

**Q.1) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?**

Pass	Location
1. Shipki La	Himachal Pradesh
2. Nathu La	Sikkim
3. Dihang	Arunachal Pradesh

**Select the correct code:**

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

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

All are correctly matched.

**Read More –**

<http://www.mapsofindia.com/mountains/passes/>

<https://syskool.com/2016/02/mountain-pass-india.html>

**Q.2) Consider the following statements about DART Mission**

- 1. It is part of the Asteroid Impact and Deflection Assessment (AIDA) mission concept
- 2. It is developed by European Space Agency
- 3. It will demonstrate the kinetic impactor technique — striking the asteroid to shift its orbit

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.2) Solution (c)**

## IASbaba's Daily Quiz

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The Asteroid Impact and Deflection Assessment (AIDA) mission concept is an international collaboration among the European Space Agency (ESA), NASA, Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur (OCA), and the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (JHU/APL).

AIDA will be the first demonstration of the kinetic impact technique to change the motion of an asteroid in space. AIDA is a dual-mission concept, involving two independent spacecraft – NASA's Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART), and ESA's Asteroid Impact Mission (AIM).

AIDA is a science-driven test of one of the technologies for preventing the Earth impact of a hazardous asteroid: the kinetic impactor. AIDA's primary objective is to demonstrate, and to measure the effects of, a kinetic impact on a small asteroid.

The target for DART is an asteroid that will have a distant approach to Earth in October 2022, and then again in 2024.

The asteroid is called Didymos — Greek for "twin" — because it is an asteroid binary system that consists of two bodies: Didymos A, about 780 metres in size, and a smaller asteroid orbiting it called Didymos B, about 160 metres in size.

DART would impact only the smaller of the two bodies, Didymos B. The Didymos system has been closely studied since 2003. The primary body is a rocky S-type object, with composition similar to that of many asteroids.

The composition of its small companion, Didymos B, is unknown, but the size is typical of asteroids that could potentially create regional effects should they impact Earth.

The kinetic impact technique works by changing the speed of a threatening asteroid by a small fraction of its total velocity, but by doing it well before the predicted impact so that this small nudge will add up over time to a big shift of the asteroid's path away from Earth.

Source: <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/science/nasa-developing-first-asteroid-deflection-mission/article9745241.ece>

Read More - <https://www.nasa.gov/planetarydefense/aida>

### Q.3) Consider the following statements about Chief Election Commissioner of India

1. He is appointed by the President
2. He has tenure of six years, or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier

#### Select the correct statements

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2

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

### Q.3) Solution (c)

The President of India (based on a recommendation from incumbent Govt of India) appoints the Chief Election Commissioner. Conventionally, senior-most Election Commissioner is appointed as CEC. He has tenure of six years, or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. He enjoys the same official status, salary and perks as available to judges of the Supreme Court of India and High court. The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed only through impeachment by the Parliament.

The Chief Election Commissioner heads the Election Commission of India, a body constitutionally empowered to conduct free and fair elections to the national and state legislatures. Chief Election Commissioner of India is usually a member of the Indian Civil Service and mostly from the Indian Administrative Service. It is very difficult to remove the authority of the Chief Election Commissioner once elected by the president, as two-thirds of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha need to vote against him for disorderly conduct or improper actions.

Read More - [http://eci.nic.in/eci\\_main1/the\\_setup.aspx](http://eci.nic.in/eci_main1/the_setup.aspx)

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/achal-kumar-joti-to-be-the-next-chief-election-commissioner/article19209802.ece>

### Q.4) Which of the following cesses are abolished post GST rollout?

1. Krishi Kalyan Cess
2. Cesses on petroleum products
3. Cesses on tobacco and tobacco products
4. Swachh Bharat Cess

### Select the correct code

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

### Q.4) Solution (b)

The cesses that have been abolished from July 1 by the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Act include the Krishi Kalyan Cess and Swachh Bharat Cess that were levied along with service tax, as well as education cess on excisable goods and also little known cesses such as those on tea, sugar and jute.

However, according to officials, seven cesses will continue as they relate to customs or goods that are not included in the GST. These include education cess secondary and higher education cess on imported goods.

Similarly, cesses on petroleum products will also continue as these are outside GST. These include the cess on crude petroleum oil under the Oil Industry Development Act, 1974, the road cess or additional duty of excise on motor spirits and high speed diesel oil, special additional duty of excise on motor spirit and the NCCD on tobacco and tobacco products and crude petroleum oil.

Source: <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/policy/centre-abolishes-13-cesses-along-with-gst-rollout/article9747204.ece>

### Q.5) MERIT app is associated with

- a) Coal block allocation
- b) Cement procurement
- c) Tracking power distribution
- d) APMCs

### Q.5) Solution (c)

'MERIT app (Merit Order Despatch of Electricity for Rejuvenation of Income and Transparency - <http://meritindia.in/>)'

The advantages of MERIT app are as follows:

- Empowerment of the Consumer and participative governance
- Transparent information dissemination pertaining to marginal variable cost and source wise purchase of electricity
- Promotes economy and efficiency in operations
- Helps understand the utility portfolio and its complexity
- Optimization of the power procurement costs

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- Facilitates renewable integration and handling of the variability and uncertainty of renewables
- Indication of supply side reliability, adequacy, and co
- The flexibility in utilization of domestic coal scheme envisages transferring coal to more efficient IPPs generating stations, leading to lower generation costs and ultimately lesser cost of electricity for the consumers.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=167149>

