

# **10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Monthly Compilation**

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*For UPSC CSE Prelims*

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## Art & Culture and Ancient History

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding the Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC):

1. It existed before the Aryan civilization.
2. The people of the IVC focused on developing civic infrastructure over building temples or palaces.
3. The IVC had a centralized banking system.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Modhweth Festival is celebrated by which one of the following tribes?

- a) Irula
- b) Kattunayakan
- c) Kurumba
- d) Toda

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC) was an Iron Age civilisation.
2. The IVC had a larger geographical area than the Egyptian and Mesopotamian civilisations combined.
3. The IVC was situated along ancient migration routes connecting Central and Western Asia to India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.4) Which one of the following is a key characteristic that differentiates graffiti from script in the context of ancient inscriptions?

- a) Graffiti contains structured and complex grammar, while script is primarily made up of simple drawings.
- b) Graffiti marks were usually engraved on informal materials like pottery, while script was inscribed on formal items like seals or tablets.
- c) Graffiti is exclusively related to religious contexts, while script is always related to trade and administration.
- d) Graffiti and script are both identical and interchangeable terms in archaeological studies.

Q.5) Who among the following confers the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award?

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

Q.6) Consider the following pairs:

Crafts-----Features

1. Kalamkari paintings----- Rounded edges and no sharp corners
2. Kanjeevaram silk----- Bright colours and elaborate designs
3. Etikopakka wooden dolls----- Intricate hand-painted or block-printed patterns

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.7) Maharishi Agasthyar is credited with which one of the following contributions to Indian tradition?

- a) Establishing the first Vedic Ashram in the northern Himalayan region
- b) Introducing the Tamil language and grammar to South India
- c) Writing the Arthashastra
- d) Propagating the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita

Q.8) Which one of the following famous Tamil literary works was authored by Thiruvalluvar?

- a) Silappatikaram
- b) Sangam literature
- c) Thirukkural
- d) Ramayanam

Q.9) Which one of the following Chinese travellers visited Vadnagar in Gujarat?

- a) Fa-Hien
- b) Hieun Tsang
- c) I-Tsing
- d) Wang Xuance

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The National Sports Awards are India's highest honours in the field of sports.

Statement-II: Olympic gold medallists are among the recipients of the National Sports Awards.

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.11) With reference to the Konark Sun Temple, consider the following statements:

- 1. The temple was built by Narasimhadeva I.
- 2. The wheels of the temple track lunar phases.
- 3. The temple represents Vesara style architecture.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.12) Consider the following statements regarding the Anthropological Survey of India (AnSI):

- 1. It aims to document and study the biological, cultural, and linguistic diversity of India.
- 2. It also manages archaeological excavations of historical monuments.
- 3. It operates under the Ministry of Culture.
- 4. 'The Tribal Atlas of India' is a magazine published by AnSI.

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) 2 and 3 only

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. Kho Kho game is only played in the South Asian countries.
2. India has recently won the Kho Kho world cup for the first time.

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) Sivagalai, Adichanallur, and Mayiladumparai are archaeological sites of Southern India associated with:

- a) Buddhist monastic complexes
- b) Medieval temples
- c) Indus Valley Civilization
- d) Iron Age

Q.15) Consider the following:

1. Science and Engineering
2. Medicine
3. Social Work
4. Trade and Industry

How many of the above categories are recognized for the Padma Shri award?

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

Q.16) In Buddhism, Dharma Chakra Pravartana refers to:

- a) The Buddha's attainment of enlightenment
- b) The Buddha's first sermon at Sarnath
- c) The establishment of monastic rules for followers
- d) The initiation of the Mahayana tradition

Q.17) In the context of music, symphony refers to:

- a) A solo performance by a single musician.
- b) A small musical piece played only on string instruments.
- c) A type of opera performed with vocalists and orchestras.
- d) A large-scale composition for an orchestra.

## Answer Key

1 – (b)	2 – (d)	3 – (b)	4 – (b)	5 – (c)	6 – (a)	7 – (b)	8 – (c)	9 – (b)	10 – (b)
11 – (a)	12 – (c)	13 – (b)	14 – (d)	15 – (d)	16 – (b)	17 – (d)			

## Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)
  - Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The IVC flourished from approximately 3300 BCE to 1300 BCE, with its mature phase from 2600 BCE to 1900 BCE. The Aryan civilization is believed to have emerged later, around 1500 BCE, after the decline of the IVC. The IVC is renowned for its advanced

urban planning, including drainage systems, granaries, and public baths like the Great Bath at Mohenjo-Daro. There is no evidence of monumental structures such as temples or palaces, suggesting that civic infrastructure was prioritized over religious or royal edifices.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. While the IVC had a standardized system of weights and measures and extensive trade networks, there is no evidence of a centralized banking system. Their economic organization was advanced but not similar to modern banking systems.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Modhweth Festival is celebrated by the Toda tribe. This annual festival, also known as the Buffalo Festival, is a significant event for the Toda people and typically takes place in late December or early January. The Toda are one of several tribal communities residing in the Nilgiri district of Tamil Nadu.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC) was a Bronze Age civilisation, not an Iron Age one. It flourished between 3300 BCE and 1300 BCE, with its mature phase lasting from 2600 BCE to 1900 BCE. The Iron Age in India began much later, around 1200 BCE to 600 BCE, after the decline of the IVC.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The IVC covered an area of approximately 1.26 million square kilometers, making it larger than the combined areas of the Egyptian and Mesopotamian civilisations. It spanned parts of modern-day Pakistan, northwest India, and Afghanistan, making it one of the most extensive early civilisations. The IVC was located along ancient trade and migration routes that connected Central and Western Asia to the Indian subcontinent. Archaeological evidence shows that the civilisation engaged in long-distance trade with regions like Mesopotamia, Central Asia, and the Iranian Plateau.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Graffiti:** In archaeological contexts, graffiti refers to informal markings or inscriptions made on various surfaces, often on everyday items like pottery or walls. These markings are typically less formal and may include simple symbols or drawings that do not follow structured grammatical rules.
- **Script:** Script refers to a more formalized system of writing that is typically inscribed on official items such as seals, tablets, or other durable materials. Scripts are characterized by their structured grammar and syntax, intended for communication in administrative, commercial, or ceremonial contexts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA) is the highest honour conferred on overseas Indians, Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs), or organizations/institutions established by them. It recognizes their exceptional achievements and contributions both in India and abroad. The award is conferred by the President of India during the Valedictory Session of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention.

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Kalamkari paintings** —Kalamkari art is known for its intricate hand-painted or block-printed designs, often featuring mythological themes, floral patterns, and natural motifs.
- **Kanjeevaram silk** — Kanjeevaram silk sarees are renowned for their vibrant colours, intricate designs, and heavy zari work. They often feature traditional motifs inspired by temple architecture, nature, and mythology.

- **Etikopakka wooden dolls** – Etikopakka wooden toys are known for their smooth, rounded contours and lacquer-coated surfaces.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Maharishi Agasthyar is widely regarded as the father of the Tamil language and is credited with compiling the first Tamil grammar text, Agattiyam. He played a pioneering role in the development of Tamil literature and linguistics, as well as in spreading Vedic traditions to South India. Maharishi Agasthyar is considered a pioneer of Siddha medicine. Agasthyar played a key role in uniting northern and southern Indian cultures by spreading Vedic traditions to South India. Agasthyar is closely associated with Shaivism. The theme for the third edition of the Kashi Tamil Sangamam is the legacy and philosophy of Maharishi Agasthyar.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (C)

- Thiruvalluvar was a renowned Tamil poet and philosopher who lived sometime between the 3rd century BCE and the 6th century CE. He is best known for his masterpiece, the Thirukkural, which is considered one of the greatest works of Tamil literature.

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Hieun Tsang (Xuanzang), the 7th-century Chinese traveller and Buddhist monk, visited Vadnagar during his travels in India between 627 AD and 643 AD. He documented his experiences in his travelogue Si-Yu-Ki ("The Buddhist Records of the Western World"), where he referred to Vadnagar as "Anandapura." He noted the presence of Buddhist monasteries and described the region as a significant center of learning and trade. Vadnagar has been identified as one of India's oldest continuously inhabited cities, with evidence of settlement dating back to 800 BCE and possibly earlier. Archaeological findings have revealed seven distinct cultural periods, including Pre-Mauryan, Mauryan, Indo-Greek, Indo-Scythian, Solanki, Sultanate-Mughal, and British colonial rule. The town has been mentioned in ancient texts like the Mahabharata, the Skanda Purana, and inscriptions from various dynasties. Vadnagar was a center for Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism over centuries. It has been included in the UNESCO's tentative list of World Heritage Sites in 2022.

Source: [AIR](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement I is correct. The National Sports Awards, including the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, Arjuna Award, Dronacharya Award, and others, are the most prestigious awards recognizing excellence in sports in India.
- Statement II is also correct. Olympic medallists, including gold medallists, often receive awards such as the Khel Ratna or Arjuna Award for their outstanding achievements.
- However, Statement-II does not explain why the National Sports Awards are considered India's highest honours in sports. The awards recognize excellence across various sports, not exclusively for Olympic achievements.

Source: [AIR](#)

11. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Konark Sun Temple was built in the 13th century (around 1250 CE) by King Narasimhadeva I of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The 24 wheels of the temple represent the chariot of Surya (the Sun God) and are designed as sundials to track time based on the position of the sun. The Konark Sun Temple is a classic example of Kalinga architecture, which falls under the Nagara style of temple architecture.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 3 and 4 are correct. The Anthropological Survey of India (AnSI) conducts research on the biological, cultural, and linguistic diversity of Indian communities, including tribes and other groups. Its objectives include studying populations from both biological and cultural perspectives and documenting their traditions, languages, and customs. The AnSI functions under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. The Anthropological Survey of India has published works like the Illustrated Atlas of Tribal World, which maps tribal communities across India, highlighting their distribution, social organization, and ecological contexts.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The management of archaeological excavations and preservation of historical monuments is the responsibility of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), not the Anthropological Survey of India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. While Kho Kho originated in India and is popular in South Asia, it has expanded globally. By 2025, the sport is played in 55 countries across six continents, including nations in Europe (e.g., England, Germany), Africa (e.g., South Africa, Kenya), North America (e.g., USA, Canada), and South America (e.g., Brazil, Peru).
- Statement 2 is correct. India won both the men's and women's titles in the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup 2025, held in New Delhi, defeating Nepal in the finals.

Source: [AIR](#)

14. Correct Answer is (D)

- Sivagalai, Adichanallur, and Mayiladumparai are archaeological sites in Tamil Nadu, Southern India, that are associated with the Iron Age. Recent excavations and dating methods have provided significant evidence for early Iron Age activity in these locations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Padma Shri is awarded in various disciplines, including: Art (e.g., music, dance, painting), Literature and Education, Science and Engineering, Medicine, Social Work, Public Affairs, Sports, Trade and Industry, Civil Service, and Others (e.g., preservation of cultural heritage).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Dharma Chakra Pravartana, or "Turning of the Wheel of Dharma," refers to the first sermon delivered by Gautama Buddha after attaining enlightenment. This event took place at Sarnath, near Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. During this sermon, Buddha introduced the Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eightfold Path, laying the foundation of his teachings and marking the beginning of his public mission to spread wisdom and enlightenment.

Source: [DD News](#)

17. Correct Answer is (D)

- A symphony is a large-scale musical composition typically written for an orchestra, consisting of multiple sections called movements. It is one of the most significant forms in Western classical music. A symphony is designed to showcase the expressive power of an orchestra. It often conveys a wide range of emotions and ideas through its movements. The first Indian, and likely the first Asian musician, to compose a full symphony is Ilaiyaraaja.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

## Modern Indian History

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Savitribai Phule is known for becoming the first female doctor in India.
2. Savitribai Phule used her poetry to address social issues and promote education.
3. Savitribai Phule was associated with the Brahmo Samaj.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. Rani Velu Nachiyar was the first Indian queen to fight against the British East India Company.
2. Rani Velu Nachiyar established the first army of trained women soldiers in the colonial era.

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 regarding the Girmitiya labour system:

1. It refers to indentured labourers from British India who were transported to various British colonies to work on plantations in the 19th and early 20th centuries.
2. The Girmitiya labour system was primarily a response to the Britain's policy to expand Indian overseas trade.

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) The term 'nautor' refers to:

- a) A traditional system of irrigation used in arid regions
- b) A method of land leasing for agriculture in mountainous regions
- c) A system of land cultivation on government owned land
- d) A legal mechanism for granting land rights in the tribal areas of India

Q.5) Which one of the following ministries organizes the celebrations for Parakram Diwas?

- a) Ministry of Defence
- b) Ministry of Culture
- c) Ministry of Home Affairs
- d) Ministry of External Affairs

Q.6) Veer Surendra Sai, a freedom fighter, is associated with which one of the following rebellions?

- a) Sambalpur Rebellion
- b) Santhal Rebellion
- c) Revolt of 1857
- d) Indigo Rebellion

## Answer Key

1 – (a)	2 – (c)	3 – (a)	4 – (c)	5 – (b)	6 – (a)
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## Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. Savitribai Phule was India's first female teacher and a pioneer in women's education and social reform. She established schools for girls and worked on various social issues like widow remarriage, child marriage, and caste discrimination. Savitribai Phule along with her husband Jyotirao Phule, was actively involved in the Satyashodhak Samaj, which aimed to promote social equality and uplift marginalized communities.
- Statement 2 is correct. Savitribai Phule was an accomplished poet who used her writings to address social issues like caste discrimination, gender inequality, and the importance of education. Her works, such as Kavya Phule (1854) and Bavan Kashi Subodh Ratnakar (1892), reflect her advocacy for education and empowerment of marginalized groups.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Rani Velu Nachiyar is widely regarded as the first Indian queen to actively oppose and fight against the British East India Company. She waged war against them in 1780 to reclaim her kingdom of Sivagangai after her husband was killed in battle. Rani Velu Nachiyar is credited with forming the first-ever army of trained women soldiers in India, known as the "Udaiyaal Army," named after a loyal village woman who sacrificed her life to protect the queen's hideout. This was a pioneering move in the colonial era and demonstrated her innovative military strategy.

Source: [AIR](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Girmitya system refers to indentured labourers from British India who were transported to various British colonies in the 19th and early 20th centuries to work on plantations, primarily sugarcane. This system was implemented after the abolition of slavery in 1833 to address labour shortages in British colonies like Fiji, Trinidad, Mauritius, and others.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Girmitya labour system was not primarily a response to Britain's policy to expand Indian overseas trade. Instead, it was introduced as a solution to the labour shortages in colonial plantations following the abolition of slavery. The system aimed to provide cheap labour for plantation owners rather than promote trade.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (C)

- The term nautor refers to the right to utilize government-owned wasteland for purposes such as agriculture, horticulture, or residence, with the sanction of competent authorities. This practice has been historically implemented in regions like Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh, allowing individuals to cultivate and use barren or wasteland under specific conditions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Ministry of Culture organizes the celebrations for Parakram Diwas, which is observed annually on January 23 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The event highlights his contributions to India's freedom struggle and inspires patriotism among citizens. The celebrations include cultural exhibits, historical reflections, and activities that delve into Netaji's legacy.

Source: [AIR](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Veer Surendra Sai was a prominent freedom fighter and tribal leader from Odisha. He played a significant role in the Sambalpur Rebellion, which took place in the mid-19th century against British rule. The rebellion was primarily driven by opposition to British interference in the traditional succession practices of the Sambalpur kingdom and their exploitation of local resources. Veer Surendra Sai led the tribal and local communities in resisting British forces and is celebrated for his courage and determination in the fight for independence.

Source: [AIR](#)

## Geography

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) was established in 1875.
2. The IMD operates under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
3. Dr. P.K. Das was appointed as the first meteorological reporter of IMD.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. India is the largest user of groundwater in the world.
2. Around 70% of groundwater is used for agriculture.
3. India's overall groundwater extraction rate has increased in recent years.
4. Groundwater in Rajasthan, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu shows the highest levels of nitrate contamination.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding the Brahmaputra River:

1. It flows through three countries.
2. India is the uppermost riparian country along the river.
3. It is a perennial river.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. The world's largest dam is located in China.
2. Namcha Barwa is located in the Karakoram Range.

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

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. The Lhasa terrane is part of the collision between the Indian Plate and the Eurasian Plate.
2. Bangong-Nujiang suture separates the Lhasa terrane from the Himalayas to the south.

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. The Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) is aimed at addressing India's water challenges by transferring water from surplus river basins to deficit areas.
2. The ILR is implemented under the National Perspective Plan (NPP).
3. National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA) is the nodal agency responsible for implementing ILR projects.

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) Kandla Port, also known as Deendayal Port, holds a strategic position in India's maritime trade. Which of the following statements about Kandla Port are correct?

1. It is situated on the eastern coast of India.
2. It primarily handles petroleum products, chemicals, and grains.
3. It was the first port in India to be developed after independence.

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.8) It is a primitive and hazardous coal extraction method in northeastern India, involving narrow, shallow tunnels just large enough for one person to crawl through to access coal seams. This description corresponds to which one of the following coal mining techniques?

- a) Open-cast mining
- b) Longwall mining
- c) Strip mining
- d) Rat-hole mining

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. The Z-Morh Tunnel is a 6 km-long, two-lane tunnel connecting Srinagar with Leh.
2. The Z-Morh Tunnel is part of the Zojila Tunnel.

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) Consider the following statements:

1. Mongolia is an island nation in the Pacific Ocean.
2. Mongolia is rich in deposits of copper and coking coal.

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

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

Q.11) The Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) is defined as:

- a) The number of live births per 1,000 women of childbearing age in a given year.
- b) The number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births within a specific time period.
- c) The percentage of women who die during childbirth annually.
- d) The number of maternal deaths per 1,000 pregnancies in a given year.

Q.12) Consider the following statements regarding the country Greenland:

1. It lies between the Arctic and Atlantic Oceans.
2. It is the world's largest island.
3. Bering strait separates Greenland from Canada.

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. Diego Garcia island has the world's largest coral reef.
2. Diego Garcia is currently administered as part of British Indian Ocean Territory.

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 pairs:

Areas-----Geopolitical Features

1. Line of Actual Control (LAC)-----Frequent clashes such as those in Doklam and Galwan Valley
2. Line of Control (LoC)-----Lifeline for India's northeastern states
3. Siliguri Corridor -----Includes the Siachen Glacier and has ongoing ceasefire violations

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.15) With reference to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), consider the following statements:

1. The organisation was set up by the provincial British government in the country.
2. It was originally headquartered in Madras.
3. It is a member of the World Meteorological Organisation.
4. It keeps track of atmospheric pollution in the country.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.16) Lesotho is entirely surrounded by which one of the following countries?

- a) Namibia
- b) Zimbabwe
- c) Botswana
- d) South Africa

Q.17) Consider the following statements regarding the National Turmeric Board:

1. It aims to promote development and growth of turmeric and turmeric products in India.
2. The headquarters of the Board is located in New Delhi.
3. Ministry of Agriculture is the nodal ministry for the Board.
4. It will work closely with the Spices Board of India to enhance coordination and development efforts for the turmeric sector.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

1. There are no major permanent rivers flowing directly into the Red Sea.
2. The Gulf of Aden is situated between Arabian Peninsula and Persian Gulf.

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. Mount Ibu is a part of Pacific Ring of Fire.
2. Mount Ibu serves as a site for studying dormant volcanoes.

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

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

Q.20) Which one of the following is a long-term consequence of a country experiencing a Total Fertility Rate (TFR) significantly below the replacement level?

- a) Increased youth population
- b) Aging population
- c) Rapid urbanization
- d) Decrease in literacy rates

Q.21) In which one of the following regions is coffee produced in India?

- a) Sundarbans Delta

- b) Deccan Plateau
- c) Thar Desert
- d) Gangetic Plain

Q.22) Consider the following pairs:

Ports-----Locations

- 1. Nehru Port-----Andhra Pradesh
- 2. Vadhvan Port-----Maharashtra
- 3. Kandla Port-----Gujarat

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.23) With reference to the Jute Corporation of India (JCI), which of the following statements are correct?

- 1. It operates under the Ministry of Textiles.
- 2. It implements the Minimum Support Price (MSP) policy for raw jute.
- 3. It was established to compete with private traders in the jute market.

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.24) The Kishenganga Hydropower Plant is constructed on which one of the following rivers basins?

- a) Chenab Basin
- b) Beas Basin
- c) Sutlej Basin
- d) Jhelum Basin

Q.25) The South China Sea is connected to the Indian Ocean through:

- a) Sunda Strait
- b) Strait of Malacca
- c) Lombok Strait
- d) Makassar Strait

Q.26) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Nano-urea is applied to the soil.
- 2. Nano-urea is a liquid fertilizer developed by IFFCO (Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited) in India.
- 3. Nano-urea reduces greenhouse gas emissions and groundwater pollution.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.27) With reference to the Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF), consider the following statements:

1. The Himalayas is the most vulnerable to GLOFs due to its high concentration of glaciers.
2. The sudden flood caused by a GLOF leads to groundwater discharge in urban areas.

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. Coal is a fossil fuel produced by the decomposition of dead plants trapped in layers of soil.
2. Western India holds a significant portion of the nation's coal reserves.

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) In which one of the following layers of the atmosphere are jet streams primarily found?

- a) Stratosphere
- b) Mesosphere
- c) Thermosphere
- d) Troposphere

Q.30) The Kurdistan region extends into several countries in the Middle East. Which one of these countries does not include a part of Kurdistan?

- a) Iraq
- b) Turkey
- c) Iran
- d) Jordan

Q.31) Which one of the following Indian states has the largest known tungsten reserves?

- a) Odisha
- b) Karnataka
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Chhattisgarh

Q.32) Consider the following statements:

1. The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is located in central Africa.
2. Uganda shares a border with the DRC.
3. Niger River system runs through the DRC.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.33) The Cretaceous Period is known for which one of the following events?

- a) The rise of mammals as the dominant terrestrial animals
- b) The extinction of dinosaurs at the end of the period
- c) The formation of the supercontinent Pangaea
- d) The first appearance of early humans

Q.34) Consider the following statements:

1. The Sea Surface Temperature (SST) refers to the temperature of the ocean floor.
2. Higher SST leads to coral bleaching.
3. SST is higher in equatorial regions compared to polar regions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.35) Consider the following statements:

1. Point Nemo is the northernmost point on the Earth.
2. Point Nemo is located in the Pacific Ocean.

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

## Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The IMD was established on January 15, 1875, to centralize meteorological observations and forecasting in India. Since 2006, the IMD has been under the administrative control of the Ministry of Earth Sciences. India was the first developing country in the world to have its own geostationary satellite (NSAT) for continuous weather monitoring.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The first meteorological reporter of the IMD was Henry Francis Blanford.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. India is the largest extractor of groundwater globally, using more than the United States and China combined, with annual usage exceeding 240 billion cubic meters. Approximately 70% of groundwater extracted in India (and globally) is used for agriculture, primarily for irrigation. Rajasthan (49%), Karnataka (48%), and Tamil Nadu (37%) report the highest levels of nitrate contamination in groundwater.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. India's overall groundwater extraction rate has remained relatively stable at around 60.4% since 2009. However, certain regions like Punjab and Rajasthan continue to face overexploitation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Brahmaputra River flows through three countries: China (Tibet), India, and Bangladesh. It does not flow through Bhutan, although Bhutan is part of the

Brahmaputra basin. The Brahmaputra is a perennial river, meaning it has water throughout the year due to its sources in glaciers and heavy monsoon rainfall.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. China (Tibet) is the uppermost riparian country where the river originates as the Yarlung Tsangpo. India is a middle riparian country, with Bangladesh being the lowermost riparian.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Three Gorges Dam, located on the Yangtze River in Hubei province, China, is the world's largest hydroelectric facility in terms of installed capacity (22,500 MW) and is widely recognized as a major engineering feat. While other dams like Kariba (Zambia-Zimbabwe) are larger in terms of reservoir capacity, the Three Gorges Dam holds the title for power generation.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Namcha Barwa is located in southeastern Tibet and marks the easternmost point of the Himalayas. It lies near the "Great Bend" of the Yarlung Zangbo River (Brahmaputra) as it enters Arunachal Pradesh, India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Lhasa terrane is a fragment of the Earth's crust that was part of the southern margin of the Eurasian Plate. It played a significant role in the collision between the Indian Plate and the Eurasian Plate, which led to the formation of the Himalayas and Tibetan Plateau.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Bangong-Nujiang suture separates the Lhasa terrane from the Qiangtang terrane to its north. The Yarlung Tsangpo (or Indus-Tsangpo) suture separates the Lhasa terrane from the Himalayas to its south.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) aims to address India's water challenges by transferring water from surplus river basins to deficit areas. This involves creating a network of canals, reservoirs, and tunnels to redistribute water resources effectively. The ILR is implemented under the National Perspective Plan (NPP), which was formulated in 1980 by the Government of India. The NPP is divided into two components: the Himalayan Rivers Development Component and the Peninsular Rivers Development Component.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. While the National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA) has been proposed as an independent body to oversee the ILR projects, it has not yet replaced the National Water Development Agency (NWDA), which remains the nodal agency responsible for planning and implementation of ILR projects under the NPP.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Kandla Port (Deendayal Port) is located on the western coast of India in the Kutch district of Gujarat, near the Gulf of Kutch. It is one of the major ports in India. It is set to become an important hub of the country in the field of green hydrogen.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Kandla Port handles a variety of cargo, including petroleum products, chemicals, grains, iron ore, salt, and containers. It is one of India's busiest ports for such goods. Kandla Port was the first port to be developed in India after independence to compensate for the loss of Karachi Port to Pakistan post-partition.

Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (D)

- Rat-hole mining is a common practice in northeastern India, particularly in the state of Meghalaya, and involves digging narrow tunnels to access coal seams. This method is known for its dangerous working conditions and environmental impact.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Z-Morh Tunnel is a 6.5 km-long, two-lane tunnel located between Gagangir and Sonamarg in Jammu and Kashmir. Its primary purpose is to provide all-weather connectivity to Sonamarg, a tourist destination, and act as a precursor to the Zojila Tunnel, which will connect Sonamarg to Drass in Ladakh.
  - Statement 2 is correct. The Z-Morh Tunnel is part of the broader Zojila Tunnel project, aimed at ensuring year-round connectivity between Srinagar and Ladakh. It complements the Zojila Tunnel by improving access to Sonamarg and serving as an initial segment of the strategic corridor. New Austrian Tunnelling Method (NATM) is used for the construction of the tunnel.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statement 1 is incorrect. Mongolia is a landlocked country located in East Asia, bordered by Russia to the north and China to the south.
  - Statement 2 is correct. Mongolia is known for its abundant mineral resources, including significant deposits of copper and coking coal, which are critical for industries like steelmaking. The country has some of the world's largest reserves of coking coal and copper, making mining a key contributor to its economy.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)
- MMR measures the number of maternal deaths during pregnancy or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, per 100,000 live births, and is a key indicator of maternal health.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (A)
- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Greenland is located between the Arctic Ocean to the north and the North Atlantic Ocean to the south. Greenland is the world's largest island, covering an area of approximately 2,166,086 square kilometers.
  - Statement 3 is incorrect. Greenland is separated from Canada by the Davis Strait and Baffin Bay.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statement 1 is incorrect. While Diego Garcia is part of the Chagos Archipelago, which contains some of the healthiest and most pristine coral reefs in the Indian Ocean, it does not have the world's largest coral reef. The Great Barrier Reef in Australia holds that distinction.
  - Statement 2 is correct. Diego Garcia is the largest island in the Chagos Archipelago and is administered as part of the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT), a UK overseas territory. Although there has been an agreement to transfer sovereignty of the Chagos Archipelago to Mauritius, Diego Garcia remains under UK administration for now, with a joint UK-US military base operating on the island.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)
- **Line of Actual Control (LAC)** – The LAC is the de facto border between India and China, and it has been a site of frequent tensions and clashes, including the 2017 Doklam standoff and the deadly Galwan Valley clash in 2020.
  - **Line of Control (LoC)** – The LoC refers to the military control line between Indian- and Pakistani-controlled parts of Jammu and Kashmir. It is unrelated to India's northeastern states, which are connected to the mainland via the Siliguri Corridor.

- **Siliguri Corridor** – The Siliguri Corridor, also known as the Chicken's Neck, connects India's northeastern states to the rest of the country. It does not include the Siachen Glacier or experience ceasefire violations, which are associated with the LoC.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 3 and 4 are correct. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) was established in 1875 by the British colonial government to centralize meteorological observations and address issues like cyclones and monsoon failures. Its first (Imperial) Meteorological Reporter was Henry Francis Blanford. IMD became a member of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) on April 27, 1949, after India's independence. Aside from tracking and studying phenomena like rainfall and cyclones, the IMD helps record earthquakes and atmospheric pollution and generates alerts and warnings about impending anomalous weather.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The IMD's original headquarters were in Calcutta (now Kolkata). The headquarters were later shifted to Shimla in 1905, Pune in 1928, and finally New Delhi in 1944. It currently operates six Regional Meteorological Centres, a Meteorological Centre in every State capital, plus a panoply of centres for various meteorological services.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (D)

- Lesotho, officially known as the Kingdom of Lesotho, is a small, landlocked country located in Southern Africa. It is unique for being entirely surrounded by South Africa, making it the largest sovereign enclave in the world. Lesotho lies entirely above 1,000 meters in elevation, making it the only country globally with such a distinction. India has recently sent the second tranche of foodgrain assistance to Lesotho to help address the country's food security issues.

Source: [AIR](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. The National Turmeric Board focuses on enhancing the production, quality, research, and export of turmeric and turmeric-based products in India. It also aims to ensure better income for farmers and expand international markets for turmeric. It collaborates with the Spices Board of India and other government agencies to promote research, quality standards, and market development for turmeric. India is the largest producer, consumer, and exporter of turmeric, accounting for over 70% of global production and dominating with a 62% share in the global turmeric trade.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The headquarters of the National Turmeric Board is located in Nizamabad, Telangana, a major hub for turmeric production. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry is the nodal ministry responsible for implementing the National Turmeric Board. Major states involved in turmeric cultivation include: Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, West Bengal, Gujarat. Additionally, Meghalaya is known for its high-curcumin Lakadong turmeric variety.

Source: [AIR](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. There are no major permanent rivers flowing directly into the Red Sea. Due to the arid climate surrounding the Red Sea, it only receives water from seasonal wadis and runoff from occasional rains.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Gulf of Aden is situated between the Arabian Peninsula (specifically Yemen) and the Horn of Africa (Somalia). It connects the Arabian Sea to the Red Sea via the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Mount Ibu, located on Halmahera Island in Indonesia, is part of the Pacific Ring of Fire.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Mount Ibu is an active stratovolcano, with frequent eruptions recorded over the years. It is not classified as a dormant volcano, and its continuous activity makes it unsuitable for studying dormant volcanic behaviour.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (B)

- When a country's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) falls significantly below the replacement level (2.1 children per woman), fewer children are born, leading to a shrinking younger population over time. As a result, the proportion of elderly individuals in the population increases, causing an aging population.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Coffee in India is primarily grown in the Deccan Plateau region, particularly in the Western Ghats, which includes states like Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu. These areas provide the ideal climate, altitude, and soil conditions for coffee cultivation. Karnataka alone accounts for over 70% of India's coffee production. India is the seventh-largest coffee producer globally.

Source: [AIR](#)

22. Correct Answer is (B)

- Jawaharlal Nehru Port, also known as Nhava Sheva, is located in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Vadhvan Port is a proposed deep-water port located in Palghar district, Maharashtra.
- Kandla Port, now officially known as Deendayal Port, is located in the Kutch district of Gujarat.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Jute Corporation of India (JCI) is a central public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. A key function of the JCI is to implement the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for raw jute. This ensures that jute farmers receive a guaranteed minimum price for their produce, protecting them from price fluctuations in the market.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. While the JCI plays a role in the jute market, its primary objective is to support jute farmers and stabilize the market, not to directly compete with private traders. JCI operates procurement centers in major jute-producing states such as West Bengal, Assam, Odisha, Bihar, Tripura, and Andhra Pradesh.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Kishanganga Hydropower Plant is constructed on the Kishanganga River, which is a tributary of the Jhelum River. The project diverts water from the Kishanganga River through a tunnel to an underground powerhouse, and the water eventually joins the Jhelum River basin. This makes it part of the Jhelum River basin system.

Source: [The Print](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- The South China Sea is connected to the Indian Ocean via the Strait of Malacca, a narrow and strategically significant waterway located between the Indonesian island of Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula. It serves as the main shipping route linking the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean, making it one of the busiest and most critical maritime chokepoints in the world.

Source: [The Print](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Nano-urea is not applied to the soil like conventional urea. Instead, it is sprayed directly onto the leaves of plants at specific stages of growth, as this method is believed to make nitrogen more bioavailable to the plants.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Nano-urea is a liquid fertilizer developed by IFFCO in India as a technological innovation aimed at reducing conventional urea usage and improving nitrogen efficiency. Nano-urea has the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (e.g., nitrous oxide) and groundwater pollution caused by the overuse of conventional urea, as it requires smaller quantities for application.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Himalayas are particularly susceptible to Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) due to their high concentration of glaciers, rapid glacier retreat caused by climate change, and the formation of numerous glacial lakes. These factors, combined with the region's steep terrain and seismic activity, make it highly vulnerable to such events.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. GLOFs primarily result in the sudden release of water from glacial lakes, causing flash floods in downstream rivers and valleys. They do not directly lead to groundwater discharge in urban areas but instead cause catastrophic flooding, infrastructure damage, and loss of life in affected regions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Coal is formed from the remains of prehistoric plants that were buried under layers of soil and water millions of years ago. Over time, heat and pressure converted this plant material into carbon-rich coal through processes such as peatification and coalification.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The majority of India's coal reserves are located in the eastern and south-central regions, particularly in states like Jharkhand, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh, which together account for about 70% of the total coal reserves. Western India has relatively smaller coal reserves, with Maharashtra contributing only about 3% of the total.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (D)

- Jet streams are high-velocity winds primarily found in the upper levels of the troposphere, near the tropopause (the boundary between the troposphere and the stratosphere). They occur at altitudes of about 8 to 14 kilometers above Earth's surface and are driven by temperature differences between air masses, as well as the Earth's rotation. These winds play a significant role in weather patterns and are used by airplanes to reduce flight times.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Kurdistan region, historically inhabited by the Kurdish population, spans parts of Turkey, Iraq, Iran, and Syria. It does not extend into Jordan. The region is significant due to its abundant reserves of oil.

Source: [DD News](#)

31. Correct Answer is (B)

- Karnataka holds the largest share of tungsten-bearing mineral resources in India, accounting for approximately 42% of the total resources, followed by Rajasthan (27%), Andhra Pradesh (17%),

and Maharashtra (9%). Wolframite is the primary ore of tungsten that is mined in India. Tungsten has the highest melting point of any metal, making it ideal for high-temperature applications.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The DRC is geographically situated in central Africa. It is bordered by nine countries and occupies a significant portion of the Congo Basin. By land area, the country is the second-largest country in Africa. The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) borders Angola, Zambia, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, South Sudan, the Central African Republic, and the Republic of the Congo, with a short Atlantic Ocean coastline at the Congo River's mouth.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Niger River flows through West Africa, including countries such as Guinea, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria, but it does not pass through the DRC. Instead, the Congo River system dominates the DRC's geography.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Cretaceous Period (145–66 million years ago) is most famously known for ending with the Cretaceous-Paleogene (K-Pg) extinction event, which caused the extinction of nearly 75% of all species on Earth, including all non-avian dinosaurs. This mass extinction was primarily triggered by a massive asteroid impact near the Yucatán Peninsula in Mexico, creating the Chicxulub crater. The event led to global climate disruptions, blocking sunlight, and collapsing ecosystems.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Sea Surface Temperature (SST) refers to the temperature of the ocean's surface, not the ocean floor. SST is typically measured in the uppermost layer of the ocean, within the top 20 meters.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Higher SST can lead to coral bleaching. When water temperatures rise above normal levels, corals expel the symbiotic algae (zooxanthellae) living in their tissues, causing them to turn white. This stress response, known as coral bleaching, often results from prolonged exposure to elevated temperatures. SST is higher in equatorial regions compared to polar regions. This is because equatorial regions receive more direct sunlight throughout the year, leading to warmer surface waters, whereas polar regions receive less sunlight and are colder.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Point Nemo is not the northernmost point on Earth. It is located in the South Pacific Ocean and is known as the Oceanic Pole of Inaccessibility, the most remote location from any landmass. The region is a "biological desert" with very limited marine life due to scarce nutrients and weak ocean currents.
- Statement 2 is correct. Point Nemo is located in the South Pacific Ocean, approximately 2,688 kilometers from the nearest landmass.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

## Polity

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Justice of the concerned state High Court administers the oath of office to a Governor.
2. In the absence of the Chief Justice of the High Court, the Chief Minister of the concerned state administers the oath of office to a Governor.
3. The Governor swears to preserve, protect, and defend the state's autonomy in the oath.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The S.R. Bommai case (1994) introduced guidelines to prevent the arbitrary use of Article 356.
- 2. India's federal system is a basic feature of its democracy.
- 3. One Nation, One Election (ONOE) would have impact on state's autonomy.

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) With reference to the Island Development Agency (IDA), which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- 1. The Prime Minister of India chairs the meetings of the Island Development Agency (IDA).
- 2. It was established to focus on the holistic development of India's islands.

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.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Non-citizens residing in India cannot possess Aadhaar cards.
- 2. Aadhaar's biometrics are stored in a centralized database known as the Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR).
- 3. The National Electoral Roll Purification and Authentication Programme (NERPAP), 2015 aims to enhance the accuracy and integrity of India's voter rolls.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Hunger strikes are protected by the Constitution in India.
- 2. The Constitution of India restricts peaceful protests to national emergencies declared under Article 352.

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. Constitutional courts can grant bail despite strict legal restrictions if the accused's fundamental rights are being violated.
- 2. The Supreme Court has power to grant bail in any case.

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.7) In the context of the judiciary, the term 'Circuit benches' refer to:

- a) Permanent benches of a court or tribunal established in multiple locations within a region.
- b) Benches that exclusively handle appeals from lower courts across the country.
- c) Specialized benches that deal only with constitutional matters in the judiciary.
- d) Temporary benches of a court or tribunal that operate in locations other than their permanent headquarters.

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Article 51A of the Indian Constitution mandates that every citizen must respect the Constitution, its institutions, the National Flag, and the National Anthem.
- 2. As per the Ministry of Home Affairs' guidelines, the National Anthem is to be played during the Governor's address to the House.

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

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

Q.9) With reference to BHARATPOL portal, consider the following statements:

- 1. It aims to modernize India's approach to tackling transnational crimes.
- 2. It has been developed by the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- 3. It allows all Indian law enforcement agencies to connect with Interpol.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Central Information Commission (CIC) and State Information Commissions (SICs) are statutory bodies.
- 2. Both the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and the State Chief Information Commissioner (SCIC) are appointed by the President 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.11) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The collegium system operates without formal rules.
- 2. The President can transfer a judge from one High Court to another only after consulting the Chief Justice of India (CJI).
- 3. The Union government is empowered to reject the collegium's recommendation for the appointment of judges.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.12) Which of the following is correct regarding the differences between NRIs (Non-Resident Indians) and PIOs (People of Indian Origin)?

- 1. NRIs hold Indian citizenship and reside outside India, while PIOs are foreign citizens of Indian origin.
- 2. NRIs can vote in Indian elections, whereas PIOs cannot.
- 3. NRIs are Indian citizens by birth, whereas PIOs acquire citizenship through long-term residency in India.
- 4. NRIs are foreign nationals who previously held Indian citizenship, whereas PIOs are Indian citizens by birth.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Election Commission of India is a constitutional body.
- 2. The Chief Election Commissioner has the same removal procedure as a Supreme Court judge.

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. National Youth Festival 2025 emphasizes the role of young people as key drivers of global change and aligns with India's commitment to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- 2. Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports responsible for shaping and guiding the National Youth Festival.

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 statements:

- 1. Article 5 of the Constitution defines citizenship based on birth, parentage, or residency, and does not permit dual citizenship.

2. Article 9 of the Constitution states that any person who voluntarily acquires citizenship of another country ceases to be an Indian citizen.

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

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

Q.16) Which one of the following organizations is responsible for giving regulatory approval to the medical devices in India?

- a) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- b) Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO)
- c) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA)
- d) All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)

Q.17) Consider the following statements:

- 1. At least 5 years' experience as a High Court judge is required to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court.
- 2. National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) is responsible for the appointment of Supreme Court judges.
- 3. The term 'distinguished jurist' in Supreme Court appointments describes a senior lawyer with at least two decades of practice.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.18) Which one of the following is a unique feature of the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association (SCAORA) compared to the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA)?

- a) SCAORA membership is open to all advocates practicing in the Supreme Court.
- b) SCAORA represents the interests of a specialized group of lawyers authorized to file cases in the Supreme Court.
- c) SCAORA is primarily concerned with organizing seminars and social events.
- d) SCAORA handles general welfare concerns of all Supreme Court lawyers.

Q.19) In the Indian legal system, the term 'Plea Bargaining' refers to:

- a) The negotiation between a lawyer and a judge to reduce the severity of a sentence.
- b) A process where the accused pleads guilty in exchange for financial compensation.
- c) An agreement where the accused pleads guilty to a lesser offense in return for a reduced sentence or punishment.
- d) A mechanism allowing the victim to decide the sentence for the accused after consultation with the court.

Q.20) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Parliamentary Committees are also referred to as mini-cabinets.

Statement-II: Parliamentary Committees review and scrutinize legislation in detail similar to the Parliament.

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 statements:

- 1. In case of conflict between a central law and a state law on matters in the Concurrent List, the Central law prevails unless the State law has received Presidential assent.
- 2. Delegated legislation made by central authorities cannot override state plenary laws.

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

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

Q.22) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1951 prevents individuals from contesting elections if they have been charged with certain offenses.
- 2. Contesting elections is not a fundamental right.

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

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

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

- 1. There is no minimum age requirement for appointment as a Supreme Court judge.
- 2. Distinguished jurists can be appointed to the Supreme Court, but not to the High Courts.

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) One Nation, One Legislative Platform' aims to:

- a) Integrate elections for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies into a single electoral process.
- b) Provide financial assistance to states for legislative reforms.
- c) Establish a uniform code of conduct for all legislative bodies in India.
- d) Make proceedings of all legislatures available on a single digital platform.

Q.25) Consider the following statements regarding the All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC):

- 1. It serves as the highest forum for legislative assemblies, councils, and the Parliament in India.
- 2. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs is responsible for organizing the AIPOC.
- 3. The AIPOC was first held in 1921.

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 President of India appoints the Chief Election Commissioner of India.
2. The tenure of the Chief Election Commissioner is 5 years or up to 65 years of age, whichever is earlier.
3. The Chief Election Commissioner's salary and perks are equivalent to the Cabinet Secretary.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.27) Consider the following statements regarding the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA):

1. It was established under the Competition Act, 2002.
2. It can initiate action against both manufacturers and advertisers for misleading claims.

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:

Statement-I: National Voters Day is celebrated every year on January 25.

Statement-II: The first election in independent India was held on January 25, 1951.

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.29) Consider the following statements:

1. As per the Indian Constitution, the Governor is empowered to act as the Chancellor of State universities.
2. The President, as the Visitor of Central universities, performs functions in close consultation with the Ministry of Education.

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) Which one of the following is NOT a restriction on the freedom guaranteed under Article 25 of the Indian Constitution?

- a) Public order
- b) Morality
- c) Health
- d) Economic equality

Q.31) Consider the following statements:

1. Parole is for convicted prisoners, while bail is for accused awaiting trial.
2. Parole is granted by a High Court Judge 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.32) Consider the following statements regarding the Beating Retreat ceremony:

1. The Beating Retreat ceremony marks the official beginning of Republic Day celebrations in India.
2. It was inspired by ancient Indian war practices.
3. Its timing coincides with midnight to honour India's independence declaration time.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.33) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Domestic workers in India often experience workplace exploitation and unfair treatment.

Statement-II: There is no central law to protect exploitation of domestic workers in India.

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

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

Q.34) With reference to the ad hoc judge in High Court, which of the following statements are correct?

1. Ad hoc judges have the same jurisdiction, powers, and privileges as permanent judges while in office.
2. Ad hoc judges can be appointed from among practicing senior advocates.
3. The number of ad hoc judges in a High Court cannot exceed 10% of its total sanctioned strength.
4. Ad hoc judges receive emoluments and allowances equal to permanent judges of that High Court, including pension.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.35) Which one of the following correctly explains the term "Compounding of offences"?

- a) A process where an offender is sentenced to imprisonment without any option for settlement.
- b) A legal mechanism that mandates a court trial for all offences, regardless of their severity.
- c) A procedure where minor offences are ignored without any penalty or resolution.
- d) A legal process where certain offences are settled by paying a penalty or fulfilling conditions, avoiding a court trial.

## Answer Key

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

## Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. According to Article 159 of the Constitution, the Governor takes the oath of office in the presence of the Chief Justice of the High Court of the concerned state.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. In the absence of the Chief Justice, the senior-most judge of that High Court administers the oath. The Governor swears to "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and the law" and to serve and promote the well-being of the people of the state.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The S.R. Bommai v. Union of India case is a landmark judgment that curbed the misuse of Article 356, which allows the imposition of President's Rule in states. Federalism, characterized by the division of powers between the Centre and states, is a fundamental feature of India's Constitution and democracy. The proposed One Nation, One Election (ONOE) initiative aims to synchronize elections for the Lok Sabha and state assemblies, which could centralize authority and reduce states' autonomy in determining their electoral cycles.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Union Home Minister chairs the meetings of the Island Development Agency (IDA).
- Statement 2 is correct. The IDA was set up in 2017 to promote the sustainable and holistic development of India's islands, particularly focusing on the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep. Its objectives include infrastructure development, tourism promotion, renewable energy initiatives, and environmental protection.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Non-citizens, such as Overseas Citizens of India (OCI), Long-Term Visa (LTV) holders, and resident foreigners who have stayed in India for at least 182 days in the past 12 months, are eligible to apply for Aadhaar cards. This includes nationals from Nepal and Bhutan as well.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Aadhaar's biometric data is stored in a centralized database called the Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR). This repository securely maintains the biometric and demographic data of individuals enrolled in the Aadhaar system. NERPA was launched in 2015 with the objective of improving the accuracy and integrity of electoral rolls by eliminating duplicate entries and authenticating voter information, thereby ensuring a more reliable electoral process.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Hunger strikes, as a form of peaceful protest, are protected under Article 19(1)(a) (freedom of speech and expression) and Article 19(1)(b) (right to assemble peacefully).

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without arms). Courts have recognized hunger strikes as a legitimate form of dissent, provided they do not disturb public order or violate reasonable restrictions under Articles 19(2) and 19(3).

- Statement 2 is incorrect. Peaceful protests are not limited to national emergencies. The right to protest is a fundamental right under Article 19, and it can only be restricted under specific conditions like public order, sovereignty, or morality, as outlined in Articles 19(2) and 19(3). Article 352 deals with the proclamation of emergency, during which certain rights under Article 19 may be suspended, but this does not mean protests are inherently restricted to such times.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Constitutional courts, such as the High Courts and the Supreme Court, have the authority to grant bail even in cases governed by special statutes with stringent bail conditions (e.g., MCOCA, PMLA) if there is a violation of fundamental rights, such as prolonged detention without trial (Article 21). However, this power is exercised only in exceptional circumstances.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While the Supreme Court has wide jurisdiction and extraordinary powers under Articles 32 and 136 of the Constitution, it cannot arbitrarily grant bail in "any case." Its intervention must be justified by legal and constitutional principles, such as a violation of fundamental rights or miscarriage of justice.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (D)

- Circuit benches are temporary or part-time benches of a court or tribunal that function in locations other than their permanent or regional headquarters. They are established to make justice more accessible and reduce travel burdens for litigants, especially in geographically dispersed areas.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Article 51A(a) of the Indian Constitution states that it is the fundamental duty of every citizen to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag, and the National Anthem.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Ministry of Home Affairs guidelines specify that the National Anthem is to be played on certain formal occasions, such as before and after the President's address to the nation or during ceremonial events. However, there is no specific mandate for playing it during a Governor's address to a legislative house. There is no uniform rule regarding the playing of the National Anthem in legislative assemblies across India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Bharatpol is designed to address transnational crimes such as cybercrime, human trafficking, drug trafficking, and financial fraud by enabling seamless international cooperation through Interpol. Bharatpol enables all Indian law enforcement agencies, including state police forces and central agencies, to directly connect with Interpol for international assistance in criminal investigations.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Bharatpol has been developed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which serves as India's National Central Bureau (NCB) for Interpol.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Central Information Commission (CIC) and State Information Commissions (SICs) are statutory bodies established under the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) is appointed by the President of India on the recommendation of a committee consisting of the Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, and a Union Cabinet Minister. The State Chief Information Commissioner

(SCIC) is appointed by the Governor of the State on the recommendation of a committee comprising the Chief Minister, Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, and a State Cabinet Minister.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The collegium system is not mentioned in the Constitution or governed by any formal rules or laws. It evolved through judicial pronouncements, particularly the "Three Judges Cases," and functions as a convention-based mechanism for appointing and transferring judges. As per Article 222 of the Constitution, the President can transfer a judge from one High Court to another, but this can only be done after consulting the Chief Justice of India.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Union government can send back a recommendation made by the collegium for reconsideration. However, if the collegium reiterates its recommendation, the government is bound to accept it.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. NRIs are Indian citizens who live abroad, while PIOs are foreign nationals who have Indian ancestry but do not hold Indian citizenship. NRIs retain the right to vote in Indian elections while PIOs do not have voting rights in India.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. While NRIs are Indian citizens (which may include those born in India or those who acquired citizenship later), PIOs do not acquire Indian citizenship through residency; they are foreign nationals and do not have citizenship rights in India. NRIs are not foreign nationals; they are Indian citizens residing abroad. PIOs, on the other hand, are foreign nationals of Indian origin and do not hold Indian citizenship.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Election Commission of India (ECI) is a constitutional body established under Article 324 of the Indian Constitution. It is responsible for the superintendence, direction, and control of elections to Parliament, State Legislatures, and the offices of the President and Vice President of India. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) can only be removed from office through a process similar to that of a Supreme Court judge, which involves impeachment by Parliament on grounds of proved misbehaviour or incapacity, requiring a two-thirds majority in both Houses.

Source: [AIR](#)

14. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The National Youth Festival 2025 focuses on empowering youth for nation-building and aligns with India's commitment to the SDGs, as evident in its themes like "Youth for Sustainable Development" and initiatives promoting leadership, innovation, and sustainability. MY Bharat, established as an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, plays a pivotal role in curating and guiding the National Youth Festival, ensuring it aligns with youth aspirations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Article 5 of the Indian Constitution provides the criteria for citizenship at the commencement of the Constitution, focusing on birth, parentage, or residency in India. It does not allow dual citizenship. Article 9 states that an Indian citizen who voluntarily acquires the citizenship of another country loses their Indian citizenship.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), under the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, is the national regulatory authority responsible for the regulation and approval of medical devices in India. It ensures the safety, efficacy, and quality of medical devices under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Medical Devices Rules, 2017. ICMR focuses on medical research. NPPA regulates drug pricing.

Source: [DD News](#)

17. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. According to Article 124(3) of the Constitution, a person must have served as a High Court judge for at least 5 years or have been an advocate in a High Court for at least 10 years, or be a distinguished jurist in the President's opinion, to qualify for appointment as a Supreme Court judge.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The NJAC was established by the 99th Constitutional Amendment Act in 2014 but was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in 2015. Currently, the Collegium system, led by the Chief Justice of India and senior judges, is responsible for recommending appointments. The Constitution does not define "distinguished jurist" explicitly, and it is not limited to senior lawyers with two decades of practice. It refers broadly to individuals with outstanding legal or academic expertise, as determined by the President's opinion. No one has been appointed under this category yet.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association (SCAORA) is unique because it specifically represents Advocates-on-Record (AoRs)—a specialized category of lawyers who are authorized to file cases in the Supreme Court after passing the AoR examination. This distinguishes SCAORA from the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA), which represents all advocates practicing in the Supreme Court, including senior advocates and junior lawyers. The SCBA primarily addresses general issues affecting lawyers, such as infrastructure, welfare, professional concerns, and administrative matters related to the functioning of the Supreme Court. It serves as a collective voice for all lawyers practicing at the apex court. SCBA was established earlier than SCAORA.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (C)

- Plea bargaining in the Indian legal system allows the accused to voluntarily plead guilty in exchange for concessions, such as reduced charges or lighter sentences. Introduced through the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2005, it aims to reduce judicial delays and expedite case resolution. It applies only to offenses punishable by imprisonment of less than seven years and excludes heinous crimes, crimes against women or children, and socio-economic offenses. Additionally, the concept of blood money (diya), common in some countries, involves financial compensation to victims but is not practiced in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statement-I is incorrect. Parliamentary Committees are often referred to as mini-parliaments or miniature legislatures because they perform detailed scrutiny and deliberation on legislative matters, policies, and budgets, similar to the Parliament itself.
- Statement-II is correct. Parliamentary Committees play a crucial role in reviewing and scrutinizing legislation in detail. They examine bills, policies, and budgets more thoroughly than the Parliament can during its sessions due to time constraints.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Article 254(1) of the Constitution states that if there is a conflict between a central law and a state law on a subject in the Concurrent List, the central law will prevail, and the conflicting part of the state law will be void. However, under Article 254(2), if the State law has been reserved for the President's consideration and receives Presidential assent, it will prevail within that State, even if it conflicts with the central law. Delegated legislation (such as rules, regulations, or notifications) is subordinate to plenary legislation (laws passed by legislatures). It must conform to the parent Act under which it is made and cannot override plenary laws enacted by State legislatures. Subordinate legislation does not have the same authority as parliamentary or state laws and cannot override them unless explicitly permitted by the parent Act or through constitutional provisions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Under the RPA, 1951, disqualification applies only upon conviction for certain offenses, not merely on being charged. For example, Section 8 of the Act specifies that a person convicted of an offense and sentenced to imprisonment for two or more years is disqualified from contesting elections during the imprisonment period and for six years after release.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Supreme Court has held that the right to contest elections is neither a fundamental right nor a common law right; it is a statutory right conferred by laws like the RPA, 1951.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Constitution of India, under Article 124, does not prescribe a minimum age for the appointment of a Supreme Court judge. The eligibility criteria focus on qualifications such as being a citizen of India, having judicial experience (e.g., five years as a High Court judge or ten years as an advocate), or being a "distinguished jurist" in the opinion of the President. Article 124(3)(c) allows the appointment of "distinguished jurists" as judges of the Supreme Court. However, Article 217(2)(c), which previously allowed similar appointments to High Courts, was repealed by the 44th Constitutional Amendment. As a result, distinguished jurists can only be appointed to the Supreme Court and not to High Courts.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (D)

- The "One Nation, One Legislative Platform" initiative aims to unify all legislative bodies in India—including Parliament, state legislatures, and local entities—into a single digital platform. This integration allows for the real-time exchange of legislative data and practices, promoting transparency, accountability, and public engagement in legislative activities.

Source: [AIR](#)

25. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The AIPOC is the apex forum where presiding officers of legislative assemblies, councils, and Parliament come together to discuss issues related to parliamentary functioning, governance, and democratic practices. The first session of the All India Presiding Officers' Conference was held in 1921 in Shimla, making it one of the oldest forums for legislative discussions in India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The AIPOC is organized by the Lok Sabha Secretariat in collaboration with the legislative body of the host state. The conference is held periodically across different states in India.

Source: [AIR](#)

26. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) is appointed by the President of India, as per Article 324(2) of the Constitution, on the recommendation of a selection committee comprising the Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, and a Cabinet Minister.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. As per the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, the CEC holds office for a term of six years from the date on which he assumes office or until he attains the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier. The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, states that the salary, allowances, and other conditions of service of the CEC and Election Commissioners shall be equal to those of a Judge of the Supreme Court.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) was established under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.
- Statement 2 is correct. The CCPA has the power to take action against manufacturers, advertisers, and endorsers for false or misleading advertisements under Section 21 of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019. It can impose penalties, order discontinuation of such advertisements, and take other corrective measures.

Source: [DD News](#)

28. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Statement-I is correct:** National Voters Day is celebrated every year on January 25. It was established in 2011 to encourage more young voters to participate in the electoral process. The date marks the foundation day of the Election Commission of India, which was established on January 25, 1950.
- **Statement-II is incorrect:** The first general election in independent India was not held on January 25, 1951. Instead, the first general elections were conducted between October 25, 1951, and February 21, 1952.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Indian Constitution does not explicitly empower the Governor to act as the Chancellor of State universities. Instead, this role is conferred on the Governor by State laws governing universities, not by the Constitution. The powers and functions of the Governor as Chancellor are defined in these specific State statutes.
- Statement 2 is correct. The President, as the Visitor of Central universities, works in coordination with the Ministry of Education. Functions such as appointing Vice-Chancellors, nominating members to university bodies, and approving statutes are carried out in consultation with the Ministry.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (D)

- Article 25 of the Indian Constitution guarantees the freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice, and propagate religion. However, this right is subject to certain reasonable restrictions in the interest of public order, morality, and health. These restrictions ensure that religious practices do not disrupt societal harmony or infringe on others' rights.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Parole is granted to individuals who are already convicted and serving their sentence, allowing temporary conditional release for specific reasons like rehabilitation or emergencies (e.g., illness or family events). Bail, on the other hand, is granted to accused individuals awaiting trial to ensure their temporary release while the legal proceedings continue.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Parole is primarily an administrative process, not a judicial one. It is usually granted by jail authorities or state government officials, or other designated administrative authorities, depending on the state's rules.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Beating Retreat ceremony marks the end of the Republic Day celebrations. It is held on January 29, three days after Republic Day, to formally conclude the festivities. The Beating Retreat ceremony has its origins in 17th-century England, where it was used to signal troops to disengage from battle and return to their camps at sunset. It was later adopted by India in the 1950s as part of Republic Day celebrations. The Beating Retreat ceremony takes place at sunset. It features performances by bands from all three branches of the Indian Armed Forces: Army, Navy, and Air Force.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement-I is correct. Domestic workers in India frequently face challenges such as low wages, long working hours, lack of job security, and various forms of exploitation. Their work is undervalued, underpaid, and poorly regulated.
- Statement-II is correct. As of now, India lacks a specific central legislation dedicated to safeguarding the rights of domestic workers. While the Ministry of Labour & Employment is considering formulating a National Policy on Domestic Workers, it remains in the draft stage.
- The absence of a central law leaves domestic workers vulnerable to exploitation and unfair treatment, as there is no comprehensive legal framework to protect their rights. Therefore, Statement-II explains the reason behind the situation described in Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Ad hoc judges appointed under Article 224A of the Constitution have the same jurisdiction, powers, and privileges as sitting High Court judges during their tenure, ensuring they can perform their duties effectively. The Supreme Court has clarified that the number of ad hoc judges in a High Court should not exceed 10% of its total sanctioned strength, typically allowing for 2-5 such appointments depending on the size of the court.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. Ad hoc judges are appointed from retired High Court judges, not practicing advocates. Article 224A specifically allows for the appointment of retired High Court judges with the consent of the Chief Justice of the High Court and the President. While ad hoc judges receive emoluments and allowances equal to permanent judges during their tenure, they do not receive pensions as part of these benefits. Their tenure is temporary and subject to the requirement of the High Court to clear pending cases.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (D)

- Compounding of offences is a legal process where certain offences are settled between the offender and the authority (or aggrieved party) without the need for a prolonged court trial. It allows the offender to pay a fine or fulfil certain conditions to resolve the matter, avoiding further legal proceedings.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

## Acts & Policies

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Most of India's former Prime Ministers have dedicated memorials in their honour.

Statement-II: The Prime Ministers' Memorial Allocation and Maintenance Act, 1956 allows building memorials for former Prime Ministers of India.

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

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

Q.2) Which of the following statements are correct regarding the Centralized Pension Payments System (CPPS)?

- 1. It establishes a national-level centralized pension disbursement system.
- 2. It automatically credits pensions upon release.
- 3. It eliminates the legal disputes related to pensions.

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.3) Which one of the following is the objective of the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme?

- a) Refund customs duties paid on imported raw materials.
- b) Reimburse embedded taxes and duties not refunded under existing schemes.
- c) Provide direct subsidies for export-oriented units.
- d) Increase export volumes by offering financial incentives.

Q.4) Which of the following statements are correct?

- 1. PM Kisan Samman Nidhi is exclusively for landholding farmers owning more than 5 hectares.
- 2. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana provides coverage for prevented sowing and post-harvest losses.
- 3. Agriculture Infrastructure Fund offers interest subvention on loans for building farm infrastructure.
- 4. All the above three schemes are centrally sponsored and require 50% state funding.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.5) With reference to the revised guidelines recently released by the University Grants Commission (UGC) for appointing Vice-Chancellors (VCs), consider the following statements:

1. According to the new guidelines, the UGC Chairman will be responsible for constituting the search-cum-selection Committee for appointing Vice-Chancellors.
2. The search-cum-selection committee will consist of three members.
3. The VC shall hold office for a term of three years from the date of taking charge or until attaining the age of seventy years, whichever is earlier.
4. The new guidelines have added mandatory administrative experience for VC candidates.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.6) With reference to the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to position India as a global leader in technical textiles and boost domestic production and usage.
2. Technical textiles are textiles designed for aesthetic appeal and use in the fashion industry.
3. Ministry of Textiles is responsible for implementing the Mission.

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) Which one of the following is the objective of the "Panchayat Se Parliament 2.0" programme?

- a) It aims to increase women's representation in Parliament.
- b) It aims to train elected women representatives from Scheduled Tribes in constitutional provisions and parliamentary procedures.
- c) It aims to organize cultural exchange programs between different states.
- d) It aims to implement new laws for Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Q.8) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It focuses on improving the socio-economic conditions of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
2. One of its aims is to improve urban infrastructure in tribal areas.

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:

1. Infrastructure development
2. Skill enrichment training
3. Promotion of green shipping
4. Upgrading traditional knowledge of rivers

How many of the above are the components of the Riverine Community Development Scheme (RCDS)?

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

Q.10) Which one of the following ministries is responsible for implementing the (Scheme for the Economic Empowerment of DNT/NT/SNT communities) SEED scheme?

- a) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- b) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
- c) Ministry of Rural Development
- d) Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Q.11) With reference to the National Electoral Rolls Purification and Authentication Program (NERPAP), which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. It aims to create a common database for voter ID cards and Permanent Account Number (PAN) cards.
- 2. The Election Commission of India (ECI) is responsible for implementing NERPAP.

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.12) With reference to Mission Mausam, consider the following statements:

- 1. The mission aims to enhance India's capacity for accurate weather forecasting, disaster management, and climate resilience.
- 2. Ministry of Science and Technology is responsible for implementing Mission Mausam.
- 3. It will enhance air quality forecasting in metro cities.

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) The primary objective of the Bhashini Platform is to:

- a) Promote cultural exchange between India and other countries
- b) Create private paid tools for machine translation in foreign languages
- c) Enable AI-based translation services in Indian languages for digital inclusion
- d) Regulate English language publications by Indian authors

Q.14) With reference to the Fast Track Immigration – Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is aimed at expediting immigration processes for eligible international travellers in India.
- 2. It will allow visa-free travel to India for all eligible program members.

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

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

Q.15) With reference to the National Electric Mobility Mission (NEMM), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is aimed at transforming India's automotive and transportation sectors by promoting electric and hybrid vehicles.
- 2. Perform, Achieve, Trade (PAT) scheme was launched under NEMM.

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

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

Q.16) With reference to the Grievance Appellate Committees (GACs) established under the Information Technology Rules, 2021, consider the following statements:

1. Articles 15 and 16 of the Indian Constitution are safeguarded by ensuring compliance with GAC decisions under IT Rules, 2021.
2. The decisions made by the GAC are binding on social media intermediaries.
3. Members serve for a term of three years or until further orders.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.17) Consider the following statements regarding the Smart Cities Mission (SCM):

1. It was inspired from Internet of Things (IoT) framework.
2. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
3. The Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) in the Mission aims to provide financial loans to citizens for upgrading their homes.
4. Cities under the Mission were selected through a competitive process called the Smart Cities Challenge.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.18) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to enhance the socio-economic conditions of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
2. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) focuses on providing piped water supply to PVTG habitations 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.19) Consider the following:

1. Preventing gender-biased sex-selective elimination
2. Ensuring the survival, protection, and education of the girl child
3. Promoting women's employment opportunities in urban areas
4. Addressing declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR)

How many of the above are the objectives of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme?

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

Q.20) Consider the following statements regarding the Diamond Imprest Authorization (DIA) Scheme:

1. It aims to enhance the competitiveness of India's diamond industry by facilitating the duty-free import of smaller diamonds.
2. It is administered by Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Policy of India's trade.

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 PM Suryagarh Yojana, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to promote sustainable energy, reduce electricity costs for households, and encourage the adoption of solar energy.
2. A household can receive 200 units free electricity under the scheme.
3. All rural households with rooftops are eligible under the scheme.

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.22) With reference to the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS), consider the following statements:

1. It guarantees 50% of the average basic pay from the last 12 months before retirement as a pension for employees with at least 25 years of service.
2. Pension amounts will be indexed to inflation using the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) to maintain purchasing power.
3. It offers market-linked returns like National Pension System (NPS) and guaranteed pensions like Old Pension Scheme (OPS).

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.23) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN Yojana (Jaiv Indhan- Vatavaran Anukool fasal awashesh Nivaran), consider the following statements:

1. It aims to promote the production of Second Generation (2G) ethanol from agricultural residues and other renewable feedstocks.
2. One of the environmental benefits of JI-VAN Yojana is that it decreases the use of chemical fertilizers in crops.

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) National Career Service (NCS) Portal and Model Career Centres (MCCs) were seen in the news recently, are associated with:

- a) Facilitating employment and skill development in India
- b) Regulating labour laws and industrial disputes
- c) Promoting entrepreneurship and startup funding
- d) Overseeing vocational education in higher institutions

Q.25) With reference to the PM Surya Ghar Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to facilitate the production of solar panels in India for export purposes.
2. It is a part of India's aim towards clean energy and reducing carbon emissions.

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

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

Q.26) Consider the following statements regarding the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM):

1. The Mission aims to boost the domestic production of all minerals in India.
2. Coal is considered a critical mineral under the Mission.

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

### Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement I is correct. Most former Prime Ministers of India, such as Jawaharlal Nehru (Shanti Vana), Lal Bahadur Shastri (Vijay Ghat), Indira Gandhi (Shakti Sthal), and Rajiv Gandhi (Vir Bhumi), have dedicated memorials, primarily in Delhi. However, there are exceptions, such as Vishwanath Pratap Singh, who does not have a dedicated memorial.
- Statement II is incorrect. There is no such act or law in India called the Prime Ministers' Memorial Allocation and Maintenance Act, 1956. Memorials are created based on government decisions or conventions but are not governed by a formalized law.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The CPPS represents a significant shift to a centralized pension disbursement system, enabling pensioners to receive their pensions from any bank branch across India without being tied to specific regional offices or banks. Under the CPPS, pensions are credited directly to pensioners' bank accounts upon release, eliminating the need for physical verification visits or delays in processing.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. There is no such provisions or advantage of the system.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme aims to refund embedded taxes and duties that were previously non-recoverable under any other mechanism. These include central, state, and local taxes such as mandi tax, coal cess, VAT, and excise duty on fuel used in manufacturing and distribution of exported goods. The scheme ensures exporters receive refunds to enhance their competitiveness in global markets while complying with WTO norms.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 4 are incorrect. The PM Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme provides financial assistance to all landholding farmers' families, regardless of the size of their landholdings. Initially, it was limited to small and marginal farmers with up to 2 hectares of land, but it was later extended to cover all farmer families with cultivable land. PM-KISAN is a Central Sector Scheme, meaning it is fully funded by the Government of India (100%). PMFBY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, where premium subsidies are shared between the Centre and States in a ratio of 50:50. The Agriculture Infrastructure Fund is a Central Sector Scheme, fully funded by the Central Government.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) covers - **Prevented Sowing**: Farmers who are unable to sow due to adverse weather conditions can claim up to 25% of the sum insured, **Post-Harvest Losses**: Coverage is provided for crops kept in the field for drying for up to 14 days after harvest, against risks like cyclones and unseasonal rains. The Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) provides interest subvention of 3% per annum on loans for building farm-related infrastructure, such as warehouses, cold storages, and processing units. It also offers credit guarantee coverage for loans up to ₹2 crores.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The revised guidelines state that the Chancellor or Visitor will constitute the Search-cum-Selection Committee for appointing Vice-Chancellors, not the UGC Chairman. The revised guidelines specify that the Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a term of five years or until attaining the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier.
  - Statements 2 and 4 are correct. The new guidelines specify that the committee will have three members: a nominee of the Chancellor (Chairperson), a nominee of the UGC Chairman, and a nominee from the university's apex body. The new regulations expand eligibility criteria to include individuals with at least 10 years of senior-level experience in fields like public administration, public policy, industry, or public sector undertakings, provided they have significant academic contributions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)
- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) aims to make India a global leader in technical textiles by increasing domestic production, promoting exports, and enhancing the use of technical textiles across industries. The Ministry of Textiles is the nodal agency responsible for implementing the National Technical Textiles Mission.
  - Statement 2 is incorrect. Technical textiles are not designed for aesthetic purposes or fashion but are engineered for functional and technical applications, such as in agriculture, healthcare, infrastructure, defense, and transportation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)
- The Panchayat Se Parliament 2.0 programme is a women-centric awareness and empowerment initiative aimed at enhancing the leadership capacity of elected women representatives, particularly from Scheduled Tribes (STs). The programme focuses on providing training in constitutional provisions, parliamentary procedures, and governance, enabling these women leaders to contribute effectively to decision-making processes.

Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)
- Statement 1 is correct. The PM-JANMAN scheme is specifically designed to uplift the socio-economic conditions of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) by providing essential infrastructure, healthcare, education, and livelihood opportunities.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The scheme focuses on basic infrastructure development in remote and rural tribal areas, such as housing, drinking water, sanitation, road connectivity, and healthcare, rather than urban infrastructure.

Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)
- The Riverine Community Development Scheme (RCDS) includes the following components:
  - **Infrastructure Development:** Aimed at building and upgrading facilities along national waterways to support trade, tourism, and transportation. This includes developing jetties, terminals, and other infrastructure to improve connectivity and economic activity in riverine areas.
  - **Skill Enrichment Training:** Focused on empowering local communities by providing training to enhance their skills in areas such as navigation, vessel operation, eco-tourism, and other waterway-related activities.
  - **Upgrading Traditional Knowledge of Rivers:** The scheme emphasizes integrating traditional ecological knowledge with modern practices to ensure sustainable use of river resources.
  - **Promotion of Green Shipping:** It is not a core component of RCDS.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)
- The Scheme for Economic Empowerment of Denotified, Nomadic, and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (SEED) is implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. The scheme aims to provide financial assistance for housing, health insurance, livelihood initiatives, and educational empowerment for these marginalized communities. It is overseen by the Development and Welfare Board for De-notified, Nomadic, and Semi-Nomadic Communities (DWBDNC) under the ministry.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statement 1 is incorrect. The National Electoral Rolls Purification and Authentication Program (NERPAP) aims to link voter ID cards (EPIC) with Aadhaar numbers to remove duplicate and erroneous entries from the electoral roll.
  - Statement 2 is correct. The Election Commission of India launched and oversees the implementation of NERPAP to ensure an error-free and authenticated electoral roll.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)
- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Mission Mausam is designed to make India "weather-ready" and "climate-smart" by improving weather forecasting accuracy, disaster preparedness, and resilience to climate change. It focuses on advanced technologies like AI, machine learning, and high-performance computing to enhance prediction capabilities. One of the objectives of Mission Mausam is to improve air quality predictions in major metro cities by up to 10%, which will help address urban pollution challenges.
  - Statement 2 is incorrect. Mission Mausam is being implemented by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) through its institutions like the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), and the National Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF).

Source: [AIR](#)

13. Correct Answer is (C)
- The primary objective of the Bhashini Platform is to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) technologies to provide real-time translation, speech-to-text, and text-to-speech services in Indian languages. This initiative aims to bridge the language divide in India, ensuring digital inclusion for all citizens, especially those in rural and non-English-speaking regions. It focuses on making digital content and government services accessible in local languages. The Bhashini Platform, also known as the National Language Translation Mission (NLTm), is an

ambitious initiative launched by the Government of India under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

Source: [AIR](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Fast Track Immigration – Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP) is designed to simplify and expedite immigration processes for eligible travellers, such as Indian citizens and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders, by using automated e-gates and biometric authentication. It aims to provide faster, smoother, and more secure immigration clearance at major Indian airports
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The FTI-TTP does not grant visa-free travel to India. Instead, it focuses on streamlining the immigration process for pre-verified travellers. Visa requirements is separate from this programme.

Source: [AIR](#)

15. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The National Electric Mobility Mission (NEMM) aims to transform India's automotive and transportation sectors by promoting electric and hybrid vehicles. It focuses on improving energy security, reducing dependence on fossil fuels, lowering carbon emissions, and fostering domestic manufacturing capabilities for electric vehicle technologies.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Perform, Achieve, Trade (PAT) scheme is not part of the National Electric Mobility Mission. FAME India Scheme (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid & Electric Vehicles) was introduced under NEMMP to promote the adoption of electric and hybrid vehicles.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Grievance Appellate Committees (GACs) established under the IT Rules, 2021 aim to ensure accountability of social media platforms and protect users' rights. Articles 14, 19, and 21 of the Indian Constitution are safeguarded by ensuring compliance with GAC decisions under IT Rules, 2021. The GAC aims to resolve appeals within 30 calendar days.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The decisions made by the GAC are binding on social media intermediaries. Platforms are required to comply with these decisions, and failure to do so can result in the loss of their "safe harbor" protections under the IT Act. Members of the GAC serve for a term of three years or until further orders, whichever is earlier. Each GAC consists of three members.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct. The SCM leverages the Internet of Things (IoT) and other emerging technologies to enhance urban infrastructure, operational efficiency, and quality of life for citizens. IoT serves as a backbone for smart city initiatives, enabling real-time monitoring, data analytics, and predictive maintenance of critical infrastructure. The SCM is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). The Smart Cities Challenge was a competitive process where cities submitted proposals outlining their plans for development. The best proposals were selected for funding under the mission.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The SPV in the SCM is established to plan, appraise, approve, release funds, implement, manage, and monitor smart city projects.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) is specifically designed to improve the socio-economic conditions of PVTGs. It focuses on providing essential services like housing, clean drinking water, sanitation, education, healthcare, and livelihoods to these marginalized communities.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The provision of piped water supply to PVTG habitations under PM-JANMAN is managed through the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

Source: [AIR](#)

19. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Preventing gender-biased sex-selective elimination:** This is a core focus of the BBBP scheme, aiming to address the issue of female foeticide and infanticide.
- **Ensuring the survival, protection, and education of the girl child:** The BBBP scheme emphasizes the importance of providing a safe and supportive environment for girls, as well as ensuring they have access to quality education.
- **Addressing declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR):** The BBBP scheme was launched to address the declining Child Sex Ratio in India, which is a major concern.
- However, promoting women's employment opportunities in urban areas, is an important goal but not a primary focus of the BBBP scheme.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The DIA Scheme's primary goal is to enhance the competitiveness of India's diamond industry by allowing duty-free imports of smaller diamonds (under ¼ carat). This aims to support value addition within India and boost exports.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The DIA Scheme is not administered by the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Policy. It is introduced by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India. Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) oversees the implementation of the DIA Scheme in India.

Source: [DD News](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is correct. PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana focuses on promoting solar energy adoption, reducing household electricity costs, and fostering sustainability through rooftop solar installations.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The scheme provides 300 units of free electricity per month. The eligibility is limited to households with valid electricity connections, suitable rooftops, and those that have not availed of other solar subsidies. It is not automatically applicable to all rural households.

Source: [AIR](#)

22. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Under the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS), employees with at least 25 years of service are guaranteed a pension equal to 50% of their average basic pay from the last 12 months before retirement. To ensure that pensions keep pace with inflation, the UPS links pension amounts to CPI-IW, providing periodic adjustments.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) is contributory like the National Pension System (NPS) but provides defined benefits like the Old Pension Scheme (OPS).

Source: [DD News](#)

23. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN Yojana aims to promote the production of Second Generation (2G) ethanol from agricultural residues, lignocellulosic biomass, and other

renewable feedstocks. This helps reduce environmental pollution and provides an alternative to fossil fuels.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The scheme focuses on reducing environmental pollution by utilizing agricultural waste (e.g., crop residues) to produce bioethanol and reducing stubble burning. However, it does not directly aim to decrease the use of chemical fertilizers in crops.

Source: [DD News](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- The National Career Service (NCS) Portal and Model Career Centres (MCCs) are initiatives by the Ministry of Labour and Employment aimed at providing employment-related services, career counseling, and skill development opportunities. They focus on connecting job seekers with employers, offering career guidance, and organizing job fairs to enhance employability in India.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The PM Surya Ghar Scheme is focused on promoting rooftop solar installations in Indian households to increase domestic renewable energy capacity and reduce reliance on conventional energy sources. It does not specifically aim to produce solar panels for export purposes.
- Statement 2 is correct. The scheme aligns with India's broader goals of transitioning to clean energy, reducing carbon emissions, and meeting renewable energy targets. By encouraging rooftop solar installations, it contributes directly to these objectives.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) focuses specifically on critical minerals, which are essential for high-tech industries, clean energy technologies, and defense. These include minerals like lithium, cobalt, nickel, and rare earth elements, not all minerals. Non-critical minerals like coal, iron ore, or limestone are not part of this mission. The mission aims to decrease India's reliance on imported critical minerals like lithium, cobalt, nickel, and rare earth elements, which are vital for clean energy technologies.

Source: [AIR](#)

## Index & Reports

Q.1) With reference to the Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) report 2023-24, consider the following statements:

1. It is a comprehensive management information system designed to collect, validate, and analyze school education data across India.
2. The report indicates a drop in total student enrollment in schools compared to the pre-pandemic period.

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) How does the State of Forest Report (SFR), 2023 define forest cover in India?

- a) All areas with a tree canopy density of at least 10% and a minimum size of 1 hectare, irrespective of ownership or legal status.
- b) Any area with trees, including urban parks and roadside plantations, regardless of canopy density.

- c) All lands with a tree canopy density of at least 30% and an area of 0.5 hectares or more.
- d) Only areas designated as forests by the government, with a minimum tree canopy density of 30%.

Q.3) Which one of the following classifications has India recently receive in the QS World Future Skills Index 2025?

- a) Future skills pioneer
- b) Future skills contender
- c) Future skills practitioner
- d) Future skills aspiring

Q.4) Which one of the following organizations publishes the Global Economic Prospects report?

- a) International Monetary Fund
- b) World Bank
- c) World Economic Forum
- d) United Nations

Q.5) Which off the following are the five sub-indices used in the NITI Aayog's Fiscal Health Index 2025 to evaluate states?

- a) Revenue Deficit, Public Debt, Capital Expenditure, Tax Compliance, and Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) Growth
- b) Quality of Expenditure, Revenue Mobilization, Fiscal Prudence, Debt Index, and Debt Sustainability
- c) Infrastructure Spending, Revenue Collection, Public Services, Debt Ratio, and Fiscal Deficit
- d) Education Spending, Healthcare Allocation, Revenue Surplus, Debt Management, and Taxation

Q.6) The Occupational Shortage Index (OSI) aims to:

- a) Regulate workplace safety and occupational health standards
- b) Rank countries based on employment rates and job security
- c) Monitor wage disparities and employment benefits across industries
- d) Align workforce supply with industry demand to bridge skill gaps

### Answer Key

1 – (c)	2 – (a)	3 – (b)	4 – (b)	5 – (b)	6 – (d)
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### Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) is a robust system developed by the Ministry of Education to collect and analyze school education data across India. It tracks enrolment, infrastructure, teacher availability, and other key indicators, making it one of the largest education databases in the country. The UDISE+ report for 2023-24 shows a significant decline in student enrolment compared to pre-pandemic levels. Total enrolment dropped from around 26 crores in 2018-19 to 24.8 crore in 2023-24, representing a loss of over 1 crore students.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- As per the report, forest cover refers to areas of at least one hectare with a tree canopy density of 10% or more, **regardless of ownership or legal status**. This includes all forests, whether natural or man-made, irrespective of their use or protection status. Whereas, tree cover refers to tree patches **outside designated forest** areas that are less than one hectare in size. It includes scattered trees in rural and urban areas, such as those along roadsides, in parks, or on agricultural lands, which are not part of the forest cover assessment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (B)

- In the inaugural QS World Future Skills Index 2025, India has been classified as a Future Skills Contender. This classification reflects the country's growing readiness to meet the demands of the evolving global job market, particularly in areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), digital technology, and green industries. India ranks 25th overall in the index and excels in the "Future of Work" indicator, securing the second-highest global score, just behind the United States.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Global Economic Prospects (GEP) report is published by the World Bank. It is a flagship report that provides insights into global and regional economic trends, growth forecasts, risks, and policy challenges. The report is widely used for understanding the state of the global economy and its future outlook.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025, introduced by NITI Aayog, is a comprehensive framework designed to evaluate the fiscal performance of 18 major Indian states. According to NITI Aayog's Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025, the five sub-indices used to evaluate the fiscal performance of states are: Quality of Expenditure, Revenue Mobilization, Fiscal Prudence, Debt Index and Debt Sustainability. Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Goa, and Jharkhand emerged as the top-performing achievers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (D)

- The Occupational Shortage Index (OSI) is designed to identify labour market shortages and align job seekers' skills with industry demands. It uses data-driven insights to address skill mismatches and enhance employment outcomes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

## International Relations/Organizations

Q.1) Which one of the following is correct regarding the Torrijos-Carter Treaties?

- a) It established exclusive U.S. control over the Panama Canal.
- b) It granted Panama full sovereignty over the Panama Canal and ensure its neutrality.
- c) It aimed to construct a new canal parallel to the Panama Canal.
- d) It imposed restrictions on the use of the Panama Canal by certain nations.

Q.2) With reference to the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), consider the following statements:

1. It originated as a response to the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami.
2. Exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) is a joint military exercise closely associated with the Quad.

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 the Indo-U.S. Nuclear Agreement, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. It granted India a status similar to Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) signatories without actually signing the treaty.

2. The agreement focused on advancing India's nuclear research facilities for scientific and technological innovation.

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.4) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India and the United States will partnership to co-produce sonobuoys to enhance the Indian Navy's Undersea Domain Awareness (UDA).

Statement-II: The U.S.-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET) is a strategic framework to enhance bilateral cooperation in critical and emerging technologies.

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 regarding the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD):

- 1. It is celebrated on January 9th every year to mark the founding day of the Ministry of External Affairs.
- 2. It is also known as Non-Resident Indian Day.
- 3. The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award is the highest honor conferred on overseas Indians for their significant contributions in various fields.

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.6) SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) initiative aligns with which other Indian foreign policy approaches?

- a) Look East Policy and Project Mausam
- b) Act East Policy and Project Sagarmala
- c) Neighborhood First Policy and Indian Ocean Rim Association
- d) Make in India and Digital India

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The European Council is one of the key institutions of the European Union (EU).
- 2. The European Council is part of the Council of the European Union.
- 3. The European Council represents the interests of individual member states.

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.8) Which one of the following treaties laid the foundation for the 'Tin Bigha Corridor Agreement' between Indian and Bangladesh?

- a) The Ganga Water Treaty
- b) The Land Boundary Agreement

- c) The Indus Waters Treaty
- d) The Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord

Q.9) The purpose of issuing 'Silver Notice' by the Interpol is to:

- a) Trace and recover criminal assets laundered across international borders.
- b) Locate missing persons or identify individuals unable to identify themselves.
- c) Issue an international arrest warrant for fugitives wanted for extradition.
- d) Warn about imminent threats to public safety, such as dangerous objects or events.

Q.10) India and the US recently agreed to co-produce sonobuoys for anti-submarine warfare. This aligns with which of the following initiatives?

- 1. Make in India
- 2. Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (ICET)
- 3. Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India)

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.11) With reference to the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics (UN-CEBD), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a specialized body established by the United Nations Statistical Commission.
- 2. It aims to replace traditional statistical methods with artificial intelligence-based models.
- 3. It emphasizes the use of big data for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.12) Which one of the following correctly explains "China+1" strategy?

- a) A diplomatic initiative by China to collaborate with one additional country for trade agreements.
- b) A Chinese government policy aimed at increasing trade with one specific neighbouring country.
- c) A business strategy where companies diversify their supply chains by adding operations in other countries alongside China.
- d) A global initiative to replace Chinese manufacturing with industries in a single alternative country.

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The India-Indonesia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, established in 2018, has led to increased cooperation in defence and maritime security cooperation.
- 2. Indonesia's strategic importance closely aligns with 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.14) Which one of the following organizations is sometimes also referred to as 'Asia-Pacific NATO'?

- a) ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)
- b) Quad (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue)

- c) APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation)
- d) SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation)

Q.15) With reference to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), consider the following statements:

1. The presidency of the GCC rotates annually among member states.
2. The headquarters of the Gulf Cooperation Council is located in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
3. All members of GCC are monarchies.
4. The Ministerial Council is the highest decision-making body of the GCC.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.16) With reference to the World Economic Forum (WEF), consider the following statements:

1. It seeks to develop policies for international financial markets.
2. Global Risk Report is published by the WEF.

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 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), consider the following statements:

1. Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej were allocated to India under the treaty.
2. Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) was established for bilateral cooperation under the treaty.
3. It gives the upper riparian state a larger share of water.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.18) Consider the following statements regarding the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC):

1. It will feature undersea digital communication cables to enhance connectivity.
2. It is seen as an alternative to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
3. The Port of Piraeus plays a crucial role in the operations and success of the IMEC.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.19) With reference to SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) initiative, consider the following statements:

1. It promotes collective action among Indian Ocean Region littoral states to address shared challenges.
2. It includes fostering partnerships with extra-regional powers like the USA and Japan to ensure freedom of navigation.
3. It has led to the creation of a formalized regional maritime security framework.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two

- c) All three
- d) None

Q.20) Which one of the following organizations has allocated India a site in the Central Indian Ocean Basin for resource exploration under the Deep Ocean Mission (DOM)?

- a) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- b) World Maritime Organization (WMO)
- c) International Seabed Authority (ISA)
- d) Global Oceanic Research Council (GORC)

Q.21) Which one of the following is NOT a founding member of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)?

- a) Indonesia
- b) Malaysia
- c) Vietnam
- d) Singapore

Q.22) Consider the following statements regarding the World Health Organization (WHO):

1. It is a specialized UN agency.
2. Its headquarters is located in New York, USA.
3. The United States leads as the major contributor to the WHO's funding.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.23) 'Exercise Samudra Shakti' is a bilateral naval exercise between:

- a) India and Sri Lanka
- b) India and Indonesia
- c) India and Malaysia
- d) India and Singapore

Q.24) Consider the following statements regarding the Raisina Dialogue:

1. It is India's flagship annual conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics.
2. It is seen as an initiative that seeks to improve diplomatic relations between India and China.

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

### Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Torrijos-Carter Treaties, signed in 1977 by U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos, were two agreements that marked a significant shift in control over the Panama Canal:
- 1. **Panama Canal Treaty:** This treaty provided for the gradual transfer of control over the Panama Canal from the United States to Panama. The process began in 1979 and culminated in full Panamanian sovereignty over the canal on December 31, 1999.
- 2. **Neutrality Treaty:** This treaty guaranteed that the canal would remain neutral and open to ships of all nations, even after Panama assumed control. It also allowed the United States to defend the canal if its neutrality was threatened.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

- 2. Correct Answer is (A)
- Statement 1 is correct. The Quad originated as a coordination mechanism among India, the U.S., Japan, and Australia to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief following the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. This initial collaboration laid the foundation for the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad).
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Exercise Malabar is a joint military exercise closely associated with the Quad. While it is not officially conducted under the Quad framework, it involves all four Quad nations—India, the United States, Japan, and Australia.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

- 3. Correct Answer is (A)
- Statement 1 is correct. The agreement effectively normalized India's status as a de facto nuclear weapon state outside the NPT. While India did not sign the NPT, the deal allowed India to access nuclear technology and engage in international nuclear trade, similar to NPT-recognized nuclear-weapon states, without binding it to the treaty's disarmament obligations.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The primary focus of the agreement was on enabling civil nuclear cooperation between India and the U.S., particularly for energy generation. It aimed to address India's growing energy needs by facilitating access to nuclear fuel, reactors, and technology for civilian purposes. Advancing research facilities was not a central objective of the deal.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

- 4. Correct Answer is (A)
- Statement-I is correct. India and the United States are collaborating to co-produce sonobuoys to enhance the Indian Navy's Undersea Domain Awareness (UDA). This partnership involves U.S.-based Ultra Maritime and India's Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL).
- Statement-II is correct. The U.S.-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET) is a strategic framework launched to enhance bilateral cooperation in critical and emerging technologies, including defense technologies like sonobuoys.
- Hence, the co-production of sonobuoys aligns with the objectives of iCET, which aims to deepen collaboration in advanced defense technologies. Therefore, Statement-II provides the correct explanation for Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

- 5. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statement 1 is incorrect. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated on January 9th to commemorate the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India in 1915. Ministry of External Affairs is primarily responsible for organizing the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is referred to as Non-Resident Indian Day. The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA) is the highest honor given to NRIs, PIOs, or organizations established by them for outstanding contributions in diverse fields.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

- 6. Correct Answer is (C)

- SAGAR initiative focuses on enhancing maritime security, economic growth, and cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). It complements the Neighborhood First Policy, which emphasizes strengthening ties with India's immediate neighbors. It aligns with India's active engagement in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), a regional initiative promoting sustainable development in the IOR.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (D)
- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The European Council is a core institution of the EU. It defines the EU's overall political direction and priorities but does not have legislative powers. The European Council represents national interests at the highest political level, as it is composed of heads of state or government who advocate for their respective countries' positions.
  - Statement 2 is incorrect. The European Council focuses on broad policy directions and resolving high-level issues. The Council of the European Union deals with specific policy areas and legislation alongside the European Parliament. The European Council does not have legislative powers whereas the Council of the European Union is part of the legislative process. Both are distinct entities.

Source: [AIR](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)
- The Tin Bigha Corridor Agreement was rooted in the 1974 Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) signed between Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. This agreement aimed to resolve border disputes, including the exchange of enclaves and adverse possessions. Under the LBA: Bangladesh retained the Dahagram-Angarpota enclaves. India agreed to lease the Tin Bigha Corridor (a narrow strip of Indian land) to Bangladesh, providing connectivity to these enclaves.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (A)
- The Silver Notice is a tool introduced by Interpol to trace and locate illicit assets that have been laundered across international borders. It focuses on identifying and recovering criminal proceeds, such as money or properties, hidden in foreign jurisdictions. It is being seen as an alternate to Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLATs).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (D)
- The co-production of sonobuoys between India and the U.S. aligns with the following initiatives:
  - **Make in India:** The project supports India's "Make in India" initiative by promoting domestic manufacturing of defense equipment and reducing reliance on imports. The final assembly of sonobuoys will take place in India, ensuring technology transfer and boosting local production capabilities.
  - **Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (ICET):** This collaboration is part of the broader U.S.-India ICET framework launched in 2022, which focuses on advancing high-end technologies like defense systems, semiconductors, and artificial intelligence. The sonobuoy project reflects this initiative's goals of fostering innovation and industrial cooperation between the two nations.
  - **Atmanirbhar Bharat:** The project aligns with India's vision of "Atmanirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India) by strengthening the domestic defense manufacturing ecosystem and enhancing India's technological self-reliance in critical sectors like anti-submarine warfare.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The UN-CEBD was established by the United Nations Statistical Commission to explore and promote the use of Big Data and data science in official statistics

globally. One of the key objectives of the UN-CEBD is to leverage Big Data and data science to monitor and report on progress toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by providing timely and actionable insights.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The UN-CEBD does not aim to replace traditional statistical methods but rather to complement and enhance them using Big Data, data science, and technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI). India has recently joined the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics (UN-CEBD).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)

- The "China+1" strategy refers to a business approach adopted by companies to reduce their over-reliance on China for manufacturing and supply chain activities. This involves diversifying operations by establishing production or sourcing facilities in other countries while maintaining some presence in China. The strategy aims to mitigate risks such as geopolitical tensions, rising labour costs, and supply chain disruptions.

Source: [DD News](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. India and Indonesia elevated their bilateral ties to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in May 2018. This partnership has significantly enhanced cooperation in defense and maritime security, including joint naval exercises like Samudra Shakti, coordinated patrols, and agreements on maritime security. Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto's will visit to India as the chief guest for the 76th Republic Day celebrations on January 26, 2025.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Indonesia is not part of India's immediate neighbourhood, which is the focus of the Neighbourhood First Policy. Instead, Indonesia is a key partner under India's Act East Policy and its Indo-Pacific strategy, aimed at strengthening ties with Southeast Asian nations and countering China's influence.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Quad (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue), comprising the United States, India, Japan, and Australia, is sometimes referred to as the "Asia-Pacific NATO." This term arises from its perceived role in counterbalancing China's influence in the Indo-Pacific region and its focus on security cooperation. While the Quad is not a formal military alliance like NATO, its strategic objectives and joint military exercises, such as the Malabar naval exercises, have drawn comparisons to NATO.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The presidency of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) rotates annually in alphabetical order among its six member states (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE). The GCC headquarters is located in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. All six GCC member states are monarchies, including three constitutional monarchies (Qatar, Kuwait, and Bahrain), two absolute monarchies (Saudi Arabia and Oman), and one federal monarchy (UAE).
- Statement 4 is incorrect. The Supreme Council, composed of the heads of state of the member countries, is the highest decision-making body of the GCC.

Source: [AIR](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The WEF is primarily an international organization for public-private cooperation that engages leaders from various sectors to shape global, regional, and industry agendas. While it addresses issues related to global financial systems and provides platforms for discussions, it does not directly develop policies for international financial markets.

- Statement 2 is correct. The Global Risks Report is an annual publication by the World Economic Forum that highlights key global risks across economic, environmental, societal, technological, and geopolitical domains.

Source: [AIR](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The IWT allocates the three eastern rivers—Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej—for India's unrestricted use, while Pakistan gets control over the three western rivers—Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab. The treaty established the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) as a bilateral mechanism to facilitate cooperation, resolve disputes, and oversee treaty implementation.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The treaty allocates about 80% of the total water from the Indus River system to Pakistan (the lower riparian state) and only 20% to India (the upper riparian state). This makes it one of the most generous water-sharing agreements favoring a lower riparian state.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The IMEC includes plans for undersea digital communication cables as part of its infrastructure to improve global connectivity and facilitate secure data exchange between regions. IMEC is widely regarded as a counter to China's BRI, offering a transparent and sustainable alternative for global trade and connectivity, aligning with democratic values and avoiding debt traps. The Port of Piraeus in Greece, one of the largest ports in Eastern Europe, is a key European node in the IMEC. It will handle cargo transported from Haifa port in Israel and further connect to other parts of Europe.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. SAGAR primarily focuses on regional cooperation and promotes collective action among littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) to address challenges such as maritime security, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable economic growth.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. SAGAR emphasizes cooperation among Indian Ocean littoral states and focuses on regional collaboration. While India engages with extra-regional powers like the USA and Japan to uphold freedom of navigation, this is done through separate frameworks like the Quad, not as part of SAGAR. SAGAR has not resulted in a formalized regional maritime security framework. Instead, it has enhanced bilateral and multilateral cooperation among IOR states, focusing on capacity building and mutual assistance without creating a structured framework.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (C)

- The International Seabed Authority (ISA) has allocated India a site in the Central Indian Ocean Basin for resource exploration under the Deep Ocean Mission (DOM). Specifically, India holds a contract with the ISA for the exploration of polymetallic nodules in this region. The ISA is an autonomous international organization established under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). It is responsible for regulating mineral-related activities in the international seabed area beyond national jurisdiction, ensuring that such activities are conducted for the benefit of mankind as a whole.

Source: [DD News](#)

21. Correct Answer is (C)

- The founding members of ASEAN were: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. These five countries signed the ASEAN Declaration (also known as the Bangkok Declaration) on August 8, 1967, establishing the organization. Vietnam joined ASEAN later.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations, established in 1948, responsible for international public health. The United States has historically been the largest contributor to WHO's funding, providing significant assessed and voluntary contributions.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The headquarters of the WHO is located in Geneva, Switzerland.

Source: [DD News](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- Exercise Samudra Shakti is a bilateral naval exercise between India and Indonesia, established in 2018 under India's Act East Policy. It aims to enhance interoperability, mutual cooperation, and maritime security between the two navies.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Raisina Dialogue is India's flagship annual conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics. It brings together global leaders, policymakers, and experts to discuss pressing international challenges and opportunities.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Raisina Dialogue is not specifically focused on improving diplomatic relations between India and China. While China is often discussed in the context of global geopolitics, the Dialogue addresses a wide range of international issues and is not aimed at bilateral relations between India and China.

Source: [AIR](#)

## Economy

Q.1) With reference to the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), consider the following statements:

1. It enables seamless real-time peer-to-peer and person-to-merchant payments.
2. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has developed the UPI system in India.
3. One-Time Password (OTP) sent via SMS is the primary authentication method for UPI transactions.
4. The Virtual Payment Address (VPA) in UPI replaces the requirement of a UPI PIN.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements with respect to the Non-Performing Asset (NPA):

1. A high Gross NPA ratio indicates poor asset quality and increased credit risk.
2. Doubtful assets are loans classified as NPAs for less than 12 months.

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

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

Q.3) The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) primarily measures which one of the following?

- a) The level of consumer confidence in the economy.
- b) The performance of the stock market.
- c) The health of the manufacturing and services sectors.
- d) Government spending trends.

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

- 1. A cyclical economic slowdown refers to a temporary decline in economic activity caused by natural fluctuations in the business cycle.
- 2. The central bank raises interest rates to curb inflation and tackle the cyclical downturn in the 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.5) Consider the following pairs:

Bays-----Development Project

- 1. Galathea Bay----- National Park
- 2. Campbell Bay----- International Container Transshipment Port
- 3. Atlanta Bay----- Bulk Cargo Transshipment Hub

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.6) Consider the following statements:

- 1. If demand for a currency rises while its supply remains constant, its value depreciates.
- 2. A tighter monetary policy leads to the appreciation of the currency.
- 3. Higher inflation in India reduces the value of the rupee against the dollar.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.7) Which of the following food grains are primarily distributed under the Public Distribution System (PDS) in India?

- a) Rice, wheat, and pulses
- b) Wheat, rice, and sugar
- c) Rice, wheat, and coarse grains
- d) Wheat, sugar, and edible oil

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) purchases gold as a hedge against inflation and to reduce foreign currency risks.
- 2. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) uses its gold reserves to manage foreign currency risks by using gold to repay foreign debt.

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. India uses the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) as GDP deflator.
- 2. The GDP deflator is based on consumer spending, while the Consumer Price Index (CPI) includes business investments.

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

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

Q.10) Which one of the following steps might the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) take to stabilize the rupee when it is depreciating rapidly?

- a) Sell US dollars in the forex market
- b) Buy US dollars in the forex market
- c) Increase repo rates
- d) Lower statutory liquidity ratio (SLR)

Q.11) Which of the following factors have contributed to the recent fall of the Indian Rupee against the US Dollar?

- 1. Decrease in US interest rates
- 2. Increase in global oil prices
- 3. Reduction in India's export demand
- 4. Strengthening US Dollar

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.12) Which of the following forms the part of Direct Taxes?

- 1. Income Tax
- 2. Goods and Services Tax (GST)
- 3. Corporate Tax
- 4. Customs Duty

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.13) Which one of the following policy measures is most likely to reduce a persistent trade deficit?

- a) Lowering import duties
- b) Promoting export-oriented industries
- c) Increasing foreign investment in domestic markets
- d) Raising interest rates to control inflation

Q.14) With reference to the Nominal Effective Exchange Rate (NEER) and Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER), which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. NEER reflects the relative price of domestic goods compared to foreign goods, accounting for inflation.

2. A decrease in a country's NEER alongside an increase in its REER suggests that rising domestic inflation is counteracting the benefit of currency depreciation.

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.15) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Special Non-resident Rupee Accounts (SNRR) accounts are used for domestic trade, whereas Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVA) accounts are used for foreign investments.
- 2. The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) approval is required for opening both SNRR and SRVA accounts.

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

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

Q.16) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The nominal exchange rate is the price of one unit of foreign currency in terms of domestic currency.
- 2. Fixed exchange rate is determined entirely by market forces without central bank intervention.
- 3. When demand for foreign currency rises, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lets the rupee depreciates and sells foreign reserves.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.17) In the context of government cash flow management, the Just-in-Time (JIT) mechanism refers to:

- a) Maximizing cash reserves by delaying payments.
- b) Ensuring funds are released only when required.
- c) Increasing fiscal surplus by cutting down on planned expenditures.
- d) Enhancing liquidity by borrowing funds in advance.

Q.18) White goods, seen in the news recently, refers to:

- a) Large household appliances such as refrigerators, and air conditioners.
- b) Precious metals like silver and platinum used in industrial applications.
- c) Textiles and garments traditionally made of white fabric.
- d) Consumer electronics like smartphones, laptops, and tablets.

Q.19) Principal Purpose Test (PPT) was seen in the news recently for:

- a) Determining the primary purpose of foreign investments in India's real estate sector.
- b) Resolving disputes related to transfer pricing in multinational corporations.
- c) Assessing the environmental impact of large infrastructure projects.
- d) Preventing the misuse of tax treaties for tax avoidance and treaty shopping.

Q.20) Grey market trading refers to:

- a) Trading of shares on stock exchanges after their official listing.
- b) Illegal trading of counterfeit shares in the securities market.
- c) Trading of commodities like gold and silver outside government-regulated markets.
- d) Unofficial and unregulated trading of shares before they are officially listed on a stock exchange.

Q.21) Which one of the following organizations is responsible for implementing the Aadhaar-Based Payment System?

- a) Reserve Bank of India
- b) State Bank of India
- c) National Payments Corporation of India
- d) Ministry of Finance

Q.22) Which one of the following is the primary reason behind a decline in forex reserves during periods of rupee depreciation?

- a) Outflow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
- b) Increase in remittances from abroad
- c) Rising global crude oil prices
- d) RBI's intervention in the forex market

Q.23) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) uses \$2.15/day as an international poverty line.
- 2. In India, poverty is assessed by calculating the expenditure required to sustain a minimum calorie intake.
- 3. Bank accounts and maternal health are two exclusive indicators used in calculating India's Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.24) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) regulates Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).
- 2. Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) are classified as standard assets if they remain unpaid for more than 90 days.

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 regarding the Chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):

- 1. The SEBI Chairman holds office for a maximum period of 5 years from the date of assumption of charge.
- 2. The President of India appoints the chairperson of SEBI.
- 3. SEBI Board of Directors is responsible for recommending candidates for the SEBI chairperson position.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.26) In how many of the following ways does the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) inject liquidity into the banking system?

- 1. Open Market Operations
- 2. Repo Transactions
- 3. Reduction in the Cash Reserve Ratio
- 4. Increase in the Statutory Liquidity Ratio
- 5. Reverse Repo Transactions

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.27) Which one of the following correctly explains the 'Farm to Consumer Model', seen in the news recently?

- a) It is a model that allows farmers to sell their produce directly to consumers, ensuring better profits for farmers.
- b) It focuses on increasing agricultural exports by connecting farmers with international buyers through government channels.
- c) It is a government initiative to promote organic farming by providing subsidies to farmers for adopting sustainable practices.
- d) It involves creating a centralized marketplace where farmers sell their produce only through state-run procurement agencies.

Q.28) Which one of the following organizations is responsible for developing the organic fisheries cluster in Sikkim?

- a) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare
- b) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- c) National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB)
- d) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

### Answer Key

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

### Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. UPI allows instant real-time payments for both peer-to-peer (P2P) and person-to-merchant (P2M) transactions, making it a widely used payment system in India. The UPI system was developed by the NPCI under the guidance of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and launched in 2016.
- Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect. While OTP is used during initial registration or linking of a bank account, UPI transactions are primarily authenticated using a UPI PIN, which is set by users during registration. The VPA is a unique identifier used to send or receive money without sharing bank details, but it does not replace the UPI PIN, which is required for transaction authentication.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. A high Gross NPA (GNPA) ratio reflects a large proportion of loans that have become non-performing, indicating poor asset quality and higher credit risk for the bank.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Doubtful assets are those that remain in the substandard category for over 12 months. Loans classified as NPAs for less than 12 months are termed substandard assets.

Source: [DD News](#)

3. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) is a survey-based economic indicator that measures the health and performance of the manufacturing and services sectors. It provides insights into business conditions by evaluating key factors such as production levels, new orders, employment, supplier deliveries, and inventory levels. A PMI reading above 50 indicates expansion, while a reading below 50 signals contraction.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. A cyclical economic slowdown occurs due to regular ups and downs in the business cycle, such as changes in demand, investment, or production. These slowdowns are temporary and typically follow periods of expansion.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While central banks raise interest rates to curb inflation, doing so during a cyclical downturn would worsen the slowdown. Higher interest rates increase borrowing costs, reducing consumer spending and investment, which could deepen the economic contraction. Instead, during a cyclical downturn, central banks often lower interest rates to stimulate demand and encourage borrowing and investment.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Galathea Bay:** It is part of the Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve and a key site for the International Container Transshipment Port, not a National Park.
- **Campbell Bay:** It is not associated with an International Container Transshipment Port. Instead, it serves as the administrative headquarters of Great Nicobar Island and hosts INS Baaz, a key naval airbase. The transshipment port is planned at Galathea Bay, not Campbell Bay.
- **Atlanta Bay:** Atlanta Bay, located in North Andaman near Diglipur, is being considered for a Bulk Cargo Transshipment Hub.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. If the demand for a currency rises while its supply remains constant, its value appreciates, not depreciates. Increased demand leads to higher value in any market-driven system.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. A tighter monetary policy (e.g., higher interest rates) reduces the supply of money in the market and attracts foreign investments, increasing demand for the currency and leading to its appreciation. Higher inflation in India compared to the U.S. makes Indian goods and services less competitive globally, reducing demand for the rupee and causing its depreciation against the dollar.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Public Distribution System (PDS) in India primarily distributes rice, wheat, and coarse grains to ensure food security for the poor and vulnerable sections of society. Other items like sugar, edible oil, or pulses may be distributed under state-specific or supplementary schemes but are not the primary focus of PDS.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The RBI has been purchasing gold as part of its strategy to hedge against inflation and reduce foreign currency risks, especially during times of geopolitical and economic uncertainty.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. The RBI does not use its gold reserves to repay foreign debt. Gold is used as a store of value and a hedge against currency risks. The RBI's foreign exchange reserves are generally used for managing currency and stabilizing the Indian Rupee.

Source: [DD News](#)

9. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. India does not use only the WPI as the GDP deflator. Instead, the GDP deflator is a weighted average of WPI and CPI. While WPI has a larger influence on the GDP deflator, it is not the sole component. The GDP deflator reflects price changes for all goods and services produced domestically, including business investments, government spending, and exports, but excludes imports. The CPI, on the other hand, focuses only on consumer spending and measures the price changes of a fixed basket of goods and services purchased by households.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (A)

- When the rupee is depreciating rapidly, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) can intervene in the foreign exchange market by selling US dollars from its foreign exchange reserves. This increases the supply of dollars in the market, stabilizing the rupee by reducing its depreciation pressure.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Increase in global oil prices:** Rising crude oil prices have increased India's import bill, widened the trade deficit and put pressure on the rupee.
- **Strengthening US Dollar:** The US dollar has strengthened due to robust economic data, higher interest rates, and increased demand for safe-haven assets, making other currencies, including the rupee, weaker in comparison.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (D)

- Income Tax and Corporate Tax are direct taxes because they are paid directly by individuals or corporations to the government based on their income or profits. Whereas, Goods and Services Tax (GST) and Customs Duty are indirect taxes, as they are collected by intermediaries (like sellers or importers) and passed on to the government.

Source: [DD News](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Promoting export-oriented industries aligns with supply-side policies that aim to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of domestic industries. By improving the quality and price competitiveness of exports, such policies increase demand for domestic goods in international markets, thereby boosting exports and narrowing the trade deficit.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. NEER does not account for inflation. It is a weighted average of a country's nominal exchange rate relative to its trade partners' currencies. NEER reflects only the nominal value of the exchange rate and does not adjust for price levels or inflation. REER (Real Effective Exchange Rate) is like NEER but adjusts for inflation. It shows if Indian goods are becoming cheaper or costlier compared to foreign goods.
- Statement 2 is correct. A decrease in NEER (nominal depreciation) alongside an increase in REER (real appreciation) indicates that domestic inflation is rising faster than in trade partner countries, offsetting the benefits of currency depreciation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. SNRR accounts are designed for non-residents to facilitate cross-border INR-denominated transactions, including trade with India, foreign investments (like FDI), and external commercial borrowings (ECBs). They are not limited to domestic trade. SRVA accounts are specifically meant for international trade settlements in INR between India and partner countries under bilateral agreements. They are not used for foreign investments. RBI approval is not required to open an SNRR account; these accounts can be opened directly with Authorized Dealer (AD) banks in India. RBI approval is required to open SRVA accounts, as they are part of specific trade agreements between India and foreign partner countries.

Source: [AIR](#)

16. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The nominal exchange rate reflects how much domestic currency is required to purchase one unit of foreign currency. It is not adjusted for inflation or price levels. Under India's managed-floating exchange rate regime, the RBI often allows partial depreciation of the rupee while selling foreign reserves to stabilize excessive volatility in the foreign exchange market.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. A fixed exchange rate is maintained by the central bank, which intervenes in the foreign exchange market to keep the currency's value stable at a predetermined level. Exchange rates determined entirely by market forces, without central bank intervention, are characteristic of a floating exchange rate regime, not a fixed one.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (B)

- In the context of government cash flow management, the Just-in-Time (JIT) mechanism ensures that funds are disbursed or released only at the point when they are needed for expenditure. This minimizes idle cash balances, optimizes resource utilization, and prevents funds from sitting unused in accounts. It is a strategy to improve efficiency in public financial management.

Source: [DD News](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- White goods primarily refer to large household appliances used for domestic purposes, such as cooking, cleaning, and food preservation. These include items like refrigerators, washing machines, dishwashers, stoves, and air conditioners. The Indian government has introduced initiatives like the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme to boost the manufacturing of white goods domestically.

Source: [AIR](#)

19. Correct Answer is (D)

- The PPT is an anti-abuse measure introduced in tax treaties under the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) framework to prevent treaty misuse. It denies treaty benefits if the primary purpose of a transaction is tax avoidance rather than genuine commercial reasons.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

20. Correct Answer is (D)

- The grey market operates outside the official channels of stock exchanges, allowing for the trading of shares before they are officially listed. This type of trading is unofficial and unregulated, meaning it doesn't fall under the purview of standard market regulations. Despite its unofficial status, grey market trading is not considered illegal.

Source: [AIR](#)

21. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Aadhaar-Based Payment System (ABPS) is implemented by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). NPCI is responsible for developing and managing payment systems in India, including ABPS, which facilitates Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) using Aadhaar as a financial address. It ensures seamless electronic payments to beneficiaries' Aadhaar-linked bank accounts. NPCI also oversees other Aadhaar-enabled payment systems like AEPS and Aadhaar Pay.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (D)

- The primary reason behind a decline in India's forex reserves during periods of rupee depreciation is the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s intervention in the forex market. To stabilize the rupee and curb excessive volatility, the RBI sells dollars from its foreign exchange reserves. This reduces the reserves but helps prevent a sharp depreciation of the rupee.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The international poverty line is currently set at \$2.15 per day, based on 2017 purchasing power parity (PPP). This benchmark is utilized by organizations like the UNDP to assess extreme poverty globally. India's MPI includes 12 indicators, two of which—bank accounts and maternal health—are additions to the 10 indicators in the global MPI, reflecting India's national priorities.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While earlier poverty assessments in India were based on calorie intake (e.g., 2,400 calories for rural and 2,100 for urban areas), modern methods like those of the Tendulkar and Rangarajan Committees have shifted to broader criteria, including essential goods and services, not just calorie intake.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The RBI is the primary regulatory authority overseeing NBFCs in India, ensuring they operate within the established financial guidelines and maintain systemic stability.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. NPAs are loans or advances where interest or principal payments have been overdue for more than 90 days. Such assets are classified into categories like substandard, doubtful, or loss assets, depending on the duration of non-payment and the asset's quality. Standard assets are those that continue to generate regular income and are not overdue.

Source: [DD News](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. According to the SEBI Act and government rules, the SEBI Chairperson can hold office for a term not exceeding 5 years or until they reach the age of 65, whichever is earlier.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The SEBI Chairperson is appointed by the Union Government, specifically based on recommendations from the Financial Sector Regulatory Appointments Search Committee (FSRASC). The recommendation for the SEBI Chairperson is made by the FSRASC, which includes members such as the Cabinet Secretary and other senior officials.

Source: [DD News](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- **Open Market Operations (OMO):** The RBI injects liquidity by purchasing government securities in the open market, providing cash to banks in exchange for these securities. This is a common tool used by the RBI to manage liquidity deficits.

- **Repo Transactions:** Under the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF), the RBI provides short-term funds to banks through repo transactions, where banks borrow money by pledging government securities as collateral.
- **Reduction in the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR):** When the RBI reduces the CRR, banks are required to keep a smaller portion of their deposits with the RBI, freeing up funds for lending and injecting liquidity into the system.
- **Increase in the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR):** Increasing the SLR requires banks to hold a higher proportion of their net demand and time liabilities (NDTL) in government-approved securities, which reduces liquidity in the system rather than injecting it.
- **Reverse Repo Transactions:** Reverse repo transactions are used by the RBI to absorb excess liquidity from the banking system, as banks park their surplus funds with the RBI in exchange for interest.

Source: [AIR](#)

27. Correct Answer is (A)

- The "Farm to Consumer Model" aims to reduce the role of intermediaries, allowing farmers to sell directly to consumers, thereby ensuring better profit margins for farmers and more affordable prices for consumers.

Source: [AIR](#)

28. Correct Answer is (C)

- The National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, is responsible for developing the organic fisheries cluster in Soreng District, Sikkim. This initiative falls under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and focuses on promoting sustainable aquaculture practices, avoiding harmful chemicals, and supporting eco-friendly fish farming systems. In Sikkim, the Soreng district has started producing organic fish, becoming the country's first organic fisheries cluster.

Source: [AIR](#)

## Environment

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. Incineration is a biological process in which waste materials are decomposed in a factory.
2. Incineration can be used to generate energy.

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 groundwater pollutants is associated with the use of fertilizers in farming?

- a) Nitrates
- b) Fluoride
- c) Uranium
- d) Lead

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. The Paris Agreement (2015) binds developed countries to mobilize finance for developing nations.
2. New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG) is a fund dedicated exclusively for renewable energy projects in developed 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.4) Consider the following statements regarding the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS):

1. It is a high-speed rail-based commuter transit initiative designed to connect major cities within India.
2. It operates on shared tracks with freight trains.
3. It aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through decreased private vehicle usage.

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.5) Sikkim recently celebrated the launch of India's first organic fisheries cluster, marking a significant step forward. In this context, 'organic fisheries' refers to:

- a) The breeding of fish in artificial ponds using chemical feed supplements to boost growth.
- b) The farming of fish and other aquatic organisms in natural water bodies without the use of synthetic chemicals or artificial feed.
- c) The cultivation of fish using genetically modified organisms (GMOs) to improve yield.
- d) A traditional fishing technique that involves using only hand-made nets and boats.

Q.6) Considering the different types of hydrogen, how many of the following are generated from fossil fuels?

1. Grey Hydrogen
2. Blue Hydrogen
3. Green Hydrogen
4. Black Hydrogen

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.7) Consider the following:

1. Greenhouse Gas Emissions
2. Ozone Hole in the Stratosphere
3. El Niño
4. Deforestation
5. Earth's Orbital Changes

How many of the above factors are responsible for influencing the current climate change?

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

Q.8) With reference to Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary, consider the following statements:

1. It is located in Nagaland.
2. It houses India's only ape species.
3. It is the largest sanctuary in Northeast India.

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

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

Q.9) Sada is a type of flat, rocky terrain found in the Konkan region of Maharashtra. Which one of the following types of bio-diversities is found in the region?

- a) Dense evergreen forests with tall trees
- b) Mangrove ecosystems adapted to saline conditions
- c) Species adapted to arid and nutrient-poor environments
- d) Extensive aquatic biodiversity in freshwater lakes

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the African tigerfish:

- 1. It is an apex predator in its ecosystem.
- 2. Amazon River basin is a common habitat for African tigerfish.
- 3. It is the first fish to be recorded attacking and catching birds in flight.
- 4. According to the IUCN Red List, African tigerfish are Endangered.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.11) The restoration efforts by state officials at Pallikaranai Marshland and Vettangudi Bird Sanctuary have recently led to a significant rise in the number of migratory birds visiting these locations. They are situated in:

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Karnataka

Q.12) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Spotted deer is endemic to the Western Ghats.
- 2. Spotted deer can be found in Nagarhole Tiger Reserve.

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

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Green hydrogen is a clean and sustainable form of energy produced by splitting water molecules using renewable electricity.
- 2. Currently, green hydrogen is more expensive to produce than grey hydrogen.
- 3. Nitrogen is the main byproduct of green hydrogen production through electrolysis.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.14) Consider the following statements:

- 1. When a species becomes extinct, it can endanger the entire ecosystem.
- 2. Biodiversity refers to the number of plant species in an ecosystem.
- 3. Pollination is an ecosystem service which is primarily responsible for regulating global climate.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.15) With reference to Indian grey wolf, consider the following statements:

1. It is found in high altitude of the Himalayan regions.
2. It is a keystone predator in its ecosystem.
3. It is listed under Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.16) Which one of the following environmental conditions promotes rapid growth of water hyacinth?

- a) Nutrient-rich water
- b) Cold water bodies
- c) Fast-flowing streams
- d) Saline water

Q.17) Consider the following statements:

1. Flamingo festival celebrated in Andhra Pradesh.
2. Vembanad Lake is closely associated with the Flamingo festival.

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

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

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

1. Bioethanol is a renewable fuel derived from the fermentation of carbohydrates in crops.
2. Algae are commonly used for bioethanol 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.19) Which of the following best defines Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) innovation?

- a) The use of advanced technologies for water recycling in factories
- b) The development of global sanitation policies
- c) A focus on increasing water tariffs to reduce wastage
- d) Novel approaches to improve access to water, sanitation, and hygiene

Q.20) Consider the following statements:

1. Sundarbans is the world's largest mangrove forest in the Ganges Delta.
2. The Sundarbans ecosystem has only aquatic species due to frequent flooding.

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

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

Q.21) Consider the following statements regarding the Wetland City Accreditation program:

1. It designates cities with the highest number of wetlands globally.
2. The city must have at least three artificial wetlands to qualify as a Wetland Accredited City.
3. The Ramsar Convention Secretariat manages the Wetland City Accreditation program.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.22) Which of the following statements about the Corpse Flower are correct?

1. It undergoes photosynthesis through its flowers instead of leaves.
2. It emits a foul odour resembling rotting flesh to attract carrion insects for pollination.
3. It is native to the Amazon rainforest.
4. It generates heat during blooming.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.23) With reference to the Arittapatti Biodiversity Heritage Site, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It is a tropical rainforest with high-endemic flora and fauna.
2. It is the first Biodiversity Heritage Site in Tamil Nadu.
3. The Anaikondan tank, built during the Pandya dynasty, is present at the site.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.24) Which one of the following is a major economic benefit of the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme?

- a) Increased vehicle sales
- b) Higher tax revenue
- c) Foreign exchange savings
- d) Reduced vehicle maintenance

### Answer Key

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

### Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (B)
  - Statement 1 is incorrect. Incineration is not a biological process; it is a thermal process where waste is burned at high temperatures to reduce it to ash, gases, and heat. It involves combustion, not biological decomposition.

- Statement 2 is correct. The heat produced during incineration can be used to generate steam, which can drive turbines to produce electricity. This is a common practice in waste-to-energy plants.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (A)

- Nitrates are commonly associated with the use of fertilizers in farming. Synthetic nitrogenous fertilizers, manure, and agricultural runoff contribute significantly to nitrate contamination in groundwater. Excessive nitrates can leach into the soil and contaminate groundwater.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Article 9 of the Paris Agreement explicitly states that developed countries are obligated to provide financial resources to assist developing countries in their climate mitigation and adaptation efforts.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The NCQG is not a fund for developed nations but rather a new financial target aimed at supporting climate action in developing countries. It seeks to address their needs for mitigation, adaptation, and resilience-building, replacing the \$100 billion target with a more ambitious goal.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) is a semi-high-speed rail network designed specifically for the National Capital Region (NCR), connecting smaller towns and suburbs to major cities like Delhi, Ghaziabad, and Meerut. The RRTS operates on dedicated tracks, separate from freight or traditional railway lines, ensuring uninterrupted and efficient high-speed commuter services.
- Statement 3 is correct. One of the key goals of the RRTS is to encourage public transport usage by providing a fast and reliable alternative to private vehicles, thereby reducing traffic congestion, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

5. Correct Answer is (B)

- Organic fisheries or aquaculture refers to the farming of aquatic species like fish and shrimp using sustainable practices. This involves avoiding synthetic chemicals, antibiotics, pesticides, and genetically modified organisms (GMOs), as well as using natural or certified organic feed.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (C)

- Grey Hydrogen, Blue Hydrogen, and Black Hydrogen are generated from fossil fuels. Green Hydrogen is not generated from fossil fuels. According to McKinsey's Global Energy Perspective 2023, nearly all currently used hydrogen is grey.

Source: [DD News](#)

7. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** Emissions of gases like carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) trap heat in the atmosphere, causing global warming and climate change.
- **Ozone Hole in the Stratosphere:** The ozone hole primarily affects ultraviolet radiation levels and is not a significant driver of climate change. It is an environmental issue but unrelated to global warming.
- **El Niño:** El Niño is a natural climate phenomenon that temporarily influences global temperatures and weather patterns but is not a cause of long-term climate change.
- **Deforestation:** Cutting down forests reduces the Earth's capacity to absorb CO<sub>2</sub>, contributing significantly to greenhouse gas accumulation and climate change.

- **Earth's Orbital Changes:** Orbital changes, known as Milankovitch cycles, influence Earth's climate over tens of thousands of years but are not responsible for the rapid, human-induced climate change observed today.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in the Jorhat district of Assam. The Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary covers an area of only 20.98 square kilometers, making it relatively small compared to other sanctuaries in Northeast India, such as Kaziranga National Park or Namdapha National Park.
  - Statement 2 is correct. The sanctuary is home to the Hoolock gibbons, which are India's only ape species. It also harbours Northeastern India's only nocturnal primate, the Bengal slow loris.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (C)
- The Sada in the Konkan region of Maharashtra is a type of flat, rocky terrain with lateritic plateaus. These areas are characterized by unique biodiversity, including species that are adapted to arid and nutrient-poor conditions due to the rocky and barren nature of the terrain for most of the year. During the monsoon, these areas transform and support endemic flora and fauna. The area also hosts ancient geoglyphs (rock art) estimated to be around 10,000 years old.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The African tigerfish (*Hydrocynus vittatus*) is a top predator in its freshwater ecosystems, playing a crucial role in regulating populations of smaller fish and maintaining ecological balance. The African tigerfish has been documented as the first fish species capable of attacking and catching birds in mid-flight, showcasing its unique predatory behaviour.
  - Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. The African tigerfish is native to African freshwater systems such as the Zambezi River, Congo River Basin, and Lake Tanganyika. It is not found in the Amazon River basin, which is located in South America. The African tigerfish is currently listed as "Least Concern" on the IUCN Red List.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)
- The Pallikaranai Marshland, located about 20 kilometers south of Chennai, Tamil Nadu, is a vital freshwater and partly saline wetland. It is one of the last remaining natural wetlands in the city and plays a critical role in urban ecology. The Vettangudi Bird Sanctuary, located in Sivagangai District near Madurai, Tamil Nadu, spans approximately 38 hectares. It was declared a sanctuary in 1977 to protect its rich avian diversity.

Source: [DD News](#)

12. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statement 1 is incorrect. The spotted deer (*Axis axis*) is not endemic to the Western Ghats. It is native to the broader Indian subcontinent, including regions like India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. While it is found in the Western Ghats, it is not restricted to this region and inhabits various habitats across the subcontinent.
  - Statement 2 is correct. Spotted deer are commonly found in Nagarhole Tiger Reserve in Karnataka. The reserve connects to other important wildlife areas like the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala and Bandipur Tiger Reserve. Spotted deer are diurnal but most active during dawn and dusk when predator activity is lower.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Green hydrogen is a clean and sustainable form of energy produced by splitting water molecules using renewable electricity. This process, known as electrolysis, uses electricity generated from renewable sources like solar, wind, or hydropower to break down water (H<sub>2</sub>O) into hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>) and oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>). Currently, green hydrogen is more expensive to produce than grey hydrogen.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The main byproduct of green hydrogen production through electrolysis is oxygen. When water is split into hydrogen and oxygen during electrolysis, the only byproduct is pure oxygen.

Source: [DD News](#)

14. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. When a species becomes extinct, it can endanger entire ecosystems. This is due to the interconnected nature of species within an ecosystem. The loss of one species can trigger a chain reaction, affecting other species that depend on it for food, habitat, or other ecological functions. This concept is often referred to as a "cascade effect" in ecology.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. Biodiversity does not refer only to the number of plant species in an ecosystem. Instead, biodiversity encompasses the variety of all living organisms within an ecosystem, including: Plants, Animals, Microorganisms, Fungi. It also includes genetic diversity within species and the variety of ecosystems in a given area. Pollination is crucial for plant reproduction and food production. Climate regulation, on the other hand, is a different ecosystem service. It involves processes like carbon sequestration by forests and oceans, which help regulate global temperatures and climate patterns.

Source: [DD News](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Indian grey wolf (*Canis lupus pallipes*) primarily inhabits arid and semi-arid regions, grasslands, and scrublands of peninsular India, not the high-altitude Himalayan regions. The Himalayan regions are home to a distinct subspecies, the Himalayan wolf. Wolves are monogamous and mate for life. The breeding season occurs from mid-October to late December.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Indian grey wolf plays a crucial role as an apex predator in semi-arid ecosystems, regulating prey populations and maintaining ecological balance. The Indian grey wolf is accorded the highest level of legal protection under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. IUCN status is Endangered. Indian grey wolves live in small packs of 6–8 individuals or even smaller groups compared to other grey wolf subspecies.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (A)

- Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) thrives in nutrient-rich water, which provides the nitrogen and phosphorus necessary for its rapid growth. Water hyacinth is a free-floating, perennial aquatic plant known for its rapid growth and invasive nature. It is considered one of the most problematic aquatic weeds globally, causing significant ecological, economic, and social challenges.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Flamingo Festival is an annual event celebrated in Andhra Pradesh, particularly around the Pulicat Lake and Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary in the Nellore district. It promotes tourism and highlights the ecological importance of these areas, which serve as wintering grounds for migratory birds like flamingos.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Vembanad Lake, located in Kerala, is not associated with the Flamingo Festival. Instead, the festival is centered around Pulicat Lake and Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary in Andhra Pradesh.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Bioethanol is produced by fermenting sugars found in crops such as corn, sugarcane, and wheat. It is a renewable fuel because it is derived from plant-based materials that can be replenished through agriculture.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While algae can be used to produce bioethanol (as they contain carbohydrates like starch and cellulose that can be fermented), their use is not yet common. Algae-based bioethanol production is still in the research and development phase and has not been widely commercialized due to challenges in cost-effectiveness and scalability.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (D)

- WASH innovation focuses on developing and implementing new solutions and approaches to address challenges in water, sanitation, and hygiene. It aims to enhance access to clean water, safe sanitation, and improved hygiene practices, particularly in resource-constrained or crisis-affected areas. This includes advancements in technology, processes, and community-driven strategies to ensure sustainability and equity in WASH services.

Source: [DD News](#)

20. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Sundarbans is the largest mangrove forest in the world, located in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna delta. It spans parts of India and Bangladesh and covers an extensive area of approximately 10,000 square kilometers, with 60% in Bangladesh and 40% in India.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While the Sundarbans is prone to frequent flooding due to its low elevation and tidal influence, it supports a wide range of terrestrial, aquatic, and amphibian species. The ecosystem includes Bengal tigers, chital deer, crocodiles, snakes, birds, and other fauna, as well as diverse flora such as mangroves.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The Wetland City Accreditation program does not focus on the number of wetlands a city has. Instead, it recognizes cities that demonstrate exceptional efforts in conserving and sustainably managing wetlands within their jurisdiction, whether natural or artificial. There is no requirement for a city to have three artificial wetlands to qualify for accreditation. The criteria emphasize wetland conservation, restoration, sustainable use, and public awareness rather than the number or type of wetlands.
- Statement 3 is correct. The Wetland City Accreditation program is managed by the Ramsar Convention Secretariat, which oversees the nomination, evaluation, and accreditation process. Recently, Indore and Udaipur have joined the list of 31 Wetland Accredited Cities in the world.

Source: [AIR](#)

22. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The corpse flower does not perform photosynthesis through its flowers. Instead, it stores energy in an underground corm, and its single large leaf performs photosynthesis when the plant is not blooming. The corpse flower (*Amorphophallus titanum*) is native to the tropical rainforests of Sumatra, Indonesia. It blooms every 7 to 10 years and lasts only for about 24 to 48 hours. It has the largest unbranched inflorescence in the plant kingdom.
- Statements 2 and 4 are correct. The corpse flower emits a stench similar to decaying meat to lure insects like carrion beetles and flies, which aid in its pollination process. The corpse flower

undergoes thermogenesis, where its spadix heats up to around 36–40°C, helping to disperse the odour over long distances and attract pollinators. Conservation Status: Endangered (IUCN).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Arittapatti is not a tropical rainforest; it consists of barren granite hillocks that act as a watershed supporting lakes, springs, and check dams. The site contains numerous megalithic structures, Tamil Brahmi inscriptions, Jain beds, and rock-cut temples that are over 2,200 years old.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Arittapatti was declared Tamil Nadu's first Biodiversity Heritage Site in 2022 under the Biological Diversity Act, 200. The Anaikondan tank, constructed during the reign of the Pandya dynasty in the 16th century, is a significant feature of the Arittapatti site.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (C)

- One of the major economic benefits of the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme is the foreign exchange savings achieved by reducing India's dependence on crude oil imports. By blending ethanol with petrol, the programme substitutes a portion of imported crude oil with domestically produced ethanol, thereby lowering the import bill and saving foreign currency.

Source: [DD News](#)

## Science & Technology

Q.1) Consider the following pairs:

- | Naval Projects-----              | Description   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Scorpene-class submarine----- | Diesel-electric attack submarines built with French collaboration |
| 2. Project-15B-----              | Advanced stealth frigates being built under 'Make in India'       |
| 3. Project-17A-----              | Guided missile destroyers under construction for the Indian Navy  |

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

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

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. The Modified Assured Career Progression Scheme (MACPS) aims to eliminate the need for departmental exams by offering promotions to government employees who have served for 5 years or more.
2. Honorary senior ranks are conferred on retiring personnel who meet promotion eligibility but could not be promoted due to organizational constraints.

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. Chandrayaan-4 will utilize two Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM-3) rockets and perform a series of docking and undocking maneuvers to successfully collect and return lunar soil samples to Earth.
  2. Space docking involves the process of transferring fuel between two spacecraft while they are in orbit.
- Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

- Q.4) With reference to the Suryakiran Military Exercise, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
1. It is a bilateral joint military exercise conducted annually between the armies of India and Bangladesh.
  2. The exercise focuses on jungle warfare, counter-terrorism operations in mountainous terrain, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

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.5) Consider the following statements regarding the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC):

1. It has been constituted under the Biodiversity Act, 2002.
2. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change oversees the functioning of the GEAC.
3. It is responsible for researching and developing new genetically modified organisms in India.
4. As per the new rules, selected expert members of the Committee are required to take steps to ensure that any conflicts of interest do not affect GEAC decisions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

- Q.6) With reference to the recently developed injectable hydrogel for localized cancer treatment, consider the following statements:

1. They can be administered orally.
2. They enhance drug delivery in cancer treatment by extending drug retention time at the tumour site.
3. They possess greater biocompatible properties.

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) Which one of the following is the fundamental difference between a classical bit and a quantum bit (qubit)?

- a) Bits can represent multiple states simultaneously, whereas qubits can only represent one state at a time.
- b) Bits can represent one of two states (0 or 1), whereas qubits can represent both 0 and 1 simultaneously.
- c) Bits are based on quantum mechanics, whereas qubits are based on classical mechanics.
- d) Bits use superposition and entanglement, while qubits do not.

Q.8) With reference to the Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV), consider the following statements:

1. It is a zoonotic virus.
2. Antibiotics are the primary treatment for the virus.
3. It is a common cause of seasonal respiratory illnesses.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding 'Exercise Varuna':

1. It is a bilateral naval exercise between India and Russia.
2. The exercise is either conducted in the Atlantic Ocean or the Black Sea.
3. The exercise aims to promote security, stability, and peace in maritime zones.

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.10) The primary purpose of the 'BAANKNET' portal is to:

- a) Provide banking services to customers
- b) Manage loan applications for distressed assets
- c) Facilitate online stock trading
- d) Facilitate property auctions for banks and lending institutions

Q.11) With reference to the Relocatable Robotic Manipulator-Technology Demonstrator (RRM-TD) used in SpaDeX mission, consider the following statements:

1. It is India's first space robotic arm with walking capability.
2. It is designed to showcase the capability of robotic arms in performing tasks such as assembly and maintenance in space environments.
3. It is designed for use only in microgravity environments.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.12) Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO's) PSLV-C60 POEM-4 mission recently reached a milestone with cowpea sprouts unveiling their first leaves in space. Which one of the following payloads was responsible for this experiment?

- a) SEEDS (Space Experiment for Environmental Development of Sprouts)
- b) AGROS (Advanced Growth Research for Orbital Sustainability)
- c) CROPS (Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies)
- d) PHOTOS (Photosynthesis and Horticultural Observation in Space)

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. The Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is appointed by the President of India.
2. The tenure of ISRO's Chairman is generally for two years, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

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. Gene silencing can prevent the production of proteins encoded by genes.
2. miRNAs (microRNAs) are small, non-coding RNA molecules that play a significant role in post-transcriptional gene silencing.

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 pairs:

Space Missions-----Objectives

1. Shukrayaan-1----- Explore Mars' atmosphere and surface
2. Mangalyaan-2----- Study Venus' atmosphere and geology
3. Chandrayaan-4----- Lunar exploration and rover deployment

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

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

Q.16) This technology involves a simple finger prick and a drop of blood placed on a test strip, similar to a COVID-19 home test, to detect iron deficiency anaemia. Which one of the following technologies is being described above?

- a) AnemiaCare
- b) AnemiaShield
- c) AnemiaPhone
- d) AnemiaTrack

Q.17) With reference to the Genome India Project, consider the following statements:

1. Its primary goal is to sequence the genomes of 10,000 diverse individuals across India to create a comprehensive genetic database.
2. Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) leads the Project.
3. RNA sequencing technology is being used in the Project.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.18) 'Aero India 2025' is organized by:

- a) Ministry of Civil Aviation
- b) Indian Air Force
- c) Ministry of Defence
- d) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

Q.19) With reference to the NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) satellite, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It is designed to monitor Earth's land and ice surfaces to study ecosystem changes, natural hazards and the impacts of climate change.
2. It is the first satellite to provide continuous global data using dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR).
3. The satellite will also be helpful in providing real-time weather forecasting for cyclones.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.20) The term 'DigiBoxx' was in the news recently for:

- a) Blockchain-based digital currency initiative launched by the Reserve Bank of India.
- b) Government scheme to promote the use of e-commerce among small businesses.
- c) Digital locker service for securely storing and sharing files in India
- d) Digital marketplace for trading cryptocurrencies in India.

Q.21) Consider the following statements:

1. Human cells contain 24 molecules of Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA).
2. DNA is made of three strands connected by base pairs.
3. When a gene is expressed, its DNA sequence is transcribed into messenger RNA (mRNA).
4. Exogenous DNA refers to DNA introduced from an external source and is not originally part of the cell's genome.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.22) Blue baby syndrome, seen in the news recently, is commonly associated with:

- a) Excess fluoride in drinking water
- b) Mercury poisoning in food
- c) Air pollution in urban areas
- d) Nitrate contamination in drinking water

Q.23) Astrological and scientific views suggest that specific planetary alignments during the Maha Kumbh Mela enhance its spiritual significance. Which astronomical alignment is correct in this context?

- a) Sun, Moon, and Mars
- b) Sun, Moon, and Jupiter
- c) Sun, Venus, and Mercury
- d) Moon, Jupiter, and Saturn

Q.24) Esterase enzyme was seen in the news recently, helps in:

- a) Increasing plastic flexibility
- b) Breaking down plasticizers
- c) Converting methane into carbon dioxide and water
- d) Breaking down microplastics into reusable plastic components

Q.25) Recently, there was news about the launch of a missile featuring fire-and-forget technology. Which one of the following statements correctly describes this technology?

- a) A missile guidance system that does not require further external intervention after launch and autonomously tracks and hits its target.
- b) A technology where a missile requires continuous guidance from the operator until it hits the target.
- c) A system where the missile can only hit stationary targets due to pre-programmed trajectories.
- d) A missile system that relies on wire-guidance to maintain accuracy during flight.

Q.26) With reference to the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the highest-ranking military officer in India.
- 2. CDS heads the Department of Defence Production.
- 3. The CDS is described as first among equals with the service chiefs.
- 4. The Sarkaria Commission recommendation led the creation of the post.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.27) Which one of the following correctly differentiates Small Language Models (SLM) with Large Language Models (LLM)?

- a) SLMs require significantly more computational resources compared to LLMs for training and inference.
- b) SLMs are designed for domain-specific tasks, while LLMs are general-purpose and trained on diverse datasets.
- c) SLMs outperform LLMs in natural language understanding tasks due to their focused architecture.
- d) SLMs are based on traditional rule-based systems, while LLMs use neural network architectures.

Q.28) Consider the following pairs:

Naval Warships-----Associated Projects

- 1. INS Nilgiri-----Project 17A
- 2. INS Vaghsheer----- Project 75
- 3. INS Surat----- Project 15B

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.29) With reference to the Indian National Science Academy (INSA), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the apex body for promoting science and technology in India.
- 2. It represents India in the International Science Council (ISC).
- 3. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize is awarded by the INSA.

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.30) Fermions and bosons are used in the relation with:

- a) A system of categorizing particles by their size
- b) A classification of particles based on their charge
- c) A method of measuring particle mass
- d) A system of classification of particles based on their spin properties

Q.31) Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO's) successful execution of a docking experiment has made India the fourth nation to achieve this. Which one of these statements correctly describes the experiment?

- a) ISRO successfully docked the Aditya-L1 spacecraft with the International Space Station (ISS) to enable solar observations.
- b) The docking experiment involved connecting two Earth observation satellites in orbit to enhance imaging capabilities.
- c) India demonstrated its ability to autonomously dock two spacecraft in orbit as part of future crewed and interplanetary missions.
- d) ISRO docked a reusable launch vehicle with a prototype lunar module in space to simulate Moon landings.

Q.32) Which of the following are the reasons behind launching the satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh?

- 1. Higher altitude
- 2. Proximity to the equator
- 3. Dense forest cover
- 4. Geologically stable

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.33) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Anaemia is a nutritional deficiency disease.

Statement-II: Iron deficiency in the body occurs when the body lacks enough iron to produce haemoglobin.

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.34) Consider the following statements regarding the the La Perouse 2025 naval exercise:

- 1. It aims to conduct anti-piracy operations in the Malacca Strait.
- 2. The exercise includes involvement from nine countries.
- 3. The exercise is led by the French Carrier Strike Group (CSG).
- 4. It also aims to establish a permanent multinational naval force in the Indo-Pacific.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.35) Which one of the following correctly defines the term 'Cryptography'?

- a) A technique used for compressing large amounts of data to save storage space.
- b) A method for designing and implementing databases for managing digital transactions.
- c) A procedure for encoding biological data to study genetic structures.
- d) A process of securing information by transforming it into an unreadable format to prevent unauthorized access.

Q.36) With reference to the National Medical Commission (NMC), consider the following statements:

1. It is India's apex regulatory body for medical education and practice.
2. Medical Research Board is an autonomous board under the NMC.
3. It replaced the Central Council of Indian Medicine.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.37) Which one of the following is a key characteristic of Low-Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites compared to Geostationary satellites?

- a) They remain fixed relative to a specific location on Earth.
- b) They orbit at a much higher altitude than Geostationary satellites.
- c) They provide continuous coverage of the same area.
- d) They have shorter orbital periods.

Q.38) Consider the following statements regarding the Entity Locker:

1. It is a new digital platform introduced by the Indian government as an extension of DigiLocker.
2. It allows for unlimited document storage in the cloud.
3. Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has developed the entity locker.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.39) Scramjets belong to which one of the following categories of engines?

- a) Ramjet engines
- b) Air-breathing engines
- c) Turbojet engines
- d) Combined-cycle engines

Q.40) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

1. Fluoride is a naturally occurring mineral found in groundwater.
2. Fluoride is a mineral that strengthens tooth enamel.

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.41) Crosspathy refers to:

- a) The study of cross-cultural influences on medical practices.
- b) A collaboration between different medical systems to develop new treatments.
- c) The practice of a medical professional trained in one system using therapies from another system.
- d) The process of licensing alternative medicine practitioners under a unified framework.

Q.42) With reference to Marburg Virus Disease (MVD), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is classified as a viral hemorrhagic fever.
2. It is transmitted to humans through mosquito bites.
3. There is currently no licensed vaccine or specific antiviral treatment for MVD.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.43) Consider the following statements:

1. Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) technology in submarines reduces the need for refuelling during operations.
2. Project-75I aims to modernize India's submarine fleet and enhance maritime capabilities.

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

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

Q.44) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India has banned the use of Rhodamine B in food items.

Statement-II: The use of Rhodamine B leads to various health issues.

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.45) Which of the following statements about ballistic missiles are correct?

1. It maintains a constant altitude throughout its flight.
2. They rely on Earth's gravity to descend toward the target after propulsion ends.
3. Pralay is India's first ballistic missile designed for conventional strikes.

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.46) Consider the following statements regarding the Battlefield Surveillance System (BSS) – SANJAY:

1. It is an automated system that integrates data from ground and aerial sensors, ensuring accuracy and eliminating duplication, to create a unified Common Surveillance Picture of the battlefield.
2. It has been developed under the "Buy (Indian)" category.

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

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

Q.47) Consider the following statements regarding the chronic pulmonary aspergillosis (CPA) infection:

1. It is caused by a fungus.
2. In India, it mainly affects tea plantation workers in Assam.

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.48) Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) leads to which one of the following disorders?

- a) Neurological disorder
- b) Cardiovascular disorder
- c) Endocrine disorder
- d) Gastrointestinal disorder

Q.49) Which one of the following statements best explains the formation of lightning?

- a) A direct connection between clouds and the sun
- b) A flow of charged particles from the Earth's core
- c) A rapid flow of electrons between regions of opposite charge
- d) The movement of high-speed winds through clouds

Q.50) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends reducing sodium intake to less than 2 grams a day.

Statement-II: Consuming excessive amounts of sodium increases the risk of cardiovascular disease.

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.51) Which one of the following is the primary difference between Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) and Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) in terms of capability?

- a) GSLV is used for Earth observation missions, while PSLV is used for interplanetary missions.
- b) GSLV can carry heavier payloads to GTO, while PSLV is designed for LEO and polar orbits.
- c) GSLV is reusable, while PSLV is not.
- d) GSLV uses only solid fuels, while PSLV uses a combination of liquid and solid fuels.

Q.52) With reference to the Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) system, consider the following statements:

1. It offers comprehensive global navigation services similar to the Global Positioning System (GPS).
2. It consists of a combination of geostationary and geosynchronous satellites positioned to provide better coverage.
3. The Government of India has mandated NavIC-based navigation systems in commercial and public transport vehicles to improve safety and fleet management.

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.53) Consider the following statements:

1. Navika Sagar Parikrama-II is a circumnavigation expedition by an all-women crew of the Indian Navy.
2. INS Vikrant is used for Navika Sagar Parikrama-II expedition.

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

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

Q.54) Consider the following statements:

1. Leprosy is a neglected tropical disease (NTD).
2. India has completely eradicated leprosy.

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.55) Consider the following statements:

1. Axiom Mission 4 is a private spaceflight mission to the International Space Station (ISS).
2. The Axiom Mission 4 includes various scientific experiments focusing on asteroid mining and mars colonization.

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

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

Q.56) With reference to the Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST) reactor, consider the following statements:

1. It is referred to as China's artificial Sun.
2. It aims to study and advance nuclear fission technology.

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

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

### Answer Key

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

## Answers & Explanations

1. Correct Answer is (A)

- Scorpene-class submarines are diesel-electric attack submarines built under Project-75 in collaboration with France's Naval Group. They are designed for stealth and versatility, capable of launching torpedoes and missiles.
- Project-15B refers to advanced stealth guided-missile destroyers, not frigates. These destroyers, also known as the Visakhapatnam class, are an upgraded version of the Kolkata-class destroyers and are being built indigenously under the 'Make in India' initiative.
- Project-17A involves the construction of advanced stealth guided-missile frigates, not destroyers. These frigates are an improved version of the Shivalik-class and are being built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (MDL) and Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

2. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The MACPS provides financial upgradations after 10, 20, and 30 years of service if regular promotions are unavailable, but it does not eliminate the need for departmental exams. In fact, departmental exams and training are often prerequisites for promotions or financial benefits under MACPS.
- Statement 2 is correct. Honorary senior ranks are symbolic promotions granted to retiring personnel who fulfill promotion criteria but were not promoted due to factors like lack of vacancies. These ranks are meant to boost morale and recognize their service.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

3. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Chandrayaan-4 is designed as a lunar sample-return mission. It will use two LVM-3 rockets to launch its five modules, including the Ascender, Descender, Transfer, Propulsion, and Re-entry modules. The mission involves docking and undocking in lunar orbit to transfer collected samples to the Re-entry Module for their safe return to Earth.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Space docking refers to the process of connecting two spacecraft in orbit, enabling them to function as a single unit for purposes like crew transfer, cargo exchange, or mission operations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

4. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Suryakiran Exercise is conducted annually between the armies of India and Nepal. The 18th Edition (2024) of the exercise is scheduled from December 29, 2024, to January 13, 2025, at Saljhandi, Nepal.
- Statement 2 is correct. The primary focus of the Suryakiran Exercise includes jungle warfare, counter-terrorism in mountainous terrain, and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) under the UN mandate.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The GEAC was established under the Rules for the Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989, which were notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The GEAC is not involved in research or development; its role is regulatory. It appraises activities involving GMOs from an environmental perspective and grants approvals for their release or use.

- Statements 2 and 4 are correct. The GEAC functions under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC). Recent amendments mandate that expert members disclose potential conflicts of interest and take necessary measures to ensure such conflicts do not influence GEAC decisions.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (B)
- Statement 1 is incorrect. Injectable hydrogels are specifically designed for localized delivery at the tumour site through injection, not oral administration. They are intended to remain at the site of injection to deliver drugs in a controlled manner.
  - Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Injectable hydrogels act as a reservoir for drugs, ensuring sustained and controlled release at the tumour site, which prolongs drug retention and minimizes systemic toxicity. Hydrogels are designed to be biocompatible, non-toxic, and biodegradable, making them suitable for biomedical applications such as cancer therapy.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (B)
- Classical bits can only exist in one of two states, either 0 or 1, at any given time. Quantum bits (qubits), due to the principle of quantum superposition, can exist in a combination of both 0 and 1 states simultaneously. This gives quantum computers their potential for having exponentially greater computational power compared to classical computers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

8. Correct Answer is (A)
- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Zoonotic viruses are those that are transmitted from animals to humans, but HMPV spreads exclusively through human-to-human transmission via respiratory droplets or contact with contaminated surfaces. Antibiotics are ineffective against HMPV because it is a viral infection, not a bacterial one.
  - Statement 3 is correct. HMPV is a significant cause of both upper and lower respiratory tract infections, particularly in children, older adults, and immunocompromised individuals. It circulates seasonally, primarily in late winter and spring.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

9. Correct Answer is (D)
- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. Exercise Varuna is a bilateral naval exercise between India and France. Exercise Varuna is primarily conducted in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) or sometimes in the Mediterranean Sea, reflecting the maritime interests of India and France.
  - Statement 3 is correct. The primary objective of Exercise Varuna is to enhance maritime cooperation between India and France, ensuring security, stability, and peace in key maritime zones, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (D)
- The Baanknet portal is a revamped e-auction platform launched by the Department of Financial Services (DFS) to consolidate property listings from all Public Sector Banks (PSBs). Its primary purpose is to facilitate property auctions, including residential, commercial, industrial lands, and other assets, to help banks recover distressed assets and improve their balance sheets. The portal aims to simplify the auction process, enhance transparency, and boost investor confidence by integrating advanced technological features.

Source: [AIR](#)

11. Correct Answer is (A)
- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Relocatable Robotic Manipulator-Technology Demonstrator (RRM-TD) is India's first space robotic arm with inchworm-like walking capability, developed by

ISRO's Inertial Systems Unit (IISU). It was successfully demonstrated during the PSLV-C60 SpaDeX mission. The RRM-TD features advanced robotic manipulation, obstacle-aware motion, and precision assembly, making it ideal for tasks like satellite servicing and in-orbit assembly. These capabilities are crucial for future missions such as the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS).

- Statement 3 is incorrect. While the RRM-TD is optimized for operations in microgravity (as demonstrated on the POEM-4 platform), its design allows it to perform tasks beyond microgravity-specific environments, such as satellite servicing and debris management. Its versatility makes it applicable to broader space robotics applications, not limited to microgravity alone.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies (CROPS), developed by the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), was responsible for the experiment that successfully germinated cowpea seeds and supported their growth to the two-leaf stage in space. This achievement occurred aboard the PSLV-C60 POEM-4 platform.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Chairman of ISRO is appointed by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), which is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.
- Statement 2 is correct. The tenure of the ISRO Chairman is typically two years, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

14. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Gene silencing refers to the suppression of gene expression, which can occur at the transcriptional or post-transcriptional level. This prevents the production of proteins encoded by the gene, either by blocking mRNA synthesis or by degrading mRNA or inhibiting its translation into protein. miRNAs are small, non-coding RNA molecules that regulate gene expression by binding to complementary sequences on target mRNAs. This interaction leads to mRNA degradation or translational repression, making miRNAs key players in post-transcriptional gene silencing.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

15. Correct Answer is (C)

- **Shukrayaan-1:** This mission is aimed at studying Venus, not Mars. It focuses on Venus's atmosphere, surface, and geological features, including its volcanic and tectonic activity.
- **Mangalyaan-2:** This mission is focused on Mars, not Venus. It aims to study Mars's atmosphere, surface features, and interplanetary dust. It may include advanced technologies like a rover and helicopter for exploration.
- **Chandrayaan-4:** This mission is focused on lunar exploration. It aims to collect lunar samples and return them to Earth, building on the success of Chandrayaan-3.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

16. Correct Answer is (C)

- AnemiaPhone technology involves a finger prick and a drop of blood on a test strip, similar to a COVID-19 home test, to detect iron deficiency anemia. AnemiaPhone was developed by Cornell University to provide rapid, accurate, and affordable anemia detection using a small finger stick and a test strip.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

17. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Genome India Project's primary goal is to sequence the genomes of 10,000 diverse individuals across India to create a comprehensive genetic database. This

initiative aims to capture the genetic diversity of India's population and develop a reference genome for better understanding of diseases and personalized medicine.

- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Genome India Project is led by the Centre for Brain Research at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, in collaboration with 20 other institutions across India. It is funded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT). The Genome India Project employs Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) technology for whole-genome sequencing. NGS is a state-of-the-art method used to sequence DNA rapidly and cost-effectively.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

18. Correct Answer is (C)

- Aero India 2025 is organized by the Defence Exhibition Organisation, which operates under the Ministry of Defence. The theme of the Defence Ministers' Conclave at Aero India 2025—"BRIDGE: Building Resilience through International Defence and Global Engagement"—will reflect India's focus on fostering resilience through international cooperation.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

19. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The NISAR satellite is designed to monitor Earth's land and ice surfaces to study ecosystem changes, natural hazards (e.g., earthquakes, landslides, and volcanic activity), and the impacts of climate change. It will provide critical data on biomass, glaciers, soil moisture, and other environmental factors. NISAR is the first satellite to use dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) technology, operating in both L-band and S-band frequencies. This dual-frequency capability allows it to provide continuous global data with high precision, enabling detailed monitoring of Earth's surface changes.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. While NISAR is highly advanced and capable of monitoring long-term surface changes, it is not designed for real-time weather forecasting, including cyclones. Its primary focus is on studying land deformation, ecosystems, ice sheets, and climate-related phenomena rather than short-term atmospheric events like cyclones.

Source: [AIR](#)

20. Correct Answer is (C)

- DigiBoxx is India's first indigenous cloud storage platform offering both free and paid plans for individuals and businesses. Its servers and data centers are based entirely in India, ensuring compliance with data localization requirements. It offers affordable pricing (e.g., ₹30/month for 100 GB), making it competitive against global giants like Google Drive and Dropbox. It also supports privacy and security by storing data within Indian borders.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 3 and 4 are correct. Human cells have 24 chromosomes, which correspond to 24 DNA molecules: chromosomes 1 to 22 and the sex chromosomes X and Y. Gene expression involves transcription of the DNA sequence into mRNA, which is then translated into proteins. Exogenous DNA is foreign DNA introduced into a cell from an external source.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. DNA is a double-stranded molecule, not three-stranded. The two strands are connected by base pairs (adenine-thymine and cytosine-guanine).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (D)

- Blue baby syndrome, also known as methemoglobinemia, occurs when infants consume water contaminated with high levels of nitrates. The nitrates are converted into nitrites in the body, which bind to hemoglobin and reduce its ability to carry oxygen. This condition is most common in infants under six months old and can cause symptoms such as bluish skin, lethargy, and even death if untreated.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- The alignment of the Sun, Moon, and Jupiter during the Maha Kumbh Mela is believed to be significant in astrological terms, enhancing spiritual energy and the importance of the event. The Maha Kumbh Mela is believed to coincide with a cosmic alignment, which might result in a temporary increase in the Earth's magnetic field. This is thought to enhance spiritual experiences during the ritual bathing in the holy rivers. The Maha Kumbh Mela is the largest religious gathering in the world.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

24. Correct Answer is (B)

- The esterase enzyme was recently in the news for its ability to degrade harmful plasticizers, such as diethyl hexyl phthalate (DEHP), into less toxic byproducts like mono-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (MEHP) and 2-ethyl hexanol. This enzyme is being explored for its potential in addressing environmental pollution caused by plasticizers, which are chemicals used to enhance the flexibility of plastics.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

25. Correct Answer is (A)

- Fire-and-forget technology enables a missile to autonomously track and engage its target after being launched, without requiring additional input or guidance from the operator. This allows for greater precision and reduces the risk to the operator in combat scenarios. The Nag Mk-2 is an advanced, indigenously-developed, third-generation Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). It employs fire-and-forget technology.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

26. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) is the highest-ranking military officer in India and acts as the principal military advisor to the Defence Minister on tri-service matters. The CDS is described as the overall professional head of the Indian Armed Forces. The CDS is described as primus inter pares (first among equals) with respect to the three service chiefs.
- Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect. The CDS heads the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) within the Ministry of Defence. The idea for creating a CDS was recommended by the Kargil Review Committee, following India's experience during the Kargil War. The CDS is a four-star officer chosen from among serving officers in the Army, Navy, or Air Force. The term extends until a maximum age of 65 years, or three years in office—whichever comes earlier. After retirement, the CDS is not eligible for any government office.

Source: [AIR](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- SLMs require less compute power, training time, and data compared to LLMs. They are cheaper to train, deploy, and maintain, making them accessible to smaller organizations. SLMs are ideal for specialized tasks where general-purpose LLMs are unnecessary. SLMs can run locally on devices like smartphones or IoT devices without relying on cloud services. SLMs are designed for domain-specific tasks, while LLMs are general-purpose and trained on diverse datasets.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

28. Correct Answer is (D)

- **INS Nilgiri** – INS Nilgiri is the lead ship of the Project 17A frigates, which are advanced stealth frigates designed for multi-role operations.
- **INS Vaghsheer** – INS Vaghsheer is the sixth and final submarine of the Project 75 Kalvari-class, which consists of diesel-electric attack submarines.
- **INS Surat** – INS Surat is the fourth and final destroyer of Project 15B, which focuses on stealth and advanced weaponry.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

29. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Indian National Science Academy (INSA) is recognized as the premier scientific society of India, representing all branches of science and technology. Its objectives include promoting science, safeguarding the interests of scientists, and advising the government on scientific matters. INSA is the adhering organization in India for the International Science Council (ISC), which facilitates international scientific collaboration and represents India's scientific community globally.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize is awarded by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), not INSA.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (D)

- Fermions are particles with half-integer spins. These particles make up matter and obey the Pauli Exclusion Principle, which states that no two fermions can occupy the same quantum state simultaneously. Examples include electrons, protons, and neutrons. Bosons are particles with integer spins. These particles mediate fundamental forces between fermions and do not obey the Pauli Exclusion Principle, meaning they can occupy the same quantum state. Examples include photons, gluons. Fermions form the building blocks of matter (e.g., atoms and molecules) while Boson's act as force carriers, facilitating interactions between matter particles.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

31. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX) by ISRO successfully demonstrated the autonomous docking of two satellites, SDX01 (Chaser) and SDX02 (Target), in low-Earth orbit. This experiment is a significant milestone for India, enabling technologies crucial for future missions such as human spaceflight (Gaganyaan), lunar exploration, and the development of a space station. The docking process involved precise manoeuvres to align and connect the satellites autonomously, showcasing India's advanced space capabilities.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (C)

- The reasons behind launching most of the satellites from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota are:
- **Proximity to the Equator:** Launching rockets eastward near the equator leverages Earth's rotational speed (~450 m/s), reducing fuel requirements and making launches more efficient and cost-effective.
- **Safety:** Located on a barrier island off the Bay of Bengal, debris from rocket stages falls safely into the sea, minimizing risks to populated areas.
- **Geological Stability:** Strong soil and rock formations provide a stable platform to withstand intense launch vibrations and forces.
- **Orbit Flexibility:** Supports a wide range of orbital inclinations, enabling diverse missions, including Earth observation, communication, and interplanetary exploration.
- **Advanced Infrastructure:** Equipped with launch pads, integration facilities, and solid motor production, SDSC has been operational since 1971, supporting landmark missions like Chandrayaan and Gaganyaan.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

33. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Statement-I is correct:** Anaemia is a nutritional deficiency disease. It occurs when the body does not have enough healthy red blood cells due to insufficient nutrients, particularly iron.

- **Statement-II is correct:** Iron deficiency prevents the body from producing adequate haemoglobin, which is essential for transporting oxygen in the blood. This is the primary cause of iron-deficiency anaemia.
- Hence, Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 4 are incorrect. The exercise does not specifically aim to conduct anti-piracy operations in the Malacca Strait. The focus is broader, including interoperability, maritime surveillance, and crisis response. The exercise does not aim to establish a permanent multinational naval force. Instead, it focuses on enhancing cooperation, interoperability, and maritime safety among participating nations.
- Statements 2 and 4 are correct. The exercise involves nine Indo-Pacific nations: India, France, Australia, Canada, the United States, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and the United Kingdom. The French Carrier Strike Group (CSG), led by the aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle, is at the forefront of the exercise. It is being conducted in the strategic straits of Malacca, Sunda, and Lombok, which connect the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean. These straits are critical chokepoints for global maritime trade and security.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (D)

- Cryptography is the science and practice of protecting sensitive information by converting it into a coded or encrypted format (called ciphertext) that can only be understood by someone with the proper key to decrypt it back into its original form (plaintext). This ensures that unauthorized individuals cannot access or interpret the information, even if they intercept it.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The National Medical Commission (NMC) is the top regulatory body in India for overseeing medical education, medical professionals, and institutions.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The NMC has four autonomous boards: Undergraduate Medical Education Board (UGMEB), Postgraduate Medical Education Board (PGMEB), Medical Assessment and Rating Board (MARB), Ethics and Medical Registration Board (EMRB). The NMC replaced the Medical Council of India (MCI), not the Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (C)

- LEO satellites orbit at altitudes between 160 and 2,000 kilometers above Earth's surface. Because of their proximity to Earth, they have short orbital periods, completing an orbit in about 90 to 120 minutes. This means they circle the Earth multiple times a day. Geostationary satellites orbit at a much higher altitude (about 36,000 kilometers) and have an orbital period of 24 hours, matching Earth's rotation. This allows them to remain fixed relative to a specific location on Earth.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

38. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Entity Locker is a new digital platform introduced by the Indian government, building on the success of DigiLocker, to streamline document management and verification for businesses and organizations.
- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. The Entity Locker provides 10 GB of encrypted cloud storage. The Entity Locker was developed by the National eGovernance Division (NeGD) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). Features include: Real-time access to

government databases, Consent-based secure sharing of information, Aadhaar-authenticated role-based access, legally valid digital signatures.

Source: [AIR](#)

39. Correct Answer is (B)

- Scramjets (Supersonic Combustion Ramjets) are a type of air-breathing engine. They rely on atmospheric oxygen for combustion, eliminating the need to carry onboard oxidizers, which makes them more efficient for certain high-speed applications. Scramjets operate efficiently at hypersonic speeds (greater than Mach 5) and use supersonic airflow for combustion, unlike traditional jet engines or rockets.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Fluoride is a naturally occurring ion derived from the element fluorine, which is abundant in the Earth's crust. It is commonly found in groundwater due to the dissolution of fluoride-containing minerals in rocks and soils. Its concentration in groundwater varies depending on geological and environmental factors. Fluoride strengthens tooth enamel by aiding in the remineralization process and forming a stronger compound called fluorapatite, which makes enamel more resistant to acid attacks and tooth decay.

Source: [DD News](#)

41. Correct Answer is (C)

- Crosspathy refers to the practice where a medical professional trained in one system of medicine (e.g., Ayurveda or Homeopathy) prescribes or uses therapies, including drugs, from another system (e.g., Allopathy).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

42. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Marburg Virus Disease (MVD), formerly known as Marburg Hemorrhagic Fever is classified as a viral hemorrhagic fever, characterized by severe bleeding, organ failure, and, in many cases, high mortality rates. Currently, there are no licensed vaccines or specific antiviral treatments approved for MVD. Management of the disease focuses on supportive care, including rehydration and symptomatic treatment, which can improve survival rates.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The primary mode of transmission to humans is through direct contact with the blood, secretions, organs, or other bodily fluids of infected individuals or animals, particularly fruit bats and non-human primates. Kenya is on high alert following the confirmation of a Marburg Virus Disease (MVD) outbreak in Tanzania's Kagera region.

Source: [AIR](#)

43. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. AIP technology does not reduce the need for refuelling; instead, it reduces the need for submarines to surface frequently to recharge their batteries. Conventional diesel-electric submarines must surface or use a snorkel to run their diesel engines and recharge batteries, which makes them vulnerable to detection. AIP allows submarines to stay submerged for longer periods by generating power underwater, enhancing stealth and operational endurance.
- Statement 2 is correct. Project-75I is part of India's efforts to modernize its submarine fleet by building six advanced conventional submarines equipped with Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) technology. This project aims to strengthen India's maritime security and underwater combat capabilities, especially in the Indian Ocean Region.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

44. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement I is correct. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has banned the use of Rhodamine B in food products under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006. Additionally, several Indian states, including Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Himachal Pradesh, have implemented bans on food items like cotton candy and Gobi Manchurian after detecting Rhodamine B in samples.
- Statement II is correct. Rhodamine B is a synthetic dye that poses significant health risks, including potential carcinogenic effects (cancer risk), DNA damage, oxidative stress, and other toxic effects on organs such as the liver and kidneys. It is not safe for human consumption and has been linked to long-term health risks like cancer.
- Hence, the ban on Rhodamine B in food products (Statement-I) directly stems from its harmful health effects (Statement-II). The health risks posed by this dye are the primary reason for its prohibition in food items.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

45. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. A ballistic missile does not maintain a constant altitude throughout its flight. It follows a parabolic trajectory, with phases that include a powered boost phase, an unpowered midcourse phase (often in space), and a terminal phase where it descends toward the target due to gravity.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Ballistic missiles rely on Earth's gravity for the descent phase after the propulsion ends, making their trajectory largely unpowered after the boost phase. Pralay is India's first conventional quasi-ballistic missile, designed specifically for tactical battlefield use and conventional strikes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

46. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. SANJAY integrates inputs from various ground and aerial sensors, processes them to confirm accuracy, eliminates duplication, and provides a Common Surveillance Picture of the battlefield over secure networks. SANJAY has been indigenously developed by the Indian Army in collaboration with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) under the 'Buy (Indian)' category.

Source: [AIR](#)

47. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Chronic pulmonary aspergillosis (CPA) is caused by the fungus *Aspergillus fumigatus* and other species of *Aspergillus*. These fungi are commonly found in the environment and can infect individuals with pre-existing lung conditions, particularly those who have had tuberculosis (TB) or other chronic lung diseases.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While a recent study has highlighted a high prevalence of CPA among tea plantation workers in Assam due to factors like TB prevalence and poor living conditions, CPA is not exclusive to this group. It primarily affects individuals with pre-existing lung damage or weakened immunity, regardless of their occupation or location. CPA can affect individuals with pre-existing lung conditions across various regions and populations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

48. Correct Answer is (A)

- Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) is a rare neurological disorder in which the immune system mistakenly attacks the peripheral nervous system. This leads to symptoms such as muscle weakness, numbness, and, in severe cases, paralysis. It does not affect the cardiovascular, endocrine, or gastrointestinal systems directly but can cause complications like blood pressure fluctuations or heart rhythm abnormalities due to autonomic nervous system involvement.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

49. Correct Answer is (C)

- Lightning forms due to the buildup of electric charges within a cloud or between a cloud and the ground. Positive charges accumulate at the top of the cloud, while negative charges gather at the bottom. When the difference in charge becomes extreme, electrons rapidly flow through the air to neutralize the imbalance. This creates a visible lightning strike, which is essentially a giant spark caused by the rapid movement of electrons between regions of opposite charge.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

50. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Statement I is correct.** WHO recommends that adults consume less than 2 grams of sodium per day (equivalent to 5 grams of salt) to reduce health risks associated with high sodium intake, such as hypertension and cardiovascular diseases.
- **Statement II is correct.** High sodium intake is strongly linked to an increased risk of cardiovascular diseases, including heart attacks and strokes, as it raises blood pressure and damages blood vessels over time.
- The WHO's recommendation to reduce sodium intake is aimed at lowering the risk of cardiovascular diseases. Therefore, Statement-II serves as the correct explanation for Statement-I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

51. Correct Answer is (B)

- GSLV is designed for heavier payloads and is capable of reaching Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO), which is crucial for launching communication satellites and other high-orbit missions. On the other hand, PSLV is more suited for lighter payloads, primarily targeting Low Earth Orbit (LEO) and polar orbits, making it ideal for Earth observation and interplanetary missions.

Source: [DD News](#)

52. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. NavIC is a regional satellite navigation system designed to provide coverage over India and a region extending up to 1,500 kilometers beyond its borders. Unlike GPS, which provides global coverage, NavIC is not a global navigation system.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. NavIC's constellation includes three satellites in geostationary orbit and four in inclined geosynchronous orbit. This configuration ensures optimal coverage and accuracy over India and its surrounding region. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has mandated the use of NavIC-based AIS-140-compliant vehicle trackers in all public and commercial vehicles. This initiative aims to enhance road safety, fleet management, and real-time vehicle tracking.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

53. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Navika Sagar Parikrama-II is being undertaken by an all-women crew consisting of two Indian Navy officers, Lieutenant Commander Roopa A. and Lieutenant Commander Dilna K., aboard the sailing vessel INSV Tarini.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The expedition uses INSV Tarini sailing vessel.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

54. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Leprosy is classified as a neglected tropical disease (NTD) by the World Health Organization (WHO). It is a chronic infectious disease caused by Mycobacterium leprae and primarily affects the skin, nerves, and mucous membranes.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. India has not completely eradicated leprosy. However, it achieved the status of "elimination as a public health problem" at the national level in 2005, which means fewer than 1 case per 10,000 people. Despite this, leprosy still exists in some regions, particularly in states like Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Odisha.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

55. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4) is a private spaceflight mission organized by Axiom Space in collaboration with NASA. It aims to send a multinational crew to the ISS for scientific research, technology demonstrations, and advancing commercial space activities.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Ax-4 focuses on scientific research, microgravity experiments, and technology demonstrations aboard the ISS. It does not include experiments related to asteroid mining or Mars colonization.

Source: [DD News](#)

56. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST) is often called China's "Artificial Sun" because it aims to replicate the nuclear fusion process that powers the Sun, generating immense heat and energy.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. EAST is focused on nuclear fusion technology, not nuclear fission. Nuclear fusion involves combining hydrogen nuclei to form helium, releasing energy, while nuclear fission splits heavy atomic nuclei like uranium or plutonium.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)