

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

November, 2024 3rd Week

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Art & Culture and Ancient India

Q.1) With reference to Indira Gandhi Peace Prize, consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to honour contributions to international peace, disarmament, and development.
- 2. The award is open to individuals or organizations from any country.
- 3. Mikhail Gorbachev and Gro Harlem Brundtland are the joint recipients of the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize in 2023.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) With reference to the Megalithic period, consider the following statements:

- 1. They had complex funeral rituals.
- 2. The period was characterized by the absence of pottery making.
- 3. They used iron tools.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Modern Indian History

Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to the India's freedom struggle:

- 1. The Ghadar Movement aimed to negotiate with the British for India's gradual independence.
- 2. Kartar Singh Sarabha was one of the leaders of the Ghadar Movement.

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) Who among the following was known as 'Punjab Kesari'?

- a) Lala Lajpat Rai
- b) Bhagat Singh
- c) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Geography

Q.5) Which one of these countries does NOT share a land border with Nigeria?

- a) Niger
- b) Chad
- c) Cameroon
- d) Ghana



Q.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Wet-bulb temperature indicates discomfort levels based on both heat and humidity combined.
- 2. In the daytime green spaces might sometimes feel less refreshing despite cooler temperatures due to the significant rise in the wet bulb temperature.

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) In which of the following scenarios is cloud seeding commonly applied as a weather modification technique?

- 1. Increasing snowfall in mountainous regions for enhancing water supply
- 2. Reducing hail size during storms to minimize damage
- 3. Clearing fog around airports for improved visibility and safety
- 4. Preventing hurricanes from forming over oceans

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.8) With reference to the Coffee Board of India, consider the following statements:

- 1. It promotes Indian coffee in both domestic and international markets.
- 2. Ministry of Agriculture oversees the Coffee Board of India.
- 3. The Board sets minimum support prices for coffee.

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.9) Consider the following pairs:

Sectors of Economy------Activities

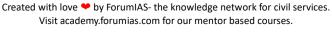
- 1. Primary----- Mining, Aquaculture, Horticulture
- 2. Secondary----- Retail, Banking
- 3. Tertiary----- IT, Transportation

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.10) Which one of the following rivers flows through Kaziranga National Park?

- a) Brahmaputra
- b) Teesta
- c) Manas
- d) Barak





Q.11) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Coking coal is a key raw material for steel production.
- 2. India is heavily dependent on imports of coking coal.
- 3. Coking coal is included in the list of critical minerals.

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.12) The Hirakud Dam is built on:

- a) The Godavari River
- b) The Mahanadi River
- c) The Krishna River
- d) The Narmada River

Polity

Q.13) Which one of the following correctly describes the legal status of parole and furlough?

- a) Both parole and furlough are legal rights of prisoners.
- b) Parole is a legal right, whereas furlough is a privilege.
- c) Furlough is a legal right, whereas parole is a privilege.
- d) Neither parole nor furlough can be considered legal rights.

Q.14) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Right to shelter is guaranteed under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.
- 2. Article 142 of the Indian Constitution grants the Supreme Court the power to pass any decree or order necessary to ensure complete justice in any case or matter pending before it.

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

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

Q.15) With referenced to the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), consider the following statements:

- 1. The CAG serves as the guardian of the public purse.
- 2. The tenure of the CAG is 5 years or until the age of 65, whichever is earlier.
- 3. The reports of CAG related to the accounts of the Union are submitted to the Finance Minister of India.
- 4. The CAG is eligible for further office under the Government of India after retirement.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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



Q.16) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Article 355 of the Indian Constitution places a duty on the Union to protect every state from external aggression and internal disturbances.
- 2. Under Article 356 of the Indian Constitution, the President can impose President's Rule in a state only upon receiving the Governor's report.

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

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

Q.17) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Model Prisons and Correctional Services Act, 2023 allows prisoners to be granted leave from prison if they agree to wear electronic tracking devices.
- 2. Maharashtra was the first state in India to propose using tamper-proof electronic trackers for undertrials accused of non-heinous crimes.

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) Socialism in India includes which of the following?

- 1. Providing equality of opportunity for all citizens
- 2. Ensuring the well-being of the population
- 3. Individual rights and freedoms
- 4. Prioritizing state-led economic growth over private enterprise

Select the correct answers using the codes given below:

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

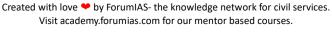
Acts & Policies

Q.19) Consider the following statements regarding the Price Support Scheme (PSS):

- 1. It aims to provide subsidies to farmers for purchasing seeds and fertilizers.
- 2. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) is responsible for implementing 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.20) Which of the following statements are correct with respect to the Ayushman Vaya Vandana Scheme?

- 1. The scheme is available to any Indian citizen aged 70 years or older.
- 2. It aims to provide healthcare coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh per year.
- 3. It does not cover pre-existing conditions like diabetes or hypertension.

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) With reference to the All-India Services (Conduct) Rules 1968, consider the following statements:

- 1. The rules prescribe a code of conduct to guide officers' professional and ethical behavior.
- 2. As per the rules, officers may participate in or contribute to public media only in the bonafide discharge of their duties.
- 3. The rules provide specific directives regarding officers' use of social media.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.22) Consider the following statements regarding the Centralized Pension Payment System (CPPS):

- 1. Under the CPPS, pensioners will no longer need to visit their bank branches for verification when their pension starts.
- 2. It will be launched under the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation's (EPFO's) e-Governance for Pensions (eGP) project.
- 3. CPPS helps in shifting from decentralized to national-level centralized system.

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

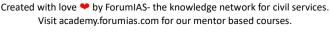
Q.23) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India has a mandatory front-of-pack labelling (FOPL) rule for packaged foods.

Statement-II: India is a party to the World Health Assembly (WHA) resolutions.

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.24) With reference to the PM Vidyalaxmi Scheme, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- 1. It allows students to get collateral-free and guarantor-free loans from banks and financial institutions.
- 2. The scheme does not consider caste or other socio-economic factors for eligibility.
- 3. Only institutions that register and qualify for National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) rankings are eligible under the scheme.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Index & Reports

Q.25) With reference to the Emissions Gap Report 2024, consider the following statements:

- 1. The report is published by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- 2. According to the report, 28% reduction in annual greenhouse gas emissions is required by 2030 to keep the 1.5°C Paris Agreement goal within reach.
- 3. The report states that the G20 nations are responsible for a majority of the global emission.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.26) Mulla Committee, seen in the news recently, was aimed at:

- a) Establishing a new national police force to combat crime in urban areas.
- b) Regulating the pharmaceutical industry.
- c) Reforming prison conditions and addressing overcrowding issues in Indian prisons.
- d) Promoting tourism in rural areas.

International Relations/Organizations

Q.27) The primary function of the UNICORN (Unified Complex Radio Antenna) system being codeveloped by India and Japan is to:

- a) Provide advanced aerial combat capabilities to fighter jets
- b) Serve as a missile defence system for ground forces
- c) Improve the stealth characteristics of naval platforms
- d) Enhance ground surveillance capabilities for land troops

Q.28) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) manages global air traffic control systems.
- 2. The Montreal Convention of 1999 governs international air transport and sets rules for airline responsibilities.

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

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

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Q.29) Consider the following statements regarding the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty:

- 1. It is aimed at addressing the issues of hunger and extreme poverty worldwide.
- 2. The alliance is built on three pillars.
- 3. The technical headquarters of the alliance will be based at the World Bank.

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

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

Q.30) Consider the following:

- 1. Cocoa
- 2. Corn
- 3. Rubber
- 4. Wheat

How many of the above commodities are covered under the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)?

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

Q.31) India has signed a Joint Strategic Action Plan for 2025-29 with which one of the following countries?

- a) Germany
- b) France
- c) Italy
- d) Japan

Q.32) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Sagarmanthan summit aims to foster international collaboration on sustainable maritime practices, enhance connectivity, and promote innovative solutions in the maritime sector.
- 2. Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI) primarily aims to enhance economic cooperation among Indo-Pacific nations.

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

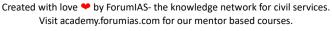
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.33) With reference to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to promote free trade and economic cooperation among its member economies.
- 2. India is one of the members of APEC.
- 3. It is headquartered in Bali, Indonesia.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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





Q.34) With reference to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), consider the following statements:

- 1. Bangladesh in one of the members of ASEAN.
- 2. It is headquartered in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- 3. East Asia Summit (EAS) is a forum associated with ASEAN.

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.35) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Assembly of States is the main decision-making body of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).
- 2. CARICOM holds the United Nations General Assembly observer status.
- 3. The India-CARICOM Summit reflects India's growing engagement with Caribbean nations as part of its Global South strategy.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.36) India and Australia have recently launched a Renewable Energy Partnership (REP). The partnership focuses on developing:

- 1. Solar energy
- 2. Nuclear energy
- 3. Energy storage
- 4. Biomass energy

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.37) With reference to the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), consider the following statements:

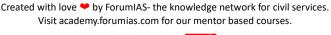
- 1. It is a global organization representing the private sector of the travel and tourism industry.
- 2. 'Zero Carbon Aviation Initiative' is a WTTC initiative for sustainable tourism.

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) Blue Transformation Initiative aims to:

- a) Promote the expansion of deep-sea mining activities for economic growth.
- b) Establish exclusive marine zones for industrial fishing operations.
- c) Focus on improving traditional fisheries management practices without integrating new technologies.
- d) Enhance sustainable aquatic food systems to ensure food security and livelihoods.





Economy

Q.39) Insurance mis-selling, seen in the news recently, refers to:

- a) Selling insurance policies at discounted prices to attract more customers.
- b) Selling insurance policies only to high-income individuals.
- c) Selling insurance policies without disclosing risks and terms.
- d) Selling insurance policies exclusively for tax-saving purposes.

Q.40) Consider the following statements regarding the National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL):

- 1. It aims to address the growing problem of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) in the banking sector.
- 2. NARCL focuses on smaller-value NPAs and distressed assets, whereas Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs) handles large-value stressed assets.

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

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

Q.41) The inflation spillover effects refer to:

- a) The impact of one country's inflation on another country's economy
- b) The spread of inflation from one sector to another within an economy
- c) The transmission of inflation from producers to consumers
- d) The effect of inflation on exchange rates

Q.42) Which one of the following best describes the 'price stability' in an economy?

- a) A scenario where prices continuously increase at a fixed rate each year.
- b) A condition where the general price level in an economy change at a slow and predictable rate.
- c) A state where there is frequent fluctuation in prices due to market dynamics.
- d) A situation where the prices of all goods and services remain constant over time.

Q.43) Which one of the following monetary policies tools a central bank might use to counterbalance a depreciating currency?

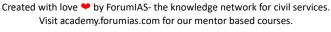
- a) Lowering interest rates
- b) Increasing interest rates
- c) Printing more money
- d) Conducting open market sales of securities

0.44) Which of the following factors can cause a decline in a country's foreign exchange reserves?

- 1. An increase in imports relative to exports
- 2. Depreciation of the domestic currency
- 3. Increased foreign portfolio investments (FPI) inflows
- 4. Repayment of external debt

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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





Environment

Q.45) With reference to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is one of the Rio Conventions.
- 2. One of its aims is to eliminate the use of fossil fuels globally.
- 3. The Conference of Parties (COP) is the supreme decision-making body of the UNFCCC.

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.46) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The carbon budget refers to the maximum financial budget allocated for carbon reduction policies.
- 2. The term net-zero emissions refer to achieving a balance between greenhouse gas emissions produced and removed from 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

Q.47) Which one of the following best differentiates high-performance buildings (HPBs) from green buildings?

- a) HPBs focus on operational efficiency, while green buildings emphasize environmental impacts during construction.
- b) HPBs are certified, while green buildings are not.
- c) Green buildings use basic technologies, while HPBs use advanced technologies.
- d) Green buildings are designed for residential use, while HPBs are exclusively for commercial purposes.

Q.48) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Countries in the Global South face a significant financial burden due to the climate change.

Statement-II: Countries in the Global South are least developed countries.

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.49) Consider the following:

- 1. Forest fires
- 2. Vehicle exhaust
- 3. Burning crop residues
- 4. Burning candles
- 5. Processing of minerals

How many of the sources listed above are responsible for the emission of particulate matter (PM2.5)?

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

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Q.50) Consider the following:

- 1. Mercury (Hg)
- 2. Methane (CH4)
- 3. Nitrogen dioxide (NO2)
- 4. Sulphur dioxide (SO2)
- 5. Carbon monoxide (CO)
- 6. Ozone (03)
- 7. Ammonia (NH3)
- 8. Lead (Pb)

Which of the above pollutants are used to measure the Air quality index (AQI)?

- a) 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
- b) 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 only
- c) 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 only
- d) 2, 4, 6, 7 and 8 only

Q.51) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Organic waste is the third largest source of anthropogenic methane emissions.
- 2. The Global Methane Pledge (GMP) aims to increase methane capture and utilization in agriculture by 50% by 2025.

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

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

Science & Technology

Q.52) With reference to India's first long-range hypersonic missile, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- 1. Hypersonic missiles are defined by their ability to travel at speeds greater than Mach 5.
- 2. The successful development and testing of a hypersonic missile enables India to develop commercial aviation technologies.
- 3. The missile has been developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.53) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Gram-negative bacteria are generally more resistant to antibiotics compared to Gram-positive bacteria because they produce more toxins than Gram-positive bacteria.
- 2. Anaerobic bacteria are organisms that do not require oxygen for growth and may even die in its presence.

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) With reference to GSAT-N2 (GSAT-20) communication satellite, consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to enhance India's broadband infrastructure.
- 2. It operates in the Ku-band frequency range.
- 3. The launch of satellite marks the first collaboration of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) with SpaceX.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.55) Which one of the following terms refers to a medical condition caused by reduced oxygen availability at high altitudes, leading to symptoms such as headache, nausea, and dizziness?

- a) Hypothermia
- b) High-Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE)
- c) Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS)
- d) Altitude Syncope

Q.56) Which one of the following agencies provides the real-time air quality data used to implement Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP)?

- a) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- b) National Green Tribunal (NGT)
- c) Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM)
- d) System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR)

Q.57) With reference to the genetically modified (GM) crops, consider the following statements:

- 1. GM crops are primarily developed to resist pests, tolerate herbicides, withstand harsh environmental conditions, and enhance yields.
- 2. Golden Rice is a GM crop that is cultivated globally.
- 3. Nagoya Protocol regulates the safe transfer and use of genetically modified organisms.
- 4. Bt Cotton is the only GM crop approved for commercial cultivation in India.

Which of the statements give above are correct?

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

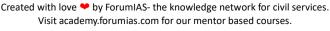
Q.58) Consider the following pairs:

Military Exercise-----Focus Areas

- 1. Sanyukt Vimochan----- Joint counter-terrorism and anti-insurgency drills
- 2. Poorvi Prahar---- Tri-service coordination in mountainous terrain
- 3. INDRA------ Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)

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.59) Which one of the following best describes the primary difference between Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS) and Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs)?

- a) Propulsion type
- b) Warhead capacity
- c) Range
- d) Launch platform

Q.60) India has recently launched the first indigenous antibiotic drug named 'Nafithromycin' for:

- a) Treating drug-resistant bacterial infections
- b) Treating tuberculosis (TB)
- c) Treating viral infections
- d) Treating fungal infections

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

Art & Culture and Ancient India

- 1. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Indira Gandhi Prize, or the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize, also known as Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development, is the prestigious award accorded annually by Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust. It is awarded to individuals or organizations for their outstanding contributions to promoting international peace, disarmament, and development. The prize is open to both individuals and organizations from any country who have made significant contributions in the relevant fields.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The 2023 Indira Gandhi Peace Prize was jointly awarded to Daniel Barenboim and Ali Abu Awwad.

Source: The Hindu

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Megalithic period was characterized by elaborate burial practices, including the use of stone structures like dolmens, cairns, and cists to honour the dead. These practices often involved planning, cooperation, and rituals to commemorate the deceased. The Megalithic period in India is associated with the early Iron Age, marked by the widespread use of iron tools and weapons.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Pottery, particularly black-and-red ware, was a significant feature of the Megalithic culture.

Source: The Hindu

Modern Indian History

3. Correct Answer is (B)

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- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Ghadar Movement did not aim to negotiate with the British for gradual independence. Instead, it sought to overthrow British rule in India through armed rebellion. The movement was revolutionary in nature and advocated for immediate independence through violent means, rather than peaceful negotiations or gradual reforms.
- Statement 2 is correct. Kartar Singh Sarabha was a prominent leader and one of the youngest revolutionaries involved in the Ghadar Movement. He played a significant role in organizing revolutionary activities and spreading the movement's message. Kartar Singh Sarabha was arrested in early 1915 and put on trial during the Lahore Conspiracy Case.

Source: AIR

4. Correct Answer is (A)

• Lala Lajpat Rai, a prominent leader in the Indian independence movement, was popularly known as Punjab Kesari (meaning "Lion of Punjab") due to his fierce opposition to British rule and his significant contributions to the freedom struggle.

Source: AIR

Geography

5. Correct Answer is (D)

• Nigeria is a country located in West Africa, bordered by four countries: Benin to the west, Niger to the north, Chad to the northeast, and Cameroon to the east. To the south, Nigeria has a coastline along the Gulf of Guinea in the Atlantic Ocean.

Source: The Hindu

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The wet-bulb temperature is a measure that combines both heat and humidity to indicate how the body experiences stress from heat. It reflects the point at which the body can no longer cool itself effectively through sweating because the air is too humid for sweat to evaporate efficiently.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Green spaces might feel less refreshing during the day due to increased humidity. Trees have a cooling effect because they provide shade and release moisture into the air through evaporation. However, this evaporation also increases the humidity in the surrounding area. While the cooling effect of lower temperatures might feel refreshing, the added humidity balances out this effect, resulting in little change to the wet-bulb temperature.

Source: The Hindu

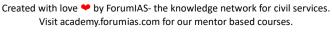
7. Correct Answer is (A)

- Increasing snowfall in mountainous regions for enhancing water supply: Cloud seeding is used to increase snowfall, which in turn enhances the water supply in regions that rely on snowmelt for water resources.
- **Reducing hail size during storms to minimize damage**: Cloud seeding can be used to reduce the size of hailstones during storms, thereby minimizing potential damage.
- Clearing fog around airports for improved visibility and safety: Cloud seeding is applied to disperse fog, particularly at airports, to improve visibility and ensure safety.
- Preventing hurricanes from forming over oceans: This is not a common application of cloud seeding.

Source: AIR

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Coffee Board of India actively promotes Indian coffee in domestic and global markets through trade fairs, exhibitions, marketing campaigns, and initiatives like "Flavour of India The Fine Cup Award." It is a statutory organization established in 1942 under the Coffee Act. It is aimed at enhancing production, productivity, quality, and marketability of Indian coffee.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Coffee Board of India operates under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The Coffee Board does not set minimum support prices (MSP) for coffee.





Instead, it provides support to growers through research, quality improvement, and market facilitation.

Source: The Hindu

9. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Primary**: The primary sector involves activities that directly utilize natural resources, such as mining, aquaculture, and horticulture.
- **Secondary:** The secondary sector focuses on manufacturing, processing, and construction activities that transform raw materials into finished goods. Retail and banking belong to the tertiary sector.
- **Tertiary**: The tertiary sector provides services to businesses and consumers, including IT, transportation, retail, banking, and other service-oriented activities.

Source: The Hindu

10. Correct Answer is (A)

• The Brahmaputra flows along the northern boundary of Kaziranga National Park and plays a crucial role in shaping its ecosystem.

Source: The Hindu

11. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Coking coal is essential for producing coke, which is used in blast furnaces for steelmaking. It constitutes about 42% of the cost of steel production. India imports approximately 85% of its coking coal needs, making it highly import-dependent despite having significant domestic reserves.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. While the European Union has declared coking coal a critical raw material, it has not yet been included in India's list of critical minerals. NITI Aayog has recommended its inclusion to enhance domestic production and reduce import dependency.

Source: The Hindu

12. Correct Answer is (B)

• The Hirakud Dam is built across the Mahanadi River. It is one of the first major multipurpose river valley projects in India post-independence and serves purposes such as flood control, irrigation, and hydroelectric power generation.

Source: AIR

Polity

13. Correct Answer is (D)

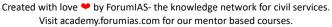
- Parole is generally considered a privilege, not a legal right. It is granted to address specific exigencies such as medical emergencies or family needs. It requires justification and is often subject to strict scrutiny to ensure it does not compromise public safety or justice.
- Furlough is aimed at breaking the monotony of imprisonment and allowing the prisoner to maintain family ties. However, it is not an absolute legal right. It is discretionary and governed by rules that balance the convict's reformative needs with public interest.
- Hence, both are privileges extended under specific conditions and subject to judicial or administrative discretion.

Source: The Hindu

14. Correct Answer is (C)

• Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The right to shelter is recognized as a fundamental right under the broader ambit of the Right to Life, guaranteed by Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. Article 142 empowers the Supreme Court to pass any decree or order required to do complete justice in any case pending before it. This provision allows the Court to transcend legal limitations and ensure justice is served, even if existing laws are insufficient.

Source: The Hindu





15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The CAG is referred to as the guardian of the public purse, responsible for auditing government expenditures and ensuring financial accountability.
- Statements 2, 3 and 4 are incorrect. The tenure of the CAG is 6 years or until reaching the age of 65 years, whichever comes first. The reports of the CAG concerning Union accounts are submitted to the President of India, who then lays them before Parliament. The CAG is not eligible for any further office under the Government of India or any State Government after completing their term.

Source: The Hindu

16. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Article 355 mandates the Union to protect states from external aggression and internal disturbances, ensuring that the government of each state functions in accordance with the Constitution.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While a Governor's report can trigger President's Rule under Article 356, it is not mandatory. The President can also act if otherwise satisfied that the state's government cannot function according to constitutional provisions, without waiting for a Governor's report.

Source: The Hindu

17. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. As per the Model Prisons and Correctional Services Act, 2023, prisoners may be granted leave from prison on the condition that they wear electronic tracking devices to monitor their movements.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Odisha became the first state in India to propose using GPS-enabled tracking devices for undertrials accused of non-heinous crimes.

Source: The Hindu

18. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Providing equality of opportunity for all citizens**: This is a key aspect of socialism in India. It aims to minimize inequalities and ensure that everyone has access to opportunities regardless of their social or economic background.
- **Ensuring the well-being of the population**: This aligns with the socialist principles enshrined in India's policies, which emphasize public welfare through measures like healthcare, education, and social security.
- **Individual rights and freedoms**: Indian socialism respects and upholds individualism, ensuring that personal freedoms coexist with societal welfare.
- **Prioritizing state-led economic growth over private enterprise**: While the state plays a role in welfare and development, Indian socialism does not prioritize the state over private enterprise. **Instead, it allows** the private sector to thrive alongside public initiatives.

Source: The Hindu

Acts & Policies

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Price Support Scheme (PSS) aims to ensure that farmers receive a remunerative price for their produce by procuring certain agricultural commodities (like pulses, oilseeds, and cotton) at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) when market prices fall below the MSP. It aims to stabilize farmers' income and protect them from market fluctuations.
- Statement 2 is correct. NAFED is one of the central nodal agencies responsible for implementing the PSS.

Source: The Hindu

20. Correct Answer is (A)

• Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Ayushman Vaya Vandana Scheme is available to senior citizens aged 70 years and above, regardless of their income level. The scheme provides healthcare

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- coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh per year for senior citizens aged 70 and above, under the extended Ayushman Bharat-PM-JAY framework.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The scheme covers pre-existing conditions, such as diabetes and hypertension. One key limitation of the scheme is that it covers only general ward admissions in hospitals.

Source: The Hindu

21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The All-India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968 provide a comprehensive code of conduct for officers, guiding their professional and ethical behavior. These rules emphasize high standards of ethics, integrity, political neutrality, accountability, and transparency. Officers are allowed to participate in or contribute to public media only when it is part of the bonafide discharge of their official duties, and they must not criticize the government in such communications.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The All-India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968 do not specifically mention or provide detailed directives about the use of social media platforms.

Source: The Hindu

22. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Under CPPS, pensioners will not need to visit bank branches for verification at the commencement of their pension, and the pension will be credited immediately upon release. CPPS marks a major shift from the current decentralized system to a national-level centralized system, allowing pension disbursement through any bank branch across India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The CPPS will be launched as part of EPFO's ongoing IT modernization project, called Centralized IT Enabled System (CITES 2.01).

Source: The Hindu

23. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statement-I is incorrect. India does not currently have a mandatory front-of-pack labelling (FOPL) system in place. While the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has proposed regulations for FOPL, these proposals are still under consideration and have not yet been implemented as mandatory rules.
- Statement-II is correct. India is a member of the World Health Assembly (WHA), which is the decision-making body of the World Health Organization (WHO). The WHA has passed resolutions emphasizing the importance of strategies like FOPL to combat non-communicable diseases (NCDs), and India participates in these discussions as a member state.

Source: The Hindu

24. Correct Answer is (D)

• Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The PM Vidyalaxmi Scheme provides collateral-free and guarantor-free loans to students for their tuition fees and other educational expenses. Eligibility under the scheme is based on merit and admission to NIRF-ranked institutions, without consideration of caste or other socio-economic factors. The scheme applies only to institutions ranked under the NIRF, including top 100 institutions in overall, category-specific, and domain-specific rankings, as well as state government HEIs ranked 101-200 and all central government institutions.

Source: The Hindu

Index & Reports

25. Correct Answer is (C)

• Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Emissions Gap Report is an annual publication by UNEP. It assesses the gap between current greenhouse gas emissions and the reductions needed to meet the Paris Agreement goals. The G20 nations account for approximately 75-77% of global emissions, making them critical players in addressing climate change.

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• Statement 2 is incorrect. The report specifies that a 42% reduction by 2030 is required to meet the 1.5°C goal, while a 28% reduction by 2030 is needed for the less ambitious 2°C target. Additionally, India has seen over 6% more greenhouse gas emissions than the previous year, as per the report.

Source: The Hindu

26. Correct Answer is (C)

• The Mulla Committee, officially known as the All-India Committee on Jail Reforms (1980-83), was established to review all aspects of prison administration and suggest reforms. The committee played a significant role in highlighting the dire state of Indian prisons and proposing measures to transform them into centres for reformation and rehabilitation.

Source: The Hindu

International Relations/Organizations

27. Correct Answer is (C)

• The UNICORN system is designed to integrate communication systems on naval warships. It enhances their stealth capabilities by minimizing their radar cross-section by making them harder to detect by enemy radar. Once implemented, this will mark Japan's first export of defense technology to India, following the 2015 bilateral agreement on defense equipment and technology transfer.

Source: The Hindu

28. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. ICAO's primary role is to coordinate international air navigation principles and foster the development of international air transport to ensure safe and orderly growth. ICAO does not directly manage global air traffic control systems.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Montreal Convention of 1999 establishes airline liability in cases of death or injury to passengers, as well as for baggage and cargo loss or damage during international air transport. It unifies various international treaties covering airline liability.

Source: The Hindu

29. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The primary mission of the Global Alliance is to eradicate hunger and extreme poverty by 2030, as well as to promote sustainable development goals (SDGs) like SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger). The Global Alliance is structured around three key pillars: 1) National coordination for public policies, 2) Financial mobilization to gather resources and 3) Knowledge integration to use data and technology for evidence-based solutions.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The technical headquarters of the Global Alliance will be based at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Source: The Hindu

30. Correct Answer is (B)

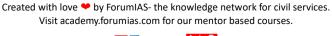
• The EUDR ensures that products sold in or exported from the EU are "deforestation-free," meaning they are not sourced from land that has been deforested or degraded. This regulation applies globally. The regulation applies to seven key commodities: cattle meat, cocoa, coffee, palm oil, soy, timber, and rubber, as well as their derived products (e.g., leather, chocolate, furniture). These commodities are linked to deforestation due to agricultural expansion.

Source: The Hindu

31. Correct Answer is (C)

• India has signed a Joint Strategic Action Plan for 2025-29 with Italy to enhance bilateral cooperation across various sectors, including defense, trade, technology, and cultural exchange. This agreement aims to deepen strategic ties and foster collaboration on global challenges.

Source: The Hindu





32. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Sagarmanthan summit is designed to bring together global policymakers, industry leaders, and experts to discuss sustainable and innovative maritime practices, enhance connectivity, and promote collaboration in the maritime sector.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The IPOI focuses on promoting cooperation among Indo-Pacific nations for a free, open, and secure maritime domain, rather than enhancing economic cooperation. Its objectives include strengthening partnerships, ensuring maritime security, and sustainable resource usage.

Source: The Hindu

33. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. APEC's primary objective is to promote free trade, investment, and economic cooperation among its 21 member economies in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. India is not a member of APEC, though it has expressed interest in joining the forum. APEC does not have a formal headquarters. Instead, it operates through a rotating secretariat based in Singapore.

Source: The Hindu

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Bangladesh is not a member of ASEAN. Currently, ASEAN consists of ten member countries: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. ASEAN's headquarters is located in Jakarta, Indonesia. The East Asia Summit (EAS) is a regional forum that includes ASEAN member states and other key partners in the region, making it closely associated with ASEAN.

Source: The Hindu

35. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. CARICOM's main decision-making body is the Conference of Heads of Government. The Conference consists of the heads of government from member states and is supported by other organs like the Community Council of Ministers. The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) is an intergovernmental organisation that is a political and economic union of 15 member states and five associated members throughout the Americas, the Caribbean and Atlantic Ocean.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. CARICOM has been granted observer status at the United Nations General Assembly since 1991. The India-CARICOM Summit highlights India's efforts to strengthen ties with Caribbean nations, focusing on areas like trade, renewable energy, and climate change, as part of its broader Global South strategy.

Source: The Hindu

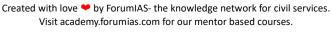
36. Correct Answer is (C)

• India and Australia have launched a Renewable Energy Partnership, which will focus on: Solar energy, green hydrogen, Energy storage, Investments in renewable energy projects. This partnership provides a framework for practical cooperation in these priority areas.

Source: The Hindu

37. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) is a global body that represents the private sector of the travel and tourism industry, including airlines, hotels, cruise lines, travel agencies, and more. It advocates for sustainable growth and highlights the sector's economic contributions.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Net Zero Roadmap for Travel & Tourism initiative is the initiative launched by WTTC. It aims to guide the travel and tourism sector toward achieving net-zero carbon emissions through innovative practices and partnerships. Recently, the UN Climate Change COP29





or Baku Declaration has included tourism in its action agenda, with over 50 governments endorsing the COP29 Declaration on Enhanced Climate Action in Tourism.

Source: DD News

38. Correct Answer is (D)

• The Blue Transformation Initiative, led by the FAO, focuses on transforming aquatic food systems to address global challenges such as food security, nutrition, poverty, and environmental sustainability. Its objectives include promoting sustainable aquaculture and fisheries, improving value chains, and ensuring equitable livelihoods while minimizing environmental impacts. India is the second-largest producer of aquaculture globally, leading in inland fisheries and ranking sixth in marine fisheries. FAO's Blue Transformation aligns with the Government of India's Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. Aquaculture is the breeding, rearing, and harvesting of fish, shellfish, algae, and other organisms in all types of water environments.

Source: **DD News**

Economy

39. Correct Answer is (C)

• Insurance mis-selling refers to the unethical practice of selling insurance products without properly informing customers about the risks, terms, or suitability of the policies. This can include misleading customers about the benefits or pressuring them into buying policies that may not meet their needs.

Source: The Hindu

40. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. NARCL was established to address and resolve the issue of large-value NPAs
 in India's banking sector, helping banks clean up their balance sheets by aggregating and resolving
 stressed assets.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. NARCL focuses on large-value NPAs, specifically those with an exposure of ₹500 crore and above, while traditional ARCs typically handle smaller-value NPAs. ARCs do not receive direct government support or guarantees for their operations. Whereas, NARCL benefits from a ₹30,600 crore government guarantee, which backs the security receipts (SRs) issued for acquiring stressed assets.

Source: The Hindu

41. Correct Answer is (A)

• Inflation spillover effects occur when inflation in one country influences the economic conditions of another country. This often happens through interconnected global markets, international trade, shared financial systems, or supply chains. For example, if a major economy experiences inflation, it can increase the cost of imports and exports, thereby transmitting price pressures to trading partners.

Source: The Hindu

42. Correct Answer is (B)

• Price stability refers to a state where the overall price level in an economy changes gradually and predictably, with moderate inflation. This ensures that the purchasing power of money remains relatively stable, avoiding the negative effects of both high inflation and deflation.

Source: The Hindu

43. Correct Answer is (B)

• Increasing interest rates makes the currency more attractive to foreign investors by offering higher returns on investments, thereby increasing demand for the currency and stabilizing its value.

Source: The Hindu

44. Correct Answer is (B)



- An increase in imports relative to exports: A growing trade deficit due to higher imports compared to exports reduces foreign exchange reserves as more foreign currency is spent on imports than earned through exports.
- **Depreciation of the domestic currency**: Depreciation increases the cost of repaying external debts and importing goods. This leads to a higher outflow of foreign exchange, which can deplete reserves.
- Increased foreign portfolio investments (FPI) inflows: Increased FPI inflows bring foreign currency into the country, boosting forex reserves rather than depleting them.
- Repayment of external debt: Repaying external debt requires using foreign exchange reserves, especially when payments are made in hard currencies like the U.S. dollar, leading to a decline in reserves.

Source: The Hindu

Environment

45. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The UNFCCC is one of the three conventions that emerged from the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, also known as the Rio Convention. The other two are the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). The COP is the supreme decision-making body of the UNFCCC. It reviews progress, negotiates new commitments, and makes decisions necessary for implementing the Convention.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The UNFCCC does not aim to eliminate fossil fuels globally. Instead, its primary objective is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that prevents dangerous human interference with the climate system.

Source: The Hindu

46. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The carbon budget refers to the maximum amount of cumulative net global anthropogenic CO2 emissions that can be emitted while limiting global warming to a specific level (e.g., 1.5°C or 2°C above pre-industrial levels).
- Statement 2 is correct. Net-zero emissions mean that the amount of greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere is balanced by the amount removed, resulting in no net increase in atmospheric greenhouse gases.

Source: The Hindu

47. Correct Answer is (A)

- High-Performance Buildings (HPBs) are designed to optimize energy efficiency, minimize environmental impact, and promote healthy indoor environments, focusing on operational efficiency throughout the building's lifespan.
- **Green Buildings** focus more broadly on reducing the environmental impact during the design, construction, and operation phases. They emphasize sustainability goals like energy efficiency, water conservation, and the use of sustainable materials.

Source: The Hindu

48. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Statement-I is correct**: Countries in the Global South, which include developing nations, face significant financial burdens due to the impacts of climate change. They often bear the costs of mitigation, adaptation, and dealing with the losses and damages caused by climate change, despite contributing less to global emissions.
- Statement-II is incorrect: While some countries in the Global South are classified as Least Developed Countries (LDCs), the Global South as a whole includes a broader range of nations, including emerging economies like India, Brazil, and China. Not all countries in the Global South are LDCs.

Source: The Hindu





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49. Correct Answer is (D)

• All five sources listed—forest fires, vehicle exhaust, burning crop residues, burning candles, and mineral processing, contribute to the emission of PM2.5 particulate matter.

Source: The Hindu

50. Correct Answer is (C)

• Air quality index (AQI), according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), is a measure of the concentration of eight pollutants — particulate matter (PM)10, PM2.5, nitrogen dioxide (NO2), sulphur dioxide (SO2), carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O3), ammonia (NH3), and lead (Pb) — in the air at a monitoring location.

Source: The Hindu

51. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Organic waste is the third-largest source of human-caused (anthropogenic) methane emissions, after agriculture and fossil fuels.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The GMP sets a global target of reducing methane emissions by at least 30% below 2020 levels by 2030, across sectors such as energy, agriculture, and waste.

Source: **DD News**

Science & Technology

52. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Hypersonic missiles are defined as those that can travel at speeds of at least Mach 5, which is five times the speed of sound. The missile is designed to carry various payloads over a range exceeding 1,500 km, making it suitable for all branches of the Indian Armed Forces.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The successful development and testing of a hypersonic missile places India among an elite group of nations—such as the United States, Russia, and China—that possess this advanced military technology. This capability significantly enhances India's defense readiness and technological prowess. The missile was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Source: The Hindu

53. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Gram-negative bacteria are generally more resistant to antibiotics because of their unique cell wall structure. Its cell wall includes an outer membrane that acts as a barrier, preventing many antibiotics from penetrating and reaching the interior of the cell.
- Statement 2 is correct. Anaerobic bacteria do not require oxygen for growth, and some types, known as obligate anaerobes, can be harmed or even die in the presence of oxygen. Gram-negative and anaerobic bacteria are more resistant to drugs due to their extra cell membrane protection.

Source: The Hindu

54. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. GSAT-N2 is designed to enhance broadband services and in-flight connectivity (IFC) across India, particularly in remote and underserved regions. It is designed to significantly enhance India's broadband infrastructure, improve in-flight connectivity, and support various government initiatives like the Smart Cities Mission. The launch of GSAT-N2 by SpaceX's Falcon-9 rocket marks the first commercial collaboration between ISRO and SpaceX.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. GSAT-N2 operates in the Ka-band frequency range.

Source: The Hindu

55. Correct Answer is (C)

• Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS) is a medical condition caused by reduced oxygen availability at high altitudes, above 8,000 feet. It leads to symptoms such as headache, nausea, dizziness, and shortness of breath, as the body struggles to acclimatize to the lower oxygen levels.

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Source: The Hindu

56. Correct Answer is (D)

• The System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR) provides real-time air quality data and forecasts. These are used by the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) to implement the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP). SAFAR relies on data from ground-based monitoring stations and meteorological forecasts to predict air quality trends and guide preemptive measures.

Source: The Hindu

57. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. GM crops are designed for traits such as pest resistance (e.g., Bt crops), herbicide tolerance, improved yield, and resilience to environmental stress like droughts or extreme temperatures. As of now, Bt Cotton is the only GM crop approved for commercial cultivation in India. Other GM crops like Bt Brinjal and GM Mustard have been proposed but are not yet approved for commercial use in India.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Golden Rice, which is genetically modified to produce betacarotene (a precursor to Vitamin A), has been approved in some countries but is not yet widely cultivated globally. The regulation of GMOs is governed by protocols like the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

Source: The Hindu

58. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Sanyukt Vimochan**: This exercise focuses on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR).
- **Poorvi Prahar**: This is a tri-service exercise aimed at enhancing coordination between the Army, Navy, and Air Force in mountainous terrain.
- **INDRA**: The INDRA exercise is a bilateral military exercise between India and Russia, focusing primarily on joint military operations, including counter-terrorism.

Source: AIR

59. Correct Answer is (C)

• The primary difference between Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS) and Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) lies in their range. ATACMS are short-range surface-to-surface missiles designed for tactical operations, with ranges typically up to 300 km. ICBMs are long-range strategic missiles with ranges exceeding 5,500 km, capable of delivering payloads across continents.

Source: The Hindu

60. Correct Answer is (A)

• India has launched Nafithromycin, its first indigenous antibiotic, to combat drug-resistant bacterial infections, particularly community-acquired bacterial pneumonia (CABP).

Source: AIR

