

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Monthly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

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Art & Culture and Ancient India

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the only country in the world where 11 languages are recognized as classical languages.
2. The 'Kendriya Hindi Samiti' is the highest body that provides guidelines for the development and promotion of the Hindi language in India.

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

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. The Four Noble Truths is considered the Middle Path in Buddhism.
2. In Buddhist philosophy, karuna refers to the cycle of birth, death, and rebirth.
3. The Middle Path of Buddhism encourages moderation in consumption and respect for nature's resources.
4. In Buddhism, the ultimate goal of spiritual practice is the attainment of Nirvana.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.3) With reference to the Sarangi instrument, which of the following statements are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.4) In terms of Carnatic music, the Mridangam refers to:

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.6) Which one of the following principles is NOT one of the three pillars of Sikhism?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.8) 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.9) 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

Q.10) Which one of the following awards is the highest honour in the field of Carnatic music?

- a) Carnatic Kaladhara
- b) Nada Kalanidhi
- c) Kalidas Samman
- d) Sangita Kalanidhi

Q.11) With reference to the President's Colours Honour, consider the following statements:

1. It is the highest honour that can be bestowed upon a military unit in India.
2. It is awarded in recognition of the number of individual gallantry awards received by a military unit member.

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

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

Q.12) Hornbill Festival is celebrated in:

- a) Nagaland
- b) Manipur
- c) Meghalaya
- d) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer Key

1 - (c)	2 - (b)	3 - (a)	4 - (b)	5 - (c)	6 - (d)
7 - (c)	8 - (b)	9 - (b)	10 - (d)	11 - (a)	12 - (a)

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India has recognized 11 languages as classical languages, which is a unique feature not shared by any other country. The Kendriya Hindi Samiti is the highest body responsible for setting guidelines for the promotion and progressive use of the Hindi language in India.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Four Noble Truths are a framework for understanding suffering and how to overcome it, whereas the Middle Path refers to a balanced approach to life, avoiding extremes of indulgence and asceticism. They are related but not the same concept. The Noble Eightfold Path is considered the Middle Path in Buddhism. Karuna in Buddhism refers to compassion, not the cycle of birth, death, and rebirth. The cycle of birth, death, and rebirth is called samsara.
- Statements 3 and 4 are correct. The Middle Path advocates moderation in all aspects of life, including consumption, and promotes living in harmony with nature. Nirvana is the ultimate goal in Buddhism, representing liberation from suffering and the cycle of rebirth.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (D)

- The three pillars of Sikhism, given by Guru Nanak Dev Ji, are: Naam Japna – Meditation on God's name, Kirat Karni – Honest work and earning a living through hard work, and Vand Chakna – Sharing with others, especially within the community. While Ahimsa (non-violence) is a principle in other religions like Jainism and Hinduism, it is not one of the three pillars of Sikhism.

Source: [AIR](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

8. 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](#)

9. 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](#)

10. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Sangita Kalanidhi Award, conferred by the Madras Music Academy, is considered the highest award in Carnatic music. It was instituted in 1942 and includes a gold medal and a citation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The President's Colours, also known as "Nishaan" or "Rashtrapati ka Nishaan," is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a military unit in India. It is a recognition of exceptional service rendered by the unit to the nation, both during times of war and peace.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The President's Colours is awarded to units for their collective exemplary and meritorious service over a period, typically involving at least 25 years of service.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Hornbill Festival is an annual event celebrated in Nagaland from December 1 to December 10 at the Naga Heritage Village, Kisama, near Kohima. It is organized by the Government of Nagaland

to promote and preserve the rich cultural heritage of the Naga tribes and encourage inter-tribal harmony. Known as the Festival of Festivals, it features traditional dances, music, crafts, and food from all 17 major tribes of Nagaland.

Source: [AIR](#)

Modern Indian History

Q.1) The Unity of India' and 'The Discovery of India' are books written by:

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

Q.2) Janjatiya Gaurav Divas is celebrated on November 15th every year because:

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.4) 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.5) Who among the following was known as 'Punjab Kesari'?

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

Answer Key

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

1. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- 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](#)

5. 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

Q 1) Consider the following statements:

1. Moraine is a type of ice formed from compacted snow in a glacier.
2. When glaciers melt and retreat, they leave behind large holes that fill with water, forming glacial lakes.
3. Pangong Tso is glacial lake in the disputed zone between Ladakh and China.
4. Glacial lakes act as hydrological buffers as they regulate or interrupt the flow of water from melting glaciers.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Which one of the following tectonic plates is NOT directly involved in the tectonic activity of the Ring of Fire?

- a) The Pacific Plate
- b) The Australian Plate
- c) The African Plate
- d) The North American Plate

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The Sun rotates about its axis like the Earth.
2. The Sun has a rotation period of one day.
3. Plasma is the highly ionized state of matter that makes up the Sun.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding cloud seeding:

1. Silver iodide is the most commonly used substance in cloud-seeding.
2. Stratus clouds are targeted in cloud-seeding to induce rain.
3. It can also help in preventing earthquakes by stabilizing atmospheric pressure.

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

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Warmer air holds less moisture that leads to droughts.
2. Changes in the jet stream can cause extreme weather patterns.

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:

Statement-I: Polishing or de-branning millets helps extend millets' shelf life.

Statement-II: The bran contains fats that can spoil millets quickly.

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.7) Which one of the following best describes the term 'population momentum'?

- a) The sudden increase in population due to a rise in fertility rates over a short period.
- b) A temporary decline in population growth due to a decrease in birth rates and an increase in death rates.
- c) The slow aging of a population due to improvements in healthcare and life expectancy.
- d) The continued population growth that occurs even after fertility rates decline due to a large proportion of young people entering reproductive age.

Q.8) Kishanganga River is a tributary of:

- a) Chenab River
- b) Sutlej River
- c) Ravi River
- d) Jhelum River

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

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

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

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

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

How many of the statements give above are correct?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

How many of the statements give above are correct?

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

Q.15) Which one of these countries does NOT share a land border with Nigeria?

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

Q.16) 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.17) 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.18) 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.19) 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.20) Which one of the following rivers flows through Kaziranga National Park?

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

Q.21) 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.22) The Hirakud Dam is built on:

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

Q.23) With reference to Gelephu Mindfulness City project, consider the following statements:

1. It is based on Bhutan's philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH).
2. The city shares a border with West Bengal from the Indian side.
3. It is a zero-carbon city in Bhutan.

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.24) Consider the following statements:

1. Earth's axial tilt causes cyclones to rotate counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere.
2. The eye is a calm region at the center of a cyclone with low pressure and light winds.

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

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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Moraine is not a type of ice but rather the collection of debris (like rocks and soil) that glaciers gather and deposit as they move. Moraine includes materials that are left behind after a glacier recedes, forming various types of landforms, such as lateral and terminal moraines.
- Statements 2, 3 and 4 are correct. As glaciers melt and retreat, the depressions they leave can fill with water, creating glacial lakes. These lakes are often dammed by the moraines left at the glacier's edge. Pangong Tso is a high-altitude glacial lake located in the disputed area between India's Ladakh region and China. Glacial lakes act as hydrological buffers, meaning they regulate or interrupt the flow of water from melting glaciers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

- The "Ring of Fire" is a vast, horseshoe-shaped area in the Pacific Ocean known for its high seismic activity, including earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. The Ring of Fire contains about 75% of the world's active and dormant volcanoes and about 90% of the world's earthquakes occur along the Ring of Fire. The Ring of Fire primarily involves the Pacific Plate and other plates such as the North American Plate, Australian Plate, and others around the Pacific Ocean. The African Plate is not part of this region's tectonic interactions.

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Sun, like the Earth, rotates about its own axis. However, the Sun's rotation is more complex because it is made of plasma (a hot, ionized gas), and different parts of the Sun rotate at different speeds. This is known as differential rotation. For example, the Sun's equator rotates faster (about 25 days) than its poles (about 35 days).
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Sun's rotation period is much longer than one day. At the equator, it takes about 25 days to complete one full rotation, and at the poles, it takes about 35 days.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is correct. Silver iodide is one of the most commonly used chemicals for cloud seeding, along with potassium iodide and dry ice (solid carbon dioxide).
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Cloud seeding targets cumulus clouds, which are more conducive to precipitation. Stratus clouds are usually low-lying and less likely to produce significant rainfall through cloud seeding. Cloud seeding is a weather modification technique aimed at inducing precipitation, mitigating hail, or dispersing fog. It has no connection to preventing earthquakes or stabilizing atmospheric pressure.

Source: [DD News](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. A warmer atmosphere holds more moisture and releases it as heavy rain.
- Statement 2 is correct. Changes in the jet stream—the fast-moving air currents high in the atmosphere—can lead to "stuck" weather patterns, causing prolonged storms or heatwaves, which are examples of extreme weather.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. Removing the bran and germ (polishing) extends the shelf life of millets.
- Statement-II is also correct. Millet bran is rich in fats, and not removing it might reduce shelf life, as it could spoil faster. However, when the bran is removed from millets, it reduces their nutritional value. Important nutrients like protein, fiber, fat, minerals, and phytates are lost, while carbohydrates increase. This reduces the health benefits of eating millets.
- Hence, the Statement-II correctly explains Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (D)

- Population momentum refers to the phenomenon where a population continues to grow even after a decline in fertility rates, primarily because a large proportion of the population is young and entering reproductive age. This momentum leads to sustained population growth despite the lower birth rates, due to the existing demographic structure.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Kishanganga River, known as the Neelum River in Pakistan, is a tributary of the Jhelum River, flowing through Jammu and Kashmir before merging with the Jhelum in Pakistan-administered Kashmir.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. 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](#)

16. 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](#)

17. 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](#)

18. 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](#)

19. 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](#)

20. 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](#)

21. 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](#)

22. 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](#)

23. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Gelephu Mindfulness City is explicitly designed around Bhutan's Gross National Happiness (GNH) philosophy, which emphasizes well-being, sustainability, and cultural preservation over purely economic growth. The project incorporates the nine domains of GNH in its planning and development. Gelephu Mindfulness City is being developed as a "zero-carbon" or carbon-negative city, aligning with Bhutan's status as the world's first carbon-negative country. The project integrates renewable energy sources and sustainable practices to maintain this status.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Gelephu is located in southern Bhutan, bordering the state of Assam.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Cyclones rotate counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere due to the Coriolis effect, which is caused by Earth's rotation, not its axial tilt.
- Statement 2 is correct. The eye of a cyclone is a calm region at its center, characterized by low pressure and light winds, surrounded by the eyewall where the most severe weather occurs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Polity

Q.1) Consider the following:

1. Recognition as an official language of India
2. Use in Competitive Examinations
3. Cultural Preservation

How many of the above advantages does a language receive upon being included in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution?

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. The Kesavananda Bharati case established the requirement that any Constitutional amendment passed by Parliament must receive the President's approval.
2. The Basic Structure doctrine applies only to Constitutional amendments and not to ordinary laws passed by the legislature.

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

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The right to life includes the right to dignity, both in life and after death.
2. According to Section 33(1) of the Aadhaar Act, core biometric information such as fingerprints and iris scans, can be disclosed only with an order from a High Court.

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

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

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The state can acquire all private properties, under Article 39(b) of the Indian Constitution, to serve the common good.

Statement-II: Article 39(b) of the Indian Constitution directs the state to ensure that material resources of the community are distributed in a way that benefits the public.

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.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Constitution of India has not defined the Anglo-Indian community.
- 2. The provision for Anglo-Indian representation in the Lok Sabha has been abolished.

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

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

Q.6) With reference to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is responsible for investigating high-profile criminal cases.
- 2. It operates under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- 3. 'Prison Statistics India' is report published by the NCRB.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Part XXI of the Indian Constitution contained Article 370.
- 2. The central government exercised legislative authority over education in Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370.
- 3. Article 35A granted the authority to define permanent residents of the state to the Jammu and Kashmir legislature.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) decisions can be appealed to the High Court.
- 2. Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) is responsible for regulating insolvency professionals under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

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

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

Q.9) In the context of selection and appointment process for public service jobs, the 'rules of the game' refers to:

- a) The informal understanding among senior officials about how positions should be distributed based on historical precedence and bureaucratic norms.
- b) The implicit social conventions and traditional practices that govern professional conduct and hierarchy within public service.
- c) The established eligibility criteria and selection procedure set at the start of recruitment, unchangeable mid-process unless allowed by existing rules or laws.
- d) The unwritten codes of conduct and political influences that guide decision-making in appointment processes across different regions and administrations.

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

1. Article 28(3) of the Indian Constitution ensures that students in minority institutions funded by the State should not be forced into religious instruction.
2. Religious instruction in India is recognized under Article 23 of the Constitution.
3. The state government cannot regulate the institutions run by religious or linguistic minorities.

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

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

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.12) With reference to the Centralised Pension Payments System (CPPS), consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.14) Who among the following has the constitutional authority to administer the oath to the Chief Justice of India?

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

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.16) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.17) What does the term "oral mentioning" by lawyers refer to in court procedures?

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

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.19) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.20) Consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.21) 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.22) 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.23) 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.24) 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.25) 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.26) 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

Q.27) Consider the following statements:

1. Under Article 368, the Parliament has the power to amend Preamble of the Constitution.
2. The terms 'secular' and 'socialist' was added in the Preamble through the 44th Amendment 1978.

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

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

Q.28) Consider the following statements:

1. Secularism is the part of the Basic Structure of the Indian Constitution.
2. Parliament does not have the authority to amend any features that are part of the Basic Structure of the Constitution of India.

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

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

Q.29) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Constitution Day is observed on November 26 every year.

Statement-II: The Constitution came into effect on November 26, 1949.

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.30) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution mandates that Parliament must meet at least three times a year.
2. The gap between two sessions of Parliament cannot exceed three months.
3. The President addresses both Houses of Parliament at the beginning of each session.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.31) With reference to the Central Information Commission (CIC), consider the following statements:

1. It was constituted under the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005.
2. It has powers of a criminal court during inquiries.

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

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

Q.32) Which schedule of the Indian Constitution specifies seat allocation for States and Union Territories in the Rajya Sabha?

- a) First Schedule
- b) Fourth Schedule
- c) Seventh Schedule
- d) Tenth Schedule

Q.33) Under Article 39(b) of the Indian Constitution, the term "material resources of the community" refers to:

1. All natural resources
2. All public resources
3. All private resources

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.34) Consider the following statements:

1. The terms 'socialism' and 'secularism' inserted in the Preamble can be removed by the Parliament through an amendment under Article 368 of the Constitution.
2. Secularism in India is closely associated with the concept of right to equality.

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

1. It was established under the Competition Act, 2002.
2. It deals only with public sector undertakings.
3. It functions under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.36) Consider the following statements:

1. S.R. Bommai case restricted the arbitrary imposition of President's Rule in a state.
2. During President's Rule, the state is administered by the President of India through the Governor of the state.
3. Disagreement between state and central government on policy matters is one of the grounds for imposing President's Rule in a state.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.37) Consider the following statements:

1. The National Register of Indian Citizens (NRIC) is mandated by the Citizenship Act of 1955.
2. Aadhaar card is available to all residents of India, regardless of citizenship.
3. NRIC is managed by the Election Commission, while Aadhaar is managed by National Identification Authority of India (NIAI).

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

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

Q.38) What happens to a bill pending in Parliament when the House is adjourned?

- The bill lapses
- The bill is passed automatically
- The bill remains pending and can be taken up when the House resumes
- The bill is sent back to the concerned ministry

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

- Recognition as an official language of India:** Languages included in the Eighth Schedule are recognized as official languages of India, providing them with a legal status for use in government communication and documentation.
- Use in Competitive Examinations:** Languages listed in the Eighth Schedule can be used in competitive examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and other government bodies, allowing candidates to take exams in their native languages.
- Cultural Preservation:** The inclusion of a language in the Eighth Schedule helps promote and preserve the linguistic and cultural heritage of that language, as it receives government support for its development and use.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Kesavananda Bharati case (1973) is significant for establishing the Basic Structure Doctrine, which limits Parliament's power to amend the Constitution, ensuring that amendments do not alter its fundamental structure. However, it did not introduce a requirement for Parliament to obtain the President's approval for Constitutional amendments.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Basic Structure doctrine applies to Constitutional amendments, preventing Parliament from altering the fundamental framework of the Constitution. It does not apply to ordinary laws passed by the legislature, which can be challenged on other constitutional grounds but not for violating the Basic Structure.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The right to life under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution has been interpreted by courts to include not only the right to live with dignity but also the right to die with dignity. This extends to ensuring respectful treatment of individuals even after death.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While Section 33(1) of the Aadhaar Act allows for the disclosure of certain information based on a court order, core biometric information (such as fingerprints and iris scans) is specifically protected and cannot be disclosed for any reason, even with a court order.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (D)

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- Statement I is incorrect. The Supreme Court, in its recent ruling, clarified that not all private properties can be taken over by the state under Article 39(b). Only certain private resources that meet specific criteria as "material resources of the community" can be considered for acquisition, and this does not give the state blanket authority to acquire all private property for the common good.
- Statement II is correct. Article 39(b) is part of the Directive Principles of State Policy and mandates that the state should direct its policy toward ensuring that "material resources of the community" are distributed to best serve public welfare.

Source: [DD News](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Constitution of India defines the Anglo-Indian community in Article 366(2). It states that an Anglo-Indian is a person whose father or any male progenitor in the male line is or was of European descent but who is domiciled in India and born within Indian territory to parents habitually resident there.
- Statement 2 is correct. The provision for nominating two Anglo-Indians to the Lok Sabha was abolished by the 104th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019, which came into effect in January 2020.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The NCRB is not involved in criminal investigations, including high-profile cases. Its primary role is to collect, analyze, and maintain crime data at the national level for law enforcement agencies.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The NCRB operates under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India. The NCRB publishes several reports, including Prison Statistics India, which provides detailed data on prison populations and related issues.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Article 370 was part of Part XXI of the Indian Constitution, which deals with "Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions" for various states, including Jammu and Kashmir. Article 35A empowered the Jammu and Kashmir legislature to define "permanent residents" and grant them special rights and privileges.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Under Article 370, the central government's legislative authority in Jammu and Kashmir was restricted to specific areas such as defense, foreign affairs, and communications, as per the Instrument of Accession. For other matters, including education, the central government needed the state's concurrence.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. NCLAT decisions cannot be appealed to the High Court. Instead, they can be directly appealed to the Supreme Court on points of law (legal issues) as per Section 62 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).
- Statement 2 is correct. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has regulatory oversight over insolvency professionals, insolvency professional agencies, and insolvency professional entities under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

- In the context of the Supreme Court recent judgment, "rules of the game" refers to the criteria and procedures that govern the selection and appointment process for public service jobs. These rules are set at the beginning of the recruitment process and must remain consistent throughout. Once the recruitment process has started (i.e., once an advertisement for applications is issued), these

rules cannot be changed midway through the process. The only time changes can be made is if existing laws or rules allow such changes or the job advertisement specifically mentions that changes may occur, as long as these changes are not against existing rules.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Article 28(3) states that no person attending an educational institution that receives aid from the State should be required to take part in any religious instruction or worship. This provision aims to maintain secular education in publicly funded institutions, including those operated by religious minorities.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Article 23 of the Indian Constitution deals with the prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour. Religious instruction is addressed under Articles 25-28, which pertain to the right to freedom of religion. The Supreme Court has clarified that while minority institutions have certain rights under Article 30, the state can regulate them to ensure educational standards and student welfare. The state can intervene in areas like staff appointments, academic standards, and qualifications for admission, especially if these institutions receive government aid.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. CPPS is not a regional system; it is a centralized pension distribution system designed to operate nationwide, allowing pensioners to receive their pensions from any bank or branch across India.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. One of the key features of CPPS is that it enables pensioners to receive their pensions from any bank or branch across India, providing flexibility and convenience. CPPS ensures that pensions are credited directly to the pensioners' accounts as soon as they are released, without requiring physical verification at the bank.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Delimitation refers to adjusting the number of Lok Sabha seats in proportion to the population and redrawing the boundaries of constituencies to maintain balanced representation across regions. State governments do not play a role in the delimitation process. It is exclusively handled by the Delimitation Commission, which is appointed by the central government.

- Statement 2 and 4 are incorrect. The last delimitation to change state-wise Lok Sabha seats was based on the 1971 Census. However, the most recent delimitation exercise, based on the 2001 Census, only adjusted constituency boundaries without changing state seat allocations. India has conducted four major delimitation exercises: based on the 1951 Census (first delimitation exercise conducted after independence), based on the 1961 Census (increased the number of Lok Sabha seats), based on the 1971 Census and based on 2001 Census. Traditionally, the Commission's orders could not be challenged in any court of law. However, recent Supreme Court judgment has affirmed that constitutional courts (including High Courts) can review these orders if they are found to be arbitrary or unconstitutional.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. 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 reformatory needs with public interest.
- Hence, both are privileges extended under specific conditions and subject to judicial or administrative discretion.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. 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](#)

23. 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](#)

24. 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](#)

25. 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](#)

26. 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](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Under Article 368, the Parliament has the power to amend the Constitution, including the Preamble. The Supreme Court has clarified that the Preamble is an integral part of the Constitution and can be amended.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The terms 'socialist' and 'secular' were added to the Preamble by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Supreme Court has consistently held that secularism is a fundamental feature of the Constitution and forms part of its Basic Structure. This was established in cases like Kesavananda Bharati (1973) and S.R. Bommai (1994). The Basic Structure Doctrine, established in the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973), explicitly limits Parliament's power to amend the Constitution under Article 368. Parliament cannot amend or alter features that form part of the Basic Structure, such as secularism, democracy, judicial review, or federalism. The Supreme Court has the authority to strike down any amendment that violates the Basic Structure.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement I is correct. Constitution Day, also known as Samvidhan Divas, is observed annually on November 26.
- Statement II is incorrect. The Constitution was adopted on November 26, 1949, but it came into effect on January 26, 1950, which is celebrated as Republic Day.

Source: [AIR](#)

30. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Constitution does not mandate Parliament to meet three times a year. Instead, it requires that no more than six months should pass between two sessions of Parliament. Traditionally, there are three sessions (Budget, Monsoon, and Winter), but these are not constitutionally mandated. The President addresses both Houses only at the beginning of the first session of each year (Budget Session) and after a general election.

Source: [AIR](#)

31. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Central Information Commission (CIC) was constituted under the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005. It is a statutory body established to ensure transparency and accountability in public administration.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While conducting inquiries, the CIC has powers equivalent to those of a civil court, not a criminal court. These powers include summoning witnesses, requiring document production, and requisitioning public records, as per the Civil Procedure Code, 1908.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Fourth Schedule of the Indian Constitution specifies the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha (Council of States) for each State and Union Territory. The allocation is based on the population of each State or Union Territory, ensuring proportional representation in the Rajya Sabha.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (B)

- Under Article 39(b) of the Indian Constitution, "material resources of the community" primarily include natural resources (like land, water, minerals) and public resources (like public infrastructure or utilities), which are meant to be distributed to serve the common good. The Supreme Court recently ruled that not all private properties can be classified as "material resources of the community."

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The terms socialism and secularism were added to the Preamble of the Indian Constitution by the 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 during the Emergency period. However, these terms are now considered part of the Basic Structure of the Constitution, as upheld by the Supreme Court. The doctrine of Basic Structure prevents the Parliament from amending the Constitution in a way that alters its fundamental framework, even under Article 368.
- Statement 2 is correct. Secularism in India ensures that the State treats all religions equally and does not favour any specific religion. This principle is closely tied to the Right to Equality (Article 14), as it prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, enabling a pluralistic and inclusive society.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The CCI was established under the Competition Act, 2002, which was enacted to promote competition and prevent anti-competitive practices in India. The CCI is a statutory body that functions under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs in India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The CCI deals with competition issues across all sectors, including both public and private enterprises. Its role is to ensure fair competition and prevent practices that have an adverse effect on competition in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The S.R. Bommai case was a landmark judgment by the Supreme Court of India that restricted the arbitrary use of Article 356, which allows for the imposition of

President's Rule in a state. The judgment emphasized that such power must be exercised with caution and only under certain conditions, preventing its misuse. During President's Rule, the state government is suspended, and the central government takes direct control of the state's administration. The President acts through the centrally appointed Governor, who administers the state on behalf of the President.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. Disagreement on policy matters between a state and the central government is not a valid ground for imposing President's Rule. Article 356 can be invoked only when there is a failure of constitutional machinery in a state, not merely due to policy disagreements.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The NRIC is mandated by the Citizenship Act of 1955, specifically through amendments made in 2003, which introduced compulsory registration of citizens. Aadhaar is a unique identification number available to all residents of India, irrespective of their citizenship status.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The NRIC is managed by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, while Aadhaar is managed by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

38. Correct Answer is (C)

- When a bill is pending in Parliament and the House is adjourned, the bill remains pending and can be taken up when the House resumes. Adjournment of a sitting does not affect the status of bills or any other business pending before the House.

Source: [DD News](#)

Acts & Policies

Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Rules, 2019:

1. It aims to promote sustainable development in coastal areas while taking into account the environmental risks posed by climate change and rising sea levels.
2. It includes provisions for setting up treatment facilities to control pollution in coastal areas.
3. It has increased the No Development Zones (NDZ) boundary limit from the High Tide Line.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to Namo Drone Didi Scheme:

1. It is part of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).
2. The primary objective of the scheme is to enhance agricultural efficiency by using drones for seed planting.

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

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

Q.3) With reference to Sagarmala Parikrama initiative, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to increase maritime trade by enhancing port infrastructure and shipping efficiency.
2. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has played a critical role in the development of the initiative.

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

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

Q.4) With reference to the PM-Vidyalaxmi Scheme, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It aims to provide collateral-free and guarantor-free education loans to students admitted to Quality Higher Education Institutions (QHEIs).
2. The scheme applies to students who secure admission in institutions ranked under the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).
3. The scheme gives preferences to students with highest marks in entrance exams.

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

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

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

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

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.7) With reference to the SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) initiative, consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.8) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements with respect to the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA):

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

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

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

Q.10) With reference to the PM E-DRIVE Scheme (Prime Minister Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement), consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding the Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) programme:

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

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

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

Q.12) With reference to the PM Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN), consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.13) 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.14) 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.15) 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.16) 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.17) 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.18) 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

Q.19) Nayi Chetna is a National Campaign that aims to:

- a) Promote traditional arts and crafts in rural areas
- b) Enhance rural education through technological integration
- c) Develop sustainable agricultural practices in villages
- d) Address gender-based violence and promote gender equality

Q.20) With reference to National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to promote chemical-free natural farming practices across India.
2. Farmers will receive a simple certification system and common branding for their produce to enhance market access.
3. It aims to establish Bio-Input Resource Centers (BRCs) to replace traditional farming methods with industrial techniques in natural farming.

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.21) 'One Nation One Subscription' scheme aims to:

- Provide free internet services to all students across India
- Replace traditional libraries with digital-only resources
- Fund private institutions for research and development
- Centralize access to international e-journals for government institutions

Q.22) With reference to the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- It is the legal right to work for 100 days per year per rural household.
- Panchayati Raj Institutions is responsible for the implementation of MGNREGA at the district level.
- Manufacturing and industrial work are permitted under MGNREGA.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.23) With reference to the Places of Worship Act 1991, consider the following statements:

- The Act maintains that the religious identity of any place of worship must remain as it was on August 15, 1947.
- It applies retroactively to all religious disputes in India's history.
- It excludes Jammu and Kashmir from its purview.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Q.24) With reference to Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) scheme, consider the following statements:

- The scheme provides financial assistance to state governments in the form of grants.
- It aims to stimulate demand, create jobs, and have a multiplier effect on the economy by accelerating projects in key sectors.

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

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

Q.25) Consider the following statements:

- Accelerated Degree Programmes (ADPs) provide an option for undergraduate students to extend their studies beyond the usual duration by taking fewer credits per semester.
- National Credit Framework (NCrF) allows students to progress through their courses at different paces, depending on their ability to earn the necessary credits.

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

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

Q.26) PAN 2.0 Project, seen in the news recently, is aimed at:

- Modernizing taxpayer registration through advanced e-governance.
- Launching a new digital currency for international trade.
- Developing a new social welfare scheme for low-income families.
- Establishing a national database for tracking agricultural production.

Q.27) Consider the following statements regarding Samarth Scheme:

- It aims to provide financial assistance to textile companies.
- The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Textiles.
- It covers the entire value chain of textiles except spinning and weaving in the organized sector.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The CRZ 2019 rules are designed to promote sustainable development in coastal regions while considering environmental risks like climate change, rising sea levels, and natural hazards such as tsunamis and floods. The CRZ 2019 rules allow for the establishment of pollution treatment facilities in certain areas (such as CRZ-I B) to address pollution in coastal zones, with necessary safeguards.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The CRZ 2019 rules reduced the No Development Zone (NDZ) boundary in certain areas. For example, in densely populated rural areas (CRZ-III A), the NDZ was reduced from 200 meters to 50 meters from the High Tide Line (HTL). Additionally, for islands and backwater regions, a smaller NDZ of 20 meters was introduced due to space limitations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Namo Drone Didi Scheme is a part of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), aimed at empowering Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) by providing them with drones for agricultural purposes. The scheme will be overseen at the central level by an Empowered Committee. This scheme is managed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The primary objective of the scheme is to enhance agricultural efficiency by using drones for the application of liquid fertilizers and pesticides.

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Sagarmala Parikrama refers to a specific autonomous vessel voyage undertaken by Sagar Defence Engineering with support from the Indian Navy, showcasing

India's expertise in unmanned maritime technology for national security purposes. The Sagarmala Programme focuses on port-led development, improving logistics, and enhancing port infrastructure, but Sagarmala Parikrama is a different initiative centered on autonomous maritime technology. The project was supported by defence organizations such as the Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIO), Technology Development Acceleration Cell (TDAC), and Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) under the Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The PM-Vidyalaxmi Scheme offers collateral-free and guarantor-free loans to students who secure admission in Quality Higher Education Institutions (QHEIs), which are institutions ranked under the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) or governed by central government bodies. It applies to both government and private institutions. The scheme applies to students admitted to institutions ranked within the top 100 in overall, category-specific, or domain-specific NIRF rankings, as well as state government institutions ranked between 101-200 and all central government-run institutions.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The scheme does not give preference based on entrance exam marks. Instead, it gives priority to students from government institutions and those pursuing technical or professional courses.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [DD News](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [DD News](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

13. 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](#)

14. 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 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](#)

15. 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](#)

16. 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](#)

17. 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](#)

18. 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](#)

19. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Naya Chetna Campaign, organized by the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) under the Ministry of Rural Development, aims to combat gender-based violence (GBV) and promote gender equality. It focuses on raising awareness, mobilizing communities, and empowering local institutions to take action against violence.

Source: [AIR](#)

20. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) is designed to promote chemical-free, sustainable farming practices based on traditional knowledge and natural inputs like Jeevamrit and Beejamrit. It focuses on reducing dependency on chemical fertilizers and pesticides. One of the key features of NMNF is to provide farmers with an easy certification system and a unified national brand for chemical-free produce, improving their access to markets and ensuring better returns.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The establishment of Bio-Input Resource Centers (BRCs) under NMNF is aimed at supporting natural farming by providing natural inputs like bio-fertilizers (Jeevamrit, Beejamrit, etc.), not industrial techniques.

Source: [AIR](#)

21. Correct Answer is (D)

- The ONOS scheme centralizes access to over 13,000 international journals from 30 publishers for government-managed higher education institutions and R&D labs through a unified portal.

Source: [AIR](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee of at least 100 days of wage employment to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. While Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) play a critical role in the implementation of MGNREGA at the village level, the district-level implementation is primarily the responsibility of the District Program Coordinator, typically the District Collector. Manufacturing and industrial work are not permissible under MGNREGA as it focuses on unskilled manual labour for rural development, including works like water conservation, rural road construction, and afforestation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Places of Worship Act, 1991, mandates that the religious character of any place of worship must be maintained as it existed on August 15, 1947. This provision aims to preserve the status quo and prevent religious conversions of places of worship to maintain communal harmony.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Act does not apply retroactively to all religious disputes in India's history. It specifically applies to disputes related to the conversion of places of worship that existed on or after August 15, 1947. The Act applies across India, including Jammu and Kashmir, after the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, which removed the state's special status and made all central laws applicable there.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

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- Statement 1 is incorrect. The SASCI scheme provides financial assistance to state governments in the form of a 50-year interest-free loan.
- Statement 2 is correct. The scheme is designed to stimulate economic growth by accelerating capital investment projects, which in turn are expected to create jobs and have a multiplier effect on the economy. The scheme also aims to develop iconic tourist centres in the country as well as branding and marketing them at a global scale.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Accelerated Degree Programmes are designed to allow students to complete their degrees in less time than usual by taking more credits per semester.
- Statement 2 is correct. The NCrF is designed to enable students to move through educational programs at varying speeds based on their ability to earn credits, integrating academic, vocational, and skill-based learning.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (A)

- The PAN 2.0 Project is an initiative to upgrade the Permanent Account Number (PAN) system, focusing on streamlining taxpayer registration and making PAN a universal business identifier across digital platforms, as part of a broader e-governance effort.

Source: [AIR](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Samarth Scheme is focused on skill development and providing training across the textile value chain. It does not specifically aim to provide financial assistance to textile companies.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Ministry of Textiles is responsible for implementing the Samarth Scheme. The Samarth Scheme covers the entire value chain of textiles but excludes spinning and weaving in the organized sector.

Source: [AIR](#)

Index & Reports

Q.1) With reference to the World Intellectual Property Indicators (WIPI) 2024 report, consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) 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.3) Mulla Committee, seen in the news recently, was aimed at:

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

Q.4) The 'India Employment Report' is published by:

- Ministry of Labour and Employment
- Institute for Human Development (IHD)
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- NITI Aayog

Q.5) With reference to the Network Readiness Index (NRI) 2024, consider the following statements:

- It evaluates the digital development and readiness of countries to leverage information and communication technology (ICT) for economic and social progress.
- Digital, Social, Economic, and Environment are the four pillars of the index.
- India has improved its ranking in the index.

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

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

Answer Key

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

1. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

2. 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.
- 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](#)

3. 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](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- The India Employment Report is primarily published by the Institute for Human Development (IHD), which focuses on research related to employment and development in India.

Source: [India Today](#)

5. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The NRI assesses how well countries are prepared to use ICT for economic and social advancement, focusing on their digital development and readiness. India has improved its ranking in the NRI 2024, climbing 11 places to secure the 49th position.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NRI is structured around four pillars: Technology, People, Governance, and Impact.

Source: [DD News](#)

International Relations/Organizations

Q.1) With reference to the Asian Buddhist Summit (ABS), consider the following statements:

1. The summit aims to foster dialogue among Buddhist leaders, scholars, experts, and practitioners from various traditions across Asia.
2. This summit is an important part of India's Neighbourhood First Policy.

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

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

Q.2) With reference to Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network-Asia Pacific (ARIN-AP), consider the following statements:

1. It is designed to exchange information on individuals, companies, and assets at the international level to facilitate the pursuit and recovery of proceeds from unlawful activities.
2. The Secretariat of ARIN-AP is located in Indonesia.
3. The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) serves as a model for ARIN-AP.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.3) The Sendai Framework, adopted by the United Nations, focuses on:

- a) Enhancing the use of artificial intelligence in disaster response and recovery
- b) Developing global standards for cybersecurity and internet governance
- c) Promoting sustainable urban development and transportation systems
- d) Reducing disaster risk and enhancing resilience to natural and man-made hazards

Q.4) With reference to the International Labour Organisation (ILO), consider the following statements:

1. The primary purpose of the ILO's governing body is to serve as the executive body of the ILO.
2. A unique aspect of ILO is its funding structure.
3. It is a specialized agency of the United Nations.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.5) With reference to the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Plus (OPEC+), consider the following statements:

1. OPEC+ is led by the United States.
2. OPEC+ includes non-OPEC oil-producing countries.
3. When OPEC+ decides to cut oil production, oil prices tend to decrease.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.6) With reference to the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), consider the following statements:

1. It lacks a mutual defence pact.
2. It aims to influence the Indo-Pacific region by offering alternative debt financing for nations in the region.
3. It is often described as a coalition of economic superpowers.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements with respect to the International Solar Alliance (ISA):

1. It aims to work with governments around the world to enhance access to energy and promote solar power as a key component of achieving a carbon-neutral future.
2. India is the largest consumer of solar energy in the alliance.
3. The World Bank provides technical expertise for solar projects under the ISA.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.8) With reference to the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.10) Wilmington Declaration, recently adopted by Quad, aims to:

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

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

1. India is not a member to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).
2. CPTPP includes Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries.

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

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

Q.12) With reference to the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings, consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.13) With reference to the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC), consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements give above are correct?

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

Q.14) With reference to the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU), consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.15) With reference to India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC) project, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.16) With reference to BASIC countries (Brazil, South Africa, India, and China) countries, consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.17) With reference to the Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) group, which of the following statements are correct?

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

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.18) The primary function of the UNICORN (Unified Complex Radio Antenna) system being co-developed 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.19) 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

Q.20) 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.21) 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.22) 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.23) Consider the following statements:

1. The Sagarmathan 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.24) 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.25) With reference to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), consider the following statements:

1. Bangladesh is 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.26) 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.27) 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.28) 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.29) Blue Transformation Initiative aims to:

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

Q.30) Consider the following statements regarding the International Criminal Court (ICC):

- It aims to settle disputes between nations.
- It is headquartered in the Hague, Netherlands.
- India is one of the member countries of the ICC.

How many of the statements give above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Q.31) Which one of the following is NOT a component of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) project?

- Eastern Corridor linking India with the Arabian Gulf
- Northern Corridor connecting the Gulf region to Europe
- Southern Corridor connecting Africa to the Middle East
- Railway networks and road transport routes

Q.32) With reference to the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), consider the following statements:

- It is a non-governmental cooperative organization founded to unite, represent and serve cooperatives worldwide.
- The General Assembly is the highest authority of the ICA.
- It's headquartered at Geneva, Switzerland.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Q.33) India has recently signed the 'Riyadh Design Law Treaty' to:

- Promote the use of traditional designs in international markets
- Simplify registration processes for industrial designs across countries
- Provide financial subsidies for industrial design patents
- Establish a global database of traditional Indian crafts

Q.34) With reference to the High Seas Treaty, consider the following statements:

- It is a legally binding treaty under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
- Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) under the treaty refers to regions reserved exclusively for scientific research by developed nations.
- It establishes a new framework for conducting Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Q.35) Consider the following statements:

1. BRICS does not have a permanent secretariat or office.
2. Decisions within BRICS are made by consensus among member countries.
3. The Chair of BRICS rotates annually among the member states alphabetically by country name.

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

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

Q.36) Which of the following countries make up the G4 group?

- a) United States, United Kingdom, France, China
- b) Brazil, Germany, India, Japan
- c) Russia, Canada, Australia, South Africa
- d) Italy, Spain, Mexico, South Korea

Q.37) With reference to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to foster economic growth and cooperation in Asia and the Pacific.
2. The headquarters of the ADB is located in Tokyo, Japan.
3. India holds the largest share in the ADB.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Asian Buddhist Summit is designed to bring together Buddhist leaders, scholars, and practitioners from different traditions across Asia to promote dialogue, understanding, and address contemporary challenges faced by the Buddhist community. The Government of India, along with the International Buddhist Confederation, is organizing the first Asian Buddhist Summit in Delhi. The theme of the summit is "Role of Buddha Dhamma in strengthening Asia."
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The summit is a manifestation of India's Act East Policy. The Act East Policy focuses on strengthening ties with Southeast and East Asian countries through collective, inclusive, and spiritual development, with Buddha Dhamma as a guiding principle.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)

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- Statement 1 is correct. The Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network-Asia Pacific (ARIN-AP) is an informal network of law enforcement and judicial experts focused on asset tracing, freezing, and confiscation to combat the proceeds of crime in the Asia-Pacific region. It is designed to facilitate the exchange of information on individuals, companies, and assets internationally, with the goal of recovering proceeds from criminal activities.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Secretariat of ARIN-AP is located in the Supreme Prosecutors' Office of South Korea. ARIN-AP is modelled after CARIN (Camden Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network). India, through its Enforcement Directorate (ED), has recently been included in the steering committee of the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network-Asia Pacific (ARIN-AP).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction focuses on reducing disaster risks and minimizing losses in lives, livelihoods, health, and assets (economic, social, cultural, environmental) due to both natural and man-made hazards. It emphasizes disaster preparedness, governance, and resilience-building to mitigate the impact of disasters.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Governing Body of the ILO acts as its executive body, taking decisions on policy, setting the agenda for the International Labour Conference, adopting the draft Programme and Budget, and electing the Director-General. The ILO is a specialized agency of the United Nations, dedicated to improving labour conditions and living standards worldwide.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The International Labour Organization (ILO) is unique among United Nations agencies due to its tripartite structure. This structure involves representation from three groups: governments, employers, and workers.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. OPEC+ is not led by the United States. It is a coalition of OPEC members and other oil-producing countries, including Russia, but the U.S. is not part of OPEC or OPEC+. Generally, when OPEC+ cuts oil production, it leads to a decrease in supply, which tends to increase oil prices rather than decrease them.
- Statement 2 is correct. OPEC+ includes both OPEC members and non-OPEC oil-producing countries such as Russia, Mexico, and Kazakhstan.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Quad is not a formal military alliance like NATO and does not have a mutual defence agreement between its members. While it enhances security cooperation, it does not obligate members to defend each other in case of an attack. One of the goals of the Quad is to offer alternative financing options for infrastructure and development projects in the Indo-Pacific region, as a counter to China's Belt and Road Initiative, which has been criticized for creating debt traps.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. While the Quad includes economically significant countries (the U.S., Japan, India, and Australia), it is primarily viewed as a strategic and security grouping rather than an economic coalition. Further, the Quad is often described as a coalition of maritime democracies.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The International Solar Alliance (ISA) works with governments globally to improve energy access and security, and promotes solar power as a sustainable way to transition to a carbon-neutral future. The World Bank has partnered with ISA to provide technical

expertise and financing for solar projects, including initiatives like the MIGA-ISA Solar Facility, which aims to expand global renewable energy access.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. While India is a founding member and major contributor to the ISA, it is not the largest consumer of solar energy within the alliance. Instead, the ISA focuses on supporting solar deployment across member countries, many of which are smaller or emerging economies seeking to increase their solar capabilities.

Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. 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](#)

19. 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](#)

20. 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](#)

21. 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](#)

22. 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](#)

23. 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](#)

24. 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](#)

25. 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](#)

26. 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](#)

27. 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](#)

28. 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](#)

29. 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](#)

30. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The International Criminal Court (ICC) does not settle disputes between nations. Instead, it prosecutes individuals for serious crimes like genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and crimes of aggression. Settling disputes between nations is the role of the International Court of Justice (ICJ). India is not a member of the ICC because it has not signed or ratified the Rome Statute due to concerns over sovereignty, national interests, and the inclusion of certain crimes like terrorism.
- Statement 2 is correct. The ICC is headquartered in The Hague, Netherlands.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (C)

- The IMEC project consists of two main corridors: the Eastern Corridor, which connects India to the Arabian Gulf, and the Northern Corridor, which links the Arabian Gulf to Europe. It includes railway networks, road transport routes, and maritime connections. However, there is no Southern Corridor connecting Africa to the Middle East as part of this project.

Source: [AIR](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) is an independent, non-governmental organization established in 1895 to unite, represent, and serve cooperatives globally. It provides a platform for knowledge sharing, advocacy, and coordinated action among cooperatives. The General Assembly is the ICA's highest decision-making body, comprising representatives from its member organizations. It meets at least once a year and governs the overall functioning of the ICA.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. It's headquartered at Brussels, Belgium.

Source: [AIR](#)

33. Correct Answer is (B)

- India has signed the final Act of the Riyadh Design Law Treaty to reaffirm its commitment to fostering inclusive growth and ensuring equitable access to intellectual property protection. The treaty seeks to harmonise the procedural frameworks for industrial design protection, improving the efficiency and accessibility of registration processes across multiple jurisdictions.

Source: [AIR](#)

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The High Seas Treaty, also known as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement, is a legally binding treaty under UNCLOS. It aims to protect marine biodiversity and regulate activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ). The treaty introduces a framework for Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) to evaluate and mitigate potential harm from activities in ABNJ, including cumulative impacts like climate change and ocean acidification.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. MPAs under the treaty are not reserved exclusively for scientific research or for developed nations. Instead, they are areas designated for the protection of marine biodiversity and ecosystems, with provisions for sustainable use and equitable benefit-sharing.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. BRICS does not have a permanent secretariat or office. All BRICS decisions are taken in consultation with other BRICS members and are based upon consensus.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Chair of BRICS rotates annually among the member states in the order of the acronym (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa), not alphabetically by country name.

Source: [DD News](#)

36. Correct Answer is (B)

- The G4 Group, comprising Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan, is a coalition of four countries united by the shared goal of securing permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

Source: [AIR](#)

37. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The ADB's mission is to promote social and economic development in Asia and the Pacific, focusing on reducing poverty and fostering sustainable growth.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The headquarters of the ADB is located in Manila, Philippines. Japan and the United States hold the largest shares in the ADB.

Source: [AIR](#)

Economy

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Central banks buy gold to protect their country's wealth and diversify reserves.
2. When interest rates are high, gold becomes more attractive for investors.
3. A weaker dollar makes gold cheaper for international buyers.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. China and India are the largest shareholders of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
2. As per the ADB, India has removed subsidies on petrol and diesel.

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

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

Q.3) Which one of the following sectors is most commonly associated with Special Economic Zones in India?

- a) Agriculture
- b) Manufacturing
- c) Real estate
- d) Hospitality

Q.4) With reference to the Food Corporation of India (FCI), consider the following statements:

1. It was established to fulfil the objectives of National Food Security Act, 2013.
2. KRISHI DARPAN System has been implemented by the FCI as part of its digital transformation for supply chain management.
3. It provides subsidies to farmers to meet the Minimum Support Price (MSP).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the world's largest importer of vegetable oils.
2. India mainly imports palm oil from countries like Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand.

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

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

Q.6) With reference to the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in India, consider the following statements:

1. It is mandatory for companies meeting certain financial thresholds.
2. Eligible companies must spend 2% of average net profits on CSR activities.
3. Agriculture is one of the focus areas for CSR activities listed under Schedule VII of the Companies Act, 2013.
4. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is responsible for tracking CSR-related expenditure by eligible companies.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs), seen in the news recently, is used in the context of:

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

Q.8) Which one of the following scenarios is likely to lead to an appreciation of the Indian rupee against the US dollar?

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

Q.9) Consider the following pairs:

Transport Corridors-----Strategic Benefits

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

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

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

Q.10) Which one the following primary tool is used by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to influence borrowing costs in response to inflation?

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

Q.11) With reference to the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.12) Which one of the following is a consequence of lowering the interest rate by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

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

Q.13) 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.14) 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.15) 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.16) 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.17) 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

Q.18) 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

Q.19) Which one of the following could be a consequence of a persistent trade deficit?

- a) Strengthening of the domestic currency
- b) Increase in foreign debt
- c) Improvement in the country's credit rating
- d) Reduction in interest rates

Q.20) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the global leader in egg production.
2. Uttar Pradesh is the leading state in milk production.

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

1. Union Finance Minister serves as the Chairperson of the Council.
2. Each member has equal voting rights in the Council.
3. A simple majority is required for making decisions in the Council.

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, 2 and 3

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

1. Central Statistics Office (CSO) is responsible for compiling and releasing the Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI).
2. Textiles is one of the eight core sectors in India.

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

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

Q.23) Which one of the following correctly explains the difference between tax avoidance and tax evasion?

- Tax avoidance involves illegal methods to reduce tax liability, while tax evasion uses legal loopholes to minimize taxes.
- Tax avoidance is punishable by law, whereas tax evasion is encouraged by tax authorities as a form of financial planning.
- Tax avoidance applies only to corporate taxes, while tax evasion is relevant for individual income taxes.
- Tax avoidance utilizes legal means to reduce tax burden, while tax evasion involves illegal practices to avoid paying taxes.

Q.24) With reference to the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), consider the following statements:

- RRBs are 100% owned by the central government.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is responsible for refinancing RRBs.

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

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

Q.25) Consider the following statements regarding the Self-Help Groups (SHGs):

- It operates under the Companies Act, 2013.
- SHGs are composed of individuals from diverse income groups.
- SHGs can directly access bank loans without collateral.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Central banks purchase gold for several reasons, including protecting their country's wealth and diversifying their reserves. Gold acts as a hedge against inflation, a long-term store of value, and a portfolio diversifier. It is particularly valuable during times of economic instability because it does not carry default risk and helps reduce reliance on fiat currencies. Gold is typically priced in U.S. dollars, so when the dollar weakens, it becomes cheaper for buyers using other currencies to purchase gold. This increased affordability can drive up demand for gold from international buyers.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. There is generally a negative correlation between gold prices and interest rates. When interest rates rise, other investments like bonds and savings accounts become more attractive because they offer a yield, while gold does not. As a result, gold tends to be less appealing when interest rates are high.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The largest shareholders of ADB are Japan and the United States, each holding 15.571% of shares.
- Statement 2 is correct. According to reports from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), India phased out subsidies on petrol and diesel between 2010 and 2014 as part of its broader fossil fuel subsidy reforms. This process involved gradually removing subsidies, adjusting retail prices, and increasing taxes on these fuels. As a result, India no longer provides subsidies on petrol and diesel. However, while subsidies on petrol and diesel have been eliminated, subsidies on liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) have grown, particularly to support rural areas.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in India are primarily associated with manufacturing and export-oriented industries. SEZs offer incentives such as tax exemptions, simplified customs procedures, and infrastructure support to boost industrial activity, particularly in manufacturing sectors.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) was established in 1965. FCI's primary objective is to ensure food security through procurement, storage, and distribution of food grains. However, it was not specifically established to fulfil the objectives of NFSA 2013. The system implemented by FCI for its digital transformation and supply chain management is called Anna Darpan. FCI does not provide subsidies to farmers directly. Instead, it acts as a nodal agency for procuring food grains from farmers at the MSP set by the government. The government provides MSP to farmers, and FCI procures food grains at this price.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India is the world's largest importer of vegetable oils, including palm oil. India primarily imports palm oil from Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. According to Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013, companies that meet specific financial criteria (net worth of ₹500 crore or more, turnover of ₹1,000 crore or more, or net profit of ₹5 crore or more) are required to spend on CSR activities. Companies that meet the financial thresholds must spend at least 2% of their average net profits from the preceding three financial years on CSR activities.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. Agriculture is not explicitly listed as a separate focus area under Schedule VII of the Companies Act for CSR activities. However, CSR can indirectly support agriculture through related areas like environmental sustainability, rural development, and livelihood enhancement projects. The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) oversees and tracks CSR-related expenditures by eligible companies under the Companies Act, 2013.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

10. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) primarily uses the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as the key measure of inflation to set monetary and credit policy.
- Statement 2 is correct. High WPI inflation can signal increasing prices at the wholesale level, which may contribute to overall inflationary pressures. If these pressures spill over into consumer prices (CPI), it may prompt the RBI to consider raising interest rates to control inflation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. 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](#)

14. 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](#)

15. 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](#)

16. 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](#)

17. 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](#)

18. 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](#)

19. Correct Answer is (B)

- A persistent trade deficit occurs when a country consistently imports more goods and services than it exports. To finance this deficit, the country often needs to borrow from foreign creditors or attract foreign investments, leading to an increase in foreign debt over time. This reliance on external financing can make the country vulnerable to economic shocks and currency fluctuations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. India is the global leader in milk production and ranks second in egg production.
- Statement 2 is correct. Uttar Pradesh is the leading state in milk production, contributing 16.21% of India's total milk production.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Union Finance Minister is the Chairperson of the GST Council.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The voting rights in the GST Council are not equal among members. The central government's vote has a weightage of one-third, while the combined votes

of all state governments have a weightage of two-thirds. Decisions in the GST Council require a majority of not less than three-fourths of the weighted votes of the members present and voting.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Index of Eight Core Industries is compiled and released by the Office of the Economic Adviser (OEA), Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The eight core sectors in India are Natural Gas, Coal, Refinery Products, Crude Oil, Cement, Electricity, Steel, and Fertilizers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (D)

- Tax avoidance is a legal strategy to minimize taxes using deductions and credits within the law, whereas tax evasion involves illegal activities such as underreporting income to evade taxes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The ownership structure of RRBs is divided among three entities: the Central Government holds a 50% stake, the Sponsor Bank holds 35%, and the State Government holds 15%. They primarily serve rural and semi-urban areas, focusing on small and marginal farmers, agricultural laborers, artisans, and small entrepreneurs.
- Statement 2 is correct. NABARD provides refinance support to Regional Rural Banks, among other financial institutions, to help them extend credit for agricultural and rural development activities. The RBI is the primary regulator of RRBs, overseeing their banking operations and ensuring they comply with banking regulations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. SHGs are not governed by the Companies Act, 2013. They are informal groups that do not require registration under this Act. They are typically grassroots-level organizations focused on community development and poverty alleviation. SHGs usually consist of individuals from similar socio-economic backgrounds, often from low-income groups, who come together to address common financial and social issues.
- Statement 3 is correct. SHGs can access collateral-free loans under various government schemes, such as the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), which allows them to obtain loans up to a certain limit without requiring collateral.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Environment

Q.1) Consider the following:

1. Tigers
2. Fishing Cat
3. Clouded Leopard
4. Snow leopards
5. Cheetahs
6. Jaguars
7. Pumas

How many of the above species fall under the protection and conservation efforts of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)?

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

Q.2) Recently, a fund called the "Cali Fund" was established at the UN's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Summit. The aim of the fund is to:

- Support global initiatives to counter deforestation in biodiversity hotspots and provide financial aid to countries with critically endangered forests.
- Provide financial aid to pharmaceutical companies for the development of synthetic alternatives to natural genetic resources.
- Ensure equitable sharing of profits derived from digitally sequenced genetic data with the communities where the genetic resources originate.
- Fund research and development for innovative technologies to monitor and prevent the spread of invasive species in tropical and subtropical regions.

Q.3) With reference to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- Nagoya Protocol is a protocol under the CBD.
- The United States is a party to the CBD.
- The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the primary governing body of the CBD.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.4) Which one of the following best describes the 'Agrivoltaic farming'?

- An integrated farming system that combines fish farming with solar panel installations to optimize land and water resources for sustainable energy and food production.
- A form of agriculture that combines vertical farming techniques with solar power generation to maximize space efficiency in urban areas.
- A sustainable agricultural practice that involves co-locating solar panels with crop cultivation, allowing both energy generation and crop growth in the same area.
- A system that pairs rooftop solar installations with urban gardens, focusing on green energy generation and urban food security initiatives.

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM):

- Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has the authority to hear cases related to CAQM.
- The tenure of the Chairperson and members of the CAQM is 3 years or till the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.
- Madhya Pradesh is not considered an adjoining area under the CAQM's jurisdiction.

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

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

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.8) Which one of the following is NOT one of the three pillars of climate action that the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) aims to address?

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.10) India has recently updated its National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) at Conference of the Parties (COP16) to the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Which one of the following is the aim of updated NBSAP?

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

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

1. India ranks fourth globally in terms of installed wind energy capacity.
2. Tamil Nadu has the largest installed capacity of wind turbines in India.

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

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

Q.12) Consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.14) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.15) Consider the following:

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

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

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

Q.16) With reference to the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), consider the following statements:

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

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

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

Q.17) 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.18) 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.19) 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.20) 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.21) 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 (PM_{2.5})?

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

Q.22) Consider the following:

1. Mercury (Hg)
2. Methane (CH₄)
3. Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)
4. Sulphur dioxide (SO₂)
5. Carbon monoxide (CO)
6. Ozone (O₃)
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.23) 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

Q.24) Which of the following are the three primary pillars of climate finance that the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) aims to address?

- a) Mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage
- b) Renewable energy, deforestation, and biodiversity conservation
- c) Carbon pricing, taxation, and emission trading schemes
- d) Public finance, private finance, and domestic efforts

Q.25) With reference to the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), consider the following statements:

1. It can issue directions and entertain complaints for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of air in the NCR and adjoining areas.
2. It has the power to issue binding orders.
3. The Chairperson of the CAQM serves a term of five years or until reaching the age of 65, whichever comes first.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.26) Consider the following statements:

1. Carbon credits are generated by activities that reduce or avoid greenhouse gas emissions.
2. Article 6 of the Paris Agreement only includes country-to-country carbon credit 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.27) Consider the following statements regarding the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP):

1. It focuses on reducing particulate matter pollution (PM10 and PM2.5) in both urban and rural regions.
2. Under the NCAP, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) is responsible for monitoring air quality in India.

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

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

Q.28) In the context of the climate change, what does term 'exported emissions' refer to?

- a) The emissions caused by fossil fuels extracted in one country but burned in another.
- b) The emissions transferred from one country to another through natural phenomena like wind or ocean currents.
- c) The emissions produced by multinational companies operating in foreign countries.
- d) The emissions offset by a country through international carbon trading mechanisms.

Q.29) Consider the following statements regarding the UN Plastics Treaty:

1. It aims to end plastic pollution through a legally binding global agreement.
2. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) under the treaty makes producers responsible only for manufacturing plastics.
3. Polluter Pays Principle under the treaty suggests that major producers should bear financial responsibility for plastic pollution.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.30) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India has completely banned the single-use plastics.

Statement-II: Single-use plastics contain harmful chemicals.

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.31) Consider the following statements:

- Biomedical wastes are any waste generated during industrial processes.
- The Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016 aim to ensure that biomedical waste is managed safely to protect human health and the environment.
- The Biomedical Waste Management Rules, 2016 are governed by the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Q.32) With reference to India's Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- India aims to achieve 20% ethanol blending in petrol (E20) by 2025-26.
- It aims to promote the export of ethanol and make India a global leader in sustainable biofuel production.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- The International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) is a global initiative launched by India in April 2023 during the 50th anniversary of Project Tiger. It aims to protect and conserve seven major species of big cats: tigers, lions, leopards, snow leopards, cheetahs, jaguars, and pumas, along with their habitats. The IBCA brings together 96 range countries (countries where these big cats are

naturally found) and non-range countries interested in big cat conservation, as well as various conservation partners, scientific organizations, and businesses.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

- The "Cali Fund" was established at the UN's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Summit in Cali, Colombia, as part of the 16th United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP16). The primary goal of the Cali Fund is to ensure equitable sharing of profits derived from digitally sequenced genetic data with the communities where the genetic resources originate. This mechanism aligns with one of the key objectives of the CBD, which is to share the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources fairly and equitably. The fund aims to allocate at least half of its resources to Indigenous Peoples and local communities, either directly or through government channels.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Nagoya Protocol is a supplementary agreement to the Convention on Biological Diversity, focusing on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The United States is not a party to the Convention on Biological Diversity. It remains one of the few countries that have not ratified the treaty. While the CBD comes under the umbrella of UNEP, the primary governing body of the CBD is the Conference of Parties (COP), which consists of governments that have ratified the treaty.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- Agrivoltaics involves using the same land for both solar energy production and agriculture, allowing farmers to generate renewable energy while continuing to grow crops. The solar panels are usually elevated or spaced in a way that allows sunlight to reach the crops while also generating electricity.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has the authority to hear cases related to the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM).
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Chairperson and members of the CAQM have a tenure of three years or until they reach the age of 70, whichever comes first. The "adjoining areas" under CAQM's jurisdiction include Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh, but not Madhya Pradesh.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Kigali Amendment does not focus on phasing out ozone-depleting substances (ODS); rather, it targets the phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which are potent greenhouse gases but do not deplete the ozone layer. India ratified the Kigali Amendment in 2021, committing to reduce HFC consumption by 85% by 2047.

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- Statement 3 is correct. The Montreal Protocol, signed in 1987 and enforced in 1989, aims to protect the ozone layer by phasing out substances like chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) that deplete it.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)

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

transfer greenhouse gas mitigation outcomes between nations, helping them meet their emission reduction commitments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. 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](#)

18. 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](#)

19. 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](#)

20. 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](#)

21. 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](#)

22. 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](#)

23. 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](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- The New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance focuses on three pillars: mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage. The NCQG is crucial for mobilizing the necessary financial resources to enable developing countries to implement their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) effectively.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) has the statutory authority to issue binding directions and entertain complaints to protect and improve air quality in the NCR and adjoining areas, as per its mandate under the 2021 Act. The CAQM's orders are legally binding on individuals, officers, and authorities. It can also impose penalties for non-compliance, making it a powerful statutory body.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Chairperson of the CAQM serves a term of three years or until reaching the age of 70, whichever is earlier.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Carbon credits are created through activities that either reduce emissions (e.g., switching from coal to renewable energy) or avoid emissions (e.g., protecting forests that act as carbon sinks). These credits represent one metric ton of carbon dioxide (or its equivalent) reduced or avoided.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Article 6 of the Paris Agreement includes two mechanisms: 1) **Country-to-country trading**: Nations can trade carbon credits to meet their emissions reduction targets, 2) **An UN-backed marketplace**: This mechanism allows private entities and countries to participate in buying and selling carbon credits through a centralized system.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) primarily focuses on improving air quality in urban areas, specifically targeting non-attainment cities (cities that have failed to meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for five consecutive years). It aims to reduce particulate matter pollution (PM10 and PM2.5) levels by 40% by 2026, compared to 2017 levels. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is the nodal agency responsible for monitoring and assessing air quality under NCAP.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (A)

- Exported emissions in the context of climate change refer to greenhouse gas emissions that are associated with fossil fuels extracted in one country but combusted or consumed in another. For example, when a country exports coal, oil, or gas to another nation, the emissions from burning those fuels are often attributed to the importing country, even though the extraction occurred in the exporting country.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The UN Plastics Treaty is intended to be an international legally binding instrument aimed at addressing and ultimately ending plastic pollution by covering the entire lifecycle of plastics, from production to disposal. The Polluter Pays Principle is a concept that requires those who produce pollution to bear the costs of managing it. It is applicable under the treaty to ensure that major producers contribute financially to addressing plastic pollution.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The concept of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) under the treaty involves holding producers accountable for their products throughout their entire lifecycle, not just during manufacturing. This includes responsibilities related to waste management, recycling, and reducing environmental impacts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statement I is incorrect. India has banned certain single-use plastic items, but not all. The ban covers specific items like cutlery, straws, and certain types of bags, but many single-use plastics are still in circulation due to enforcement challenges and the lack of viable alternatives.
- Statement II is correct. Single-use plastics contain harmful chemicals such as bisphenol A (BPA), phthalates, and other toxic substances that can leach into food and beverages, posing health risks including endocrine disruption and other serious health issues.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Biomedical waste refers to waste that contains infectious materials generated during the treatment of humans or animals, as well as from medical research activities.

It is distinct from industrial waste, which is not specifically related to biomedical or healthcare activities.

- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016 are designed to improve the management of biomedical waste by ensuring safe segregation, transportation, and disposal methods to protect human health and the environment. The Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016 were enacted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India aims to achieve 20% ethanol blending in petrol (E20) by 2025-26.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The EBP Programme does not aim to promote the export of ethanol as a primary objective. Its focus is on reducing dependence on imported crude oil, improving environmental outcomes, and supporting the domestic agricultural and rural economy.

Source: [DD News](#)

Science & Technology

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is the top organization in India for biomedical research.
2. The ICMR has launched the initiative 'Global Excellence Challenge' to encourage Indian scientists to come up with groundbreaking ideas to solve tough health problems.

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

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

Q.2) Which one of the following best defines Digital Sequence Information (DSI) in the context of biodiversity?

- a) The electronic collection of DNA sequences only, stored in global databases for academic research purposes.
- b) A digital representation of genetic and biochemical data from organisms, used for research and innovation in biodiversity conservation.
- c) A technique used to simulate ecological interactions within a virtual environment for predicting species distribution.
- d) A digital repository system specifically designed to store data on endangered species for conservation purposes.

Q.3) The primary objective of analog space missions is to:

- a) Test actual spacecraft in Earth's orbit
- b) Simulate space exploration conditions on Earth
- c) Train astronauts in zero-gravity environments
- d) Develop new rocket propulsion systems

Q.4) Consider the following pairs:

Military Exercise-----Locations

1. Vajra Prahar-2024----- Idaho, US
2. Garud Shakti-2024----- Rajasthan, India
3. VINBAX-2024----- Visakhapatnam, India

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.5) The primary objective of the PROBA-3 mission is to:

- a) Study the Earth's atmosphere
- b) Demonstrate precision formation flying in space
- c) Deploy communication satellites
- d) Monitor climate change

Q.6) Which one of the following is the primary advantage of Air-Launched Ballistic Missiles (ALBMs) over Ground-Launched Ballistic Missiles (GLBM)?

- a) Higher accuracy
- b) Lower production cost
- c) Ability to carry heavier warheads
- d) Greater flexibility in launch locations

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. Cells use Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) as a blueprint to make messenger RNA (mRNA).
2. DNA editing makes permanent changes to a person's genetic code, while RNA editing makes temporary changes.
3. ADAR (Adenosine Deaminase Acting on RNA) technique is used in RNA editing.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. The Satellite Communication (Satcom) is a transformative tool to reach India's remote corners and complement existing telecom infrastructure.
2. Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) has played a crucial role in revolutionizing the country's telecommunications and broadcasting sectors.

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

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

Q.9) Project Shaurya Gatha aims to:

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

Q.10) Consider the following statements with reference to India's Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launcher (MBRL) system:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.11) Consider the following statements:

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

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.12) In the context of a nation's military, an 'adaptive defence strategy' refers to:

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements with respect to the Long-Range Land Attack Cruise Missiles (LRLACMs):

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

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

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

Q.14) Consider the following statements:

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.15) Consider the following statements:

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

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

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

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

Q.16) Consider the following statements with respect to Antariksha Abhyas-2024:

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

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

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

Q.17) Consider the following:

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

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

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

Q.18) The primary objective of the 'Sea Vigil-24' exercise is to:

- a) Conduct naval warfare training
- b) Enhance coastal security and defence readiness
- c) Promote international maritime cooperation
- d) Test new naval weaponry

Q.19) 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.20) 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.21) 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.22) 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.23) 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.24) 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.25) 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.26) 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.27) 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

Q.28) With reference to avian influenza (H5N1) virus, consider the following statements:

1. World Health Organization (WHO) is responsible for monitoring and coordinating efforts to control the virus.
2. It spreads easily between humans.

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

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

Q.29) Consider the following statements:

1. India is among the top countries in Artificial Intelligence (AI) readiness.
2. India has launched its first AI Data Bank to enable innovation in AI, enhance national security and support AI-driven solutions.

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.30) Consider the following statements:

1. Cherenkov radiation occurs when charged particles travel through a dielectric medium at speeds greater than the phase velocity of light in that medium.
2. The Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) telescope is designed to observe visible light emitted by stars in distant galaxies.

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

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

Q.31) Consider the following pairs:

Space Missions-----Objective

1. GSAT-20----- High-throughput communication and internet connectivity
2. Proba-3----- Precise formation flying for observation of the Sun's corona
3. Aditya-L1----- Study of the Sun's atmosphere and space weather

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.32) Which one of the following is the primary purpose of the Sabal-20 drone?

- a) Aerial surveillance
- b) Combat operations
- c) Logistics and supply delivery
- d) Weather monitoring

Q.33) The primary objective of Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO's) Shukrayaan mission is to:

- a) Explore the asteroid belt
- b) Study Venus' atmosphere and surface
- c) Conduct lunar surface experiments
- d) Observe Mars' geological features

Q.34) Which one of the following is the objective of National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise and Workshop (SAREX-24)?

- a) Enhancing search and rescue capabilities through regional collaboration
- b) Developing new maritime trade routes for economic growth
- c) Conducting naval combat training exercises with international forces
- d) Establishing guidelines for marine biodiversity conservation

Answer Key

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

Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The ICMR is the apex body in India responsible for the formulation, coordination, and promotion of biomedical research. It is one of the oldest and largest medical research organizations in the world.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The ICMR has launched an initiative called the "First in the World Challenge", to encourage Indian scientists to find innovative solutions to difficult health problems.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- DSI refers to the digital representation of genetic sequences (DNA, RNA, proteins) that are used extensively in biodiversity conservation, agriculture, pharmaceuticals, and other fields. It allows researchers to study genetic makeup without needing physical samples and supports advancements in biotechnology and conservation efforts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Analog space missions are designed to replicate the conditions and challenges of space exploration while remaining on Earth. These missions take place in environments that physically resemble extreme space conditions, such as deserts or high-altitude areas, allowing scientists to test new technologies, study human behaviour, and prepare for future long-duration space flights. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched India's first analog space mission in Leh, Ladakh. This mission is designed to simulate living conditions in a space habitat, which is important as India plans to send humans to the Moon soon.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Vajra Prahar-2024:** The 15th edition of this joint special forces exercise between India and the United States began on November 2, 2024, at the Orchid Combat Training Centre in Idaho, USA. It is scheduled to continue until November 22, 2024.
- **Garud Shakti 24:** This is the ninth edition of the joint special forces exercise between India and Indonesia. It started on November 1, 2024, in Cijantung, Jakarta, Indonesia, and will run until November 12, 2024.
- **VINBAX-2024:** This is the fifth edition of the bilateral military exercise between India and Vietnam. It began on November 4, 2024, in Ambala, India, and involves both the Army and Air Force from both countries. The exercise is scheduled to continue until November 23, 2024.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- The PROBA-3 mission, led by the European Space Agency (ESA), focuses on demonstrating precision formation flying of two spacecraft in space. This involves testing and validating technologies that allow multiple spacecraft to fly in close formation with high precision, which is crucial for future space missions. The mission also includes scientific observations, such as studying the Sun's corona using a coronagraph, but its primary goal is to showcase formation flying techniques.

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (D)

- The primary advantage of Air-Launched Ballistic Missiles (ALBMs) over ground-launched ballistic missiles is the flexibility in launch locations. Since ALBMs are launched from aircraft, they can be deployed from various directions and positions, making it harder for defensive systems to predict and intercept them. ALBMs are much faster than cruise missiles, making them harder for enemy air defences to intercept. Currently, only Israel, Russia, and China deploy ALBM.

Source: [DD News](#)

7. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Cells use DNA as a template to synthesize mRNA in a process called transcription. The mRNA then carries the genetic instructions from DNA to produce proteins. DNA editing results in permanent changes to the genome, while RNA editing is temporary, allowing the effects to fade over time. The ADAR enzyme is used in RNA editing by converting adenosine in mRNA to inosine, which helps correct errors in mRNA sequences.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Satellite communication (Satcom) is recognized as a transformative tool for reaching remote areas in India and complementing existing telecom infrastructure, especially where terrestrial networks fall short. The Telecommunications Act of 2023 introduced the "one nation, one authorization" framework, providing a unified structure for satellite telecom providers to operate nationwide. Satcom is used for a wide range of applications in India, such as Tele-education, Tele-medicine, Village Resource Centres (VRCs), and Disaster Management.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), also known as NavIC, is primarily a navigation satellite system designed to provide accurate positioning and timing information for various applications such as transportation, disaster management, and defence. Satellite communication systems like INSAT and GSAT have revolutionized telecommunications or broadcasting sectors.

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (D)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. LRLACMs are cruise missiles that typically follow a low-altitude, subsonic flight path, often referred to as terrain-hugging, to avoid radar detection and interception. In

contrast, ballistic missiles follow a high-arching, parabolic trajectory, reaching space during their mid-course phase before descending towards their target.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The LRLACM has been developed primarily by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

17. Correct Answer is (C)

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

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

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

Source: [AIR](#)

19. 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](#)

20. 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](#)

21. 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](#)

22. 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.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. 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 pre-emptive measures.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. 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 beta-carotene (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](#)

25. 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](#)

26. 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](#)

27. 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](#)

28. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The WHO actively monitors avian influenza viruses, including H5N1, through its Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS). It collaborates with partners like the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) to assess risks, coordinate responses, and develop strategies for pandemic preparedness.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. H5N1 does not spread easily between humans. Human infections are rare and typically occur through close contact with infected birds or contaminated environments.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India is ranked among the top 10 countries globally in AI readiness, which refers to an economy's ability to implement and integrate AI effectively. India also ranks 2nd globally in AI specialists and 3rd in research publications, highlighting its strong foundation in AI development. India recently launched its first AI Data Bank under the Ministry of Science and Technology. This initiative aims to provide high-quality datasets to researchers, startups, and developers, fostering innovation, boosting national security through real-time analytics, and supporting AI-driven solutions in areas like disaster management and cybersecurity.

Source: [DD News](#)

30. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Cherenkov radiation is emitted when a charged particle, such as an electron, moves through a dielectric medium (e.g., water or air) faster than the phase velocity of light in that medium. This phenomenon produces a characteristic blue glow.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The MACE telescope is designed to detect Cherenkov radiation produced by high-energy gamma rays interacting with the Earth's atmosphere. Its primary goal is to study cosmic gamma rays and phenomena like supernovae, black holes, and dark matter. It is the world's highest imaging Cherenkov telescope. It has a 21-meter-wide dish, making it the largest in Asia and the second-largest globally.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (D)

- **GSAT-20:** GSAT-20 is a high-throughput communication satellite designed to enhance broadband services, in-flight internet, and other communication infrastructure, including supporting India's Smart Cities Mission.

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- **Proba-3:** Proba-3 is a European Space Agency mission that uses precise formation flying of two satellites to create an artificial eclipse, enabling detailed observation of the Sun's corona.
- **Aditya-L1:** Aditya-L1 is India's first solar mission aimed at studying the Sun's outer layers (photosphere, chromosphere, and corona) and its effects on space weather.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Sabal-20 is specifically designed for aerial logistics, capable of carrying payloads of up to 20 kg. It is engineered to support missions such as long-range deliveries, high-altitude operations, and precision logistics, making it ideal for delivering critical supplies in challenging terrains where traditional transport might be difficult.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Shukrayaan mission aims to conduct a comprehensive investigation of Venus, focusing on its surface, atmosphere, and geological features. This includes studying the planet's climate, atmospheric composition, and potential volcanic activity using advanced scientific instruments.

Source: [DD News](#)

34. Correct Answer is (A)

- The 11th edition of the Indian Coast Guard's National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise and Workshop (SAREX-24) is being held in Kochi, Kerala. The exercise aims to improve mass rescue operations (MRO) and test coordination among various agencies. It seeks to strengthen regional cooperation in SAR efforts and assess the effectiveness of existing protocols.

Source: [AIR](#)