

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

November, 2024 2nd Week

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Art & Culture

Q.1) With reference to the Sarangi instrument, which of the following statements are correct?

1. Sarangi gained prominence with the rise in popularity of the Thumri style of music.
2. Wood is the primary material used for the main body of the Sarangi.
3. It is mainly used in Carnatic music.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.2) In terms of Carnatic music, the Mridangam refers to:

- a) A type of flute that is commonly played in Carnatic music festivals.
- b) A double-headed percussion instrument used in Carnatic music.
- c) A string instrument that provides melodic support in Carnatic concerts.
- d) A wind instrument used to accompany vocal performances in Carnatic music.

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Dogra architecture reflects a fusion of Hindu, Islamic, and Sikh architectural styles.
2. Bhaakh, a Dogra folk music style, is sung without any musical instruments.

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) Which one of the following principles is NOT one of the three pillars of Sikhism?

- a) Naam Japna (Meditation on God's name)
- b) Kirat Karni (Honest work)
- c) Vand Chakna (Sharing with others)
- d) Ahimsa (Non-violence)

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Boro, a language spoken by Bodo community, is recognized under the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution.
2. Bwisagu is a famous festival celebrated by the Bodo community.

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

Modern Indian History

Q.6) The Unity of India' and 'The Discovery of India' are books written by:

- a) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- c) B. R. Ambedkar
- d) C. Rajagopalachari

Q.7) Janjatiya Gaurav Divas is celebrated on November 15th every year because:

- It commemorates the signing of the Indian Constitution
- It honors the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda
- It marks the victory of Indian forces in the Kargil War
- It celebrates the establishment of the first tribal university in India

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- The Santhal Rebellion was caused due to a dispute over religious practices between Santhals and British missionaries.
- Sido Murmu was the leader of Santhal Rebellion.
- The Santhals employed guerrilla warfare tactics during their rebellion against British forces.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Geography

Q.9) Which one of the following statements is NOT correct regarding the total fertility rate (TFR)?

- It represents the average number of children that would be born to a woman over her lifetime.
- A TFR of 2.1 children per woman is considered the replacement level fertility rate in most developed countries.
- TFR is directly proportional to a country's development indicators.
- The TFR in India has been declining and is now below the replacement level in many states.

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- Milletts are water-intensive crops.
- Sugarcane cultivation has significant environmental impacts.
- India is the largest tea producer in the world.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Q.11) With reference to the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), consider the following statements:

- It purchases cotton from farmers at minimum support price (MSP).
- It operates under the administrative control of Ministry of Textiles.
- It is also responsible for promoting cotton exports.

How many of the statements give above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Q.12) With reference to the Glacial Lakes Outburst Flood (GLOF), consider the following statements:

- GLOF is primarily caused by the heavy rainfall in mountainous regions.
- Formation of moraine-dammed lakes increases the risk of GLOFs in glacial regions.

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

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

Q.13) Mount Lewotobi Laki-Laki volcano is located in:

- a) Indonesia
- b) Japan
- c) United States
- d) Philippines

Q.14) Consider the following statements with respect to the Barak River:

- 1. It is the longest river in Northeast India.
- 2. It originates from the Na Lushai hills in Mizoram.
- 3. It flows entirely within the borders of India.

How many of the statements give above are correct?

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

Polity

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

- 1. An educational institution established by a minority community loses its minority status after it's recognized by law.
- 2. Article 30(1) of the Indian Constitution gives religious and linguistic minorities the right to set up and run educational institutions.

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

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

Q.16) With reference to the Centralised Pension Payments System (CPPS), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a regional pension distribution network.
- 2. It allows pensioners to receive their pensions from any bank, any branch, anywhere in India.
- 3. Under the system, pensions will be credited immediately upon release, without the need for pensioners to visit their bank branch for verification.

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) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Part IV of the Constitution contains guidelines called Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP).
- 2. Article 31B ensures that no law under Article 39(b) and (c) can be challenged on the grounds of violating fundamental rights.
- 3. The right to property is only a constitutional right.
- 4. Any privately-owned property could be considered a material resource for public good.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.18) Who among the following has the constitutional authority to administer the oath to the Chief Justice of India?

- a) Prime Minister of India
- b) President of India
- c) Vice President of India
- d) Outgoing Chief Justice

Q.19) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Article 293 of the Indian Constitution gives state governments the power to borrow money within India, using their own Consolidated Fund of the State as security.
- 2. Net Borrowing Ceiling (NBC) limit applies to all types of borrowing by the states.
- 3. The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2003 set a target for the fiscal deficit to not exceed 2% of GDP for the central government.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.20) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Minority institutions in India are exempted from reserving seats for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).
- 2. The presence religious instruction or religious building in an institution is a key factor for determining an institution's minority status.
- 3. Article 30(1) also applies to educational institutions established before the Constitution's adoption.

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.21) What does the term "oral mentioning" by lawyers refer to in court procedures?

- a) A lawyer's formal written request for an urgent hearing
- b) A lawyer verbally requesting the court to list a case for urgent hearing
- c) A lawyer submitting evidence orally during a trial
- d) A lawyer appealing a court decision orally

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

- 1. As per Article 16(4) of the Constitution, only communities that are inadequately represented in public services can receive job quotas.
- 2. The "creamy layer" among Other Backward Classes (OBCs) is determined by their geographical locations and education attained within OBC communities.

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

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

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

1. Delimitation refers to the process of adjusting the number of Lok Sabha seats based on population and redrawing the boundaries of constituencies.
2. The most recent delimitation of the Lok Sabha was conducted using data from the 2011 Census.
3. State governments do not have any roles in delimitation.
4. The orders of the Delimitation Commission can only be challenged in the Supreme Court.

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 and 2 only

Q.24) Consider the following statements:

1. In India, most decision-making power is concentrated within the legislative branch.
2. In India, the legislature (Parliament) has a limited practical role in effectively overseeing the executive.
3. The U.S. political system has more decentralized powers than India's.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Acts & Policies

Q.25) Consider the following statements regarding the 'Scheme for Strengthening the Medical Device Industry':

1. The scheme is designed to make India self-reliant in the production of medical devices by reducing import dependence and boosting domestic manufacturing capabilities.
2. Medical device export enhancement is one of the five sub-schemes under the scheme.

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

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

Q.26) Consider the following statements:

1. Information Technology (IT) Rules, 2021 empower authorities to identify and act against fake news on social media using a Fact-Check Unit (FCU).
2. Currently, the Press Information Bureau (PIB) has a fact-check unit, but it does not have the power to remove content labelled as fake news.

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) With reference to the SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) initiative, consider the following statements:

1. The initiative primarily aims to counter China's Belt and Road Initiative.
2. It promotes sustainable ocean resource utilization for economic growth.
3. It positions India as an enforcer of maritime rules in the Indian Ocean Region.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.28) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It aims of providing clean cooking fuel (LPG) to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) households.
2. Applicants must possess a bank account to receive benefits from the PMUY.
3. The scheme targets the reduction of malnutrition among women.

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.29) Consider the following statements with respect to the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA):

1. Under the AFSPA, either the Governor of a state or the central government has the authority to declare an area as 'disturbed'.
2. It was first implemented in the North-eastern states.
3. It grants armed forces the power to impose martial law.

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.30) With reference to the PM E-DRIVE Scheme (Prime Minister Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles, establish charging infrastructure, and build a robust EV manufacturing ecosystem in India.
2. The scheme offers subsidies for electric cars or hybrid cars.
3. Under the scheme, an Aadhaar-authenticated e-voucher system has been introduced to streamline the process of accessing subsidies.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.31) Consider the following statements regarding the Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) programme:

1. It aims to promote international research partnerships in collaboration with the Indian universities.
2. Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) has launched the programme.

Which of the statement(s) give 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 PM Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to uplift the socio-economic status of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
2. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the implementing agency for PM-JANMAN.
3. Establishment of tribal universities is one of the components of the scheme.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Index & Reports

Q.33) With reference to the World Intellectual Property Indicators (WIPI) 2024 report, consider the following statements:

1. It provides a comprehensive analysis of global intellectual property (IP) trends.
2. India has seen a decline in its ranking in the report.
3. The report is published annually by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

International Relations/Organizations

Q.34) With reference to the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), consider the following statements:

1. Under the treaty, Chenab, Jhelum, and Sutlej rivers were allocated to India for unrestricted use.
2. It is the only water pact that compels an upper riparian state (India) to prioritize the interests of a downstream state (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.35) Consider the following statements:

1. BRICS represents a coalition of countries from the Global East and South.
2. BRICS focuses on economic and financial cooperation.
3. BRICS strengthens India's relationship with Russia.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.36) Wilmington Declaration, recently adopted by Quad, aims to:

- a) Foster collaboration among Quad countries to build resilient global health systems focused on pandemic preparedness.
- b) Enhance maritime security cooperation to safeguard the Indo-Pacific region against illegal fishing and piracy.
- c) Establish a framework for joint infrastructure projects in developing nations to promote sustainable economic growth.
- d) Promote sustainable energy solutions, with a focus on high-efficiency cooling systems, among Quad nations.

Q.37) Consider the following statements:

1. India is not a member to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).
2. CPTPP includes Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) 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.38) With reference to the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings, consider the following statements:

1. United States has the most represented institutions in the QS World University Rankings 2025.
2. Student-faculty ratio carries the highest weightage in QS Rankings.

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

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

Q.39) With reference to the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to coordinate and discuss Information and Communications Technology (ICT) regulatory issues of common interest among South Asian countries.
2. Afghanistan is a member country of SATRC.
3. SATRC operates under the umbrella of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

How many of the statements give above are correct?

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

Q.40) With reference to the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU), consider the following statements:

1. Kazakhstan, Armenia, and Ukraine are its founding members.
2. The Supreme Eurasian Economic Council serves as the highest decision-making authority of the EEU.

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 India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC) project, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It reduces India's dependence on the Suez Canal for trade routes to Europe.
2. It is seen as an alternative to Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).

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.42) With reference to BASIC countries (Brazil, South Africa, India, and China) countries, consider the following statements:

1. These countries aim to counter the influence of developed nations in military alliances.
2. All BASIC countries are members to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

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.43) With reference to the Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) group, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It is a United Nations agency focused on climate change.
2. India is one of the member countries of LMDC.
3. It advocates for climate finance from developed countries to support developing nations.

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

Economy

Q.44) Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs), seen in the news recently, is used in the context of:

- a) The permissible level of pesticide residues in agricultural products.
- b) The maximum amount of industrial waste that can be discharged into rivers.
- c) The upper limit of carbon emissions allowed for manufacturing industries.
- d) The maximum level of radiation permitted in food packaging materials.

Q.45) Which one of the following scenarios is likely to lead to an appreciation of the Indian rupee against the US dollar?

- a) An increase in India's import expenses.
- b) Higher interest rates in the United States compared to India.
- c) An increase in foreign investments into India.
- d) A decrease in remittances from abroad to India.

Q.46) Consider the following pairs:

Transport Corridors-----Strategic Benefits

- 1. International North-South Transport Corridor---- Provides alternative to Suez Canal
- 2. Chennai-Vladivostok Maritime Corridor----- Reduces dependency on Middle Eastern routes
- 3. Northern Maritime Route----- Facilitates access to Arctic resources

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

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

Q.47) Which one the following primary tool is used by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to influence borrowing costs in response to inflation?

- a) The Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)
- b) The Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)
- c) The Repo Rate
- d) The Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate

Q.48) With reference to the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), consider the following statements:

- 1. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) uses WPI as a key measure of inflation to set monetary and credit policy.
- 2. High WPI inflation leads to higher interest rates in an economy.

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

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

Q.49) Which one of the following is a consequence of lowering the interest rate by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- a) Increase in borrowing costs for consumers and businesses
- b) Decrease in liquidity in the banking system
- c) Reduction in consumer spending
- d) Increase in investment and economic growth

Environment

Q.50) Consider the following statements:

1. As part of the Quad's clean energy initiatives, India will invest heavily on solar energy and cooling infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific region.
2. The India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP) aims to reduce cooling demand by 20%-25%, cut energy consumption by 25%-40%, and switch to more environmentally friendly refrigerants.

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

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

Q.51) Consider the following statements:

1. The primary aim of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol is to phase out ozone-depleting substances completely by 2050.
2. India has not ratified the Kigali Amendment.
3. The Montreal Protocol is an international treaty designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production and consumption of substances responsible for ozone depletion.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.52) Which one of the following is NOT one of the three pillars of climate action that the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) aims to address?

- a) Mitigation
- b) Adaptation
- c) Loss and Damage
- d) Biodiversity Conservation

Q.53) Consider the following statements:

1. The Spot-billed Pelican is native to India, while Great White Pelicans are not.
2. The Spot-billed Pelican is classified as 'Vulnerable' by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

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.54) India has recently updated its National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) at Conference of the Parties (COP16) to the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Which one of the following is the aim of updated NBSAP?

- a) It sets a target to reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 and achieve complete ecological restoration by 2040 through a "Government-Led" and "Expert-Driven" approach.
- b) It aims at increasing forest cover by 10% by 2030.
- c) It focuses primarily on marine biodiversity, with limited emphasis on terrestrial ecosystems.
- d) It aims to halt biodiversity loss by 2030 and achieve harmony with nature by 2050 through a "Whole-of-Government" and "Whole-of-Society" approach.

Q.55) Consider the following statements:

1. India ranks fourth globally in terms of installed wind energy capacity.
2. Tamil Nadu has the largest installed capacity of wind turbines 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.56) Consider the following statements:

1. Carbon credits are designed to create financial incentives for countries and companies to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by allowing them to trade emission permits.
2. Carbon credits are voluntary, while carbon offsets are mandatory.
3. In a cap-and-trade system, if a company exceeds its allocated carbon credits, then the company is forced to shut down operations immediately.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.57) Consider the following statements:

1. The Energy Conservation (Amendment) Act of 2022 laid the foundation for India's Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) in India.
2. The Paris Agreement allows countries to achieve their climate goals through Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs).

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

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

Q.58) Consider the following statements:

1. Biodiesel leads to higher sulphur emissions compared to conventional fuels.
2. Biodiesel production in India uses agricultural residues like rice husk.

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

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

Q.59) Consider the following:

1. Solar panels
2. Wind and hydropower units
3. Fly ash bricks
4. Textile units
5. Pulp and paper mills

According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), how many of the above industries are classified as least polluting?

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

Q.60) With reference to the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), consider the following statements:

1. It is a policy proposed by the European Union that taxes products imported into the EU if they don't meet its carbon emission standards.
2. All manufacturing sectors are currently covered under the CBAM.
3. Carbon leakage under the CBAM refers to the release of carbon during the transportation of goods.

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

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

Science & Technology

Q.61) Project Shaurya Gatha aims to:

- a) Increase military recruitment
- b) Document current military operations
- c) Conserve and promote India's military heritage
- d) Develop new military technologies

Q.62) Consider the following statements with reference to India's Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launcher (MBRL) system:

1. It's the most expensive Indian weapon system.
2. It has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
3. It was first used during the Kargil War.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.63) Consider the following statements:

1. The Mpox virus is capable of spreading through human-to-human transmission.
2. Viruses evolve by making changes to their genetic material through mutations.
3. RNA viruses mutate less frequently than DNA viruses.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.64) In the context of a nation's military, an 'adaptive defence strategy' refers to:

- a) A defence strategy that focuses on maintaining traditional military tactics without much change
- b) A strategy that prioritizes physical defence measures over technological advancements
- c) A defence approach that emphasizes routine operations and predictable threats
- d) A flexible and evolving strategy that adapts to new threats and incorporates modern technologies

Q.65) Consider the following statements with respect to the Long-Range Land Attack Cruise Missiles (LRLACMs):

1. LRLACMs follow a subsonic flight path, while ballistic missiles follow a parabolic trajectory.
2. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is responsible for the development of the LRLACM.

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

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

Q.66) Consider the following statements:

1. Uranus is the third-largest planet in our solar system.
2. Uranus is the first planet found using a telescope.
3. Uranus does not have its own moon.

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.67) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: There has been a consistent rise in the share of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in India.

Statement-II: India is experiencing significant effects of climate change.

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.68) Consider the following statements with respect to Antariksha Abhyas-2024:

1. It aims to test the launch of new military satellites within a controlled environment.
2. It also aims to enhance India's military capabilities by integrating space capabilities into military operations.

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

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

Q.69) Consider the following:

1. Artificial Intelligence
2. Nuclear Technology
3. Quantum Computing
4. Semiconductor Development

How many of the above are the focus areas under the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET)?

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

Q.70) The primary objective of the 'Sea Vigil-24' exercise is to:

- Conduct naval warfare training
- Enhance coastal security and defence readiness
- Promote international maritime cooperation
- Test new naval weaponry

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

Art & Culture

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Sarangi became more popular in the 19th century when Thumri, a semi-classical form of Indian music, gained prominence. Thumri is known for its expressiveness, and the Sarangi, with its ability to mimic the human voice, was well-suited to accompany this style of music. The Sarangi is traditionally carved from a single block of wood, often cedar or other types of wood like tun or teak.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Sarangi is primarily used in Hindustani classical music. Pandit Ram Narayan, the iconic Sarangi maestro, has recently passed away. Ustad Sultan Khan is another prominent name associated with the instrument.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Mridangam is a traditional percussion instrument from South India, primarily used in Carnatic music. It is a double-headed drum made from wood, typically jackfruit wood, with drumheads crafted from layers of animal skin. It plays a crucial role in providing rhythmic support to vocalists and instrumentalists in Carnatic performances. It is known for its distinctive sound and complex rhythmic patterns. It is similar to Tabla, which is primarily used in Hindustani classical music.

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Dogra architecture is known for its unique blend of Hindu, Islamic, and Sikh architectural styles. Bhaakh is a traditional Dogra folk music style that is unique because it is performed without the use of any musical instruments.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (D)

- The three pillars of Sikhism, given by Guru Nanak Dev Ji, are: Naam Japna – Meditation on God's name, Kirat Karni – Honest work and earning a living through hard work, and Vand Chakna –

Sharing with others, especially within the community. While Ahimsa (non-violence) is a principle in other religions like Jainism and Hinduism, it is not one of the three pillars of Sikhism.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Boro language, spoken by the Bodo community, is recognized under the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution. It was added in 2004 through the 92nd Amendment Act. Bwisagu is one of the most important festivals celebrated by the Bodo community. It marks the beginning of the new year and is celebrated with great enthusiasm, involving music, dance, and traditional rituals. Recently, the Prime Minister will inaugurate the 1st Bodoland Mahotsav in New Delhi. The two-day Mahotsav is a mega event on language, literature, and culture to sustain peace and build a Vibrant Bodo Society.

Source: [AIR](#)

Modern Indian History

6. Correct Answer is (B)

- "The Unity of India" is a collection of writings and speeches reflecting Nehru's vision for a unified and diverse India, while "The Discovery of India", written during his imprisonment in 1942–1946. Other books written by Nehru are: Letters from a Father to His Daughter, Glimpses of World History, An Autobiography, and A Bunch of Old Letters.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Janjatiya Gaurav Divas is celebrated every year on November 15th to commemorate the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda. He was a tribal freedom fighter and leader who played a significant role in India's struggle against British colonial rule. The day also recognizes the contributions of tribal communities to the preservation of cultural heritage and their role in India's independence movement.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Santhal Rebellion was caused due to the economic exploitation and oppression faced by the Santhals at the hands of British authorities, zamindars (landlords), and moneylenders.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Santhal Rebellion was led by four brothers—Sido, Kanhu, Chand, and Bhairav Murmu. The Santhals used guerrilla warfare tactics, targeting zamindars, moneylenders, and British collaborators during their rebellion.

Source: [AIR](#)

Geography

9. Correct Answer is (C)

- TFR tends to be inversely proportional to development indicators. As countries develop, with improvements in education, healthcare, and income levels, TFR usually declines.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Millets are known for their low water requirements and are considered a sustainable alternative to water-intensive crops like rice and sugarcane. They require significantly less water, making them suitable for cultivation in arid and semi-arid regions. India is the second-largest tea producer in the world after China.
- Statement 2 is correct. Sugarcane is a highly water-intensive crop and has significant environmental impacts, including excessive water consumption, soil erosion, habitat loss, and agrochemical use, which can lead to water pollution.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) is the nodal agency responsible for purchasing cotton from farmers at the MSP when market prices fall below the government-declared support price. The corporation operates without any quantitative limits during these support operations, ensuring that all eligible farmers can sell their cotton at MSP. To enhance transparency in the cotton value chain, CCI introduced the Bale Identification and Traceability System (BITS) using blockchain technology. It launched the Kasturi Cotton program, which aims to promote premium-quality Indian cotton with traceability. CCI is part of a broader initiative called the Cotton Mission. It operates under the administrative control of the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. It also plays a role in ensuring a steady supply of quality cotton to the textile industry, which contributes significantly to India's exports.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. GLOFs are caused by the failure of natural dams (composed of ice or moraine) that hold glacial lakes, which can be triggered by factors like ice avalanches, earthquakes, or rapid glacier melting.
- Statement 2 is correct. The formation of moraine-dammed lakes increases the risk of GLOFs, as these dams are made of loose rock and debris, making them unstable and prone to failure.

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

- Mount Lewotobi Laki-Laki volcano is located in Indonesia, on the island of Flores in East Nusa Tenggara province.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Brahmaputra River is the longest river in Northeast India. Barak River is the second largest river in Northeast India. It originates from the Japvo mountain in the Manipur hills. The river flows through the northeastern states of India, including Manipur, Mizoram, and Assam. In Assam, it traverses the Barak Valley before splitting into two rivers at the border with Bangladesh: The Surma and Kushiara rivers. These eventually merge into the Meghna River in Bangladesh.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Polity

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. According to the recent Supreme Court ruling, an educational institution established by a minority community does not lose its minority status simply because it is recognized by law. The court clarified that even if such an institution is recognized through a statute, it retains its minority character as long as it was established by a minority community for the purpose of preserving its cultural or educational interests.
- Statement 2 is correct. Article 30(1) of the Indian Constitution specifically grants religious and linguistic minorities the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice to preserve their culture, language, or religion.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. CPPS is not a regional system; it is a centralized pension distribution system designed to operate nationwide, allowing pensioners to receive their pensions from any bank or branch across India.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. One of the key features of CPPS is that it enables pensioners to receive their pensions from any bank or branch across India, providing flexibility and convenience.

CPPS ensures that pensions are credited directly to the pensioners' accounts as soon as they are released, without requiring physical verification at the bank.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Part IV of the Indian Constitution contains the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP), which guide the government in achieving social and economic justice. These principles are not enforceable by law but are fundamental in the governance of the country. After the 44th Constitutional Amendment in 1978, the right to property was removed from the list of Fundamental Rights and is now a constitutional right under Article 300A.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. Article 31B protects laws placed in the Ninth Schedule from being challenged for violating fundamental rights. Instead, Article 31C, introduced through the 25th Amendment, protects laws made to implement Articles 39(b) and (c) from being challenged on the grounds of violating fundamental rights. The Supreme Court has clarified that not all privately-owned property can be considered a "material resource of the community" under Article 39(b).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

- The President of India has the constitutional authority to administer the oath of office to the Chief Justice of India (CJI). This is in accordance with Article 124(2) of the Indian Constitution, which grants the President the power to appoint and swear in the Chief Justice of India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Article 293 of the Indian Constitution allows state governments to borrow money within India, using the Consolidated Fund of the State as security. This borrowing is subject to limits set by the state legislature, and in certain cases, the central government's consent is required if the state owes money to the Centre. The Net Borrowing Ceiling (NBC) imposed by the central government applies to all types of borrowing by states, including loans from open markets, financial institutions, and liabilities from public accounts. It also extends to certain borrowings by state-owned enterprises.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The FRBM Act, 2003 set a target for the fiscal deficit to not exceed 3% of GDP. This target was aimed at achieving fiscal discipline and reducing deficits.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Minority educational institutions (both religious and linguistic) are exempted from the requirement to provide reservations for SCs and STs under Article 15(5) of the Indian Constitution. Article 30(1) applies to educational institutions established both before and after the adoption of the Constitution. The Supreme Court has ruled that no distinction should be made between institutions based on when they were established.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The presence of religious instruction or religious buildings, such as churches or mosques, is not a determining factor for an institution's minority status. The Supreme Court has clarified that these elements are not necessary indicators of minority character.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Oral mentioning refers to the practice where lawyers make a verbal request in court, typically before the Chief Justice of India (CJI), to have their cases listed for an urgent hearing. This allows them to bypass the usual long-winded filing procedures and directly appeal for their case to be heard out of turn, based on urgency.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

10 PM MCQs Compilation [Second Week] November 2024

- Statement 1 is correct. As per Article 16(4) of the Indian Constitution, the State can provide job reservations for communities that are inadequately represented in public services. This provision allows the government to create reservations for backward classes, but only if they are not adequately represented in government jobs or services, either numerically or qualitatively.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The "creamy layer" among OBCs is not determined by geographical location or education alone. Instead, it is based on a combination of factors, with economic status (income levels), employment, and social standing being the primary criteria. For example, individuals or families earning above a certain income level (currently ₹8 lakh per year) are classified as part of the creamy layer and are excluded from reservation benefits.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Delimitation refers to adjusting the number of Lok Sabha seats in proportion to the population and redrawing the boundaries of constituencies to maintain balanced representation across regions. State governments do not play a role in the delimitation process. It is exclusively handled by the Delimitation Commission, which is appointed by the central government.
- Statement 2 and 4 are incorrect. The last delimitation to change state-wise Lok Sabha seats was based on the 1971 Census. However, the most recent delimitation exercise, based on the 2001 Census, only adjusted constituency boundaries without changing state seat allocations. India has conducted four major delimitation exercises: based on the 1951 Census (first delimitation exercise conducted after independence), based on the 1961 Census (increased the number of Lok Sabha seats), based on the 1971 Census and based on 2001 Census. Traditionally, the Commission's orders could not be challenged in any court of law. However, recent Supreme Court judgment has affirmed that constitutional courts (including High Courts) can review these orders if they are found to be arbitrary or unconstitutional.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. In India, most decision-making power is concentrated within the executive branch (the government, including political leaders and bureaucrats), not the legislative branch (Parliament). The executive plays a dominant role in policy-making, while the legislature has a more limited role in shaping decisions.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Although Parliament has mechanisms like Question Hour, debates, and committees, in practice, these mechanisms often do not function effectively due to disruptions, the dominance of the ruling party, and the whip system. Therefore, Parliament's oversight role is limited. The U.S. political system is more decentralized, with Congress (the legislative branch) having significant powers to craft legislation independently of the executive branch. In contrast, India's system is more centralized, with much of the power concentrated within the executive.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Acts & Policies

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. One of the primary goals of the Scheme for Strengthening the Medical Device Industry is to reduce India's reliance on imported medical devices and components by boosting domestic manufacturing capabilities. The scheme includes a sub-scheme specifically aimed at reducing import dependence by incentivizing domestic production of key components and raw materials.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The five sub-schemes are: Common facilities for medical device clusters, Marginal Investment Scheme for reducing import dependence, Capacity building and skill development, Medical device clinical studies support, Medical device promotion scheme.

Source: [AIR](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

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- Statement 1 is incorrect. IT Rules, 2021 were amended in 2023 to give the government the power to establish a Fact-Check Unit (FCU), which could identify and act against "fake news" related to the Central Government's business. However, this provision was later struck down by the Bombay High Court.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Press Information Bureau (PIB) has a fact-check unit that identifies and counters misinformation related to government policies and activities. However, this unit does not have legal authority to remove or take down content labelled as "fake news."

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. SAGAR helps India maintain strategic presence in the Indian Ocean Region. However, it's not specifically aimed at countering China's BRI. Rather, it's a comprehensive maritime cooperation doctrine focused on inclusive development and security. SAGAR positions India as a facilitator rather than an enforcer, focusing on capacity building and cooperation with littoral states. It emphasizes collective action and peaceful resolution of disputes rather than enforcement.
- Statement 2 is correct. SAGAR promotes sustainable ocean resource utilization through the Blue Economy concept, focusing on sustainable development of marine resources for economic growth.

Source: [AIR](#)

28. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. PMUY's primary goal is to provide clean cooking fuel (LPG) to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) households. However, under Ujjwala 2.0, the scheme has been expanded to include all poor households, and beneficiaries can belong to any of these categories: Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011 list, SC/ST households, PMAY beneficiaries, Forest dwellers, etc. Beneficiaries of PMUY must have a bank account, as the subsidy for LPG connections is transferred directly to their accounts.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The primary aims of PMUY are: Safeguarding women's health from smoke inhalation, Protecting the environment, and reduce health hazards from indoor air pollution.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Both the Governor of a state and the Central Government have the authority to declare an area as "disturbed" under AFSPA. AFSPA was first enacted in 1958 to deal with insurgencies in the Naga Hills of Assam (now Nagaland), which is part of the northeastern region of India. It was later extended to other northeastern states.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. AFSPA does not grant powers to impose martial law. While it gives significant powers to the armed forces, such as arrest without a warrant, use of force, and immunity from prosecution for actions taken under the Act, it does not amount to martial law.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The PM E-DRIVE Scheme is designed to promote the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs), develop essential charging infrastructure, and build a strong EV manufacturing ecosystem in India. The scheme introduces an Aadhaar-authenticated e-voucher system to streamline the process of accessing subsidies for eligible EV buyers.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The PM E-DRIVE Scheme does not provide subsidies for electric cars or hybrid cars. The focus is on electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers, trucks, buses, and ambulances. Electric cars are excluded from direct subsidies under this scheme.

Source: [DD News](#)

31. Correct Answer is (B)

10 PM MCQs Compilation [Second Week] November 2024

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The PAIR programme focuses on fostering collaborations between Indian universities, particularly central and state public universities, and top-tier institutions within India through a mentorship-driven hub-and-spoke model.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), under the Union Government, has launched the PAIR programme to enhance research capabilities in Indian universities.

Source: [DD News](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The PM-JANMAN scheme is specifically designed to address the socio-economic challenges faced by PVTGs. It aims to improve their living conditions through better housing, healthcare, education, and infrastructure. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the main implementing agency for the PM-JANMAN scheme, working in collaboration with other ministries and state governments.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The scheme includes housing, infrastructure development, and Van Dhan Vikas Kendras. However, it does not establish tribal universities. The PM-JANMAN scheme was announced on Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas.

Source: [AIR](#)

Index & Reports

33. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The World Intellectual Property Indicators (WIPI) 2024 report provides a detailed and comprehensive analysis of global IP trends, including patents, trademarks, industrial designs, and other IP categories.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. India improved its ranking in the WIPI 2024 report. It moved up to sixth place globally in patent applications, experiencing a significant increase in filings. The WIPI report is published annually by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Source: [AIR](#)

International Relations/Organizations

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Under the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), the Chenab and Jhelum rivers, along with the Indus, are classified as Western Rivers and were allocated primarily to Pakistan for unrestricted use. However, India has limited rights to use these rivers for non-consumptive purposes like hydroelectric power generation and limited irrigation. The Sutlej, along with the Ravi and Beas, are classified as Eastern Rivers and were allocated to India for unrestricted use.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Indus Waters Treaty is a unique water-sharing agreements where an upper riparian state (India) has agreed to defer most of the water from three major rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) to a downstream state (Pakistan). India's obligations under IWT ensure that Pakistan receives about 80% of the water from the Indus River system despite India being an upper riparian country.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. BRICS consists of countries which are primarily from the Global East and South, representing emerging markets and developing economies. One of the key focuses of BRICS is on economic and financial cooperation, including areas like trade, infrastructure development, energy, and finance. The BRICS nations also work together on macroeconomic policy coordination and post-pandemic recovery efforts. BRICS plays a significant role in strengthening India's relationship with Russia. Both countries collaborate on various issues within the BRICS framework, such as economic cooperation, security matters, and counter-terrorism efforts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (D)

10 PM MCQs Compilation [Second Week] November 2024

- The Wilmington Declaration, adopted by the Quad nations (Australia, India, Japan, and the U.S.), emphasizes promoting sustainable energy solutions, particularly focusing on high-efficiency cooling systems to address climate-related challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India pulled out of RCEP negotiations in 2019 and is also not a member of CPTPP. Both agreements are large trade blocs, but India has chosen not to participate in them. CPTPP includes several ASEAN countries such as Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

38. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. According to the QS World University Rankings 2025, the United States is the most represented country with 197 ranked institutions, followed by the United Kingdom with 90 and mainland China with 71. The ranking is published annually by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS). India is home to two universities in the top 50 and seven in the top 100.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The student-faculty ratio carries a weightage of 15% in the QS World University Rankings. However, the academic reputation indicator has the highest weightage, accounting for 30% of the total score.

Source: [AIR](#)

39. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC) was formed to address telecommunication and ICT regulatory issues that are of common interest to the South Asian countries. It focuses on areas like radio frequency coordination, regulatory trends, and telecommunication development strategies. Afghanistan is one of the nine member countries of SATRC, along with Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. SATRC was formed through an initiative by both the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) and the ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. However, it operates under the APT, not directly under ITU.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), also known as the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU), is an international economic union consisting of five post-Soviet states located in Eurasia: Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Armenia, and Kyrgyzstan. It aims to create a unified economic space that allows for the free movement of goods, services, capital, and labour between member states. The founding members of the EEU are Russia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Supreme Eurasian Economic Council is the highest decision-making body within the EEU, consisting of the heads of state of the member countries.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

41. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The IMEC offers a strategic alternative to the Suez Canal, aiming to reduce transit time by 40% and costs by 30%, providing India with a shorter and more efficient trade route to Europe through the Middle East.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. IMEC is not an alternative to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), which is a trade agreement focused on countries around the Pacific Rim. Instead, IMEC focuses on enhancing connectivity between India, the Middle East, and Europe, and is seen as a counterbalance to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

42. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The BASIC countries primarily focus on climate change negotiations and advocating for the interests of developing nations in global climate agreements. Their purpose is not to counter military alliances but to ensure equitable climate action and financial support from developed nations. None of the BASIC countries (Brazil, South Africa, India, and China) are members of the OECD. Instead, they are considered Key Partners of the OECD, meaning they collaborate with the organization but are not full members.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

43. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) group is not a United Nations agency. It is a coalition of developing countries (particularly Global South) that organizes itself as a negotiating bloc in international organizations like the United Nations and World Trade Organization, particularly in climate change negotiations.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. India is a member of the LMDC group, along with other countries like China, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Bangladesh. The LMDC group actively advocates for climate finance from developed nations to help developing countries adapt to climate change and transition to renewable energy without compromising their development goals.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Economy

44. Correct Answer is (A)

- Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) refer to the highest level of pesticide residues legally allowed in or on food and agricultural products, ensuring consumer safety by minimizing exposure to harmful chemicals. It is set by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

45. Correct Answer is (C)

- An increase in foreign investments into India increases the demand for the Indian rupee, as foreign investors need to convert their currency into rupees to invest in Indian assets. This increased demand for the rupee can lead to its appreciation against the US dollar.

Source: [AIR](#)

46. Correct Answer is (C)

- **INSTC:** The International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) provides a shorter and more cost-effective alternative to the traditional route via the Suez Canal, reducing both time and transportation costs between India, Russia, Central Asia, and Europe.
- **Chennai-Vladivostok Maritime Corridor:** It aims to improve connectivity between India and Russia's Far East.
- **NSR:** It passes through the Arctic, facilitates access to Arctic resources such as oil, gas, and minerals. It also offers a shorter shipping route between Asia and Europe, especially as Arctic ice melts.

Source: [AIR](#)

47. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Repo Rate is the primary tool used by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to influence borrowing costs and control inflation. By adjusting the repo rate, which is the rate at which the RBI lends money to commercial banks, the central bank can directly impact lending rates in the economy.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

48. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) primarily uses the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as the key measure of inflation to set monetary and credit policy.

- Statement 2 is correct. High WPI inflation can signal increasing prices at the wholesale level, which may contribute to overall inflationary pressures. If these pressures spill over into consumer prices (CPI), it may prompt the RBI to consider raising interest rates to control inflation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

49. Correct Answer is (D)

- Lowering interest rates makes borrowing cheaper for consumers and businesses, encouraging them to take loans and invest more. This stimulates investment and boosts economic growth.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Environment

50. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India has pledged significant investments in solar energy and cooling infrastructure as part of the Quad's clean energy initiatives, particularly focusing on the Indo-Pacific region. The India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP) targets a 20%-25% reduction in cooling demand, a 25%-40% reduction in energy consumption, and a shift to low-global warming potential (GWP) refrigerants, making it a comprehensive plan for sustainable cooling solutions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

51. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Kigali Amendment does not focus on phasing out ozone-depleting substances (ODS); rather, it targets the phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which are potent greenhouse gases but do not deplete the ozone layer. India ratified the Kigali Amendment in 2021, committing to reduce HFC consumption by 85% by 2047.
- Statement 3 is correct. The Montreal Protocol, signed in 1987 and enforced in 1989, aims to protect the ozone layer by phasing out substances like chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) that deplete it.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

52. Correct Answer is (D)

- The New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) focuses on the three pillars of climate action: mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage. NCQG is a climate finance initiative under the Paris Agreement, aimed at setting a new financial target to support developing countries in their climate actions after 2025.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

53. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Spot-billed Pelican (*Pelecanus philippensis*) is native to India and breeds in southern Asia, including India, Sri Lanka, and parts of Southeast Asia. On the other hand, the Great White Pelican (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) is a migratory species that can be found sporadically in parts of India but is not native to the region. It primarily breeds in Europe, Africa, and Central Asia.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Spot-billed Pelican is classified as Near Threatened by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

54. Correct Answer is (D)

- India's updated NBSAP aims to halt biodiversity loss by 2030 and achieve harmony with nature by 2050 through a "Whole-of-Government" and "Whole-of-Society" approach. It seeks to address biodiversity loss by 2030 and promote sustainable living in harmony with nature by 2050, in line with the global Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

55. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India ranks fourth globally in terms of installed wind energy capacity.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Gujarat holds the largest installed capacity of wind turbines in India, surpassing Tamil Nadu.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

56. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Carbon credits are part of a system, such as cap-and-trade, where companies are given permits (credits) to emit a certain amount of greenhouse gases. If they emit less than their allocated amount, they can sell the excess credits to other companies, creating a financial incentive to reduce emissions.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Carbon credits are typically part of mandatory regulatory systems like cap-and-trade programs, whereas carbon offsets are often voluntary mechanisms that companies or individuals use to compensate for their emissions. Further, carbon credits are government-issued permits, while offsets represent emission reductions. In a cap-and-trade system, if a company exceeds its allocated credits, it is not forced to shut down immediately. Instead, the company must purchase additional credits from other companies or face penalties.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

57. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Energy Conservation (Amendment) Act of 2022 laid the foundation for India's Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS). The Act empowers the central government to introduce a carbon credit trading mechanism aimed at reducing carbon emissions and promoting decarbonization in line with India's climate goals under the Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement, through Article 6, allows countries to achieve their climate goals by using Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs). ITMOs enable countries to transfer greenhouse gas mitigation outcomes between nations, helping them meet their emission reduction commitments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

58. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Biodiesel leads to lower sulphur emissions compared to conventional fuels. It contains almost no sulphur, which results in reduced pollution from engines using biodiesel.
- Statement 2 is correct. Biodiesel production in India utilizes agricultural residues, including rice husk.

Source: [AIR](#)

59. Correct Answer is (B)

- The government has decided that 39 types of industries no longer need to get permission from State Pollution Control Boards to operate. These include manufacturing units of solar cells and modules, wind and hydel power units; fly ash bricks or block manufacturing; and leather cutting and stitching; and those assembling, repairing and servicing air-coolers and air-conditioners. All of these sectors are in the "white category" of industries, meaning they are the least polluting in nature, by a 2016 classification by the Central Pollution Control Board.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

60. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is correct. The CBAM is a policy introduced by the European Union to impose a tax on the carbon emissions embedded in certain imported goods. It ensures that imports are subject to the same carbon costs as domestic products under the EU's Emissions Trading System (ETS).
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. CBAM currently applies only to specific carbon-intensive sectors such as cement, iron and steel, aluminium, fertilizers, electricity, and hydrogen. Carbon leakage refers to the situation where businesses move production to countries with less stringent climate policies, leading to an overall increase in global emissions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Science & Technology

61. Correct Answer is (C)

- Project Shaurya Gatha, launched by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, aims to conserve and promote India's military heritage through education and battlefield tourism. It focuses on preserving important military landmarks, such as battlefields, forts, war memorials, and museums, while also fostering national pride and educating future generations about India's rich military history.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

62. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Pinaka system is considered cost-effective compared to other similar systems. Pinaka represents India's first major export of an indigenous weapon system, with Armenia being an early customer and France showing interest. Pinaka is designed for "indirect area fire," meaning it targets large areas rather than specific points.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Pinaka MBRL was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), specifically by its Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE). The Pinaka system was first deployed during the Kargil War in 1999, where it played a crucial role in targeting enemy positions on mountain tops.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

63. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The mpox virus (formerly known as monkeypox) can spread through human-to-human transmission, particularly through close contact. Viruses evolve by introducing mutations in their genetic material (DNA or RNA), which can lead to changes in their behavior, adaptability, and virulence.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. RNA viruses mutate at a much higher rate than DNA viruses because RNA polymerases lack proofreading mechanisms, making them more prone to errors during replication.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

64. Correct Answer is (D)

- An adaptive defence strategy is characterized by its flexibility and ability to evolve in response to emerging threats, integrating modern technologies and proactive measures to stay ahead of unpredictable challenges.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

65. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. LRLACMs are cruise missiles that typically follow a low-altitude, subsonic flight path, often referred to as terrain-hugging, to avoid radar detection and interception. In contrast, ballistic missiles follow a high-arching, parabolic trajectory, reaching space during their mid-course phase before descending towards their target.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The LRLACM has been developed primarily by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

66. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Uranus is the third-largest planet in the solar system by size. Uranus was the first planet discovered with the aid of a telescope by William Herschel in 1781.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Uranus has 28 known moons, including five major moons: Miranda, Ariel, Umbriel, Titania, and Oberon.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

67. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement-I is correct: Non-communicable diseases (NCDs), such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer, and respiratory illnesses, have been steadily rising in India.
- Statement-II is also correct: India is experiencing significant effects of climate change, including rising temperatures, extreme weather events, and impacts on agriculture and health.
- However, the rise in NCDs is primarily driven by lifestyle factors such as poor diet, tobacco use, and lack of physical activity, rather than directly by climate change.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

68. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Antariksha Abhyas-2024 is aimed at integrating space capabilities into military operations and addressing vulnerabilities in space-based assets. It is India's first military space exercise, organized by the Defence Space Agency under the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff. This exercise aims to address growing threats to India's space-based assets and enhance the country's defense capabilities in space.
- Statement 2 is correct. One of the key objectives of Antariksha Abhyas-2024 is to enhance India's military capabilities by integrating space capabilities into military operations.

Source: [AIR](#)

69. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET) is a strategic partnership between India and the United States, launched to foster collaboration in cutting-edge technological fields. Artificial Intelligence, Quantum Computing, and Semiconductor Development are focus areas under the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET). Nuclear technology is not a focus area under iCET.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

70. Correct Answer is (B)

- The primary objective of the Sea Vigil-24 exercise is to enhance coastal security and defence readiness by testing and improving the coordination between various maritime stakeholders, including the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, state marine police, and other agencies. It serves as a precursor to the biennial Theatre Level Readiness Operational Exercise (TROPEX) conducted by the Indian Navy. It was first conceptualized in 2018 in response to the growing need for robust coastal security after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks in 2008.

Source: [AIR](#)