

PRELIMS MISSION TEST-18 (13-04-2024)

EXPLANATION

1. Consider the following statements about Sunda Strait

1. The Sunda Strait is a narrow waterway located between the islands of Bali and Lombok in Indonesia.
2. The Sunda Strait connects the Indian Ocean and the South China sea.
3. The region around Sunda Strait experiences a dry climate throughout the year
4. It is an artificial waterway constructed to facilitate trade

How many statements given above are incorrect?

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

Ans: d (All four)

Statements 1&2 are incorrect: The Sunda Strait is a waterway between the Indonesian islands of Sumatra and Java. It connects the Java sea to the Indian Ocean. It is the Malacca strait that connects the Indian Ocean with the South China sea.

The Lombok Strait is a strait connecting the Java Sea to the Indian Ocean and is located between the islands of Bali and Lombok in Indonesia.

The Sunda strait is notoriously difficult to navigate because of this shallowness, very strong tidal currents, sandbanks, and man-made obstructions such as oil platforms off the Java coast. Its narrowness, shallowness, and lack of accurate charting make it unsuitable for many modern, large ships, most of which use the Strait of Malacca instead.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Sunda Strait region experiences a hot, wet equatorial climate as it lies between 5° and 10° north and south of the equator. The most outstanding feature of the equatorial climate is its great uniformity of temperature throughout the year. There is no winter. Cloudiness and heavy precipitation help to moderate the daily temperature. In addition, land and sea breezes assist in maintaining a truly equable climate.

Statement 4 is incorrect: It is a natural passage connecting the Indian ocean and eastern Asia and is not an artificial waterway.



2. Consider the following statements about Mangrove forests

1. They are salt-tolerant trees that grow in intertidal zones and estuaries
2. These are found across all continents
3. They grow well in oxygen-rich waterlogged soil
4. Gujarat has the largest area under Mangroves forests in India

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (Only one)

Statement 1 is correct: Mangroves are a group of small trees and shrubs numbering some 80 species. They grow in coastal saltwater zones in tropical and subtropical latitudes around the globe. They are the only trees in the world to tolerate saltwater, excreting the excess salt through their leaves. Mangroves tend to grow numerous long roots that form nest-like structures. Some mangrove species grow roots called pneumatophores that grow upwards, absorbing oxygen while the tide has submerged the lower portion of the mangrove. Hence they can grow in intertidal zones and estuaries.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Mangroves can be found in all the continents except Europe and Antarctica. These forests form unique habitats which shelter an immense diversity of wildlife, including numerous endemic species.



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Statement 3 is incorrect: The mud in the mangrove is so thick with litter, bacteria, and the end result of lots of decomposition, it has very little oxygen. Due to lack of oxygen, the mangrove plant has developed long roots which come up out of the water into the air before joining the trunk of the plant. The roots have "breathing" cells above water called lenticels which draw in air.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Sundarbans in west Bengal alone accounts for almost half of the total area that is found under mangrove in India. West Bengal has a total of 42.45% of India's mangrove cover, followed by Gujarat at 23.66%, and A&N Islands at 12.39%

3. Consider the following statements about British type of climate

1. The British type of climate is characterized by mild temperatures, with cool summers and mild winters
2. The British type of climate is typically found in regions with maritime influences, such as the western coasts of continents.
3. The British type of climate is also known as the Mediterranean climate.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (1 and 2 only)

Statement 1 is correct: The mean annual temperatures are usually between 40°F and 60°F. The warmest month in London is 63°F, and the coldest month is just around 40°F. Mild temperatures, with cool summers and mild winters, characterize the British type of climate. Winters are abnormally mild, and no stations record mean January temperatures below freezing-point in north-western Europe.

Statement 2 is correct: The British type of climate, or The cool temperate western margins, is under the permanent influence of the Westerlies all-round the year. They are also regions of much cyclonic activity, typical of Britain, and are thus said to experience the British type of climate. From Britain, the climatic belt stretches far inland into the lowlands of Northwest Europe, including northern and western France,

Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, western Norway and north-western Iberia. There is so much oceanic influence on the temperature and the precipitation that the climate is also called the Northwest European Maritime Climate. In North America, the high Rockies prevent the on-shore Westerlies from penetrating far inland, and the British type of climate is confined mainly to the coastlands of British Columbia. In the southern hemisphere, the climate is experienced in southern Chile, Tasmania and most parts of New Zealand, particularly in the South Island.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The British type of climate experiences cool, rainy winters and warm, rainy summers. The weather is also extremely unpredictable. This climate is called Cool Temperate Western Margin Climate or Northwest European Maritime Climate. It is different from the warm temperate western margin climate, the Mediterranean climate, which is characterized by hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters.

4. Consider the following statements with reference to our solar system observed from the northern aspect

1. The Earth rotates and revolves around the sun in an anti-clockwise direction
2. The planets Venus and Uranus revolve around the sun in a clockwise direction, unlike all other planets.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: b (Only 2)

Statement 1 is correct: The earth has two types of motions, namely rotation and revolution. Rotation is the movement of the earth on its axis. The movement of the earth around the sun in a fixed path or orbit is called Revolution. When viewed from the northern aspect, the earth rotates and revolves around the sun in an anticlockwise direction. Most of the objects in our solar system, including the Sun, planets, and asteroids, all rotate counter-clockwise. This is due to the initial conditions in the cloud of gas and dust from which our solar system formed. As this gas and dust



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cloud began to collapse, it also began to rotate. That rotation just happened to be in a counter-clockwise direction.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Though the planets Venus and Uranus are considered to be exceptions when it comes to the rotation of planets about their axis because Uranus rotates about an axis that is nearly parallel with its orbital plane (i.e., on its side), while Venus rotates about its axis in a clockwise direction, there is no such exception in case of revolution of planets around the sun. All the planets revolve around the sun in a counter-clockwise direction.

5. Consider the following statements about Polymetallic nodules

1. They are primarily composed of manganese and are found in deep ocean basins.
2. They are abundantly found near volcanic islands.
3. They release large amounts of methane gas.
4. They are known as 'Battery in Rock' because they contain all essential battery metals such as cobalt, nickel, copper and manganese

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is correct: Polymetallic or manganese nodules are mineral concretions on the sea bottom formed of concentric layers of iron and manganese hydroxides around a core. Polymetallic nodules were formed over millions of years by precipitating metals from seawater and sediment pore water. Polymetallic nodules are found at the surface of soft deep-sea bottoms at abyssal depths. Polymetallic nodules primarily consist of precipitated iron oxyhydroxides and manganese oxides, onto which metals such as nickel, cobalt, copper, titanium and rare earth elements.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Polymetallic massive sulphide deposits are most commonly formed along tectonic plate boundaries and volcanic provinces in water depths from 500 to 5000 metres. Polymetallic nodules cover vast areas of the ocean floor. They are

more abundant in areas off the west coast of Mexico in the Pacific, known as Clarion-Clipperton Fracture Zone (CCZ), in the Central Indian Ocean Basin (CIOB), and in the Peru basin.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Methane hydrates and not polymetallic nodules store huge volumes of methane formed by the bacterial decay of organic matter or leaked from underlying oil and natural gas deposits. The active formation of methane hydrates in the shallow crust prevents methane, a greenhouse gas, from entering the atmosphere. Warming of arctic sediments or ocean waters can cause methane hydrate to dissociate, releasing methane into the Deepwater sediments, the ocean or the atmosphere.

Statement 4 is correct: The polymetallic nodules are described as a "battery in a rock" because they contain the essential metals for a clean energy economy dependent on batteries and electric vehicles.

6. Consider the following statements about Coral Reefs

1. They are found mostly in shallow, warm waters and are, therefore, absent in highlatitude regions
2. They require clear and high-saline water for their growth.
3. In India, they are found mostly along the eastern coast from Sunderbans to the Gulf of Mannar.
4. Great Barrier Reef of Australia is the world's largest coral reef

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Corals are found across the world's oceans in shallow and deep water, but reef-building corals are found majorly in shallow tropical and subtropical waters. That is because the algae found in their tissues need light for photosynthesis, and they prefer water temperatures between 70-85°F (22-29°C). It cannot be said that they are absent in high-latitude regions because, In the North Atlantic, cold-water corals have been found at the edge of the



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continental slope surrounding all land bordering the open sea. A total of 26 different coral species have been discovered in Norwegian waters, including soft corals, horn corals, and stony corals; if sea pens are included, the number increases to 39 different species. Most species occur on the continental shelf but thrive in many coastal and fjord areas. Most of these species are also well established in waters outside Norway. One of the most common species of coldwater corals is the stony coral, *Lophelia pertusa*, which constructs large reefs.

Statement 2 is correct: Most reef-building corals also require very saline (salty) water ranging from 32 to 42 parts per thousand. The water must also be clear so that a maximum amount of light penetrates it. This is because most reef-building corals contain photosynthetic algae called zooxanthellae, which live in their tissues. Most reef-building corals depend upon zooxanthellae (tiny little algae that grow inside of them) to photosynthesize and provide food. If the water becomes cloudy or murky or corals are covered in sediment, the sunlight can't reach the zooxanthellae, and the corals lose that important food source.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The major reef formations in India are restricted to the Gulf of Mannar, Palk bay, the Gulf of Kutch, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Lakshadweep islands. While the Lakshadweep reefs are atolls, the others are all fringing reefs. Patchy coral is present in the inter-tidal areas of the central west coast of the country. Since most of the Indian Rivers flow into the Bay of Bengal, coral reefs is absent on the east coast of India. Coral reefs don't form in areas of Sundarbans because of the significant intrusion of fresh water and sediments from the Major rivers like the Ganges and the Brahmaputra.

Statement 4 is correct: The Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system composed of over 2,900 individual reefs and 900 islands stretching for over 2,300 kilometres over an area of approximately 344,400 square kilometres. It supports a wide diversity of life and was selected as a World Heritage Site in 1981. CNN labelled it one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World in 1997. Australian World Heritage places included it in its list in 2007. The

Queensland National Trust named it a state icon of Queensland in 2006.

7. Which one of the following is the world's largest land biome?

- (a) Deciduous forest
- (b) Boreal forest
- (c) Temperate forest
- (d) Tropical forest

Ans: b (Boreal Forest)

Explanation: The boreal forest, or taiga, is the world's largest land biome. The boreal ecozone spans 8 countries - Canada, China, Finland, Japan, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the United States. It is made up of mainly conical-shaped evergreen trees with needle-like leaves. It typically comprises coniferous tree species such as pine, spruce and fir and broadleaf species such as poplar and birch. Boreal forest soils are characterized by thin podzols and are rather poor. Both because the weathering of rocks proceeds slowly in cold environments and because the litter derived from conifer needles is decomposed very slowly and is not rich in nutrients.

8. Consider the following statements

1. Tidal bore occurs when a tide enters the narrow and shallow estuary of a river
2. Deltas are not formed by the west-flowing rivers of Peninsular India.
3. In a delta, sediments accumulate within the river valley, whereas in an estuary, sediments accumulate seaward of the average shoreline.

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is correct: A tidal bore is a strong tide pushing the river against the current. It occurs along a coast where a river empties into an ocean or sea. A tidal bore is a true tidal wave. In places where an incoming high tide enters a shallow and sloping estuary, river, or harbour, the higher water level can form a wave called a tidal bore. Tidal bores occur



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during flood tides when the tide flows towards land, often upstream.

Statement 2 is correct: Deltas are triangular-shaped land at the mouth of a river formed from the deposition of silt, sand and small rocks that flow downstream in the river. The west-flowing rivers do not form deltas because of the natural terrain of the Indian peninsula. The West flowing rivers, predominantly originating from the western ghats, are much steeper than the eastflowing rivers, which face a rapid flow. Comparing the east-flowing rivers, they travel a little distance to drain into the sea. As a result, they don't carry many sediments required to form deltas. The Eastern coastal plains form Deltas by the major rivers like Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, and Kaveri.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Deltas form at the mouths of rivers that transport enough sediment to build outward. In contrast, estuaries are present where the ocean or lake waters flood into the river valley. The key difference between the two is where the sediment transported by the river is deposited. In the case of the delta, the sediments get accumulate in the seaward or lakeward of the average shoreline. And the case of estuaries, the sediments get deposited within the river valley.

9. The phenomenon of heat transferred from the equatorial region to the polar regions through the air masses, then this mechanism is called

- (a) Conduction
- (b) Convection
- (c) Advection
- (d) Radiation

Ans: c (Advection)

Explanation: Advection is a process by which heat is transferred through the horizontal movement of air. Advection occurs any time an air mass moves. When a warm air mass moves into an area previously occupied by a cooler air mass, Warm Air Advection (WAA) occurs. Cold Air replaces warm air, known as Cold Air Advection (CAA). Hence, the transfer of heat from the equatorial region to the polar regions through the air masses is called advection.

10. Which of the following statements best explains 'Solar Prominence'?

- (a) Sudden explosion of energy caused by tangling, crossing or reorganizing of magnetic field lines near sunspots
- (b) Light emitted by the sun in the visible spectrum
- (c) Large bright feature which extends outwards from the Sun surface
- (d) Visible dark patches on the sun's photosphere

Ans: c (Large bright feature which extends outwards from the Sun surface)

Explanation: The sudden explosion of energy caused by tangling, crossing or reorganizing of magnetic field lines near sunspots is called solar flares. Solar flares release much radiation into space. If a solar flare is very intense, the radiation it releases can interfere with our radio communications here on Earth. Solar flares sometimes accompany a coronal mass ejection (CME for short). CMEs are huge bubbles of radiation and particles from the Sun. They explode into space at very high speed when the Sun's magnetic field lines suddenly reorganize.

11. Consider the following pairs about different discontinuities inside the Earth

Discontinuity	Location
Conrad discontinuity	Transition zone between lower crust and upper mantle
Repetti discontinuity	Transition zone between upper and lower mantle
Lehman discontinuity	Transition zone between outer core and inner core
Gutenberg discontinuity	Transition zone between mantle and outer core

How many pairs given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Pair 1 is incorrectly matched: The transition zone between the upper and lower part of the lithosphere (i.e between the upper and lower crust), is called as Conrad discontinuity. The name come from the Austrian geophysicist Vector Conrad.

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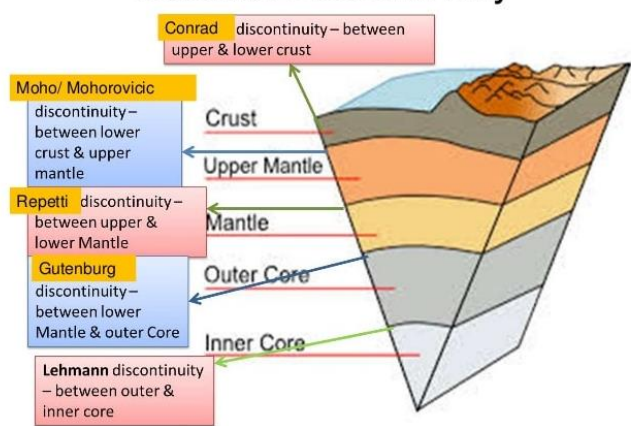
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Pair 2 is correctly matched: It is the transition zone between Outer mantle and Inner mantle.

Pair 3 is correctly matched: It is the transition zone between outer and inner core. The Lehmann discontinuity is an abrupt increase of P-wave and S-wave velocities at the depth of 220 ± 30 km, discovered by seismologist Inge Lehmann.

Pair 4 is correctly matched: The mantle-core transition zone is called Gutenberg discontinuity. In the year of 1912 Weichert Gutenberg was discovered this discontinuity at the depth of 2900km beneath the earth surface. In this zone the velocity of seismic waves changes suddenly. The velocity of P wave decreases and S wave completely disappear at this depth.

Seismic Discontinuity



particles and prevent water from seeping into the soil. This results in surface runoff and even more erosion. The detachment and transportation of fertile top soil particles by flowing rainwater is called sheet or wash off erosion.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Gullies are often perceived as the most serious form of water erosion because they are obvious features in the landscape. However, sheet erosion by water removes far greater quantities of soil. Worldwide it is by far the most common land degradation process in both amount of soil lost and impacts on production.

Statement 3 is correct: Erosion is the replacement of material on top soil by the different weather events such as water, wind, physical degradation whereas the weathering mostly occur on the rocks which are static in nature.

Statement 4 is correct: Rill erosion is the type of erosion that occurs as water flows over a hillslope and cuts shallow, curvy channels into the top soil. If the rills are not mended, with more water flow they can form gullies. Gully erosion is the erosion that causes deeper cuts into the soil and is more detrimental to the environment.

13. Consider the following statements about Heat wave condition in India

1. Temperature departure of 5°C - 6.5°C will be declared as heat wave condition by Indian Meteorological department (IMD)
2. Severe Heat Wave condition will be declared when temperature crosses 47°C
3. IMD has achieved technological advances to issues temperature forecasts and warnings for longer range of more than 6 months
4. Heat waves are recognised as natural disaster under Disaster Management Act

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (Only one)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Temperature departure of 4.5°C - 6.4°C is considered as heat wave condition by the IMD

12. Consider the following statements

1. Fertile top soil is removed in Sheet erosion
2. Gully erosion is the most land degradation process both in-terms of soil lost and impact on production
3. Erosion is a mobile process whereas weathering is a static process
4. Rill erosion precedes the gully erosion

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: The continued rainfall the displaced soil particles fill in the spaces between soil



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Statement 2 is correct: When actual maximum temperature reaches 47°C or more, then it is considered as severe heat wave condition.

Statement 3 is incorrect: IMD issues temperature forecast & warning in following range:

- Short to medium range (lead time/validity of 1 to 5 days)
- Extended range (lead time/validity upto 4 weeks)
- Seasonal range (lead time/validity upto 3 months)

Numerical Weather Prediction modelling capabilities of IMD have also reached new heights with improved dynamical models operationally run in a seamless manner from nowcast for a few hours to long range weather predictions with forecast upto a season.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Heat waves were not notified as a disaster at the national level under the existing disaster relief policies. State governments can spend up to 10% of funds under The casualties of heat-wave conditions were mostly the poor and vulnerable in the unorganised sectors, such as daily-wage labourers, street hawkers, etc.

14. Consider the following statements about monsoons in India

1. Thick and widespread snow over Tibetan plateau results in early onset of monsoons
2. The progress of the southwest monsoon towards India is greatly aided by the onset of Somali jet

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Recent observations have revealed that the intensity and duration of heating of Tibetan Plateau has a direct bearing on the amount of rainfall in India by the monsoons. When the summer temperature of air over Tibet remains high for a sufficiently long time, it helps in strengthening the easterly jet and results in heavy rainfall in India. The easterly jet does not come into existence if the snow over the Tibet Plateau does not melt. This hampers

the occurrence of rainfall in India. Therefore, any year of thick and widespread snow over Tibet will be followed by a year of weak monsoon and less rainfall.

Statement 2 is correct: Polar and subtropical jet streams are the permanent jet streams which greatly influence the weather of temperate regions. Temporary jet streams are narrow winds with speeds more than 94 kph in the upper, middle and sometimes in lower troposphere. They are few. Important ones are Somali Jet and The African Easterly jet or Tropical Easterly Jet. These two jet streams play an important role in the formation and progression of Indian Monsoons. The progress of the southwest monsoon towards India is greatly aided by the onset of Somali jet that transits Kenya, Somalia and Sahel. It was observed to flow from Mauritius and the northern part of the island of Madagascar before reaching the coast of Kenya at about 3° S. It strengthens permanent high near Madagascar and also helps to drive S-W monsoons towards India at a greater pace and intensity.

15. Consider the following statements

1. Relatively undisturbed by the crustal movements of the earth, formed by horizontally bedded rocks.
2. These depressed areas make up some of the most extensive natural lowlands on earth's surface.

Which of the following geographical features is best described by the above statements?

- (a) Peneplains
- (b) Pediplains
- (c) Structural plains
- (d) Coastal plains

Ans: c (Structural plains)

Explanation: These are structurally depressed areas of the world that make up some of the most extensive natural lowlands on the earth's surface. They are formed by horizontally bedded rocks, relatively undisturbed by the crustal movements of the earth. They include such great plains as the Russian Platform, the Great plains of the U.S.A., and the central lowlands of Australia.

Peneplain is an erosional plain carved by the agents of erosion. Rivers, rain, ice, and wind help to smooth



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out the irregularities of the earth's surface. They are almost plain hence called a pediplain.

Pediplain: It is also an erosional plain. Mechanical weathering in arid and semi-arid areas wears back the mountain slopes to leave gently sloping pediments or pediplains, but some steep hills remain which are called inselbergs.

Coastal plains: These are depositional plains. In coastal regions, waves and winds often drive beach materials, mud, sand, or shingle landwards and deposit them on the coastal plain to form marine swamps, mud-flats, tidal and estuarine lowlands.

16. Consider the following statements about the decomposition of organic matter

1. Decomposition is faster if the detritus is rich in nitrogen
2. The soil pH affects the process of decomposition
3. Cool temperatures accelerates the process of decomposition.
4. Decomposition is faster in detritus rich in lignin and chitin

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is correct: Decomposition will be faster if the detritus is rich in nitrogen and water-soluble substances like sugars.

Statement 2 is correct: The soil pH can also influence plant growth by its effect on the activity of beneficial microorganisms. Bacteria (like Rhizobia) that decompose soil organic matter are hindered in strong acid soils.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Temperature: Cool temperatures inhibit the decomposition and piling up of the organic content in the soil takes place. Warm temperature makes the microorganisms active and faster will be the decomposition

Statement 4 is incorrect: Lignin and Chitin inhibits or slows down the decomposition process

17. Consider the following statements

1. Latitudinal and longitudinal extent of India is $8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ}6'N$ and $68^{\circ}7'E$ and $97^{\circ}25'E$
2. Indian standard time is behind the Greenwich Mean Time by 5.5 hours
3. Indian standard time is passes through Narsipatnam in Andhra Pradesh

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: b (1 and 3 only)

Statement 1 is correct: India lies in the Northern Hemisphere. With respect to the latitudinal and longitudinal extent, India lies between latitudes $8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ}6'N$, and the longitudes $68^{\circ}7'E$ and $97^{\circ}25'E$. The Tropic of Cancer passes through the country, dividing it into nearly two equal parts. It is important to note that though both the latitudinal and longitudinal extent of India is about 30° , the extent of the north-south appears to be larger than the east-west extent.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Indian Standard Time (IST) is ahead of the time according to Greenwich, also known as Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), by 5.5 hours.

Statement 3 is correct: Some cities/towns through which IST is passes through is

- Ampani: Odisha
- Jaypur: Odisha
- Junagarh: Odisha
- Nabarangapur: Odisha
- Narsipatnam: Andhra Pradesh
- Phulijhar: Chhattisgarh
- Lorna: Chhattisgarh
- Jaunpur: UP
- Bhadohi: UP
- Bansi: UP

18. Consider the following countries and oceans

1. Albania
2. Bulgaria
3. North Macedonia
4. Turkey
5. Ionian Sea

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6. Italy

How many of the above share border with Greece?

- (a) All the above except one
- (b) All the above except two
- (c) All the above except three
- (d) All the above except four

Ans: a (All the above except one)

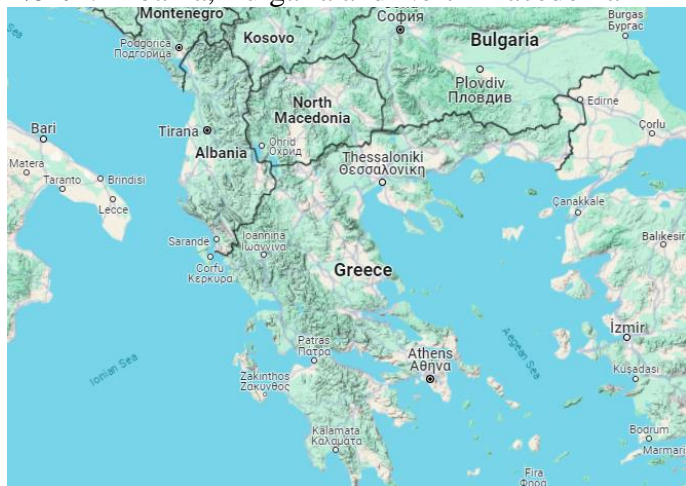
Explanation: Greece shares borders with the following countries or oceans or seas

South: Mediterranean sea

East: Aegean Sea and Turkey

West: Ionian Sea

North: Albania, Bulgaria and North Macedonia



19. 'Callisto' a new moon recently seen in news is belongs to which of the below planet?

- (a) Mars
- (b) Jupiter
- (c) Venus
- (d) Saturn

Ans: b (Jupiter)

Explanation:

An international team of scientists, including from India, has discovered strong evidence indicating the presence of ozone on Jupiter's moon Callisto, This said, not all emissions from the Sun are good for organisms on the earth. Ultraviolet radiation in particular is harmful to many species (but also useful to some others). Two of its components, called ultraviolet-B and ultraviolet-C, of wavelengths 290-320 nanometres and 100-280 nanometres respectively, can damage DNA, trigger mutations,

and increase the risk of skin cancer and cataracts in humans.

Ultraviolet light has also been known to inhibit plant growth and have detrimental effects on various organisms. This is why the ozone layer is a crucial part of the earth's atmosphere: it completely absorbs ultraviolet-B and ultraviolet-C radiation.

Why UV-A radiation is not completely absorbed by Ozone layer?

The less energetic radiation in the UVA band (wavelength 315-400 nm, bordering the visible band [wavelength 400-800 nm]) is not absorbed by ozone and reaches ground level without much attenuation through a clear atmosphere (i.e., no clouds, no air pollution). Although not completely innocuous, the UVA radiation in sunlight is much less photochemically active and therefore generally less harmful than UVB radiation.

Note: Saturn has the highest number of moons in our solar system having around 147.

Ganymede is the largest moon in our solar system followed by Titan and Callisto.

The presence of relatively few geological features suggests Callisto's surface is geologically inactive. In other words, its surface has likely been relatively stable for a long time. This stability could be vital to preserve any subsurface ocean or potential habitats beneath the icy crust.

20. 'Puntland' region recently seen in news is located in which of the following country?

- (a) Somalia
- (b) Libya
- (c) Mali
- (d) South Sudan

Ans: a (Somalia)

Explanation: Emergence of Local governments in Somalia

UNOSOM's (UN Peace Keeping Mission) humiliating departure from Somalia was followed by international disengagement and a decline in foreign aid. Its departure in March 1995 did not lead to a revival of the civil war, however. Local political processes that had been 'frozen' by the intervention resumed and clans and factions consolidated the gains they had made during the war.



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The most successful and sustained of these processes took place in the secessionist Somaliland state. In 1998 Puntland Federal State of Somalia was established in the northeast as an autonomously governed region. In 1999 the Rahanweyn Resistance Army (RRA), with Ethiopian backing, won control of Bay and Bakool regions and also established an administration.



21. Consider the following statements about Derivates

- Options are derivate contracts that give a buyer a right to sell/buy the underlying asset
- Future contracts are traded on stock exchanges
- Parties involved in Forwards are under obligation to perform the contract
- Swaps are like barter system practised in India since ancient times

How many statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- All four

Ans: d (All four)

Statement 1 is correct: Options are derivative contracts that give the buyer a right to buy/sell the underlying asset at the specified price during a certain period of time. The buyer is not under any obligation to exercise the option. The option seller is known as the option writer. The specified price is known as the strike price. You can exercise American options at any time before the expiry of the option period. European options, however, can be exercised only on the date of the expiration date.

Statement 2 is correct: Futures are standardised contracts that allow the holder to buy/sell the asset at an agreed price at the specified date. The parties to the futures contract are under an obligation to perform the contract. These contracts are traded on the stock exchange. The value of future contracts is marked to market every day. It means that the contract value is adjusted according to market movements till the expiration date.

Statement 3 is correct: Forwards are like futures contracts wherein the holder is under an obligation to perform the contract. But forwards are un-standardised and not traded on stock exchanges. These are available over-the-counter and are not marked-to-market. These can be customised to suit the requirements of the parties to the contract.

Statement 4 is correct: Swaps are derivative contracts wherein two parties exchange their financial obligations. The cash flows are based on a notional principal amount agreed between both parties without exchange of principal. The amount of cash flows is based on a rate of interest. One cash flow is generally fixed and the other changes on the basis of a benchmark interest rate. Interest rate swaps are the most commonly used category. Swaps are not traded on stock exchanges and are over-the-counter contracts between businesses or financial institutions. These works based on the barter system which was prevalent in India since ancient times.

22. Consider the following statements about Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFC)

- All NBFCs are allowed to accept deposits
- Deposit insurance facility is available for deposits accepted by NBFCs
- Maximum interest offer by NBFCs is 12.5% under the current regulations
- NBFCs cannot offer incentives/additional benefits to the depositors

How many statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- All four

Ans: b (Only two)



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Statement 1 is incorrect: All Non-Banking Financial Companies are not entitled to accept public deposits. Only those NBFCs to which the Bank had given a specific authorization and have an investment grade rating are allowed to accept/ hold public deposits to a limit of 1.5 times of its Net Owned Funds.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The deposit insurance facility of Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation is not available to depositors of NBFCs, unlike in the case of banks, and therefore, the depositors of NBFCs are neither insured nor guaranteed.

Statement 3 is correct: The NBFCs are allowed to accept/renew public deposits for a minimum period of 12 months and a maximum period of 60 months. They cannot accept deposits repayable on demand. NBFCs cannot offer interest rates higher than the ceiling rate prescribed by RBI from time to time. The present ceiling is 12.5 percent per annum. The interest may be paid or compounded at rests not shorter than monthly rests.

Statement 4 is correct: One of the salient features of NBFCs is, they cannot offer gifts/incentives or any other additional benefit to the depositors.

23. Consider the following statements about Bank's Leverage Ratio

1. A bank's Leverage Ratio indicates the ratio of capital measure to the exposure measure.
2. All commercial banks shall maintain a leverage ratio of 4%
3. It measures Tier 1 and Tier 2 capital which are highly liquidated capital

Which of the statements given above are incorrect?

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

Ans: c (2 and 3 only)

Statement 1 is correct: The leverage ratio for banks is defined as their capital measure divided by their exposure measure, with this ratio expressed as a percentage.

The Formula for the Leverage Ratio is (Tier 1 Capital/ Total Consolidated Assets) × 100

Tier 1 capital for the bank is placed in the numerator of the leverage ratio. Tier 1 capital represents a bank's common equity, retained earnings, reserves, and certain instruments with discretionary dividends and no maturity.

The denominator in the leverage ratio is a bank's total exposures, which include its consolidated assets, derivative exposure, and certain off-balance sheet exposures. Basel III required banks to include offbalance sheet exposures such as commitments to provide loans to third parties, standby letters of credit, acceptances, and trade letters of credit.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As announced by the Reserve Bank of India, in the Statement on Developmental and Regulatory policies issued with the monetary policy statement in 2019, it has been decided that the minimum Leverage Ratio shall be 4% for Domestic Systemically Important Banks (DSIBs) and 3.5% for other banks

Statement 3 is incorrect: The leverage ratio measures a bank's core capital to its total assets. The ratio uses tier 1 capital to judge how leveraged a bank is about its consolidated assets. Tier 1 assets can be easily liquidated if a bank needs capital in the event of a financial crisis. So, it is a ratio to measure a bank's financial health. The higher the tier 1 leverage ratio, the higher the likelihood of the bank withstanding negative shocks to its balance sheet.

24. Consider the following statements about Full Capital Account Convertibility (FCAC)

1. Under Liberalised Remittances Scheme, Indian are allowed to invest up to \$5,00,000 in foreign stock markets
2. Full capital account convertibility reduce the transaction cost, promotes savings and investments
3. Stability in the value of the Rupee in the international market
4. It lead to capital flight when the federal reserve increases the interest rates

How many statements given above are correct?

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



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Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Under the Liberalised Remittances Scheme, Indian are allowed to take \$2,50,000 for study, medical, investment and for any other purpose.

Statement 2 is correct: A fully convertible capital account provides three key benefits. These are stock market returns, reduction in transaction cost due to free rupee convertibility, and improvement in savings and investments which effectively accelerates growth.

Statement 3 is incorrect: A rising, unregulated rupee makes Indian exports less competitive in the international markets. Exportoriented economies like India and China prefer to keep their exchange rates lower to retain the low-cost advantage. Once the regulations on exchange rates go away, India risks losing its competitiveness in the international market. Therefore, it never creates stability of the currency in the international market rather Rupee becomes highly unstable because of the huge in and outflow of capital.

Statement 4 is correct: A term that refers to an event where investors pull capital out of an economy on a large scale by selling the financial assets that they own. Capital flight occurs when investors lose confidence in an economy for various reasons, and wish to protect the value of their investment. In a world of freely moving capital, the sudden exit of capital can be happen due to increase in interest rates by Federal reserve.

25. Consider the following statements about 'Balance of Payments (BoP)

1. It records all economic transactions between the citizens of a country in a given financial year
2. Revaluation is one of the measure undertaken to tackle the BoP crisis
3. External Commercial Borrowings form part of the Capital account under the BoP
4. Protectionist policies adopted by many countries can lead to BoP crisis

How many statements given above are correct?

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

(c) Only three

(d) All four

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Balance Of Payment (BOP) is a statement that records all the monetary transactions made between residents (not citizens) of a country and the rest of the world during any given period. This statement includes all the transactions made by/to individuals, corporates and the government and helps in monitoring the flow of funds to develop the economy.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Devaluation (not revaluation) is an official reduction of country's value of money relative to a foreign currency or standard. Negative Balance of Payments or Balance of payment deficit means the nation imports more commodities, capital and services than it exports and it also denotes a situation of excessive consumption which results in the drain of foreign reserves. In order to increase foreign reserves and to attract more foreign investments, the country goes for devaluation of its currency to tackle the adverse BOP situations.

Statement 3 is correct: Capital Account records all international transactions of assets. An asset is any one of the forms in which wealth can be held, for example, money, stocks, bonds, Government debt, etc. This account includes items such as Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs), Foreign Institutional Investments (FIIs), external commercial borrowings, and assistance.

Statement 4 is correct: Protectionist Policies: Trade restrictions, such as tariffs and quotas, can reduce a country's ability to compete in international markets, leading to a balance of payments crisis.

26. Consider the following statements about Goods and Service Tax (GST) regime

1. It is value added taxation system
2. As per the constitution it is mandatory to have vice-chairman to GST council
3. All businesses having a annual turnover of 40 lakhs shall under GST
4. e-Commerce and Inter-state businesses shall register under GST regardless of turnover

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one



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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: GST is a single tax on the supply of goods and services, right from the manufacturer to the consumer. Credits of input taxes paid at each stage will be available in the subsequent stage of value addition, which makes GST essentially a tax only on value addition at each stage. The final consumer will thus bear only the GST charged by the last dealer in the supply chain, with set-off benefits at all the previous stages.

Statement 2 is correct: Under Article 279A (3) it is mandatory to have a vice-chairman for GST

(3) The Members of the Goods and Services Tax Council referred to in sub-clause (c) of clause (2) shall, as soon as may be, choose one amongst themselves to be the Vice-Chairperson of the Council for such period as they may decide.

Statement 3 is incorrect: In India, businesses with an annual turnover of more than Rs. 40 lakhs (Rs. 20 lakhs for businesses in some special category states) are required to register for GST. The GST Council raised the minimum threshold for GST registration from 20 lakhs to 40 lakhs (from Rs.10 lakhs to Rs.20 lakhs for special category states) in consideration of MSMEs' concerns, thereby relieving many small businesses from paying GST.

Statement 4 is incorrect: However, certain businesses, such as those engaged in e-commerce or selling goods across state borders, are required to register for GST regardless of their turnover. It is important to check the GST laws and regulations in a specific region to determine the minimum limit for registration.

27. Consider the following statements

1. Twin deficit syndrome is a situation where both current account deficit and fiscal account deficit are high
2. Nominal Effective Exchange Rate (NEER) will not account for inflation in domestic economy
3. Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER) will account for inflation in the domestic economy

4. Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) based exchange rates are calculated by comparing the prices of the same basket of goods and services in different countries

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: d (All four)

Statement 1 is correct: Twin deficit refers to the fiscal and current account deficit. Fiscal deficit means higher expenditure over income. The gap between expenditure and income is bridged through borrowing from market. The term current account deficit is derived from current account balance. According to the OECD, the current account balance of payments is a record of a country's international transactions with the rest of the world. The current account includes all the transactions (other than those in financial items) that involve economic values and takes place between resident and non-resident entities. Current Account Deficit (Trade deficit) and Fiscal Deficit often reinforce each other, i.e., a high fiscal deficit leads to higher CAD and vice versa.

Statement 2 is correct: The nominal effective exchange rate (NEER) is an unadjusted weighted average rate at which one country's currency exchanges for a basket of multiple foreign currencies. The nominal exchange rate is the amount of domestic currency needed to purchase foreign currency. Hence NEER will not account for inflation in the domestic economy

Statement 3 is correct: The NEER may be adjusted to compensate for the inflation rate of the home country relative to the inflation rate of its trading partners. The resulting figure is the real effective exchange rate (REER).

Statement 4 is correct: Purchasing power parity is defined as the number of units of a country's currency required to buy the same amount of goods and services in the domestic market as one dollar would buy in the US. The technique of purchasing power parity allows us to estimate what exchange between two currencies is needed to express the accurate purchasing power of the two currencies in the



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respective countries. Under PPP, we measure the GDP of India by measuring how much milk Rupee can purchase in India and One Dollar can purchase in the US.

28. Consider the following monetary tools available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

1. Statutory Liquidity Ratio
2. Open Market Operations
3. Rationing of Credit
4. Moral Suasion
5. Standing Deposit Facility
6. Margin requirements

How many of the above statements are qualitative tools available with RBI?

- (a) All the above except one
- (b) All the above except two
- (c) All the above except three
- (d) All the above except four

Ans: c (All the above except three)

Explanation: Various qualitative tools available with RBI include

- Rationing of credit: RBI fixes a credit amount to be granted to commercial banks. Credit is given by limiting the amount available for each commercial bank. For certain purposes, the upper credit limit can be fixed, and banks have to stick to that limit. This helps in lowering the bank's credit exposure to unwanted sectors. This instrument also controls the bill rediscounting.
- Moral Suasion: Moral suasion refers to the suggestions to commercial banks from the RBI that help in restraining credits in the inflationary period. RBI implies pressure on the Indian banking system without taking any strict action for compliance with rules. Through monetary policy, commercial banks get informed of the expectations of RBI. The RBI can issue directives, guidelines, and suggestions for commercial banks regarding reducing credit supply for speculative purposes under moral suasion.
- Margin requirements: Margin is referred to a certain proportion of the loan amount that is not offered or financed by the bank. A change

in margin can lead to a change in the loan size. This instrument is used to encourage the credit supply for the necessary sectors and avoid it for unnecessary sectors. That can be done by increasing the marginal of unnecessary sectors and reducing the marginal of other needy sectors. Suppose RBI feels that more credit supply should be allotted to the agricultural sector, then RBI will reduce the margin, and even 80-90% of the loan can be allotted.

Various quantitative tools available with RBI include:

- Repo: A Repo rate is a rate at which commercial banks borrow money by selling their securities to the RBI to maintain liquidity. Commercial banks sell their securities in case of a shortage of funds or due to some statutory measures. It is one of the main instruments of the RBI to keep inflation under control.
- Standing Deposit Facility (SDF): The SDF is also a financial stability tool in addition to its role in liquidity management. The SDF will replace the fixed rate reverse repo (FRRR) as the floor of the liquidity adjustment facility corridor.
- Open Market Operations: The sale and purchase of security in the long run/short run by the RBI in the money market is known as open market operations. This is a popular instrument of the RBI's monetary policy. To influence the term and structure of the interest rate and to stabilize the market for government securities, etc., the RBI uses OMO, and this operation is also used to wipe out the shortage of money in the money market.

29. Consider the following statements about Dematerialisation Account

1. India introduced the Demat Account system in 1996 in addition to paper certificates
2. Central Depository Services Limited issues Demat account for the Bombay Stock Exchange



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3. Power of Attorney (PoA) documents given legal authority to the online broker to take certain decisions on behalf of you
4. Repatriable Demat Account is for NRI who had NRE bank account

How many statements given above are correct?

1. Only one
2. Only two
3. Only three
4. All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Before 1996, all security transaction or carried on in paper. Whenever an ownership has changed a new physical certificate is issued by the SEBI. To do away with this paperwork, India introduced the Demat Account system in 1996 for trades on NSE.

Statement 2 is correct: National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) and Central Depository Services Limited (CDSL) are regulated by SEBI and provide similar trading and investing services. The only difference between both the depositories is their operating markets. While NSDL has National Stock Exchange (NSE) as the primary operating market, CDSL's primary market is the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE).

Statement 3 is correct: In the case of a demat account, the PoA gives the online broker the legal authority to take certain decisions on your account. This may sound like a breach of privacy or security, but a PoA is entirely safe. It only provides the broker with limited authority and is a normal practice in India. While trading futures and options or intraday equity trading, there is no requirement of the POA. But whenever you sell shares from your demat account or want to pledge them for getting margin for trading F&O, the POA is used to debit the shares from your demat account.

Statement 4 is correct: Types of Demat accounts

- **Regular Demat Account:** This is for Indian citizens who reside in the country.
- **Repatriable Demat Account:** This kind of Demat Account is for non-resident Indians (NRIs), which enables money to be transferred abroad. However, this type of

Demat Account needs to be linked to a NRE bank account.

- **Non-Repatriable Demat Account:** This again is for the NRIs, but with this type of Demat Account, fund transfer abroad is not possible. Also, it has to be linked to an NRO bank account.

30. Consider the following statements about Financial Inclusion Index (FII)

1. FII is released by World Bank on quarterly basis
2. The index does not have base year
3. Access, Usage and Quality are the three parameters, and all have been assigned equal weightage.
4. 97 indicators are measured with a score ranging between 0 to 100

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Financial inclusion means that individuals and businesses have access to useful and affordable financial products and services that meet their needs – transactions, payments, savings, credit and insurance – delivered in a responsible and sustainable way. FII is a comprehensive index released by RBI since 2021, to capture the extent of financial inclusion across the country as recommended by RBI under its National Strategy for Financial Inclusion 2019- 2024. The index is published annually in July.

Statement 2 is correct: It was developed by the RBI in 2021, without any 'base year, and as such, it reflects the cumulative efforts of all stakeholders over the years toward financial inclusion.

Statement 3 is incorrect: It comprises three broad parameters (weights indicated in brackets) viz., Access (35%), Usage (45%), and Quality (20%), with each of these consisting of various dimensions, which are computed based on several indicators consisting of 97 indicators). It is not of equal weightage as given in the statement.



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Statement 4 is correct: The index captures information on 97 indicators pertaining to financial inclusion in a single value ranging between 0 and 100, where 0 represents complete financial exclusion, and 100 indicates full financial inclusion.

31. Consider the following statements

1. Transfer pricing
2. Round tripping
3. Base erosion and Profit shifting
4. E-Way billing
5. Royalty payments
6. Intercorporate loans

How many of the above are used by corporate as tax avoidance techniques?

- (a) All the above except one
- (b) All the above except two
- (c) All the above except three
- (d) All the above except four

Ans: b (All the above except two)

Statement 1 is correct: Tax avoidance is done using legal instruments in order to pay as little tax as possible, for example by shifting profits to a low-tax country or deducting interest payments for loans with artificially-inflated interest rates. Transfer pricing refers to the prices of goods and services that are exchanged between companies under common control. For example, if a subsidiary company sells goods or renders services to its holding company or a sister company, the price charged is referred to as the transfer price. Transfer pricing leads to tax savings for organizations, and companies widely use this practice to reduce the burden of tax on them. They charge a higher price to related parties in countries with high tax rate to reduce profit, while charging a lower price for increase of profit in the countries with low tax rate.

Statement 2 is correct: Round tripping is a practice where funds are transferred from one country to another and transferred back to the origin country for purposes like black money laundering or to get the benefit of tax concession/evasion/avoidance from countries like Mauritius which enjoy low taxes etc. Round tripping is when funds flow from a country to a foreign country and flows back to the same country in the form of foreign investment. However, the term

“Round Tripping” is not defined under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999. This phenomenon takes place due to many reasons, and the most common of them is for tax avoidance/ evasion or concession purposes.

Statement 3 is correct: BEPS refers to tax planning strategies that exploit gaps and mismatches in tax rules to artificially shift profits to low or no-tax locations where there is little or no economic activity or to erode tax bases through deductible payments such as interest or royalties. When that income / profit is transferred to another country or tax haven, the tax base is eroded and the company does not pay taxes to the country that is generating the income. As a result, tax revenues are reduced and the government is detained.

Statement 4 is incorrect: E-way bill is short for Electronic Way Bill. GST E-way bill is a document used to track goods in transit introduced under the Goods and Service Tax. A taxable person registered under GST involved in the transportation of goods with a value of over Rs.50,000 must possess an E-way bill generated on the GST Portal. E-way bill is a mechanism to ensure that goods being transported comply with the GST Law and is an effective tool to track movement of goods and check tax evasion.

Statement 5 is correct: Tax avoidance through interfirm royalty payments occurs because of three salient facts:

- Typically, MNCs are technology-intensive, and most value resides in their proprietary technologies or intangible assets.
- Even if research and development (R&D) costs have been incurred by Firm A (say the home country of the MNC), current rules allow the transfer of the patents or brands to a holding company or subsidiary (in a low-tax country, such as Ireland) or a shell company (in a zero-tax country, such as Bermuda), which then charges royalties to headquarters and other affiliates (Dischinger & Riedel, 2008).
- Most governments allow deductions for royalty payments, which reduces tax liability to the licensee—even if the licensee



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is part of the same MNC, and even if no R&D had been performed in the licensee's nation.

Statement 6 is incorrect: Intracorporate Loans: Another provision governments offer companies is deducting interest payments on loans as an expense item. Indeed, paying interest is an expense for the borrower/payer. But if the lender (source of funds) and borrower are companies within the same MNC, albeit in different nations, then the MNC has a clear path to paying less tax in high-tax jurisdictions—it can make its lower-taxed affiliates extend loans to its affiliates in higher-tax nations and can then enjoy a juicier tax deduction on the interest payment.

32. Consider the following financial institutions/financial intermediaries

1. Scheduled commercial banks
2. Insurance companies
3. Stock brokering companies
4. Housing finance institutions
5. Primary dealers

How many of the above institutions are regulated by Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- (a) All the above except one
- (b) All the above except two
- (c) All the above except three
- (d) All the above except four

Ans: c (All the above except three)

Statement 1 is correct: As per RBI, Commercial Banks refer to both scheduled and non-scheduled commercial banks which are regulated by RBI, under Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

(a) Scheduled Commercial Banks are grouped under following categories:

- State Bank of India and its Associates
- Nationalised Banks
- Foreign Banks
- Regional Rural Banks
- Other Scheduled Commercial Banks.

(b) Non-Scheduled Commercial Banks Banks in the groups (1) & (2) above are known as public sector banks whereas, other scheduled commercial banks mentioned at group (5) above are known as private sector banks

Statement 2 is incorrect: Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI), is a

statutory body formed under an Act of Parliament, i.e., Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999 (IRDAI Act 1999) for overall supervision and development of the Insurance sector in India.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is the regulatory authority established under the SEBI Act 1992 and is the principal regulator for Stock Exchanges in India. A stockbroker is a middleman who has the authority to buy and sell stocks and securities in a stock exchange on the investor's behalf. And they are also regulated by SEBI in India.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Initially Housing finance companies are regulated by RBI. Then, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), proposed to take over the regulation of Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) by amending the National Banking Act from the National Housing Bank (NHB). The NHB had been set up as an apex institution to regulate housing finance in 1988.

Statement 5 is correct: Primary dealers are registered entities with the RBI who have the license to purchase and sell government securities. They are entities who buys government securities directly from the RBI (the RBI issues government securities on behalf of the government), aiming to resell them to other buyers. Most of the PDs are started by scheduled commercial banks and are registered as NBFCs. Operations of the PDs are subject to prudential and regulatory guidelines issued by RBI from time to time.

33. Consider the following statements about the 'Assets of a bank' in a banking system in India

1. Deposits by households in banks
2. Borrowings from RBI under Repo transactions
3. Loans taken from other financial institutions
4. Dated government securities held by a bank

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (Only one)



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Statement 1 is incorrect: The assets are items that the bank owns. They are the items upon which the bank has the right to use. This includes loans, securities, and reserves. Liabilities are items that the bank owes to someone else, including deposits and bank borrowing from other institutions. Capital is sometimes referred to as “net worth”, “equity capital”, or “bank equity”. Bank capital are funds that are raised by either selling new equity in the bank, or that come from retained earnings (profits) the bank earns from its assets net of liabilities. Deposits are not owned by Banks. There come under Liabilities as they have to returned to the Depositors.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Loans taken by bank are also liabilities that have to be paid back by the bank.

Statement 3 is incorrect: If any Bank borrows from RBI under Repo Operations, such loans taken by other banks from RBI come under Asset Category. Similarly, if RBI borrows from such Banks (under Reverse Repo), it comes under Liabilities (Statement in question)

Statement 4 is correct: Dated Government Securities are revenue generating assets held by RBI as they do not create any liability on RBI.

34. Consider the following statements about State Development Loans (SDL)

1. SDL are issued and managed by Reserve Bank of India
2. They are qualified under Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) for the banks
3. SDLs can be traded in stock markets
4. Interest earned under SDL are eligible for tax exemption

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (Only one)

Statement 1 is incorrect: State Governments can raise loans from the market which are called State Development Loans (SDLs). SDLs are dated securities issued through a normal auction by RBI, similar to the auctions conducted for dated securities issued by the Central Government, for which interest

is serviced at half-yearly intervals and the principal is repaid on the maturity date. It will be useful for states to manage their state finances and fund their fiscal deficit. They are issued by state governments and managed by RBI

Statement 2 is correct: The SDL securities issued by states are credible collateral for meeting the SLR requirements of banks as well as collateral for availing liquidity under the RBI’s LAF including the repo

Statement 3 is incorrect: SDLs are traded electronically on the RBI-managed NDS-OM (Negotiated Dealing System-Order Matching) and traded in the voice market (NDS).

Statement 4 is incorrect: Interest income from State Development Loans is taxable under the Income Tax Act of India. There is no Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) on SDLs, but the interest earned is taxed as per the investor's income tax slab. However, there are no specific tax exemptions or benefits directly associated with investing in SDLs.

35. Consider the following statements about Financial market in India

1. Money market deals with the generation of funds with a maximum maturity of one year, and the capital market deals with the generation of funds for a period of one year or longer
2. Maximum tenor on dated government securities is 40 years
3. All debt instruments issued by Central government are managed and regulated by RBI
4. Shares are financial instruments that are not transacted in the money market

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: Financial systems can be classified into two categories based on the maturity period. The money market usually deals with short-term funds with a one-year maturity period, whereas



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the capital market deals with long-term funds with a maturity period of more than a year

Statement 2 is correct: Government Securities are securities issued by Central Government to borrow from financial market to meet its fiscal deficit. Securities are issued for Short Term called as Treasury Bills/T-Bills (maturity less than 1 year) as well as Long Term called as Government Bonds or Dated Securities (maturity with one or more).

Currently, the Government of India issues four types of treasury bills, namely

- 14-day T-bills
- 91-day T-bills
- 182-day T-bills
- 364-day T-bills

Dated Government Securities(G-Secs) are capital market instruments with a tenor that ranges from 5 years to 40 years.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Financial markets comprise money and capital markets in which the Reserve Bank of India regulates the organized money market. Since dated government securities are capital market instruments which are managed and regulated by SEBI

Statement 4 is correct: Shares are financial instruments usually transacted in the capital market, not the money market, as it involves financing long-term capital requirements.

36. Consider the following statements about Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs)

1. DRT can look into cases for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to the bankruptcy of individuals
2. Any amount less than 20L are adjudicated by DRTs
3. Corporate insolvency of less than 1 crore is resolved by DRT

Which of the statements given above are incorrect?

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

Ans: c (2 and 3 only)

Statement 1 is correct: Debt Recovery Tribunal is a quasi-judicial body formed under the Recovery of

Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions (RDDBFI) Act, 1993 to facilitate the recovery of loans by banks and financial institutions to the customers. The act provides for the establishment of Tribunals for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and financial institutions [insolvency resolution and bankruptcy of individuals and partnership firms] and matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Act aims to safeguard the interest of banks and financial institutions as lenders, while not discouraging borrowers. It is also regulated by the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interests Act (SARFAESI Act), 2002. Hence they are not regulated by the Companies Act of 1956.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Minimum loan amount: DRTs only handle cases where the loan amount exceeds a certain threshold. As of 2023, this threshold is Rs. 20 lakhs. Cases involving loan amounts below this threshold fall under the jurisdiction of regular civil courts.

Statement 3 is incorrect: (Corporate Debtor). The Tribunal held that the threshold limit for a valid petition under Section 9 of IBC for each operational creditor is required to be Rs. 1 Crore. Below this threshold will be resolved by normal civil courts.

37. Consider the following statements

1. Transfer payments
2. Net investment income
3. Net non-factor income
4. NRI deposits with Indian banks
5. Foreign portfolio investments

How many of the above form part of current account under the Balance of Payment?

- (a) All the above except one
- (b) All the above except two
- (c) All the above except three
- (d) All the above except four

Ans: b (All the above except two)

Explanation: The current Account is the record of trade in goods and services and transfer payments under the Balance of Payments. Trade in services includes factor income and non-factor income transactions. Factor income includes net international



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earnings on factors of production (like labour, land, and capital). In that, Non-factor income is the net sale of service products like shipping, banking, tourism, software services, etc. Transfer payments are the receipts that the residents of a country get for 'free', without having to provide any goods or services in return. They consist of gifts, remittances, and grants. They could be given by the government or by private citizens living abroad.

38. Consider the following statements about GDP calculation

1. Purchase of intangible capital assets will not be counted in the Investment expenditure component of GDP calculation
2. Only those products which are made in India are counted in the Consumption expenditure component of GDP calculation

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: d (Neither 1 nor 2)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Investment expenditure for the calculation of GDP calculation can be both Tangible and Intangible capital assets. In that, the Tangible one includes refers to purchases of physical plant and equipment, primarily by businesses. If Starbucks builds a new store, or Amazon buys robots, these expenditures are counted under business investment. The Intangible Capital assets include Patents, Copyrights, Intellectual properties like Software, etc which are used for business purposes.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The national income or product identity describes how the gross domestic product (GDP) is measured, as the sum of expenditures in various broad spending categories. The identity, shown below, says that GDP is the sum of personal consumption expenditures (C), private investment expenditures (I), government consumption expenditures (G), and expenditures on exports (EX) minus expenditures on imports (IM):
 $GDP = C + I + G + EX - IM$.

That the Consumption (C) components include goods and services purchased by domestic residents. These

are further subdivided into durable goods, commodities that can be stored and that have an average life of at least three years; nondurable goods, all other commodities that can be stored; and services, commodities that cannot be stored and are consumed at the place and time of purchase. Consumption also includes foreign goods and services purchased by domestic households. Hence, consumption expenditures (C) measure domestic expenditures on both domestically produced and foreign-produced goods.

39. Consider the following statements about Oil bonds

1. These are equity securities issued by central government to oil marketing companies in lieu of cash subsidy provided by them
2. These are issued as zero coupon bonds
3. These are tradable in the market
4. They are less liquid compared with other securities issued by the government

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Between 2005 and 2010, the government issued long-dated Special Securities, totalling about ₹1.4 lakh crore, to oil marketing companies (OMCs), including Indian Oil Corporation, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Corporation. These debt securities or bonds, which carry coupons ranging from 6.35% to 8.4%, were issued in lieu of cash subsidy to cover the under-recovery that OMCs sustained on account of selling petroleum products below cost. These are debt instruments not an equity instruments.

Statement 2 is correct: The bonds paid an annual interest to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and on maturity, the face value of the bonds, too, would accrue to them. Hence they can be categorised as zero coupon bonds.

Statement 3 is correct: Oil bonds can be traded for liquid cash by sale in the secondary market to



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insurance companies, banks, and other financial institutions.

Statement 4 is correct: These bonds do not qualify as statutory liquidity ratio securities, making them less liquid when compared to other government securities.

40. Consider the following pairs about various economic indicators and their purpose

Economic Indicator (Curve)	Purpose
Laffer curve	Relationship between tax rate and total tax revenue
Phillips curve	Relationship between inflation and unemployment
Kuznets curve	Relationship between inequality and economic development
Lorenz curve	Relationship between population groups and their income levels

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Ans: d (All four)

Pair 1 is correctly matched: The Laffer Curve shows the relationship between tax rates and total tax revenue. The curve is often used to illustrate the argument that cutting tax rates can result in increased total tax revenue.

Pair 2 is correctly matched: The Phillips curve shows the relationship between the rate of inflation and the unemployment rate in an inverse manner. The relationship is negative and not linear. If levels of unemployment decrease, inflation increases.

Pair 3 is correctly matched: Kuznets curve is the relationship between inequality and economic development giving an inverted U shape or bell-shaped curve showing an increase in inequality first with economic development. Then inequality decreases with further development and per capita income. A curve demonstrates the hypothesis that economic growth initially leads to greater inequality, followed later by reducing inequality.

Pair 4 is correctly matched: A Lorenz curve is a graphical representation of the distribution of income or wealth within a population. The Lorenz curve shows the cumulative share of income from different sections of the population. The closer the Lorenz curve is to the line of equality, the smaller area A is. And the Gini coefficient will be low. If there is a high degree of inequality, then area A will be a bigger percentage of the total area. A rise in the Gini coefficient shows a rise in inequality – it shows the Lorenz curve is further away from the line of equality.

41. Consider the following statements

1. First general elections were held in India in 1950 under the Constitution of India.
2. Elections in India are based on single member constituencies and first-past-the post system of plurality voting
3. Simultaneous elections to all states and the House of the People were held 5 times since adoption of constitution
4. No women cabinet minister in the first cabinet formed under Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (Only one)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Indian general election of 1951–52, held from 25 October 1951 to 21 February 1952, was the first election to the Lok Sabha since India became independent in August 1947. It was conducted under the provisions of the Indian Constitution, which was adopted on 26 November 1949.

Statement 2 is correct: Elections to the Lok Sabha are carried out using a first-past-the-post electoral system. The country is split up into separate geographical areas, known as constituencies, and the electors can cast one vote each for a candidate, the winner being the candidate who gets the maximum votes.

Statement 3 is incorrect: In India, simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha (House of The People)



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and Vidhan Sabhas (State Legislative Assemblies) were held in the years 1951-52, 1957, 1962 and 1967. Thereafter, however, the schedule could not be maintained and the elections to the Lok Sabha and the Vidhan Sabhas have still not been realigned.

Statement 4 is incorrect: After India's independence, Amrit Kaur became part of Jawaharlal Nehru's first Cabinet; she was the first woman to hold Cabinet rank, serving for ten years. In January 1949, she was appointed a Dame of the Order of Saint John (DStJ). She was assigned the Ministry of Health.

42. Consider the following statements

Statement I: President of India has the power to issue ordinance even on the state list subject

Statement II: Indian Constitution does not provided strict separation of legislative subjects

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 incorrect 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

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

Statement 1 is correct: As the centre becomes all-powerful during an emergency, The president can issue ordinances on the state subjects during an emergency (But only if the parliament is not in session). The power is given by Article 123.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 246 deals with the 7th Schedule of the Indian Constitution that mentions three lists named as Union List, State List and Concurrent List which specify the divisions of power between Union and States. 88th Amendment added a new subject in the Union List called 'taxes on services.'

43. Consider the following statements about Rajya Sabha

1. As per the constitution the maximum strength of Rajya Sabha is 250
2. The representative of States and Union Territories are directly elected by the members of legislative assembly
3. Seats for states and union territories are allocated based on the population
4. Supreme Court has the power to remove the vice president of India

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: Article 80: Composition of the council of states

(1) The Council of States shall consist of—

- (a) twelve members to be nominated by the President in accordance with the provisions of clause (3); and
- (b) not more than two hundred and thirty-eight representatives of the States and of the Union territories.

Statement 2 is incorrect: MLAs of the State elect members of Rajya Sabha. But Parliament has the power to make a law under Article 80 for a separate electoral college constituted in the Union Territories for this purpose.

Statement 3 is correct: Seats in Rajya Sabha are allotted in proportion to the population of each state or union territory.

Part IVA of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, provides for the manner of filling seats in the Rajya Sabha allocated to Union territories. Section 27A of that Act provides that for the purpose of filling any seat or seats in the Council of States allotted to any Union territory in the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution, there shall be an electoral college for each such territory. 10 Prior to the enactment of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991 (1 of 1992), the electoral college for the Union territory of Delhi consisted of the elected members of the Metropolitan Council of Delhi constituted under the Delhi Administration Act, 1966 (19 of 1966). The electoral college for the Union territory of Delhi now consists of the elected



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members of the Delhi Legislative Assembly constituted under the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991.11 The electoral college for the Union territory of Puducherry consists of the elected members of the Puducherry Legislative Assembly constituted under the Government of Union Territory Act, 1963 (20 of 1963).12 The Union territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Chandigarh do not have any representatives in the Rajya Sabha.

Statement 4 is correct: The Supreme Court can also remove the vice president for committing electoral malpractices and not fulfilling the eligibility criteria for Rajya Sabha while in the office per Article 71(1) of the constitution. Per Article 71(1), the Supreme Court also must examine the doubts raised in connection with the conduct of a vice president and remove the vice president if found committing contempt of the Constitution.

44. Consider the following statements about Legislative Councils in a state

1. Indian Councils Act 1861 provided for the establishment of Legislative Councils in a state
2. Legislative Councils are created or abolished by the President after the state legislative passes a resolution to that effect
3. Only 6 states in India have legislative councils
4. Uttar Pradesh has the highest number of members in legislative councils and Telangana has the least members

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: The Indian Councils Act 1861 was passed by British Parliament on 1st August 1861 to make substantial changes in the composition of the Governor General’s council for executive & legislative purposes. The most significant feature of this Act was the association of Indians with the

legislation work. Through this act Legislative councils were established in Centre and provinces.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 169 states: Abolition or creation of Legislative Councils in States (1) Notwithstanding anything in Article 168, Parliament may by law provide for the abolition of the Legislative Council of a State having such a Council or for the creation of such a Council in a State having no such Council, if the Legislative Assembly of the State passes a resolution to that effect by a majority of the total membership of the Assembly and by a majority of not less than two thirds of the members of the Assembly present and voting

Statement 3 is correct: As of 2019 before the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, 7 had a State Legislative Council. But currently only 6 states Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka have legislative council.

Statement 4 is correct:

Legislative Council	Seat(s)	House strength ^[2]			Party with a plurality/majority
		Elected	Nom.	Total	
Andhra Pradesh	Amaravati	50	8	58	YSR Congress Party
Bihar	Patna	63	12	75	Janata Dal (United)
Karnataka	Bangalore (summer) Belgaum (winter)	64	11	75	Indian National Congress
Maharashtra	Mumbai (summer) Nagpur (winter)	66	12	78	Shiv Sena
Telangana	Hyderabad	34	6	40	Indian National Congress
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	90	10	100	Bharatiya Janata Party
Total	—	367	59	426	—

45. Consider the following statements about the recommendation of Sarkaria commission

1. Consulting the chief minister of a state in the appointment of state governor
2. Governor can not dismiss the council of ministers so long as it commands a majority in the assembly
3. Security of tenure of 5 years for governor of a state
4. President shall communicate the reasons for withholding assent to any state bill

How many statements given above are correct?

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



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Ans: d (All four)

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. The commission was asked to examine and review the working of existing arrangements between the Centre and states in all spheres and recommend appropriate changes and measures. It was initially given one year to complete its work, but its term was extended four times. The final report was submitted in October 1987, and the summary was later officially released in January 1988.

Major Recommendations of commission include:

- A permanent Inter-State Council called the Inter-Governmental Council should be set up under Article 263.
- Article 356 (President’s Rule) should be used very sparingly, in extreme cases as a last resort when all the available alternatives fail.
- The residuary powers of taxation should continue to remain with the Parliament, while the other residuary powers should be placed in the Concurrent List.
- When the president withholds his assent to the state bills, the reasons should be communicated to the state government.
- The Centre should consult the states before making a law on a subject of the Concurrent List.
- The procedure of consulting the chief minister in the appointment of the state governor should be prescribed in the Constitution itself.
- The governor cannot dismiss the council of ministers so long as it commands a majority in the assembly.
- The governor’s term of five years in a state should not be disturbed except for some extremely compelling reasons.
- No commission of enquiry should be set up against a state minister unless a demand is made by the Parliament.
- Steps should be taken to uniformly implement the three language formula in its true spirit.

46. Consider the following items

1. Public order
2. Banking
3. Railways
4. Agriculture
5. Forests
6. Weights and Measures

How many of the above items are placed under Union list?

- (a) All the above except one
- (b) All the above except two
- (c) All the above except three
- (d) All the above except four

Ans: d (All the above except four)

Explanation: Article 246 provides for the separation of legislative subjects between the centre and states

List 1: Union List: Some examples:

Union list 100 subjects (Originally 97) - Defence, Armed forces, ammunition, explosives, nuclear, CBI, Foreign relations, UNO, Tax on Newspaper, Pilgrimages to places outside India, **Railways**, Ports, Airways, Ships, Insurance, **Banking**, Opium, Film Censors, Census, UPSC, Audit of accounts of Unions and states, all major taxes like Corporation tax, Income tax (except agriculture).

List 2: State List: Some examples:

State list 61 (Originally 66) - Public order, Prisons, Police, High Courts, Local Government, Pilgrimages in India, Intoxicating liquors, relief of disabled, unemployed, burial grounds, agriculture, water, mines, gas, money letting, gambling, betting, excise duty on liquor, opium, hemp etc. Taxes on animals and boats, Tolls. Taxes on professions, trades, callings and employments. Capitation taxes, Taxes on luxury.

Note: 42nd amendment Act 1976 shifted below mentioned five subjects from State list to Concurrent List:

- Education.
- Forests.
- Protection of wild animals and birds.
- Weights and measures and
- Administration of justice, constitution and organisation of all courts except the Supreme Court and the High Courts.



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47. Consider the following pairs about constitutional amendments and their effects

Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA)	Effect
25 th CAA	Right to property was removed from fundamental rights
49 th CAA	Tripura was added into the 6 th schedule
58 th CAA	Publication of Constitution in Hindi
77 th CAA	National Capital Status to Delhi

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Pair 1 is correctly matched: The 25th Amendment Act of 1971 is a law that curtailed the fundamental right to property and provided that any law made to give effect to the Directive Principle contained in Article 39 (b) or (c) cannot be challenged on the ground of violation of the rights guaranteed under Article 14, 19 and 31.

Pair 2 is correctly matched: The 49th Amendment went into effect on 11 September 1984. With this constitutional amendment, Tripura will be recognized as a tribal state. Additionally, permit the establishment of a Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council as part of the 6th schedule of the constitution

Pair 3 is correctly matched: This amendment inserted a new Article 394-A in the last part of the Constitution i.e., Part XXII. This article contains the following provisions: The President shall cause to be published under his authority: The translation of the Constitution in Hindi language.

Pair 4 is incorrectly matched: The 69th Constitutional amendment is a milestone in Delhi's history, as it got a Legislative Assembly with the enactment of the National Capital Territory Act, 1991.

48. Consider the following legislative tools available with members of parliament

- 1. Closure motion
- 2. Calling Attention motion
- 3. Discussion under rule 377 of Lok Sabha
- 4. Short Duration Discussion
- 5. Adjournment motion
- 6. No-Day-Yet Named motion

How many of the above are used to raise urgent of question of public importance in Indian Parliament?

- (a) All the above except one
- (b) All the above except two
- (c) All the above except three
- (d) All the above except four

Ans: c (All the above except three)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Closure is one of the means by which a debate may be brought to an end by a majority decision of the House, even though all Members wishing to speak have not done so.

Statement 2 is correct: Calling attention is a type of motion introduced by a member to call the attention of a minister to a matter of urgent public importance.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Under rule 377 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha, members are allowed to raise matters which are not points of order or which cannot be raised under any other rule. Members are required to give notice for raising a matter under this rule in a standard form. So it can't be used to raise urgent matters.

Statement 4 is correct: The time allotted for such discussions shall not exceed two hours. Hence, it is also known as Two-Hour Discussion. The members of the Parliament can raise such discussions on a matter of urgent public importance. The Speaker can allot two days a week for such discussions. There is no formal motion or voting before the House for such discussions.

Statement 5 is correct: It is introduced in the Parliament to draw the attention of the House to a definite matter of urgent public importance. It needs the support of at least 50 members to be admitted. It interrupts the normal business of the House. Thus, it is an extraordinary device. It involves an element of censure against the government and hence Rajya Sabha is not permitted to make use of this device. The discussion on an adjournment motion should not be less than two hours and thirty minutes.



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Statement 6 is incorrect: It refers to a motion that has been admitted by the Speaker but no date has been fixed for its discussion. The Speaker, in consultation with the leader of the House or on the recommendation of the Business Advisory Committee, allots time for the discussion of such a motion.

49. Consider the following statements

1. Constitution of India empowered the Central government to issue any directions to the State under Article 257 of the Indian Constitution
2. In violation of such deadline by a particular State Government, President's rule can be imposed on that State only based on the report of Governor of that State
3. The maximum life of proclamation of emergency under Article 356 is three years
4. During the presidents rule, president can restrict the powers of high court with prior recommendations of council of ministers

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (Only one)

Statement 1 is incorrect: According to Art 257, the Centre is empowered to give directions to the states with regard to the exercise of their executive power in the following matters: (i) The construction and maintenance of means of communication (declared to be of national or military importance) by the state; (ii) The measures to be taken for the protection of the railways within the state; (iii) The provision of adequate facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups in the state; and (iv) The drawing up and execution of the specified schemes for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the state

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 365 says that where any State has failed to comply with, or to give effect to, any directions given in the exercise of the executive power of the Union under any of the provisions of this Constitution, it shall be lawful for

the President to hold that a situation has arisen in which the Government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution. But, consent of Governor is not necessarily needed.

Statement 3 is correct: Article 356(4) provided for the maximum period for the application of presidents rule in a state.

(4) A Proclamation so approved shall, unless revoked, cease to operate on the expiration of a period of six months from the date of issue of the Proclamation:

Provided that if and so often as a resolution approving the continuance in force of such a Proclamation is passed by both Houses of Parliament, the Proclamation shall, unless revoked, continue in force for a further period of six months from the date on which under this clause it would otherwise have ceased to operate, but no such Proclamation shall in any case remain in force for more than three years:

Statement 4 is incorrect: Powers vested in the concerned High Court of the State will be assumed by the President himself. Powers of the concerned State High Court remain the same even during the President's Rule.

50. Which article of Indian constitution is source of Judicial Review?

- (a) Article 32
- (b) Article 13
- (c) Article 142
- (d) Article 226

Ans: b (Article 13)

Explanation: Article 13 declares that all laws that are inconsistent with or in derogation of any of the fundamental rights shall be void. In other words, it expressly provides for the doctrine of judicial review. This power has been conferred on the Supreme Court under Article 32 and the high courts under Article 226 that can declare a law unconstitutional and invalid on the ground of contravention of any of the Fundamental Right.

51. Consider the following statements about Delimitation commission



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1. As per the constitution, it is mandatory to constitute a delimitation commission after each census
2. Last time, territorial constituencies are readjusted based on 1971 census
3. The orders of the Delimitation commission shall not be challenged in any court of law
4. Further delimitation was freeze till 2026 by 84th constitutional amendment act

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: Under Article 82: Readjustment after each census: it is mandatory to have delimitation after each census.

Article 82: Upon the completion of each census, the allocation of seats in the House of the People to the States and the division of each State into territorial constituencies shall be readjusted by such authority and in such manner as Parliament may by law determine:

Provided that such readjustment shall not affect representation in the House of the People until the dissolution of the then existing House:

Statement 2 is incorrect: Last time, readjustment of territorial constituencies within each state was done based on 2001 census and allocation of seats to the house of people are readjusted based on 1971 census.

Statement 3 is correct: The orders of the delimitation commission shall not be challenged in any court of law and they are final.

Statement 4 is correct: However, it has been frozen as per the 1971 Census in order to encourage population control measures so that States with higher population growth do not end up having higher number of seats. This was done through the 42nd Amendment Act till the year 2000 and was extended by the 84th Amendment Act till 2026. Hence, the population based on which the number of seats is allocated refers to the population as per the 1971 Census. This number will be re-adjusted based on the first Census after 2026. The boundaries of territorial constituencies were readjusted (without changing the

number of seats) and seats for SC and ST were determined as per the 2001 Census and will again be carried out after 2026.

52. Consider the following statements about Speaker of Lok Sabha

1. The office of speaker was created under the Government of India Act: 1919
2. Speaker has the power to summon the house even after prorogation
3. He preside over the joint sitting of the both the houses of Parliament
4. He has discretion power to give consent on adjournment motion

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: There is a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker for the Lok Sabha and a Chairman and a Deputy Chairman for the Rajya Sabha. The institutions of Speaker and Deputy Speaker originated in India in 1921 under the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1919 (Montague-Chelmsford Reforms).

Statement 2 is incorrect: President has the power to summon the house after prorogation

Statement 3 is correct: Under 108: President has the power to call for the joint sitting of the both the house of Parliament. This joint sitting is presided over by Speaker of Lok Sabha

Statement 4 is correct: Rule 184 allows MPs to move a motion in the Lok Sabha that involves voting on a specific issue. When a motion is brought under Rule 184, it is considered a matter of significant importance and is debated and decided upon by the members through a voting process. The Speaker can allow for such a matter to be raised at his own discretion.

53. Which of the following persons are not entitled to vote

1. Under Trial Prisoners
2. Detainees under Preventive detention



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3. Persons out of jail on bail

4. Prisoners

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) Only three

(d) All four

Ans: b (Only two)

Explanation: Section 62 of Representation of Peoples Act: 1951 provided for eligible persons to vote in elections. As per this section Under Trail Prisoners and Prisoner who serving the punishment are not allowed to vote.

62. Right to vote.—(1) No person who is not, and except as expressly provided by this Act, every person who is, for the time being entered in the electoral roll of any constituency shall be entitled to vote in that constituency. (2) No person shall vote at an election in any constituency if he is subject to any of the disqualifications referred to in section 16 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 (43 of 1950).

(3) No person shall vote at a general election in more than one constituency of the same class, and if a person votes in more than one such constituency, his votes in all such constituencies shall be void. (4) No person shall at any election vote in the same constituency more than once, notwithstanding that his name may have been registered in the electoral roll for that constituency more than once, and if he does so vote, all his votes in that constituency shall be void.

(5) No person shall vote at any election if he is confined in a prison, whether under a sentence of imprisonment or transportation or otherwise, or is in the lawful custody of the police: Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall apply to a person subjected to preventive detention under any law for the time being in force. 1 [Provided further that by reason of the prohibition to vote under this sub-section, a person whose name has been entered in the electoral roll shall not cease to be an elector.] 2 [(6) Nothing contained in sub-sections (3) and (4) shall apply to a person who has been authorised to vote as proxy for an elector under this Act in so far as he votes as a proxy for such elector.

54. Consider the following statements about the different stages in passage of a bill

1. Discussion of Principles

2. Clause by clause by consideration

3. Scrutiny by committees

4. Authentication

Arrange the above steps in the chronological order in the passage of a bill?

(a) 1-2-3-4

(b) 1-3-2-4

(c) 1-4-2-3

(d) 1-4-3-2

Ans: b (1-3-2-4)

Explanation: 1. Discussion of Principles: In the second reading, the printed copies of the bill are distributed to all the members. The principles of the bill and its provisions are discussed generally, but the details of the bill are not discussed.

2. Scrutiny by Committee: The usual practice is to refer the bill to a select committee of the House. This committee examines the bill thoroughly and in detail, clause by clause. It can also amend its provisions, but without altering the principles underlying it. After completing the scrutiny and discussion, the committee reports the bill back to the House.

3. Clause by clause consideration: The House, after receiving the bill from the select committee, considers the provisions of the bill clause by clause. Each clause is discussed and voted upon separately. The members can also move amendments and if accepted, they become part of the bill.

4. Authentication: After the third reading the bill is authenticated by the presiding officer of the House and transmitted to the second House for consideration and approval.

55. Consider the following statements about Parliamentary proceedings

1. Zero hour is the first hour of every sitting of the house

2. For stared questions, members are not allowed to ask supplementary questions

3. In a single day, a total of 20 stared questions are allowed to ask in the house

4. There is no limit on the number of un-stared questions to be asked in a day



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How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (Only one)

Statement 1 is incorrect: First hour of every sitting is allotted to question hour. Question hour is followed by zero hour which starts at 12 PM and ends at 1 PM.

Statement 2 is incorrect: For stated question oral answers were expected from the minister. And members are allowed to ask supplementary questions.

Statement 3 is correct: Rule 37: Rules of Procedure of Loksabha provided that

37. (1) Not more than one question distinguished by 5[an] asterisk by the same member and not more than twenty questions in all shall be placed on the list of questions for oral answer on any one day:

Statement 4 is incorrect: Section 45 of RPA: 1951: (1) Questions which have been admitted and not included in the list of questions for oral answer shall be included in the list of questions for written answer, in accordance with the orders of the Speaker.

56. Consider the following statements about pardoning powers of President

1. The Pardoning powers of President are barrowed from USA constitution
2. The President may reject a petition for mercy but she/he must hear a petition for mercy before rejecting
3. The President can use his/her judicial powers in all cases where the punishment or sentence is by a Court Martial
4. Governor of a state has the power commute the death sentence

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: The Pardoning powers of president of India is barrowed from Constitution of USA

Statement 2 is incorrect: The President while exercising the pardoning power, does not sit as a court of appeal. So he need not hear a petition for mercy before rejecting it.

Statement 3 is correct: Article 72 of the Constitution empowers the President to grant pardons to persons who have been tried and convicted of any offence in all cases where the: 1. Punishment or sentence is for an offence against a Union Law; 2. Punishment or sentence is by a court martial (military court); and 3. Sentence is a sentence of death

Statement 4 is correct: The governor can commute the punishment of any individual convicted of any offence against state law, or he can commute a death sentence. The conviction and punishment of the prisoner fully release the punishments, sentences, and disqualifications when the Governor pardons.

57. Consider the following pairs about the different features of India constitution and their original source

Feature	Barrowed from/Sourced from
Single citizenship	British Constitution
Judicial Review	Canadian Constitution
Advisory jurisdiction of Supreme Court	Constitution of USA
Fundamental duties	Russian constitution

How many pairs are correctly matched?

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

Ans: b (Only two)

Pair 1 is correctly matched: Features barrowed from British constitution are

- Parliamentary form of government
- Rule of Law
- Single citizenship
- Bicameralism

Pair 2 is incorrect matched: Features barrowed from Canadian constitution

- A quasi federal form of government. i.e federation with control centre
- Appointment of governor in a state
- Advisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court



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Pair 3 is incorrect matched: Features barrowed from USA constitution

- Fundamental rights
- Judicial review
- Impeachment of the president
- Post of vice president
- Procedure for the removal of judges of Supreme Court and High Court

Pair 4 is correctly matched: Features barrowed from Russian/USSR constitution

- Fundamental duties
- Justice, social, economic and political terms in the preamble.

58. Consider the following pairs about different judicial doctrines and their meaning

Doctrine	Meaning
Doctrine of colourable legislation	Determines the legislative competence of laws enacted by various legislatures
Doctrine of Laches	It states that courts will help only those people who are vigilant about their rights and not those who are not
Doctrine Severability	It protects the fundamental rights from declaring unconstitutionality
Doctrine of Pith and Substance	Centre and State should not encroach upon each other sphere

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Ans: d (All four)

Pair 1 is correctly matched: This doctrine is a tool used to determine the legislative competence of laws enacted by various legislatures. Therefore, it is a means to implement the separation of powers and impose judicial accountability. Basically, this doctrine implies that whatever is prohibited directly is prohibited indirectly also. This is intended to bar the legislature from doing something indirectly or covertly what it has been prohibited from doing directly.

Pair 2 is correctly matched: This doctrine states that the court will only assist those people who are vigilant about their rights and not those who are not. The underlying principle is that the court should not examine stale cases, because the court is to help an individual or party that is vigilant and not indolent.

Pair 3 is correctly matched: The Doctrine of Severability or Separability is a doctrine that protects the fundamental rights enshrined in the Indian Constitution. It derives its validity from Article 13 and states that all laws that were enforced in India before the commencement of the Constitution, inconsistent with the provisions of fundamental rights shall to the extent of that inconsistency be void.

Pair 4 is correctly matched: The Doctrine of Pith and Substance holds that the union and the state legislatures should not encroach upon each other's spheres. This doctrine helps in examining the true nature of a legislation and deciding which list it belongs to, central or state.

59. Consider the following statements about Legislative relations between Centre and States

1. Parliament can make a law for two or more states upon the request from the states by passing a resolution to that effect
2. Upon such request, state legislature ceases to have power to make laws on that subject

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Both 1 and 2)

Statement 1 is correct: Article 252: **Power of Parliament to legislate for two or more States by consent and adoption of such legislation by any other State**

(1) If it appears to the Legislatures of two or more States to be desirable that any of the matters with respect to which Parliament has no power to make laws for the States except as provided in articles 249 and 250 should be regulated in such States by Parliament by law, and if resolutions to that effect are passed by all the Houses of the Legislatures of those States, it shall be lawful for Parliament to pass an Act



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for regulating that matter accordingly, and any Act so passed shall apply to such States and to any other State by which it is adopted afterwards by resolution passed in that behalf by the House or, where there are two Houses, by each of the Houses of the Legislature of that State.

Statement 2 is correct: Any other state may adopt the law passed by parliament on the matter in state list afterwards by passing a resolution to that effect in its legislature. The effect of passing a resolution under the above provision is that the Parliament becomes entitled to legislate with respect to a matter for which it has no power to make a law. On the other hand, the state legislature ceases to have the power to make a law with respect to that matter. The resolution operates as abdication or surrender of the power of the state legislature with respect to that matter and it is placed entirely in the hands of Parliament which alone can then legislate with respect to it.

60. Consider the following commissions/committees

1. Raja Mannar Committee
2. First Administrative Relations Committee
3. Anandpur Sahib Resolution
4. West Bengal Memorandum

How many of the committees/commissions above are associated with Centre-State relations?

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

Ans: d (All four)

Explanation:

First Administrative Reforms commission: The Central government appointed a six-member Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) in 1966 under the chairmanship of Morarji Desai (followed by K Hanumanthayya). Its terms of references included, among others, the examination of Centre–State relations

Raja Mannar Committee: In 1969, the Tamil Nadu Government (DMK) appointed a three-member committee under the chairmanship of Dr P V Rajamannar to examine the entire question of Centre–state relations and to suggest amendments to the

Constitution so as to secure utmost autonomy to the states

Anandpur Sahib Resolution: In 1973, the Akali Dal adopted a resolution containing both political and religious demands in a meeting held at Anandpur Sahib in Punjab. The resolution, generally known as Anandpur Sahib Resolution, demanded that the Centre’s jurisdiction should be restricted only to defence, foreign affairs, communications, and currency and the entire residuary powers should be vested in the state.

West Bengal Memorandum: In 1977, the West Bengal Government (led by the Communists) published a memorandum on Centre–state relations and sent to the Central government.

61. Consider the following statements about Parliamentary forums

1. The first Parliamentary forum was on Water Conservation was constituted in 2005 by then Speaker of Lok Sabha Somnath Chatterjee
2. Speaker is the ex-officio President of all Parliamentary forums
3. Ministers can’t become the members of any Parliamentary forums
4. Members of these forum holds office for a period of 1 year

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: a (Only one)

Statement 1 is correct: System of Parliamentary forums initiated by the then Speaker of Lok Sabha, Somnath Chatterjee On 12th May 2005. First forum was the Parliamentary forum on water conservation. Subsequently, seven more forums were constituted. At present, there are eight Parliamentary forums. The Secretary-General of Lok Sabha is the Secretary to the forums. This Forum will not interfere with or encroach upon the jurisdiction of the Departmentally-Related Standing Committees.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Each Forum consists of not more than 31 members (excluding the President, Co-President and Vice-Presidents) out of whom not more



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than 21 are from the Lok Sabha and not more than 10 are from the Rajya Sabha. The Speaker of Lok Sabha is the ex-officio President of all the Forums except the Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health of which the Chairperson of Rajya Sabha is the ex-officio President and the Speaker is the ex-officio Co-President.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha, the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, the concerned Ministers and the Chairman of Departmentally-Related Standing Committees are the ex-officio Vice-Presidents of the respective Forums. Members (other than the President, Co-President and Vice-Presidents) of these forums are nominated by the Speaker/ Chairperson from amongst the leaders of various political parties/groups or their nominees, who have special knowledge in the subject.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The duration of the office of members of the forum is co- terminus with their membership in the respective Houses. A member may also resign from the forum by writing to the Speaker/Chairperson. The President of the forum appoints a member-convener for each forum to conduct regular, approved programmes/meetings of the forum in consultation with the President. The meetings of the forums are held from time to time, as may be necessary, during Parliament sessions.

62. Consider the following statements about State Executive

1. Governor of a state has discretion to appoint a person as Chief Minister
2. Advocate general of state is not a part of the state executive
3. It is mandatory for the chief minister to communicate to the governor of all matters relating to the administration of a state
4. Governor can request the president to impose a president rule, if no party has clear majority to form a government

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: According to the result of the elections to the state legislative assembly, the Governor invites the party (or coalition) with a majority of seats for the formation of the government. The governor uses his discretion in appointing the Chief Minister when no single party has a clear majority and a coalition government is needed to get to the majority number. The Chief Minister is appointed by the Governor. He also appoints the council of ministers in consultation with the Chief Minister.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Advocate General of the State is also the primary lawyer of the State Government and is its legal representative in the Supreme Court of India and High Courts. The Advocate General of the State is a part of the State Executive.

Statement 3 is correct: Under Article 167: **Duties of Chief Minister as respects the furnishing of information to Governor, etc.**

It shall be the duty of the Chief Minister of each State—

- (a) to communicate to the Governor of the State all decisions of the Council of Ministers relating to the administration of the affairs of the State and proposals for legislation;
- (b) to furnish such information relating to the administration of the affairs of the State and proposals for legislation as the Governor may call for

Statement 4 is correct: When the governor of a state is convinced that the government of a state cannot be carried out under the provisions of this constitution, or when no political party is not in a position to form a government, he can recommend a imposition of presidents rule.

63. Consider the following statements about the election symbols of political parties

1. Two or more recognized political parties can have the same symbol provided they are not contenders in the same State or Union Territory
2. Independent candidate will have to provide 5 symbols from the free list at the time of submission of his nomination

Which of the statements given above are correct?



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

Ans: a (Only 1)

Statement 1 is correct: Two or more recognised political parties can have the same symbol provided they are not contenders in the same State or Union Territory. Both Federal Party of Manipur and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) use 'Rising Sun' as their symbol. But if one of the parties wish to open their account in the other State, it will have to contest on a different symbol. This is why the Bahujan Samaj Party will have to choose a different symbol if it contests in Assam, since Asom Gana Parishad also uses 'Elephant' symbol.

Statement 2 is incorrect: A person contesting on behalf of a recognised political party will inherit the party's symbol. An independent candidate or someone contesting on behalf of an unrecognised political party has to approach the Commission and get a symbol allotted from the list of 'free' symbols available. A candidate will have to provide three symbols from the free list at the time of submission of nomination papers, one of which will be allocated to him/her. Any choice other than from the EC's list will be summarily rejected.

64. Consider the following bills introduced in the Parliament

1. Money Bills
2. Finance Bills
3. Constitutional Amendment Bill
4. State bills imposing restrictions upon freedom of trade
5. Bills for the formation of new States or reorganization of State boundaries

How many statements given above are correct?

- (a) All the above except one
- (b) All the above except two
- (c) All the above except three
- (d) All the above except four

Ans: a (All the above except one)

Explanation: Indian Parliament is composed of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and the President. Every bill passed by two houses becomes a law only after assent

of president and hence president is an integral part of parliament. However there are certain bills that require prior recommendation of president before introduction in parliament. These include:

- Bills that seek to change or alter name, boundaries, area of a state or form a new state by separation of territory from any state under Article 3 of Indian constitution. This is essential to preserve principle of federalism.
- Money bill under Article 110 and financial bill under Article 117(I). This is to keep a check on arbitrary state power in matters of taxation.
- State bills which impose restriction upon freedom of trade under Article 304. This provision ensures unrestricted trade between states except on reasonable and non-discriminatory grounds.
- Bill which imposes or varies any tax or duty in which states are interested under Article 274, to ensure financial autonomy of state and fiscal federalism.

65. Consider the following statements about the trade relations between the centre and state

1. Bills imposing restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce or intercourse within the state cannot be moved in the state legislature without the previous sanction of the President
2. Parliament can impose restrictions on freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse between the states on public interest
3. Parliament can make a law giving special importance to some states over others with respect to any entry related to trade and commerce

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: d (1, 2 and 3)

Statement 1 is correct: Under Article 304: Bills imposing restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce or intercourse within the state cannot be



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moved in the state legislature without the previous sanction of the President.

Statement 2 is correct: Under Article 302 Parliament may by law impose such restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce or intercourse between one State and another or within any part of the territory of India as may be required in the public interest

Statement 3 is correct: Under Article 303: Parliament can give special importance to one state over another with regards to some subjects.

(1) Notwithstanding anything in article 302, neither Parliament nor the Legislature of a State shall have power to make any law giving, or authorising the giving of, any preference to one State over another, or making, or authorising the making of, any discrimination between one State and another, by virtue of any entry relating to trade and commerce in any of the Lists in the Seventh Schedule.

(2) Nothing in clause (1) shall prevent Parliament from making any law giving, or authorising the giving of, any preference or making, or authorising the making of, any discrimination if it is declared by such law that it is necessary to do so for the purpose of dealing with a situation arising from scarcity of goods in any part of the territory of India.

66. Consider the following statements about Global Bond Indices (GBI)

1. Absence of restrictive laws on movement of capital is one of the criteria to be met to include any bond in global GBI
2. At present all bonds included under GBI are settled in Euroclear except for China
3. Inclusion of bonds in GBI, will help investors to track the movement of bonds in multiple jurisdiction
4. No Indian bonds are included as part of GBI

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: Country level criteria to include any bond under GBI

- Absence of restrictive laws on movement of capital
- Availability of Forex
- Adequate hedging mechanism
- Tax laws
- Settlement of trade

Statement 2 is correct: Settlement mechanism- At present, all bonds, whether G-secs or otherwise, if listed as part of the index, are to be settled in Euroclear. But, India is batting for local settlement of its government securities, as in the case of China. Even if settlement is allowed in domestic clearing houses, the process is cumbersome for foreign investors.

Statement 3 is correct: Significance- Global bond indices help investors track the movement in bonds in multiple jurisdictions and aid in relative comparisons. Indices are benchmark or guides to investments by mutual funds, pension funds and other large investors that typically prefer to hold onto investments for longer periods.

Statement 4 is correct: Yet present, No Indian bond has not been included under the Global Bond Indices. However, in 2023 JP Morgan announced that it will include Indian govt bonds into Global Bond Indices. JP Morgan has recently announced that it will be adding Indian government bonds to its emerging markets bond index starting from June 2024. The inclusion is expected to reach the maximum weight of 10% in the Government Bond Index (GBI) - Emerging Market (EM) Global Diversified Index (GBI-EM GD) and about 8.7% in the GBI-EM Global index. Currently, 23 Indian government bonds are eligible for indexing, with a combined notional value of \$330 billion or Rs. 27 trillion. According to JP Morgan, these bonds will be included over ten months through March 31, 2025, with a gradual inclusion of 1% weight per month.

Analysts estimate that this decision can potentially attract approximately \$25 billion into the country. Even ETFs tracking these global indices will need to rebalance their portfolio and invest in these bonds, resulting in more inflows.

67. Consider the following statements about Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT)



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1. SAT shall contain one judicial and one technical member
2. Presiding officer is appointed by the president in consultation with the chief justice of India
3. Presiding officer and other members can hold office for 5 years and are eligible for reappointment
4. They hear appeals against the orders of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI), Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) and SEBI

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: Composition of Securities Appellate: The Securities Appellate Tribunal shall consist of a Presiding Officer and such number of Judicial Members and Technical Members as the Central Government may determine, by notification, to exercise the powers and discharge the functions conferred on the Securities Appellate Tribunal under this Act or any other law for the time being in force.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act,—

(a) the jurisdiction of the Securities Appellate Tribunal may be exercised by Benches thereof;

(b) a Bench may be constituted by the Presiding Officer of the Securities Appellate Tribunal with two or more Judicial or Technical Members as he may deem fit:

Provided that every Bench constituted shall include at least one Judicial Member and one Technical Member;

(c) the Benches of the Securities Appellate Tribunal shall ordinarily sit at Mumbai and may also sit at such other places as the Central Government may, in consultation with the Presiding Officer, notify. (3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (2), the Presiding Officer may transfer a Judicial Member or a Technical Member of the Securities Appellate Tribunal from one Bench to another Bench.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Appointment of Presiding Officer and Judicial Member: The Presiding Officer and Judicial Members of the Securities Appellate Tribunal shall be appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India or his nominee.

Statement 3 is correct: Tenure of office of Presiding Office, Judicial or Technical Members of Securities Appellate Tribunal: The Presiding Officer or every Judicial or Technical Member of the Securities Appellate Tribunal shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office, and shall be eligible for reappointment for another term of maximum five years: Provided that no Presiding Officer or the Judicial or Technical Member shall hold office after he has attained the age of seventy years.

Statement 4 is correct: Securities Appellate Tribunal hears appeals against the following orders:

- Orders issued by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) in relation to cases filed before it.
- Orders issued by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) in relation to cases filed before it.
- Hear the orders passed by Securities and Exchange Board of India

68. 'SCORES' portal recently seen in news is associated with

- (a) RBI grievance redressal system
- (b) SEBI grievance redressal system
- (c) Online Financial frauds reporting portal
- (d) Online Cyber-crime reporting portal

Ans: b (SEBI grievance redressal system)

Explanation: SCORES is a web based centralized grievance redress system of SEBI. SCORES enables investors to lodge and follow up their complaints and track the status of redressal of such complaints online from the above website from anywhere. This enables the market intermediaries and listed companies to receive the complaints online from investors, redress such complaints and report redressal online. All the activities starting from lodging of a complaint till its closure by SEBI would be online in an automated environment and the complainant can view the status



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of his complaint online. An investor, who is not familiar with SCORES or does not have access to SCORES, can lodge complaints in physical form at any of the offices of SEBI. Such complaints would be scanned and also uploaded in SCORES for processing.

Entities against which complaints are handled by SEBI include

- Listed companies or register and transfer agents
- Brokers or stock exchanges
- Depository participants
- Mutual funds
- Portfolio managers
- Other entities (KYC Collective investment scheme, Merchant banker, Credit rating, Foreign institutional investor etc)

69. Consider the following statements about Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP)

1. It is launched to replace the earlier Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS)
2. The major objective of this scheme is to zero rating of exports from India
3. G.K Pillai committee was set up to recommend the rates on exported products
4. Incentives are provided on the value of Freight On-Board Value.

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: d (All four)

Statement 1 is correct: The RoDTEP scheme, announced on January 1 with the simultaneous withdrawal of the popular Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) in 2021

Statement 2 is correct: The major objective of the scheme is to refund exporters the embedded duties/taxes that are not rebated under other schemes. These include VAT on fuel used in transportation, mandi tax, and duty on electricity used during manufacturing thereby making the exports zero rated

Statement 3 is correct: The RoDTEP rates would be notified shortly by the Department of Commerce, based on the recommendation of a Committee chaired by Dr. G.K. Pillai, former Commerce and Home Secretary. An exporter desirous of availing the benefit of the RoDTEP scheme shall be required to declare his intention for each export item in the shipping bill or bill of export. The RoDTEP shall be allowed, subject to specified conditions and exclusions.

Statement 4 is correct: RoDTEP scheme is notified with an Objective to neutralize the taxes and duties suffered on exported goods which are otherwise not credited or remitted or refunded in any manner. The benefit is given as percentage of Fright on Board (FOB) or fixed amount per unit of measurement as prescribed in the Appendix 4R to the Notification.

70. Consider the following ports in India

1. Mormugao
2. Tuticorin
3. Ennore
4. Kakinada
5. Paradip
6. Port Blair

How many of the above are classified as major ports in India?

- (a) All the above except one
- (b) All the above except two
- (c) All the above except three
- (d) All the above except four

Ans: a (All the above except one)

Explanation: The list of major ports in India is given below:

Zone	State	Port	Features
Eastern Coast	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Artificial Port Second busiest port
Western Coast	Kerala	Kochi	Sited in the Vembanad Lake Exports of spices and salts
Eastern Coast	Tamil Nadu	Ennore	India's First corporatized port



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Eastern Coast	West Bengal	Kolkata	India's only major Riverine port Situating on Hugli river Known as Diamond Harbour
Western Coast	Gujarat	Kandla	Known as Tidal Port Acknowledged as Trade Free Zone Largest port by volume of cargo handled.
Western Coast	Karnataka	Mangalore	Deals with the iron ore exports
Western Coast	Goa	Mormugao	Situating on the estuary of the river Zuari
Western Coast	Maharashtra	Mumbai Port Trust	Largest Natural Port and harbour in India The busiest port in India
Western Coast	Maharashtra	Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) also known as Nhava Sheva, Navi Mumbai	Largest Artificial Port It is the Largest Container Port in India.
Eastern Coast	Odisha	Paradip	Natural Harbor deals with the export of iron and aluminium
Eastern Coast	Tamil Nadu	Tuticorin	A major port in South India deals with the fertilizers and

			petrochemical products
Eastern Coast	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	Deepest port of India deals with the export of iron ore to Japan. Amenities for building and fixing of ships are available
Bay of Bengal	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Port Blair	The port connected to the mainland of India through ship and flight. This port is situated in between two international shipping lines namely Saudi Arabia & US Singapore.

71. Consider the following statements about the State Election Commissioner (SEC)

- As per the constitution, the state election commissioner holds office for a term of 6 years or up to he attains the age of 65 years.
- He will be appointed and removed by the governor
- His conditions of services shall be varied, once his appointment is made
- State legislature has the power to make laws for regulating all matters relating to the elections to the Panchayats

How many of the above statements are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- All four

Ans: a (Only one)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 243K of India constitution talks about the State Election Commission, however it never mentioned the term of



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office of state election commissioner as 6 years or up to he attain the age of 65 years. It is left to the governor to decide by rules.

Article 243K (2): (2) Subject to the provisions of any law made by the Legislature of a State, the conditions of service and tenure of office of the State Election Commissioner shall be such as the Governor may by rule determine

Statement 2 is incorrect: The governor of a state has the power to appoint the state election commissioner, but SEC shall be removed as like the judge of a high court, which means by a resolution passed by both houses of parliament and assent and order by the President

Article 243K(2): Provided that the State Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of a High Court and the conditions of service of the State Election Commissioner shall not be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Article 243K(2): (2) Subject to the provisions of any law made by the Legislature of a State, the conditions of service and tenure of office of the State Election Commissioner shall be such as the Governor may by rule determine: Provided that the State Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of a High Court and the conditions of service of the State Election Commissioner shall not be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.

Statement 4 is correct: Article 243K(4): (4) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Legislature of a State may, by law, make provision with respect to all matters relating to, or in connection with, elections to the Panchayats.

72. Which of the following fundamental rights are violated by the Haryana State Employment of Local Candidates Act, 2020?

1. Article 14
2. Article 15
3. Article 19
4. Article 21

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one

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

Ans: d (All four)

Statement 1 is correct: Article 14: The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India. This 75% reservation violating this equality since Article 14 never provided any exception to this equality principle, it prohibits all types of inequality

Statement 2 is correct: Article 15 (1): (1) The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them. As it is clear from this provision that the state shall not discriminate any person on the grounds of place of birth or residence.

Statement 3 is correct: Article 19(1)(g): to practise any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business. This particular act of Haryana government creating restrictions on the right of citizens to carry out their profession in any part of India.

Statement 4 is correct: In Narendra Kumar Chaudhary v. State of Haryana the Supreme court held that the Article 21 protected the Right to livelihood as an integral facet of Right to life. As this Haryana government law restricting the non-locals from getting employed in the state thereby violating their right to livelihood under Article 21 of Indian Constitution.

73. Consider the following statements about Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)

1. It is machine learning framework for generative AI
2. GANs can generate Realistic Photographs
3. It can be used in image-to-image translation
4. It can be used in Semantic-image-to-photo translation

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: d (All four)



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Statement 1 is correct: Generative modelling is an unsupervised learning task in machine learning that involves automatically discovering and learning the regularities or patterns in input data in such a way that the model can be used to generate or output new examples that plausibly could have been drawn from the original dataset.

Statement 2 is correct: Generate Realistic Photographs

GANs can generate realistic photographs of various objects and scenes, including landscapes, animals, and architecture. These rendered images can be used to augment existing image datasets or to create entirely new datasets.

Statement 3 is correct: Image-to-Image Translation
GANs can translate images from one domain to another, such as converting a photograph of a real-world scene into a line drawing or a painting. You can create new content or transform existing images in various ways

Statement 4 is correct: Semantic-Image-to-Photo Translation

GANs can translate images from a semantic representation (such as a label map or a segmentation map) into a realistic photograph. You can use it to generate synthetic data for training machine learning models or to visualize concepts more practically.

74. Consider the following statements about the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

1. UNFCCC was an outcome of the Earth Summit and based on Common But Differentiated Responsibility (CBDR)
2. Conference of Parties is the highest decision making body of UNFCCC
3. Kyoto protocol placed obligations on all countries to limit their greenhouse gas emissions
4. A suit can be filled in International Court of Justice for non-compliance to targets agreed upon under Paris agreement

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

(d) All four

Ans: b (Only two)

Statement 1 is correct: The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) established an international environmental treaty to combat "dangerous human interference with the climate system", in part by stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere based on the Common But Differentiated Responsibility (CBDR). It was signed by 154 states at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), informally known as the Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992. Its original secretariat was in Geneva but relocated to Bonn in 1996. It entered into force on 21 March 1994.

Statement 2 is correct: Its supreme decision-making body, the Conference of the Parties (COP), meets annually to assess progress in dealing with climate change. Because key signatory states are not adhering to their individual commitments, the UNFCCC has been criticized as being unsuccessful in reducing the emission of carbon dioxide since its adoption.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Kyoto Protocol operationalise the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by committing industrialized countries and economies in transition (Annex 1 countries) to limit and reduce greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions in accordance with agreed individual targets. The Convention itself only asks those countries to adopt policies and measures on mitigation and to report periodically.

The Kyoto Protocol applied to the seven greenhouse gases listed in Annex A: carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃). Nitrogen trifluoride was added for the second compliance period during the Doha Round.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Non-Compliance to the agreed targets under UNFCCC, will not challenged in International Court of Justice. Because there is a difference between self-executing and non-self-executing international agreements. A self-executing treaty immediately takes effect as law upon



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ratification and does not require new legislation. A non-self-executing treaty, on the other hand, requires the enactment of domestic legislation to give effect to its terms.

75. Consider the following provisions about the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations

1. The host nation at any time and for any reason can declare any member of a diplomatic mission as persona non grata
2. The diplomatic mission and houses of diplomats are inviolable
3. A diplomatic bag must never be opened even on suspicion of abuse
4. Diplomats have the immunity from all civil and criminal jurisdiction of the host state

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: Article 9: The host nation at any time and for any reason can declare a particular member of the diplomatic staff to be persona non grata. The sending state must recall this person within a reasonable period of time, or otherwise this person may lose their diplomatic immunity.

A person who is not wanted or welcome in a particular country, because they are unacceptable to its government. He was declared persona non grata and asked to leave the country within 48 hours. someone who is not popular or accepted by others

Statement 2 is correct: Article 22: The premises of a diplomatic mission, diplomatic premises are the houses of ambassadors and are inviolable and must not be entered by the host country except by permission of the head of the mission; likewise, the host country must never search the premises, may not seize its documents or property, and must protect the mission from intrusion or damage

Statement 3 is correct: Article 24: The archives and documents of a diplomatic mission are inviolable and shall not be seized or opened by the host government

Statement 4 is incorrect: Diplomats are immune from the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the host

state, with exceptions for professional activities outside the diplomat's official functions (Article 31). Article 32 permits sending states to waive this immunity.

76. 'Operation 1027' recently seen in news is about?

- (a) Evacuation of India's from Gaza Strip
- (b) Evacuation of India's from Ukraine
- (c) Military operation between Junta and Armed collision of Myanmar
- (d) Evacuation of India's from Sudan

Ans: c (Military Operation between Junta and Armed collision of Myanmar)

Explanation: Operation 1027 is an ongoing joint military operation conducted by the Three Brotherhood Alliance, a military coalition composed of three ethnic armed organisations in Myanmar: the Arakan Army (AA), Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA), and Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) and Military Junata which has started in October 27, 2020.

Note: Sagaing Region: It is an administrative region of Myanmar, located in the north-western part of the country between latitude 21° 30' north and longitude 94° 97' east. It is bordered by India's Nagaland, Manipur, and Arunachal Pradesh States to the north.





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77. Consider the following statements

1. Sandpiper
2. Kentish plover
3. Common Redshank
4. Dunlin

The above species are belongs to which category?

- (a) Insects
- (b) Fish
- (c) Birds
- (d) Butterflies

Ans: c (Birds)

Explanation: The Kadalundi Bird Sanctuary lies in Vallikunnu Grama Panchayat of Malappuram district in Kerala, India. It spreads over a cluster of islands where the Kadalundipuzha River flows into the Arabian Sea. The Sanctuary hill is around 200 metres (660 ft) above sea level. It is located 19 kilometres (12 mi) away from the Kozhikode city centre.

Kadalundi is a destination to large congregations of migrant species such as the lesser sand plover, greater sand plover, common sandpiper, whimbrel, Eurasian curlew, common redshank, common greenshank, Kentish plover, Terek sandpiper, dunlin, and sanderling foraging voraciously during low tide. But now the prey depletion, because of sandbanks and mangrove proliferation, is forcing them to stay away from the mudflats.

78. Consider the following pairs about the disease and their causing organism

Disease	Causing Organism
Chickenpox	Bacteria
Shingles	Virus
Sickle cell anaemia	Virus
Tuberculosis	Genetic in nature

How many pairs are correctly matched?

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

Ans: a (Only one)

Pair 1 is correctly matched: A highly **contagious viral infection** which causes an itchy, blister-like rash on the skin. Chickenpox is highly contagious to those who haven't had the disease or been vaccinated against it. The most characteristic symptom is an

itchy, blister-like rash on the skin. Chickenpox can be prevented by a vaccine. Treatment usually involves relieving symptoms, although high-risk groups may receive antiviral medication.

Vaccine: Varicella vaccine, also known as chickenpox vaccine, is a vaccine that protects against chickenpox.

Pair 2 is correctly matched: Shingles is caused by the **varicella-zoster virus**, the same virus that causes chickenpox. After you've had chickenpox, the virus stays in your body for the rest of your life. Years later, the virus may reactivate as shingles. Shingles isn't life-threatening. But it can be very painful.

A zoster vaccine is a vaccine that reduces the incidence of herpes zoster, a disease caused by reactivation of the varicella zoster virus,

Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: Sickle cell anemia is one of a group of **inherited disorders** (Genetic) known as sickle cell disease. It affects the shape of red blood cells, which carry oxygen to all parts of the body. Red blood cells are usually round and flexible, so they move easily through blood vessels.

Pair 4 is incorrectly matched: Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease that most often affects the lungs and is caused by a **type of bacteria**. It spreads through the air when infected people cough, sneeze or spit. Tuberculosis is preventable and curable. About a quarter of the global population is estimated to have been infected with TB bacteria.

India already administers BCG vaccine to infants below a year old. However there is no vaccination for adults at the moment. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is conducting a Phase 3 clinical trial of the BCG vaccine on 12,000 participants of age on or below six years

79. Consider the following statements about the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

1. It passes through the Pakistan Occupied Kashmir which is a part of One Belt One Road initiative
2. 'Silk Road Fund' was created to fund this investment
3. Through CPEC Chinese firms can reap 91% profit and Pakistan government just 9% of profits



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4. CPEC infringes on India's sovereignty and territorial integrity

How many statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: d (All four)

Statement 1 is correct: India has opposed CPEC as most of its projects run through areas in Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir (PoK). Cutting through Gilgit-Baltistan, CPEC projects link Balochistan to China's Xinjiang region. New Delhi has always maintained that PoK was an integral part of India and has been illegally occupied by Pakistan since 1947.

Statement 2 is correct: CPEC was formally launched in 2015 during Chinese President Xi Jinping's two-day state visit to Pakistan. Signing over 50 projects worth \$45 billion, China set up the 'Silk Road Fund' to invest in CPEC projects planned till 2030. The main objective was establishing the corridor connecting Pakistan's Gwadar port in Balochistan to China's Kashgar in south-western Xinjiang region.

Statement 3 is correct: Opposition from locals & militants: The biggest thorn in CPEC's side is the intense protests by locals in Balochistan against the Gwadar port city project. Land acquisition by the China Overseas Ports Holding Company for the port project, which spans 2,90,000 acres, has been difficult in the face of stiff opposition by the local residents. Fearing loss of local livelihoods such as fishing, and resisting the use of unskilled Chinese labour instead of Pakistani locals, Baloch residents have refused to sell land to the Chinese for building the port. Moreover, Gwadar port has been leased to the China Overseas Ports Holding Company by Pakistan government, with Beijing reaping 91% of the profits while Islamabad gains only 9%. This has also led to rise in anti-China sentiments among Baloch locals.

Statement 4 is correct: India's opposition to CPEC: Since its inception, India has opposed CPEC as most of its projects run through areas in Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir (PoK). Cutting through Gilgit-Baltistan, CPEC projects link Balochistan to China's Xinjiang region. New Delhi has always maintained

that PoK was an integral part of India and has been illegally occupied by Pakistan since 1947.

Moreover, since the Taliban took over power in Afghanistan, they have expressed an interest in joining CPEC — a bid to tap into the mineral-rich Balochistan and also strengthen its ally TTP. India has vehemently opposed this move, stating that "a proposed participation of third countries in so called CPEC projects directly infringes on India's sovereignty and territorial integrity."

80. Consider the following statements about the Geographical Indication (GI) Tags

- 1. GI tags in India are handled by Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade
- 2. GI tags are covered as industrial property under the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property
- 3. Gucci Mushroom from Jammu and Kashmir received GI tag
- 4. Onattukara Sesame, the GI tagged product is from Tamil Nadu

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: GI tags are issued as per the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999. This tag is issued by the Geographical Indication Registry under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Statement 2 is correct: It is covered as an element of Intellectual Property Rights under the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. The Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, signed in Paris, France, on 20 March 1883, was one of the first intellectual property treaties. It established a Union for the protection of industrial property. The convention is still in force in 2023. The substantive provisions of the Convention fall into three main categories: national treatment, priority right and common rules



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National Treatment: When any person from member country files an application for a patent or a trademark in a foreign country member of the Union, the application receives the same treatment as if it came from a national of this foreign country. Furthermore, if the intellectual property right is granted (e.g. if the applicant becomes owners of a patent or of a registered trademark), the owner benefits from the same protections and the same legal remedy against any infringement as if the owner was a national owner of this right.

Priority rights: It provides that an applicant from one contracting State shall be able to use its first filing date (in one of the contracting States) as the effective filing date in another contracting State, provided that the applicant, or the applicant's successor in title, files a subsequent application within 6 months (for industrial designs and trademarks) or 12 months (for patents and utility models) from the first filing.

Statement 3 is correct: The Gujchi mushrooms from Jammu received the GI tag. Primarily found in the foothills of the Himalayas, they are among the costliest mushrooms in the world with their price ranging between Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000 per kg. Considered a super food that is rich in vitamins, the wild mushrooms have a spongy texture and a savoury flavour.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Onattukara Sesame, the GI tagged product is from Kerala not from Tamil Nadu. Compared to other places, sesame grown in the region contains high levels of Vitamin E and antioxidants. It also contains oleic acid, linoleic acid, palmitoleic acid and so on which help maintain good health. Oleic acid might improve heart conditions by lowering cholesterol and reducing inflammation.

81. Consider the following statements about Lachit Borphukan

1. He defeated the Mughal Forces led by Ramsingh I in the Battle of Itakhuli
2. His niece, Ramani Gabharu was sent to Mughal harem as part of Treaty of Ghilajharighat
3. Battle of Saraighat was the last major attempt by Mughals to extend their empire to Assam

4. Through Battle of Itakhuli, Ahoms recovered Kamarup from the Mughals

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Lachit Borphukan was an Ahom Borphukan, primarily known for commanding the Ahom Army and the victory in the Battle of Saraighat (1671) that thwarted an invasion by the vastly superior Mughal Forces under the command of Ramsingh I. He died about a year later in April 1672.

Statement 2 is correct: His sister was Pakhari Gabhoru, a queen to the Ahom kings Jayadhwaj Singha, Chakradhwaj Singha and Samaguria Raja, and his niece was Ramani Gabharu, the Ahom princess who was given to the Mughals as part of the Treaty of Ghilajharighat.

Treaty of Ghilajharighat is the major reason behind the Battle of Saraighat. This treaty brought occupation of Ahom capital Garhgaon by Mir Jumla to an end.

Statement 3 is correct: The Battle of Saraighat was a naval battle fought in 1671 between the Mughal Empire led by the Ram Singh I, and the Ahom Kingdom led by Lachit Borphukan on the Brahmaputra river at Saraighat, now in Guwahati, Assam, India. The Ahoms, smarting from the occupation of the capital by Mir Jumla and the harsh conditions of Treaty of Ghilajharighat, decided to lure a Mughal imperial force to Saraighat and take a stand there. Although weaker, the Ahom Army defeated the Mughal Army by massive army, clever diplomatic negotiations to buy time, guerrilla tactics, psychological warfare, military intelligence and by exploiting the weakness of the Mughal forces—its navy.

The Battle of Saraighat was the last battle in the last major attempt by the Mughals to extend their empire into Assam. Though the Mughals managed to regain Guwahati briefly later after a Borphukan deserted it, the Ahoms wrested control in the Battle of Itakhuli in 1682 and maintained it till the end of their rule.



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Statement 4 is correct: The Battle of Itakhuli was fought in 1682 between the Ahom Kingdom and the Mughal Empire. The Ahoms pushed back Mughal control to the west of the Manas River. With this win, the Ahoms recovered Sarkar Kamarup from the Mughals.

82. Consider the following statements about International Film Festival of India (IFFI)

1. The festival is conducted by the National Film Development Corporation of India
2. The objective is to understand the social, cultural ethos and promoting friendship and cooperation among the people of the world
3. Golden Peacock Award is the highest award provided by the IFFI

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: d (1, 2 and 3)

Statement 1 is correct: The International Film Festival of India is conducted jointly by the National Film Development Corporation of India (under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting) and the state Government of Goa.

Statement 2 is correct: The festival aims at providing a common platform for the cinemas of the world to project the excellence of the film art; contributing to the understanding and appreciation of film cultures of different nations in the context of their social and cultural ethos, and promoting friendship and cooperation among people of the world.

Statement 3 is correct: Golden Peacock Award is the main prize given by IFFI under Best Feature Film award

Special Award

- ICFT UNESCO Gandhi Medal
- Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award
- Indian Film Personality of the Year Award

83. 'Freemartins' recently seen in news refers to?

- (a) Sterile Female Cattle
- (b) Sterile Female Cheetahs

(c) Sterile Female Elephants

(d) Sterile Female Goats

Ans: a (Sterile Female Cattle)

Explanation: Freemartins are sterile female cattle that result from the twinning of a male and a female within the same uterus. This phenomenon occurs in approximately 90% of such twin pregnancies in cattle. The key reason is the exchange of blood between the male and the female fetuses during gestation.

Genetically, freemartinism is attributed to the sharing of cells carrying the Y chromosome from the male twin with the female twin. This chromosome triggers the development of male reproductive organs in the male foetus, while the female foetus, affected by the presence of male hormones, experiences incomplete development of its reproductive system. The end result is that the freemartin has an underdeveloped or non-functional reproductive tract.

Livestock provides livelihood to two-third of rural community. It also provides employment to about 8.8 % of the population in India. India has vast livestock resources. Livestock sector contributes 4.11% GDP and 25.6% of total Agriculture GDP.

84. Consider the following statements about the Education in India

1. Article 21A, 39, 45 and 51A of Indian constitution talks about the education to children
2. 86th constitutional Amendment Act introduced the 'Right to Education' as a fundamental right under Article 21A
3. Accessible India Campaign has the objective of achieving universal education
4. Sustainable Development Goal 3 talks about the Quality Education

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: Article 21A, 39, 45 and 51A of Indian constitution talks about the education to children.



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Article 21A: The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine.

Article 39(f): (f) that children are given opportunities and facilities to develop in a healthy manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity and that childhood and youth are protected against exploitation and against moral and material abandonment.

Article 45: Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years

Article 51A: (k) who is a parent or guardian to provide opportunities for education to his child or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six and fourteen years.

Statement 2 is correct: The 86th Amendment act was initiated in order to provide children a fundamental right to free and compulsory education as well as emphasizing on children's rights with regards to adequate schooling within close proximity.

Statement 3 is correct: Accessible India Campaign or Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan is a program which is set to be launched to serve the differently-able community of the country and with the goal of achieving universal accessibility for all children and creating an environment free of barriers. The program comes with an index to measure the design of disabled-friendly buildings and human resource policies. The flagship program has been launched by the Prime Minister on 3 December 2015, the International Day of people with Disabilities.

Statement 4 is incorrect: SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being and SDG 4: Quality Education

85. Consider the following statements about the Tax-Deferred Investment

1. On Tax-Deferred Investments, tax will not be levied by the government
2. Interests, dividends and capital gains are examples for tax-deferred investments

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: b (Only 2)

Option 1 is incorrect: With a tax-deferred investment, you pay federal income taxes when you withdraw money from your investment, instead of paying taxes up front. Any earnings your contributions produce while invested are also tax deferred.

An investor benefits from the tax-free growth of earnings with tax-deferred investments. The tax savings can be substantial for investments held until retirement when the retiree will likely be in a lower tax bracket and no longer be subject to premature tax and product withdrawal penalties.

Investing in qualified products such as IRAs allows participants to claim some or all of their contributions as a deduction on their tax returns. The benefit of declaring deductions in current years and incurring lower taxation in later years makes tax-deferred investments attractive.

Option 2 is correct: Some common examples of tax-deferred investments include individual retirement accounts (IRAs) and deferred annuities. Interest, dividends, and capital gains are earnings that can be considered tax-deferred earnings

86. Consider the following statements about the Graded Response Action Plans (GRAP) implemented to combat Delhi Air Pollution.

1. Severe + (or) Emergency measures are implemented when PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ concentration exceeds 500 ug/m³ for 48 hours
2. Severe condition is declared when PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ values are more than 250ug/m³ and 430ug/m³
3. Very poor condition is declared when PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ values are in between 200-250ug/m³ and 351-430ug/m³
4. Poor conditions is imposed when PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ values are in between 61-120ug/m³ and 101-350ug/m³

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)



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Statement 1 is correct: Severe + or Emergency (ambient PM_{2.5} or PM₁₀ concentration values of 300 µg/m³ or 500 µg/m³ respectively persist for 48 hours or more)

Central Pollution control board designed these measures. However these are implemented by various departments based on pollutant levels.

- ❖ Stop entry of truck traffic into Delhi (except essential commodities)
- ❖ Stop construction activities
- ❖ Implemented odd and even formula

Statement 2 is correct: Severe (ambient PM_{2.5} or PM₁₀ concentration value is more than 250 µg/m³ or 430 µg/m³ respectively)

- ❖ Close brick kilns, stone crushers, Hot mix plants
- ❖ Shut down Badarpur power plant
- ❖ Different charges on peak hours

Statement 3 is incorrect: Very Poor (ambient PM_{2.5} or PM₁₀ concentration value is between 121-250 µg/m³ or 351-430 µg/m³ respectively)

- ❖ Stop using diesel generators
- ❖ Increase parking fee by 3-4 times
- ❖ Increase bus and metro services
- ❖ Stop using coal and firewood in hotels etc

Statement 4 is correct: Moderate to poor (ambient PM_{2.5} or PM₁₀ concentration value is between 61-120 µg/m³ or 101-350 µg/m³ respectively)

- ❖ Stop garbage burning
- ❖ Strict enforcement of pollution control measures

87. Which of the pollutants are considered to calculate Air Quality Index (AQI) in India?

1. PM 10
2. Carbon dioxide
3. Sulphur dioxide
4. Methane

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: b (Only two)

Explanation: SAFAR is an air quality monitoring system. It was introduced by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) to provide location specific information on air quality in near real time and its forecast upto 3 days in India. It is developed by Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, along with India Meteorological Department (IMD) and National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF). The objective is to increase awareness among the general public regarding the air quality changes in their city well in advance so that appropriate mitigation measures and systematic action can be taken up for betterment of air quality and related health issues.

AQI is calculated based on the average concentration of a particular pollutant measured over a standard time interval (24 hours for most pollutants, 8 hours for carbon monoxide and ozone). Eight individual pollutants are monitored for the calculation of AQI in India. These are PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, ground-level ozone, ammonia, and lead. To calculate AQI, data for a minimum of three pollutants must be present, of which one should be either PM₁₀ or PM_{2.5}.

88. 'Marshal Plan' initiated by USA after World War II was about?

- (a) Economic recovery programme for Japan
- (b) Economic recovery programme for Europe
- (c) Economic recovery programme for Vietnam
- (d) Economic recovery programme for America

Ans: b (Economic recovery programme for Europe)

Explanation: The Marshall Plan (officially the European Recovery Program, ERP) was an American initiative enacted in 1948 to provide foreign aid to Western Europe. The United States transferred \$13.3 billion (equivalent to \$173 billion in 2023) in economic recovery programs to Western European economies after the end of World War II. The goals of the United States were to rebuild war-torn regions, remove trade barriers, modernize industry, improve European prosperity and prevent the spread of communism. The Marshall Plan proposed the reduction of interstate barriers and the economic integration of the European Continent while also



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encouraging an increase in productivity as well as the adoption of modern business procedures

89. What is Just-in-Time strategy (JIT) in an economy?

- (a) To employ labour as per the demand
- (b) To change production as per the demand
- (c) To maintain raw materials as per the production schedule
- (d) To maintain flexible pricing mechanisms as per the demand

Ans: c (To maintain raw materials as per the production schedule)

Explanation: The just-in-time (JIT) inventory system is a management strategy that aligns raw-material orders from suppliers directly with production schedules. Companies employ this inventory strategy to increase efficiency and decrease waste by receiving goods only as they need them for the production process, which reduces inventory costs. This method requires producers to forecast demand accurately.

90. What is Keynesian Economic Revolution?

- (a) A free market will automatically provide full employment
- (b) The capital economy will provide more economic growth
- (c) Aggregate demand is the driving force in an economy
- (d) Socialisation of means of production will promote economic growth

Ans: c (Aggregate demand is the driving force in an economy)

Explanation: British economist John Maynard Keynes spearheaded a revolution in economic thinking that overturned the then-prevailing idea that free markets would automatically provide full employment—that is, that everyone who wanted a job would have one as long as workers were flexible in their wage demands. The main plank of Keynes's theory, which has come to bear his name, is the assertion that aggregate demand—measured as the sum of spending by households, businesses, and the government—is the most important driving force in an economy. Keynes further asserted that free

markets have no self-balancing mechanisms that lead to full employment. Keynesian economists justify government intervention through public policies that aim to achieve full employment and price stability.

91. Consider the following statements about National Career Services Portal (NCS)

- 1. NCS Portal was developed and maintained by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- 2. It bridges the gap between the Job seekers and job providers
- 3. It provides skill development courses, placements and career counselling
- 4. It also provides employment opportunities in international markets

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is incorrect: NCP Portal was developed and maintained by Ministry of Labour and employment

Statement 2 is correct: National Career Service (NCS) aims to bridge the gap between those who need jobs and those who want to hire them, between people seeking career guidance and training and those who can provide the counselling and training. NCS brings jobseekers, employers, counselors, trainers and placement organisations together on one platform by offering convergence of information that enlightens minds and empowers people.

Statement 3 is correct: Major services provided under this portal includes

- ✓ Enabling Skill Development
- ✓ Job fairs and Placements
- ✓ Career counselling and guidance

Statement 4 is correct: NCS portal also had a feature to search for jobs in international markets or economies.

92. Consider the following statements about Global Stocktake



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1. Global Stocktake was established under the Article 15 of the Paris agreement
2. One of the objective is to building resilience to climate impacts
3. It is intended to evaluate the progress on climate action on regional level

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: b (1 and 3 only)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Established under Article 14 of the Paris Agreement, the Global Stocktake is designed “to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals.

Statement 2 is correct: Those goals include cutting greenhouse gas emissions to limit global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees C (3.6 degrees F) and ideally 1.5 degrees C (2.7 degrees F); building resilience to climate impacts; and aligning financial support with the scale and scope needed to tackle the climate crisis.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Global Stocktake is intended to evaluate progress on climate action at the global level — not the national level — and identify overall gaps to achieve the Paris Agreement as well as opportunities to bridge them.

93. Consider the following countries with which India had Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)

1. United Kingdom
2. Australia
3. Japan
4. Singapore

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: b (Only two)

Explanation: India is actively negotiating Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs)/Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)/ **Comprehensive Economic Cooperation**

Agreement (CECA) with the following countries/regions:

- ✓ Australia
- ✓ Canada
- ✓ Israel
- ✓ United Kingdom
- ✓ EU
- ✓ Eurasian Economic Union
- ✓ South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Namibia

India had already signed the CECA with the following countries

- ✓ Singapore
- ✓ Japan
- ✓ South Korea
- ✓ ASEAN
- ✓ Mauritius

94. Consider the following statements about the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA)

1. Central government can designate any individual as terrorist under this act
2. Officers above the rank of Deputy Superintendent and above rank of NIA are allowed to investigate cases
3. Tamil Nadu Liberation Army (TNLA) is designated as terrorist organisation under UAPA
4. Crimes committed against the International convention against the Taking of Hostages are included under UAPA

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: Who may commit terrorism: Under the Act, the central government may designate an organisation as a terrorist organisation if it: (i) commits or participates in acts of terrorism, (ii) prepares for terrorism, (iii) promotes terrorism, or (iv) is otherwise involved in terrorism. The Bill additionally empowers the government to designate individuals as terrorists on the same grounds.



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Statement 2 is incorrect: Investigation by NIA: Under the Act, investigation of cases may be conducted by officers of the rank of Deputy Superintendent or Assistant Commissioner of Police or above. The Bill additionally empowers the officers of the NIA, of the rank of Inspector or above, to investigate cases.

Statement 3 is correct: In the first schedule of this act, list of organisations which are designated as terrorist organisation are included. Tamil Nadu Liberation Army (TNLA) and many more including Sikhs for Justice was also included

Statement 4 is correct: Insertion to schedule of treaties: The Act defines terrorist acts to include acts committed within the scope of any of the treaties listed in a schedule to the Act. The Schedule lists nine treaties, including the Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (1997), and the Convention against Taking of Hostages (1979). The Bill adds another treaty to the list. This is the International Convention for Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (2005)

95. Which of the following United Nations Organisation released the report titled “Broken Record”

- (a) United Nations Environment Programme
- (b) United Nations Development Programme
- (c) United Nations Socio Economic Council
- (d) United Nations Security Council

Ans: a (United Nations Environment Programme)

Explanation: This fourteenth Emissions Gap Report titled as “Broken Records” is published ahead of the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework on Climate Change (COP 28). It provides an annual, independent science-based assessment of the gap between the pledged greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions and the reductions required to align with the long-term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement, as well as opportunities to bridge this gap. COP 28 marks the conclusion of the first global stocktake under the Paris Agreement, held every five years to assess the global response to the climate crisis and chart a better way forward. This closely mirrors the objective of the Emissions Gap Report, and the report aims to provide

findings relevant to the concluding discussions under the global stocktake.

96. Consider the following countries with which Japan has Reciprocal Access Agreements (RAA)

- 1. India
- 2. Australia
- 3. USA
- 4. United Kingdom

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: b (Only two)

Explanation: A Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA) (Force-to-force Cooperation Facilitation Agreement) refers to a bilateral defence and security pacts between Japan and governments that provides shared military training and military operations. It is an agreement built to create a framework for the two cooperating countries to move their military force whenever required, and also provides a pathway for goods to be imported and exported from one country to the other through following the movement of visiting military forces.

RAAs have been established between Japan and Australia, as well as Japan and the United Kingdom. For Australia, the signing of a reciprocal access agreement has later been used to further strengthen ties with other countries like India and the United States, and to also renew old pacts like the **Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation (JDSC)**.

97. Consider the following pairs about the Military exercises between India and other countries

Exercise Name	Between
Ekuverin	India-Maldives
Corpat	India-Thailand
Dharma Guardian	India-Japan
Indra	India-France

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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



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Ans: c (Only three)

Pair 1 is correctly matched: Ekuverin exercise is a joint military exercise held between the two neighbouring nations- India and Maldives. It has been in place since 2009. The year 2021 marked the 11th Edition of Ekuverin.

Pair 2 is correctly matched: The 4th edition of Bilateral Exercise between Indian Navy and Bangladesh Navy, BONGOSAGAR-23, and the 5th edition of Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) by the two navies was conducted in the Northern Bay of Bengal from 07 - 09 Nov 2023.

Pair 3 is correctly matched: The 4th edition of joint military exercise, "EX DHARMA GUARDIAN", between India and Japan is being conducted at Camp Imazu in Shiga province, Japan from 17 February to 02 March 2023. Notably, in the series of military training exercises undertaken by India with various countries, Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN which is an annual training event with Japan, is crucial and significant in terms of security challenges faced by both nations in the backdrop of current global situation. The scope of this exercise covers platoon level joint training on operations in jungle and semi urban/urban terrain.

Pair 4 is incorrectly matched: It is joint tri-service exercise between India and Russia. They jointly plan and conduct counter terrorism operations

98. Consider the following statements about the Asia-Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC)

1. It is government to government collaboration between India and Japan and some African countries
2. Its major objectives is to develop quality infrastructure along with digital connectivity with a view to creating free and open Indo-Pacific Region
3. The major areas of cooperation includes Education, Health care, Cyber Security and Space cooperation
4. Under AAGC the ports of Mombasa, Zanzibar will be connected to ports near Madurai

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

(c) Only three

(d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: The Asia-Africa Growth Corridor or AAGC is an economic cooperation agreement between the governments of India, Japan and multiple African countries. India on 25 May 2017 launched a vision document for Asia-Africa Growth Corridor or AAGC at the African Development Bank meeting in Gujarat.

Statement 2 is correct: It aims for Indo-Japanese collaboration to develop quality infrastructure in Africa, complemented by digital connectivity, which would undertake the realization of the idea of creating free and open Indo-Pacific Region.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The AAGC will give priority to development projects in health and pharmaceuticals, agriculture and agro-processing, disaster management and skill enhancement. The connectivity aspects of the AAGC will be supplemented with quality infrastructure. Cyber security and Space cooperation are not included under this AAGC

Statement 4 is correct: AAGC will essentially be a sea corridor linking Africa with India and other countries of South-East Asia and Oceania by reviving ancient sea-routes and creating new sea corridors that will link ports in Jamnagar (Gujarat) with Djibouti in the Gulf of Aden and similarly the ports of Mombasa and Zanzibar will be connected to ports near Madurai; Kolkata will be linked to Sittwe port in Myanmar.

99. Consider the following statements about Indian Coast Guard

1. It was setup in 1977 as the statutory body that operates under the Ministry of Home Affairs
2. Its jurisdiction also extends to exclusive economic zone and international waters
3. Its function includes protection of marine ecology and environment including pollution control
4. Protection and safety of artificial island and offshore terminals

How many of the above statements are correct?

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



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(c) Only three

(d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) is a maritime law enforcement and search and rescue agency of India with jurisdiction over its territorial waters including its contiguous zone and exclusive economic zone. It was formally established on 1 February 1977 by the Coast Guard Act, 1978 of the Parliament of India. It operates under the Ministry of Defence.

Statement 2 is correct: One of its functions is to law enforcement in territorial and international waters

Statements 3 & 4 are correct:

- Safety and protection of artificial islands, offshore terminals and other installations
- Protection and assistance to fishermen and mariners at sea
- Preservation and protection of marine ecology and environment including pollution control
- Assistance to the Department of Customs and other authorities in anti-smuggling operations
- Law enforcement in territorial as well as international waters
- Scientific data collection and support
- National defence during hostilities (under the operational control of the Indian Navy)

100. Consider the following statements about the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

1. Member countries of OECD were officially committed to democracy and market economy
2. Initially it was setup as Organisation for European Economic Cooperation to administer Marshal plan
3. Decision will be taken through voting which requires unanimity among all members
4. India is member of OECD

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) Only three

(d) All four

Ans: c (Only three)

Statement 1 is correct: The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development is an intergovernmental organisation with 38 member countries, founded in 1961 to stimulate economic progress and world trade. It is a forum whose member countries describe themselves as committed to democracy and the market economy, providing a platform to compare policy experiences, seek answers to common problems, identify good practices, and coordinate domestic and international policies of its members.

Statement 2 is correct: The Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) was formed in 1948 to administer American and Canadian aid in the framework of the Marshall Plan for the reconstruction of Europe after World War II. Similar reconstruction aid was sent to the war-torn Republic of China and post-war Korea, under the title of Official Development Assistance (ODA), provided by the OEEC's Development Assistance Committee (DAC), which the Republic of Korea joined in 2010.

Statement 3 is correct: OECD decisions are made through voting, which requires unanimity among all of those voting. However, dissenting members which do not wish to block a decision but merely to signal their disapproval can abstain from voting

Statement 4 is incorrect: India is not a member of OECD