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T.B.C.: KMIAS-C- TP/ MOCK TEST-3

Test Booklet Series

**TEST BOOKLET**  
**GENERAL STUDIES**  
**PAPER – I**

**A**

**Time Allowed: Two Hours**

**Maximum Marks: 200**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS BOOKLET DOES NOT HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TURN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS, ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.
2. **Please note that it is the candidate's responsibility to encode and fill in the Roll Number and Test Booklet Series A, B, C or D carefully and without any omission or discrepancy at the appropriate places in the OMR Answer Sheet. Any omission discrepancy will render the Answer Sheet liable for rejection.**
3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside. **Do NOT** write *anything else* on the Test Booklet.
4. This Test Booklet contains **100** items (Questions). Each item is printed in **English**. Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response with you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.
5. You have to mark all your responses **ONLY** on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See direction in the answers sheet.
6. **All** items carry equal marks.
7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer sheet the response to various items in the Test booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the answer sheets as per instruction sent to you with your Admission Certificate.
8. After you have completed filling in all responses on the answer sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to Invigilator **only the Answer Sheet**. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.
9. Sheet for rough work is appended in the Test Booklet at the end.
10. **Penalty for wrong answers:**  
**THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION PAPER.**
  - (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, **one-third** of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.
  - (ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a **wrong answer** even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question.
  - (iii) If a question is left blank, i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be **no penalty** for that question.

**DO NOT OPEN THIS TEST BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO**

**1. Which of the following countries share a land border with Venezuela?**

1. Colombia
2. Brazil
3. Peru
4. Guyana

**Select the correct answer using the code below:**

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

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 4 only

**Explanation:** Venezuela has been in the news recently mainly due to a mix of geopolitical tensions, elections, and economic issues. Venezuela shares borders with **Colombia, Brazil, and Guyana**. It does **not** border **Peru**.

**2. With reference to the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), consider the following statements:**

**Statement I:** It was formalized at COP28 as a framework to enhance the world's adaptive capacity, resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change.

**Statement II:** It outlines quantifiable global targets and legally binds all countries to achieve them within a fixed timeline.

**Statement III:** India supported its adoption, highlighting the importance of adaptation finance and equitable support for developing nations.

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

- (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
- (b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I
- (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I
- (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

**Answer c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I**

**Explanation**

At COP28, a framework for the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) was adopted. It aims to enhance adaptive capacity, resilience, and reduce vulnerability to climate change, especially for vulnerable communities.

The GGA framework does not impose legally binding targets. It sets out thematic targets (like food security, water, health systems, etc.) and promotes global cooperation — but it's non-binding and qualitative in nature.

India supported the framework and emphasized that adaptation finance, equity, and capacity building are crucial for

meaningful implementation, especially for the Global South.

**3. With reference to Indian economy, consider the following statements:**

1. Income from cultivating and selling agricultural produce.
2. Sale of agricultural land in rural areas.
3. Compensation received from the government for acquisition of agricultural land in rural areas.
4. Profits from poultry business.

**How many of the above activities are exempted from income tax?**

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

**Answer c) Only three**

**Explanation**

Under the Income-tax Act, 1961, specifically Section 10(1), "agricultural income" is exempt from tax. The classification for the activities mentioned is as follows:

Income from cultivating and selling agricultural produce. This is the primary form of agricultural income defined under Section 2(1A), as it is derived from core agricultural operations like tilling and cultivation.

Sale of agricultural land in rural areas:

According to Section 2(14), rural agricultural land is specifically excluded from the definition of a "capital asset". Therefore, any profit or capital gain made from its sale is not subject to income tax. However, **sale of agricultural land** is *not always exempt*—if the land is classified as urban agricultural land, it is treated as a capital asset and taxed accordingly.

Since rural agricultural land is not a capital asset, the compensation received for its compulsory acquisition is not taxable. Additionally, Section 10(37) provides specific exemptions for compensation received for the acquisition of urban agricultural land by individuals/HUFs, making rural compensation inherently tax-free.

Allied agricultural activities like poultry farming, dairy farming, and fisheries are not considered "agricultural income" under the Act. These are treated as "Profits and Gains of Business or Profession" and are subject to central income tax.

**4. With reference to the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:**

1. The Fifth schedule does not deal with the administration and control of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.
2. The Governor can declare scheduled areas in the State with the consent of the President.

3. Any change in the fifth schedule requires a Constitutional amendment with a special majority and half of the ratification of States.

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

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

**Answer a) 1 only**

**Explanation**

The Fifth Schedule deals with the administration and control of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes in any state except the four states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

The President of India (not Governor of the State) declares the scheduled areas under the fifth schedule of the constitution.

Any change in provisions mentioned in the fifth schedule can be amended by Parliament by simple majority and falls outside scope of Article 368.

**5. Consider the following statements regarding the role of Governor in the State:**

- 1. The Governor of the State can appoint the judges of the High court in consultation with the President and Chief Justice of India.
- 2. Demand for grants can be made only on the recommendation of the Governor.
- 3. The Governor can seek any information related to the affairs of the State Government.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer d) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation**

Under Article 217 of the Constitution, the President of India appoints the judges of a High Court. The Judges of a High Court are appointed by the President of India, in consultation with Chief Justice of India and Governor of the State

Under Article 203(3), no demand for a grant can be made in the State Legislature except on the recommendation of the Governor. This is a significant financial power, similar to the President's power at the Union level.

Under Article 167, it is the duty of the Chief Minister to furnish such information relating

to the administration of the affairs of the State and proposals for legislation as the Governor may call for.

**6. Consider the following statements regarding Fjords:**

1. Fjords are formed by the deposition of sediments carried by rivers at their mouths
2. Fjords are primarily found in tropical coastal regions

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

Answer d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation

Fjords are not formed by the deposition of sediments at river mouths; rather, they are a result of intense glacial erosion. During the Ice Age, large valley glaciers carved out deep, narrow U-shaped valleys with steep sides. When the glaciers later melted, sea water flooded these over-deepened valleys, forming fjords. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect**

They are predominantly found in high-latitude areas that experienced extensive glaciation, such as Norway, Canada, and parts of New Zealand. Tropical regions lack the necessary glacial conditions required for fjord formation. **Hence statement 2 is incorrect**

**7. The Schedule I of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010, empowers a person to approach the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to seek relief and compensation for environmental damage in case of violation of certain acts. In this context, consider the following acts:**

1. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.
3. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
4. The Biological Diversity Act, 2002.
5. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
6. The Forest Rights Act, 2006.

**How many of the above are mentioned in Schedule I of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010?**

- (a) Only three
- (b) Only four
- (c) Only five
- (d) All six

**Answer b) Only Four**

**Explanation**

Schedule I of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 contains the following seven laws under which the National Green Tribunal exercises jurisdiction:

- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974

- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977
- The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
- The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991
- The Biological Diversity Act, 2002

**However, the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and the Forest Rights Act, 2006 are not included in this schedule.**

**8. With reference to the history of ancient India, consider the following statements regarding the Gupta empire:**

1. The civil and criminal laws were clearly demarcated during Guptas.
2. The guilds of merchants and artisans were governed by their own laws.
3. Fa Hien recorded that law and order was not always strict and he himself reportedly faced robbery during his travels.
4. Shudras were allowed to listen to epics and the puranas.
5. Women were allowed to inherit property.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer c) Only Four**

**Explanation**

The judicial system during the Gupta period clearly defined and separated civil and criminal law. Disputes regarding property were treated as civil law, while crimes such as theft and adultery fell under criminal law.

Guilds (Shrenis) were powerful corporate bodies that flourished and were governed by their own laws and customs. The central government generally respected these internal regulations and guild leaders often held significant administrative influence.

The Chinese traveller Fa Hien described the administration as mild and the people as honest and secure. He noted that he could travel freely without being robbed. **It was the later traveller Hiuen Tsang (during Harsha's reign) who famously complained of being robbed multiple times.**

There was a notable improvement in the social and religious status of Shudras during this era; they were permitted to listen to the Ramayana, Mahabharata, and Puranas, which was previously restricted in more orthodox Vedic periods.

According to law-books of the time, such as the **Yajnavalkya Smriti**, the wife and daughters were placed as heirs to a man who died without a male issue. This era also saw a broader definition of **Stridhana (women's separate property)**.

**9. In which year were the first modern universities set up in Calcutta, Madras and Bombay during colonial rule?**

- (a) 1829
- (b) 1835
- (c) 1854
- (d) 1857

**Answer d) 1857**

**Explanation**

These three universities were established following the recommendations of Sir Charles Wood's Despatch of 1854, often called the "Magna Carta of English Education in India." They were modeled after the University of London, primarily acting as examining bodies rather than teaching institutions. The University of Calcutta was established first (January 1857), followed by the University of Bombay (July 1857), and the University of Madras (September 1857).

**10. Consider the following statements**

1. The Charter Act, 1813 ended the East India Company's monopoly over Indian trade with exceptions for tea and China trade
2. The Charter Act, 1833 removed discrimination against Indians in matters of employment and higher service
3. The Charter Act, 1853 separated the legislative and executive functions of the Governor-General's Council for the first time

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer d) 1, 2 and 3**

**Explanation**

The Charter Act, 1813: abolished the East India Company's trade monopoly in India, opening it to all British merchants. However, it specifically retained the Company's monopoly over trade in tea and trade with China.

The Charter Act, 1833: Section 87 of this act declared that no Indian should be disqualified from holding any office or employment under the Company based on their religion, place of birth, descent, or colour. This was a landmark step toward removing racial discrimination in government service, even though it was not effectively implemented immediately.

The Charter Act, 1853: The termination of the Company's remaining trade monopolies (tea and China) actually occurred under the Charter Act of 1833, which transformed the East India Company into a purely administrative body. The Charter Act of 1853 is instead known for:

- Introducing a system of open competition for the Indian Civil Services.
- Separating the legislative and executive functions of the Governor-General's Council for the first time.
- Renewing the Company's charter for an indefinite period rather than a fixed 20-year term, signaling that the Crown could take over at any time.

**11. Consider the following statements regarding 'Quantum dots':**

1. They are nanocrystals of semiconducting material.
2. They have the same atomic composition as bulk semiconductor materials.
3. They are considered environmentally friendly because they contain no toxic heavy metals.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Answer b) Only two**

**Explanation**

In 2023, the Nobel Prize in chemistry was awarded to Moungi G. Bawendi, Louis E. Brus and Alexei I. Ekimov for the discovery and synthesis of quantum dots. **Quantum dots**

**are tiny particles or nanocrystals of semiconducting material with a diameter in the range of 2–10 nm (10–50 atoms).**

Quantum dots have the same structure and atomic composition as bulk semiconductor materials, but their properties can be tuned using a single parameter, the particle's size.

Quantum dots have size-dependent emission, meaning their color can be adjusted by changing their size. The smaller the dot, the higher the energy of emitted light, resulting in a shift from red to blue in the color spectrum.

**Quantum dots contain toxic heavy metals such as Cadmium selenide (CdSe), Zinc oxide (ZnO), silica etc.** Additionally, the production and disposal of even non-metal-containing quantum dots can carry environmental risks due to their nano-scale nature.

**12. The practice of reducing the size of a product while maintaining its sticker price is called**

- (a) Reflation
- (b) Disinflation
- (c) Deflation
- (d) Shrinkflation

**Answer d) Shrinkflation**

**Explanation**

Shrinkflation refers to the practice where companies reduce the size or quantity of a

product while keeping the price the same. This effectively increases the price per unit without changing the sticker price.

Reflation is adoption of policies to increase economic activity and inflation after a downturn

Disinflation is a decrease in the rate of inflation

Deflation is a general decline in prices across the economy

### 13. Consider the following institutions

1. Supreme Court of India
2. High Courts of all states
3. District courts
4. Family Courts

**How many of the above institutions have the Constitutional status of Courts of Record?**

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

**Answer b) Only two**

**Explanation**

A Court of Record is a court whose acts and judicial proceedings are recorded and have evidentiary value. In India, this status is constitutionally granted to higher judiciary.

The Supreme Court of India is explicitly declared a Court of Record under Article 129 of the Constitution.

All High Courts are Courts of Record under Article 215, meaning their decisions have legal precedent value. Both the Supreme Court and High Courts have the constitutional status of Courts of Record, but not exactly in identical constitutional provisions or hierarchy.

Subordinate courts (district courts, civil/criminal courts) are not Courts of Record. They do not have inherent power to create binding precedents or record proceedings with the same constitutional status.

**14. The Government of India has announced a 6-year Mission for Aatmanirbharta (Self-reliance) in Pulses with a special focus to ensure 100 percent procurement at MSP of:**

- (a) Urad, Soyabean and Masoor
- (b) Tur, Urad and Masoor
- (c) Masoor, Chana and Tur
- (d) Moong, Tur and Soyabean

**Answer b) Tur, Urad and Masoor**

**Explanation**

The Government of India has launched a 6-year "Mission for Aatmanirbharta (Self-

reliance) in Pulses" (2025-26 to 2030-31) with a ₹11,440 crore outlay to achieve self-sufficiency, featuring 100% assured Minimum Support Price (MSP) procurement for Tur, Urad, and Masoor. The mission aims to boost production to 350 lakh tonnes by 2030-31 through area expansion and high-yield seeds

**15. The term "Maghreb" often heard in the news roughly corresponds to which of the following regions ?**

- (a) Region along the eastern Mediterranean shores
- (b) Region along North African shores stretching from Egypt to Morocco
- (c) Region along Persian Gulf and Horn of Africa
- (d) The entire coastal areas of Mediterranean Sea

**Answer b) Region along North African shores stretching from Egypt to Morocco**

**Explanation**

The term **Maghreb** refers to the **North African region west of Egypt**, broadly covering: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya (sometimes included)

"Maghreb" means "**west**" or "**place of sunset**" in Arabic. It denotes the **western part of the Arab world**, along the **North African Mediterranean coast**.

**16. The 'Santiago Network', sometimes seen in the news, is mentioned in which of the following contexts?**

- (a) A coalition of South American nations using cryptocurrencies for cross-border transactions
- (b) A network of national governments, indigenous communities, and researchers to protect the Amazon rainforests
- (c) A network of experts providing technical assistance to vulnerable countries to address loss and damage arising from climate change
- (d) An international initiative to prevent the weaponization of outer space

**Answer c) A network of experts providing technical assistance to vulnerable countries to address loss and damage arising from climate change**

**Explanation**

The Santiago Network for Averting, Minimizing, and Addressing Loss and Damage is a key initiative under the UNFCCC, established at COP25 (Madrid, 2019). It aims to strengthen the **support system for vulnerable developing countries facing the adverse effects of climate change**.

**17. With reference to Indian economy, consider the following pairs:**

<b>Terms</b>	<b>Description</b>
1. Angel fund	Capital provided by high net-worth individuals to start-ups in the early stages
2. Debt fund	Funds that invest in debt securities of listed or unlisted companies.
3. Fund of funds	Invests directly in stocks and equity markets for high returns

**How many of the above are correctly matched?**

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

**Answer b) Only two**

**Explanation**

Angel fund refers to investments made by high net-worth individuals, often called angel investors, who provide capital to startups at a very early stage in exchange for equity. These investors typically take higher risks in expectation of high returns if the startup succeeds.

Debt funds are investment vehicles that allocate money into fixed-income instruments such as bonds, debentures, treasury bills, and other debt securities issued by both listed and unlisted companies. Their primary objective is to generate stable returns with relatively lower risk compared to equity funds.

A fund of funds does not directly invest in stocks or equity markets. Instead, it invests in a portfolio of other investment funds—such as mutual funds or hedge funds—thereby providing diversification. Its purpose is to spread risk across multiple funds rather than directly picking securities.

**18. With reference to the Tenth schedule of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** An elected member who voted against the direction of his/her party in Rajya Sabha polls can be disqualified on the grounds of defection.

**Statement-II:** The Presiding officer of the concerned house is responsible for making decisions on disqualifications on the grounds of defection.

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

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are

correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.

(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.

(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

**Answer d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.**

**Explanation**

The Supreme Court, in the Kuldip Naya case, 2006, ruled that the anti-defection law doesn't apply to Rajya Sabha elections since they are considered external matters of the concerned legislative house. Nevertheless, political parties have the liberty to take disciplinary actions, but they cannot disqualify members for defection based on their voting in Rajya Sabha elections.

The Presiding officer of the concerned house is responsible for making decisions on disqualifications on the grounds of defection. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha and Chairperson of Rajya Sabha is responsible for making decisions on disqualifications of members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha respectively under the tenth schedule of the Indian Constitution.

**19. Consider the following pairs**

Organization	Functions	Associated Ministry
1. Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL)	To identify, acquire, develop, and process strategic mineral assets within India	Ministry of Mines
2. Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB)	Oversees refining, processing, storage, transportation, distribution, marketing and sale of petroleum products and natural gas	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
3. Coal Controller's Organisation	Monitors the progress of the development of Captive Coal/Lignite blocks	Ministry of Mines

**How many of the above pairs is / are correct ?**

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs

- (c) All three pairs  
(d) None

**Answer a) only one pair**

**Explanation**

The Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL) indeed primarily focuses on acquiring, developing and processing strategic mineral assets abroad, not within India. It was set up to secure critical minerals like lithium and cobalt from overseas sources. KABIL operates under the Ministry of Mines.

The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board indeed regulates downstream activities such as refining, processing, storage, transportation, distribution and marketing of petroleum products and natural gas. It also functions under the **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.**

The Coal Controller's Organisation focuses on coal quality surveillance and grading, data collection, and dispute resolution and **monitors captive coal block development. It does not come under the Ministry of Mines; it functions under the Ministry of Coal.**

**20. Consider the following statements**

**Statement I:** An isotherm is an imaginary line drawn on a map joining places having equal temperature at a given time or over a given period

**Statement II:** On 21st June, the isotherms in the Northern Hemisphere deviate southward over continents

**Statement III:** On 21st June, the isotherms in the Northern Hemisphere deviate northward over oceans

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

- (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I  
(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement I explains Statement II  
(c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I  
(d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

**Answer d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct**

**Explanation**

Isotherm is an imaginary line on a map joining places with equal temperature, either at a particular time or averaged over a period.

**Hence statement 1 is correct**

On 21st June (Northern Hemisphere summer), land heats up much faster than oceans due to its lower specific heat capacity. As a result, continents become relatively hotter than surrounding oceans. This causes isotherms to bend northward (poleward) over continents. Oceans heat up more slowly and remain comparatively cooler than land during this time. Therefore, isotherms bend

southward (equatorward) over oceans, not northward. **Hence statement 2 and 3 are incorrect**

**21. Which of the following refers to the temperature of air excluding the effect of moisture?**

- (a) Wet-bulb temperature
- (b) Dew point temperature
- (c) Dry-bulb temperature
- (d) Apparent temperature

**Answer c) Dry-bulb temperature**

**Explanation**

**Dry-bulb temperature** is the actual temperature of the air measured by a standard thermometer freely exposed to the air but shielded from direct radiation and moisture. It does **not take into account humidity or moisture content**, which is why it represents the true ambient air temperature.

In contrast, **wet-bulb temperature** is measured using a thermometer with a moist cloth wrapped around its bulb. Due to evaporation, it is influenced by the moisture content of the air—drier air leads to more evaporation and lower readings. **Dew point temperature** refers to the temperature at which air becomes fully saturated with moisture, leading to condensation (like dew or fog formation). **Apparent temperature**, often called the “feels-like” temperature, combines the effects of air temperature, humidity, and sometimes wind to reflect how hot or cold it feels to the human body.

**22. Consider the following statements:**

1. The Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF) is a global financing initiative led by Brazil to support the long-term conservation of tropical forests.
2. India is not an observer of Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF).

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer: (a) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

The Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF) is a global financing initiative led by Brazil to support the long-term conservation of tropical forests. **Hence statement 1 is correct.** It aims to provide sustainable, performance-based funding to countries that successfully preserve their forests and maintain low deforestation rates. The TFFF seeks to shift economic incentives, making it more financially rewarding for countries to protect forests than to exploit them. The Tropical Forests Forever Facility was formally launched in 2025, with endorsements from over 50 tropical forest countries and initial pledges exceeding 5.5 billion US dollars. At its formal launch, the TFFF secured

endorsements from 53 countries, including 34 tropical-forest countries covering over 90 % of developing-country tropical forests.

India has joined the Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF), but only as an observer.

**Hence statement 2 is correct.**

**Goal:** Aims to mobilize \$125 billion through a mix of public and private investment to provide long-term, predictable funding for forest conservation.

**Performance-Based:** Payments (estimated at \$4 per hectare annually) are made to eligible countries that maintain an annual deforestation rate below 0.5%, verified by satellite data.

**Inclusive:** At least 20% of the allocated funds are directed toward supporting indigenous peoples and local communities.

**23. Consider the following statements about Sangam age in ancient South India:**

1. Nadukkal is a stone erected for those who died on the battlefield.
2. Sati was not prevalent and actively condemned by the Sangam society.
3. Though the concept of varna was recognized, the social hierarchy was not rigid.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two

(c) All three

(d) None

**Answer b) Only two**

**Explanation**

Nadukkal also known as Virakkal (Hero Stones), these were memorial stones planted to honour the bravery of warriors who died on the battlefield. They were often inscribed with the hero's name and achievements and were a central part of Sangam religious life.

Sangam literature (specifically the Purananuru) mentions the practice of Sati, referred to as Tippayadal. While it may not have been universal, it was certainly prevalent among the warrior classes and was often glorified or seen as an act of devotion rather than being "actively condemned" by society at large.

While Sangam poets were aware of the northern Varna system and mentioned groups like Antanars (Brahmins) and Arashars (Kings), the social structure was primarily based on occupational groups and physiographic regions (Tinai). The rigid, water-tight caste compartments found in North India at the time had not yet fully dominated the southern social fabric.

**24. Consider the following description:**

**"Initially, this territory was granted the unique status of an 'Associate State' of the Indian Union through a Constitutional Amendment. Subsequently, following a referendum where the people voted to**

**abolish the monarchy, it became a full-fledged State of India."**

**Which of the following States is being described above?**

- (a) Goa
- (b) Manipur
- (c) Sikkim
- (d) Junagadh

**Answer: (c) Sikkim**

**Explanation**

In 1974, Sikkim was given a special status as an "Associate State" of India through the 35th Constitutional Amendment Act. This was a unique arrangement—no other Indian territory had this designation.

In 1975, a referendum was held in Sikkim. The people voted overwhelmingly to abolish the monarchy (rule of the Chogyal).

After the referendum, India passed the 36th Constitutional Amendment Act. This made Sikkim the 22nd state of India.

**25. Consider the following statements about Ajanta Cave paintings:**

1. The paintings depict yakshas, gandharvas and apsaras.
2. The artists have used the technique of providing "multiple perspectives".

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer c) Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation**

The Ajanta paintings extensively feature celestial and semi-divine beings such as yakshas (nature spirits), gandharvas (celestial musicians), and apsaras (celestial dancers), typically shown as attendants or as part of the decorative surroundings of the Buddha.

Artists at Ajanta employed the technique of "multiple perspectives" or "rotating perspectives." This allows a single scene to be viewed from various angles, creating a sense of movement and narrative continuity that leads the viewer through the story, a hallmark of Indian classical painting.

**26. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement I:** Zeolites are effective materials for removing impurities from water and gases

**Statement II:** Zeolites can be synthetically produced and does not occur in nature

**Statement III:** Zeolites possess a crystalline porous structure with uniform pore sizes that allow selective adsorption of molecules based on size and polarity

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

(a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I

(b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I

(c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I

(d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

**Answer c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I**

**Explanation**

Zeolites are a family of crystalline aluminosilicate minerals that act as "molecular sieves." They are characterized by a three-dimensional framework of silicon, aluminium, and oxygen atoms that create a regular network of tiny, uniform pores and channels.

These pores are large enough to trap and exchange ions or small molecules, such as water and heavy metals, but small enough to exclude larger molecules. Zeolites are widely used in filtration, gas separation, and as molecular sieves due to their adsorptive and ion-exchange properties.

The crystalline microporous structure enables selective adsorption, which is central to how zeolites remove impurities.

In nature, they occur where volcanic outflows

have met water. Synthetic zeolites have proven to be a big and low-cost boon. One biomedical device that has entered our lexicon during the pandemic is the oxygen concentrator. Their availability and customizability make zeolites useful across industries, including in oxygen concentrators during COVID-19.

**27. The terms "Shahed", "Lancet" and "Dragon", frequently seen in the news in the context of**

(a) Drones used in modern warfare

(b) Ballistic missile systems tested by India

(c) Oil tankers operating in the Strait of Hormuz

(d) Anti-satellite weapon systems

**Answer a) Drones used in modern warfare**

**Explanation**

Shahed drones are Iranian-origin unmanned combat aerial vehicles (loitering munitions) developed by Shahed Aviation Industries. They are produced in Iran and Russia and have been widely used by Russian forces in the Ukraine war and by Iran in recent conflicts for precision strikes.

The Lancet is an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) and loitering munition developed by the Russian for the Russian Armed Forces.

A dragon drone also known as "Dracarys" is a type of incendiary unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) initially developed and dubbed by Ukraine's Ministry of Defense. The device was created in 2024 during the Russo-Ukrainian

war as a means to destroy forested areas and remove the cover of Russian soldiers.

**28. The Golden Quadrilateral Highway passes through which of the following cities?**

1. Balasore
2. Jaipur
3. Lucknow
4. Indore

**Select the answer using the code given below:**

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

**Answer a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation**

Based on the geographical alignment of the Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) highway network, it passes through Balasore and Jaipur

The Golden Quadrilateral connects the four major metropolitan cities of India: Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata. Other major cities on its route include:

North to West: Gurgaon, Jaipur, Ajmer, Udaipur, Ahmedabad, Surat, and Vadodara.

West to South: Pune, Belgaum, and Bengaluru.

South to East: Nellore, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, Bhubaneswar, and Balasore.

East to North: Durgapur, Dhanbad, Varanasi, Prayagraj, Kanpur, and Agra.

**29. Consider the following statements about the powers and duties of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India:**

1. He/She audits and reports on all expenditures from the Consolidated Fund of India.
2. He/She controls the issue and receipt of money from the Consolidated Fund of India.
3. He/She audits and reports on the expenditure of all bodies substantially financed from the Union or State revenues.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Answer c) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation**

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) is established under Article 148 of the Indian Constitution and is the supreme audit institution of India. Its primary role is to ensure accountability in the use of public funds. However, it is important to clearly distinguish between audit functions and executive control over finances.

The Consolidated Fund of India is the main

account of the Government where all revenues, loans, and receipts are deposited. Any expenditure from this fund must be authorized by Parliament. After expenditure is made, the CAG audits these expenditures to check: legality (whether spending was authorized), propriety (whether it was appropriate and efficient), financial correctness.

CAG does NOT control financial transactions or cash flow. The actual control over withdrawal of money is exercised by: the Executive (Government of India) and financial systems managed through the Ministry of Finance and RBI mechanisms

CAG also audits institutions that are not directly part of the government but are substantially funded by public money, such as: Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), Autonomous bodies and Government-funded societies and authorities. If an organisation receives significant funding from the Union or State, its accounts come under CAG audit to ensure transparency and accountability.

**30. Consider the following countries:**

1. France
2. Germany
3. Poland
4. Italy
5. Switzerland
6. Austria

**The Alps pass through how many of the above countries?**

- (a) Only three
- (b) Only four
- (c) Only five
- (d) All six

**Answer c) Only Five**

**Explanation**

The Alps are Europe's highest, most extensive mountain range, stretching 1,200 km across eight countries—**France, Switzerland, Monaco, Italy, Liechtenstein, Germany, Austria, and Slovenia**. Formed by the collision of the African and Eurasian tectonic plates. Poland is not a part of Alps

**31. It is a pooled investment vehicle that extensively uses flexible strategies such as long/short positions, leverage, arbitrage, and swaps to manage risk and enhance returns alongside traditional investments. Which of the following best describes the above?**

- (a) Mutual Fund
- (b) Hedge Fund
- (c) Venture Capital
- (d) Sovereign Wealth Fund

**Answer b) Hedge Fund**

**Explanation**

A hedge fund is a pooled investment vehicle that uses highly flexible and

sophisticated strategies such as long and short positions, leverage, arbitrage, and derivatives like swaps to manage risk and maximize returns, often aiming to generate profits in both rising and falling markets. Hence option b is correct

In contrast, a mutual fund is also a pooled investment but follows a more conservative and regulated approach, typically investing in stocks and bonds using long-only strategies and focusing on steady growth for retail investors. Venture capital refers to investments made in early-stage startups with high growth potential, where funds are provided in exchange for equity and held for the long term rather than actively traded. A sovereign wealth fund is a government-owned investment fund that manages national reserves, investing across global assets with a focus on long-term stability and wealth preservation rather than aggressive trading strategies.

32. With reference to the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission (1983), consider the following statements:

1. Deletion of Article 356
2. Formation of Interstate Council under Article 263
3. Formation of Zonal Council
4. Reducing the number of officers in All India Services

How many of the statement/s give above

is/are correct?

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

Answer a) Only one

Explanation

In 1983, the Central government appointed a three-member Commission on Centre State relations under the chairmanship of R.S. Sarkaria, a retired judge of the Supreme Court. It submitted its report in 1988 and made 247 recommendations to improve Centre-State relations. The important recommendations are mentioned below:

A permanent Inter-State Council should be set up under Article 263 of the Indian Constitution.

The zonal councils should be constituted afresh and reactivated to promote the spirit of federalism

**Article 356 (President's Rule) should be used very sparingly**, in extreme cases as a last resort when all the available alternatives fail.

The institution of All-India Services should be further **strengthened** and some more such services should be created.

The residuary powers of taxation should continue to remain with the Parliament, while the other residuary powers should be placed in the Concurrent List.

**33. With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:**

1. Paying taxes and contributing to the economic development of the nation.
2. Exercising the right to vote in a free and fair manner.
3. Respecting and promoting the harmony and Spirit of common brotherhood.
4. Participating in the Armed forces when called upon for national defence.

**How many of the above are mentioned in the Article 51A of the Constitution of India?**

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

**Answer b) Only two**

**Explanation**

Paying taxes and exercising the right to vote in a free and fair manner are not the fundamental duties of the citizens of India.

**34. Consider the following pairs**

<b>Climate Types</b>	<b>Precipitation</b>
1. Equatorial Climate	Concentrated heavy rainfall occurs in summer
2. Tropical Monsoon Climate	Precipitation is heavy and well distributed throughout the year with double rainfall peaks
3. Mediterranean Climate	Most of the precipitation occurs in winter

**How many of the above pairs are correct?**

- (a) One only
- (b) Two only
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**Answer a) Only one**

**Explanation**

The equatorial, hot, wet climate is found between 5° and 10° north and south of the equator. Precipitation in equatorial climates is heavy and well distributed throughout the year. There is no month without rain. There are two periods of maximum rainfall, in April and October, which occur shortly after the equinoxes. Least rain falls at the June and December solstices. The double rainfall peaks coinciding with the equinoxes are a characteristic feature of equatorial climates not found in any other type of climate.

Tropical Monsoon Climate is primarily defined by the seasonal reversal of winds. With the 'burst' of the South-West Monsoon in mid-June, torrential downpours sweep across the country to the delight of everybody. Almost all the rain for the year falls within this rainy season. As much as 95 per cent of the annual rainfall is concentrated within four months. This pattern of concentrated heavy rainfall in summer is a characteristic feature of the Tropical Monsoon Climate

The Mediterranean lands receive **most of their precipitation in winter** when the Westerlies shift equatorwards. In the northern hemisphere, the prevailing on-shore Westerlies bring much cyclonic rain from the Atlantic to the countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea. This is the rainy season and is the most outstanding feature of the Mediterranean Climate. In almost all other climatic types, maximum rain comes in summer. The rain comes in heavy showers and only on a few days with bright sunny periods between them.

**35. Which of the following animal species are not a detritivore or a scavenger?**

- (a) Ants
- (b) Sea cucumbers
- (c) Vulture
- (d) Sea horses

**Answer d) Sea horses**

**Explanation**

Sea horses are carnivorous fish that primarily hunt live prey. They use their snouts to suck in small live crustaceans, such as shrimp and plankton, rather than feeding on dead organic matter.

Many species of ants are considered detritivores (or scavengers) because they feed on detritus, including dead plant and animal material, which helps recycle nutrients in the ecosystem.

Sea cucumbers are marine animals which are classic detritivores. They crawl along the ocean floor consuming benthic debris, decaying organic matter, and tiny organisms found in the sediment.

Vultures are specialized detritivores (often specifically called scavengers). Their diet consists almost entirely of carrion—the rotting flesh of dead animals—which they are highly efficient at removing from the environment.

**36. With reference to the International Date Line (IDL), consider the following statements:**

1. It is an imaginary straight line located along 180 degrees longitude.
2. It passes through the Bering Strait.
3. A person crossing an IDL from east to west gains a day.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Answer b) Only two**

**Explanation**

While it roughly follows the 180° meridian, the IDL is not a straight line. It is drawn in a zigzag manner to avoid splitting landmasses or countries into two different calendar dates. Notable deviations occur around eastern Russia, the Aleutian Islands, and several Pacific island nations like Kiribati.

The IDL passes through the Bering Strait, which separates Russia (Asia) from Alaska (North America). It specifically curves eastward through the strait to keep the Siberian region of Russia on the same date as the rest of the country.

When traveling westward (e.g., from the U.S. toward Asia), you cross into a region that is a day ahead, effectively adding a day to your calendar. Conversely, crossing from west to east results in "losing" or subtracting a day, meaning you repeat the same calendar date

**37. Cryobanking, recently in the news, refers to:**

- (a) The preservation of biological materials at ultra-low temperatures to halt metabolic activity.
- (b) The cultivation of marine organisms in cryogenic chambers for research purposes.

- (c) A method of desalinating seawater through freezing and thawing cycles.
- (d) The extraction of minerals from permafrost deposits using low temperature techniques.

**Answer: (a) The preservation of biological materials at ultralow temperatures to halt metabolic activity.**

**Explanation:**

**The Philippines has established the world's first Coral Larvae Cryobank** — a facility to freeze and preserve coral larvae to protect marine biodiversity and aid reef restoration. Set up by the University of the Philippines' Marine Science Institute (UP MSI) at the Bolinao Marine Laboratory. Part of a regional collaboration within the Coral Triangle Initiative, covering six nations: Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste.

**Cryobanking : Preservation of living cells or tissues at ultra-low temperatures (-196°C) using liquid nitrogen, halting all biological activity.** Hence option (a) is correct.

Used widely in conserving seeds, animal gametes, and genetic material. In this context, it involves freezing coral larvae or gametes to preserve genetic diversity for future reef restoration.

### 38. Consider the following pairs

Harappan sites	Material Evidences
1. Kalibangan	Evidence of a ploughed field with two sets of furrows at right angles to each other, suggesting two different crops grown together
2. Dholavira	Presence of an elaborate system of water harvesting and management by building a series of dams and channelizing water into connected reservoirs
3. Rakhigarhi	Largest Harappan sites with extensive urban layout and burial sites.
4. Kunal	Presence of rich cache of jewelry and silver ornaments

How many of the above pairs are correct?

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

**Answer d) All four**

#### Explanation

Kalibangan: This site in Rajasthan provides the world's earliest evidence of a ploughed

field. The unique grid of furrows intersecting at right angles indicates that Harappans likely grew two different crops (such as mustard and chickpea) simultaneously in the same field.

Dholavira: Located in Gujarat, Dholavira is renowned for its sophisticated water management system. Excavations revealed a series of stone-cut reservoirs, dams, and channels used to harvest and store rainwater, a necessity in the arid Rann of Kutch.

Rakhigarhi: Situated in Haryana, it is considered the largest Harappan site. It features an extensive urban layout including planned streets, drainage systems, and a significant cemetery (burial site) that has provided DNA evidence for research into Harappan ancestry.

Kunal: This early Harappan site in Haryana is famous for the discovery of a rich cache of jewelry, including silver tiaras, armlets, and thousands of beads. These finds represent some of the earliest and most elaborate examples of Harappan metallurgy and craftsmanship.

### 39. Which of the following statements about Cabinet Mission are correct?

1. It was sent to India in 1946 to negotiate the transfer of power with the Indian leaders.
2. It proposed a four-tiered federal plan while conceding the largest measure of regional autonomy.
3. There was to be a federation of provinces and states, alongside a federal centre.

4. The individual provinces were allowed to form regional unions to which they could surrender some of their powers by mutual agreement.

**Select the answer using the code given below:**

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

**Answer c) 1, 3 and 4 only**

**Explanation**

The Cabinet Mission, consisting of Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Sir Stafford Cripps, and A.V. Alexander, arrived in India in March 1946 to negotiate the transfer of power and obtain agreement on a constitution-making body.

It proposed a two-tiered federal plan (Union and Provinces) designed to preserve national unity while granting provinces the "largest measure of regional autonomy".

It envisioned a Federation of India comprising both British Indian provinces and princely states, with a central government restricted to only three subjects: defense, foreign affairs, and communications.

The plan introduced a unique "grouping" system where individual provinces were permitted to form regional unions (Sections A, B, and C). These groups could collectively manage certain subjects by mutual

agreement.

Despite these proposals, the mission ultimately failed to resolve the fundamental deadlock between the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League, leading eventually to the partition of India.

**40. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement I:** Perovskites exhibits a potential for high performance and low production costs in solar cells.

**Statement II:** Perovskite crystals used in solar cells can be reused easily as they are free of toxic metals

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

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement I is correct

**Answer c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect**

**Explanation**

Perovskites are a class of materials used as the light-absorbing active layer in thin-film solar cells. They offer high efficiency and low production costs, using a thin metal-halide

perovskite layer to absorb light and generate electricity by exciting and extracting electrons. Compared to traditional silicon PV, perovskite cells require much thinner layers, making them lightweight and cost-effective

Perovskite crystals **contain toxic elements like lead, which needs to be processed carefully once these solar panels reach the end of their lifespan.**

**41. Global Innovation Index report is released by**

- (a) World Bank
- (b) World Economic Forum
- (c) World Intellectual Property Organization
- (d) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

**Answer c) World Intellectual Property Organization**

**Explanation**

The Global Innovation Index (GII) is published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in collaboration with other partners. It ranks countries based on their innovation performance.

**42. Which one of the following platforms marks a transformative step in India's immunization efforts by digitizing vaccination records for pregnant women and children up to 16 years?**

- (a) U-WIN
- (b) PM-ABHIM
- (c) eSanjeevani
- (d) FDSI

**Answer a) U-WIN**

**Explanation**

U-WIN is modeled after the Co-WIN platform used for COVID-19. It serves as the digital backbone of India's Universal Immunization Programme (UIP). **It digitizes every vaccination event for pregnant women and children (from birth up to age 16), ensuring that no dose is missed.** It provides a single source of truth for vaccination status, allows for digital registrations, and generates real-time, QR-code-based vaccination certificates accessible via mobile.

**43. Consider the following statements in respect of the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup(2025):**

1. It was hosted by India
2. In the finals of the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup(2025), India became the winner after defeating Australia
3. It was the first time, India winning the first-ever championship in ICC Women's Cricket World Cup

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer b) Only two**

**Explanation**

The 2025 ICC Women's Cricket World Cup (50-over) was hosted by India from September 30 to November 2, 2025, culminating in India winning their first-ever championship title by defeating South Africa in the final. The 13th edition saw 10 teams compete, with Australia (the most successful side) losing in the semi-final.

**India was the sole host for the 13th edition of the tournament**, which took place from September 30 to November 2, 2025. Matches were held across five major venues, including Bengaluru, Ahmedabad, and Guwahati. **The official sole host for the tournament was India. Due to Pakistan's refusal to visit India, their matches were relocated to Sri Lanka, along with a few Sri Lankan fixture** "Blaze" (a female mascot representing fast bowling) and "Tonk" (a male mascot representing power hitting) were the official mascots. They were originally introduced during the 2023 Men's World Cup and retained for this event.

**India won the title by defeating South Africa** by 52 runs in the final at the DY Patil Stadium. While India knocked Australia out in

the semi-finals, Australia was not their opponent in the final match. It was the first time, India winning the first-ever championship in ICC Women's Cricket World Cup:

This victory marked **India's maiden title in the Women's ODI World Cup**. Previously, India had reached the finals twice (in 2005 and 2017) but finished as runners-up on both occasions.

**44. Which of the following group of countries are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Plus?**

- (a) Indonesia, Australia and Japan
- (b) India, Israel and South Korea
- (c) India, Australia and Japan
- (d) Israel, Japan and South Korea

**Answer d) Israel, Japan and South Korea**

**Explanation**

India, Indonesia are not members of NATO nor NATO Plus. Recently the US expressed its belief that if India joins NATO then India can effectively safeguard its borders from China. Further it can enhance global security mechanisms to counter Chinese aggression.

NATO Plus is a grouping of the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and five countries**, including **Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Israel, and South Korea**. The group works toward boosting global defence cooperation.

As of **April 2026, NATO consists of 32 member countries**. The alliance includes 30

European nations, Canada, and the United States, with Sweden being the most recent member to join in March 2024

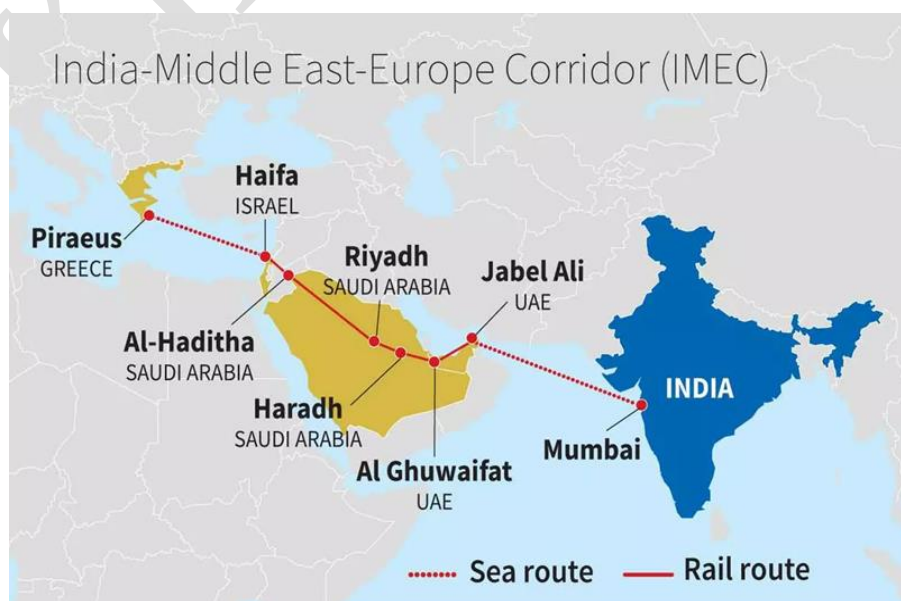
**45. India is a key participant in the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), a proposed multimodal connectivity initiative, which aims to connect**

- (a) India to Greece via Turkey
- (b) India to Russia via Afghanistan and Iran
- (c) India to Greece via United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- (d) India to Russia via Azerbaijan

**Answer c) India to Greece via United Arab Emirates (UAE)**

#### **Explanation**

The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor is a proposed multimodal connectivity initiative that links India to Europe through the Middle East. The route begins in India, passes through the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and other West Asian countries like Saudi Arabia and Israel, and then connects to European entry points such as Greece.



**46. With reference to Ordinance making power of the President and the Governor, consider the following statements:**

1. Unlike the President, the Governor can promulgate ordinance even when one of the houses of the State legislatures having bicameralism are not in session.
2. Unlike the President, the ordinance making power of the Governor can extend beyond the jurisdictions of the State legislatures.
3. Unlike the President, the Governor can withdraw ordinances even without the advice of the council of ministers.

**How many of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer d) None**

#### **Explanation**

Article 123 and 213 of the Indian Constitution deals with the ordinance making power of the President and the Governor respectively.

Similar to the ordinance making power of the President, the Governor can promulgate ordinance only when both houses of the State legislatures having bicameralism are not in session.

The ordinance making power of both

President as well as Governors is co-extensive with their legislative powers. This means ordinance making power of the Governor cannot extend beyond the jurisdictions of the State legislatures.

The ordinance making power of the President as well as Governors are not discretionary power. This means that the President and the Governor can promulgate/withdraw ordinances only on the advice of the council of ministers.

**47. Consider the following pairs:**

Forest Type	Key Vegetation Feature
1. Coniferous Forest	Characterised by needle-shaped leaves and trees with a conical shape to shed snow
2. Dry Deciduous Forest	Presence of pneumatophores to survive in harsh environment
3. Mangrove Forest	Trees remain evergreen throughout the year due to high soil moisture
4. Tropical Rain Forest	Dense, multi-layered canopy with a high presence of epiphytes

**How many of the above pairs are correct ?**

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

**Answer b) Only two**

**Explanation**

Coniferous forests, also known as taiga or boreal forests, are dominated by trees like pine, spruce, and fir. Their needle-shaped leaves reduce water loss, and their conical shape allows snow to slide off easily to prevent branch breakage. **Hence Pair 1 is correct**

Dry Deciduous forests are characterized by trees that shed their leaves during the dry season to conserve water. Pneumatophores are specialized breathing roots found in Mangrove forests. Mangrove forests are salt-tolerant coastal ecosystems characterized by pneumatophores and stilt roots to survive in saline, oxygen-poor water. **Hence pair 2 and 3 are incorrect**

The description "trees remain evergreen due to high soil moisture" typically refers to Tropical Evergreen/Rainforests.

Tropical Rain forests are defined by a dense, multi-layered canopy that blocks most sunlight from reaching the floor. This environment supports a high density of epiphytes (plants that grow on other plants) and lianas. **Hence Pair 4 is correct**

**48. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement I:** Subtropical regions host major global deserts.

**Statement II:** Subtropical regions generally experience heavy cloud cover due to rising air currents.

**Statement III:** Subtropical regions have a strong, dry wind.

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

- (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both explain Statement I  
(b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement I  
(c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and explains Statement I  
(d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III explains Statement I

**Answer c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and explains Statement I**

**Explanation:**

Most major deserts (Sahara, Arabian, Australian) lie in subtropical regions (20°–30° latitude).

Subtropical regions are dominated by descending air (high-pressure belts). This leads to dry, stable conditions and dry winds, which prevent rainfall. Hence, this explains why deserts form in these regions.

Subtropics have descending air, not rising. Hence clear skies, low clouds, low rainfall.

**49. Consider the following poets/scholars:**

1. Bhasa
2. Aryabhatta
3. Amarasimha
4. Dhanvantari

**How many of the above were the 'Navratnas' who adorned the court of Gupta ruler Chandragupta-II?**

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

**Answer b) only two**

**Explanation**

The court of the Gupta Emperor Chandragupta II (also known as Vikramaditya) was famously graced by the Navratnas (Nine Gems), a circle of nine extraordinary scholars and artists.

The nine luminaries were:

- Kalidasa: The most celebrated Sanskrit poet and dramatist (author of Shakuntala and Meghaduta).
- Amarsimha: A Sanskrit grammarian and poet who compiled the famous vocabulary Amarkosha.
- Varahamihira: An astronomer and mathematician who authored the Pancha-Siddhantika and Brihat Samhita.
- Dhanvantari: A renowned physician often regarded as the father of Ayurveda.
- Vetalbhatta: A magician and priest, credited with the authorship of Niti-Pradeepa.
- Vararuchi: A grammarian and Sanskrit scholar.
- Shapanaka: An astrologer who wrote works on horoscopy.

- Shanku: An architect who authored texts on Shilpa Shastra (civil engineering).
- Ghatakarpara: An expert in sculpture and architecture.

**50. Consider the following pairs**

Persons	Associated with
1. Cyril Radcliffe	Demarcating the borders between India and Pakistan
2. Mortimer Durand	Demarcating the borders between British India and Afghanistan
3. Henry McMahon	Demarcating the borders between British India and China(Tibet region)
4. Arthur Balfour	Demarcating the borders between British India and Myanmar

**How many of the above pairs are correct?**

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

**Answer c) Only three**

**Explanation**

Cyril Radcliffe was appointed in 1947 to chair the boundary commissions that drew the Radcliffe Line, which demarcated the borders between newly independent India and

Pakistan.

Mortimer Durand, a British diplomat, negotiated the Durand Line in 1893 between British India and Afghanistan.

Similarly, Henry McMahon proposed the McMahon Line during the 1914 Simla Convention, marking the boundary between British India and Tibet (now forming the basis of the India–China boundary in the eastern sector).

However, Arthur Balfour is incorrectly paired, as he is known for issuing the **Balfour Declaration of 1917 regarding the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine** and had **no role in demarcating the India–Myanmar boundary.**

**51. Who among the following were associated with the Congress Socialist Party?**

- (a) Acharya Narendra Dev and Jayaprakash Narayan
- (b) Jawaharlal Nehru and Subash Chandra Bose
- (c) Motilal Nehru and CR Das
- (d) Rajagopalachari and Minoo Masani

**Answer a) Acharya Narendra Dev and Jayaprakash Narayan**

**Explanation**

The Congress Socialist Party (CSP), formed in 1934 within the Indian National Congress, was led by socialist leaders who wanted to push a left-wing agenda within the freedom movement. Among the given options, Acharya

Narendra Dev and Jayaprakash Narayan were the leaders and founding figures of the CSP.

**52. Consider the following statements regarding Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) initiative**

1. DEH was launched in 2025.
2. The aim of DEH is to boost exports of only selected districts of the country.
3. DEH aims to promote exports by providing financial inclusion and facilitating logistical and infrastructural support.
4. It launched by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer a) Only one**

**Explanation**

The Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) initiative was actually launched in August 2019. While trade policies were updated as recently as 2025, the initial launch occurred several years prior.

The vision of DEH is to transform **every district in India** into an export hub. It identifies products with export potential in all districts (over 700) rather than focusing

exclusively on a limited group.

DEH aims to promote exports by providing financial inclusion and A key objective is to provide a facilitative framework that includes improving credit access for MSMEs, addressing infrastructure bottlenecks, and strengthening logistics and supply chains

DEH is primarily an initiative of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) under the Department of Commerce. While DPIIT is a major stakeholder because of the One District One Product (ODOP) merger, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) is the lead implementing agency.

**53. Consider the following positions**

1. Posts of the President and Vice President of India
2. Parliament of India
3. State Legislative Assemblies
4. State Legislative Councils
5. Panchayat and Municipalities

**For how many of the above positions does the Election Commission of India conduct elections?**

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

**Answer c) Only four**

**Explanation**

The Election Commission of India (ECI) is a

constitutional authority under Article 324 responsible for conducting elections to Parliament, State Legislatures, and key constitutional offices. However, its jurisdiction does not extend to local self-government institutions.

The election of the President and Vice President of India is conducted under the supervision of the ECI through an Electoral College consisting of elected members of Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies. Hence, the ECI plays a central role in managing and conducting these elections.

For the Parliament of India, the ECI conducts elections to the Lok Sabha through direct universal adult suffrage and supervises the indirect election of Rajya Sabha members. Therefore, parliamentary elections fall entirely under its domain.

Similarly, the ECI conducts elections to the State Legislative Assemblies, ensuring the entire electoral process from voter registration to result declaration. In states where they exist, the ECI also supervises elections to the State Legislative Councils, which involve indirect electoral processes through MLAs, graduates, teachers, and local bodies.

However, **elections to Panchayats and Municipalities are not conducted by the ECI.** Instead, they are handled by

**independent State Election Commissions,** established under the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments, which deal with local self-government institutions.

**54. Recently, Italy, Portugal, and Spain have frequently been in the news. This is primarily due to which of the following reasons?**

- (a) Rising seismic activity and volcanic eruptions
- (b) Anti-tourism protests by local residents
- (c) Formation of a new regional military alliance as an alternative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- (d) Discovery of large offshore lithium reserves in the Iberian Peninsula

**Answer b) Anti-tourism protests by local residents**

**Explanation**

In recent times, several cities in Italy, Portugal, and Spain (such as Barcelona, Lisbon, and Venice) have witnessed protests against over tourism. Local residents have raised concerns over rising living costs, housing shortages, and cultural disruption caused by excessive tourism.

**55. Which of the following economic models fundamentally depends on large-scale removal or offsetting of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere to achieve long-term sustainability?**

- (a) Circular economy
- (b) Linear economy
- (c) Net Zero economy
- (d) Blue economy

**Answer c) Net Zero economy**

**Explanation**

A net zero economy is built around the goal of balancing total greenhouse gas emissions with an equivalent amount of removal from the atmosphere, meaning that any emissions produced are offset through measures such as afforestation, carbon capture, or other negative-emission technologies. This makes large-scale removal or offsetting an essential feature of the model, not just a supplementary action.

In contrast, a circular economy focuses on minimizing waste and maximizing resource efficiency through reuse, recycling, and sustainable production systems, thereby reducing emissions indirectly but not relying on their removal. A linear economy follows a traditional “take–make–dispose” approach, which does not prioritize sustainability or emission reduction. Meanwhile, a blue economy emphasizes the sustainable use of ocean and marine resources for economic growth and ecological health, but it does not inherently depend on large-scale greenhouse

gas removal strategies.

**56. With reference to the Speaker of Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:**

1. The Prime Minister appoints the Speaker from his/her own party.
2. The Speaker can be removed from office only by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the Lok Sabha.
3. The Speaker resigns from his/her office by writing a resignation letter to the Deputy speaker of Lok Sabha.
4. The Salaries of the Speaker are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India and are not subject to vote by the Parliament.
5. The President of India administers the oath to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Answer b) only three**

**Explanation**

The Speaker holds the highest position in the Lok Sabha, acting as its Principal Presiding Officer. He/She is elected by the House members through a simple majority vote.

The Speaker enjoys security of tenure and can only be removed by a resolution passed by the Lok Sabha with an effective majority,

meaning a majority of all the then members of the House.

Typically, the Speaker remains in office for the duration of the Lok Sabha's term. However, he/she can vacate their position by writing a resignation letter to by writing to the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha.

The salaries and allowances of the Speaker are determined by Parliament and are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India and are not subject to the annual vote of Parliament.

Unlike other constitutional posts, there is no specific oath of office administered to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

**57. Consider the following statements:**

1. Distribution of rocks across Continents
2. Distribution of minerals across Continents
3. Shape of Continent coastlines
4. Distribution of ocean currents
5. Variation in atmospheric pressure systems
6. Fossil distribution across Continents

**How many of the above are evidence of the phenomenon of continental drift?**

- (a) 1, 2, 3 and 5
- (b) 1, 3, 4 and 5
- (c) 1, 2, 3 and 6
- (d) 2, 5 and 6

**Answer c) 1, 2, 3 and 6**

**Explanation**

Distribution of rocks – Matching rock formations across continents

Distribution of minerals – Similar mineral belts indicate past connection

Shape of coastlines – Jigsaw fit (e.g., Africa–South America)

Fossil distribution – Same fossils found on now-separated continents

Distribution of ocean currents – Driven by winds, temperature, Earth's rotation

Variation in atmospheric pressure systems – Climatic factor, not geological

**58. The 'Rhisotope Project' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of**

- (a) Captive breeding of Wild Fauna
- (b) Maintenance of Tiger Reserves
- (c) Anti-poaching of Rhino horns
- (d) Small nuclear reactors

**Answer: (c) Anti-poaching of Rhino horns**

**Explanation:**

A new project plans to curb rhino poaching through radioactive isotope injections  
Rhisotope Project: A South African initiative led by the University of the Witwatersrand, supported by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The project aims to inject small amounts of radioactive isotopes into rhino horns to deter poaching and improve horn detection at borders. **Hence option (c) is correct.**

Low doses are injected non-invasively into

rhino horns. Horns can then be detected using radiation portal monitors (RPMs) at ports, airports, and borders. The process is discreet, making it hard for poachers to know which horns are tagged. It was tested on 20 rhinos and showed no adverse health effects.

**59. With reference to the Mauryan dynasty in India, consider the following pairs:**

Officers	Functions
1. Rajukas	Head of the Provinces
2. Mahamattas	Implements various policies
3. Yuktas	Assessment of land and revenue collection

**How many of the pairs given above are correct?**

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

**Answer b) Only two**

**Explanation**

In the Mauryan administration, the Rajukas were district-level officials who were responsible for rural administration, justice, and land measurement. The heads of the provinces were usually princes of the royal blood, known as Kumaras or Aryaputras.

Mahamattas (or Mahamatras) were high-ranking executive officers in charge of various

departments. They were responsible for the implementation of government policies and assisting the central or provincial administration. Ashoka also created a special class called Dhamma Mahamattas to propagate ethical conduct.

Yuktas were subordinate officers (often acting as secretaries or accountants) who assisted senior officials like the Pradeshikas and Rajukas. Their primary duties included managing revenue, record-keeping, and accounting related to the king's treasury

**60. Consider the following statements about the Virashaiva Movement:**

1. The Virashaiva Movement was led by Basavanna.
2. Virashaivas worshipped Shiva in his manifestation as a Linga.
3. Vachanas, composed in Kannada, are the main compositions for understanding the Virashaiva tradition.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer d) 1, 2 and 3**

**Explanation**

The movement was led by Basavanna, a 12th-century philosopher, statesman, and poet

who was a minister in the court of the Kalachuri ruler.

Virashaivas (meaning "heroes of Shiva") are also known as Lingayats ("wearers of the linga") because they worship Shiva in his manifestation as a Linga. They typically wear a small, personal linga (Ishtalinga) in a silver casket around their neck.

The tradition's core philosophy and socio-ethical teachings are captured in Vachanas. These are short, lyrical poetic prose compositions written in Kannada, making spiritual knowledge accessible to common people

**61. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement I:** Cobalt and Nickel are classified as critical minerals under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act (MMDR Act).

**Statement II:** These minerals play an important role in ensuring National security.

**Statement III:** These minerals are essential for clean energy technologies.

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

(a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both explain Statement I

(b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement I

(c) Only one of the Statements II and III is

correct and explains Statement I

(d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III explains Statement I

**Answer a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both explain Statement I**

**Explanation**

Under the amended Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act (MMDR Act), minerals such as cobalt and nickel have been designated as critical due to their strategic importance to the country.

These minerals are crucial for national security because they are used in advanced defense systems, aerospace technologies, electronics, and other strategic sectors where a secure and reliable supply chain is essential.

Any disruption in their availability can directly affect a nation's defense preparedness and technological capabilities.

Cobalt and nickel are indispensable for clean energy technologies, particularly in the manufacturing of lithium-ion batteries used in electric vehicles, renewable energy storage systems, and various modern electronic devices. As countries, including India, transition toward low-carbon and sustainable energy systems, the demand for these minerals has increased significantly.

Therefore, both national security concerns and the need to support clean energy transitions are the key reasons why cobalt and nickel are classified as critical minerals.

**62. If there is excess demand for certain products in the market leading to their high prices, the central bank can increase the down payment and reduce the number of installments of repayment of such credit. This mechanism of the central bank to check inflation most likely represents the use of which of the following qualitative tools under Monetary Policy?**

- (a) Rationing of credit
- (b) Margin Requirements
- (c) Direct Action
- (d) Regulation of consumer credit

**Answer d) Regulation of consumer credit**

**Explanation**

Regulation of consumer credit is a qualitative (selective) tool used by central banks to control inflation by making it harder or more expensive for consumers to buy specific goods on credit. By increasing the down payment and reducing the number of installments, the central bank effectively increases the immediate financial burden on the buyer. This reduces the demand for consumer durables (like cars or electronics), thereby cooling down the prices of those specific products. It targets "forced savings" by limiting the purchasing power of consumers for specific credit-driven items without changing the overall interest rates for the entire economy.

Rationing of credit involves fixing a ceiling or quota on the amount of credit available to

specific sectors or industries.

Margin Requirements refers to the difference between the market value of a security (collateral) and the loan amount granted against it. It regulates speculative borrowing rather than consumer purchase installments.

Direct Action is a punitive measure where the central bank takes administrative steps (like fines or refusing to rediscount bills) against banks that fail to follow its directives.

**63. Which of the following statements with regard to Bharat Ratna Award is/are correct?**

1. The award was instituted in 1972.
2. The award does not carry any monetary grant.
3. The award was given only to Indian citizens.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below.**

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

**Answer b) 2 only**

**Explanation**

**The Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian honour of India, instituted in 1954** to recognise exceptional service of the highest order in any field of human endeavour. The award was established in 1954 along with

other civilian awards such as the Padma awards.

The Bharat Ratna does not carry any monetary grant or cash prize. It is a ceremonial honour consisting of a medallion and a certificate, awarded in recognition of exceptional contribution. It is purely symbolic in nature and does not involve any financial reward.

Although **initially intended for Indian citizens, the eligibility criteria were later expanded, and the award has been conferred upon non-Indians as well**, such as **Nelson Mandela and Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan**, in recognition of their global contributions.

**64. Consider the following pairs:**

Region	Country
1.Kursk	Ukraine
2.Transnistria	Spain
3.South Ossetia	France

**How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?**

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

**Answer d) None**

**Explanation**

In the Kursk Region of Russia, which shares a western border with Ukraine, the war has physically crossed over through frequent drone attacks; a notable incident involved a Ukrainian drone sparking a localized fire at the Kursk Nuclear Power Plant, highlighting the high stakes of modern aerial warfare near sensitive infrastructure.

Further south, the geopolitical landscape is defined by "frozen conflicts" in former Soviet republics. In Moldova, the breakaway region of Transnistria remains a source of tension between the Moldovan government and Russian-backed separatists who declared independence in 1990. Similarly, in Georgia, the regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia are controlled by Russian-backed factions following their own declarations of independence.

**65. In the context of International Climate Agreements, how does the "Global Stocktake" contribute to climate action?**

- (a) It mandates legally binding emission cuts for developed countries only.
- (b) It assesses the collective progress towards achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- (c) It provides financial assistance to countries most vulnerable to climate change.
- (d) It facilitates the sale and purchase of carbon credits between countries.

**Answer b) It assesses the collective progress towards achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.**

**Explanation**

The **Global Stocktake is a key mechanism under the Paris Agreement.** It is conducted every five years to evaluate how the world as a whole is progressing toward long-term climate goals such as limiting global warming and enhancing adaptation efforts. Its role is to review collective progress and inform future national climate commitments (NDCs), encouraging countries to scale up their actions over time.

**66. Which of the following best reflects the meaning of the term “Polar Motion” appeared in the news?**

(a) The gradual shift of Earth's magnetic north pole due to changes in the liquid outer core.

(b) The shift in Earth's rotational axis relative to its crust, causing the geographical North and South Poles to wander

(c) The seasonal migration of polar air masses toward lower latitudes, influencing winter weather patterns.

(d) A proposed geoengineering project to refreeze the Arctic using high-altitude aerosols.

**Answer b) The shift in Earth's rotational axis relative to its crust, causing the geographical North and South Poles to wander**

**Explanation**

Polar Motion (often referred to in news contexts similar to “Polar Action”) describes the movement of Earth's rotation axis relative to its surface, which causes the geographic poles to shift slightly over time. This phenomenon is influenced by factors such as redistribution of mass on Earth—like melting ice sheets, groundwater depletion, and mantle dynamics.

**67. Which of the following animals are known to exhibit magnetoreception?**

1. Pigeons
2. Sea turtles
3. Honeybees
4. Salmon

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only

(b) 2 and 4 only

(c) 1, 2, 3 and 4

(d) 1 and 3 only

**Answer: (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4**

**Explanation:**

A wide variety of animals detect magnetic fields. This sensory ability helps birds and insects migrate and turtles remember the locations of rich feeding areas.

**Magnetoreception - Sense of Earth's Magnetic Field:** Magnetoreception is the ability of organisms to detect Earth's magnetic field and use it for orientation,

navigation, and migration. Some animals have magnetite crystals (iron oxide) that act as compasses. Others use photoreceptor proteins (cryptochromes) in the eyes that respond to magnetic fields. Recent studies show pigeons may sense magnetic fields via electrical currents in the inner ear (vestibular system). Brain integration occurs in areas like the vestibular nuclei, mesopallium, and hippocampus for spatial orientation.

Pigeons- Inner-ear electrical currents - Homing & navigation

Sea turtles - Magnetite in brain - Long-distance ocean migration

Birds (general) - Cryptochromes in retina - Orientation during migration

Salmon - Magnetite in nose/olfactory system - River homing

Honeybees - Magnetite + sun compass - Foraging

Hence all are correct.

**68. Some of the ancient kings of India were also considered as the well-known authors of some famous books/plays. Which among the following plays/books were written by King Mahendravarman I ?**

1. Kavirajamarga
2. Priyadarsika
3. Rathnavali
4. Mathavilasa Prahāsana
5. Prasnottara Ratnamalika

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 4 and 5 only
- (c) 4 and 5 only
- (d) 4 only

**Answer d) 4 only**

**Explanation**

Mathavilasa Prahāsana is a famous Sanskrit satire (farce) authored by Mahendravarman I. The title translates to "The Delight of the Drunkards," and the play humorously critiques the hypocrisy of contemporary religious sects like the Kapalikas and Pasupatas. He is also sometimes attributed with another play called Bhagavadajjuka, though its authorship is debated.

Why Kavirajamarga is the earliest available work on poetics and grammar in the Kannada language, attributed to the Rashtrakuta King Amoghavarsha I. Prasnottara Ratnamalika is a Sanskrit philosophical work also attributed to the Rashtrakuta King Amoghavarsha I

Priyadarsika and Rathnavali are Sanskrit plays written by King Harshavardhana (Harsha) of the Vardhana dynasty.

**69. Consider the following statements**

1. The Third Round Table Conference met in London in November 1932 without the participation of Congress

2. The discussions in the Third Round Table Conference led to the passing of the Government of India Act, 1935
3. The Government of India Act, 1935 did not favor the idea of provincial autonomy
4. The Governor was not given any power in the Act of 1935 to take over and run the administration of a province

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation**

The Third Round Table Conference (November–December 1932) was boycotted by the Indian National Congress. Most prominent Indian leaders were in prison during this time as the Civil Disobedience Movement had been resumed.

The deliberations of all three conferences were published in a White Paper (1933), which became the foundation for the Government of India Act, 1935.

The Act of 1935 is most famous for introducing Provincial Autonomy. It abolished diarchy at the provincial level and allowed elected Indian ministers to run provincial administrations.

While the Act introduced autonomy, it also granted the Governor significant "discretionary powers." This included the authority to take over and run the administration of a province if the constitutional machinery failed (a precursor to modern-day President's Rule).

**70. Which of the following statements about Tim Tim Tare (TTT) is/are correct?**

1. TTT is a pioneering initiative that aims at imparting essential life skills to adolescent students across India.
2. TTT is a pioneering initiative that aims at imparting vocational and technical skills to students across India

**Select the answer using the code given below:**

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

**Answer a) 1 only**

**Explanation**

**Tim Tim Tare (TTT), also known as Thalir Thiran Thittam and driven by the Aparajitha Foundations, is a pioneering program focusing on imparting life skills to adolescents. It is rooted in the 10 core life skills defined by the World Health Organization (WHO), such as empathy, critical thinking, and decision-making.**

TTT centers on personal development and soft skills making it a life-enrichment initiative **rather than vocational or technical training**

**71. Which of the following statements about the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 is/are correct?**

1. It is based on the guidelines emerging from the Vishaka Judgment of the Supreme Court of India in 1997.
2. As per the Act, it is mandatory for an employer even with two employees to form an Internal Committee in the workplace.

**Select the answer using the code given below.**

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

**Answer a) 1 only**

**Explanation**

Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013:

The law was enacted to give statutory backing to the Vishaka Guidelines (1997) laid down by the Supreme Court in the case Vishaka v. State of Rajasthan. Vishaka is an NGO (women's rights organisation) that filed the

PIL in the Supreme Court case.

The Act requires an Internal Committee only when there are 10 or more employees. Smaller workplaces are covered through the Local Committee (LC) at district level.

**72. Consider the following statements regarding the Minerals Security Partnership (MSP):**

1. It is an initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to catalyze public and private investment in responsible critical minerals supply chains globally.
2. It supports member countries across the entire value chain, from extraction to processing and recycling of critical minerals.

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

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

**Answer b) 2 only**

**Explanation**

The Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) is a multilateral initiative led by countries like **the United States and its partners**, not by the United Nations Development Programme. It is a collaboration among like-minded governments (including the US, EU, Japan, India, etc.) to promote responsible mineral

supply chains. Its aim is to strengthen secure, sustainable, and resilient supply chains for critical minerals such as lithium, cobalt, and rare earth elements.

MSP focuses on the entire value chain—from mining (extraction) to processing, refining, and recycling—while ensuring environmental and social standards.

**73. If a country is found in non-compliance under Article XII.C of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Statute, which of the following actions can the IAEA take?**

1. Call on the country to remedy the breach
2. Permanent suspension of all economic ties with the country
3. Demand the return of nuclear material or technology
4. Report the issue to the United Nations Security Council

**Select the correct answer using the code below:**

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

**Answer c) 1, 3 and 4**

**Explanation**

According to Article XII.C, the IAEA Board of Governors is required to request the non-compliant country to immediately address

the issue.

The IAEA can formally urge the country to return to compliance.

The IAEA does not have the authority to impose economic sanctions or suspend economic ties. That is within the domain of the UN or member states, not the IAEA.

The IAEA can require the return of materials or equipment supplied under its supervision.

If non-compliance is serious, the IAEA can report the matter to the UN Security Council and General Assembly.

**74. Consider the following pairs**

Wetlands/ Lakes	Lake Characteristics	Associated State/UTs
1. Hokera	Natural freshwater lake	Tripura
2. Didwana	Natural freshwater lake	Rajasthan
3. Sasthamkott a	Natural Saline lake	Kerala
4. Rudrasagar	Natural freshwater lake	Jammu and Kashmir

**How many of the above pairs are correct ?**

- (a) Only two pairs
- (b) Only three pairs
- (c) All four pairs
- (d) None

**Answer d) None**

**Explanation**

Hokera is a natural wetland connected with the Jhelum basin. It remains waterlogged throughout the year and supports migratory birds. It is a **Ramsar site**, and its freshwater nature comes from river inflow and marshy conditions. Hokersar (Hokera) Wetland is located in the Kashmir Valley near Srinagar.

Didwana lies in an **arid region**, where high evaporation exceeds inflow. This leads to **salt accumulation**, making it a saline lake. Such lakes are common in desert regions. Didwana Lake is located in the state of Rajasthan.

Sasthamkotta is the **largest freshwater lake in Kerala**. It serves as a **major source of drinking water** for nearby regions. The lake remains freshwater due to the absence of saline intrusion and the presence of natural purification processes.

Rudrasagar is a **natural freshwater lake** in Tripura. It is well known for the **Neermahal palace**, which is situated in the middle of the lake. The lake is fed by seasonal streams and plays an important role in local hydrology and biodiversity.

**75. With reference to the temple architecture of medieval India, consider the following temples:**

<b>Temples</b>	<b>Constructed during the reign of</b>
1.Shore Temple at Mahabalipuram	Pallava ruler Mahendravarman I
2.Kailashnath Temple at Ellora	Rashrajuta ruler Dantidurga
3.Brihadishvarar Temple	Chola ruler Rajaraja I

**How many of the pairs given above are correct?**

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

**Answer a) Only one**

**Explanation**

Narasimhavarman II is also widely known by the name **Rajasimha (or Rajsimha)**, which was his royal title. The term “Rajasimha” means “lion among kings” and reflects his status as a powerful and prestigious ruler of the Pallava dynasty. He ruled during the 8th century CE and is remembered for marking the transition from rock-cut to structural temple architecture in South India. His reign is especially significant for major architectural contributions such as the **Shore Temple** and the **Kailasanatha Temple**,

which represent the mature phase of early Dravidian temple style.

The **Kailasa Temple** at Ellora is one of the most extraordinary examples of rock-cut architecture in India and was commissioned by the Rashtrakuta ruler **Krishna I**, not Dantidurga. This temple was carved from a single massive rock and represents a highly advanced level of engineering and artistic skill, symbolising the peak of Rashtrakuta temple architecture. Dantidurga, although the founder of the Rashtrakuta dynasty, did not initiate this monument; it was under Krishna I that the dynasty reached significant architectural and cultural heights.

**Brihadisvara Temple** was constructed by the Chola emperor **Rajaraja Chola I** in the early 11th century CE. This temple is a landmark in Dravidian architecture, notable for its massive vimana, precise stone construction, and grand scale, reflecting the political power and artistic achievement of the Chola empire. It also marked a significant evolution in temple building techniques, showcasing the maturity of South Indian temple architecture.

**76. Consider the following statements regarding 'Biochar':**

1. Biochar is composed purely of carbon, with no other elements present.

2. It is formed through thermal decomposition of organic matter in limited or no oxygen.

3. Application of biochar to soil can help improve fertility by reducing nitrogen leaching and enhancing moisture retention.

4. Biochar production can lead to reduction of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer C) Only three**

**Explanation**

Biochar is not composed purely of carbon. While carbon is the primary component (~70%), it also contains elements like nitrogen, hydrogen, and oxygen.

Pyrolysis is the standard method for biochar production in low or no oxygen environments.

Statement 3 is Correct – Biochar improves soil health by reducing nitrogen leaching and enhancing nutrient retention.

Statement 4 is Correct – Biochar sequesters carbon in a stable form, reducing overall CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compared to natural decomposition.

**77. Consider the following statements**

1. The Credit-to-GDP Ratio measures the government fiscal policy and tax efficiency
2. The Credit-to-GDP Ratio is the best indicator for identifying where an economy stands in its financial cycle

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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

**Answer b) 2 only**

**Explanation**

The **Credit-to-GDP Ratio** measures the **leverage or indebtedness of an economy.**

The metric that measures government fiscal policy and tax efficiency is actually the Tax-to-GDP Ratio.

The Credit/GDP Ratio (and specifically the "Credit-to-GDP gap") is widely considered the best indicator for the financial cycle. It helps regulators identify credit booms, potential bubbles, and the buildup of systemic risk.

**78. Which of the following best describes the primary objective of the "Belém 4x Pledge" recently seen in the news?**

- (a) To quadruple global renewable energy generation capacity
- (b) To expand forest cover four fold for enhanced carbon sequestration
- (c) To quadruple the global production and use of sustainable fuels
- (d) To reduce road traffic fatalities by fourfold in developing countries

**Answer: (c) To quadruple the global production and use of sustainable fuels**

**Explanation**

The **"Belém 4x Pledge" (Belém Commitment for Sustainable Fuels)** is an initiative launched by Brazil, India, Italy, and Japan on October 14, 2025, to quadruple the global production and use of sustainable fuels by 2035, based on 2024 levels. It focuses on biofuels, biogas, synthetic fuels, and hydrogen to accelerate the energy transition

**79. Consider the following statements regarding the provisions relating to alteration of a State's name in India:**

1. A Bill to change the name of a State can be introduced in Parliament only with the prior recommendation of the President.
2. The views expressed by the concerned State Legislature on such a proposal are binding on the Parliament.
3. A Bill to change a State's name requires a Constitutional Amendment under Article 368.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer a) 1 Only**

**Explanation**

Under the provisions of the Article 3 of the Constitution of India, a Bill to change the name of a State can be introduced in Parliament only with the prior recommendation of the President.

Before introducing such a Bill, the President refers it to the concerned State Legislature to seek its views within a specified period; however, these views are advisory in nature and not binding on Parliament.

Furthermore, changing the name of a State does not require a Constitutional Amendment under Article 368 of the Constitution of India; it can be done by a simple majority of Parliament under Article 3 itself.

**80. Consider the following statements regarding Mosses:**

1. Some mosses can survive complete desiccation and revive upon rehydration.
2. Some mosses can tolerate high levels of radiation.
3. Some mosses can act as bioindicators of air pollution.

4. Some mosses can form associations with nitrogen-fixing cyanobacteria to fix nitrogen.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer: (d) All four**

**Explanation:**

**Characteristics of Moss Spores:**

**Desiccation Tolerance:** Certain mosses such as *Tortula ruralis* and *Syntrichia caninervis* can survive up to 95% water loss. These mosses revive completely when water becomes available again. Desiccation tolerance in mosses is enabled by protective proteins, sugar molecules like trehalose, and flexible cell walls. This trait evolved because mosses are among the earliest land plants, exposed to harsh terrestrial conditions.

**Radiation and Space Survival:** Moss spores of *Physcomitrium patens* survived 283 days outside the International Space Station (ISS). Over 80% of the exposed moss spores remained viable and successfully germinated after returning to Earth. Moss spores tolerate cosmic radiation, UV exposure, extreme temperatures, and vacuum. Multi-layered spore walls act as natural “passive shields” against radiation damage. Space-modelling studies estimate that moss spores could

survive in outer space for up to 15 years.

**Bioindicator Role:** Mosses absorb nutrients and contaminants directly from the atmosphere, not through roots. This enables them to accumulate heavy metals, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and organic pollutants from the air. Mosses are widely used in moss monitoring programs for air-quality assessment in Europe and Asia. Species such as Hypnum cupressiforme and Pleurozium schreberi are standard bioindicator mosses.

**Nitrogen Fixation:** Mosses do not perform nitrogen fixation themselves. Nitrogen fixation occurs via cyanobacteria living on the surface of mosses, especially on Sphagnum moss. Ecosystems benefit from nitrogen fixed by cyanobacteria, but the moss is not the nitrogen-fixing organism.

### 81. Consider the following pairs

(Journal/Newspaper /Pamphlet)	(Founder/Editor/ Author)
1. Kudi Arasu	E.V. Ramaswami
2. Kisan Bulletin	Indulal Yagnik
3. Bombay Chronicle	Aurobindo Ghosh
4. Bhawani Mandir	Pherozeshah Mehta

**How many of the above pairs are correct ?**

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

### Answer b) Only two

#### Explanation

Kudi Arasu – E.V. Ramaswami (Periyar): Kudi Arasu (Republic) was a Tamil weekly magazine published by Periyar starting in 1925. It served as the primary mouthpiece for his Self-Respect Movement.

Kisan Bulletin – Indulal Yagnik: Indulal Yagnik was a key leader of the All India Kisan Sabha. He edited the Kisan Bulletin to mobilize the peasantry and highlight their grievances during the national movement.

Bombay Chronicle – Pherozeshah Mehta: The Bombay Chronicle was an English-language newspaper started in 1910 by Sir Pherozeshah Mehta. It was an important liberal voice that supported the Indian national cause.

Bhawani Mandir – Aurobindo Ghosh: Bhawani Mandir was a revolutionary pamphlet written by Aurobindo Ghosh in 1905. It invoked the goddess Bhawani as a symbol of strength to inspire the youth toward revolutionary nationalism.

**82. The term 'Closed Fuel Cycle Technology' is seen in the news is related to**

- (a) Long-duration energy storage
- (b) Fuel usage in nuclear power plants
- (c) Hydrogen fuel cells
- (d) Waste treatment technologies

**Answer: (b) Fuel usage in nuclear power plants**

Explanation: Closed Nuclear Fuel Cycle: India follows a closed fuel cycle, meaning: Spent nuclear fuel (SNF) in a nuclear power plant is reprocessed to recover usable fissile and fertile materials. Hence option (b) is correct.   
 ○ Instead of being disposed as waste, materials like plutonium and uranium-233 are recycled. This approach maximizes the utility of limited uranium reserves and leverages India's vast thorium resources.

**83. Which of the following statements with respect to the right to have a legal aid is/are correct?**

1. Under the Constitution of India, it is given under the Fundamental duties.
2. It is the duty of the police to inform the nearest Legal Aid Committee immediately after the arrest of a person.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below.**

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

**Answer b) 2 only**

**Explanation**

Legal aid is not a Fundamental Duty under Article 51A. It is actually linked to Fundamental Rights (Article 21 – Right to Life and Personal Liberty) and Directive Principles (Article 39A), which mandates

equal justice and free legal aid. The legal foundation is further strengthened by the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

When a person is arrested, especially if they cannot afford a lawyer, the police are required to inform them about their right to legal aid. This ensures compliance with Article 21 (Right to fair procedure) and Article 39A. The arrested person must be informed about accessing legal services through the Legal Services Authority.

**84. Consider the following pairs:**

<b>Minerals</b>	<b>Largest reserve located in</b>
1. Rare Earth Elements	Iran
2. Titanium	Ukraine
3. Cobalt	Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)
4. Lithium	Argentina

**How many of the above pairs are correct ?**

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

**Answer a) Only one**

**Explanation**

China holds the world's largest reserves by a

massive margin, estimated at approximately 44 million metric tons. Other significant holders include Brazil, India, and Vietnam. While Iran has identified deposits, they do not constitute the world's largest reserve.

China has the world's largest titanium reserves, accounting for nearly 29% of the global total (approximately 200 million tonnes of ilmenite). Australia holds the largest reserves of rutile (another primary source of titanium). Ukraine ranks roughly 10th globally in reserves.

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is the undisputed leader, holding roughly 50% to 70% of the world's known cobalt reserves (estimated at 6 million metric tons). It is also the top producer, accounting for about 74% of global output.

Chile has the largest proven reserves of lithium but Bolivia has the largest lithium resources (total estimated, not fully exploitable yet). While Argentina is a key part of the "Lithium Triangle" and has high resource potential.

**85. With reference to Planet Earth, consider the following statements:**

1. The Ocean generates about half of the oxygen produced on Earth.
2. The Ocean absorbs almost three fourth of all carbon dioxide emissions.
3. Coastal ecosystems have a higher rate of carbon sequestration compared to most terrestrial forests.

**How many of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer b) Only two**

**Explanation**

Scientists estimate that roughly 50% to 80% of the oxygen production on Earth comes from the ocean. This is primarily produced by oceanic plankton—specifically marine phytoplankton, algae, and some photosynthetic bacteria.

The ocean absorbs approximately 25% to 30% of all carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions released into the atmosphere from human activities. While it is the planet's largest carbon sink, it does not absorb anywhere near three-fourths (75%) of emissions; the remaining CO<sub>2</sub> stays in the atmosphere or is absorbed by land plants.

Coastal "blue carbon" ecosystems—such as mangroves, seagrasses, and salt marshes—can sequester and store carbon at **rates up to ten times higher per unit area than mature terrestrial tropical forests**. Despite their relatively small global footprint, they are incredibly efficient at capturing and burying carbon in their soils for centuries.

**86. Consider the following**

1. Maize
2. Sawdust
3. Cassava
4. Sugar beets
5. Algae

**Ethanol is produced from how many of the above products?**

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

**Answer d) All five**

**Explanation**

Sources of ethanol production are **bagasse, sugar, molasses, sugar beet, sweet sorghum, corn (maize), cassava, rotten potatoes, damaged foodgrains, surplus biomass, agricultural waste, algae, grasses, twigs, sawdust and forestry waste.**

Globally, **corn-based ethanol** accounts for roughly 60% of total production. Sugarcane is the second-largest source, utilized primarily by Brazil, the world's second-largest producer.

**87. Consider the following:**

1. Currency (notes and coins)
2. Net demand deposits held by commercial banks
3. Net time deposits of commercial banks

4. Total deposits with Post Office savings organisations (excluding National Savings Certificates)

**How many of the above form components of broad money?**

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

**Answer d) All four**

**Explanation**

All four items are components of Broad Money (M3) as defined by the Reserve Bank of India. It includes

- Currency (notes and coins)
- Net demand deposits held by commercial banks
- Net time deposits of commercial banks
- Total deposits with Post Office savings organisations (excluding National Savings Certificates)

**88. Consider the following statements**

**Statement I:** Clouds play a major role in controlling Earth's albedo and significantly influence the greenhouse effect

**Statement II:** Clouds reflect a large portion of the incoming solar radiation from the Sun

**Statement III:** Clouds absorb a significant portion of the outgoing terrestrial radiation from Earth

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

- (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement I explains Statement II
- (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I
- (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

**Answer a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I**

**Explanation**

Clouds are a critical dual regulator of Earth's temperature. They control the albedo (reflectivity) by bouncing solar energy back into space and influence the greenhouse effect by trapping heat near the surface.

Clouds (especially low, thick clouds like stratocumulus) reflect a large portion of incoming shortwave solar radiation. This process is exactly what defines their role in controlling Earth's albedo.

Clouds (especially high, thin clouds like cirrus) absorb and re-radiate outgoing longwave terrestrial radiation (heat). This process is the fundamental mechanism through which clouds influence the greenhouse effect

**89. The term "Hothouse Earth" sometimes seen in the news, is used to describe which among the following?**

- (a) A planet with rising agricultural productivity
- (b) A self-sustaining cycle of global warming due to multiple tipping points
- (c) An increase in ozone depletion events
- (d) A temporary climatic fluctuation

**Answer: (b) A self-sustaining cycle of global warming due to multiple tipping points**

**Explanation:**

Tipping Point refers to a critical threshold where a small change can lead to large, often irreversible shifts in the Earth's climate or ecosystems. Once crossed, these changes self-perpetuate and are difficult or impossible to reverse, even if human pressures (like greenhouse gas emissions) are reduced. Crossing one tipping point can trigger others, creating a cascade effect. Scientists warn that multiple tipping points are interconnected, increasing the risk of a "Hothouse Earth" scenario — a self-reinforcing cycle of global warming. **Hence option (b) is correct.**

**90. Consider the following products:**

1. Methanol
2. Ammonium nitrate
3. Synthetic Natural Gas (SNG)
4. Fertilizers

**How many of the above products can be produced using Coal Gasification technology?**

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

**Answer d) All four**

**Explanation**

Coal is one of the most abundant natural resources in the country. Coal gasification technology enables conversion of coal into syngas (synthetic gas), which can be used to produce downstream products like methanol, ammonium nitrate, Synthetic Natural Gas (SNG) and Fertilizers etc.

**91. Consider the following statements with reference to the Cotton textile industry in India:**

1. Cotton textile industry has concentrated in Gujarat and Maharashtra only
2. Raw cotton is a weight-losing raw material

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer d) Neither 1 nor 2**

**Explanation**

While the industry was initially concentrated in the cotton-growing belt of Maharashtra and Gujarat due to favorable humid climates and port facilities, it has since spread to many other parts of India. **Significant textile clusters now exist in states like Tamil Nadu (e.g., Coimbatore), Uttar Pradesh (e.g., Kanpur), West Bengal, and Punjab.** Raw cotton is not a weight-losing raw material. Cotton is considered a "pure" raw material, meaning its weight does not significantly decrease during the manufacturing process. Because it is non-weight-losing, the industry is not strictly tied to the source of raw materials and can be located near markets or labor hubs

**92. Consider the following statements**

**Statement I:** Jet streams play a significant role in determining the onset and withdrawal of the Indian monsoon

**Statement II:** The appearance of the Tropical Easterly Jet Stream over the Indian peninsula is linked with the withdrawal of the monsoon

**Statement III:** The withdrawal of the Subtropical Westerly Jet Stream from northern India is associated with the onset of the southwest monsoon

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

- (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I

(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement I explains Statement II

(c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I

(d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

**Answer c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I**

**Explanation**

Jet streams are an important upper-atmospheric control on the Indian monsoon system. Their seasonal shifting alters pressure patterns, vertical air movement, and the pathways of winds, thereby influencing both the **onset** and **withdrawal** phases of the monsoon. **Hence Statement I is correct.**

The **Tropical Easterly Jet Stream (TEJ)** does not indicate the withdrawal of the monsoon. Instead, it develops during the **onset and active phase** of the southwest monsoon, particularly over the Indian peninsula. The TEJ enhances upper-level divergence, which promotes rising air and convection, thereby strengthening monsoonal rainfall. During the **withdrawal phase**, this jet weakens and eventually disappears, so linking it with withdrawal is conceptually wrong. **Hence Statement II is incorrect.**

The **Subtropical Westerly Jet Stream (STWJ)** prevails over northern India during winter. As summer approaches, intense heating over the Indian landmass and the Tibetan Plateau causes this jet stream to **shift**

**northward beyond the Himalayas.** This withdrawal is a crucial precondition for the **onset of the southwest monsoon**, as it allows the development of low-pressure conditions over northern India and facilitates the advance of moisture-laden winds from the oceans. **Hence Statement III is correct.**

**93. "Neel Darpan", a play that depicted the atrocities on the indigo planters, was written by:**

- (a) Dinabandhu Mitra
- (b) Michael Madhusudan Dutta
- (c) James Long
- (d) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay

**Answer a) Dinabandhu Mitra**

**Explanation**

Dinabandhu wrote Neel Darpan (The Mirror of Indigo), 1860 was a landmark play in Bengali literature and Indian social history. It depicted the severe exploitation and physical abuse of farmers by British indigo planters during the Indigo Revolt (1859).

Neel Darpan was famously translated into English by the poet Michael Madhusudan Dutta.

Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay was a Bengali novelist, poet, essayist and journalist. He was the author of the 1882 Bengali language novel Anandamath, which is one of the landmarks of modern Bengali and Indian literature.

**94. Chronologically arrange the following political events related to Indian National Movement beginning from the earliest:**

1. Formation of Swaraj Party
2. Communal Award
3. Lucknow Pact
4. Simla Conference

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**Answer : (a) 3, 1, 2, 4**

**Explanation**

Lucknow Pact (1916): An agreement reached between the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League to pressure the British government for a more liberal approach to India and to allow Indians more authority to run their country.

Formation of the Swaraj Party (January 1, 1923) was formed by C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru after the suspension of the Non-Cooperation Movement, with the goal of "uniform, continuous, and consistent obstruction" from within the legislative councils.

Communal Award (August 1932) announced by British Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald, it granted separate electorates to various minority communities, including the

Depressed Classes.

Simla Conference (June 1945): It is a meeting convened by Lord Wavell to discuss the "Wavell Plan" for Indian self-government, which ultimately failed due to disagreements between the Congress and the Muslim League.

**95. Which of the following Committees does NOT consist of Members from the Upper House of the Parliament?**

1. Public Accounts Committee
2. Estimates Committee
3. Committee on Public Undertakings

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**Answer c) 2 only**

**Explanation**

Public Accounts Committee Consists of 22 members, with 15 from the Lok Sabha and 7 from the Rajya Sabha (Upper House). It acts as the "Watchdog of the Public Purse," focusing on how the government actually spent the money. Its chief function is to examine the annual audit reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) on the government's appropriation and finance accounts

Estimates Committee Consists of 30 members, all of whom are drawn exclusively from the Lok Sabha. There is no representation from the Rajya Sabha. It is often called the "Continuous Economy Committee". Its primary role is to examine the budget estimates of the Union Government before they are finalized, though it often reviews them throughout the year

Committee on Public Undertakings Consists of 22 members, with 15 from the Lok Sabha and 7 from the Rajya Sabha. It reviews the reports and accounts of major PSUs (like LIC, Air India, or ONGC) listed in the Fourth Schedule of the Rules of Procedure.

**96. Consider the following statements regarding Wombats:**

1. They are burrowing marsupials native to South America.
2. They have a backward-facing pouch, which prevents soil from entering while digging.
3. They use their whiskers as sensitive tools to navigate dark, narrow burrows, detect food, and communicate with other wombats through touch and smell.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer: (b) Only two**

**Explanation:**

**Wombats are burrowing marsupials native to Australia**, known for their stout bodies, short legs, and strong claws adapted for digging. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**

They are herbivores, feeding mostly on grasses, roots, and bark, and have a slow metabolism that helps them conserve energy. Wombats are mostly nocturnal and solitary, spending much of the day in their burrows to avoid heat and predators. They have a backward-facing pouch, which prevents soil from entering while digging. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Wombats play an important ecological role as "ecosystem engineers," creating burrows that provide shelter for other species. Wombats use their whiskers (a long projecting hair or bristle growing from the face or snout of many mammals.) as sensitive tools to navigate dark, narrow burrows, detect food, and communicate with other wombats through touch and smell. **Hence statement 3 is correct.** Hairy-nosed wombats have longer, thicker, and more whiskers than bare-nosed wombats, likely because they live in more complex underground burrow systems (warrens). Wombats rely heavily on smell, with a well-developed olfactory system and vomeronasal organ, helping them forage, detect predators, and sense social cues.

**97. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** Blue carbon ecosystems include mangroves, seagrass meadows, and salt marshes.

**Statement-II:** Blue carbon ecosystems are coastal and marine habitats that artificially capture and store carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

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

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I

(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I

(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect

(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

**Answer: (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect**

**Explanation:**

Blue carbon refers to carbon captured by oceans and coastal ecosystems. Blue carbon ecosystems such as mangroves, seagrass meadows, and salt marshes are coastal and marine habitats that naturally capture and store carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Hence statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect

These ecosystems capture and store

atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>, helping fight climate change.

**98. The Constitution (106th Amendment) Act, 2023 reserves one-third of all seats for women in various Legislatures. For how many years will the reservation be available under this Act?**

(a) 10 years

(b) 12 years

(c) 15 years

(d) 20 years

**Answer c) 15 Years**

**Explanation**

The Constitution (106th Amendment) Act, 2023 provides 33% reservation for women in Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.

The reservation is applicable for 15 years from the commencement of the Act. However, it can be extended further by Parliament.

**99. Consider the following:**

1. Traditional Medicines
2. Informal Battery Recycling
3. Cosmetics
4. E-Waste Recycling
5. Paints

**How many of the above are the known sources of lead poisoning?**

(a) Only two

(b) Only three

(c) Only four

(d) All five

**Answer: (d) All five**

**Explanation:**

A new study (published in Communications Earth & Environment) estimates that childhood exposure to lead globally results in  $\approx$  US \$3.4 trillion in annual losses. That amount corresponds to just over 2 % of global GDP (in 2019). The burden is especially heavy in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), where informal recycling, weak regulation, and continuing sources of lead exposure persist. Even though leaded petrol has been phased out globally in many places, lead contamination remains widespread via:

- Lead-Based Paints
- Contaminated Soil and Dust
- Lead in Water Pipes and Plumbing Informal
- Battery Recycling (especially lead-acid batteries)
- Industrial Emissions
- Lead-Contaminated Food and Spices
- Traditional Medicines - In certain systems like Ayurveda, there is a branch called Rasa Shastra where metals (including lead, mercury, arsenic) are processed into preparations known as bhasmas. These are traditionally believed to be detoxified through elaborate purification steps, but improper preparation can leave toxic lead levels.
- Cosmetics
- E-Waste Recycling

- Lead-Soldered Cans and Utensils
- Occupational Exposure (workers bringing lead home)
- Aviation Fuel (in piston-engine aircraft)
- Household Items (e.g., toys, ceramics, jewelry)
- Mining and Smelting Activities.

Hence option (d) is correct.

The health effects on children are severe: Lead crosses the placenta and the blood-brain barrier, meaning developing fetuses and young children are particularly vulnerable. At low levels, it can reduce IQ, impair brain development, cause behavioural issues.

**100. Consider the following statements about various microorganisms:**

1. No virus contains both RNA and DNA as their genetic material
2. Viruses are non-cellular organisms
3. Viroids are robust protein-coated microorganisms capable of killing bacteria
4. Some of the Bacteria can survive in extreme environments

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer c) Only three**

**Explanation**

Viruses contain genetic material, that could be either RNA or DNA. However, no virus contains both RNA and DNA.

Living or cellular organisms are those organisms that have a cell structure, whereas viruses are non-cellular organisms that are characterised by having an inert crystalline structure outside the living cell.

Viroids are smaller than viruses and are single stranded, nonprotein-coding RNAs that replicate autonomously when inoculated into higher plants. Unlike the genomes of Conventional viruses, viroids are not protected by a protein capsid.

Microscopic organisms – mostly bacteria, fungi, archaea and viruses – can survive in extreme temperature ranges. Bacteria survive in extreme temperature conditions, ranging from Antarctic ice to continental hot springs.

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Test Booklet Series

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**GENERAL STUDIES**  
**PAPER – II – CSAT**

**A**

**Time Allowed: Two Hours**

**Maximum Marks: 200**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

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2. **Please note that it is the candidate's responsibility to encode and fill in the Roll Number and Test Booklet Series A, B, C or D carefully and without any omission or discrepancy at the appropriate places in the OMR Answer Sheet. Any omission discrepancy will render the Answer Sheet liable for rejection.**
3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside. **Do NOT** write *anything else* on the Test Booklet.
4. This Test Booklet contains **80** items (Questions). Each item is printed in **English**. Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response with you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.
5. You have to mark all your responses **ONLY** on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See direction in the answers sheet.
6. **All** items carry equal marks.
7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer sheet the response to various items in the Test booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the answer sheets as per instruction sent to you with your Admission Certificate.
8. After you have completed filling in all responses on the answer sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to Invigilator **only the Answer Sheet**. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.
9. Sheet for rough work is appended in the Test Booklet at the end.
10. **Penalty for wrong answers:**  
**THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION PAPER.**
  - (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, **one-third** of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.
  - (ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a **wrong answer** even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question.
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**Directions for the following 5 (Five) items:**

**Read the following five passages and answer the items that follow the passages. Your answers to these items should be based on the passages only.**

### **Passage 1**

There is a window of opportunity for Indian firms and the Indian government to collaborate with European nations to develop weapons. However, harsh realities—political, technical, and strategic—could severely limit this opportunity. EU regulations prioritising internal cohesion require open tenders and limit subsidies to 35 per cent non-EU content, compelling Indian suppliers to enter fierce bids against well-established competitors. Furthermore, Europe's IP fortress remains secure; the Security Action for Europe (SAFE) explicitly protects "strategic enablers" such as engines, radars, and AI warfare suites, limiting offsets to subsystems. While joint ventures sound appealing, Indian firms rarely match the liability indemnities and 18-36 months of trials demanded by European certification gauntlets.

**1. Which one of the following statements best reflects the crux of the passage?**

(a) Indian firms are currently the primary beneficiaries of the European Union's Security Action for Europe (SAFE) fund.

(b) Deeply-rooted protectionist regulations and technological barriers in the EU present significant obstacles to an equal Indo-European defence partnership.

(c) The era of "technonationalism" has been successfully replaced by a seamless global "technoglobalism" in the arms industry.

(d) India should focus on exporting basic munitions to Europe while avoiding any attempts at high-tech joint ventures.

**Answer:(b)Deeply-rooted protectionist regulations and technological barriers in the EU present significant obstacles to an equal Indo-European defence partnership.**

**Explanation:** The "crux" is the central message. The passage details the "harsh realities" and "unseen barriers"—

specifically the 35% non-EU content rule, the "IP fortress," and "certification gauntlets"—that **limit the opportunity for cooperation**. Option (a) is false based on the text; (c) is an idealized state the author notes is *not yet* fully realized for Indian firms; (d) is a suggestion, not the core analytical message of the passage's critique.

## Passage 2

Regime change through external military intervention, *per se*, does not automatically lead to democracy. A leadership change without genuine structural reforms for "Institutional Change" will be merely superficial and cause further instability. For instance, the 2003 Iraq War revealed that assurances that civilians would welcome allied forces with an "eagerness for democratic government" were entirely unfounded. In Iran, Khamenei may have been killed, but the powerful IRGC remains formidable, controlling extensive economic and military assets. Without separating the military from the economy and political decision-making, systemic change remains a formidable challenge. Attacks on Iran have

reportedly reignited activism among Kurdish and Baloch citizens, sparking anxiety about another failing state on the borders of neighbouring nations.

**2. Which one of the following is the most logical and rational corollary to the passage?**

(a) The elimination of a theocratic leader is the most essential step toward establishing a secular democracy in the Middle East.

(b) External military interventions are effective only if the intervening power identifies a single alternative leader accepted by the local population.

(c) Sustainable political transition in a complex state requires the dismantling of entrenched military-economic power structures alongside leadership removal.

(d) Neighbours of a state undergoing regime change will naturally support the intervention to ensure their own regional security.

**Answer: (c) Sustainable political transition in a complex state requires the dismantling of entrenched military-economic power structures alongside leadership removal.**

**Explanation:** A corollary is a practical consequence. The text argues that without "Institutional Change" and "separating the military from the economy," change is "superficial". This logically leads to the conclusion that **dismantling entrenched structures is required for sustainability**. Option (a) is contradicted by the text's warning about "instability"; (b) is dismissed as a "leadership change" which is insufficient; (d) is contradicted by the mention of neighbour "anxiety" about a failing state.

### Passage 3

The debate over whether India's poverty rate is 5 per cent or 24 per cent is not merely methodological; it reflects two distinct policy concerns. The lower figure shows success in reducing extreme deprivation—bare survival—while the higher figure captures the size of India's economically vulnerable population. These are households that have escaped destitution but remain exposed to falling back into poverty due to inflation, health shocks, job losses, and climate risks. Treating a multidimensional index as a total replacement for income-based measures allows the government to

avoid the simple question: what level of income is sufficient to be "non-poor" in today's India?. As India moves towards becoming a developed country by 2047, its poverty definitions must evolve beyond benchmarks designed for bare survival.

**3. Which one of the following statements best reflects the crux of the passage?**

- (a) The National Multidimensional Poverty Index is the only reliable methodology for measuring rural deprivation in India.
- (b) Statistical transparency is being compromised by the adoption of the Modified Mixed Reference Period in consumption surveys.
- (c) A robust framework for tracking poverty requires a "dashboard approach" that distinguishes between the end of destitution and the achievement of economic security.
- (d) Developed-country status by 2047 is contingent upon India meeting the World Bank's survival benchmark of \$3.00 per day.

**Answer: (c)** A robust framework for tracking poverty requires a "dashboard approach" that distinguishes between the end of destitution and the achievement of economic security.

**Explanation:** The "crux" is the core argument. The passage argues that the gap between 5% and 24% reflects two different questions and that India should "move towards a dashboard approach" to capture vulnerability accurately. Option (a) is explicitly argued against; (b) is a supporting technical detail but not the core message; and (d) is incorrect as the author argues that developed-country status *cannot* rest on a mere survival benchmark.

#### Passage 4

Researchers were able to use stem cells to gauge the neurotoxic effects of the environmental pollutant Bisphenol A (BPA). They used a combination of biochemical and cell-based assays to examine the gene expression profile during the differentiation of mouse embryonic stem cells upon treatment with BPA. This compound is known to cause heart diseases, diabetes, and developmental abnormalities in humans.

The study was able to detect and measure BPA toxicity towards the proper specification of primary germ layers and the establishment of neural progenitor cells.

**4. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:**

1. BPA may alter embryonic development in vivo.
2. Biochemical and cell-based assays are useful in finding out treatments for pollution-induced diseases.
3. Embryonic stem cells could serve as a model to evaluate the physiological effects of environmental pollutants.

**Which of the above assumptions are valid?**

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

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

**Explanation:** Assumption 1 is valid because the study uses stem cells to simulate and detect developmental

abnormalities that occur during embryonic differentiation. **Assumption 3** is valid as the passage explicitly details how stem cells were used as a model to measure the effects of the pollutant BPA. **Assumption 2 is invalid** because the passage focuses on **detecting and measuring toxicity** rather than "finding out treatments" for diseases

### Passage 5

The union government has reached the "golden rule" in its budget estimates, where it borrows only for investment, keeping expenditure at the maximum consistent with debt falling towards sustainable levels. This builds buffers that make it feasible to smooth growth over time and keep real interest rates low, giving the space to absorb transient shocks. However, while the union moves toward this rule, execution remains a key issue. There is a temptation during fiscal stress to cut maintenance and preserve "capital expenditure," yet maintenance often has higher economic returns than new construction. A highway without maintenance is a wasting asset; a hospital without staff is an empty shell.

**5. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:**

1. Realizing the full economic potential of public investment is contingent upon moving beyond a narrow accounting focus on new asset creation.
2. The "Golden Rule" provides a self-correcting mechanism that automatically eliminates implementation gaps at the state level.
3. Sustainable debt management requires a strategic balance between borrowing for long-term growth and maintaining current asset productivity.

**Which of the above assumptions are valid?**

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

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

**Explanation:** **Assumption 1** is valid as the text argues that maintenance (often seen as a revenue expense) must be viewed as a "**primary investment pillar**". **Assumption 3** is valid as it aligns

with the definition of the "Golden Rule" (borrowing only for investment while managing debt). Assumption 2 is invalid; the text explicitly states that "**weakening of execution remains an issue**" and suggests that states must be *induced* to follow the rule, rather than it being an automatic fix

**6. Consider any three-digit number N in which all the three digits are consecutive numbers. When the digits of N are reversed, a new number M is formed.**

**Statement I:** The difference between M and N is always divisible by 99.

**Statement II:** The sum of M and N is always an even number.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) Both I and II**
- (d) Neither I nor II

**7. The first ten letters of the English Alphabet are used in place of the integers 0, 1, 2, ..., 9 respectively. Then what is the unit digit of the value of BAG - ADD + FIG?**

- (a) I
- (b) D
- (c) F
- (d) J**

**8. 126 and 141 leave the remainder 1 when divided by a certain number. How many such divisors are possible?**

- (a) 1**
- (b) 2
- (c) 3
- (d) No such divisor

**9. If Monday is the 1st day of the year, what day will it be on the 200<sup>th</sup> day?**

- (a) Wednesday
- (b) Thursday**
- (c) Monday
- (d) Saturday

10. Find the ten's digit of the number  $7^{2010}$ .

- (a) 0
- (b) 1
- (c) 4**
- (d) 9

$$[7^1=07$$

$$7^2=49$$

$$7^3=343$$

$$7^4=2401]$$

11. Two containers A and B contain equal volumes of milk and water respectively. From container A, 25 ml of milk is taken and added to B. After mixing, 25 ml of the new mixture in B is poured back into A. If  $p$  is the proportion of milk in A and  $q$  is the proportion of water in B after the process, then which of the following is correct?

- (a)  $p = q$**
- (b)  $p > q$
- (c)  $p < q$
- (d) Cannot be determined

[The proportion of milk left in A equals the proportion of water left in B.

Hence,  $p = q$ , regardless of the initial quantity.]

12. Consider the following statements and conclusions.

**Statements:**

- I. Mohan is a good sportsman.
- II. Sportsmen are healthy.

**Conclusions**

- I. All healthy people are sportsmen.
- II. Mohan is healthy.

**Which one of the following is correct?**

- (a) Only Conclusion I follows
- (b) Only Conclusion II follows**
- (c) Both Conclusions I and II follow
- (d) Neither Conclusion I nor II follows

13. Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below:

If A-B' means 'A is sister of B', 'A+B' means 'A is father of B', 'A\*B' means 'A is husband of B', 'A÷B' means 'A is brother of B'. In the expression  $C + D - K * R - P$ , how is R related to C?

- (a) Mother-in-law
- (b) Sister-in-law
- (c) Daughter in law**
- (d) Brother in law

**14. A person starts from his home and walks 6 kilometres south, then turns and walks 14 kilometres east. From there, he moves 10 kilometres north, followed by another 8 kilometres east, then 16 kilometres south, and finally 30 kilometres west to reach his destination. What is the shortest straight-line distance between his starting point and his final position? (Mark the closest answer)**

- (a) 10 km
- (b) 12 km
- (c) 14 km**
- (d) 16 km

**15. A large cube needs to be divided into 512 identical smaller cubes. Each cut must pass completely through the cube from one side to the other (like slicing with a straight knife). What is the minimum number of such cuts required to obtain all 512 small cubes?**

- (a) 20
- (b) 21**
- (c) 23
- (d) 22

[7+7+7= 21]

**Directions for the following 5 (Five) items:**

**Read the following five passages and answer the items that follow the passages. Your answers to these items should be based on the passages only.**

### **Passage 1**

A recent Bill concerning the rights of marginalized gender identities was passed through Parliament amid significant debate regarding the lack of a transparent consultative process. Critics argue that the legislation applies a heteronormative lens by shifting the focus away from self-identification toward mandatory biological markers and clinical verification. While the state argues that such measures prevent the misuse of public facilities, the Act effectively reduces the psychological and socio-cultural markers of identity to mere biological characteristics. This represents a departure from earlier judicial standards that prioritized the dignity and autonomy of the individual.

**16. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:**

1. Legal frameworks for gender recognition are most effective when they prioritize biological certification over personal psychological perception.
2. Rushing legislation through Parliament without broad stakeholder consultation can undermine the democratic legitimacy of rights-based laws.
3. The current legislative shift represents a departure from established judicial precedents regarding the dignity of minorities.

**Which of the above assumptions are valid?**

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

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

**Explanation:** Assumption 2 is valid as the passage highlights the "lack of a transparent consultative process" as a point of contention. Assumption 3 is

valid because the text explicitly states the move "represents a departure from earlier judicial standards." Assumption 1 is invalid because it is the exact perspective the passage is critiquing.

### **Passage 2**

The proposed amendments to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) introduce a statutory framework for a "designated authority" to seize and dispose of assets of organisations that lose their registration. This process is designed to be automatic and instantaneous upon the discontinuation of FCRA status, bypassing judicial determination or adjudicatory processes. Critics argue that such provisions violate the principles of natural justice and create a regulatory environment where the granting authority can benefit from its own decision to withdraw permissions. This approach risks dismantling essential grassroots welfare infrastructure, particularly for minority-run institutions that rely on foreign contributions for social work.

**17. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:**

1. Judicial oversight is a prerequisite for the equitable enforcement of regulatory actions involving the seizure of private or institutional assets.
2. The current legislative proposal is intended to facilitate the state's takeover of educational and medical facilities run by non-profit organisations.
3. Regulatory regimes are only credible when they strictly adhere to the principle of separation between the administrator and the adjudicator.

**Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?**

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

**Answer: (c) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

**Assumption 1** is valid because the text critiques the "automatic" seizure for "requiring no judicial determination," implying that such determination is

necessary for fairness. **Assumption 2** is invalid because, while the *effect* might be a takeover, the passage describes this as a "risk" or a result of "bad faith" rather than the stated intent. **Assumption 3** is invalid as it uses the restrictive word "only," whereas the text focuses on the specific "credibility" of the FCRA restrictions being tied to transparency and even-handedness.

### **Passage 3**

The U.S. Supreme Court is currently examining the legality of an executive order that seeks to end birthright citizenship. The order is premised on a reinterpretation of the 14th Amendment, which makes citizens of all persons born in the U.S. and "subject to the jurisdiction thereof". The administration argues that individuals in the country illegally or temporarily are not truly subject to its jurisdiction, and therefore their children should not be entitled to citizenship. Opponents and lower courts have argued that this violates a century of legal precedent and the plain text of the Constitution, which contains only narrow exceptions for children of foreign diplomats or invading armies.

**18. Which one of the following is the most logical and rational corollary to the passage given above?**

(a) Executive orders are the most effective tool for correcting long-standing judicial misconceptions regarding constitutional amendments.

(b) The definition of national citizenship is a contested legal frontier where the interpretation of administrative jurisdiction can impact the fundamental rights of future generations.

(c) Foreign diplomats are the only group of people whose children are currently denied birthright citizenship under international law.

(d) Legislative history suggests that the 14th Amendment was intended to apply only to the descendants of formerly enslaved persons.

**Answer: (b) The definition of national citizenship is a contested legal frontier where the interpretation of administrative jurisdiction can impact the fundamental rights of future generations.**

**Explanation:** A corollary is a direct consequence or inference. The passage highlights how a "radical

reinterpretation" of a single phrase ("jurisdiction") can create a "moment of panic" for families and potentially change the definition of citizenship. This leads directly to the idea that **interpretations of jurisdiction are pivotal for fundamental rights**. Option (a) is the administration's claim, not a logical corollary; (c) is one of two exceptions mentioned (invading armies being the other); and (d) is not discussed in the text.

#### **Passage 4**

In the 21st century, the INDIA bloc requires a "Kamaraj Plan" logic: the realization that a smaller partner in the lead may provide a better assurance of alliance unity than a dominant one. While the Congress is the largest component, the ability to "knock heads together" and create consensus out of chaos is what the alliance currently needs. Furthermore, the biggest threat to national unity no longer comes from balkanisation but from majoritarian communalism. Addressing this requires a revision of the Constitution to make it more genuinely federal, revisiting the devolution of finances and the responsibilities listed in

Schedule Seven. A leader who can zero in on issues that matter to the people, rather than repeating trite slogans, is essential to transforming India into a true "Federation of States with Unionist features".

**19. Which one of the following is the most logical and rational corollary to the passage?**

(a) The Congress party should abandon its claim to leadership in all future state elections to preserve the integrity of the INDIA bloc.

(b) Successful opposition to majoritarianism in a diverse polity depends on balancing the dominance of national parties with the representative authority of regional leaders.

(c) Reforming Schedule Seven of the Constitution is a prerequisite for any political party to win the 2029 general election.

(d) The balkanisation of India is an inevitable outcome if the current "Union of States" model is not replaced by a pure federation.

**Answer: (b) Successful opposition to majoritarianism in a diverse polity**

**depends on balancing the dominance of national parties with the representative authority of regional leaders.**

**Explanation:** A corollary is a natural consequence. The passage argues that a "smaller partner" can ensure unity and that regional leaders (like Stalin) are well-suited to build a "credible challenger" by focusing on federal issues. This leads directly to the idea of **balancing national and regional authority**. Option (a) is too extreme; (c) confuses a policy goal with an electoral certainty; and (d) is incorrect as the author states that balkanisation is *no longer* the primary threat

### **Passage 5**

If, as often claimed, investigative agencies are leveraged by the union government to defame and paralyse an opposition party during elections, it raises serious doubts about whether the results of that election process can be taken as the outcome of a free and fair contest. Such consequences go beyond the immediate electoral process to raise concerns about the democratic process itself. It is an unfortunate fact that

political corruption has now become a feature of the political process that is crucial to fund election campaigns and organisational activities. Combined with an effective lack of autonomy of investigative agencies meant to curb this corruption, this has led to a situation where the state can deploy said agencies against the opposition.

**20. Which of the following statements best reflects the most logical and rational inference that can be made from the passage above?**

(a) Political corruption is the only reason for the lack of institutional autonomy in investigative agencies.

(b) The integrity of the democratic process is contingent upon the institutional independence of agencies tasked with curbing corruption.

(c) Regional parties are the primary targets of national politics aiming for the homogenization of the political field.

(d) Judicial intervention is the most effective mechanism to ensure administrative accountability in election funding.

**Answer: (b) The integrity of the democratic process is contingent upon**

**the institutional independence of agencies tasked with curbing corruption.**

**Explanation:** The passage argues that leveraging agencies against opposition "raises serious doubts about the democratic process itself" and questions the "sanctity of the electoral process". It links the lack of autonomy of these agencies to their deployment as tools of political targeting. This directly supports the inference that **institutional independence is vital for democratic integrity**. Option (a) uses the extreme word "only"; (c) is a specific detail mentioned elsewhere in the source but not the primary inference of this passage; and (d) is a potential solution not definitively supported by the author's skeptical tone regarding institutional accountability.

**21. A 6-digit number 53A79B is divisible by 72. Find the digits A and B.**

(a) A = 1, B = 2

(b) A = 3, B = 6

(c) A = 4, B = 8

(d) A = 2, B = 4

22. Let A, B and C represent distinct nonzero digits. Suppose X is the sum of all possible 3-digit numbers formed by A, B and C without repetition. What is the ratio of the greatest value of X to the least value of X?

- (a) 3:1
- (b) 5:3
- (c) 4:1**
- (d) 8:5

[If a, b, c are digits, sum of all numbers formed using a, b, c =  $2 \times 111 \times (a + b + c)$   
So sum to be greatest  $a + b + c = 7 + 8 + 9 = 24$

For sum to be least  $a + b + c = 1 + 2 + 3 = 6$

Ratio is  $24/6 = 4$ ]

23. Ram swims every 2 days, Aruja every 3 days. Both swim on 1st January, which is a Wednesday. After how many such joint swims will the joint swimming day fall again on a Wednesday?

- (a) 7 joint swims**
- (b) 6 joint swims
- (c) 8 joint swims .
- (d) Not possible

24. A Question is given followed by two Statements I and II. Consider the Question and the Statements.

**Question:**

If the average mark of a class is 65, what is the number of students in the class?

**Statement I:** The highest marks are 85 and the lowest marks are 45.

**Statement II:** If the student with the highest marks and the student with the lowest marks are both excluded, the average remains the same.

**Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above Question and the Statements?**

- (a) The Question can be answered by using one of the Statements alone, but cannot be answered using the other Statement alone
- (b) The Question can be answered by using either Statement alone
- (c) The Question can be answered by using both the Statements together, but cannot be answered using either Statement alone
- (d) The Question cannot be answered even by using both the Statements together**

25. Consider the following statements:

1. The maximum number of points of intersection of two different circles is 2.
2. The maximum number of points of intersection of a triangle and a square is 8.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

26. In how many ways can 5 prizes be distributed among 4 students, if each student is eligible for any number of prizes?

- (a) 1024
- (b) 120
- (c) 625
- (d) 20

27. If 'MASTER' is coded as 'OCUVGT', how is 'SCHOOL' coded?

- (a) UEJQQN
- (b) UEJQPP
- (c) UEJQOO
- (d) UFKQPP

[S+2=U, C+2=E, H+2=J, O+2=Q, O+2=Q, L+2=N.]

28. The question below consists of a question and two statements numbered I and II given below it. You have to decide whether the data provided in the statements are sufficient to answer the question.

**Question:** Five friends P, Q, R, S and T are standing in a row facing East. Who is standing at the extreme right end?

**Statement I:** Only P is between S and T. R is to the immediate right of T.

**Statement II:** R is between T and Q.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the Question and the Statements?

(a) The Question can be answered by using one of the Statements alone, but cannot be answered using the other Statement alone.

(b) The Question can be answered by using either Statement alone.

**(c) The Question can be answered by using both the Statements together, but cannot be answered using either Statement alone.**

(d) The Question cannot be answered even by using both the Statements together.

**29. Consider the following :**

**Value-I:** Total number of ways to arrange the letters of the word "DOG".

**Value-II:** Total number of ways to arrange 3 people in a circle for a photo.

**Which one of the following is correct?**

(a) Value-I = Value-II

**(b) Value-I = 3 x Value-II**

(c) Value-II = 2 x Value-I

(d) Value-I = 6 + Value-II

**30. A 4 digit number WXYZ has distinct digits. W is the square of Z. X is an even digit greater than 5. Y is 3 less than X. Z is not zero. How many such numbers are possible?**

(a) 2

**(b) 3**

(c) 4

(d) 5

[4632

4852

9853]

**Directions for the following 5 (Five) items:**

**Read the following five passages and answer the items that follow the passages. Your answers to these items should be based on the passages only.**

### **Passage 1**

The upcoming delimitation exercise, due after the first census post-2026, faces the challenge of diverging State populations. Article 81 of the Constitution mandates a uniform ratio between seats and population, but since the 1970s, some States have achieved significant

population stabilization while others have not. If seat allocation is based solely on raw numbers, States that successfully implemented family planning may lose their relative political influence. To ensure fair federalism, the Delimitation Commission could adopt a "Demographic Performance" principle—similar to the Finance Commission—that rewards States for achieving stabilization goals while still allowing more populous States to gain seats in absolute terms.

**31. Which one of the following statements best reflects the crux of the passage?**

(a) The 84th Constitutional Amendment should be extended indefinitely to prevent the political marginalization of southern States.

(b) A purely majoritarian approach to seat allocation may undermine federal stability by penalizing States with superior social governance records.

(c) The Lok Sabha must be expanded to at least 1,000 seats to ensure that every citizen is represented equally regardless of their State of residence.

(d) Total Fertility Rate is the only metric that should determine the allocation of financial resources to States.

**Answer: (b) A purely majoritarian approach to seat allocation may undermine federal stability by penalizing States with superior social governance records.**

**Explanation:** The "crux" is the core message. The passage argues that "federal stability matters as much as electoral arithmetic" and that democracy is about "fair voice, and not just raw numbers". It proposes balancing population size with demographic performance to protect the share of early achievers. Option (a) is a status quo mentioned but not the proposed solution; (c) is contradicted by the author's suggestion to cap the size at 700; and (d) uses the extreme word "only."

### **Passage 2**

The technologies required for addressing climate change are in a formative stage and are exorbitantly costly, with unknown outcomes. Instead of the state

as a representative of the people taking these risks, states have refashioned financial arrangements to "sandpaper" the risks in order to make them palatable to big finance. This "fiscal derisking" shifts demand or climate risks from the private sector to public balance sheets, thereby commodifying public goods. In contrast, a "big green state" can reject profitability and the logic of the market through public ownership, which is cheaper than derisking private renewables and allows for decarbonization on a planned timetable.

**32. Which one of the following statements best reflects the crux of the passage?**

(a) Global finance and private capital are the most efficient vehicles for channelling investment into green technologies.

(b) Sustainable decarbonization requires the state to prioritize public ownership and direct risk-bearing over market-led derisking strategies.

(c) Central banks must exclusively focus on sovereign bond prices to preserve international financial stability during energy transitions.

(d) Public-private partnerships are the only viable model for funding large-scale green infrastructure in developing nations.

**Answer:(b)Sustainable decarbonization requires the state to prioritize public ownership and direct risk-bearing over market-led derisking strategies.**

**Explanation:** The "crux" is the core argument. The passage critiques the current model where the state "sandpapers risks" for big finance and argues instead that **public ownership is a superior and cheaper alternative** that rejects the "logic of the market". Option (a) is the "received wisdom" the author is challenging; (c) is a supporting detail regarding monetary policy; and (d) is rejected by the author's critique of PPPs as a form of commodification

### Passage 3

GST in India is a destination-based consumption tax, making its revenue base directly tied to the spatial distribution of consumption. The assumption that reducing indirect tax rates stimulates demand uniformly depends on the marginal propensity to consume (MPC). Households with higher

MPCs—typically those with lower incomes—devote a larger share of additional income to consumption. Consequently, states with higher MPCs tend to exhibit greater GST buoyancy following tax cuts or income increases. This highlights that tax policy does not operate on a neutral or homogeneous economic landscape; its effects are mediated by regional structural and behavioural differences.

**33. Which one of the following statements best reflects the central idea conveyed by the passage?**

(a) Higher-income states will naturally experience the highest GST revenue growth due to their robust manufacturing and production bases.

(b) Uniform national tax reforms can lead to asymmetric revenue and demand outcomes across states due to regional variations in consumption behavior.

(c) Personal income tax cuts are ineffective in stimulating aggregate demand in economies with high levels of precautionary savings.

(d) The cessation of the GST compensation mechanism in 2022 has

successfully forced states to improve their administrative tax capacity.

**Answer: (b)** Uniform national tax reforms can lead to asymmetric revenue and demand outcomes across states due to regional variations in consumption behavior.

**Explanation:** The passage emphasizes that GST revenue is tied to "consumption behavior" rather than production and that "substantial variation" in MPC means the effects of tax reforms are "likely to differ across states". This supports the central idea of **asymmetric outcomes based on regional behavior**.

Option (a) is contradicted by the "destination-based" nature of GST; (c) is a specific context mentioned for the post-2017 slowdown but not the central thesis; and (d) mentions a political economy fact but not the analytical core of the consumption-revenue link

#### **Passage 4**

The Indian Constitution does not impose formal term limits on the Prime Minister, relying instead on the "daily assessment of responsibility" through parliamentary mechanisms. B.R. Ambedkar argued that

the legislature's confidence serves as a rolling check, making fixed-term limits unnecessary. However, the insertion of the Tenth Schedule in 1985 fundamentally altered this relationship. By providing for the disqualification of any legislator who votes against the party whip, it has rendered the no-confidence motion a "dead letter" whenever a ruling party holds a majority. Consequently, the lack of intra-party democracy combined with the anti-defection law locks the system into loyalty to a single leader, neutralizing the very parliamentary accountability the framers relied upon.

**34. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:**

1. The efficacy of a parliamentary democracy is fundamentally dependent on the ability of individual legislators to vote independently of party mandates during confidence motions.

2. Periodic elections are, by themselves, a sufficient and robust constraint against the compounding advantages of prolonged executive incumbency.

3. The original constitutional design for executive accountability has been structurally impaired by subsequent legislative amendments.

**Which of the above assumptions are valid?**

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

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

**Explanation:**

**Assumption 1** is valid because the author argues that the Tenth Schedule broke the intended "rolling check" by disqualifying those who vote against the whip. **Assumption 3** is valid as the passage explicitly states the Tenth Schedule "fundamentally altered" and "impaired" the accountability mechanisms Ambedkar relied upon. Assumption 2 is invalid; the text argues that elections are a "weak constraint" on prolonged incumbency when parliamentary checks are disabled.

## Passage 5

The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026, fundamentally reverses the principle established in the 2014 NALSA judgment, which recognized that gender identity is self-identified. By replacing self-identification with medical and bureaucratic gatekeeping, the amendment requires a person to appear before a medical board to "prove" their identity. This shift toward mandatory medicalization not only ignores the global standards of human dignity and autonomy but also risks undoing a decade of progress in institutional practice and mental health advocacy for gender minorities.

**35. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:**

1. Standardized medical protocols are a more reliable method for determining gender identity than personal psychological perception.
2. Legal frameworks that mandate clinical verification for social identity can

have adverse impacts on the mental well-being of vulnerable populations.

3. The right to self-perceived identity is a core component of constitutional morality under the right to personal liberty.

**Which of the above assumptions are valid?**

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

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

**Explanation:** Assumption 3 is valid as the text links self-identification to "constitutional morality" and the "Right to Life and Personal Liberty". Assumption 2 is valid because the passage explicitly warns that the amendment threatens "mental health" and instills "fear and humiliation". Assumption 1 is invalid as it reflects the very perspective the author is critiquing as a "regression" from judicial standards

**Consider the following for the next three (03) items that follow:**

Circulation figures (in thousands) of different newspapers (A, B, C, D, E) for five years are given below:

Year	A	B	C	D	E
2019	20	10	15	8	20
2020	12	12	18	12	12
2021	24	14	17	14	15
2022	26	10	16	15	9
2023	22	16	14	16	11

36. In which of the given years was the circulation of the newspaper D close to its average circulation over all the years?

- (a) 2020 and 2021
- (b) 2022 and 2023
- (c) 2022 only
- (d) 2020 only

37. In which of the years from 2019 to 2022 was the circulation of the newspaper D close to the average circulation of all the newspapers in that year?

- (a) 2019
- (b) 2020
- (c) 2021
- (d) 2022

38. How many cases are there in which the average of the circulation for an individual newspaper was more than the average of the circulation of all the newspapers?

- (a) One
- (b) Two
- (c) Three
- (d) Four

39. Consider the following :

**Value-I:** Remainder when  $7^{100}$  is divided by 8.

**Value-II:** Remainder when  $8^{100}$  is divided by 7.

Which one of the following is correct?

- (a) Value-I > Value-II
- (b) Value-I < Value-II
- (c) Value-I = Value-II
- (d) Cannot be determined due to insufficient data

40. What is X in the sequence: 1, 2, 3, 1, 4, 9, 1, 8, X?

- (a) 16
- (b) 25
- (c) 27
- (d) 36

**41. A Statement is given followed by two Conclusions numbered I and II. Consider the Statement and the Conclusions.**

**Statement:** India has the largest population of youth in the world.

**Conclusion-I:** India has the highest employment rate in the world.

**Conclusion-II:** India's economy will grow faster than any other country.

**Which one of the following is correct?**

- (a) Only I follows
- (b) Only II follows
- (c) Both I and II follow
- (d) Neither I nor II follows**

**42. A question is given followed by two statements I and II. Consider the question and the statements:**

**Question:** What number is opposite 3?

**Statement I:** 2 is opposite 5; 3 is adjacent to both 2 and 6.

**Statement II:** 4 is opposite 6.

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

- (a) The question can be answered by using one of the statements alone, but cannot be answered using the other statement alone.
- (b) The question can be answered by using either statement alone.
- (c) The question can be answered by using both the statements together, but cannot be answered using either statement alone.**
- (d) The question cannot be answered even by using both the statements together.

[Both statement required]

**43. The unit digit of  $(3 \times 1! + 4 \times 2! + 5 \times 3! + \dots + 25 \times 23!)$  is?**

- (a) 0
- (b) 1
- (c) 3
- (d) 5**

[3 + 8 + 0 + 4 + 0 = 5]

44. Find the number of trailing zeros of  $20^1 \times 19^2 \times 18^3 \times \dots \times 1^{20}$ .

- (a) 24
- (b) 34**
- (c) 30
- (d) 28

45. A company's workforce consisted of 70% permanent and 30% temporary employees. After one year, the number of permanent employees decreased by 5%, while the number of temporary employees increased by 20%. Find the overall percentage change in total employees?

- (a) Decrease by 1%
- (b) Decrease by 2%
- (c) Increase by 1%
- (d) Increase by 2.5%**

**Directions for the following 5 (Five) items:**

Read the following five passages and answer the items that follow the passages. Your answers to these items should be based on the passages only.

### Passage 1

If social inequality is the most acutely felt social problem in India, insecurity, more than poverty, is the most acutely felt economic problem. Besides those below the official poverty line, even those just over the poverty line are subject to multiple economic insecurities of various kinds (due to wealth and/or health risks, market fluctuations, job-related uncertainties). Many Government policies are actually intended towards mitigating these insecurities.

46. With reference to the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. People above the poverty line also are prone to suffer from anxiety about economic insecurity.
2. Eradication of poverty can result in peace and social equality in the country.

Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

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

**Answer: (a)1 only**

**Explanation:** Assumption 1 is valid because the text explicitly states that "even those **just over the poverty line** are subject to multiple economic insecurities". **Assumption 2 is invalid** because while the text identifies inequality and insecurity as problems, it does not claim that poverty eradication is the definitive path to "peace and social equality"

### **Passage 2**

The unreleased AI model, Claude Mythos, has demonstrated a "shocking" ability to discover security vulnerabilities that have stayed hidden for decades in widely used software like the Linux kernel. This creates a "tsunami" of risk for product companies and government systems like Aadhaar and GST, which run on older codebases. While a consortium of firms is rushing to patch these bugs, the model's eventual public availability presents a dilemma: it can be a tool for hardening defenses or a vector for novel infiltration by inimical states. The security of these digital systems is no longer a human-only endeavor but is contingent upon the speed and transparency of the AI-driven "patching" process.

**47. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:**

1. The longevity of a software codebase is a direct indicator of its immunity to modern AI-driven cyberattacks.
2. Technological advancements in AI can simultaneously empower both the defenders of digital infrastructure and those seeking to destabilize it.
3. Indigenous alternatives to foreign technology stacks are inherently more secure because they are not subject to audits by foreign LLMs.

**Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?**

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

**Answer: (b)2 only**

**Explanation:** Assumption 2 is valid because the text frames the model as both a "powerful scanner" for patches and a "vector" for vulnerabilities. **Assumption 1** is invalid; the text states that older codebases are "**exactly the kinds of systems**" where vulnerabilities

are found. **Assumption 3** is invalid as the text presents a "dilemma" for indigenous firms rather than an assumption of their inherent security

### Passage 3

The World Bank has revised India's growth outlook downward to 6.6% for 2026-27, explicitly citing the impact of the West Asia war. Although India's domestic demand remains relatively resilient, its heavy reliance on energy imports leaves its external balance, inflation, and fiscal position acutely vulnerable to prolonged disruptions. High input costs and decreased export demand from the Gulf are expected to weigh on overall industrial growth, particularly in sectors that lack input flexibility. Furthermore, the government's attempt to shield consumers from high energy prices through fiscal measures could strain the budget, suggesting that the "buffer" of strong macroeconomic fundamentals has finite limits in the face of an extended global energy shock.

**48. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:**

1. The resilience of India's internal consumption is a sufficient guarantee against a recessionary trend during global supply chain crises.
2. The sustainability of India's fiscal health is functionally linked to the duration and intensity of maritime disruptions in energy corridors.
3. Decoupling domestic energy prices from global market volatility is an essential strategy for maintaining industrial competitiveness.

**Which of the above assumptions are valid?**

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

**Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:** **Assumption 2** is valid because the text explicitly states that reliance on energy imports leaves the "**fiscal position vulnerable**" to prolonged conflict. **Assumption 1** is invalid as the text notes that while

demand is resilient, there are "substantial downside risks" that can still slow growth. **Assumption 3** is a policy recommendation not stated as an assumption in the text; the author actually warns that shielding consumers (decoupling prices) may strain the budget

#### **Passage 4**

The current energy crisis, triggered by geopolitical conflicts in West Asia, highlights a material shift in global energy dynamics as disruptions now simultaneously affect both oil and gas flows. While the transition to transport electrification and renewable energy offers an opportunity for nations like India to reduce their reliance on fossil fuels, it introduces a new paradigm of fragmented supply chains centered on critical minerals. Lithium, cobalt, and copper are geographically concentrated, but the decisive advantage lies in processing and manufacturing, where China remains dominant. Consequently, the future energy system risks creating new technological and supply chain dependencies that could be as restrictive as the old "petrodollar" system.

**49. Which of the following statements best reflects the most logical and rational inference that can be made from the passage above?**

(a) Complete electrification of the transport sector will automatically ensure total energy autonomy for developing nations.

(b) The global shift toward green energy is essentially a transition from commodity-based dependencies to technology-based dependencies.

(c) Nations must revert to fossil fuel consumption to avoid the monopolistic manufacturing practices of dominant global powers.

(d) The decline of the "petrodollar" system will lead to the immediate and total stabilization of global financial markets.

**Answer: (b) The global shift toward green energy is essentially a transition from commodity-based dependencies to technology-based dependencies.**

**Explanation:** The passage states that while the transition offers an "orderly exit" from oil, it risks creating "new technological and supply chain

dependencies". This aligns with the UPSC trend of identifying a **structural shift in the nature of dependency**. Option (a) is an "automatic" fallacy; option (c) is a regressive suggestion not supported by the text; and option (d) is an extreme speculation.

### Passage 5

Following intensive paramilitary operations, India has been declared "Naxal-free," signaling the decapitation of the military capabilities of insurgents in previously ungoverned regions. However, the militarist strategy that achieved this success often involved measures that "strangled freedoms" and "distorted judicial processes". The transition from conflict to stability requires more than just state presence; it demands a politics of reconciliation. Inclusive development must be the focus to ensure that the defeat of Left Wing Extremism does not merely facilitate "crony capitalist extraction" of resources but leads to the genuine expansion of tribal rights and substantive participation in democracy.

**50. Which one of the following statements best reflects the crux of the passage?**

(a) Paramilitary success is the final and only requirement for lasting peace in mineral-rich tribal areas.

(b) The elimination of armed insurgency must be followed by a transition toward rights-based, inclusive governance to be sustainable.

(c) National security laws should be permanently expanded to prevent the resurgence of "urban Naxals" in academic institutions.

(d) Tribal communities are inherently opposed to parliamentary democracy regardless of the level of economic development.

**Answer: (b) The elimination of armed insurgency must be followed by a transition toward rights-based, inclusive governance to be sustainable.**

**Explanation:** The "crux" is the central message. The author argues that while operational success has been achieved, the state must now "heal the wounds of the battle" and prioritize "inclusive development" and "tribal rights". Option

(a) ignores the call for reconciliation; (c) focuses on a specific controversial tactic rather than the central message; and (d) misinterprets the ideological stance of the Maoists as a trait of the entire community.

**51. How many natural numbers  $d$  are there such that dividing 100 by  $d$  leaves remainder 4?**

- (a) 12
- (b) 10
- (c) 8**
- (d) 6

[The total factors of 96 is 12.

Remainder < Divisor

Hence 1, 2, 3 and 4 not a divisor

Hence  $12 - 4 = 8$ ]

**52. Two brothers were born 5 years apart. After 10 years, the ratio of their ages will be 4 : 5. What will be the age of the younger brother after 15 years?**

- (a) 15 years
- (b) 20 years
- (c) 25 years**
- (d) 30 years

**53. Petrol price increases by 20% from ₹95 per litre. A motorist has a fixed budget of ₹11,400 and a mileage of 19 km/litre. How many kilometres can he now travel per month?**

- (a) 1800 km
- (b) 1900 km**
- (c) 2000 km
- (d) 2100 km

**Direction for the following one (1) question as follows**

**Deepthi is playing a treasure hunt game. At the first stage, Deepthi needs to choose a five-digit code to unlock the vault which contains the treasure. She gets the following codes to choose from**

15342	26540	35412
23105	15320	13402
35047	71024	28305

**The following clues are given to her to help her to find the code.**

P. The code number is not an even number.

Q. The product of the first two digits is odd.

R. The sum of the first four digits is 12.

S. The code number is not a multiple of 5.

**54. If Deepthi had the option of selecting only one clue, which of the four clues will give her the best chance of finding the five digit code?**

- (a) S
- (b) R**
- (c) Q
- (d) P

**55. Consider the following series:**

**2, 9, 28, 65, 126, ?**

**Which number replaces the question mark?**

- (a) 215
- (b) 217**
- (c) 250
- (d) 300

[Pattern:  $n^3+1$  ]

**56. Four colleagues — Amit (M), Sunita (F), Kavita (F) and Rohit (M) — work in the same office, M and F denote male and female respectively.**

1. Exactly two of them speak English and the other two speak Hindi. Exactly one man and one woman can drive a car.

2. Sunita speaks Hindi.

3. Amit speaks English.

4. Both Kavita and Rohit can drive a car.

**Which statement is true?**

- (a) Both English speakers can drive.
- (b) Both Hindi speakers can drive.
- (c) Both who can drive speak Hindi.
- (d) One of those who can drive speaks English.**

**57. A builder decided to build a farm house in 40 days. He employed 100 men in the beginning and 100 more after 35 days and completed the construction in the stipulated time. If he had not employed additional men, how many days behind the schedule the construction would have been finished?**

- (a) 2 days
- (b) 5 days**
- (c) 10 days
- (d) 15 days

$$[35*100 = 3500$$

$$5 * 200 = 1000$$

$$\text{Total} = 4500 / 100 = 45 \text{ days}$$

$$45-40 = 5 \text{ days}]$$

**58. If 1st March of a year happens to be a Monday, what day is 17th June of the same year?**

- (a) Tuesday
- (b) Wednesday
- (c) Thursday**
- (d) Friday

**59. How many sides are there in a polygon which has 20 diagonals?**

- (a) 6
- (b) 7
- (c) 8**
- (d) 10

**60. In the English alphabet, if the first 6 letters are written in reverse, the next 6 in reverse, and so on, until 24 letters are exhausted, and the last 2 (Y, Z) remain as they are; which letter is 7th to the right of the 5th letter from the left?**

- (a) G**
- (b) F
- (c) L
- (d) K

**Directions for the following 5 (Five) items:**

**Read the following five passages and answer the items that follow the passages. Your answers to these items should be based on the passages only.**

### **Passage 1**

The 16th Finance Commission has adopted a multiplicative Disaster Risk Index ( $DRI = Hazard \times Exposure \times Vulnerability$ ) for allocating disaster funds among States. While the logic that risk arises only when hazards intersect with exposed populations is sound, its operationalisation remains scientifically contested. The Commission utilizes the total population of each State as its primary exposure metric. However, true exposure refers to the presence of people in specific geographical zones that could be adversely affected by hazards, rather than the total number of people within a political boundary. Consequently, this formula tends to reward demographic size rather than actual risk, potentially leading to a scenario where a State with the highest hazard intensity loses funding simply because it has

successfully managed its population growth.

**61. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:**

1. Total demographic data is an insufficient proxy for determining the geographical exposure of a population to natural hazards.
2. A multiplicative risk formula is inherently biased against states with a history of frequent, low-intensity disasters.
3. The current fiscal framework for disaster management may inadvertently penalize states with superior social governance records.

**Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?**

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

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

**Explanation:** Assumption 1 is valid because the author explicitly states that

using total population as an exposure metric is contested and that population and hazard-zone population are distinct concepts. Assumption 3 is valid as the text notes the formula "rewards demographic size" and states that a state can "lose funding simply because it is not populous," which links funding to population management success. Assumption 2 is invalid because the text critiques the *operationalisation* (using total population) rather than the multiplicative nature of the formula itself, which it actually calls "sound" in theory.

### Passage 2

India's Biopharma SHAKTI strategy aims to transform the domestic production of biologics and biosimilars. However, the reliance on animal models remains a bottleneck, as they often fail to reliably predict the safety and efficacy of complex biologics in humans due to differences in immune cell responses. This has necessitated a shift toward non-animal methodologies (NAMs) such as organ-on-a-chip and 3D bioprinting, which replicate human biology more faithfully. While academic innovation in NAMs is high, translating these into industry-

ready assays requires robust policy support, standardized protocols, and regulatory clarity. Without accelerating the implementation of updated biosimilar guidelines, the vision of making India a cost-efficient global hub for advanced medicine may remain unfulfilled.

**62. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:**

1. Animal testing is inherently more expensive and time-consuming than bioengineered human-relevant systems.
2. The current regulatory framework in India has not yet fully integrated non-animal drug testing methodologies into its formal approval process.
3. The success of the Biopharma SHAKTI initiative is contingent upon bridging the gap between academic research and industrial application.

**Which of the above assumptions are valid?**

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

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

**Explanation:** Assumption 1 is not definitively supported; while NAMs *can* reduce costs, the passage does not assume they are "inherently" cheaper in all instances. Assumption 2 is valid as the text states guidelines are "still in draft form" and "implementation has been slow". Assumption 3 is valid as the text explicitly notes innovation is "not translating into industry use".

### **Passage 3**

President Droupadi Murmu, in her address to Parliament, noted that through the policies of Thomas Macaulay in the 19th century, a sense of inferiority was instilled among the people of India during the colonial period. She stated that for the first time since Independence, the government has shown the courage to "strike a blow on this". Social justice, in this context, means ensuring every citizen exercises full rights without discrimination and moving toward a "Viksit Bharat" by accelerating the "reform express".

**63. Based on the passage, the following assumption has been made:**

1. Educational and administrative policies can exert a lasting influence on the collective psychological state of a nation.
2. The achievement of developed-nation status (Viksit Bharat) is contingent upon the systematic removal of colonial-era cultural legacies.

**Select the correct answer:**

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

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

**Explanation:**

**Why (c) is RIGHT: Statement 1** is a valid assumption as the President's claim that Macaulay's policies "instilled a sense of inferiority" assumes that policy can shape national psychology. **Statement 2** is valid because the President links the "courage to strike a blow" on this colonial sense of inferiority directly to the movement toward a "developed India

by 2047", assuming the former is a necessary step for the latter.

#### **Passage 4**

Children are increasingly being exposed to the digital world at an early age, often with parents using screens to "tamp down tantrums". Research suggests a correlation between early phone access and increased mental health issues in adulthood, including detachment from reality and diminished self-worth. One primary concern is that children are being "brought up by technology instead of human beings," missing out on critical social interactions that teach non-verbal cues like tone of voice and body language. Furthermore, the rise of "AI slop"—low-quality, AI-generated content—is accused of distorting children's sense of reality and overwhelming their learning processes.

**64. Which one of the following is the most logical and rational corollary to the passage?**

- (a) Total prohibition of digital devices is the only way to ensure the healthy

psychological development of the next generation.

(b) Regulating the quality of digital content is more important for childhood development than limiting the duration of screen exposure.

(c) Preserving the human dimension in early childhood development is crucial to counter the socio-emotional risks arising from rapid technologisation.

(d) AI-generated animation is a superior educational tool because it can simulate non-verbal cues more consistently than human interaction.

**Answer: (c)** Preserving the human dimension in early childhood development is crucial to counter the socio-emotional risks arising from rapid technologisation.

**Explanation:** A corollary is a direct consequence. The passage highlights the risk of children being raised by "technology instead of human beings" and losing their ability to "manage in a human world". Therefore, the logical response is to **sustain human interaction** during development. Option (a) is an extreme "only" measure; (b) makes a comparative judgment not supported by the text; and (d) is the

exact opposite of the author's concern regarding "AI slop"

### Passage 5

India enters the post-Budget season with a striking macroeconomic contradiction: headline indicators like GDP growth remain robust at 8.1%, yet external buffers are weakening. The Indian economy, which imports nearly 90% of its crude oil, remains structurally exposed to oil price volatility. Revenue buoyancy is increasingly driven by **transaction-linked taxation** (GST) while expenditure tilts toward capital formation. This model is durable in a stable environment, but energy price spikes raise transport costs and compress household spending, which can quickly slow transactions and reduce GST buoyancy. Furthermore, rising household liabilities—now at 41% of GDP—increase sensitivity to inflationary shocks, suggesting consumption is sustained by credit rather than income growth.

**65. Which one of the following statements best reflects the crux of the passage?**

(a) India's reliance on GST collections is the primary driver of its record-high external foreign exchange reserves.

(b) The sustainability of India's growth model is contingent upon its ability to decouple domestic consumption from volatile global energy markets.

(c) Aggressive public capital expenditure is the only viable mechanism to mitigate the impact of rising household debt.

(d) High quarterly GDP growth figures are the most reliable indicator of India's long-term immunity to geopolitical instability.

**Answer: (b) The sustainability of India's growth model is contingent upon its ability to decouple domestic consumption from volatile global energy markets.**

**Explanation:** The passage highlights a "macroeconomic contradiction" where robust headline growth masks vulnerabilities to "external commodity shocks" and "oil price volatility". It emphasizes that the current model depends on whether "fiscal revenues,

consumption and investment can withstand external commodity shocks". This directly supports the idea that **decoupling growth from energy shocks is the central challenge**. Option (a) is contradicted by the fact that reserves are weakening; (c) uses the extreme "only"; and (d) is contradicted by the author's warning that strong GDP captures domestic activity but "overlooks vulnerabilities"

**66. If a shopkeeper sells an item 'A' at 20% profit and item 'B' at 25% profit, then the total profit made is 120. If he sells item 'A' at 25% profit and item 'B' at 20% profit, then the total profit made is 105. What is the sum of the cost price of items 'A' and 'B'?**

(a) Rs.300

(b) Rs.400

**(c) Rs.500**

(d) Rs.600

$$[0.2x + 0.25y = 120 \dots\dots\dots(1)]$$

$$0.25x + 0.2y = 105 \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

$$X = 100$$

$$Y = 400]$$

67. Mr. Elango lends ₹15,000 to a friend at 12% per annum, compounded annually. The loan is for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  years. Calculate the compound interest earned at the end of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  years?

- (a) ₹2,700
- (b) ₹2,808**
- (c) ₹2,950
- (d) ₹3,000

68. Two inlet taps P and Q fill a tank at rates 8 litres/min and 14 litres/min respectively. Consider the following statements:

**Statement 1:** The drain pipe R drains at the rate of 4 litres/min.

**Statement 2:** If all three pipes are opened together, the tank is filled in 6 hours.

**Statement 3:** Pipe R alone empties the filled tank in 27 hours.

To know what is the capacity of the tank, which one of the following is correct?

- (a) S2 only
- (b) S1, S2 and S3 are necessary
- (c) Any two out of S1, S2 and S3 are sufficient**
- (d) None of the above

[S2 & S3.

From S3:  $C=r \times 1620$

From S2:  $C=360(22-r)$

→ S1 & S2 are sufficient.

→ S1 & S3 are sufficient.

→ S2 & S3 are sufficient.

(c) Any two out of S1, S2 and S3 are sufficient.]

69. A car embarks on a three-hour journey along a highway. During the first hour, it maintains a speed of 40 km/h. In the second hour, the driver increases the speed to 50 km/h, and in the third hour, he drives at 60 km/h. What is the average speed of the car for the entire journey?

- (a) 45 km/h
- (b) 50 km/h**
- (c) 52 km/h
- (d) 55 km/h

70. In July 2078, if the second Friday falls on 14th July, then what would be the date of the fourth Friday?

- (a) 21 July
- (b) 25 July
- (c) 28 July**
- (d) 31 July

**71. Consider the following statements**

**Statement 1:** A has more coins than B.

**Statement 2:** B has fewer coins than C.

**Statement 3:** C has fewer coins than A.

**If the statement 1 is true and statement 2 is false, then the statement 3 is**

**(a) True**

(b) False

(c) Uncertain

(d) Insufficient data

[A>B>C]

**72. Consider the following symbols:**

1. P @ Q means P is not smaller than Q.

2. P \$ Q means P is neither smaller than nor equal to Q.

3. P # Q means P is neither greater than nor equal to Q.

4. P % Q means P is not greater than Q.

5. P \* Q means P is neither smaller than nor greater than Q.

**Statement:** A\$ B, B\* C, C % D, D # E

**Conclusion-1:** A \$ C

**Conclusion-2:** B % D

**Which of the statements is/are correct?**

(a) Only Conclusion-1 follows

(b) Only Conclusion-2 follows

**(c) Both 1 and 2 follow**

(d) Neither 1 nor 2 follows

**73. Consider the following statements:**

1. Numbers that end with 2, 3, 7 and 8 are not perfect squares.

2. The remainder of a perfect square when divided by 4, is either 0 or 1 but never 2 and 3.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

**(c) Both 1 and 2**

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Directions: Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below:**

Seven persons – Kajal, Bhagat, Mandeep, Kiran, Rinku, Pranav, and Shreya have different height and weight such that the tallest one is not the heaviest one. Kiran is taller than Kajal but not heavier than Shreya. Bhagat is heavier than Rinku but not as tall as Mandeep. Pranav is heavier than Bhagat and Rinku but shorter than Mandeep and Bhagat. Kiran is not taller than Pranav. Shreya is not taller than Kajal and also not heavier than Rinku. Kajal is not lighter than Mandeep who is heavier than Bhagat. Mandeep is shorter than only one person. Pranav is not the second heaviest and is lighter than Mandeep.

**74. Who among the following is the second lightest?**

- (a) Pranav
- (b) Rinku
- (c) Kajal
- (d) **Shreya**

**75. At what time between 3 PM and 4 PM will the hands of a clock coincide? (Mark the closest answer)**

- (a) 3:15 PM
- (b) **3:16 PM**
- (c) 3:17 PM
- (d) 3:18 PM

**Directions for the following 5 (Five) items:**

**Read the following five passages and answer the items that follow the passages. Your answers to these items should be based on the passages only.**

### **Passage 1**

The Economic Survey 2025-26 raises India's medium-term growth forecast to 7%, citing improved labor participation and efficiency in capital deployment. However, it warns of a 10%-20% probability of a global crisis worse than 2008 unfolding in 2026. Regardless of the scenario, India faces a common risk: the disruption of capital flows and the subsequent impact on the rupee. To counter this, the Survey notes that India must generate sufficient investor interest and export earnings in foreign currency

to cover a rising import bill that invariably accompanies rising incomes.

**76. Based on the passage, the following assumption has been made:**

1. Domestic economic resilience is insufficient to insulate a national currency from the effects of global macroeconomic shocks.

2. An increase in national per capita income leads to a structural necessity for higher foreign exchange reserves.

**Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?**

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

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

**Explanation:**

**Why (c) is RIGHT: Statement 1** is a valid assumption because the Survey argues that even in a rosy domestic growth scenario, global crises "pose risks to India," specifically regarding capital flows and the rupee. This assumes domestic growth alone cannot stop

external shocks. **Statement 2** is valid because the Survey explicitly states that "rising imports will invariably accompany rising incomes," necessitating more "export earnings in foreign currency

### **Passage 2**

The Union government has replaced MGNREGA with the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar (VB-GRAM) Act, 2025, describing it as a "comprehensive legislative reset". The Economic Survey defends this by noting that demand for MGNREGA person-days fell by over 53% from the pandemic peak, coinciding with a fall in rural unemployment to 2.5%. However, activists argue that demand was "artificially suppressed" through mandatory digital attendance and low budget allocations. The Survey maintains that structural issues, such as the use of machines in labor tasks and a mismatch between expenditure and physical progress, indicate the old scheme's architecture has "reached its limits".

**77. Based on the passage, the following assumption has been made:**

1. Market-based labor opportunities are now capable of absorbing the majority of the rural workforce that previously relied on state-guaranteed employment.
2. Quantitative indicators of declining scheme usage are a reliable reflection of a reduced socio-economic need for a job guarantee.

**Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?**

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

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

**Explanation:**

**Why (c) is RIGHT: Statement 1** is a valid assumption because the Survey links the decline in person-days to falling rural unemployment (from 3.3% to 2.5%), assuming households are finding work "outside MGNREGA". **Statement 2** is valid because the Survey uses the 53% drop in usage as its primary evidence to

"re-examine the design" and "scrap" the old act, assuming usage matches need

### **Passage 3**

The rapid adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in India's public service delivery promises efficiency but risks entrenching existing biases. For a country with significant digital illiteracy, the transition to AI-governed systems might alienate the very populations it aims to serve. A human-centric approach, where algorithms are audited for fairness and data privacy is safeguarded by law, is essential to ensure that digital transformation does not lead to digital exclusion.

**78. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:**

1. Technological interventions in governance are inherently biased against marginalized communities.
2. The success of digital governance is contingent upon the existence of a robust legal framework for data protection.

3. Universal digital literacy is a prerequisite for the equitable implementation of AI in public services.

**Which of the above assumptions are valid?**

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

**Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:** Assumption 2 is valid because the passage states that a human-centric approach *requires* data privacy to be "safeguarded by law" to avoid exclusion. Assumption 1 is invalid as the text says AI "risks" entrenching biases, not that it is "inherently" biased. Assumption 3 is invalid; while the text mentions digital illiteracy as a challenge, it does not state that *universal* literacy is an absolute prerequisite before any implementation can occur

#### **Passage 4**

In the pursuit of "purifying" electoral rolls, the Election Commission of India (ECI) utilized a "logical discrepancy" tool that pitted electors against AI-detected

anomalies. This process has been particularly challenging for mobile populations, such as Adivasi communities in plantation belts, who move frequently and often lack proof of permanent residence. Discrepancies in spelling and variations in names between Aadhaar cards and voter IDs further complicate the establishment of identity. The exclusion of even a single eligible voter due to the arbitrary and aggressive nature of these revisions risks reducing democratic exercises to a nominal drill.

**79. Which of the following statements best reflects the most logical and rational inference that can be made from the passage above?**

- (a) The use of Artificial Intelligence in administrative processes is inherently incompatible with the principle of universal suffrage.
- (b) Maintaining the integrity of electoral rolls requires a shift from document-centric verification to community-based identification for marginalized groups.
- (c) A purely technological approach to voter roll purification may disproportionately disenfranchise socio-economically vulnerable and mobile populations.

(d) Discrepancies in electoral data are primarily a result of intentional fraud by political agents rather than administrative lapses.

**Answer: (c) A purely technological approach to voter roll purification may disproportionately disenfranchise socio-economically vulnerable and mobile populations.**

**Explanation:** The passage describes how "AI used to detect discrepancies" and "aggressive" revision processes have created significant barriers for "marginalized" and "mobile" populations who "do not have proof of permanent residence". This supports the **inference that a purely technological/aggressive approach risks disenfranchisement**. Option (a) is too extreme ("inherently incompatible"); (b) is a potential solution not explicitly detailed in the text; and (d) is an allegation mentioned in a specific political context rather than a rational inference from the broader administrative critique provided in the text

## Passage 5

The earth's orbital environment has become crowded, fragile, and vulnerable, threatened by what is today evidently a failure of governance rather than just of engineering. As launches become more frequent and private actors multiply, the gap between what is promised and what is implemented in terms of space sustainability continues to widen. Orbital harm is difficult to govern because much of the debris is impossible to track consistently, and responsibility can often only be assigned after damage has occurred. Principles of international environmental law, including intergenerational equity, suggest that the way we use resources today should not foreclose future generations' access to the same resources.

**80. Which one of the following is the most logical and rational corollary to the passage given above?**

(a) Space exploration should be restricted to state-owned agencies to prevent the commercial exploitation of orbits.

(b) Technical advancements in debris tracking are a sufficient alternative to the creation of ethical governance frameworks.

(c) Sustainable use of the global commons requires a proactive regulatory shift that prioritizes long-term resource accessibility over immediate commercial gain.

(d) National space legislation must focus exclusively on licensing domestic launches to avoid international liability.

**Answer: (c) Sustainable use of the global commons requires a proactive regulatory shift that prioritizes long-term resource accessibility over immediate commercial gain.**

**Explanation:** A corollary is a natural consequence. The passage argues that orbits are "ethically under-governed" and that we must not "foreclose future generations' access". It warns that "governance that waits for damage before assigning responsibility will arrive too late". This leads to the **corollary that proactive regulation for long-term accessibility is required.**

Option (a) is an extreme measure not suggested; (b) is contradicted by the claim that the issue is a "failure of

governance rather than just of engineering"; and (d) uses the restrictive "exclusively".

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