

**Q.1) Consider the following statements with reference to the Third battle of Panipat**

1. It was fought between Nadir Shah and the Marathas
2. Nadir Shah's troops were defeated by the Marathas

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 or 2

**Q.1) Solution (d)**

The Third Battle of Panipat fought on January 14, 1761 between the Marathas and forces of the Afghan ruler Ahmad Shah Abdali and his allies.

The battle started in the wee hours on January 14, 1761. Towards the start of the battle the Marathas pushed back the Rohillas, who were on the Afghan side. But the tide of the battle soon turned against the Marathas and by the end of the day they were killed, taken prisoner or fled.

Marathas lacked effective leadership and did not possess enough experience with the guns. They relied heavily on the Cavalry. This battle crushed the Maratha dream of ruling over the whole of India.

**Q.2) Consider the following statements with reference to the Battle of Karnal**

1. It was fought between the Mughals and the Marathas in 1739
2. It was fought between armies of Nadir Shah and the Mughals
3. It was fought between the armies of Ahmad Shah Abdali and the Marathas
4. The Mughal emperor agreed to pay 50 lakhs as war indemnity.

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

- a) 1 and 4 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 3 and 4 only
- d) None of the above

**Q.2) Solution (b)**

The Battle of Karnal was fought between the armies of Nader Shah and Mughal Emperor Muhammad Shah. In spite of having a large army, Muhammad Shah was defeated in the battle. The incident took place on 24th February, 1739 near Karnal, Haryana, India.

Nizam-ul-Mulk, Saadat Khan, Qamaruddin and Khan-i-Dauran accompanied by the emperor himself advance as far as Karnal where they encamped.

Despite opposition by others, Saadar Khan led a premature attack without adequate preparations. Khan Dauran rode forth in his support. Thereupon the emperor and the rest of the Indian army also got ready for an attack. But it had neither a plan of action nor an agreed leader.

An experienced and gifted general like Nadir Shah, therefore, took no time in wasting it. The battle of Karnal lasted only for three hours. Saadat Khan fell a prisoner while Khan Dauran was mortally wounded and soon died.

**Q.3) Consider the following statements about the Tagai Loans**

1. These were low interest loans granted by Mughal king to the artisans
2. These were the low interest loans given by the Marathas to the farmers
3. The aim of the loans was to protect the cultivators from the money lenders

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above.

**Q.3) Solution (b)**

Agricultural taxes were the main source of revenue for the Maratha administration, as such they took various measures to expand and promote agriculture.

Waste or barren land that was brought into cultivation was given to the cultivator as the *Inam land*, and Tagai loans were given to the farmers, these were the low interest loans given by the state to the cultivators, the primary aim was to protect the farmers from the clutches of the moneylenders.

**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding Chauth and Sardeshmukhi**

1. This system of taxation was started by Shivaji
2. It was levied in the Swarajya land or Mulk-i-Qadim

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 or 2

**Q.4) Solution (a)**

Chauth and Sardeshmukhi were the taxes levied on the lands that were outside the Swarajya (own kingdom) land, these were levied on the lands in Mughal empire and Deccan kingdom surrounding the Maratha kingdom. The Chauth was  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the tax on taxes given to the Mughal Emperor and Sardeshmukhi was additional 10% on the Chauth.

This system of taxation was started by Shivaji as system of protection against Maratha raids on these lands.

**Q.5) Consider the following statements with reference to the Third Carnatic War**

1. It was an extension of Seven Year's War being fought in Europe
2. French lost Pondicherry in the battle to the British
3. The war ended with signing of the Treaty of Aix- la Chapelle

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above.

**Q.5) Solution (a)**

In 1756 there broke out Seven Years War in Europe and before long the two nations began to fight in India also. In India it was considered the Third Carnatic War. The French government sent a powerful army under the command of Count de Lally. He was forced to

retire to Pondicherry and was defeated by Sir Eyre Coote in the battle of Wandiwash in 1760.

The French lost the possession to the British and also other territories. The war came to an end with the Signing of the Treaty of Paris. The acquired territories of both the sides were restored, but the French lost their influence in India for ever.

**Q.6) consider the following statements with reference to the Royal Firman of 1765**

1. It was issued by the Mughal Emperor Akbar II
2. It conferred upon the Company Diwani rights in Bihar, Orissa and Bengal

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 or 2

**Q.6) Solution (b)**

The royal Firman of 1765 was issued by the King Shah Alam II. He did this after his defeat in the Battle of Buxar of 1764.

As per this firman, the Company acquired the Diwani rights (Revenue Collection Rights) in Bihar, Bengal and Orissa. This Firman led to the infamous Dual system of Government of Robert Clive. Under this the Company was to have Diwani rights and the Nizami rights (Justice and law and order) were to remain with the Indians.

**Q.7) Which of the Following was the reason for the Kol Uprising of 1831?**

- a) It was an uprising against the British for grabbing of Tribal lands
- b) It was an uprising against the Marwari money lenders
- c) It was an uprising against the transfer of tribal lands to outsiders
- d) None of the above

**Q.7) Solution (c)**

Kol Uprising of 1831 was a reaction to the land diversion to the outsiders especially the Sikhs and the Muslims. The insurgents adopted most cruel means and spared no one. They torched houses and killed the enemies. Only carpenters and blacksmiths were spared since they made weapons and other useful goods for them. After two years of intense resistance they lost to modern weapons of the British. Thousands of tribal men, women and children were killed and the rebellion was suppressed.

**Q.8) Consider the following statements with reference to the Third Anglo-Mysore War**

1. It was fought between the Tippu Sultan, Marathas and Nizam on one side and the British on the other
2. The attack on Travancore by Tippu became the immediate cause of the war
3. The war ended with the signing of the Treaty of Mangalore

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) None of the above

**Q.8) Solution (c)**

The Third Anglo-Mysore war was fought between the troops of Tippu Sultan on one side and the Combined armies of the Marathas, The British and the Nawab on the other.

Tippu's campaign against the Raja of Travancore became the immediate cause for the war, and the British quickly took the Raja's side.

Tippu was defeated and the war ended with the Signing of Treaty of Srirangapatna. The terms of the treaty laid the seeds of Fourth Anglo-Mysore War

**Q.9) Arrange the following events in correct chronological order**

1. First Carnatic War
2. Second Anglo-Sikh War
3. Third Anglo-Maratha war
4. Fourth Anglo Mysore War

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below

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

**Q.9) Solution (d)**

The First Carnatic War (1746–1748): Fought between the French and the British. The first of the 3 war fought between the French and the British.

The Fourth Anglo–Mysore War (1798–1799): Fought between the British troops and the army of Tippu Sultan

The Third Anglo-Maratha War (1817–1818): Fought between the British and the Marathas, led to decisive defeat of the Marathas.

The Second Anglo Sikh war (1848-49): It resulted in the subjugation of the Sikh Empire, and the annexation of the Punjab and what subsequently became the North-West Frontier Province, by the East India Company.

**Q.10) Which of the Following states was not annexed through the Doctrine of Lapse Policy**

- a) Satara
- b) Udaipur
- c) Awadh
- d) Nagpur

**Q.10) Solution (c)**

Awadh (1856) was annexed on the pretext of Mis-governance/ Misrule by the Nawab, while the rest of the above states were annexed under the policy of Doctrine of Lapse devised by Lord Dalhousie.

Satara (1848), Udaipur (1850), Jhansi (1853), Nagpur (1854).

**Q.11) Consider the following statements with reference to the Madras labour Union**

1. It was one of the first trade union to be organized on modern lines
2. B. P. Wadia was the first president of MLU

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 or 2

**Q.11) Solution (c)**

Madras Labour Union was started by B. P. Wadia along with V. Kalyanasundaram Mudaliar, It was started in Madras in 1918, and was one of the first Labour unions to be organized on the modern lines. Since then a large number of unions sprang up in almost all the industrial centres of the country.

**Q.12) The Durand commission to demarcate boundary between India and Afghanistan was setup by**

- a) Lord Lytton
- b) Lord Lansdowne
- c) Lord Curzon
- d) Lord Dufferin

**Q.12) Solution (b)**

Durand Commission (1893) was formed during the term of Lord Lansdowne, his term is also associated with the passing of second factory Act and the passing of Indian Councils Act 1892.

The Durand line was to Demarcate India and Afghanistan (Present Pakistan and Afghanistan).

**Q.13) Consider the following statements with reference to the annexation of Kingdom of Mysore**

1. It was annexed by Wellesley under the policy of Subsidiary Alliance.



2. It was restored to the King of Mysore in 1881

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

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 or 2

**Q.13) Solution (b)**

Mysore was annexed by the Governor General William Bentinck on the grounds of mal-administration in 1831. It was under the British rule for 50 years. It was handed over to King Chamaraja Wodeyar by the British in 1881.

**Q.14) Consider the following statements with reference to the office of Law Member**

1. It was created under the provisions of Charter Act of 1833
2. He was added as the fourth member of the Executive Council of the Governor General
3. Macaulay was appointed as the first Law Member

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Q.14) Solution (b)**

The Office of the Law member was created by the Charter Act of 1833. The act expanded the Executive Council of the Governor general by adding the Fourth member. He was to aid the Governor general in the framing of the laws. Macaulay became the first law member. The Law member was not entitled to Vote in the Executive council but was permitted to sit in the proceedings.



**Q.15) Consider the following statements with reference to the provisions of the Rajagopalachari formula**

1. A plebiscite was to be held in North-west and North-East regions to decide on separation
2. Congress and the Muslim League were to have equal representation in the Central Legislature
3. The Muslim League will help Congress in forming the Provisional government for the transitional period

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Q.15) Solution (c)**

The details of the C.R. Formula were as follows:

1. The Muslim league endorsing the congress' demand for full independence and cooperating with it in forming an interim government in the transition period.
2. A plebiscite was to be held in NWFP and NEFP where the people were to decide whether to join which state
3. In the event of separation, agreements would be made for defense, communication and other purposes.
4. The terms would be binding only in case of transfer by Britain of full power and responsibility for full governance of India.

Equal representation of Congress and the Muslim League was part of the Liaqat-Desai Pact. This had far reaching consequences for the country.

**Q.16) INS Khanderi is a**

- a) Scorpene class submarine
- b) Frigate
- c) Aircraft carrier
- d) Torpedo launch vehicle

**Q.16) Solution (a)**

INS Khanderi, second of the Scorpene class submarine, was launched in Mumbai.

INS Khanderi is designed to operate in all theatres, including the tropics. All means and communications are provided to ensure interoperability with other components of a Naval Task Force.

It includes superior stealth and the ability to launch a crippling attack on the enemy using precision guided weapons. The stealth features are expected to give the submarine an invulnerability, unmatched by many submarines.

INS Khanderi can undertake diverse types of missions including anti-surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare, intelligence gathering, mine laying, area surveillance and others. The features of this submarine also include the ability to launch attacks with torpedoes, as well as tube-launched anti-ship missiles, whilst underwater or on surface.

Khanderi is the second of the six submarines being built at MDL in collaboration with M/s DCNS of France, as part of Project 75 of Indian Navy. The first one is Kalvari which is currently completing sea trials.

INS Khanderi is named after the Island fort of Maratha forces, which played a vital role in ensuring their supremacy at sea in the late 17th century.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/scorpene-kalvari-class-submarine-ins-khanderi-launched-mumbai-4470239/>

**Q.17) Which of the following are members of the 'Quartet on the Middle East'**

1. United Nations
2. Israel
3. Russia
4. United States of America
5. European Union
6. Palestine

**Select the correct code:**

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

### Q.17) Solution (a)

The Quartet on the Middle East or Middle East Quartet, sometimes called the Diplomatic Quartet or Madrid Quartet or simply the Quartet, is a foursome of nations and international and supranational entities involved in mediating the Israeli–Palestinian peace process. The Quartet are the United Nations, the United States, the European Union, and Russia. The group was established in Madrid in 2002, recalling Madrid Conference of 1991, as a result of the escalating conflict in the Middle East.

### Q.18) Consider the following statements about Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)

1. It is attached to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)
2. It is the licensing authority for exporters, importers, and export and import business but cannot prohibit, restrict and regulate exports and imports

#### Select the correct statements

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

### Q.18) Solution (d)

The Directorate General of foreign Trade (DGFT) is the agency of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Government of India, responsible for execution of the import and export Policies of India. It was earlier known as Chief Controller of Imports & Exports (CCI&E) till 1991. DGFT plays a very important role in the development of trading relations with various other nations and thus help in improving not only the economic growth but also provides a certain impetus needed in the trade industry. For promoting exports and imports DGFT establish its regional offices across the country.

Directorate General of Foreign Trade is an attached office of the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. It's headquartered in Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi. Under its jurisdiction, there are four Zonal Offices at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai headed by Zonal Joint Director General of Foreign Trade. There are 35 Regional Authorities all over the country.

**Functions and responsibilities of DGFT:**

- DGFT entrusted with the responsibility of implementing various policies regarding trade for example, Foreign Trade Policy.
- DGFT is the licensing authority for exporters, importers, and export and import business.
- DGFT can prohibit, restrict and regulate exports and imports.
- DGFT has important role to issue Notifications, Public notices, Circulars, etc.
- DGFT grant 10 digit IEC (Importer Exporter Code), which is a primary requirement to Import Export
- DGFT introduces different schemes from time to time regarding trade benefits throughout the country.
- DGFT has introduced ITC (HS CODE) schedule-1 for import items in India and Schedule-2 for Export items from India.

**Q.19) Inclusive Development Index is released by**

- a) World Bank
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) United Nations Development Programme
- d) None of the above

**Q.19) Solution (b)**

India ranked 60th among the 79 developing countries in 2017 Inclusive Development Index (IDI) released in World Economic Forum's (WEF) 'Inclusive Growth and Development Report'.

The index is based on 12 performance indicators and countries are ranked on IDI scores based on a scale of 1-7. It has three pillars Growth and Development, Inclusion and Intergenerational Equity, and Sustainability in order to provide a more complete measure of economic development than GDP growth alone.

India's debt-to-GDP ratio is high, that raises some questions about the sustainability of government spending. India's labour force participation rate is low, informal economy is large and many workers are vulnerable to employment situations with little room for social mobility. India needs more progressive tax system to raise capital for expenditures in infrastructure, health care, basic services and education.

**Q.20) Consider the following statements**

1. Orphan drugs are developed specifically to treat a rare medical condition
2. Karnataka became the first state to release a Rare Diseases and Orphan Drugs Policy

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.20) Solution (c)**

An orphan drug is a pharmaceutical agent that has been developed specifically to treat a rare medical condition, the condition itself being referred to as an orphan disease.

Karnataka became the first state to release a Rare Diseases and Orphan Drugs Policy. It recommended the implementation of preventive and carrier testing as a means of reducing morbidity and mortality. Given that over 80% of rare diseases have a genetic basis, it suggested the use genetic testing to accelerate the identification of the critical genes involved in rare diseases.

It also recommended that education be used as a tool to combat delayed diagnosis and treatment and called for the enactment of an orphan drugs statute to allow for tax breaks, funding and exclusive marketing rights as incentives for orphan drug discovery.

It also highlighted a feature of India's insurance laws that puts patients suffering from rare diseases at a particular disadvantage. Private insurance companies treat genetic disorders as pre-existing conditions and on that ground, exclude them from coverage. Since most rare diseases are genetic, patients are routinely denied insurance cover.

The Karnataka policy asks that the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority re-consider this exclusion and affirmatively require that insurance companies provide basic coverage of rare diseases at reasonable premiums.

**Source:** <http://www.livemint.com/Opinion/a80dQAFVidRC94jCcoUJIL/Rare-diseases-orphan-drugs.html>

**Q.21) Which of the following statements about 'Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan'**

- a) It has been launched by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW)
- b) It aims to provide assured, comprehensive and quality antenatal care, free of cost, universally to all pregnant women on the 9th of every month
- c) It guarantees a minimum package of antenatal care services to women in their 2nd / 3rd trimesters of pregnancy at designated government health facilities
- d) All of the above

**Q.21) Solution (d)**

The Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan has been launched by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India. The program aims to provide assured, comprehensive and quality antenatal care, free of cost, universally to all pregnant women on the 9th of every month.

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India highlighted the aim and purpose of introduction of the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan in the 31st July 2016 episode of Mann Ki Baat.

PMSMA guarantees a minimum package of antenatal care services to women in their 2nd / 3rd trimesters of pregnancy at designated government health facilities.

The programme follows a systematic approach for engagement with private sector which includes motivating private practitioners to volunteer for the campaign; developing strategies for generating awareness and appealing to the private sector to participate in the Abhiyan at government health facilities.

Read More - <https://pmsma.nhp.gov.in/about-scheme/#about>

**Q.22) The Supreme Court judgement on Sadiq Ali vs Election Commission of India is concerned with**

- a) Allotment of a symbol
- b) Election speeches
- c) Absentee voting
- d) NOTA

**Q.22) Solution (a)**

“The symbol is not a property to be divided between co-owners. The allotment of a symbol to the candidates set up by a political party is a legal right. And in case of a split, the Commission has been authorised to determine which of the rival groups or section is the party entitled to the symbol. The Commission, in resolving this dispute, does not decide as to which group represents the party, but which group is that party,” a three-judge Supreme Court Bench of Justices H.R. Khanna, K.S. Hegde and A.N. Grover clarified the purpose of Paragraph 15, while upholding the constitutionality of the test of majority in Sadiq Ali v. Election Commission of India.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/Who-will-get-%E2%80%98cycle%E2%80%99-It%E2%80%99s-poll-panel%E2%80%99s-call/article16975517.ece>

**Q.23) Consider the following statements about Capital gain tax?**

1. Any profit from the sale of a capital asset is deemed as ‘capital gains’
2. A capital asset is officially defined as any kind of property held by an assessee, excluding goods held as stock-in-trade, agricultural land and personal effects
3. Shares and equity mutual funds alone enjoy a special dispensation on capital gains tax

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

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

**Q.23) Solution (d)**

**What is Capital Gains Tax?**

- Any profit from the sale of a capital asset is deemed as ‘capital gains’.
- A capital asset is officially defined as any kind of property held by an assessee, excluding goods held as stock-in-trade, agricultural land and personal effects.
- Normally if an asset is held for less than 36 months, any gain arising from selling it is treated as a short-term capital gain (STCG) and taxed in your hands.
- This becomes a ‘long-term’ capital gain (LTCG) if the asset is held for 36 months or more.



- Shares and equity mutual funds alone enjoy a special dispensation on capital gains tax.
- In their case, a holding period of 12 months or more qualifies as 'long-term'.
- Current tax laws state LTCG arising on the sale of listed equity shares or equity oriented mutual funds are exempt from tax if you have paid Securities Transaction Tax (STT) on the sale transaction.
- STCG from such shares and funds is also taxable at a flat 15 per cent (plus surcharge and cess).
- The short-term capital loss from financial assets can be set off against any other capital gain.

Source: <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/pm-narendra-modi-hints-at-long-term-capital-gains-tax-in-budget/articleshow/56160784.cms>

**Q.24) China sent its first freight train to London in what is one of the world's longest train rides. The train will pass through which of the following countries before it gets to London?**

1. Belarus
2. Poland
3. Belgium
4. Kyrgyzstan
5. Russia

**Select the correct code**

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

**Q.24) Solution (b)**

The train left Yiwu West Railway Station in Zhejiang province Sunday and is headed for the British capital.

The train is hauling household goods, bags, suitcases and garments, among other items, and will pass through Kazakhstan, Russia, Belarus, Poland, Germany, Belgium and France before it gets to London.

The train is part of Chinese President Xi Jinping's vision for "One Belt, One Road" -- dubbed by some as the new silk road. It's China's infrastructure initiative, which Xi hopes will improve China's economic ties with Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

## China freight train to London



Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/chinas-freight-train-to-london-another-step-in-exploring-ancient-trade-routes-4456591/>

**Q.25) Consider the following statements about 'Larsen Ice Shelf'**

1. It is a series of three shelves
2. It is a long, fringing ice shelf in the Arctic Ocean
3. Larsen A is the largest which is poised to break off

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

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

**Q.25) Solution (b)**

The Larsen Ice Shelf is a long, fringing ice shelf in the northwest part of the Weddell Sea, extending along the east coast of the Antarctic Peninsula from Cape Longing to the area just southward of Hearst Island. It is named for Captain Carl Anton Larsen, the master of the Norwegian whaling vessel Jason, who sailed along the ice front as far as 68°10' South during December 1893. In finer detail, the Larsen Ice Shelf is a series of three shelves that occupy (or occupied) distinct embayments along the coast. From north to south, the three segments are called Larsen A (the smallest), Larsen B, and Larsen C (the largest) by researchers who work in the area.

Source: <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/environment/global-warming/huge-antarctic-ice-block-set-to-break-off-scientists/articleshow/56392080.cms>

