

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

December, 2024 3rd Week

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Art & Culture

Q.1) With reference to the Mahabodhi Temple, consider the following statements:

1. It marks the place where Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha) gave his first sermon.
2. The Mahabodhi Temple's architecture is primarily characterized by Gupta style.
3. It is one of the earliest surviving examples of brick architecture in India.
4. The Mahabodhi Temple Complex is recognized as the oldest Buddhist structure in the world.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) With reference to the Sahitya Akademi Awards, how many of the following statements are correct?

1. It gives 24 awards annually.
2. Books eligible for the award must be published during the last five years of the award.
3. It is considered the highest literary honour in India.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to the Yuga Yugeen Bharat Museum:

1. After completion, it will be the most technologically advanced museum in the world.
2. It is an integral part of the Central Vista Redevelopment Project.

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

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

Geography

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. La Niña causes extreme summers and droughts in India, while El Niño causes heavy rainfall in South Africa.
2. The Oceanic Niño Index (ONI) is used to classify La Niña or El Niño events.
3. La Niña can worsen air pollution in northern India during winters.

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

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

Polity

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. The Representation of the People Act of 1951 allows candidates to contest elections from an unlimited number of constituencies.
2. The Indian Constitution mandates regular elections every five years for the Legislative Assembly and the Lok Sabha.

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

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

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Supplementary Demands for Grants:

1. The President of India must approve Supplementary Demands for Grants before they are submitted to the Lok Sabha for voting.
2. It is regulated by the same procedure as the regular budget.
3. Contingency Fund of India is utilized when Supplementary Demands for Grants are approved.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. India is a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention.
2. Refugees in India are protected under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.

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

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

Q.8) With reference to the National Testing Agency (NTA), consider the following statements:

1. It is a testing organization established under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860.
2. It operates under the Ministry of Science and Technology.
3. It identifies experts and institutions to prepare examination questions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding the Indian Constitution:

1. Article 19 is an individual right.
2. Article 30(1) allows religious and linguistic minorities to establish and manage their own institutions.
3. Under Article 30(2), minority institutions are entitled to receive government aid.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Indian government has enacted Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDPA), 2023 to regulate data privacy.

Statement II: The Supreme Court in India has declared privacy as a fundamental right.

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

- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS):

- It is a Mission Mode Project (MMP) aimed at modernizing and integrating the core functions of policing through Information and Communication Technology (ICT).
- It aims to integrate all crime data and records into Central Monitoring System (CMS).
- It is integrated into the Interoperable Criminal Justice System (ICJS).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Acts & Policies

Q.12) With reference to the PM SHRI Scheme (Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India), consider the following statements:

- PM SHRI schools are designed to act as exemplars for implementing all components of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- The scheme emphasizes equitable and inclusive education, ensuring no child is left behind regardless of their background.
- Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) monitors the performance of PM SHRI Schools.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

- Private jets and chartered planes have a much larger carbon footprint per passenger compared to commercial flights.
- The Nextgen Airports for Bharat Nirman (NABH) scheme aim to boost aircraft manufacturing in India as part of the Make in India initiative.

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

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

Q.14) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to provide financial subsidies for the purchase and use of electric farm equipment, promoting sustainable agriculture.
2. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is responsible for implementing the scheme.
3. It also provides uninterrupted power supply to farmers.

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

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

Q.15) With reference to the Members of Parliament Local Area Development (MP-LAD) Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. The annual allocation for each Member of Parliament under the scheme is ₹5 crore.
2. The scheme mandates that 15% of the funds be used for initiatives supporting Scheduled Castes (SC) and 7.5% for those aiding Scheduled Tribes (ST).
3. Under the scheme, MPs can recommend projects only within their constituencies.
4. "One MP – One Idea" Initiative is a part of the scheme.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.16) With reference to the Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS), consider the following statements:

1. EMRS aims to provide quality middle and high-level education to Scheduled Tribe students in remote areas.
2. National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is responsible for managing and implementing the EMRS scheme.
3. EMRS are fully funded by the Central Government.

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

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

Q.17) Consider the following statements regarding the One Nation, One Election Bill:

1. It aims to enforce fixed legislative terms for both Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies.
2. The Bill could weaken federalism by linking the term of State Assemblies to that of Parliament.

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) The primary objective of the "Dekho Apna Desh" initiative is to:

- a) Promote international tourism to India
- b) Encourage Indian citizens to travel abroad
- c) Encourage Indians to explore domestic tourism
- d) Promote infrastructure development in the tourism sector

Index & Reports

Q.19) Which one of the following organizations publishes the Travel & Tourism Development Index?

- a) United Nations World Tourism Organization
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) World Travel & Tourism Council
- d) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

International Relations/Organizations

Q.20) With reference to the Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership, consider the following statements:

- 1. One of its aims is to develop new drought-resistant crop varieties.
- 2. The Partnership's funding approach includes carbon credits trading.

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

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

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Thailand is a key partner in India's Neighbourhood First Policy.
- 2. Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) initiative aims to strengthen economic and security cooperation with India's maritime neighbours.

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

Economy

Q.22) A persistent trade deficit can lead to:

- 1. Increased foreign ownership of domestic assets
- 2. Depreciation of the domestic currency
- 3. Reduced domestic industrial capacity
- 4. Higher employment in export industries

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.23) Which one of the following is referred to as 'SHEconomy'?

- a) The economic growth driven by the increasing participation and influence of women in the workforce and markets.
- b) A government policy aimed exclusively at providing subsidies to women entrepreneurs.
- c) A financial system designed specifically for women-led businesses and organizations.
- d) A term used to describe economies that rely solely on industries dominated by women, such as fashion and beauty.

Q.24) Which of the following crops is benefiting the most from the current Minimum Support Price (MSP) procurement?

- a) Pulses and oilseeds
- b) Fruits and vegetables
- c) Rice and wheat
- d) Cotton and jute

Q.25) Which of the following categories is included in the calculation of India's Wholesale Price Inflation?

- a) Services such as transport and communication.
- b) Agricultural products, fuel, and manufactured goods.
- c) Real estate prices and labor wages.
- d) Consumer goods and luxury items.

Q.26) Consider the following sectors:

- 1. Information Technology
- 2. Textile Manufacturing
- 3. Medical Device
- 4. Electric Vehicles

Which of the above sectors are considered as sunrise sector in India?

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

Q.27) In financial markets, the term "Greenback Buying" refers to:

- a) Purchasing stocks in environmentally friendly companies
- b) Buying the US dollar as a currency in exchange for another currency
- c) Investing in green bonds issued by the US government
- d) A financial trading strategy designed to maximize returns while managing risk

Environment

Q.28) Consider the following statements regarding the green hydrogen:

- 1. The primary method of producing green hydrogen is through coal gasification.
- 2. Its production involves no greenhouse gas emissions.
- 3. It can be a substitute for natural gas in power plants.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.29) With reference to the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC), which of the following statements are correct?

- 1. Agriculture, water management, and forestry are prioritized for funding under NAFCC.
- 2. Only those projects that align with State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs) are chosen by NAFCC for funding.
- 3. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) serves as the National Implementing Entity (NIE) for the NAFCC.

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.30) Consider the following statements:

1. Project Dolphin aims to conserve both riverine and oceanic dolphins.
2. Ganges river dolphin is India's national aquatic animal.
3. The Ganges River dolphin is capable of adapting to polluted environments.

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:

1. Sacred groves act as biodiversity hotspots.
2. In India, sacred groves are recognized under the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002.
3. In India, the deccan plateau is known for their extensive sacred groves.

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

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

Q.32) Consider the following statements regarding the spot-billed pelican:

1. It inhabits shallow lowland freshwater wetlands.
2. Its ability to dive deeply under the water distinguishes it from other pelican species.
3. In India, they are only found in the peninsular region.
4. It is classified as Near Threatened by the IUCN.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.33) In the context of carbon market, consider the following statements:

1. Compliance markets are regulated by governments or international bodies whereas voluntary carbon markets are unregulated by governments.
2. In the carbon market, additionality refers to the long-term durability of carbon sequestration or emission reductions achieved by a project.

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.34) With reference to the Next Generation Missile Vessel (NGMV) program, consider the following statements:

1. NGMVs are designed to primarily enhance India's anti-submarine warfare capabilities.
2. NGMVs are equipped with advanced stealth features and sophisticated long-range missile systems to neutralize enemy naval assets effectively.

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) Quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine aims to:

- a) Prevent all types of sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
- b) Treat cervical cancer caused by HPV infection.
- c) Prevent certain types of cancers and genital warts caused by specific HPV types.
- d) Boost immunity against all types of viral infections.

Q.36) With reference to the Human Rated Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (HLVM3), consider the following statements:

1. It will launch the orbital module of the Gaganyaan mission.
2. Automated landing system has been added to the HLVM3 to ensure crew safety during launch.

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

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

Q.37) Consider the following statements:

1. The primary role of the Survey Vessel (Large) project is to conduct scientific research in polar regions.
2. INS Nirdeshak is a part of the Survey Vessel (Large) project.

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

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

Q.38) Consider the following statements regarding the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS):

1. Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) is a Medium Earth Orbit (MEO) space station designed to establish a sustained human presence in space.
2. Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) is closely linked to the Gaganyaan programme.

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) Which of the following are the features of polar sundial designed by the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)?

1. It accurately displays Indian Standard Time (IST) and the date.
2. It uses a 3D-printed miniature rocket as the style.
3. It is aligned with the Earth's equatorial plane.
4. It uses inverted analemma curves instead of straight hour lines to indicate time.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.40) The term 'never events' was mentioned in the news recently, used in the context of:

- a) Routine medical procedures
- b) Unpredictable weather patterns
- c) Major financial crises
- d) Serious medical errors that are preventable

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

Art & Culture

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 4 are incorrect. The Mahabodhi Temple in Bodhi Gaya marks the place where Buddha attained enlightenment under the Bodhi Tree. Buddha delivered his first sermon, known as the Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta (Turning of the Wheel of Dharma), at Sarnath, near Varanasi. While the Mahabodhi Temple is one of the earliest surviving Buddhist temples built entirely of brick, it is not considered the oldest Buddhist structure in the world.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Mahabodhi Temple was rebuilt during the Gupta period (5th-6th century CE) and exhibits the ornate and intricate features characteristic of Gupta architecture, including sculptural reliefs and decorative elements. The Mahabodhi Temple is one of the oldest surviving brick structures in India, showcasing advanced brickwork from the Gupta period.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Sahitya Akademi Awards are presented annually in 24 languages, including 22 languages listed in the Constitution of India (Eighth Schedule) and two additional languages, English and Rajasthani. Books considered for the Sahitya Akademi Award must have been published within the five years immediately preceding the year of the award.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Sahitya Akademi Award is not the highest literary honour in India. It is the second-highest literary award, after the Jnanpith Award.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Museum is described as a world-class cultural institution and the largest museum globally, focusing on India's heritage and inclusivity. It is a cultural project by the Government of India, envisioned to be the largest museum in the world. It is a collaborative effort between India and France, aimed at transforming the historic North Block and South Block in New Delhi into a world-class cultural institution.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Yuga Yugeen Bharat Museum is part of the Central Vista Redevelopment Project. The project involves repurposing North and South Blocks into a museum space while relocating government offices to new buildings.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Geography

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. La Niña is usually associated with increased rainfall during the monsoon season in India, potentially leading to cooler and wetter conditions, rather than extreme summers and droughts. In South Africa, El Niño is generally linked to below-average rainfall and droughts, not heavy rainfall.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The ONI measures sea surface temperature anomalies in the central equatorial Pacific Ocean and is the primary indicator for identifying El Niño and La Niña events. During La Niña winters, colder temperatures and a lower planetary boundary layer height (PBLH) can trap pollutants near the surface, worsening air quality in northern India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Polity

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Representation of the People Act, 1951, originally allowed candidates to contest from any number of constituencies. However, it was amended in 1996 to limit candidates to contesting from a maximum of two constituencies.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Constitution provides for a five-year term for both the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies, unless they are dissolved earlier.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The President does not approve these demands in a discretionary or decision-making capacity. Instead, under Article 115 of the Constitution, the President facilitates the process by causing the Supplementary Demands for Grants to be laid before Parliament. The actual approval comes from the Lok Sabha, which debates and votes on these demands before they are incorporated into the Appropriation Act. The funds for Supplementary Demands for Grants come from the Consolidated Fund of India.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Supplementary Demands for Grants follow the same parliamentary procedures as the regular demands for grants. They are introduced in the Lok Sabha, discussed, and voted upon. If approved, they are included in the Appropriation Act for authorizing the expenditure.

Source: [AIR](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India has not signed the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol, which are key international legal documents for refugee protection.
- Statement 2 is correct. Article 21, which guarantees the right to life and personal liberty, applies to all persons, including non-citizens such as refugees.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (C)

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- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The National Testing Agency (NTA) was established as an autonomous and self-sustained organization under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860. One of the functions of the NTA is to identify experts and institutions for preparing examination questions.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NTA operates under the Ministry of Education.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Article 19 guarantees specific freedoms to citizens, including freedom of speech and expression, assembly, association, movement, residence, and profession. These rights are primarily individual in nature. Article 30(1) grants all minorities, whether based on religion or language, the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Article 30(2) states that the state shall not discriminate against any educational institution in granting aid on the ground that it is under the management of a minority. However, it does not guarantee that minority institutions are entitled to receive government aid; it only ensures non-discrimination if aid is granted.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Statement I is correct:** The Indian government has enacted the Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDPA), 2023, to regulate data privacy. This act aims to provide a comprehensive framework for the protection of digital personal data in India.
- **Statement II is correct:** In the landmark judgment of Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) vs. Union of India in 2017, the Supreme Court unanimously recognized the right to privacy as intrinsic to the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution.
- However, Statement II is not the direct explanation for Statement I. The recognition of privacy as a fundamental right is not the direct reason for enacting the DPDPA. The enactment of the DPDPA 2023, was influenced by multiple factors, including the increasing digitization of services, data breaches, and the need to align with global data protection standards.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) is a Mission Mode Project (MMP) under the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP). It aims to modernize policing by leveraging ICT to enhance efficiency, transparency, and citizen-centric services. CCTNS is a key component of the Interoperable Criminal Justice System (ICJS), which integrates various pillars of the criminal justice system, including police (CCTNS), courts (e-Courts), prisons (e-Prisons), forensics, and prosecution.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. CCTNS integrates all crime data into Core Application Software (CAS), which serves as the central repository for crime and criminal records across India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Acts & Policies

12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. PM SHRI schools are intended to showcase the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and act as model schools for others to follow. The scheme focuses on creating an inclusive and joyful learning environment, catering to diverse backgrounds and ensuring equity and inclusion.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The performance of PM SHRI schools is monitored through tools like geo-tagging, UDISE+ data, and a School Quality Assessment Framework (SQAf).

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

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- Statement 1 is correct. Private jets are significantly more polluting per passenger than commercial flights. Various studies have shown that private jets emit 5-14 times more CO₂ per passenger than commercial flights.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NABH Nirman scheme focuses on expanding airport capacity, improving passenger amenities, and enhancing regional connectivity.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The PM-KUSUM Scheme primarily focuses on promoting solar energy in agriculture through the installation of solar-powered pumps and renewable energy plants. It provides financial assistance for solar pumps and solarization of grid-connected pumps to reduce dependence on diesel and grid electricity. The PM-KUSUM Scheme is implemented by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- Statement 3 is correct. The scheme ensures a dependable source of power for farmers through solar energy, which can lead to uninterrupted power supply for irrigation purposes. It also allows farmers to generate surplus solar power that can be sold back to DISCOMs, enhancing their income while ensuring energy security.

Source: [AIR](#)

15. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1, 2 and 4 are correct. Each MP is allocated ₹5 crore annually under MPLADS, released in two equal installments of ₹2.5 crore each. The guidelines mandate that MPs recommend works costing at least 15% of their funds for areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes (SCs) and 7.5% for areas inhabited by Scheduled Tribes (STs). The "One MP – One Idea" initiative is part of MPLADS. It encourages MPs to hold competitions in their constituencies to identify innovative ideas for developmental projects, with cash awards funded through MPLADS.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Lok Sabha MPs can recommend projects within their constituencies. Rajya Sabha MPs can recommend works in one or more districts within the state they represent. Nominated MPs can recommend works in any district across the country.

Source: [AIR](#)

16. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. EMRS are designed to provide quality education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in remote areas, focusing on middle and high school education (Classes VI to XII). EMRS are fully funded by the Central Government through grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The EMRS scheme is managed and implemented by the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Bill does not enforce fixed legislative terms. Instead, it proposes a "maximum term" for legislatures. If a government collapses mid-term, fresh elections will be held, and the newly elected legislature will serve only the remainder of the original five-year term. This ensures flexibility in addressing mid-term dissolutions while maintaining electoral synchrony.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Bill aligns the terms of State Assemblies with that of the Lok Sabha, which could result in State Assemblies being prematurely dissolved to synchronize with Lok Sabha elections. Critics argue that this undermines the autonomy of State Assemblies, a key feature of India's federal structure.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (C)

- The "Dekho Apna Desh" initiative, launched by the Ministry of Tourism in 2020, aims to promote domestic tourism in India. It encourages Indian citizens to explore the country's rich cultural heritage, natural beauty, and lesser-known destinations. The initiative aligns with the objective of boosting domestic tourism and making people aware of India's diverse attractions.

Source: [AIR](#)

Index & Reports

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Travel & Tourism Development Index (TTDI) 2024, published by the World Economic Forum (WEF) in collaboration with the University of Surrey, is a biennial report that evaluates the travel and tourism sectors of 119 countries. India ranked 39th out of 119 countries in the TTDI 2024.

Source: [DD News](#)

International Relations/Organizations

20. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Partnership promotes sustainable agriculture, including the development and use of drought-resistant crops to enhance resilience against droughts.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The funding mechanisms for the Partnership focus on credit access, equity financing, insurance products, grants, and blended financing options like concessional loans. However, it does not include carbon credits trading.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Neighbourhood First Policy primarily focuses on India's immediate neighbours such as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.
- Statement 2 is correct. The SAGAR initiative is designed to enhance maritime cooperation and security with India's maritime neighbours, promoting peace, stability, and economic growth in the Indian Ocean Region.

Source: [AIR](#)

Economy

22. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Increased foreign ownership of domestic assets:** Persistent trade deficits often require financing through foreign capital inflows, leading to greater foreign ownership of domestic assets. This occurs as foreign investors purchase local businesses, real estate, or government debt, which can increase dependency on external financing.
- **Depreciation of the domestic currency:** A sustained trade deficit increases the supply of the domestic currency in global markets, leading to depreciation.
- **Reduced domestic industrial capacity:** Persistent deficits can harm domestic industries that face competition from cheaper imports, leading to job losses and a decline in manufacturing output. This can weaken the country's industrial base over time.
- **Higher employment in export industries:** This is generally not a consequence of a persistent trade deficit. Instead, such deficits are often associated with reduced employment in domestic industries due to competition from imports.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- The term SHEconomy refers to the increasing economic influence of women, driven by their growing participation in the workforce, higher educational attainment, and rising spending power. This aligns with the global trend of women shaping economic activity as both contributors and consumers.

Source: [DD News](#)

24. Correct Answer is (C)

- While the Minimum Support Price (MSP) is announced for 23 crops, procurement by the government is heavily concentrated on rice and wheat. These two crops dominate MSP procurement due to their importance in the Public Distribution System (PDS) and food security programs under the National Food Security Act (NFSA).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) in India tracks price changes at the wholesale level and includes three main categories: **Primary Articles:** Agricultural products, minerals, and raw materials (e.g., food grains, fruits, vegetables), **Fuel and Power:** Crude oil, electricity, and petroleum products and **Manufactured Products:** Goods like food products, textiles, chemicals, and machinery.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (D)

- A sunrise sector refers to a new or emerging industry that is experiencing rapid growth and is expected to become significant in the future. Electric Vehicles and Medical Devices are considered sunrise sectors in India. While Information Technology (IT) has been a significant contributor to India's economy for decades, it is now considered a well-established sector rather than a sunrise industry. Textile Manufacturing is a traditional industry in India with a long history and is not categorized as a sunrise sector.

Source: [AIR](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- The term "Greenback" is a colloquial term for the US dollar, originating from the green ink used on the back of US currency notes during the American Civil War. In financial markets, "Greenback buying" refers to purchasing US dollars in exchange for another currency, typically in the context of foreign exchange (forex) trading or international financial transactions.

Source: [News](#)

Environment

28. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Green hydrogen is primarily produced through electrolysis, a process that uses renewable electricity to split water into hydrogen and oxygen, ensuring zero emissions during production. Coal gasification is used for producing gray hydrogen, which emits greenhouse gases.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Green hydrogen production, when powered by renewable energy sources like solar or wind, does not emit greenhouse gases during the electrolysis process. Green hydrogen can be used as a substitute for natural gas in power plants to reduce carbon emissions and decarbonize the energy sector.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Agriculture, water management, and forestry are prioritized for funding under NAFCC. The fund supports projects aimed at enhancing climate resilience in these sectors, aligning with India's adaptation needs. Only projects that align with the State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs) are considered for funding by NAFCC. This ensures that funded initiatives are in line with state-specific climate adaptation strategies. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) serves as the National Implementing Entity (NIE) for the NAFCC. NABARD is responsible for coordinating with state governments and executing agencies, overseeing project implementation, and ensuring compliance with financial and reporting norms.

Source: [AIR](#)

30. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Project Dolphin aims to conserve both riverine and oceanic dolphins. It was launched in 2020 to protect dolphins in freshwater rivers and coastal waters. The Ganges River dolphin is India's national aquatic animal.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Ganges River dolphin is highly vulnerable to polluted environments. It suffers from health issues due to water pollution, including exposure to heavy metals, industrial waste, and agricultural runoff, which negatively impact its survival.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Sacred groves are biodiversity-rich areas that act as reservoirs of rare and endangered species of flora and fauna. They serve as important centers for biodiversity conservation, often preserving species that have disappeared from surrounding areas due to habitat destruction. Sacred groves are legally recognized as community reserves under the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002, which provides government protection to areas managed by local communities for conservation purposes.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. While sacred groves exist in parts of the Deccan Plateau, they are not extensively found there compared to regions like the Western Ghats, Northeast India, and Central India, which are particularly rich in sacred groves.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. Spot-billed pelicans primarily inhabit shallow lowland freshwater habitats such as lakes, reservoirs, and wetlands. The IUCN has classified the spot-billed pelican as "Near Threatened" due to threats like habitat loss, pollution, and poaching.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Spot-billed pelicans do not dive deeply underwater for feeding. Yellow bill with a red spot at the base distinguishes the spot-billed pelican from other pelican species. While spot-billed pelicans breed only in peninsular India, Sri Lanka, and Cambodia, they are also found in other parts of India during non-breeding seasons, such as the Gangetic plains.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Compliance markets are mandatory and regulated by governments or international organizations to meet legally binding emission reduction targets, such as through cap-and-trade systems. In contrast, voluntary carbon markets operate outside government regulation and allow entities to voluntarily purchase carbon credits to offset emissions, often driven by corporate sustainability goals. While voluntary markets are largely unregulated, they are governed by independent standards like Verra and Gold Standard to ensure credibility.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. In the carbon market, additionality refers to the principle that a project must result in new and additional reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that would not have occurred without the project. Permanence refers to the long-term durability of carbon sequestration or emission reductions achieved by a project. It ensures that the benefits created by the project are not reversed over time.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Science & Technology

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Next Generation Missile Vessels (NGMVs) are primarily designed for anti-surface warfare (ASuW) and maritime strike operations, not anti-submarine warfare (ASW). Their role includes targeting enemy warships, merchant vessels, and land targets, as well as providing sea denial at choke points. They are equipped with surface-to-surface missiles (SSMs) like the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, which is optimized for surface targets, not submarines.
- Statement 2 is correct. NGMVs incorporate advanced stealth features, such as low radar cross-section (RCS), infrared, acoustic, and magnetic signatures, making them harder to detect.

Source: [AIR](#)

35. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is designed to prevent diseases caused by specific HPV types (6, 11, 16, and 18). It protects against cervical, vulvar, vaginal, and anal cancers caused by HPV types 16 and 18, and genital warts caused by types 6 and 11.

Source: [AIR](#)

36. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The HLV3 is specifically designed to launch the Orbital Module (OM) of the Gaganyaan mission into Low Earth Orbit (LEO). The OM consists of the Crew Module (CM), where astronauts will stay, and the Service Module (SM), which provides power, propulsion, and life support.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. HLV3 has a Crew Escape System (CES), which ensures crew safety during emergencies by ejecting the Crew Module to a safe distance during ascent.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary role of the Survey Vessel (Large) project is to conduct hydrographic surveys of ports, harbors, navigational channels, coastal areas, and deep seas. These surveys are essential for safe marine navigation and maritime operations.
- Statement 2 is correct. INS Nirdeshak is the second ship under the Survey Vessel (Large) project, which involves the construction of four advanced survey vessels for the Indian Navy.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

38. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) is planned to be a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) space station, orbiting at an altitude of 400–450 km above the Earth. It is designed to support long-term human space missions and advanced scientific research.
- Statement 2 is correct. The BAS project is closely linked to the Gaganyaan programme, which serves as its foundation. The Gaganyaan initiative includes precursor missions and technology development for BAS, making it an integral part of India's broader human spaceflight ambitions.

Source: [DD News](#)

39. Correct Answer is (B)

- The sundial is specifically designed to provide IST as well as the date throughout the year. The style of the sundial is a 1.6-foot tall, 3D-printed miniature of the Rohini series RH200 sounding rocket. The sundial features inverted analemma curves that replace traditional hour lines, allowing for accurate time indication throughout the year. The sundial itself is not aligned with the equatorial plane. Instead, the sundial's plate is aligned parallel to Earth's polar axis, while the style is aligned parallel to the Earth's equatorial plane.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (D)

- The term 'never events' refers to serious, preventable medical errors that should not occur if proper safety protocols are followed. These include incidents such as wrong-site surgeries, leaving foreign objects inside a patient after surgery, or administering the wrong medication.

Source: [The Hindu](#)