initiative, aiming to boost manufacturing and innovation in the automotive industry.
- **Pharmaceuticals:** The pharmaceutical sector is included in the Make in India initiative, focusing on enhancing domestic production and innovation in healthcare.

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

- **Renewable Energy:** Renewable energy is one of the sectors targeted by the Make in India initiative, with efforts to promote sustainable energy solutions and boost domestic manufacturing capabilities.
- **Universal Basic Income:** Universal Basic Income is not a sector or focus area within the Make in India initiative.

Source: [AIR](#)

33. Correct Answer is (B)

- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows increase the demand for the Indian rupee because foreign investors need to exchange their foreign currency (like the US dollar) for rupees to invest in Indian assets or businesses. This increased demand for the rupee strengthens its value, leading to appreciation.

Source: [AIR](#)

34. Correct Answer is (C)

- A K-shaped recovery increases economic inequality by causing uneven growth across sectors and groups. While some sectors, like tech and remote work, thrive, others, such as hospitality and low-wage jobs, struggle. This leads to a growing gap between the wealthy and the less affluent.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Vizhinjam International Seaport is significant as India's first deep-sea container transshipment terminal. It is set to transform the country's role in international maritime trade. It is located near Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala.
- Statement 2 is correct. One of the primary objectives of the Vizhinjam International Seaport is to establish itself as a major transshipment hub in the Indian Ocean region. Its strategic location near international shipping routes allows it to handle large container vessels directly.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. A significant portion of India's foreign exchange reserves is allocated for crude oil purchases.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. A reduced import bill would likely strengthen the Indian Rupee, as it decreases the demand for foreign currency needed to pay for imports. A stronger Rupee can help reduce inflation by lowering the cost of imports in Rupee terms.

Source: [DD News](#)

37. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. China holds the title of the largest rice producer in the world, with an annual production of approximately 147.691 million tonnes. India is a leading exporter in the world rice market.

Source: [DD News](#)

Environment

Q.1) Which one of the following is a unique geographical feature of Rajaji Tiger Reserve?

- a) It is entirely located in the Himalayan mountains
- b) It is bisected by the Ganges River flowing through it
- c) It consists only of grassland habitats
- d) It has no elevation changes throughout the reserve

Q.2) With reference to low-carbon hydrogen, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- 1. Low-carbon hydrogen is a hydrogen that is highly reactive and explosive.
- 2. The primary environmental benefit of using low-carbon hydrogen compared to conventional fuels is that it produces no carbon dioxide emissions when utilized as fuel.

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.3) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Great Nicobar is a biodiversity hotspot with indigenous communities and is located in a seismically active region.
- 2. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation (ANIIDCO) is a quasi-government agency responsible for trading, managing tourism resorts, and developing infrastructure on the island.

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

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

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to Loss and Damage Fund (LDF):

- 1. The fund aims to address both immediate disaster response and long-term resilience building.
- 2. It provides compensation for past and ongoing climate impacts.
- 3. Carbon credits from the global carbon market is one of the proposed sources of financing for the LDF.
- 4. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is currently serving as the interim trustee of the Fund.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Tiger reserves are notified by the state governments on the advice of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).
2. Human habitation and activities like hunting and collecting forest produce are prohibited in the core zone of the tiger reserve.
3. The NTCA was established in accordance with the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

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 statements:

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

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

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

Q.7) With reference to Golden langur, consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.8) With reference to PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) scheme, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.9) With reference to Neelakurinji flowers, consider the following statements:

1. The flowers can be found in both Eastern and Western Ghats.
2. The name of Nilgiri Mountains has been inspired from the flower.
3. The Kuruba tribe in Tamil Nadu used the blooming cycle of the flower to calculate their age.

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 statements:

1. Currently, India has a nationwide carbon tax that aims to price carbon emissions.
2. India is the first G-20 country to meet its climate goals from the Paris Agreement.

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 pairs:

Protocols/Agreements-----Governing Organizations

1. Kyoto Protocol----- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
2. Paris Agreement----- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
3. Cartagena Protocol----- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

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

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

Q.12) Consider the following statements:

1. Methane can contribute significantly to global warming by trapping more heat than carbon dioxide (CO₂) over shorter periods.
2. The Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol aimed to eliminate carbon dioxide emissions from industrial sources.
3. Carbon markets are designed to incentivize the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by providing financial rewards for cutting emissions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) are a major gas which contributes to rapid depletion of the ozone layer and warming climate.
2. Ozone formed in the stratosphere is called bad ozone, while ozone formed in the troposphere is called good ozone.
3. The Indian government has brought the Indian Cooling Action Plan (ICAP) to reduce the overall refrigerant demand by 25% to 30% by 2037-38.
4. India is signatories to both Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone layer and the Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the Ozone layer.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.14) Consider the following:

1. Manas National Park
2. Bandhavgarh National Park
3. Jaldapara National Park
4. Ranthambore National Park

How many of the national parks listed above are home to the one-horned rhinoceros?

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

Q.15) With reference to the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH) scheme, consider the following statements:

1. One of its aims is to increase the number of zoos in India.
2. The scheme also provides compensation for loss of life and property due to wildlife.

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

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

Q.16) Consider the following statements regarding Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment):

1. The mission encourages environmentally conscious behaviors that can significantly reduce waste and resource exploitation.
2. It advocates for regenerative economy to balance development, economic growth, and sustainability.

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

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

Q.17) With reference to the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), consider the following statements:

1. It has collaborated with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to enhance air quality management.
2. It is responsible for implementing policies like the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP).
3. It has the authority to issue directions and impose penalties for non-compliance with its orders.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.18) With reference to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), consider the following statements:

1. The SDGs focus on achieving a balance between social progress, economic growth, and environmental sustainability for global development by 2030.
2. The principle of "Leaving No One Behind" of the SDGs aims at providing universal access to the internet and modern technology.
3. It includes a target to eliminate AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.19) Consider the following:

1. Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
2. Support for energy independence
3. Increase in the energy content of fuel
4. Requires minimal land and water resources for production

How many of the above are the benefits of ethanol?

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

Q.20) Which one of the following best describes the legal and institutional framework governing the powers of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM)?

- a) It is part of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change but operates independently with judicial oversight from the Supreme Court.
- b) It is a statutory body with quasi-judicial powers and can override the decisions of state pollution control boards.
- c) It functions under the NITI Aayog with limited enforcement powers, focusing on regional air quality improvements.
- d) It is a technical advisory body to state governments with no regulatory powers.

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

1. Sovereign Green Bonds are legally required to fund a country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) commitments.
2. The Green Finance Working Committee (GFWC) is responsible for overseeing the selection of eligible projects for funding through India's sovereign green bonds.
3. The Green Shoe Option in the Sovereign Green Bonds is used to accommodate additional investor demand beyond the initially planned issuance.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.22) With reference to Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESAs), consider the following statements:

1. These areas are declared under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
2. ESAs can extend maximum up to 1 kilometer from national parks and wildlife sanctuaries.
3. ESAs often contain a high number of endemic species.

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 regarding the National Green Tribunal (NGT):

1. It has jurisdiction over only civil cases that involve significant environmental issues.
2. It has no enforcement powers.
3. It does not have jurisdiction over the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.24) In the context of carbon finance, "common practice" refers to:

- a) The most advanced technology available for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- b) The most cost-effective method for achieving emission reductions.
- c) The standard practices and technologies used by similar projects or activities in the same sector or region for reducing emissions.
- d) The theoretical maximum potential for emission reductions in a particular sector.

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Rajaji Tiger Reserve was established in 1983 by merging three wildlife sanctuaries and it is located in Uttarakhand. It is named after C. Rajagopalachari. The reserve is situated along the foothills of the Shivalik range of the Himalayas. The Ganga and Song rivers flow through the reserve, adding to its ecological diversity. It is a critical corridor for wildlife movement between the western and eastern regions of the Himalayas. It is part of India's Project Tiger and Project Elephant. The unique geographical feature of Rajaji Tiger Reserve is that it is bisected by the Ganges River flowing through it.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The term "low-carbon hydrogen" refers to hydrogen that is produced with minimal carbon emissions, not its reactivity or explosiveness. The focus of low-carbon hydrogen is on reducing carbon emissions during its production, not on its chemical properties.
- Statement 2 is correct. One of the main environmental benefits of using hydrogen as a fuel is that it does not produce carbon dioxide emissions when burned; instead, it produces water. This makes it a cleaner alternative to fossil fuels, which emit CO₂ and other greenhouse gases when combusted.

Source: [DD News](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Great Nicobar is part of the Sundaland global biodiversity hotspot, known for its rich biodiversity, including unique and endemic species. It is home to indigenous communities such as the Shompen and Nicobarese tribes. Additionally, the region is located in a high-risk seismic zone, making it prone to earthquakes and other seismic activities. ANIIDCO is a public sector corporation established to promote the integrated development of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It is involved in various activities, including infrastructure development, tourism promotion, and trade management.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Loss and Damage Fund is designed to provide financial support for both immediate disaster response and long-term resilience building to address the impacts of climate change. The LDF is intended to help developing countries compensate for losses and damages resulting from climate change, which includes both past and ongoing impacts.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. While innovative sources of financing, such as taxes on fossil fuels and other mechanisms, have been discussed, carbon credits from the global carbon market are not proposed source of financing for the LDF. The World Bank is serving as the interim trustee for the Loss and Damage Fund.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Tiger reserves are notified by the state governments on the advice of the NTCA, as per the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The core zones, also known as critical tiger habitats, are intended to be "inviolable," meaning they are kept free from human habitation and activities like hunting and collecting forest produce to maintain a viable population of breeding tigers.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The NTCA was established under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

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Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [DD News](#)

8. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Neelakurinji is primarily found in the Western Ghats, particularly in the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka. However, Neelakurinji can also be seen in the Shevroy Hills of the Eastern Ghats. The Nilgiri Mountains, which means "blue mountains," derive their name from the Neelakurinji flowers due to their purplish-blue color when they bloom.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Paliyan tribe in Tamil Nadu used the blooming cycle of Neelakurinji to calculate their age. Neelakurinji is a shrub that belongs to the Acanthaceae family and the Strobilanthes genus. Its most notable feature is its unusual flowering pattern - it blooms only once every 12 years, covering entire hillsides in a purplish-blue flower. The flowering cycle is used as an indicator of ecosystem health.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India does not have a comprehensive nationwide carbon tax specifically targeting carbon emissions across all sectors.
- Statement 2 is correct. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has claimed that India is the first G-20 country to achieve its Paris Climate commitments ahead of schedule.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Kyoto Protocol** is part of the UNFCCC and focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- **The Paris Agreement** is also under the UNFCCC, focusing on limiting global temperature rise.
- **Cartagena Protocol** is under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and regulates the safe handling of living modified organisms.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas that traps significantly more heat than carbon dioxide over short periods, despite having a shorter atmospheric lifespan. Carbon markets aim to reduce GHG emissions by allowing the trade of carbon credits, thereby providing financial incentives for emission reductions.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Kigali Amendment focuses on reducing hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) which are potent greenhouse gases.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 3 and 4 are correct. CFCs are well-known for their role in depleting the ozone layer by releasing chlorine atoms in the stratosphere, which break down ozone molecules. Additionally, CFCs are potent greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming. The India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP) aims to reduce refrigerant demand by 25% to 30% by 2037-38 as part of its broader goals to enhance energy efficiency and promote sustainable cooling technologies. India is a signatory to both the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol, which are key international agreements aimed at protecting the ozone layer by phasing out ozone-depleting substances.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Ozone in the stratosphere is considered "good" because it forms a protective layer that absorbs harmful ultraviolet radiation from the sun. Conversely, ozone in the troposphere is considered "bad" because it contributes to air pollution and has harmful effects on human health and vegetation.

Source: [DD News](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

- The one-horned rhinoceros, also known as the Indian rhinoceros, can be found in the following national parks: Kaziranga National Park (Assam), Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary (Assam), Manas National Park (Assam), Orang National Park (Assam), Jaldapara National Park (West Bengal), Gorumara National Park (West Bengal), and Dudhwa National Park (Uttar Pradesh).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The IDWH scheme is primarily focused on the conservation and protection of wildlife habitats, both within and outside protected areas, and includes recovery programs for critically endangered species.

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

- Statement 2 is correct. The IDWH scheme addresses human-wildlife conflict, which includes providing measures such as compensation for loss of life and property due to wildlife interactions.

Source: [AIR](#)

16. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Mission LiFE aims to promote sustainable lifestyles by encouraging individuals to adopt behaviors that reduce waste and minimize resource exploitation. It focuses on principles such as "reduce, reuse, and recycle" to foster a culture of sustainability.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Mission LiFE primarily focuses on the principles of a circular economy rather than advocating for a regenerative economy.

Source: [AIR](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) is a statutory body established in August 2021 to address air quality issues in the National Capital Region (NCR) and surrounding areas, including parts of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh. The CAQM does not directly collaborate with the UNEP for enhancing air quality management.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The CAQM is responsible for implementing policies such as the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) to manage air quality in the National Capital Region and adjoining areas. The CAQM has substantial powers, including issuing directions and imposing penalties for non-compliance with its orders.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to balance social, economic, and environmental dimensions of development to achieve sustainable global progress by 2030. Ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030 is a goal under SDG 3, which aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for everyone.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The principle of "Leaving No One Behind" is about prioritizing the poorest and most vulnerable, eradicating poverty, reducing inequalities, and ensuring that everyone benefits from development gains. It does not specifically focus on providing universal access to the internet and modern technology.

Source: [AIR](#)

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions:** Ethanol is shown to reduce greenhouse gas emissions significantly compared to traditional fossil fuels.
- **Supports energy independence:** Ethanol contributes to energy independence by reducing reliance on imported oil and increasing domestic energy production.
- **Increases the energy content of fuel:** Ethanol does not increase the energy content of fuel; in fact, it generally has a lower energy content than gasoline.
- **Requires minimal land and water resources for production:** Ethanol production, particularly from corn, can be resource-intensive, requiring significant land and water resources. The same case would be with the sugarcane.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- The CAQM was established under the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021, as a statutory body with significant authority to manage air

quality issues in the National Capital Region (NCR) and adjoining areas. It has the power to issue binding directions, coordinate actions among states, and its decisions can override those of state pollution control boards.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Sovereign Green Bonds are often used to fund projects that align with a country's environmental goals and can support efforts related to NDCs under the Paris Agreement. However, there is no legal requirement that mandates their use specifically for NDC commitments.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Green Finance Working Committee (GFWC), established by the Ministry of Finance and chaired by the Chief Economic Advisor, oversees the issuance of sovereign green bonds in India. It is responsible for selecting eligible green projects and ensuring that funds are allocated appropriately. The Green Shoe Option allows issuers to accept additional subscriptions beyond the initially planned amount if there is high investor demand, providing flexibility in managing the issuance process.

Source: [DD News](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESAs), often referred to as Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs), are notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. ESZs can extend up to 10 kilometers or more around protected areas according to the Wildlife Conservation Strategy of 2002.
- Statement 3 is correct. ESAs are designated due to their unique biological resources and often contain a high number of endemic species, which are species native to a particular area and not found elsewhere.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The NGT has jurisdiction over all civil cases involving substantial questions relating to the environment, including the enforcement of any legal rights related to environmental issues. The NGT does not have jurisdiction over matters related to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NGT has enforcement powers. It can provide relief and compensation for damages, order restitution of property and the environment, and its orders are executable as a decree of a civil court. Additionally, it can impose penalties for non-compliance, including fines and imprisonment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (C)

- In the context of carbon finance, "common practice" refers to the standard practices and technologies that are widely adopted by similar projects or activities within a specific sector or region for reducing emissions. This concept is crucial for assessing the additionality of a project, which is a key criterion for determining eligibility for carbon credits. Additionality ensures that the emission reductions achieved by a project are beyond what would have occurred under normal circumstances without financial incentives. If a project employs practices that are considered common, it may not qualify for **carbon credits because these activities are likely to occur anyway.**

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Science & Technology

Q.1) Consider the following pairs:

Concepts-----Descriptions

1. Bio-Scaffolds-----Structures used to support cell growth and tissue formation
2. Bio-Banking-----Production of biological products using living cells or organisms
3. Biomarkers-----Indicators used to measure biological processes or responses
4. Bio-Manufacturing-----Storage of biological samples for research and clinical use

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. Integrated Theatre Commands (ITCs) aims to promote cultural exchange between military services and seek higher defence budget allocation.
2. Joint Logistics Nodes (JLNs) aim to streamline logistics and resource utilization across the military 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.3) Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the Next Generation Sequencing (NGS)?

- a) It allows the simultaneous sequencing of millions of DNA fragments, providing high-throughput and rapid sequencing capabilities.
- b) It can only sequence a single DNA molecule at a time, making it a slow and labour-intensive process.
- c) It requires significantly more input DNA compared to traditional Sanger sequencing, limiting its use in clinical applications.
- d) It produces results with lower accuracy and longer turnaround times compared to older sequencing methods.

Q.4) Palaeogenomics is used to:

- a) Study the genetic evolution of modern species
- b) Analyze ancient DNA to understand past evolutionary and ecological processes
- c) Develop new agricultural practices
- d) Investigate the origins of human languages

Q.5) With reference to Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), consider the following statements:

1. DAC is headed by the Chief of Defence Staff.
2. It conducts the field trials for newly procured defence equipment.
3. The Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) is a formal approval granted by the DAC to begin the procurement process for military equipment.

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. Cellular Networks
2. Wi-Fi
3. Fiber To The Home (FTTH)
4. Radio Frequency Identification (RFID)
5. Near-Field Communication (NFC)
6. Satellite networks

How many of the above are parts of Machine-to-Machine (M2M) services?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The navies of India and South Africa have signed an agreement to enhance cooperation in submarine rescue.
2. The Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) is a specialized vehicle capable of rescuing submarine crew members from depths of up to 650 meters.

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 set a target to eliminate tuberculosis (TB) earlier than the global target set by the United Nations.
2. BPALM regimen is primarily designed to treat extrapulmonary TB.

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

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

Q.9) Consider the following pairs:

Weapon System-----Type

1. Agni-V-----Ballistic Missile
2. BrahMos----- Cruise Missile
3. Astra----- Air-to-Air Missiles (AAM)
4. S-400-----Anti-Tank Missile

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.10) Consider the following pairs:

Military Exercises-----Objectives

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

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.12) With reference to the Mpox virus, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.14) With reference to the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT), consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.15) Which one of the following is the significance of the 'Samanvay' platform launched as part of cybercrime prevention efforts?

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

Q.16) With reference to the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.17) Organ-on-a-chip technology, an innovative field within biomedical engineering, finds application in which one of the following?

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

Q.18) Consider the following statements with respect to the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS):

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

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

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

Q.19) With reference to the disease cholera, consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.20) With reference to the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.21) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.22) With reference to the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VL-SRSAM), consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.23) With reference to Nipah Virus, consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.24) Consider the following statements:

1. Quantum Natural Language Processing (QNLP) leverages the principles of quantum computing to enhance the processing of human language.
2. Quantum Generative AI (QGen) is designed to generate or analyze complex data sets more efficiently than classical models.

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

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

Q.25) The primary purpose of Artificial Insemination in livestock is to:

- a) Increase the rate of genetic improvement in food-producing animals
- b) Prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases among animals
- c) Reduce the cost of maintaining breeding males
- d) Eliminate the need for natural mating in animals

Q.26) With reference to TRISHNA (Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural Resource Assessment) mission, consider the following statements:

1. The mission aims to study the solar radiation effect on Earth's atmosphere.
2. The satellite under the mission will operate in sun-synchronous orbit.

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 pairs:

Proposed Space Missions-----Objectives

1. Chandrayaan-4 Mission----- Map the lunar surface
2. Venus Orbiter Mission----- Study the Venus atmosphere
3. Gaganyaan Mission Expansion----- Build Indian space station

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.28) A person has been diagnosed with an Mpox virus infection. Which one of the following methods would be most effective in identifying the specific strain of the virus in this individual?

- a) Blood glucose test
- b) Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- c) Genome sequencing
- d) Electrocardiogram (ECG)

Q.29) Which one of the following is the causative agent of Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM)?

- a) Acanthamoeba
- b) Naegleria fowleri
- c) Balamuthia mandrillaris
- d) Entamoeba histolytica

Q.30) In the context of nuclear reactor, criticality refers to:

- a) The state in which a nuclear reactor is stable and self-sustaining a nuclear chain reaction.
- b) The point at which a nuclear reactor is fully decommissioned, and all radioactive materials are safely removed.
- c) The point at which a nuclear reactor begins to overheat and requires emergency shutdown procedures.
- d) The phase during which a nuclear reactor is being constructed and tested for safety compliance.

Q.31) With reference to Yudh Abhyas 2024 exercise, consider the following statements:

1. It is the annual joint military exercise between India and France.
2. The exercise is being conducted in Ladakh, India.
3. The exercise aims to enhance joint military capability in conventional warfare.

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:

Statement-I: India faces a triple burden of malnutrition.

Statement-II: Many Indians have diets that lack nutritional diversity.

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.33) Consider the following statements regarding Robotic MULE (Multi-Utility Legged Equipment):

- 1. The primary purpose of introducing Robotic Mules in the Indian Army is to enhance combat and surveillance missions.
- 2. Global Positioning System (GPS) and satellite communication enable robotic mules to navigate obstacles and recognize objects.

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

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

Q.34) Consider the following:

- 1. Chinook
- 2. Light Combat Helicopter (LCH)
- 3. Apache
- 4. Light Utility Helicopter (LUH)

How many of the helicopters listed above are indigenously developed and used by the Indian Army?

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

Q.35) In the context of academic publishing, what does the term "retraction" refer to?

- a) The process of adding supplementary material to a published paper.
- b) The removal of a paper from scientific literature due to significant flaws.
- c) The correction of minor errors in a published paper.
- d) The rejection of a paper before publication.

Q.36) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) is designed for tactical deployment on the battlefield.
- 2. Agni-V missile in India is an Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM).

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) The BrahMos is a:

- Ballistic missile
- Hypersonic missile
- Supersonic cruise missile
- Subsonic missile

Q.38) With reference to Area Denial Munition (ADM) System, consider the following statements:

- Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launcher is associated with the integration of ADM.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is responsible for the development of ADM.

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

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

Q.39) The 'Create in India' challenge is an initiative launched by the Indian government to foster creativity and talent across emerging sectors. It is a part of:

- International Audio-Visual & Digital Arts Expo (IAVDA) 2024
- World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) 2024
- World Digital Media & Entertainment Conclave (WDMEC) 2024
- Global Digital Media & Entertainment Summit (GDMEC) 2024

Q.40) Dark matter is:

- A type of matter that emits light and can be seen with telescopes.
- A hypothetical form of matter that does not interact with electromagnetic radiation
- A type of antimatter that annihilates regular matter.
- A form of matter that exists only in black holes.

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- 1 and 3 are correctly matched.**
- Bio-scaffolds:** Bio-scaffolds are structures used in tissue engineering to support the growth of new tissues. They are typically made from biomaterials and are designed to mimic the extracellular matrix of natural tissues. These scaffolds provide a framework for cells to attach, grow, and form new tissue.

They are often porous to allow for nutrient and waste exchange and can be biodegradable, breaking down as the new tissue forms.

- **Bio-banking:** Bio-banking refers to the process of collecting, storing, and managing biological samples, such as blood, tissue, or DNA, for use in research and medicine. These samples are preserved for future studies to understand diseases, develop new treatments, and improve healthcare outcomes. Bio-banks play a crucial role in biomedical research by providing high-quality biological materials.
- **Biomarkers:** Biomarkers are biological indicators used to measure and evaluate physiological or pathological processes or responses to a treatment. They can be molecules, genes, or characteristics that indicate a particular disease state or condition. Biomarkers are essential in diagnosing diseases, predicting disease progression, and monitoring treatment responses.
- **Bio-manufacturing:** Bio-manufacturing involves using biological systems, such as microorganisms or cell cultures, to produce commercially valuable products. This field combines biotechnology and manufacturing processes to create products like pharmaceuticals, biofuels, and food ingredients. Bio-manufacturing is essential for producing complex biological products that cannot be synthesized chemically.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary aim of Integrated Theatre Commands (ITCs) is to unify the command structure of the Army, Navy, and Air Force for specific geographical areas to enhance operational efficiency and coordination during conflicts. The proposal includes three theatre commands: two for land operations focusing on India's western and northern borders, and one maritime command for the coastline. These commands will be led by four-star officers, similar to the heads of the individual military branches.
- Statement 2 is correct. Joint Logistics Nodes (JLNs) are established to provide integrated logistics support, such as ammunition, fuel, and supplies, to all branches of the military. The goal is to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and optimize resource utilization across the military services.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- NGS is designed to sequence millions of DNA fragments simultaneously, which allows for rapid data generation and analysis. This high-throughput capability is a significant advantage over traditional sequencing methods. It is a revolutionary technology in the field of genomics that allows for the rapid and simultaneous sequencing of millions of DNA or RNA fragments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Palaeogenomics involves studying the genomes of ancient organisms. By analyzing ancient DNA, scientists can gain insights into how species have evolved over time and how they interacted with their environments. This helps in reconstructing past evolutionary and ecological processes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

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

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The DAC is headed by the Defence Minister. The DAC does not conduct field trials. Field trials are conducted by the respective branches of the armed forces or designated agencies to evaluate the equipment in real-world conditions.
- Statement 3 is correct. The AoN is a formal approval granted by the DAC, which marks the beginning **of the procurement process for military equipment.**

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

- Machine-to-Machine (M2M) services encompass a range of technologies that enable devices to communicate with each other without human intervention. Examples include: Cellular Networks, Wi-Fi, Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), Bluetooth, Near-Field Communication (NFC), Satellite Communication, Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs). However, Fiber To The Home (FTTH) is not associated with M2M services, as it is primarily used for providing high-speed internet access to residential users rather than facilitating machine-to-machine communication.

Source: [AIR](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Indian and South African navies have signed an agreement to improve cooperation in submarine rescue operations, ensuring mutual support and safety for submarine crews in distress. Under this agreement, the Indian Navy will provide assistance by deploying its Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) when needed. The DSRV can operate at depths of up to 650 meters and is designed to rescue crew members from disabled submarines.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India has set a target to eliminate TB by 2025, which is five years ahead of the global target of 2030 set by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The BPaLM regimen is primarily designed for the treatment of multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB). It has been recently approved for use in several countries, including India. It is a novel treatment option that includes a combination of drugs: Bedaquiline, Pretomanid, Linezolid, and Moxifloxacin. This regimen is intended to be a more effective, safer, and quicker alternative to traditional MDR-TB treatments, reducing the treatment duration from up to 20 months to just six months.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

- 1, 2 and 3 are correctly matched.
- **Ballistic Missiles:** These include a range of surface-to-surface missiles such as the Prithvi series and the Agni series, which vary from short-range to intercontinental ballistic missiles. For example, the Agni-V is an intercontinental ballistic missile with a range of 5,500 to 8,000 km.
- **Cruise Missiles:** These are designed to deliver a large warhead over long distances with high precision. India's notable cruise missiles include the BrahMos, a supersonic cruise missile developed in collaboration with Russia, and the Nirbhay, a subsonic land-attack cruise missile.
- **Air-to-Air Missiles (AAM):** These missiles are launched from aircraft to target other aircraft. Examples include the Astra missile, which has a range of 80-110 km.
- **Surface-to-Air Missiles (SAM):** These are designed to target and destroy incoming aerial threats. India uses various SAM systems, including the Akash and the S-400.

Source: [DD News](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)

- 1, 2 and 4 are correctly matched.
- **Yudh Abhyas Exercise:** Yudh Abhyas is a joint military exercise between India and the United States, focusing on enhancing interoperability and conducting UN peacekeeping operations, which include

counter-terrorism activities under the UN mandate. It is set to begin at the Mahajan field firing ranges in Rajasthan.

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) are a collection of satellite constellations that provide geolocation and time information to users worldwide. GPS, developed and operated by the United States, is the most widely recognized and used GNSS system worldwide.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. GNSS is primarily used in agriculture for precision farming, which involves tasks such as mapping fields, monitoring crop health, and guiding machinery with high precision.

While GNSS can be integrated with other technologies that provide weather data, it does not directly provide real-time weather data itself.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Nipah virus is a zoonotic virus, meaning it can be transmitted from animals to humans. It causes severe disease in humans, leading to fatal outcomes, with a case fatality rate ranging from 40% to 75%.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. Nipah virus outbreaks have primarily been reported in parts of Asia, particularly in countries like Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Philippines.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. QNLP uses quantum computing principles to improve natural language or human language processing by leveraging quantum mechanics to process linguistic structures more efficiently than classical methods. Quantum Generative AI utilizes quantum mechanics, such as superposition and entanglement, to generate complex data distributions and potentially outperform classical models in certain scenarios.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Artificial insemination (AI) is a widely used technique in livestock breeding, particularly because it allows for the rapid dissemination of desirable genetic traits across a large population. In animal husbandry, AI is primarily used to improve genetic quality and productivity. It allows for the widespread use of superior sires' genetic material, enhancing the breeding efficiency of livestock such as dairy cattle and pigs. While AI also helps prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, reduces the cost of maintaining breeding males, and eliminates the need for natural mating, its primary purpose and most significant advantage lie in accelerating genetic improvement within livestock populations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary objectives of the TRISHNA mission are to monitor Earth's surface temperature, water resources, urban heat islands, volcanic and geothermal activity, cryosphere, and water quality. It is a collaborative effort between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the French Space Agency (CNES).
- Statement 2 is correct. TRISHNA will operate in a sun-synchronous orbit at an altitude of 761 km. TRISHNA is equipped with two primary payloads: Thermal InfraRed (TIR) Payload and Visible-Near InfraRed-Short Wave InfraRed (VNIR-SWIR) Payload.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Chandrayaan-4 Mission:** This mission aims to bring moon rocks back to Earth, a significant step forward in India's lunar exploration efforts.
- **Venus Orbiter Mission:** India plans to launch its second interplanetary mission to orbit Venus by March 2028. It aims to study the atmosphere and geology of Venus.
- **Gaganyaan Expansion:** The Gaganyaan Mission Expansion focuses on preparing for India's first human spaceflight and developing a space station.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (C)

- The most effective method for identifying the specific strain of the Mpox virus in an individual is Genome sequencing. Genome sequencing provides detailed information about the virus's genetic material, allowing for precise identification of the strain and any genetic variations or mutations present.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (B)

- Naegleria fowleri is a free-living amoeba commonly referred to as the "brain-eating amoeba" because it can cause a rare and usually fatal brain infection known as Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM). This organism thrives in warm freshwater environments such as lakes, rivers, and hot springs. Infection typically occurs when contaminated water enters the body through the nose, allowing the amoeba to travel to the brain where it causes severe inflammation and tissue destruction.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (A)

- In the context of a nuclear reactor, "criticality" refers to the condition where the reactor is in a stable state, maintaining a self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction. This means that each fission event produces enough neutrons to continue the chain reaction without increasing or decreasing in intensity. It is an essential operating condition for a nuclear reactor to function safely and effectively.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. Yudh Abhyas is an annual joint military exercise between India and the United States. The Yudh Abhyas 2024 exercise is being conducted at the Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan, India. The exercise aims to enhance joint military capabilities in conducting counter-terrorism operations within a sub-conventional warfare setting, aligning with Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

Source: [AIR](#)

32. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement-I is correct. India faces a triple burden of malnutrition, which includes undernutrition, overnutrition (obesity), and micronutrient deficiencies.
- Statement-II is correct. Studies have shown that low dietary diversity is a significant issue in India, contributing to poor nutritional outcomes such as stunting, wasting, and micronutrient deficiencies among children.
- Hence, the lack of nutritional diversity in diets directly contributes to the triple burden of malnutrition by failing to provide adequate nutrients needed to prevent undernutrition, overnutrition, and micronutrient deficiencies.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The robotic mules, also referred to as MULEs, are designed to enhance combat and surveillance missions. They are equipped with technologies such as thermal cameras and radars, which are essential for reconnaissance and surveillance operations in challenging terrains.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The navigation and object recognition capabilities of the Robotic MULEs are enabled by electro-optics and infrared sensors, not GPS and satellite communication.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Light Combat Helicopter (LCH):** It has been developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). The LCH is an indigenous multi-role combat helicopter designed for high-altitude operations.
- **Light Utility Helicopter (LUH):** It has also been developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). The LUH is an indigenous helicopter intended to replace the aging fleet of Cheetah and Chetak helicopters in the Indian Army and Air Force.

10 PM MCQs Compilation September 2024

- However, the Chinook and Apache helicopters are not indigenously developed; they are purchased from Boeing, a U.S. company.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (B)

- A retraction occurs when a published paper is withdrawn from scientific literature because of major issues such as misconduct, errors, or fraudulent data. This process is crucial for maintaining the integrity of scientific research and ensuring that inaccurate or misleading information does not continue to circulate within the academic community.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. ICBMs are strategic weapons, not tactical weapons. They are designed for long-range delivery of nuclear warheads and are part of a country's strategic deterrent forces.
- Statement 2 is correct. Agni-V is classified as an intercontinental ballistic missile with a range of over 5,000 kilometers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (C)

- The BrahMos missile is a medium-range, ramjet-powered supersonic cruise missile developed as a joint venture between India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya. It is capable of being launched from land, sea, and air platforms and is known for its high speed, precision, and versatility.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

38. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The ADM system is associated with the Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launcher. The Pinaka system has been tested with various munitions, including ADMs, as part of its capability to deliver a range of ammunition types. The DRDO is responsible for the development of the ADM system. It has been involved in designing and testing these munitions, as well as transferring the technology to industry partners for production.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

39. Correct Answer is (B)

- The "Create in India" challenge was introduced by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting as part of the World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) 2024. This initiative is designed to boost the creators' economy by providing a platform for showcasing talent in various creative fields. The challenge includes 25 competitions covering a wide range of disciplines such as animation, filmmaking, gaming, music, and visual arts. It aims to spotlight and support talented individuals on a global stage, aligning with the vision of "Design in India, Design for the World."

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (B)

- Dark matter is a form of matter that does not emit, absorb, or reflect light, making it invisible and undetectable by traditional telescopes. It is hypothesized to exist because of its gravitational effects on visible matter in the universe, such as galaxies and galaxy clusters.

Source: [The Hindu](#)