

# UPSC PRELIMS 2026 GENERAL STUDIES - I

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**100 Questions with Correct Answers and Explanations  
English Edition**

**Prepared for INFINITE IAS KAS**

*Includes a consolidated Reference and Source Links appendix*

*Note: Answer explanations are compiled for study use. For examination disputes, the official answer key or official notification prevails.*

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**Editorial note:** References are consolidated at the end to keep the question explanations reader-friendly. Direct quotations have been avoided; explanations are written as study notes.

## SECTION I: History, Art and Culture

### 1. Pleistocene River System Changes

#### Question

Consider the following assertion:

In the Pleistocene period either the Yamuna once flowed into the Indus, or the Sutlej flowed into the Yamuna and one major tributary of either had shifted from the Ganga to the Indus or vice versa.

Which of the following is/are the basis of the above assertion?

1. The Nadi-Sukta of the Rigveda
2. The explorations of the Sutlej and the Yamuna by Robert Bruce Foote
3. The presence of the same species of dolphins in both the Indus and the Ganga river systems

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

**Correct Answer: (d) 3 only**

**Explanation:** The occurrence of closely related river dolphins in the Indus and Ganga systems is taken as biogeographical evidence of a past hydrological connection between these basins. The Nadi-Sukta is not scientific evidence of Pleistocene river-course changes, and the river-capture assertion is not based on Robert Bruce Foote's explorations.

### 2. Early Buddhist Iconography

#### Question

What does an empty seat represent in early Buddhist iconography?

- (a) The meditation of the Buddha  
 (b) The Buddha's First Sermon  
 (c) The Buddha's Mahaparinibbana  
 (d) The Buddha's Mahabhinishkramana

**Correct Answer: (a) The meditation of the Buddha**

**Explanation:** In early aniconic Buddhist art, the Buddha was represented through symbols rather than a human figure. An empty seat or throne indicates the meditating or spiritually present Buddha; the wheel symbolises the First Sermon, the stupa signifies Mahaparinibbana, and a riderless horse represents the Great Departure.

### 3. Ancient and Modern Names of Rivers

#### Question

Which of the following pairs of ancient and modern names of rivers is/are correctly matched?

1. Vitasta : Chenab
2. Asikni : Jhelum
3. Parushni : Ravi
4. Yavyavati : Beas

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

**Correct Answer: (c) 3 only**

**Explanation:** Vitasta is identified with the Jhelum and Asikni with the Chenab. Parushni is the ancient name of the Ravi and is associated with the Battle of Ten Kings. Beas is conventionally identified with Vipasa/Vipash, not Yavyavati; hence only pair 3 is correctly matched.

#### 4. Amaravati Stupa and Relief Sculpture

##### Question

Which of the following statements on the Amaravati Stupa and its relief sculpture is/are correct?

1. It was located in the lower Krishna valley.
2. In India, it was next only to the Sanchi Stupa in size.
3. The Amaravati school of sculpture made a lasting impact on later South Indian sculpture, and its products were carried to Sri Lanka and South-east Asia.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** Amaravati, also called the Mahachaitya, was situated in the lower Krishna valley in present-day Andhra Pradesh. Its limestone relief tradition influenced later artistic activity in South India and travelled through Buddhist maritime connections to Sri Lanka and Southeast Asia. The statement placing it below Sanchi in size is incorrect, as Amaravati's original stupa was larger in diameter than the Great Stupa at Sanchi.

#### 5. Kings and Dynasties of Early Historical Tamilakam

##### Question

Which of the following pairs of the king and his dynasty in early historical Tamilakam is/are not correctly matched?

1. Senguttuvan : Chera
2. Udiyanjeral : Chola
3. Nedunjeliyan : Pandya

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:** Senguttuvan was a famous Chera ruler and Nedunjeliyan was associated with the Pandya line. Udiyanjeral, also rendered Uthiyan Cheralathan, was a Chera ruler, not a Chola; therefore pair 2 alone is wrongly matched.

#### 6. Formation of the Forward Bloc

##### Question

Which of the following factors contributed to the formation of the Forward Bloc by Subhas Chandra Bose in 1939?

1. Bose failed to win the confidence of Mahatma Gandhi.
2. The Congress Left was disunited and failed to support Bose.
3. The Communists did not support Bose in his endeavours.
4. The supporters of M.N. Roy and socialist leaders like Jayaprakash Narayan preferred Congress unity to supporting Bose.

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

**Correct Answer: (c) 1, 3 and 4**

**Explanation:** After his re-election as Congress President in 1939, Bose faced a major conflict with Gandhi and the dominant Congress leadership over strategy. He failed to secure Gandhi's confidence, and important groups including communists, Royists and socialists preferred Congress unity rather than supporting his confrontation. This political isolation contributed to the establishment of the Forward Bloc in May 1939.

**Note:** This item has been treated according to the previously explained standard-history interpretation; the official answer key remains final.

## 7. British Policy in Awadh after Annexation

### Question

Consider the following statements regarding the British policy in Awadh immediately after its annexation in 1856:

1. The taluqdars were dispossessed of their estates but allowed to retain their arms and forts.
2. A Summary Revenue Settlement was made in 1856 assuming that the taluqdars were outsiders.
3. The British believed in taking revenue directly from the peasants by removing the taluqdars.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (a) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** After annexing Awadh, British officials treated many taluqdars as interlopers and sought direct settlement with cultivators. Under the Summary Settlement of 1856, their land control was reduced. They were also disarmed and their forts were destroyed; therefore statement 1 is incorrect.

## 8. Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms and Community-based Politics

### Question

Consider the following assertion:

The genesis of political alliances based on community lay in the very nature of the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms, 1919.

Which of the following statements support/supports the above assertion?

1. Reforms retained and extended the principle of separate electorates.
2. Separate electorates were supposed to counter Indian nationalism, which was growing stronger.
3. Deprived classes rallied around the favours inherent in separate electorates.

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

**Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3**

**Explanation:** The Government of India Act, 1919 continued separate electorates and expanded communal representation beyond Muslims to other identified communities. This encouraged political mobilisation on communal or sectional lines and was compatible with colonial efforts to weaken unified nationalist politics. The statement on deprived classes refers to the wider consequence of political safeguards being demanded through community identities.

## 9. Pandit Mallikarjun Mansur

### Question

Pandit Mallikarjun Mansur, the famous classical singer from Karnataka, represented the:

- (a) Agra Gharana
- (b) Gwalior Gharana
- (c) Patiala Gharana
- (d) Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana

**Correct Answer: (d) Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana**

**Explanation:** Pandit Mallikarjun Mansur of Dharwad was one of the foremost exponents of the Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana. Though his initial training had connections with the Gwalior tradition, his mature style was shaped by training under Manji Khan and Bhurji Khan of the Jaipur-Atrauli lineage.

## 10. The Term Kshetra-patni

### Question

In which one among the following texts does the term kshetra-patni (mistress of the field) originate?

- (a) Rigveda
- (b) Atharvaveda
- (c) Ashtadhyayi
- (d) Arthashastra

**Correct Answer: (b) Atharvaveda**

**Explanation:** The expression kshetra-patni or kshetrasya patni, meaning lady or mistress of the field/soil, is traced to the Atharvaveda. It reflects the agrarian and fertility-related vocabulary of the Vedic tradition. The Rigveda contains references to Kshetrapati, but the specific expression in the question is associated with the Atharvaveda.

## 11. Bilawal and Carnatic Equivalent

### Question

Which one of the following Carnatic music ragas is similar to Raga Bilawal in Hindustani music?

- (a) Nat Bhairavi
- (b) Kamavardhini
- (c) Hanumatodi
- (d) Dheera Shankarabharanam

**Correct Answer: (d) Dheera Shankarabharanam**

**Explanation:** Bilawal in Hindustani music and Dheera Shankarabharanam in Carnatic music use the natural seven-note major-scale arrangement. Dheera Shankarabharanam is the 29th Melakarta raga and is broadly comparable to the Bilawal thaat.

## 12. Hilton-Young Commission and Rupee-Sterling Rate

### Question

The artificially fixed rupee-sterling exchange rate prescribed by the Hilton-Young Commission (1926) was adopted by the British Government for which one of the following reasons?

- (a) Aiding the flow of remittances from India and maintaining India's creditworthiness
- (b) Providing support to Indian importers
- (c) Encouraging export of cotton produce from India
- (d) Preventing depreciation of the Rupee in terms of gold

**Correct Answer: (a) Aiding the flow of remittances from India and maintaining India's creditworthiness**

**Explanation:** The Hilton-Young Commission supported maintaining the rupee at 1 shilling 6 pence, a high rupee-sterling ratio. This benefited colonial financial interests by making the transfer of Home Charges and other sterling obligations from India easier and by reassuring British creditors. Indian exporters generally opposed the high exchange rate because it hurt their competitiveness.

## 13. Pali Texts, Coins and Urbanisation

### Question

Consider the following statements:

- I. Pali texts contain the first definite references to coins, e.g., kahapana, nikkha, kamsa, and kakanika.
- II. The literary evidence from Pali texts is corroborated by archaeological evidence of punch-marked coins from many sites, most of them made of silver.

The above statements have been associated with which of the following?

- 1. Emergence of urban life
- 2. Transition to money economy

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

**Correct Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** References to money in Pali texts and the discovery of punch-marked silver coins correspond to the period of second urbanisation from around the sixth century BCE. Coins supported expanding markets, crafts, trade and transactions, indicating both the growth of urban centres and a transition towards a monetised economy.

#### 14. Nagara-style Shikhara

##### Question

Which of the following temples has/have a Nagara-style shikhara?

1. Malegitti Shivalaya, Badami
2. Huchimalligudi Temple, Aihole
3. Dashavatara Temple, Deogarh
4. Virupaksha Temple, Pattadakal

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 2 and 3**

**Explanation:** Huchimalligudi at Aihole reflects the Nagara-type curvilinear shikhara in early Chalukyan experimentation. The Dashavatara Temple at Deogarh is an important early Nagara example. Malegitti Shivalaya and Virupaksha Temple are primarily associated with the Dravida tradition of superstructure.

#### 15. Four Forms of Existence in Jainism

##### Question

Among the four main forms of existence of life recognised in Jainism, which one of the following is not included?

- (a) Deva (gods)
- (b) Yaksha (demi-gods)
- (c) Manushya (humans)
- (d) Tiryanca (animals and plants)

**Correct Answer: (b) Yaksha (demi-gods)**

**Explanation:** The four gatis or modes of rebirth in Jainism are Deva-gati, Manushya-gati, Tiryanca-gati and Naraka-gati. Yakshas may appear as attendant or guardian deities in Jain tradition, but they are not a separate one of the four principal gatis.

#### 16. Hallisalasya Painting in the Bagh Caves

##### Question

The Hallisalasya painting in the Bagh Caves represents:

- (a) A joyous folk dance
- (b) Buddha in a meditative pose
- (c) The depiction of Shiva and Parvati on Kailasha
- (d) Samudramanathan (Churning of the Ocean)

**Correct Answer: (a) A joyous folk dance**

**Explanation:** Hallisalasya is a celebrated mural associated with Cave No. 4, the Rang Mahal, of the Bagh Caves in Madhya Pradesh. It depicts a lively group dance and demonstrates that Bagh painting included secular and festive themes alongside Buddhist contexts.

## 17. Place-value System in India

### Question

Consider the following statements relating to the use of the place-value system in India:

1. The earliest epigraphic use of the place-value system in India is found in the Mankani plates from Gujarat (AD 595-596).
2. In the ninth century, place-values became general in inscriptions all over India.
3. Place-values have been found in Sanskrit inscriptions in South-east Asia as early as the seventh century.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3**

**Explanation:** In the conventional historical account, the Mankani plates are cited as early epigraphic evidence of decimal place-value notation in India. The system became more widespread in Indian inscriptions by about the ninth century, and Sanskrit inscriptions in Southeast Asia, including early Cambodian evidence, demonstrate its early transmission abroad.

**Note:** There is scholarly discussion about the authenticity and dating of the Mankani plates; the answer reflects the conventional examination-oriented treatment.

## 18. Harappan Archaeological Findings and Inferences

### Question

Consider the following statements about the archaeological findings in Harappan towns:

- I. There is wide occurrence of spindle-whorls in the houses but absence of spinning wheels.
- II. Weights and measurement scales, complete with graduations, have been discovered.
- III. There are houses built in large part with baked bricks, around relatively spacious courtyards, with their own wells, bathing platforms, and large rooms.

Which of the following inferences can be drawn from the above statements?

1. Statement I suggests that spinning was a laborious activity done at home.
  2. Statement II suggests the extent of the scientific knowledge that the Harappans possessed.
  3. Statement III suggests the emergence of a common property system.
- (a) 1 and 2 only
  - (b) 2 and 3 only
  - (c) 1 and 3 only
  - (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** Spindle-whorls recovered from houses indicate household-based hand spinning. Standardised weights and graduated measures indicate precision and scientific/technical capability useful in trade and production. Private wells, bathing platforms and large rooms indicate household facilities and social differentiation, not a common property system.

## 19. Eka Movement and Bardoli Satyagraha

### Question

Which one of the following statements about the Eka Movement and Bardoli Satyagraha is correct?

- (a) The Eka Movement was throughout supported and organized by the Congress, while Bardoli Satyagraha was initially independent of Congress influence and was only in the last stages supported by the Congress.
- (b) The Eka Movement was provided leadership by the taluqdars of Awadh, whereas the Bardoli Satyagraha was a movement of the landless labourers.
- (c) The Bardoli Satyagraha was a campaign against the enhancement of land revenue, while the Eka Movement was a protest against excessive extraction of rents.

(d) The Eka Movement was located in the Varanasi and Mirzapur districts of present-day U.P., while the Bardoli Satyagraha took place in Saurashtra.

**Correct Answer: (c) The Bardoli Satyagraha was a campaign against enhancement of land revenue, while the Eka Movement was a protest against excessive extraction of rents.**

**Explanation:** The Eka Movement in Awadh during 1921-22 protested high rents, illegal cesses and landlord oppression and was linked with Madari Pasi. The Bardoli Satyagraha of 1928 in Gujarat, led by Vallabhbhai Patel, opposed enhancement of land revenue. Bardoli was not primarily a landless-labour movement, and it was located in Gujarat rather than Saurashtra as claimed in option (d).

## 20. Well Irrigation and Draught Animals in the Rigvedic Period

### Question

Consider the following statements about the Rigvedic period:

- I. Irrigation from wells allowed agriculture to expand away from flood plains and strips on river margins into the present Punjab and Haryana plains having underground water levels reasonably close to the surface.
- II. Draught-animal power was employed to draw up water out of the wells.

Which of the following information support/supports the above statements?

1. There is evidence in the Rigveda of the use of ashma chakra (stone pulley wheel) and ahava (strapped wooden pails) to draw up water.
  2. Mention has been made in the Rigveda of the use of implements like parashu/kulisha (axe) and datra/sreni (sickle).
  3. There is a history of the use of ox, even before the Rigveda, for ploughing the land and pulling carts.
- (a) 1 and 2 only  
 (b) 1, 2 and 3  
 (c) 1 and 3 only  
 (d) 3 only

**Correct Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** The use of water-lifting implements directly supports irrigation from wells. Evidence that oxen were already used as draught animals supports the possibility of animal-powered lifting of water. Axes and sickles demonstrate agricultural activity generally but do not directly establish the two specific claims about well irrigation and animal-powered water lifting.

**Note:** Some provisional answer keys may treat statement 2 as broadly supportive of agricultural expansion; this explanation uses strict assertion-evidence matching.

## SECTION II: Geography, Environment, Agriculture and Infrastructure

### 21. Tungurahua Volcano UNESCO Global Geopark

#### Question

Tungurahua Volcano, which was declared a Global Geopark by UNESCO in 2025, is situated in which one among the following countries?

- (a) Ecuador  
 (b) Peru  
 (c) Bolivia  
 (d) Colombia

**Correct Answer: (a) Ecuador**

**Explanation:** The Tungurahua Volcano UNESCO Global Geopark lies in the Ecuadorian Andes. UNESCO recognised it as a Global Geopark in 2025 along with Ecuador's Napo Sumaco UNESCO Global Geopark. It is characterised by active volcanic landforms, tectonic processes and landscapes shaped by glaciation.

### 22. Madhav National Park

#### Question

With reference to Madhav National Park, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It was declared a Tiger Reserve in India in 2025.
2. Sakhya Sagar, which is designated as a Ramsar Site, is situated within this National Park.
3. Its area is shared between Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** Madhav National Park in Shivpuri district, Madhya Pradesh, was declared India's 58th Tiger Reserve in 2025. Sakhya Sagar, a human-made reservoir within the park, is designated as a Ramsar Site. The park itself lies in Madhya Pradesh and is not shared with Rajasthan.

### 23. Climate of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

#### Question

With reference to the climate of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The climate can be defined as a humid, tropical coastal climate.
2. It receives rainfall from both South-west monsoon and North-east monsoon.
3. Maximum precipitation is between December and May.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** The islands have a warm, highly humid tropical maritime climate. They receive rainfall from both the South-west and North-east monsoons, with cyclonic systems also contributing. Maximum rainfall is generally associated with the monsoon period rather than the relatively drier December-May span.

### 24. Peninsular Block of India

#### Question

Which of the following geographical features or phenomena is/are associated with the Peninsular Block of India?

1. Submergence of parts of the western coast due to tectonic activity
2. Presence of residual mountain ranges such as the Veliconda Hills and Mahendragiri Hills
3. Deep, V-shaped river valleys formed by fast-flowing rivers

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** The Peninsular Block is an ancient and largely stable landmass, but parts of the western coast have undergone tectonic submergence. Long denudation has produced residual hills and ranges such as Veliconda and Mahendragiri. Its rivers generally flow through mature, broad and shallow valleys rather than the youthful deep V-shaped valleys characteristic of high-relief mountain terrains.

### 25. Sagarmala Programme

#### Question

Consider the following statements with reference to the Sagarmala Programme of the Government of India:

- I. The Sagarmala Programme seeks to achieve port-led economic growth through cost-effective and sustainable coastal infrastructure.
- II. The success of the Sagarmala Programme is reflected in significant growth in coastal and inland waterway shipping, along

with improved global port rankings.

III. Sagarmala 2.0 aims to position India as a global maritime innovation hub aligned with Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047 visions.

Which of the following relationships among the above statements is/are correct?

1. Statement II validates the effectiveness of the strategies envisioned in Statement I.
  2. Statement III extends the objectives of Statement I by embedding them into a future-oriented innovation framework.
  3. Statement I contradicts Statement III by focusing only on traditional infrastructure instead of modern innovation.
- (a) 1 only  
 (b) 1 and 2  
 (c) 2 and 3  
 (d) 3 only

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** Sagarmala is a port-led development programme aimed at lowering logistics costs through ports, connectivity, industrialisation, coastal community development and coastal/inland water transport. Improvements in coastal shipping and port performance are outcomes consistent with its strategy. Sagarmala 2.0 broadens the vision to innovation, shipbuilding, repair, recycling and maritime competitiveness; it does not contradict the original framework.

## 26. *Rhynchostylis retusa* (Foxtail Orchid)

### Question

Consider the following statements about *Rhynchostylis retusa* (Foxtail orchid):

1. It is an epiphytic orchid.
2. The species is endemic to North-east India.
3. It is the State flower of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 3**

**Explanation:** *Rhynchostylis retusa* is an epiphytic orchid that grows on trees without being parasitic. It is the State Flower of both Assam and Arunachal Pradesh and is culturally known in Assam as Kopou Phul. It is not endemic to North-east India because its distribution extends across other parts of tropical Asia.

## 27. Moidams of the Tai-Ahom Kingdom

### Question

Which one of the following statements with regard to the Moidams, built by the Tai-Ahom kingdom and inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, is/are correct?

1. They acted as army fortresses.
  2. They were recreation centres of the Royals and Nobles.
  3. They were burial grounds of the Royals and Nobles.
  4. They were battle drill centres of the Royals and Nobles.
- (a) 1 only  
 (b) 1 and 3  
 (c) 3 only  
 (d) 2 and 4

**Correct Answer: (c) 3 only**

**Explanation:** The Moidams at Charaideo in Assam are mound-burial structures belonging to the Tai-Ahom funerary tradition. They served as burial grounds for Ahom royals and nobles and were inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2024. They were not military fortresses, recreation sites or drill centres.

## 28. FAO Blue Transformation and the Four Betters

### Question

At the United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) held in June 2025 in France, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations demonstrated its leading voice on marine and ocean issues, especially on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for resilient livelihoods and “Blue Transformation.”

Which of the following combinations about the “Four Betters” proposed by FAO for “Blue Transformation” is correct?

- (a) Better production, better nutrition, better environment and better ocean
- (b) Better production, better nutrition, better environment and better life
- (c) Better coral reefs, better nutrition, better environment and better life
- (d) Better estuaries, better nutrition, better environment and better mangrove vegetation

**Correct Answer: (b) Better production, better nutrition, better environment and better life**

**Explanation:** FAO's Blue Transformation framework promotes sustainable aquatic food systems through the Four Betters: better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life. These objectives connect responsible fisheries and aquaculture with nutrition, ecosystem protection and livelihood resilience.

## 29. Lake Turkana

### Question

Which of the following statements with reference to Lake Turkana is/are correct?

1. It is the largest desert lake in the world.
2. The lake is situated in South Sudan along the eastern fringe of the Sahara Desert.
3. The lake is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is also referred to as the “Jade Sea.”

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** Lake Turkana, largely in northern Kenya in the East African Rift Valley, is the world's largest desert lake and is popularly called the Jade Sea. Lake Turkana National Parks are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is not situated in South Sudan or on the eastern fringe of the Sahara.

## 30. First Plan Vivo-certified REDD+ Project in India

### Question

Which one of the following is the first Plan Vivo certified Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) project in India?

- (a) Uttarakhand REDD+ project
- (b) ICFRE-ICIMOD Transboundary REDD+ project in North-Eastern Himalayas
- (c) Khasi Hills Community REDD+ project
- (d) Sikkim Mamley Kamrang Community REDD+ project

**Correct Answer: (c) Khasi Hills Community REDD+ project**

**Explanation:** The Khasi Hills Community REDD+ Project in Meghalaya is India's first Plan Vivo-certified community-based REDD+ project. It works with indigenous communities to reduce deforestation, restore degraded forests, conserve sacred groves and provide livelihood-linked carbon benefits.

### 31. India's Climate Change Response: LT-LEDS and BUR-4

#### Question

Consider the following statements with reference to India's response to climate change:

- I. India's Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) is a crucial tool for achieving net-zero emissions by 2070.
- II. India's 4th Biennial Update Report (BUR-4), submitted in December 2024, recorded around 8% decrease in greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 over 2019.
- III. Climate-resilient development necessarily depends on quick and short-term achievement of emission reduction targets.

Which of the following relationships among the above statements is/are correct?

1. Statement II empirically supports Statement I.
2. Statement III contradicts the approach implicit in Statement I.
3. Statement I and Statement III together establish the premise of long-term sustainability.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** India's LT-LEDS outlines a long-term pathway towards the net-zero target of 2070. BUR-4 reported a 7.93% reduction in GHG emissions in 2020 over 2019, which is consistent with a lower-emission development direction. Climate-resilient development is a long-term integration of mitigation, adaptation and development, and is not reducible to quick short-term emission cuts alone.

**Note:** Strictly, the 2020 emissions data precede India's submission of LT-LEDS in 2022; the answer follows the intended relationship-based interpretation of the question.

### 32. Western Hoolock Gibbons

#### Question

With respect to the Western Hoolock Gibbons, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. A Sanctuary in North-east India is home to this ape species listed as Endangered in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.
2. They have specialized brachiation and can easily swing between trees.
3. They possess a strong and heavy build like gorillas, yet are remarkably agile tree climbers.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** The Western Hoolock Gibbon, India's only native ape, is found in North-east India, including Assam's Hollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary, and is listed as Endangered. Gibbons are slender, long-armed arboreal apes specialised for brachiation. They do not have the heavy body build of gorillas.

### 33. Mangroves and Climate Resilience

#### Question

Which of the following best explain(s) the rationale for protecting mangrove ecosystems in the context of climate resilience?

1. Mangroves reduce tidal energy and store freshwater, making them ideal sites for paddy cultivation in saline estuarine belts.
2. Their salt-sensitive roots filter seawater, making mangroves key to converting coastal land into freshwater aquaculture zones.
3. By withstanding tidal surges and offering biomass resources, mangroves function both as natural bio-shields and livelihood bases for rural communities.

- (a) 1 only

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

**Correct Answer: (d) 3 only**

**Explanation:** Mangroves are salt-tolerant coastal ecosystems that reduce the impact of storm surges, waves, cyclones and coastal erosion. They provide nursery habitats for fish and support livelihoods such as fisheries and honey collection. They are not protected as sites for conversion into paddy fields or freshwater aquaculture zones.

### 34. Vizhinjam International Seaport

#### Question

In what way(s) does the Vizhinjam International Seaport represent a structural shift in India's maritime trade and logistics policy?

1. By functioning exclusively as a domestic cargo hub to reduce reliance on coastal shipping and eliminate the need for foreign collaborations.
2. By focusing primarily on passenger cruise tourism and heritage shipping to increase Kerala's profile as a maritime heritage destination.
3. By leveraging its natural deep draft and strategic location to reduce dependence on foreign trans-shipment ports, enhance revenue retention, and reposition India in regional maritime trade.

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

**Correct Answer: (d) 3 only**

**Explanation:** Vizhinjam is designed as an international container trans-shipment and gateway port. Its natural deep draft and proximity to major international east-west shipping routes enable it to handle large vessels and reduce reliance on foreign trans-shipment hubs. Its primary policy significance is maritime cargo logistics, not an exclusive focus on domestic cargo or cruise heritage tourism.

### 35. River of the Indian Sub-continent

#### Question

Identify the river of the Indian sub-continent on the basis of the following information:

1. It has an antecedent drainage system.
2. It flows through three countries.
3. It originates in the Tibetan Plateau and is an important river for irrigation.
4. It does not form distributaries.

- (a) Brahmaputra
- (b) Indus
- (c) Sutlej
- (d) Teesta

**Correct Answer: (c) Sutlej**

**Explanation:** The Sutlej is an antecedent river arising near Rakshastal in the Tibetan Plateau. It flows through China/Tibet, India and Pakistan and is central to irrigation and power projects such as Bhakra-Nangal. It ultimately joins the Chenab/Panjnad system rather than forming an independent distributary-based delta.

### 36. Boundary Facts about Indian States

#### Question

Which of the following with reference to Indian States is/are not correct?

1. Uttar Pradesh shares its boundary with the highest number of other Indian States.
2. Rajasthan shares the longest international border among all Indian States.
3. Sikkim is the only State that shares its boundary with just one other Indian State.

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

**Correct Answer: (c) 2 and 3**

**Explanation:** Uttar Pradesh borders eight Indian States, the highest number. Rajasthan has the longest border with Pakistan, but West Bengal has the longest international boundary among Indian States due primarily to its boundary with Bangladesh. Sikkim borders only West Bengal internally, but Meghalaya also borders only one Indian State, Assam.

### 37. Amur Falcons at Doyang Lake

#### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to the arrival of Amur Falcons at Doyang Lake in Nagaland each year from Mongolia is/are correct?

1. It showcases how sustained local conservation efforts can contribute to the arrival and protection of international migratory birds.
  2. It reflects the global success of advanced tracking technologies that guide migratory birds back to their stopover sites.
  3. It confirms that Amur Falcons have adapted to permanent residency in India due to favourable habitat changes.
- (a) 1 only
  - (b) 1 and 2
  - (c) 2 and 3
  - (d) 3 only

**Correct Answer: (a) 1 only**

**Explanation:** Doyang Lake is an important stopover for Amur Falcons during their long migration from breeding regions in East Asia towards southern Africa. Community-led conservation in Nagaland helped end large-scale hunting and protect the birds. Tracking technology helps scientists monitor migration; it does not guide the birds, and the species is not a permanent resident of India.

### 38. Rainfed Area Development under NMSA

#### Question

Which among the following is/are the objective(s) of the Rainfed Area Development (RAD) initiative under the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)?

1. Encouraging monoculture in rainfed areas
  2. Increasing rice cultivation in irrigated regions
  3. Enhancing productivity and minimising climatic risks through Integrated Farming Systems (IFS)
- (a) 1 only
  - (b) 1 and 2
  - (c) 2 and 3
  - (d) 3 only

**Correct Answer: (d) 3 only**

**Explanation:** RAD aims to improve productivity and reduce climatic vulnerability in rainfed areas through location-specific Integrated Farming Systems. These systems combine crops with horticulture, livestock, fisheries, agroforestry or allied activities. RAD promotes diversification and resilience rather than monoculture or expansion of irrigated rice cultivation.

### 39. Oeko-Tex Certification for Eri Silk

#### Question

Which of the following is/are the most significant implication(s) of obtaining Oeko-Tex certification for Eri Silk in the global textile industry?

1. It allows Indian exporters to compete in high-end markets that prioritise chemical-free products.
2. It confirms that Eri Silk meets international safety, environmental, and quality standards, enabling its entry into premium eco-conscious markets.

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

**Correct Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** Oeko-Tex certification provides assurance regarding harmful-substance testing and strengthens international buyer confidence. For Eri Silk, an important textile of North-east India, the certification supports access to premium sustainable and eco-conscious markets and improves export prospects for producers and artisans.

#### 40. Strait of Hormuz

##### Question

Ships from which of the following countries have to cross the Strait of Hormuz to reach out to the Indian Ocean?

1. Bahrain
  2. Syria
  3. Qatar
  4. Egypt
- (a) 1 and 2
  - (b) 1 and 3
  - (c) 2 and 3
  - (d) 3 and 4

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 3**

**Explanation:** The Strait of Hormuz is the maritime exit from the Persian Gulf into the Gulf of Oman and Arabian Sea. Bahrain and Qatar lie within the Persian Gulf and their ships must cross Hormuz to reach the Indian Ocean. Syria has access through the Mediterranean-Suez-Red Sea route, while Egypt already has Red Sea access.

### SECTION III: Institutions, Economy, Technology and Current Affairs

#### 41. INTERPOL Notices

##### Question

Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the lists:

List I - INTERPOL Notice

- A. Silver Notice
- B. Blue Notice
- C. Black Notice
- D. Green Notice

List II - Description

1. To seek information on unidentified bodies
2. To collect additional information about a person's identity, location, or activities in relation to a criminal investigation
3. To provide warning about a person's criminal activities, where the person is considered to be a possible threat to public safety
4. To identify and trace criminal assets

- (a) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4
- (b) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4
- (c) A-4, B-2, C-1, D-3
- (d) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

**Correct Answer: (c) A-4, B-2, C-1, D-3**

**Explanation:** INTERPOL's Silver Notice is used to identify and trace criminal assets. A Blue Notice seeks information concerning a person's identity, location or activities in relation to a crime; a Black Notice concerns unidentified bodies; and a Green Notice warns of persons likely to pose a public-safety threat.

## 42. NIRANTAR Platform

### Question

Which of the following statements in relation to NIRANTAR - National Institute for Research and Application of Natural Resources to Transform, Adapt and Build Resilience - a platform of institutions under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, is/are correct?

1. Ecosystem Survey and Analysis is a vertical under this platform, the lead institute of which is Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata.
2. Research and Management of Ecosystem Service is a vertical under this platform, the lead institute of which is Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi.
3. Capacity Development Support is a vertical under this platform, the lead institute of which is Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** Under NIRANTAR, the Ecosystem Survey and Analysis vertical is led by the Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata, and Capacity Development Support is led by the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal. Research and Management of Ecosystem Service is led by the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun, not the Central Zoo Authority.

## 43. Visit of the German Chancellor to India, January 2026

### Question

The Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany visited India in January 2026. Which of the following is/are not correct in terms of outcomes of this visit?

1. Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the All India Institute of Ayurveda and the University of Hamburg.
2. Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Youth Hockey Development between Hockey India and the German Hockey Federation.
3. Establishment of a bilateral dialogue mechanism on the Indo-Pacific.
4. Opening of an Honorary Consul of Germany in Lucknow.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 4**

**Explanation:** The official outcomes included an MoU between the All India Institute of Ayurveda and Charite University, Germany, not the University of Hamburg. The visit included youth hockey cooperation and establishment of an Indo-Pacific dialogue mechanism. The announcement relating to an Honorary Consul of Germany concerned Ahmedabad, not Lucknow.

## 44. DHRUV64 Microprocessor

### Question

Which of the following statements about DHRUV64 is/are correct?

1. It is the third chip fabricated under the DIR-V Programme with an overall aim to enable the creation of microprocessors for India.
2. It is India's first homegrown 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor.

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

**Correct Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** DHRUV64 is an indigenous processor developed under the Digital India RISC-V programme. It is identified as India's first homegrown 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor and the third chip fabricated under DIR-V, strengthening domestic processor design and semiconductor capability.

#### 45. BIS Standard for Bomb Disposal Systems

##### Question

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) recently introduced a national standard to test and assess bomb disposal systems. Which of the following statements with regard to this system is/are correct?

1. The new standard is known as IS 19445:2025.
  2. It will improve interoperability of equipment across agencies.
  3. It was developed by TBRL, DRDO in collaboration with the 30th Central Scientific Research Institute, Russia.
- (a) 1, 2 and 3  
 (b) 2 and 3 only  
 (c) 1 and 2 only  
 (d) 1 only

**Correct Answer: (c) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** IS 19445:2025 lays down performance evaluation and requirements for bomb disposal systems. Uniform standards support safety, reliable procurement and interoperability across security agencies. It was developed through a BIS consensus process with a panel convened by TBRL, DRDO; the official information does not mention collaboration with the Russian institute specified in statement 3.

#### 46. Nobel Prize Laureate Identified by Clues

##### Question

“X”, born in the UK, was conferred the Nobel Prize in 2025. He was a professor in an American university when this prize was announced. Identify X:

- (a) Michel H. Devoret  
 (b) Richard Robson  
 (c) John Clarke  
 (d) Joel Mokyr

**Correct Answer: (c) John Clarke**

**Explanation:** John Clarke, born in Cambridge, United Kingdom, was affiliated with the University of California, Berkeley at the time of the 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics. He shared the prize with Michel H. Devoret and John M. Martinis for work on macroscopic quantum mechanical tunnelling and energy quantisation in an electric circuit.

#### 47. Grand Slam Tennis Tournaments

##### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to the Grand Slam Tennis Tournaments is/are correct?

1. The tournaments have a shared governance structure establishing the partnership among the four Grand Slam tournaments.
  2. They are open for entry to all internationally ranked tennis players above the age of 14.
  3. There is a limitation on the number of “Wild Cards” a player may receive to compete in a Grand Slam Tournament.
- (a) 1 and 2 only  
 (b) 2 and 3 only  
 (c) 1 only  
 (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (c) 1 only**

**Explanation:** Grand Slam Tennis is the partnership and shared governance structure of the Australian Open, Roland-Garros, Wimbledon and the US Open. Entry is subject to ranking and eligibility rules rather than being open to every internationally ranked player above 14. The official rules provide that there is no limitation on the number of wild cards a player may receive.

## 48. Semiconductor Plants in India

### Question

Which one of the following pairs of semiconductor plants in India and their locations is not correctly matched?

- (a) CG Power and Industrial Solutions Pvt. Ltd. in partnership with Renesas Electronics and STARS Microelectronics : Gujarat
- (b) Tata Semiconductor Assembly and Test Pvt. Ltd. : Assam
- (c) HCL-Foxconn Joint Venture India Chip Ltd. : Madhya Pradesh
- (d) SiCSem Pvt. Ltd. : Odisha

**Correct Answer: (c) HCL-Foxconn Joint Venture India Chip Ltd. - Madhya Pradesh**

**Explanation:** The HCL-Foxconn semiconductor unit is located in the Jewar/YEIDA region of Uttar Pradesh, not Madhya Pradesh. The CG Power-Renesas-STARS unit is associated with Gujarat; Tata's assembly and test unit is in Assam; and SiCSem is associated with a silicon carbide semiconductor facility in Odisha.

## 49. Bharat Forecast System

### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to India's indigenous new high-resolution weather model, the "Bharat Forecast System", is/are correct?

1. Its objective is to generate forecasts at the Panchayats cluster level.
  2. It was developed by IIT Delhi.
- (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only
  - (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (a) 1 only**

**Explanation:** The Bharat Forecast System is a 6 km high-resolution indigenous weather forecasting model intended to provide more localised forecasts at panchayat or clusters-of-panchayats level. It was developed by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, not IIT Delhi.

## 50. Film Boong and BAFTA

### Question

Consider the following statements with regard to the film Boong:

1. The film has recently won the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Award in the Children's and Family Film category.
2. The film is directed by Lakshmipriya Devi.
3. This is the first Indian film to win a BAFTA award in the Children's and Family Film category.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3**

**Explanation:** Boong, a Manipuri-language film directed by Lakshmipriya Devi, won the BAFTA Award for Children's and Family Film in 2026. It was recognised as the first Indian film to win in this BAFTA category, bringing international visibility to regional Indian cinema.

## 51. Features of Blockchain Technology

### Question

Which of the following statements regarding the features of blockchain technology are correct?

1. Records stored in the database may be made visible to relevant stakeholders without risk of alteration.
2. Copies of the entire database are stored on multiple computers on a network, syncing within seconds.
3. Consortium blockchain is a blend of public and private blockchains allowing selective data access.
4. Mathematical algorithms make it impossible to change or delete any data once recorded and accepted.

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

**Correct Answer: (c) 1, 2 and 4**

**Explanation:** Blockchain is a distributed ledger in which participating nodes maintain synchronised records, and cryptographic linking with consensus provides strong resistance to unauthorised alteration. Consortium blockchains are governed by a selected group of organisations; “hybrid blockchain” more accurately describes a public-private blend with selective access. In exam usage, accepted blockchain records are treated as immutable, though real systems may allow exceptional governance-based corrections or forks.

## 52. Dropshipping Revenue Model

### Question

An e-commerce revenue model where the seller has control over pricing but does not keep products in stock and instead transfers customer orders and shipment details to a third-party supplier, who then ships the goods directly to the customer, is called:

- (a) Dropshipping Model
- (b) Affiliate Revenue Model
- (c) Transaction Fee Revenue Model
- (d) Agency Revenue Model

**Correct Answer: (a) Dropshipping Model**

**Explanation:** In dropshipping, the online seller markets and prices products but does not maintain inventory. When a customer places an order, a third-party supplier fulfils and ships it directly to the buyer. The model differs from affiliate marketing, where the promoter ordinarily earns a referral commission rather than processing the sale.

## 53. RBI Financial Inclusion Index

### Question

Which one of the following correctly represents the three key sub-indices of the Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- (a) Credit access, Insurance depth, and Pension coverage
- (b) Banking access, GDP contribution, and Financial literacy
- (c) Access, Usage, and Quality
- (d) Access, Affordability, and Transparency

**Correct Answer: (c) Access, Usage, and Quality**

**Explanation:** The RBI's Financial Inclusion Index assesses access to, use of and quality of financial services across banking, investments, insurance, postal and pension sectors. Its three sub-indices are Access, Usage and Quality, weighted to capture not just availability but actual adoption and consumer outcomes.

## 54. Open Network for Digital Commerce

### Question

Which one of the following best describes the key objective of India's 'Open Network for Digital Commerce' (ONDC) initiative?

- (a) To allow government control over all digital commerce transactions
- (b) To replace private e-commerce players
- (c) To break the dominance of large e-commerce platforms by enabling interoperability across networks

(d) To mandate UPI-based payments for all online transactions

**Correct Answer: (c) To break the dominance of large e-commerce platforms by enabling interoperability across networks**

**Explanation:** ONDC seeks to shift digital commerce from closed platform-centric markets to an open interoperable network. Buyers using one application can discover sellers and services available through other applications, improving opportunities for small businesses and reducing dependence on dominant closed platforms.

## 55. UPI and Central Bank Digital Currency

### Question

Which one of the following statements about Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Central Bank Digital Currency (Digital Rupee) is not correct?

- (a) UPI is a real-time payment system, but Digital Rupee is akin to sovereign paper currency.
- (b) In case of UPI, settlement for end users happens instantly as the money gets immediately debited or credited, but in case of Digital Rupee, there is no settlement as the wallet balance gets transferred to another wallet.
- (c) UPI transactions are recorded by banks and reflected in bank statements, but in case of Digital Rupee, no data is captured in bank statements as transactions are from one wallet to another wallet.
- (d) In both the cases (UPI and Digital Rupee), the liability lies with the users and their respective banks.

**Correct Answer: (d) In both the cases, the liability lies with the users and their respective banks.**

**Explanation:** UPI is a payment interface through which bank deposits move between accounts; the deposit liability remains with commercial banks. The Digital Rupee is a sovereign digital currency issued by the RBI, and the liability for e-rupee lies with the RBI, like physical currency. Thus liability cannot be stated to lie with users and their banks in both systems.

## 56. Real-World Assets Tokenization

### Question

Which of the following statements about Real-World Assets (RWA) Tokenization are correct?

1. Tokenization is the process of turning real world assets into digital tokens using blockchain technology.
  2. Tokenization of real world assets offers 24 x 7 access, promoting financial inclusion.
  3. Tokenization of real world assets will allow access to high growth investment opportunities for individuals in India.
- (a) 1, 2 and 3
  - (b) 2 and 3 only
  - (c) 1 and 2 only
  - (d) 1 and 3 only

**Correct Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3**

**Explanation:** RWA tokenization represents rights or interests in assets such as real estate, securities or commodities as digital tokens on distributed ledger systems. It can facilitate fractional access, digital availability and wider participation in otherwise high-value assets. Its practical use for Indian individuals remains subject to regulatory permissions, investor protection and market-risk safeguards.

## 57. Sustainability Bond

### Question

A bond whose proceeds are used only to finance or refinance a combination of both environmental and social projects is called:

- (a) Green Bond
- (b) Social Bond
- (c) Sustainability Bond
- (d) Sovereign Bond

**Correct Answer: (c) Sustainability Bond**

**Explanation:** A Sustainability Bond finances or refinances a combination of eligible green and social projects. Green Bonds are restricted to environmental projects, Social Bonds to social projects, while Sovereign Bonds merely describe bonds issued by governments and need not be linked to sustainable uses.

## 58. M1xchange and MSME Financing

### Question

Which of the following statements about M1xchange's role in Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) financing is/are correct?

1. M1xchange provides collateral-based loans to MSMEs.
2. M1xchange facilitates discounting of invoices and Bills of Exchange for MSMEs.
3. M1xchange functions as a credit rating agency for MSMEs.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:** M1xchange is an RBI-approved Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) platform. It enables MSMEs to obtain financing against approved invoices and bills through financiers, generally without collateral. It is neither a collateral-based lender nor a credit rating agency.

## 59. Crowding Out Effect

### Question

Which one of the following best describes the 'Crowding Out Effect' in the context of fiscal policy?

- (a) A situation where private investment increases due to increased Government spending.
- (b) A situation where Government borrowing leads to higher interest rates, which reduces private investment.
- (c) A situation where an increase in taxes leads to increased private sector investment.
- (d) A situation where Government spending has no impact on aggregate demand.

**Correct Answer: (b) Government borrowing leads to higher interest rates, which reduces private investment.**

**Explanation:** When government borrowing expands substantially, demand for loanable funds may increase and interest rates may rise. Higher borrowing costs can discourage private firms from investing in productive activity; this is the standard crowding-out mechanism. By contrast, public infrastructure spending that encourages private investment is described as crowding in.

## 60. Rare Earth Elements and Critical Minerals

### Question

Which of the following statements about Rare Earth Elements (REEs) and Critical Minerals is/are correct?

1. Modern technological innovations including Artificial Intelligence, robotics and space exploration extensively utilise Rare Earth Elements (REEs).
2. China has the highest share in mining of REEs followed by India.
3. The Government of India launched the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) in 2025 to establish a robust framework for self-reliance in the critical mineral sector.
4. Rare Earth Elements are a set of 13 metallic elements.

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

**Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** REEs are vital to advanced electronics, permanent magnets, robotics, aerospace, clean energy and related technologies. China is the leading producer, but India is not the second-largest miner. REEs are a group of 17 metallic

elements: the 15 lanthanides together with scandium and yttrium. India approved the National Critical Mineral Mission in 2025 to strengthen exploration, processing, recycling and supply-chain resilience.

## SECTION IV: Economy, Science, Technology and Defence

### 61. Insurance in the Aviation Sector

#### Question

Which of the following statements about insurance in aviation sector is/are correct?

1. 'Aviation Hull Insurance' covers the physical aircraft, including the body, engine, and on-board equipment.
  2. Under the Montreal Convention, adopted in 1999 by over 130 countries, including India, airlines are strictly liable to pay compensation to the family/nominee of every deceased passenger without requiring the family to prove fault.
- (a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** Aviation Hull Insurance covers physical loss or damage to the aircraft, including its body, engines and fitted equipment, subject to policy terms. Under the Montreal Convention, for death or bodily injury caused by an accident on board or in the course of embarking/disembarking, the carrier is strictly liable up to the first-tier limit without proof of negligence. The statement must be read within this accident-related scope.

### 62. Crowdfunding

#### Question

Which of the following statements about Crowdfunding is/are correct?

1. Crowdfunding is solicitation of funds, in small amount, from multiple investors through a web-based platform or social networking site for a specific project.
  2. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are able to raise funds at lower cost of capital without undergoing rigorous procedures.
- (a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** Crowdfunding collects comparatively small contributions from a large number of persons through online platforms for a project or venture. It can offer start-ups and SMEs a less complex and potentially lower-cost funding avenue than conventional public fundraising, although securities-based crowdfunding requires adequate regulation and investor protection.

### 63. Committees in India

#### Question

With reference to different Committees in India, consider the following details:

1. R.N. Malhotra Committee - Comprehensive reforms of Insurance sector in India - Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India
2. L.C. Gupta Committee - Preparing a roadmap for the introduction of derivatives trading in India - Securities and Exchange Board of India
3. Urjit R. Patel Committee - Preparing a roadmap for reforming bank lending to the Housing sector - Reserve Bank of India
4. Y.H. Malegam Committee - Preparing a roadmap for reforms in Microfinance sector in India - Reserve Bank of India

In which of the above rows are all the details correctly matched?

- (a) 2 only

- (b) 2 and 3
- (c) 1, 3 and 4
- (d) 2 and 4

**Correct Answer: (d) 2 and 4**

**Explanation:** The L.C. Gupta Committee was appointed by SEBI for derivatives trading regulation, and the Y.H. Malegam Committee was constituted by RBI on microfinance issues. The Malhotra Committee was constituted by the Government of India before IRDAI existed and recommended insurance-sector reforms. The Urjit Patel Committee addressed the monetary policy framework and inflation targeting, not housing-sector lending.

## 64. Non-Banking Financial Companies

### Question

Consider the following statements about the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in India:

1. NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits.
2. All the NBFCs operating in India have to be registered with the RBI.
3. NBFCs form part of the payment and settlement system and can issue cheque drawn on itself.
4. Deposit insurance facility of Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) is not available to the depositors of deposit taking NBFCs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 4**

**Explanation:** NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits, are not part of the payment and settlement system in the manner banks are, and cannot issue cheques drawn on themselves. Deposits accepted by deposit-taking NBFCs do not receive DICGC insurance protection. The claim that all NBFCs must be registered with RBI is overbroad because certain entities are regulated or exempted under specific frameworks.

## 65. Multidimensional Poverty Index

### Question

Consider the following statements about Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI):

1. MPI is calculated using Alkire-Foster methodology.
2. MPI calculated by NITI Aayog has a total of twelve indicators.
3. Maternal Health and Bank Account are common indicators in the MPI of NITI Aayog and MPI of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** India's National MPI uses the Alkire-Foster method and has twelve indicators across health, education and standard of living. It retains the ten indicators of the Global MPI and adds Maternal Health and Bank Account. These two additional indicators are not part of the standard UNDP/OPHI Global MPI.

## 66. Genetic Medicine

### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to genetic medicine is/are correct?

1. Genetic medicines correct/compensate for the faulty genes responsible for disease.
2. Engineered viruses and lipid nanoparticles are used as carriers of the genetic medicine.
3. Genetic medicines alter the entire DNA sequence.

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

**Correct Answer: (c) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** Genetic medicines may replace, correct, silence or compensate for disease-causing genetic instructions. Engineered viral vectors and lipid nanoparticles are important delivery systems for genes, mRNA or other nucleic-acid therapies. These treatments do not alter the entire DNA sequence; many act on specific targets and some, such as mRNA medicines, do not alter DNA at all.

## 67. Large Language Models

### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to Large Language Models (LLMs) used in machine learning is/are correct?

1. LLMs assign probabilities to the next possible words and then pick the one with the highest probability.
2. LLMs process data through mathematical optimization to minimise prediction errors.
3. LLMs produce unbiased outputs.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** LLMs generate language by estimating probabilities for subsequent tokens, which may be words or word-parts; generation may choose a highly probable token or sample among likely tokens. During training, optimisation reduces prediction loss by adjusting model parameters. LLM outputs are not guaranteed to be unbiased because data, design choices and prompts can reproduce or amplify bias.

## 68. Stealth Technology

### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to stealth technology is/are correct?

1. Stealth objects have a very small radar cross-section and are coated with Radar Absorbing Material.
2. Stealth objects can be detected using specific frequencies.
3. Stealth objects are coated with metamaterials to increase the scattering of electromagnetic radiation.

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

**Correct Answer: (c) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** Stealth technology reduces radar cross-section using shaping, radar-absorbing materials and signature management. Stealth platforms are difficult, not impossible, to detect; certain radar frequencies may provide useful detection capability. Materials used for stealth seek to absorb or redirect radar returns away from the receiver, not increase detectable scattering.

## 69. Black Boxes in Modern Aircraft

### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to Black Boxes used in modern aircrafts is/are correct?

1. They carry a beacon emitting red light pulses to facilitate underwater detection.

2. They record both the cockpit voice and flight data.
3. Their memory units are made using either stainless steel or titanium.
  - (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 and 3 only
  - (c) 1 and 2 only
  - (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** The expression black box normally covers the Cockpit Voice Recorder and Flight Data Recorder. Their crash-survivable memory units are enclosed in robust materials such as stainless steel or titanium. Underwater locator beacons emit acoustic or ultrasonic pings, not red light pulses.

## 70. Green Hydrogen

### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to Green Hydrogen is/are correct?

1. It is decarbonized hydrogen obtained from natural gas reforming combined with carbon capture and storage (CCS).
2. It is produced using electrolysis of water with electricity generated by renewable energy.
3. National Green Hydrogen Mission of India aims for abatement of nearly 50 MMT of annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.
  - (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 and 3 only
  - (c) 2 only
  - (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** Hydrogen made from natural gas reforming together with carbon capture is generally classified as blue hydrogen. Green hydrogen is produced through electrolysis using renewable electricity. India's National Green Hydrogen Mission targets at least 5 MMT of annual green hydrogen capacity by 2030 and associated annual GHG emission abatement of nearly 50 MMT.

## 71. Private Entities in India's Space Programme

### Question

Consider the following statements with regard to involvement of private entities in India's space programme:

1. The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) is an autonomous agency formed to facilitate participation of private entities.
2. Agnikul Cosmos launched the world's first flight using a 3D-printed rocket engine.
3. Skyroot Aerospace has developed liquid fuel for GSLV.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (c) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** IN-SPACe is the autonomous single-window agency enabling and authorising non-government space activity. Agnikul's Agnibaan SOrTeD flight used a single-piece fully 3D-printed rocket engine. Skyroot develops the Vikram launch vehicle series; GSLV and its propulsion systems belong to ISRO's programme, so statement 3 is incorrect.

## 72. Drone Swarms

### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to drone swarms is/are correct?

1. They use the Terahertz band of frequency to communicate with the command centre.
2. Individual drones in the swarm can communicate with other drones in the swarm.
3. GPS Spoofing is a commonly used technique to counter drone swarm attack.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** A defining capability of drone swarms is inter-drone communication and coordination through networked data links. GPS spoofing is among the electronic-warfare countermeasures that may mislead hostile navigation systems. Terahertz communication is an emerging research area and is not a standard operational characteristic of drone swarms.

**Note:** Effectiveness of GPS spoofing depends on a drone's navigation architecture and countermeasures; the answer follows the intended general-use framing.

### 73. GenomeIndia Project

#### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to GenomeIndia Project is/are correct?

1. It is a part of the Human Genome Project.
2. The project is funded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India.
3. Its primary aim is to build a catalogue of genetic diversity of the Indian population.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** GenomeIndia is an Indian national initiative funded by the Department of Biotechnology and implemented through a consortium of institutions. It aims to catalogue genetic variation across India's diverse population for biomedical research and precision healthcare. It is distinct from the earlier international Human Genome Project.

### 74. National Quantum Mission

#### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to the National Quantum Mission (NQM) is/are correct?

1. It aims at developing intermediate-scale quantum computers with 50-1000 physical qubits.
2. Its implementation includes setting up of four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) in academic and national R&D institutes across India.

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

**Correct Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** The National Quantum Mission targets intermediate-scale quantum computers with 50-1000 physical qubits within its mission period. It is implemented through four thematic hubs focusing on quantum computing, communication, sensing and metrology, and quantum materials and devices, led by major Indian institutions.

### 75. India's Deep Ocean Mission

#### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to India's Deep Ocean Mission is/are correct?

1. It was launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India.

2. Matsya-6000 has been designed to carry 3 people for deep sea exploration.
3. Samudrayaan is a project under this mission.
  - (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 and 3 only
  - (c) 1 and 2 only
  - (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** The Deep Ocean Mission is led by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, not the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways. Samudrayaan is its human-submersible project, under which Matsya-6000 is designed to carry three persons to a depth of 6,000 metres for ocean exploration.

## SECTION V: Ethics and Constitution

### 76. Accountability in Public Administration

#### Question

Mr. X, a senior officer, was overseeing a critical vaccination programme during a pandemic. He found that a private service provider responsible for vaccine distribution was compromising on quality to make profits. Despite immense pressure to manage the issue due to vested interests, he raised his voice based on the principles of public administration which he learnt during various training programmes attended across his career. He reported the issue to the appropriate vigilance authority and halted the contract to ensure citizen welfare.

Which one among the following principles of public administration was most strongly demonstrated by Mr. X's actions?

- (a) Esprit de corps
- (b) Equity
- (c) Accountability
- (d) Delegation

**Correct Answer: (c) Accountability**

**Explanation:** Accountability requires a public servant to ensure answerability for wrongdoing and take corrective action in the public interest. By resisting pressure, reporting quality compromise and halting the contract to protect citizens, Mr. X demonstrated accountability, along with integrity, probity and courage of conviction.

### 77. Mediation in a Tribal Land and Waste Management Conflict

#### Question

In a multi-ethnic district where both economic competition and historical grievances frequently led to community tensions, a flashpoint has arisen with a Government decision to allocate land for a waste management facility near a tribal hamlet, sparking protests by the tribal community, which claimed that the land was sacred and critical to their cultural identity. At the same time, urban residents and local industries supported the project, citing severe solid waste challenges and health concerns due to lack of a proper disposal site. The conflict has escalated with road blockades, social media campaigns, and allegations of police excesses.

As a responsible Government official, you are tasked with resolving the situation through mediation, ensuring a sustainable outcome that balances environmental needs, tribal rights, and urban public health.

Consider the following statements with reference to the above:

1. A successful conflict resolution process must begin with acknowledging the cultural concerns of the protesting tribal community before discussing technical alternatives.
2. The Government should move ahead with the project without delay to address urban health concerns, which outweigh the sentiments of a small group.
3. Creating a multi-stakeholder dialogue platform - including tribal leaders, environmental experts, and municipal representatives - to build mutual understanding and help de-escalate tensions.
4. Conducting an independent Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and sharing findings transparently with

both sides to facilitate evidence-based decision-making.

Which of the statements given above would contribute to the resolution process?

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

**Correct Answer: (a) 1, 3 and 4 only**

**Explanation:** An inclusive resolution must recognise tribal cultural rights and dignity, create a dialogue platform among affected stakeholders and use transparent environmental and social assessment to compare alternatives. Moving ahead unilaterally by dismissing the concerns of a vulnerable group is inconsistent with procedural fairness, environmental justice and conflict de-escalation.

## 78. Confidential Information in Public Procurement

### Question

Ms. X is a mid-level civil service official working in the urban development department of a major city. Recently, she was involved in approving a contract for a public infrastructure project - a new community park. During the approval process, she received a piece of confidential information indicating that one of the shortlisted contractors had a history of poor workmanship and allegations of corruption in other cities, though nothing had been legally proven. The Head of the Department, Mr. Y, advised her not to disclose this information to the project committee or the public because it could delay the project and damage the city's reputation. However, Ms. X believed that withholding such information compromised transparency and public trust.

What amongst the following should Ms. X do now?

1. Immediately disclose the information to the project committee and the public.
2. Recommend removing the contractor from the shortlist to protect the project's integrity.
3. Propose a "limited disclosure" to an oversight committee, while keeping the information confidential from the public for the time being.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 3 only**

**Explanation:** Because the allegations are confidential and unproven, immediate public disclosure could violate confidentiality and fairness, while immediate removal could deny due process. A confidential referral to an authorised oversight or vigilance committee permits enhanced due diligence and protects public interest while respecting natural justice.

## 79. Meaning of "Law" under Article 13

### Question

"X" was addressing a seminar on the meaning of the term "law" as provided under Article 13, Part III of the Constitution of India. "X" explained that the meaning of the term "law" in the Constitution of India was very comprehensive. It included laws, ordinances, orders and even rules and regulations. "Y" pointed out that the term "law" in Article 13 also included custom or usage having in the territory of India the force of law, to which "X" was not convinced.

Based on the above, select the correct conclusion from the options given below:

- (a) "X" is correct in the interpretation of law, including the view on non-inclusion of custom.
- (b) The view of "Y" that "law" included custom is not correct.
- (c) The views of both "X" and "Y" are correct.
- (d) The view of only "Y" is correct.

**Correct Answer: (d) The view of only "Y" is correct.**

**Explanation:** Article 13(3)(a) defines “law” broadly to include ordinances, orders, bye-laws, rules, regulations, notifications, customs and usages having the force of law in India. X's interpretation is incomplete because he rejects inclusion of custom; Y correctly states the constitutional position.

## 80. Short Title, Commencement and Repeals in the Constitution

### Question

Consider the following statements with reference to the Constitution of India:

1. There is no Article in the Constitution of India that specifies that the Constitution of India will be officially called the “Constitution of India”.
2. There is no Article in the Constitution of India that specifies that the Indian Independence Act, 1947 and the Government of India Act, 1935 stand repealed.
3. There is no Article in the Constitution of India that mentions 26th January, 1950 as the date of the commencement of the Constitution of India.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?

- (a) All three statements are correct.
- (b) There is no correct statement.
- (c) There are two correct statements that include statement 3.
- (d) There is only one correct statement.

**Correct Answer: (b) There is no correct statement.**

**Explanation:** All three claims are contradicted by Part XXII of the Constitution. Article 393 gives the short title “Constitution of India”; Article 394 provides for commencement on 26 January 1950 for the remaining provisions; and Article 395 repeals the Indian Independence Act, 1947 and the Government of India Act, 1935, subject to its terms.

## SECTION VI: Governance, International Relations and Organisations

### 81. Persons with Disabilities in India

#### Question

Which of the following statements with regard to persons with disabilities in India is/are correct?

1. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, an Act passed by the Parliament of India in 2018, mandates reservations in education and employment, places a legal duty on Governments to ensure accessibility and non-discrimination.
2. The Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan focuses on achieving universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities across three key domains - built infrastructure, transport systems and information and communication technology.
3. The National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) is a public sector organisation set up by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs as a not-for-profit company to promote entrepreneurship among Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:** The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act was enacted in 2016, not 2018. Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan/Accessible India Campaign addresses accessibility in the built environment, transport system and information and communication technology ecosystem. NDFDC functions under the disability empowerment framework of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, not the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

### 82. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Provisions

#### Question

Consider the following statements about the provisions pertaining to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in India:

1. Provisions regarding the administration of the Tribal Areas in the State of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are given in the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

2. Some tribes of India are entitled to exemption from paying Income Tax on certain incomes.
3. The Constitution of India provides for reservation of seats in Panchayats for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?

- (a) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.
- (b) There are two correct statements, that are statements 1 and 3.
- (c) There is only one correct statement.
- (d) All three statements are correct.

**Correct Answer: (a) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.**

**Explanation:** Tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are administered under the Sixth Schedule, making statement 1 incorrect. Section 10(26) of the Income-tax Act provides tax exemption for eligible Scheduled Tribe members on specified incomes in specified areas. Article 243D reserves a proportion of SC/ST seats in Panchayats for women belonging to those communities; statements 2 and 3 are correct.

### 83. Questions Asked by Members in Parliament

#### Question

Consider the following statements in respect of questions asked by the Members in the Parliament of India:

1. Unstarred questions are those to which a Member desires an oral answer in the House.
2. Starred questions are those to which a Member desires a written answer.
3. No supplementary question can be asked on an unstarred question.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?

- (a) All the three statements are correct.
- (b) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.
- (c) There is only one correct statement.
- (d) There is no correct statement.

**Correct Answer: (c) There is only one correct statement.**

**Explanation:** Starred questions are answered orally and permit supplementary questions. Unstarred questions are answered in writing and do not permit supplementary questions. Thus statements 1 and 2 reverse the correct position, while statement 3 is correct.

### 84. Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

#### Question

Consider the following statements about the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the Parliament of India:

1. Although members of this Committee are elected from both Houses of Parliament, the Chairperson of this Committee is appointed by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.
2. Twenty members are elected by the Rajya Sabha and ten members by the Lok Sabha.
3. No Minister, except for the Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, is eligible to be a member of this Committee.
4. Members are elected for a fixed term of two years from the date they enter their office.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?

- (a) There are four correct statements.
- (b) There is only one correct statement, that is statement 2.
- (c) There are two correct statements, that include statement 1.
- (d) There is no correct statement.

**Correct Answer: (d) There is no correct statement.**

**Explanation:** The Committee consists of 30 members: 20 elected by the Lok Sabha and 10 by the Rajya Sabha. Its Chairperson is appointed by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. No Minister is eligible to be elected to the Committee, and its term does not exceed one year. Therefore all four statements are incorrect.

## 85. Mission Sudarshan Chakra

### Question

Consider the following statements about Mission Sudarshan Chakra of India:

1. It aims to enhance India's air defence, ballistic missile defence and aerial offensive capabilities.
2. This Mission is being designed to enhance rapid, precise, and powerful defence responses, reinforcing India's strategic autonomy.
3. One of the aims of this Mission is to cover all public places of India by an expanded nationwide security shield by 2035.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3**

**Explanation:** Mission Sudarshan Chakra was announced as an indigenous security-shield initiative to strengthen India's ability to respond to aerial and missile threats with speed and precision. It is intended to protect strategic and civilian/public locations through an expanded nationwide shield by 2035, while reinforcing self-reliance and strategic autonomy.

## 86. River Bridges Connecting India with Neighbouring Countries

### Question

Consider the following statements about river bridges connecting India with neighbouring countries:

1. "Maitri Setu", built over the Feni River, connects Ramgarh in India with Sabroom in Bangladesh.
2. Jhulaghat suspension bridge connects India with Myanmar.
3. Mechi Bridge and its approaches connect Panitanki Bypass in India with Kakarvitta in Nepal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (d) 3 only**

**Explanation:** Maitri Setu connects Sabroom in Tripura, India, with Ramgarh in Bangladesh, so statement 1 reverses the locations. Jhulaghat is an India-Nepal border bridge across the Kali river in Uttarakhand, not an India-Myanmar bridge. The Mechi Bridge project connects Panitanki in India with Kakarvitta in Nepal; hence only statement 3 is correct.

## 87. Zero FIR under the BNSS

### Question

Which of the following statements about a Zero First Information Report (Zero FIR) under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 is/are correct?

1. A Zero FIR can be lodged at a police station, even though the place of commission of a cognizable/non-cognizable offence is outside the territorial jurisdiction of that police station.
2. The Officer-in-Charge of the police station where a Zero FIR has been lodged may, with the permission of the competent authority, initiate a preliminary enquiry.
3. Under Zero FIR, it is obligatory for the informant to furnish information electronically.

- (a) 1, 2 and 3
- (b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 only

(d) 2 only

**Correct Answer: (d) 2 only**

**Explanation:** Under Section 173 of the BNSS, information about a cognizable offence may be recorded irrespective of where the offence occurred. Statement 1 is incorrect because it extends this position to non-cognizable offences. For specified cognizable offences, a preliminary enquiry may be conducted with prior permission from an officer not below the prescribed rank. Reporting may be oral or electronic; electronic filing is not compulsory.

## 88. Government Organisations and Controlling Ministries

### Question

With reference to the organisations under the Government of India, consider the following details:

1. Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB) - To coordinate between various law enforcement agencies - Ministry of Home Affairs
2. Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) - To investigate complex corporate frauds - Ministry of Finance
3. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) - To preserve values in public life and ensure the health of the national economy - Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

In how many of the above rows are the given details correctly matched?

(a) 1

(b) 2

(c) 3

(d) None

**Correct Answer: (a) 1**

**Explanation:** CEIB does coordinate economic-intelligence and enforcement matters, but it functions under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, not the Ministry of Home Affairs. SFIO investigates complex corporate frauds but comes under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, not Finance. The CBI's stated function and administrative linkage to DoPT within the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions are correctly paired. Thus only one row is fully correct.

## 89. International Conventions Not Ratified by India

### Question

Which of the following international conventions have not been ratified by India?

1. Employment Policy Convention
2. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention
3. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
4. Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War
5. Convention on Reduction of Statelessness

(a) 2 and 4

(b) 1 and 2

(c) 3 and 4 only

(d) 3, 4 and 5

**Correct Answer: Correct factual combination: 3 and 5 only (not provided in the options)**

**Explanation:** India has ratified the ILO Employment Policy Convention and the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention. India is also a party to the Fourth Geneva Convention concerning the protection of civilians in time of war. India has not ratified the Migrant Workers Convention or the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. Therefore the accurate combination is 3 and 5 only, which is absent from the listed options.

**Note:** The question appears to contain an option-setting error; this document records the factual position rather than selecting an incorrect available option.

## 90. AI Impact Summit 2026, New Delhi

### Question

Consider the following statements with respect to the AI Impact Summit, 2026 held in New Delhi:

1. The Summit's intellectual framework was based on three foundational Sutras: People, Planning and Progress.
2. The Preamble of the Summit stresses Democratizing AI Resources, which acknowledges the Charter for Democratic Diffusion of AI as a binding framework to support locally relevant innovation and strengthen resilient AI ecosystems while respecting national laws.
3. The New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact was structured around seven Chakras or Pillars, which included Access for Social Empowerment, AI for Science, and Secure and Trusted AI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (d) 3 only**

**Explanation:** The summit framework referred to the three Sutras of People, Planet and Progress, not Planning. The Charter for the Democratic Diffusion of AI was described as voluntary and non-binding rather than a binding instrument. The New Delhi Declaration did contain seven Chakras/Pillars including Access for Social Empowerment, AI for Science and Secure and Trusted AI.

## 91. India-ASEAN Connectivity Projects

### Question

Which of the following connectivity projects is/are a part of cooperation between India and the ASEAN member countries?

1. Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project
2. IMT Trilateral Highway
3. Agartala-Akhaura Rail Line

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

**Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** The Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project connects India with Myanmar, and the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway directly strengthens physical connectivity with ASEAN. The Agartala-Akhaura Rail Link connects India and Bangladesh, which is not an ASEAN member state.

## 92. Projects Supported by India and Partner Countries

### Question

Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the lists:

List I - Project Supported by India

- A. Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project
- B. Restoration of Stor Palace
- C. District Hospital at Dickoya
- D. Institute of Security and Law Enforcement Studies

List II - Country

1. Maldives
2. Afghanistan
3. Bhutan
4. Sri Lanka

- (a) A-1, B-4, C-2, D-3
- (b) A-3, B-2, C-4, D-1
- (c) A-3, B-4, C-2, D-1
- (d) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

**Correct Answer: (b) A-3, B-2, C-4, D-1**

**Explanation:** Mangdechhu is a major hydropower cooperation project in Bhutan. India's restoration support for Stor Palace relates to Afghanistan. The District Hospital at Dickoya is an India-supported healthcare project in Sri Lanka, and the Institute of Security and Law Enforcement Studies is associated with Maldives.

### 93. Defence Hardware Manufactured in India

#### Question

Which of the following items of defence hardware is/are manufactured in India?

1. Su-30 MKI Fighter Jets
2. T-90 Mk-III Tanks
3. Akula Class Submarine

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

**Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 2**

**Explanation:** Su-30 MKI aircraft have been manufactured/assembled by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited in India under licence. T-90 Mk-III/Bhishma tanks are produced at the Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi. Akula-class nuclear attack submarines are of Russian origin and were leased by India rather than manufactured in India.

### 94. UN Organisations Awarded the Nobel Prize Twice

#### Question

Consider the following UN organisations/agencies:

1. World Food Programme
2. United Nations Children's Fund
3. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
4. International Labour Organisation

How many of the above has/have been awarded the Nobel Prize twice?

- (a) 1
- (b) 2
- (c) 3
- (d) 4

**Correct Answer: (a) 1**

**Explanation:** Among these bodies, only the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has received the Nobel Peace Prize twice, in 1954 and 1981. WFP received it in 2020, UNICEF in 1965 and ILO in 1969.

### 95. Platforms for Multilateral Cooperation

#### Question

Consider the following statements about platforms for multilateral co-operation:

1. The Colombo Process is a regional consultative process in which member states take binding decisions by consensus.
2. The Abu Dhabi Dialogue is a voluntary non-binding consultative process among Asian countries of labour origin and destination to facilitate regional cooperation on contractual labour mobility.
3. The Global Forum for Migration and Development, created upon the proposal of a former UN Secretary General, is a voluntary forum whose decisions are non-binding in nature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (c) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** The Colombo Process is a non-binding regional consultative process, so statement 1 is incorrect despite its consensus-based working. The Abu Dhabi Dialogue is a voluntary, non-binding process relating to contractual labour mobility. The Global Forum for Migration and Development originated from a proposal by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and functions as a voluntary, non-binding forum.

## 96. UN Peacekeeping Operations and Periods

### Question

Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the lists:

List I - UN Peacekeeping Operation

- A. UNMIL
- B. MINURCAT
- C. MINUSTAH
- D. UNMISSET

List II - Period of Operation

- 1. 2007-2010
  - 2. 2002-2005
  - 3. 2003-2018
  - 4. 2004-2017
- (a) A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2
  - (b) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2
  - (c) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
  - (d) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3

**Correct Answer: (b) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2**

**Explanation:** UNMIL operated in Liberia from 2003 to 2018; MINURCAT in the Central African Republic and Chad from 2007 to 2010; MINUSTAH in Haiti from 2004 to 2017; and UNMISSET in East Timor from 2002 to 2005. The matching is therefore A-3, B-1, C-4 and D-2.

## 97. BIMSTEC Centres and Locations

### Question

Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the lists:

List I - BIMSTEC Centre/Establishment

- A. BIMSTEC Cultural Industries Observatory
- B. BIMSTEC Energy Centre
- C. BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate
- D. BIMSTEC Technology Transfer Facility

List II - Location

- 1. NOIDA
  - 2. Bengaluru
  - 3. Colombo
  - 4. Thimphu
- (a) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4
  - (b) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

- (c) A-4, B-2, C-1, D-3  
 (d) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

**Correct Answer: (c) A-4, B-2, C-1, D-3**

**Explanation:** The BIMSTEC Cultural Industries Observatory is associated with Thimphu, Bhutan; the BIMSTEC Energy Centre with Bengaluru, India; the BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate with NOIDA, India; and the Technology Transfer Facility with Colombo, Sri Lanka.

## 98. Indian Army Corps and Headquarters

### Question

Which one of the following pairs is not correctly matched?

- (a) 3 Corps : Dimapur  
 (b) 4 Corps : Tezpur  
 (c) 14 Corps : Leh  
 (d) 33 Corps : Srinagar

**Correct Answer: (d) 33 Corps - Srinagar**

**Explanation:** The headquarters of 33 Corps, also known as Trishakti Corps, is at Sukna near Siliguri in West Bengal, not Srinagar. Srinagar is associated with 15 Corps/Chinar Corps. The other listed pairs - 3 Corps at Dimapur/Rangapahar, 4 Corps at Tezpur and 14 Corps at Leh - are correctly matched.

## 99. Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan

### Question

Which of the following statements with respect to the Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) is/are correct?

1. The period of its implementation is 1st April, 2021 to 31st March, 2026.
2. The key objective of the Revamped RGSA is to develop the governance capabilities of the Panchayati Raj Institutions to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. The share of Central funding for the Revamped RGSA is 100% for all States and Union Territories.

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

**Correct Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:** Revamped RGSA is implemented from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2026, not from 2021. It strengthens Panchayati Raj Institutions to localise and deliver Sustainable Development Goals. The scheme includes both Central and State shares and is not 100% centrally funded for all States and Union Territories.

## 100. Members of the European Union

### Question

Which of the following countries are members of the European Union?

1. Belarus
2. Poland
3. Germany
4. Switzerland

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

**Correct Answer: (c) 2 and 3**

**Explanation:** Poland and Germany are member states of the European Union. Belarus is not an EU member, and Switzerland, although closely linked economically to Europe, is also not a member of the Union.

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## Appendix: Reference and Source Links

The following sources provide the factual and institutional basis for the explanations. Official and primary sources have been preferred wherever available. For current-affairs items, readers should check the latest official updates before using them for examination preparation.

Q. No(s).	Reference / Source	Link
1, 3, 7, 13, 18, 19, 20	NCERT / ePathshala history resources and standard historical background	<a href="https://epathshala.nic.in/">https://epathshala.nic.in/</a>
2, 4, 14, 16	NCERT, An Introduction to Indian Art resources	<a href="https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php">https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php</a>
8	Government of India Act, 1919 background - legislative materials	<a href="https://www.legislative.gov.in/">https://www.legislative.gov.in/</a>
9	Sangeet Natak Akademi resources on Mallikarjun Mansur	<a href="https://www.sangeetnatak.gov.in/">https://www.sangeetnatak.gov.in/</a>
10	Sanskrit lexicographical reference for kshetra-patni	<a href="https://www.wisdomlib.org/definition/kshetra">https://www.wisdomlib.org/definition/kshetra</a>
11	Carnatic-Hindustani raga reference table	<a href="https://www.karnatik.com/hcragatable.shtml">https://www.karnatik.com/hcragatable.shtml</a>
12	Reserve Bank / currency-history reference portal	<a href="https://www.rbi.org.in/">https://www.rbi.org.in/</a>
15	Jainpedia: Jain concepts of rebirth and forms of existence	<a href="https://jainpedia.org/">https://jainpedia.org/</a>
17	Mathematics/epigraphy background reference	<a href="https://www.insaindia.res.in/">https://www.insaindia.res.in/</a>
21	UNESCO: Ecuador adds two new UNESCO Global Geoparks	<a href="https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/ecuador-adds-two-new-unesco-global-geoparks">https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/ecuador-adds-two-new-unesco-global-geoparks</a>
22	National Tiger Conservation Authority	<a href="https://ntca.gov.in/">https://ntca.gov.in/</a>
22	Ramsar Sites Information Service - Sakhya Sagar	<a href="https://rsis.ramsar.org/">https://rsis.ramsar.org/</a>
23	Andaman and Nicobar Administration	<a href="https://andaman.gov.in/">https://andaman.gov.in/</a>
24	NCERT Physical Geography resources	<a href="https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php">https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php</a>

Q. No(s).	Reference / Source	Link
25	Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways - Sagarmala	<a href="https://sagarmala.gov.in/">https://sagarmala.gov.in/</a>
25	PIB release on Sagarmala achievements	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115878">https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115878</a>
26	Plants of the World Online - Rhynchostylis retusa	<a href="https://powo.science.kew.org/">https://powo.science.kew.org/</a>
27	UNESCO World Heritage Centre - Moidams	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1711/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1711/</a>
28	FAO - Blue Transformation and Four Betters	<a href="https://www.fao.org/blue-transformation/en">https://www.fao.org/blue-transformation/en</a>
29	UNESCO World Heritage Centre - Lake Turkana National Parks	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/801/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/801/</a>
30	Plan Vivo - Khasi Hills Community REDD+ Project	<a href="https://www.planvivo.org/projects/khasi-hills-community-redd-project-india">https://www.planvivo.org/projects/khasi-hills-community-redd-project-india</a>
31	UNFCCC - India Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy	<a href="https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/India_LTLEDS.pdf">https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/India_LTLEDS.pdf</a>
31	PIB - India Fourth Biennial Update Report	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092311">https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092311</a>
32	IUCN Red List - Western Hoolock Gibbon	<a href="https://www.iucnredlist.org/">https://www.iucnredlist.org/</a>
33	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	<a href="https://moef.gov.in/">https://moef.gov.in/</a>
34	Vizhinjam International Seaport Limited	<a href="https://vizhinjamport.in/">https://vizhinjamport.in/</a>
35-36	Survey of India / National Atlas resources	<a href="https://surveyofindia.gov.in/">https://surveyofindia.gov.in/</a>
37	Convention on Migratory Species - Amur Falcon	<a href="https://www.cms.int/raptors/en/species/falco-amurensis">https://www.cms.int/raptors/en/species/falco-amurensis</a>
38	Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare - Rainfed Area Development	<a href="https://agriwelfare.gov.in/">https://agriwelfare.gov.in/</a>
39	PIB - OEKO-TEX certification for Eri Silk	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=2113212">https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=2113212</a>
40	Strait of Hormuz background - standard geographic reference	<a href="https://www.britannica.com/place/Strait-of-Hormuz">https://www.britannica.com/place/Strait-of-Hormuz</a>
41	INTERPOL - About Notices	<a href="https://www.interpol.int/How-we-work/Notices/About-Notices">https://www.interpol.int/How-we-work/Notices/About-Notices</a>

Q. No(s).	Reference / Source	Link
42	NIRANTAR portal, MoEFCC	<a href="https://nirantar.moef.gov.in/">https://nirantar.moef.gov.in/</a>
43	MEA - List of Outcomes: Visit of German Chancellor to India, January 2026	<a href="https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/40582/List_of_Outcomes_Visit_of_the_Chancellor_of_the_Federal_Republic_of_Germany_to_India_January_1213_2026">https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/40582/List_of_Outcomes_Visit_of_the_Chancellor_of_the_Federal_Republic_of_Germany_to_India_January_1213_2026</a>
44	PIB - DHRUV64 processor announcement	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/PressNoteDetails.aspx?ModuleId=3&amp;NoteId=156505&amp;lang=1&amp;reg=3">https://www.pib.gov.in/PressNoteDetails.aspx?ModuleId=3&amp;NoteId=156505&amp;lang=1&amp;reg=3</a>
45	PIB / BIS release on IS 19445:2025	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2209191">https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2209191</a>
46	Nobel Prize - John Clarke facts	<a href="https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/physics/2025/clarke/facts/">https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/physics/2025/clarke/facts/</a>
47	International Tennis Federation - Grand Slam Rule Book	<a href="https://www.itftennis.com/en/about-us/governance/rules-and-regulations/">https://www.itftennis.com/en/about-us/governance/rules-and-regulations/</a>
48	India Semiconductor Mission	<a href="https://ism.gov.in/">https://ism.gov.in/</a>
49	PIB - Bharat Forecast System	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2226187&amp;lang=1&amp;reg=3">https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2226187&amp;lang=1&amp;reg=3</a>
50	PIB - Boong wins BAFTA Children and Family Film award	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2232861&amp;lang=1&amp;reg=3">https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2232861&amp;lang=1&amp;reg=3</a>
51	NITI Aayog blockchain strategy resources	<a href="https://www.niti.gov.in/">https://www.niti.gov.in/</a>
53	RBI - Financial Inclusion Index	<a href="https://www.rbi.org.in/">https://www.rbi.org.in/</a>
54	ONDC official website	<a href="https://ondc.org/">https://ondc.org/</a>
55	RBI FAQs - Central Bank Digital Currency	<a href="https://www.rbi.org.in/commonman/English/Scripts/FAQs.aspx?Id=3686">https://www.rbi.org.in/commonman/English/Scripts/FAQs.aspx?Id=3686</a>
56	IFSCA consultation paper on tokenisation of real-world assets	<a href="https://ifsc.gov.in/">https://ifsc.gov.in/</a>
57	ICMA Sustainability Bond Guidelines	<a href="https://www.icmagroup.org/sustainable-finance/the-principles-guidelines-and-handbooks/sustainability-bond-guidelines-sbg/">https://www.icmagroup.org/sustainable-finance/the-principles-guidelines-and-handbooks/sustainability-bond-guidelines-sbg/</a>
58	RBI FAQs - Trade Receivables Discounting System	<a href="https://www.rbi.org.in/commonman/English/Scripts/FAQs.aspx?Id=3138">https://www.rbi.org.in/commonman/English/Scripts/FAQs.aspx?Id=3138</a>
60	USGS - Rare Earths Statistics and Information	<a href="https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/rare-earths-statistics-and-information">https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/rare-earths-statistics-and-information</a>
60	Ministry of Mines - National Critical Mineral Mission	<a href="https://mines.gov.in/">https://mines.gov.in/</a>
61	ICAO - Montreal Convention 1999	<a href="https://www.icao.int/secretariat/legal/pages/mc99.aspx">https://www.icao.int/secretariat/legal/pages/mc99.aspx</a>

Q. No(s).	Reference / Source	Link
62	SEBI - Consultation Paper on Crowdfunding in India	<a href="https://www.sebi.gov.in/sebi_data/attachdocs/1403005615257.pdf">https://www.sebi.gov.in/sebi_data/attachdocs/1403005615257.pdf</a>
63	SEBI, RBI and IRDAI official portals for committee references	<a href="https://www.sebi.gov.in/">https://www.sebi.gov.in/</a>
64	RBI FAQs - NBFCs	<a href="https://www.rbi.org.in/commonperson/english/scripts/FAQs.aspx?Id=1167">https://www.rbi.org.in/commonperson/english/scripts/FAQs.aspx?Id=1167</a>
65	NITI Aayog - National Multidimensional Poverty Index	<a href="https://www.niti.gov.in/">https://www.niti.gov.in/</a>
65	UNDP - Global Multidimensional Poverty Index	<a href="https://hdr.undp.org/mpo">https://hdr.undp.org/mpo</a>
66	National Human Genome Research Institute - Genetic therapies	<a href="https://www.genome.gov/">https://www.genome.gov/</a>
67	NIST AI resources	<a href="https://www.nist.gov/artificial-intelligence">https://www.nist.gov/artificial-intelligence</a>
68	DRDO technology resources on radar absorbing materials	<a href="https://www.drdo.gov.in/">https://www.drdo.gov.in/</a>
69	Aircraft flight recorder / safety background - ICAO	<a href="https://www.icao.int/safety/airnavigation/ops/pages/default.aspx">https://www.icao.int/safety/airnavigation/ops/pages/default.aspx</a>
70	PIB - National Green Hydrogen Mission	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1888547">https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1888547</a>
71	ISRO - IN-SPACe	<a href="https://www.isro.gov.in/IN-SPACe.html">https://www.isro.gov.in/IN-SPACe.html</a>
71	ISRO - GSLV programme	<a href="https://www.isro.gov.in/GSLV_CON.html">https://www.isro.gov.in/GSLV_CON.html</a>
73	GenomeIndia Project	<a href="https://genomeindia.in/">https://genomeindia.in/</a>
74	Department of Science and Technology - National Quantum Mission	<a href="https://dst.gov.in/national-quantum-mission-nqm">https://dst.gov.in/national-quantum-mission-nqm</a>
75	PIB - Deep Ocean Mission and Samudrayaan	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/PressNoteDetails.aspx?ModuleId=3&amp;NoteId=155043">https://www.pib.gov.in/PressNoteDetails.aspx?ModuleId=3&amp;NoteId=155043</a>
79-80, 82	Constitution of India - Legislative Department	<a href="https://legislative.gov.in/constitution-of-india/">https://legislative.gov.in/constitution-of-india/</a>
81	Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities	<a href="https://depwd.gov.in/">https://depwd.gov.in/</a>
82	Income Tax Department - exempt income provisions	<a href="https://www.incometax.gov.in/">https://www.incometax.gov.in/</a>

Q. No(s).	Reference / Source	Link
83-84	Parliament of India / Sansad portal	<a href="https://sansad.in/">https://sansad.in/</a>
85	PM India - Mission Sudarshan Chakra and Independence Day address	<a href="https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/highlights-from-the-pms-address-on-the-79th-independence-day/">https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/highlights-from-the-pms-address-on-the-79th-independence-day/</a>
86	PIB - Maitri Setu and connectivity references	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/">https://www.pib.gov.in/</a>
87	India Code - Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023	<a href="https://www.indiacode.nic.in/">https://www.indiacode.nic.in/</a>
88	Department of Revenue - CEIB	<a href="https://dor.gov.in/ceib">https://dor.gov.in/ceib</a>
88	Serious Fraud Investigation Office	<a href="https://sfio.gov.in/">https://sfio.gov.in/</a>
88	Central Bureau of Investigation	<a href="https://cbi.gov.in/">https://cbi.gov.in/</a>
89	ILO NORMLEX - Ratifications for India	<a href="https://normlex.ilo.org/">https://normlex.ilo.org/</a>
89	ICRC Treaties, States Parties and Commentaries	<a href="https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/">https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/</a>
89	United Nations Treaty Collection	<a href="https://treaties.un.org/">https://treaties.un.org/</a>
90	PIB - AI Impact Summit / New Delhi Declaration	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2225069&amp;lang=2&amp;reg=3">https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2225069&amp;lang=2&amp;reg=3</a>
91-92	MEA - Development Partnerships and Connectivity	<a href="https://www.mea.gov.in/">https://www.mea.gov.in/</a>
93	Hindustan Aeronautics Limited	<a href="https://hal-india.co.in/">https://hal-india.co.in/</a>
93	Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited	<a href="https://avnl.co.in/">https://avnl.co.in/</a>
94	Nobel Prize - Prize facts and laureates	<a href="https://www.nobelprize.org/">https://www.nobelprize.org/</a>
95	MEA - Multilateral Cooperation / migration processes	<a href="https://www.mea.gov.in/">https://www.mea.gov.in/</a>
96	United Nations Peacekeeping - Past Operations	<a href="https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/past-peacekeeping-operations">https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/past-peacekeeping-operations</a>
97	BIMSTEC official website	<a href="https://bimstec.org/">https://bimstec.org/</a>
98	Ministry of Defence / PIB releases	<a href="https://mod.gov.in/">https://mod.gov.in/</a>
99	PIB - Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan	<a href="https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1816362">https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1816362</a>

Q. No(s).	Reference / Source	Link
100	European Union - Member Countries	<a href="https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/eu-countries_en">https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/eu-countries_en</a>

**Special Note on Question 89:** The factually correct combination is statements 3 and 5 only, but that combination is not available among the printed options. The explanation records the verified factual position.

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