

Q.1) Consider the following statements about Viability Gap Funding (VGF)

1. It supports projects that are economically justified but not financially viable
2. It is administered by the Ministry of Finance

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (c)

The main constraint in India's infrastructure sector is the lack of source for finance. More than the overall difficulty of securing funds, some projects may not be financially viable though they are economically justified and necessary. This is the nature of several infrastructural projects which are long term and development oriented.

For the successful completion of such projects, the government has designed Viability Gap Funding (VGF). Viability Gap Finance means a grant to support projects that are economically justified but not financially viable.

The scheme is designed as a Plan Scheme to be administered by the Ministry of Finance and amount in the budget are made on a year-to- year basis.

Source: <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/niti-aayog-suggests-tax-sops-viability-gap-funding-for-eco-labelled-products/articleshow/59441367.cms>

Q.2) Consider the following statements about Mahila Coir Yojana (MCY)

1. It is under the aegis of Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
2. For the women who completes training under the MCY scheme, Coir Board will distribute motorized ratts

Select the correct statements

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

The Coir Board is implementing Mahila Coir Yojana(MCY) exclusively for empowering women in the country by giving training and distribution of coir processing equipments.

This is a 100% women oriented programme intended to provide self employment to the rural women artisans in coir producing regions. The scheme envisages distribution of motorized ratts/motorized traditional ratts and other coir processing equipments, which can be operated by women, at 75% subsidy after imparting training with a duration of 2 months subject to a maximum amount of Rs.7,500/-.

The training under MCY are conducted through all training centres of the Board. During the training period, the women artisans are given stipend amounting to Rs.1000 per month.

The scheme is prevalent in coir producing coastal States such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, Lakshadweep, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa, Pondicherry, A& N Islands, West Bengal and NE Region.

Read More - <http://pmjandhanyojana.co.in/mahila-coir-yojana/>

Think

- Coir Vikas Yojana,
- Coir Udyami Yojana
- Coir S&T Yojana
- India International Coir Fair (IICF)
- Livelihood Business Incubators (LBIs) under the ASPIRE scheme

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=169326>

Q.3) Consider the following statements about 'Bharatmala Pariyojana'

1. It is a joint project of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and Ministry of Shipping Economic Corridors to Ports
2. National Highways Development Project (NHDP) will be subsumed under Bharatmala Pariyojana

Select the correct statements

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

Q.3) Solution (b)

Bharatmala is a mega plan of the government and the second-largest highways project after the NHDP that saw development of about 50,000 km. National Highways Development Project (NHDP) and all existing schemes will be finished in the coming six months.

The project will improve road connectivity to coastal areas, border areas, backward areas, religious destinations and tourist destinations. It will also see construction, rehabilitation and widening of about 1,500 major bridges and 200 Railway Over Bridges and Railway Under Bridges on National Highways.

NHDP, being implemented in various phases was initiated by former Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee and includes Golden Quadrilateral connecting four metropolises besides North-South Corridor connecting Srinagar to Kanyakumari and East-West Corridor joining Porbandar to Silchar.

The total length of road to be constructed under BHARATMALA Pariyojana Phase-I is 24,800 Km with the following details:

- Economic Corridors - 9,000 Km
- Inter-corridor & feeder Routes - 6,000 Km
- National Corridors Efficiency Programme - 5,000 Km
- Border & International connectivity roads - 2,000 Km
- Coastal & port connectivity roads - 2,000 Km
- Expressways - 800 Km
- Remaining National Highways under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) - 10,000 Km

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=169295>

Q.4) Kamarajar Port is located in

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Kerala
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

Q.4) Solution (a)

Ennore Port, officially renamed Kamarajar Port Limited, is located on the Coromandel Coast about 24 km north of Chennai Port, Chennai, it is the 12th major port of India, and the first port in India which is a public company.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=169311>

Q.5) At which one of the following places did Mahatma Gandhi first start his Satyagraha in India?

- a) Ahmedabad
- b) Champaran
- c) Bardoli
- d) Ahmedabad

Q.5) Solution (b)

The first Satyagraha movements inspired by Mohandas Gandhi occurred in Champaran district of Bihar and the Kheda district of Gujarat on 1917 to 1918.

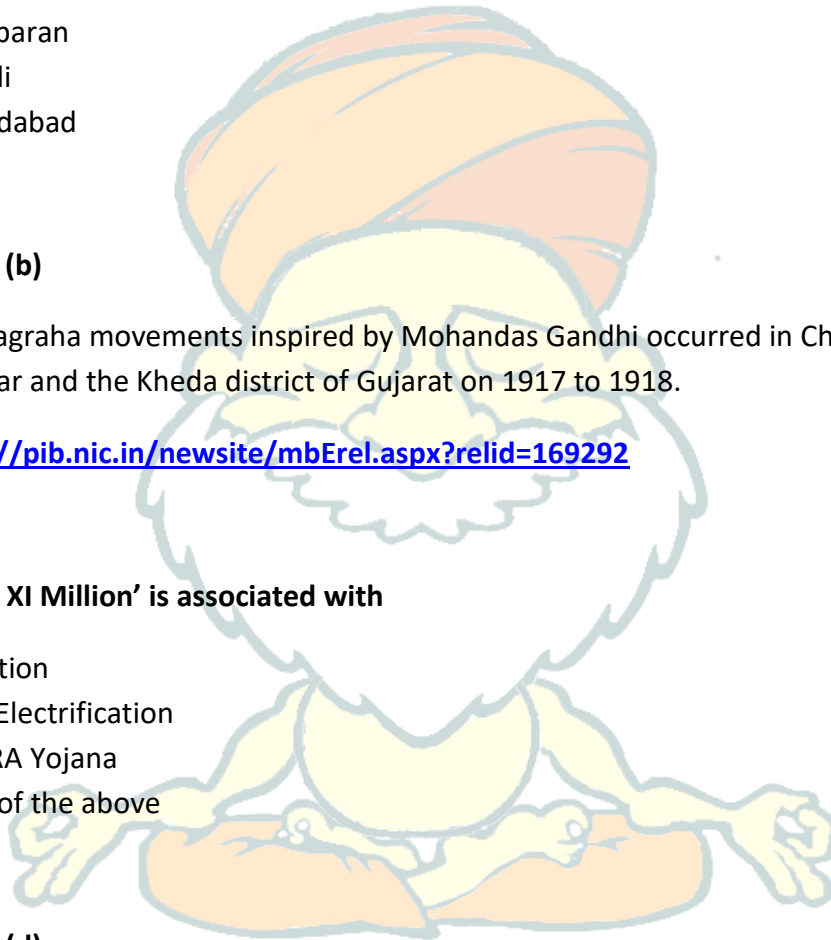
Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=169292>

Q.6) 'Mission XI Million' is associated with

- a) Education
- b) Rural Electrification
- c) MUDRA Yojana
- d) None of the above

Q.6) Solution (d)

Mission XI Million is a joint programme, of this Ministry, All India Football Federation (AIFF) and Federation International de Football Association (FIFA) to popularise football across the country. The programme targets to reach 11 Million boys and girls across the country for promotion of football by 30th September 2017. Government of India has allocated around Rs.12.55 crores towards the said programme and an equal amount will be spent by AIFF/ FIFA. Around 6 Million children have already been covered under the said programme. The allocated resources are sufficient to cover 11 Million students, parents, and coaches as part of Mission XI Million Programme to popularize football in the country.



Q.7) Consider the following statements about Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana

1. It is under the aegis of Ministry of Human Resource Development
2. It's objective is to provide residential accommodation facilities to economically weak studying in middle schools, higher secondary schools, colleges and universities

Select the correct statements

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

Q.7) Solution (d)

The scheme of construction of hostels is one of the means to enable and encourage students belonging to scheduled castes to attain quality education.

The objective of the Scheme is to provide residential accommodation facilities to SC Boys and Girls studying in middle schools, higher secondary schools, colleges and universities.

Central assistance is provided to the implementing agencies viz. State Governments/UT Administrations/ Central and State Universities/ Non-Governmental Organisations/Deemed Universities in private sector, for construction of fresh hostels/expansion of existing hostel facilities for Scheduled Castes students. Maintenance of the hostels would be the responsibility of the concerned implementing agencies.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Read More: <http://socialjustice.nic.in/SchemeList/Send/31?mid=24541>

Q.8) FAME India scheme is concerned with

- a) Hybrid and Electric vehicles
- b) Manufacturing amongst micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)
- c) Promotion of traditional sports
- d) Electricity distribution companies

Q.8) Solution (a)

FAME India (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric vehicles in India) scheme.

Read More - <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=154119>

Q.9) Consider the following statements about Sovereign Gold Bond (SGB)

1. It aims to curb the demand for physical gold
2. The maximum limit of subscription is 500 gram per person per fiscal year
3. It also provides interest of 2.5% per annum, which is free of income tax

Select the correct statements

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

Q.9) Solution (c)

The Government announced a few changes in its Sovereign Gold Bond (SGB) Scheme recently. The primary change was the increase in the limit to 4 kg (from 0.5kg) for individuals, HUF and 20 kg for Trusts.

The SGB scheme was launched in 2015 with the aim to curb the demand for physical gold, by replacing it with alternate investment options in form of paper or electronic investments. The intention was to mobilise finances and reduce the economic strain caused by imports of physical gold and reduce the Current Account Deficit (CAD).

In case of SGB, not only the transaction cost is negligible, it also provides additional interest of 2.5% per annum, which is free of income tax.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/new-gold-bond-scheme-may-draw-more-investors/article19391396.ece>

Q.10) Somalia is bordered by

1. Ethiopia
2. Djibouti
3. Eretria
4. Kenya

Select the correct code

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

Q.10) Solution (c)

It is a country located in the Horn of Africa. It is bordered by Ethiopia to the west, Djibouti to the northwest, the Gulf of Aden to the north, the Indian Ocean to the east, and Kenya to the southwest. Somalia has the longest coastline on Africa's mainland and its terrain consists mainly of plateaus, plains and highlands.



Q.11) Consider the following statements about Spice Development Agency (SDA)

1. It is chaired by the Chief Secretary of the concerned State Government
2. All the states have SDA except for Jammu and Kashmir

Select the correct statements

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

Q.11) Solution (a)

Government of India has notified the formation of 10 Spice Development Agencies (SDAs) in the main Spice growing regions for the overall development of spices grown in the region.

Headed by the Chief Secretary, the SDA consist of members representing the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, State Government, Ministry of Agriculture, Spices Board, ICAR and other related Central and State organisations besides stake-holders of the industry: growers, traders and exporters.

10 such agencies formed in major spice-growing States and regions under the control of the Spices Board.

Read More - <http://www.indianspices.com/spice-development-agency>

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169429>

Q.12) BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA) and BRICS New Development Bank (NDB) were announced as part of

- a) eThekweni Declaration
- b) Fortaleza Declaration
- c) Udaipur Declaration
- d) Ufa Declaration

Q.12) Solution (b)

Both CRA and NDB were announced as part of BRICS Fortaleza Declaration announced during 6th BRICS summit held in Fortaleza, Brazil in July 2014.

CRA was established in 2015 during 7th BRICS summit in July 2015. The Treaty for the establishment of BRICS CRA was signed at Fortaleza, Brazil in July 2014

It is a framework that aims at providing support through additional liquidity and other means to BRICS countries at a time of economic crisis. It will be providing support to BRICS

countries through liquidity and precautionary instruments in response to actual or potential short-term balance of payments pressures.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169426>

Q.13) Consider the following statements about Competition Commission of India (CCI)

1. It is a constitutional body
2. It replaced the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission

Select the correct statements

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

Q.13) Solution (b)

The Competition Act, 2002 was enacted by the Parliament of India and governs Indian competition law. It replaced the archaic The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969. Under this legislation, the Competition Commission of India was established to prevent the activities that have an adverse effect on competition in India. This act extends to whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Commission was established in 2003 to replace the erstwhile Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission. The Commission draws its power from the Competition Act, 2002 and has been empowered to check anti-competitive behaviour and regulate mergers & acquisitions.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169501>

Q.14) Consider the following statements about the 'Assam Movement'

1. Assam Movement was against undocumented immigrants in Assam
2. The movement was led by All Assam Students Union (AASU) and the 'All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad' (AAGSP)
3. The Assam Accord was signed between representatives of the Government of India and the leaders of the Assam Movement

Select the correct statements

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

Q.14) Solution (d)

The Assam Accord (1985) was a Memorandum of Settlement (MoS) signed between representatives of the Government of India and the leaders of the Assam Movement in New Delhi on 15 August 1985. It brought an end to the Assam Agitation and paved the way for its leaders to form a political party and form a government in the State of Assam soon after.

The Assam Movement (or Assam Agitation) (1979-1985) was a popular movement against illegal immigrants in Assam. The movement, led by All Assam Students Union (AASU) and the 'All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad' (AAGSP), developed a program of protests and demonstration to compel the government to identify and expel illegal immigrants. The agitation programs were largely non-violent, but the Nellie massacre was a case of extreme violence. The agitation program ended in August 1985 following the Assam Accord, which was signed by leaders of AASU-AAGSP and the Government of India. The agitation leaders formed a political party, Assam Gana Parishad. It came to power in the state of Assam in the Assembly elections of 1985 and later in 1996.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=169445>

Q.15) Consider the Following statements about TREAD scheme

1. It is under the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
2. It denotes high quality manufacturing with a minimal negative impact on environment

Select the correct statements

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

Q.15) Solution (a)

Trade Related Entrepreneurship Assistance and Development (TREAD) Scheme for Women

Trade Related Entrepreneurship Development Assistance Scheme (TREAD) envisages economic empowerment of women. There is a provision of Govt of India Grant upto 30% of Loan/credit sanctioned subject to maximum ceiling of 30 Lakhs to NGOs as appraised by Lending Institutes/Banks for undertaking capacity building activities such as Training, counselling, Participation in exhibitions, establishment of new SHGs etc and other components as approved by Bank/Steering Committee.

The focus of the scheme is to promote self-employment and income generation activities for women mostly from SHG groups in non-farm sector.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=169468>

Q.16) Consider the following statements about NISAR

1. It is indigenously being developed by ISRO
2. It will be used to create two - or three-dimensional images of the landscapes

Select the correct statement

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

Q.16) Solution (b)

The NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission is a joint project between NASA and ISRO to co-develop and launch a dual frequency synthetic aperture radar satellite. The satellite will be the first radar imaging satellite to use dual frequency and it is planned to be used for remote sensing to observe and understand natural processes of the Earth.

Synthetic-aperture radar (SAR) is a form of radar that is used to create two- or three-dimensional images of objects, such as landscapes.

The NISAR satellite is scheduled to be launched from India four years from now, will be using the (GSLV) Geo-Synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle

NISAR would require two frequency RADARs: an L-band 24 centimetres and a S-band 13. S-band is being built by ISRO while NASA is taking the responsibility for the L-band by NASA.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=147437>

Q.17) Consider the following statements about "NavIC"

1. It's main objective is to provide Satellite-based Navigation services with accuracy and integrity required for civil aviation applications and to provide better Air Traffic Management over Indian Airspace
2. It is based on the Indian Regional Navigational Satellite System (IRNSS)

Select the correct statements

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

Q.17) Solution (b)

Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) : NavIC

This is an independent Indian Satellite based positioning system for critical National applications. The main objective is to provide Reliable Position, Navigation and Timing services over India and its neighbourhood, to provide fairly good accuracy to the user. The IRNSS will provide basically two types of services

- Standard Positioning Service (SPS)
- Restricted Service (RS)

Space Segment consists of seven satellites, three satellites in GEO stationary orbit (GEO) and four satellites in Geo Synchronous Orbit (GSO) orbit with inclination of 29° to the equatorial plane. This constellation of seven satellites was named as "NavIC" (Navigation Indian Constellation) by the Honourable Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi and dedicated to the Nation on the occasion of successful launch of IRNSS-1G, the seventh and last satellite of NavIC. All the satellites will be visible at all times in the Indian region. All the seven Satellites of NavIC, namely, IRNSS-1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1F and 1G were successfully launched on July 02, 2013, Apr 04, 2014, Oct 16, 2014, Mar 28, 2015, Jan 20, 2016, Mar 10, 2016 and Apr 28, 2016 respectively and all are functioning satisfactorily from their designated orbital positions.

Ground Segment is responsible for the maintenance and operation of the IRNSS constellation. It provides the monitoring of the constellation status, computation of the orbital and clock parameters and navigation data uploading. The Ground segment comprises of TTC & Uplinking Stations, Spacecraft Control Centre, IRNSS Timing Centre, CDMA Ranging Stations, Navigation Control Centre and Data Communication Links. Space segment is

compatible with single frequency receiver for Standard Positioning Service (SPS), dual frequency receiver for both SPS & RS service and a multi mode receiver compatible with other GNSS providers.

Source: http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/desi-global-positioning-system-117080301208_1.html

Q.18) Which of the following was known in ancient times as 'Constantinople'?

- a) Turkey
- b) Libya
- c) Istanbul
- d) Egypt

Q.18) Solution (c)

Source: <http://www.history.com/news/why-arab-scholar-ibn-battuta-is-the-greatest-explorer-of-all-time>

Q.19) The management of Haj Pilgrimage comes under

- a) Ministry of Minority Affairs
- b) Ministry of Culture
- c) Ministry of External Affairs
- d) Ministry of Home Affairs

Q.19) Solution (a)

The work related to management of Haj pilgrimage has been transferred from Ministry of External Affairs to Ministry of Minority

Read More: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/haj-pilgrimage-comes-under-control-of-minority-affairs-ministry/article9193652.ece>

Source: http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/ministry-of-minority-affairs-exploring-possibilities-for-the-revival-of-haj-117072600817_1.html

Q.20) Which one of the following is a purpose of 'UDAN', a scheme of the Government?

- a) Regional connectivity scheme
- b) Financial inclusion
- c) Providing technical and financial assistance to start-up entrepreneurs in the field of renewable sources of energy
- d) Providing for financial turnaround and revival of power distribution companies

Q.20) Solution (a)

UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) scheme, an endeavour to make regional connectivity easy

All you need to know about the UDAN scheme for low-cost, regional connectivity - <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/all-you-need-to-know-about-the-udan-scheme-for-low-cost-regional-connectivity/article18251599.ece>

Q.21) Article 235 is concerned with

- a) Control over Sub-ordinate Courts
- b) Contingency Fund of India
- c) National Commission for the SC, & ST
- d) Pardoning powers of President

Q.21) Solution (a)

Ar. 235 - Control over subordinate courts

The control over district courts and courts subordinate thereto including the posting and promotion of, and the grant of leave to, persons belonging to the judicial service of a State and holding any post inferior to the post of district judge shall be vested in the High Court, but nothing in this article shall be construed as taking away from any such person any right of appeal which he may under the law regulating the conditions of his service or as authorising the High Court to deal with him otherwise than in accordance with the conditions of his service prescribed under such law.

Source: <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/nine-high-courts-oppose-all-india-service-for-lower-judiciary/articleshow/59939318.cms>

Q.22) Government of India is committed for speedy resolution of commercial disputes and to make India an international hub of Arbitration and a Centre of robust ADR mechanism catering to international and domestic arbitration. To give an impetus to this endeavour,

the Department of Legal Affairs constituted a ten Member, High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of

- a) Ratan Watal
- b) B.N. Srikrishna
- c) J.J. Irani
- d) Bibek Debroy

Q.22) Solution (b)

The law ministry formed a 10-member panel led by former Supreme Court judge B.N. Srikrishna to review and create an institutional framework for the arbitration mechanism in India.

The committee includes judges, senior lawyers familiar with commercial laws, industry representatives and a member from a think-tank, besides law secretary Suresh Chandra.

The Committee has divided its Report in three parts.

Part 1 - Measures to improve the overall quality and performance of arbitral institutions in India and to promote the standing of the country as preferred seat of arbitration

- Setting up an Autonomous Body, styled the Arbitration Promotion Council of India (APCI), having representatives from all stakeholders for grading arbitral institutions in India.
- The APCI may inter alia recognize professional institutes providing for accreditation of arbitrators
- The APCI may hold training workshops and interact with law firms and law schools to train advocates with interest in arbitration and with a goal to create a specialist arbitration bar comprising of advocates dedicated to the field.
- Creation of a specialist Arbitration Bench to deal with such Commercial disputes, in the domain of the Courts.
- Changes have been suggested in various provisions of the 2015 Amendments in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act with a view to make arbitration speedier and more efficacious and incorporate international best practices.
- The Committee are also of the opinion that the National Litigation Policy (NLP) must promote arbitration in Government Contracts.

Part 2 - Working of ICADR working under the aegis of the Ministry of Law and Justice, Department of Legal Affairs

- The Institution was set up with the objective of promoting ADR methods and providing requisite facilities for the same.
- The Committee has preferred for declaring the ICADR as an Institution of national importance and takeover of the Institution by a statute.
- The Committee are of the view that a revamped ICADR has the potential be a globally competitive institution.

Part 3 - 'International Law Adviser' (ILA)

- ILA shall advise the Government and coordinate dispute resolution strategy for the Government in disputes arising out of its international law obligations, particularly disputes arising out of BITs.
- The Committee has emphasized that ILA may be consulted by the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), at the time of negotiating and entering into BITs.

Q.23) Which of the following stocks is included in Bharat -22?

- a) BPCL (Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd)
- b) Axis Bank (through Specified Undertaking of Unit Trust of India)
- c) ONGC Ltd (Oil and Natural Gas Corp)
- d) All of the above

Q.23) Solution (d)

Bharat-22 — a new ETF of 22 companies, including central public sector enterprises, government banks and some holdings of the government's investment arm SUUTI. The new ETF will help the government sell equity stakes in state-run firms and move it further along in its objective to raise Rs 72,500 crore through disinvestment in the current financial year 2017-18.

Bharat-22 will have 22 constituents against CPSE ETF's 10. In that sense, Bharat-22 will be more diversified, and will capture the PSU universe better than the CPSE ETF.

Bharat-22 will also have a single company cap of 15% weightage in the fund, and a sectoral cap of 22%, ensuring that it is well represented by a diversified spectrum of PSUs.

Bharat-22 will give the government a shot at selling stakes in some of the private sector blue-chip companies as well, as it will include some holdings of SUUTI (Specified Undertaking of Unit Trust of India). SUUTI holds equity stakes in over 50 companies, including large holdings in L&T, ITC and Axis Bank, earlier held by the erstwhile Unit Trust of India before its breakup.

Bharat-22 will cover six sectors (Basic Materials, Energy, Finance, FMCG, and Industrials & Utilities).

The Bharat 22 Index will be rebalanced annually. ICICI Prudential AMC will be the ETF Manager and Asia Index Private Limited (JV BSE and S& P Global) will be the Index Provider.

Source: <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/jaitley-announces-new-etf-bharat-2022/article9802051.ece>

Components of Bharat-22 ETF			
Company	Weight (%)	Company	Weight (%)
Larsen & Toubro	17.1	Coal India	3.3
ITC	15.2	Bharat Electronics	3.3
State Bank of India	8.6	Engineers India	1.5
Power Grid Corp of India	7.9	Bank of Baroda	1.4
Axis Bank	7.7	Rural Electrification Corp	1.3
NTPC	6.7	NHPC	1.2
ONGC	5.3	Power Finance Corp	1.0
National Aluminium	4.4	NBCC (India)	0.6
Indian Oil Corp	4.4	NLC India	0.3
BPCL	4.4	Indian Bank	0.2
Gail India	3.7	SJVN	0.2

Q.24) Guatemala is bordered by

1. Belize
2. Honduras
3. EL Salvador

Select the correct code:

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

Q.24) Solution (d)

Guatemala is a country in Central America bordered by Mexico to the north and west, the Pacific Ocean to the southwest, Belize to the northeast, the Caribbean to the east, Honduras to the east and El Salvador to the southeast.



Q.25) India's first private sector missile sub-systems manufacturing facility is located in

- a) Hyderabad
- b) Bhopal
- c) Nagpur
- d) Pune

Q.25) Solution (a)

It is a joint venture between the Kalyani Group and Israel's Rafael Advanced Defence Systems Ltd.

Kalyani Rafael Advanced Systems (KRAS) plant will make anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) Spike.

Besides supplying to the Indian Army, the plan is to export to South East Asian countries

KRAS, which aims to be a one-stop solution provider to locally re-design, develop, re-engineer and manufacture various land and airborne products and systems in India, has plans for expansion.

Formed in line with the 'Make in India' initiative of the Centre and the policy to encourage private sector participation in defence production, the 51:49 joint venture will develop a wide range of advanced capabilities.

These include command control and guidance, electro-optics, remote weapon systems, precision guided munitions and system engineering for system integration.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/indias-first-private-missile-production-facility-unveiled/article19419823.ece>

Q.26) e-Shakti or Digitisation of SHGs is an initiative of

- a) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- b) Ministry of Science and Technology
- c) Ministry of Rural Development
- d) None of the above

Q.26) Solution (d)

e-Shakti or Digitisation of SHGs is an initiative of Micro Credit and Innovations Department of NABARD in line with our Hon'ble PM statement, 'we move with the dream of electronic digital India...'. Digital India is a Rs 1.13-lakh crore initiative of Government of India to integrate the government departments and the people of India and to ensure effective governance. It is to "transform India into digital empowered society and knowledge economy".

Keeping in view the Government of India's mission for creating a digital India, NABARD launched a project for digitisation of all Self Help Group (SHG) in the country. The project is being implemented in 100 districts across the country.

Aims and Objectives:

The project aims at digitisation of all the SHG accounts to bring SHG members under the fold of Financial Inclusion thereby helping them access wider range of financial services together with increasing the bankers' comfort in credit appraisal and linkage by way of:

- Integrating SHG members with the national Financial Inclusion agenda;
- Improving the quality of interface between SHG members and Banks for efficient and hassle free delivery of banking services by using the available technology;
- Facilitate convergence of delivery system with SHGs using Aadhaar linked identity.

Source: http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/e-shakti-initiative-of-nabard-117080800983_1.html

Q.27) Which one of the following is not a Biosphere Reserve?

- a) Agasthyamalai
- b) Nallamalai
- c) Nilgiri
- d) Panchmarhi

Q.27) Solution (b)

Biosphere Reserve

- "Biosphere Reserve (BR) is an international designation by UNESCO for representative parts of natural and cultural landscapes extending over large area of terrestrial or coastal/ marine ecosystems or a combination thereof.
- BRs are designated to deal with one of the most important questions of reconciling the conservation of biodiversity, the quest for economic and social development and maintenance of associated cultural values.
- BRs are thus special environments for both people and the nature and are living examples of how human beings and nature can co-exist while respecting each other's needs.
- The Biosphere Reserve Programme is guided by UNESCO Man and Biosphere (MAB) programme as India is a signatory to the landscape approach supported by MAB programme.
- A scheme called Biosphere Reserve is being implemented by Government of India since 1986, in which financial assistance is given in 90:10 ratio to the North Eastern Region States and three Himalayan states and in the ratio of 60:40 to other states for maintenance, improvement and development of certain items.

LIST OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES:

1. Cold Desert, Himachal Pradesh
2. Nanda Devi, Uttrakhand
3. Khangchendzonga, Sikkim
4. Dehang-Debang, Arunachal Pradesh
5. Manas, Assam
6. Dibru-Saikhowa, Assam
7. Nokrek, Meghalaya
8. Panna, Madhya Pradesh
9. Pachmarhi, Madhya Pradesh
10. Achanakmar-Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh-Chattisgarh
11. Kachchh, Gujarat
12. Similipal, Odisha
13. Sundarban, West Bengal
14. Seshachalam, Andhra Pradesh
15. Agasthyamala, Karnataka-Tamil Nadu-Kerala
16. Nilgiri, Tamil Nadu-Kerala
17. Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu
18. Great Nicobar, Andaman & Nicobar Island

Q.28) Consider the following statements about Logistics Data Bank (LDB) project.

1. It is being implemented through a Special Purpose Vehicle called AURIC
2. Every container in the port facility is attached to a RFID and then tracked through RFID readers

Select the correct statements

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

Q.28) Solution (b)

Logistics Data Bank (LDB) project - to make India's logistics sector more efficient through the use of Information Technology.

The facility — where every container is attached to a Radio Frequency Identification Tag (RFID) tag and then tracked through RFID readers — aids importers and exporters in tracking their goods in transit.

The LDB is being implemented through a Special Purpose Vehicle called Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Logistics Data Services Ltd. (DLDSL) — that is jointly (50:50) owned by the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) Trust and Japanese IT services major NEC Corporation.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/logistics-data-bank-project-to-expand-to-south-india/article19452586.ece>

Q.29) Global Retirement Index (GRI) is published by

- a) Boston Consulting Groups
- b) Bain and Company
- c) Ernst & Young
- d) None of the above

Q.29) Solution (d)

The index by French asset management company **Natixis Global**, ranks countries on the basis of four factors -- the material means to live comfortably in retirement; access to quality financial services to help preserve savings value and maximize income; access to quality health services; and a clean and safe environment.

Source: <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/no-country-for-old-men-french-index-says-india-worst-for-retirement-now/articleshow/59984710.cms>

Q.30) Which of the following statements are the provisions of Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) once it is in force?

1. To arrest without a warrant anyone who has committed cognizable offences
2. To enter and search any premise in order to make such arrests, or to recover any person wrongfully restrained.
3. After giving such due warning, Fire upon or use other kinds of force even if it causes death, against the person who is acting against law.

Select the code from below:

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

Q.30) Solution (d)

According to the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), in an area that is proclaimed as "disturbed", an officer of the armed forces has powers to:[20]

- After giving such due warning, Fire upon or use other kinds of force even if it causes death, against the person who is acting against law or order in the disturbed area for the maintenance of public order,
- Destroy any arms dump, hide-outs, prepared or fortified position or shelter or training camp from which armed attacks are made by the armed volunteers or armed gangs or absconders wanted for any offence.
- To arrest without a warrant anyone who has committed cognizable offences or is reasonably suspected of having done so and may use force if needed for the arrest.
- To enter and search any premise in order to make such arrests, or to recover any person wrongfully restrained or any arms, ammunition or explosive substances and seize it.
- Stop and search any vehicle or vessel reasonably suspected to be carrying such person or weapons.
- Any person arrested and taken into custody under this Act shall be made present over to the officer in charge of the nearest police station with least possible delay, together with a report of the circumstances occasioning the arrest.
- Army officers have legal immunity for their actions. There can be no prosecution, suit or any other legal proceeding against anyone acting under that law. Nor is the government's judgment on why an area is found to be disturbed subject to judicial review.
- Protection of persons acting in good faith under this Act from prosecution, suit or other legal proceedings, except with the sanction of the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by this Act.

Source: <http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/govt-declares-entire-assam-as-disturbed-area-under-afspa-for-another-month/story-xT2vgSgUkCUt2qAiNOzxYK.html>

Q.31) Which of the following rivers flows through Nepal to India?

1. Ghaghara
2. Sharda
3. Gandak

Select the correct statements

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

Q.31) Solution (d)

The rivers flowing from Nepal to India are causing floods in India, mainly in the States of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. The major rivers causing such floods are Sarada, Ghaghra, Gandak, Kosi and Rapti.

Ghaghara, also called Karnali is a perennial trans-boundary river originating on the Tibetan Plateau near Lake Mansarovar.

Sharada or Kali Ganga in Uttarakhand where the river demarcates Nepal's western border with India. This boundary was established by the 1816 Sugauli treaty. The name is sometimes written "Sarda"

The Gandaki River (also known as the Narayani in southern Nepal and the Gandak in India) is one of the major rivers of Nepal and a left bank tributary of the Ganges in India. In Nepal the river is notable for its deep gorge through the Himalayas and its enormous hydroelectric potential.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=169814>

Q.32) Consider the following statements about Treaty of Sugauli

1. It established the boundary line of Nepal
2. The treaty called for territorial concessions in which some of the territories controlled by Nepal would be given to British India

Select the correct statements

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

Q.32) Solution (c)

The Treaty of, the treaty that established the boundary line of Nepal, was signed on 2 December 1815 and ratified by 4 March 1816 between the East India Company and King of Nepal following the Anglo-Nepalese War of 1814-16. The signatory for Nepal was Raj Guru Gajraj Mishra aided by Chandra Sekher Upadhyaya, the signatory for the Company was Lieutenant Colonel Paris Bradshaw. The treaty called for territorial concessions in which some of the territories controlled by Nepal would be given to British India, the establishment of a British representative in Kathmandu, and allowed Britain to recruit Gurkhas for military service. Nepal also lost the right to deploy any American or European employee in its service (earlier several French commanders had been deployed to train the Nepali army).

Under the treaty, about one-third of Nepalese controlled territory was lost including all the territories that the King of Nepal had won in wars in the last 25 years or so such as Sikkim in the east, Kumaon Kingdom and Garhwal Kingdom (also known as Gadhwal) in the west. Some of the Terai lands were restored to Nepal in 1816 and more were restored in 1860 to thank for helping the British to suppress the Indian rebellion of 1857.

Q.33) Sardar Sarovar Dam is a gravity dam on which of the following rivers

- a) Brahmaputra
- b) Narmada
- c) Tapti
- d) Yamuna

Q.3) Solution (b)

The Sardar Sarovar Dam is a gravity dam on the Narmada river near Navagam, Gujarat in India. It is a part of the Narmada Valley Project, a large hydraulic engineering project involving the construction of a series of large irrigation and hydroelectric multi-purpose dams on the Narmada river. The project took form in 1979 as part of a development scheme to increase irrigation and produce hydroelectricity.

Source: <http://www.livemint.com/Opinion/TgVlpujAvymwN7QKxfMZEM/Human-rights-dialogue-and-the-Sardar-Sarovar-project.html>

Q.34) Consider the following statements about Guam

1. It is located in the Atlantic Ocean
2. It is a sovereign Japanese territory

Select the correct statements

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

Q.34) Solution (d)

It is an unincorporated United States territory in the western Pacific Ocean. Guamanians are American citizens by birth. Before World War II, Guam and four other territories – American Samoa, Hawaii, Wake Island, and the Philippines – were the only American jurisdictions in the Pacific Ocean. On December 7, 1941, hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Guam was captured by the Japanese, who occupied the island for two and a half years.

Why is North Korea threatening it?

Guam's military significance and the fact that it is close enough to North Korea to be hit by medium and long-range missiles make it a target for Pyongyang.

Source: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/rest-of-world/north-korea-says-considering-strike-on-guam-after-trump-warns-of-fire-and-fury/articleshow/59979466.cms>

Q.35) Consider the following statements about Securities Appellate Tribunal

1. It is a statutory body established under Banking Regulation Act, 1949
2. It has only one bench that sits at Mumbai and has jurisdiction over all of India
3. It is not bound by the procedure laid down by the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908

Select the correct statements

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

Q.35) Solution (b)

Securities Appellate Tribunal is a statutory body established under the provisions of Section 15K of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 to hear and dispose of appeals

against orders passed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India or by an adjudicating officer under the Act and to exercise jurisdiction, powers and authority conferred on the Tribunal by or under this Act or any other law for the time being in force.

The Securities Appellate Tribunal has only one bench that sits at Mumbai and has jurisdiction over all of India.

The Securities Appellate Tribunal is not bound by the procedure laid down by the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but is guided by the principles of natural justice and, subject to the other provisions of Depositories Act, 1996.

The Securities Appellate Tribunal has powers to regulate its own procedure including the places at which it shall have its sittings.

Source: http://www.business-standard.com/article/markets/trading-ban-to-be-lifted-by-sebi-if-firms-prove-credentials-117080901623_1.html

Q.36) Consider the following statements

1. 'Xenotransplantation' is transplantation from one species to another
2. 'Allotransplantation' is transplantation between members of the same species

Select the correct statements

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

Q.36) Solution (c)

Xenotransplantation is the transplantation of living cells, tissues or organs from one species to another. Such cells, tissues or organs are called xenografts or xenotransplants. It is contrasted with allotransplantation (from other individual of same species), Syngeneic transplantation (Grafts transplanted between two genetically identical individuals of the same species) and Autotransplantation (from one part of the body to another in the same person).

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2017/aug/10/gene-editing-to-remove-viruses-brings-transplant-organs-from-pigs-a-step-closer>

Q.37) Why are pigs considered the most suitable species as a source of material for xenotransplantation?

- a) Their organs are similar in size to those of humans
- b) The risk that they will carry pathogens that can infect humans is smaller than with nonhuman primates
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Q.37) Solution (c)

Pigs are considered the most suitable species as a source of material for xenotransplantation for several reasons:

- they reproduce quickly and have large litters;
- their organs are similar in size to those of humans;
- they are easy to rear in conditions free of particular pathogens (disease-causing organisms);
- the risk that they will carry pathogens that can infect humans is smaller than with nonhuman primates (apes and monkeys); and
- they can be genetically manipulated to reduce the risk of rejection.

Q.38) Consider the following statements about Anti-dumping duty

1. The Department of Commerce recommends the anti-dumping duty, while Ministry of Finance levies such duty
2. It is imposed on both exports and imports
3. The use of anti-dumping is not permitted by the WTO

Select the correct statements

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

Q.38) Solution (a)

Dumping is said to occur when the goods are exported by a country to another country at a price lower than its normal value. This is an unfair trade practice which can have a distortive

effect on international trade. Anti-dumping is a measure to rectify the situation arising out of the dumping of goods and its trade distortive effect. Thus, the purpose of anti-dumping duty is to rectify the trade distortive effect of dumping and re-establish fair trade. The use of anti-dumping measure as an instrument of fair competition is permitted by the WTO. In fact, anti-dumping is an instrument for ensuring fair trade and is not a measure of protection per se for the domestic industry. It provides relief to the domestic industry against the injury caused by dumping.

Anti-dumping duty is recommended by Ministry of Commerce and imposed by Ministry of Finance.

Source: <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/antidumping-levy-on-opal-glassware-from-china-uae/article9816407.ece>

Q.39) The Quantum Experiments at Space Scale/QUESS, the world's first quantum satellite, was launched by

- a) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- b) European Space Agency (ESA)
- c) Russian Federal Space Agency (RFSa or Roscosmos)
- d) None of the above

Q.39) Solution (d)

China has launched the world's first satellite dedicated to testing the fundamentals of quantum communication in space.

QUESS is designed to establish 'hack-proof' quantum communications by transmitting uncrackable keys from space to the ground.

Quantum communication boasts ultra-high security as a quantum photon can neither be separated nor duplicated. It is hence impossible to wiretap, intercept or crack the information transmitted through it.

It is nicknamed 'Micius', after a 5th century BC Chinese philosopher and scientist who has been credited as the first one in human history conducting optical experiments.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/chinas-quantum-satellite-just-sent-back-unbreakable-code-from-space-4792223/>

Q.40) An overvalued exchange rate

1. Can cause deflationary pressures in a recession
2. Means the country's exports will be relatively expensive and imports cheaper

Select the correct statements

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

Q.40) Solution (c)

An overvalued exchange rate implies that a country's currency is too high for the state of the economy. An overvalued exchange rate means that the country's exports will be relatively expensive and imports cheaper. An overvalued exchange rate tends to depress domestic demand and encourage spending on imports.

An overvalued exchange rate can also be measured by looking at purchasing power parity (PPP). An overvalued exchange rate will mean goods are relatively more expensive in that country.

An overvalued exchange rate is particularly a problem during a period of sluggish growth. If the economy is booming, an overvalued exchange rate can help reduce inflationary pressure, but in a recession an overvalued exchange rate can cause deflationary pressures.

In 2011, both Switzerland and Japan have witnessed an appreciation in their currency. This appreciation occurred because investors are worried over finding secure investments in a period of economic uncertainty. However, because the global economy remains depressed (slow growth, high unemployment), this appreciation is unwelcome. It makes it more difficult to export goods and can lead to lower growth. For an economy like Japan which relies on a strong export sector, this decline in competitiveness could be very damaging for the country's economy.

This is why both Switzerland and Japan have sought to intervene to try and reduce the value of their currency. Recently China also devalued their currency.

In a period of global economic stagnation, we often see countries trying to devalue their currency to boost their exports. This is known as competitive devaluation.

Source: <http://www.livemint.com/Opinion/lwsgmu6mlxf1eo0AYABdml/A-strong-rupee-hurts-the-economy.html>

Q.41) Consider the following statements about 'Gaj Yatra'

1. It is launched to raise awareness about the shrinking space for wild elephants in the country
2. It is launched by 'Project Elephant'

Select the correct statements

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

Q.41) Solution (a)

In a bid to raise awareness about the shrinking space for wild elephants in the country, a "gaj yatra" campaign has been launched by an NGO, the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI).

The "gaj yatra", partnered by the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), will take the form of a roadshow that will move through 12 elephant range states over the next 15 months.

Source: <http://www.livemint.com/Politics/GkPIXp4XTA9tp3F9WgeWVO/Gaj-yatra-to-secure-elephant-corridors-launched-in-Mumbai.html>

Q.42) Consider the following statements about Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)

1. Inaugural IONS was held in India in 2015 under the chairmanship of the Indian Navy
2. IONS is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region

Select the correct statements

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

Q.42) Solution (b)

The 'Indian Ocean Naval Symposium' (IONS) is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region by providing an open and inclusive forum for discussion of regionally relevant maritime issues. In the process, it endeavours to generate a flow of information between naval professionals that would lead to common understanding and possibly cooperative solutions on the way ahead. The inaugural IONS Seminar was held by the Indian Navy in 2008. Subsequent seminars have been held by the United Arab Emirates Navy in 2010, the South African Navy in 2012, Royal Australian Navy in 2014 and the Bangladesh Navy in 2016.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-china-to-join-indian-ocean-exercise/article19486761.ece>

Q.43) Consider the following statements about 'Infusion therapy'

1. It involves the administration of medication through a needle or catheter
2. Infusion Nurses Society (INS) is a national non-profit organization representing infusion nurses and all other clinicians who practice infusion therapy

Select the correct statements

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

Q.43) Solution (c)

Infusion therapy involves the administration of medication through a needle or catheter. It is prescribed when a patient's condition is so severe that it cannot be treated effectively by oral medications. Typically, "infusion therapy" means that a drug is administered intravenously, but the term also may refer to situations where drugs are provided through other non-oral routes, such as intramuscular injections and epidural routes (into the membranes surrounding the spinal cord).

"Traditional" prescription drug therapies commonly administered via infusion include antibiotic, antifungal, antiviral, chemotherapy, hydration, pain management and parenteral nutrition.

Infusion therapy is also provided to patients for treating a wide assortment of often chronic and sometimes rare diseases for which "specialty" infusion medications are effective. While some have been available for many years, others are newer drugs and biologics. Examples

include blood factors, corticosteroids, erythropoietin, infliximab, inotropic heart medications, growth hormones, immunoglobulin, natalizumab and many others.

Diseases commonly requiring infusion therapy include infections that are unresponsive to oral antibiotics, cancer and cancer-related pain, dehydration, gastrointestinal diseases or disorders which prevent normal functioning of the gastrointestinal system, and more. Other conditions treated with specialty infusion therapies may include cancers, congestive heart failure, Crohn's Disease, hemophilia, immune deficiencies, multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, and more.

By far, the major home infusion therapies are IV antibiotics, prescribed primarily for such diagnoses as cellulitis, sepsis, and osteomyelitis; other diagnoses include urinary tract infections, pneumonia, sinusitis and more.

The Infusion Nurses Society (INS), located in Norwood, MA, is a national nonprofit organization representing infusion nurses and all other clinicians who practice infusion therapy.

INS India – Is an international affiliate of INS, US. formed by a group of like-minded healthcare professionals, as they joined hands to standardize infusion therapy practices in the Country

Membership is open to all healthcare professionals from all practice settings who are involved in or interested in the specialty practice of infusion therapy. INS is dedicated to advancing the delivery of quality therapy to patients, enhancing the specialty through stringent standards of practice and professional ethics, and promoting research and education in the infusion nursing practice.

The Infusion Nurses Society (INS)-India in its 6th National conference launched country's first online course on Infusion Therapy for nurses

Source: <http://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/industry/ins-india-launches-new-online-courses-on-infusion-therapy-for-nurses/60021668>

Q.44) Recently Mattala Airport was in news. It is located in

- a) Djibouti
- b) Guam
- c) Sri Lanka
- d) Seychelles

Q.4) Solution (c)

India has expressed interest to operate Sri Lanka's second international airport situated in Mattala, about 40 km from the southern town of Hambantota, where China has majority stake in a strategic port it built.

India proposes to "operate, manage, maintain and develop" the airport through a joint venture, holding 70% of the equity for 40 years. According to the Minister's Cabinet paper, India is to invest \$205 million in the venture, while Sri Lanka would pitch in the balance \$88 million.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-international/india-keen-to-run-sri-lanka-airport/article19477500.ece>

Q.45) Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The national average of children under 5 years who are underweight has reduced as reported in NFHS-4(2015-16) compared to NFHS-3(2005-06)
2. Report on Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) is published annually by Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India

Select the correct statements

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

Q.45) Solution (c)

Report on Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) gives statistics on Cause of death obtained through Civil Registration System under Registration of Births and Deaths Act 1969. It is published annually by Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India.

As per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-4 (2015-16), 35.7 per cent children below five years are underweight, 38.4 per cent are stunted and 21 per cent are wasted in the country.

The indicator Children under 5 years who are underweight (weight-for-age) is one of the composite indicator for child malnutrition. As per NFHS-4 data, the national average of children under 5 years who are underweight has reduced from 42.5% as reported in NFHS-3 (2005-06) to 35.7% in NFHS-4 (2015-16).

Source: http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/as-per-the-national-family-health-survey-nfhs-4-2015-16-35-7-per-cent-children-below-five-years-are-underweight-117081101085_1.html

Q.46) Consider the following statements about Graded Surveillance Measure (GSM) which was in news recently

1. The GSM is a system designed by SEBI to keep a check on shares which see an abnormal price rise not commensurate with the financial health or fundamentals.
2. A review process based on pre-defined criteria for moving securities in / out of GSM framework shall be carried out twice a year.
3. The GSM tags cannot be challenged

Select the correct statements

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

Q.46) Solution (a)

Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) directed exchanges to suspend trading in 331 listed companies, suspected of being "shell" entities. It directed stock exchanges to place these companies under the Graded Surveillance Measure (GSM).

The GSM is a system designed by Sebi to keep a check on shares which see an abnormal price rise not commensurate with the financial health or fundamentals. These companies are often illiquid, have low market capitalisations and poor fundamentals.

The regulator may suspect that shares of these companies are being bid up and used for money laundering.

Thus SEBI's intention is to identify and protect investors from dealing in such shares at an early stage. Such shares are monitored for sudden changes in earnings, book value, fixed assets, net worth, and price to earnings multiples, among other factors.

Once a company is identified, it goes in to one of the six stages of the GSM, attracting the corresponding surveillance action. Media reports suggest that over 700 companies have come under GSM since its introduction in February this year.

There are a total of six stages in GSM where the restrictions on trading in the securities get progressively higher. In the first stage, securities are placed under the trade-to-trade category, and a maximum of 5 per cent price movement in shares is allowed.

From the second stage a levy called the Additional Surveillance Deposit (ASD) is applicable for trading in these shares. The ASD will be retained by the exchange for a period of 5 months. So the second stage not only involves a 5 per cent price band for shares, it also attracts an ASD of 100 per cent.

In the third stage, buyers are allowed to trade in the security only once a week, i.e every Monday, apart from paying an ASD of 100 per cent on the traded value, whereas stage four attracts an ASD of 200 per cent.

Similarly, in the fifth stage, in addition to an ASD of 200 per cent, trading is permitted only on the first Monday of a month. The sixth stage, where companies are placed, attracts far higher restrictions.

In this stage trading in these shares are permitted only once a month, that is on the first Monday of the month without any upward movement in price.

There will be a review process by Sebi twice a year where the shares of companies will be moved in or out of GSM. Also, a quarterly review of GSM stages will be done where qualified companies may be moved back from a higher to lower stage.

The companies placed under GSM can challenge Sebi or stock exchanges, the Securities Appellate Tribunal or the high courts for relief.

Read More -

https://www.nseindia.com/invest/content/FAQs_Graded_Surveillance_Measure.pdf

Q.47) Consider the following statements about Shell Companies

1. Shell Company is a corporate entity without active business operations or significant assets.
2. Shell companies are illegal

Select the correct statements

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

Q.47) Solution (a)

Shell Company is a corporate entity without active business operations or significant assets. They are often created to avoid taxes and many big companies create shell corporations to avoid taxes without attracting legal actions.

It can't be asserted that shell corporations are illegal. They are deliberate financial arrangements to avoid taxes. Tax avoidance is not illegal, though it is not desirable.

But many shell companies park black money, carryout illegal transactions and sometimes act as facilitators of money laundering. Often, shell companies remain untraceable and happen to be the vehicle of choice for money launderers, bribe givers and takers, tax evaders and financiers of terrorism.

Read More - <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/columns/slate/all-you-wanted-to-know-aboutshell-companies/article9818149.ece>

Q.48) Introduced in January 2016 to revive investments in road infrastructure projects, (Hybrid-Annuity Model) HAM has seen good initial success. Consider the following statements

1. Government and the private player will equally share the project cost
2. The highway toll tax will be collected by the government i.e. (NHAI)

Select the correct statements

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

Q.48) Solution (b)

HAM's a hybrid — a mix of the EPC (engineering, procurement and construction) and BOT (build, operate, transfer) models. Under the EPC model, NHAI pays private players to lay roads. The private player has no role in the road's ownership, toll collection or maintenance (it is taken care of by the government). Under the BOT model though, private players have an active role — they build, operate and maintain the road for a specified number of years — say 10-15 years — before transferring the asset back to the government.

Under BOT, the private player arranged all the finances for the project, while collecting toll revenue or annuity fee from the Government, as agreed. The annuity fee arrangement is

known as BOT-Annuity; essentially, the toll revenue risk is taken by the government, while the private player is paid a pre-fixed annuity for construction and maintenance of roads.

Now, HAM combines EPC (40 per cent) and BOT-Annuity (60 per cent). On behalf of the government, NHAI releases 40 per cent of the total project cost. It is given in five tranches linked to milestones. The balance 60 per cent is arranged by the developer. Here, the developer usually invests not more than 20-25 per cent of the project cost (as against 40 percent or more before), while the remaining is raised as debt.

HAM arose out of a need to have a better financial mechanism for road development. The BOT model ran into roadblocks with private players not quite forthcoming to invest. First of all, the private player had to fully arrange for its finances — be it through equity contribution or debt. NPA-riddled banks were becoming wary of lending to these projects. Also, if the compensation structure didn't involve a fixed compensation (such as annuity), developers had to take on the entire risk of low passenger traffic. In the past, many assumptions on traffic had gone awry affecting returns. Now, they are unwilling to commit large sums of money in such models.

HAM is a good trade-off, spreading the risk between developers and the Government. Here, the government pitches in to finance 40 per cent of the project cost — a sort of viability-gap funding. This helps cut the overall debt and improves project returns. The annuity payment structure means that the developers aren't taking 'traffic risk'. From the Government's perspective, it gets an opportunity to flag off road projects by investing a portion of the project cost. While it does take the traffic risk, it also earns better social returns by way of access and convenience to daily commuters.

Q.49) Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) framework is concerned with?

- a) World Bank
- b) World Trade Organisation
- c) International Monetary Fund
- d) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Q.49) Solution (d)

Base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) refers to tax avoidance strategies that exploit gaps and mismatches in tax rules to artificially shift profits to low or no-tax locations. Under the inclusive framework, over 100 countries and jurisdictions are collaborating to implement the BEPS measures and tackle BEPS.

Q.50) Ping Pong Diplomacy was between which of the following countries?

- a) North Korea and China
- b) Japan and China
- c) South Korea and Japan
- d) None of the above

Q.50) Solution (d)

Ping-pong diplomacy refers to the exchange of table tennis (ping-pong) players between the United States and People's Republic of China (PRC) in the early 1970s. The event marked a thaw in Sino-American relations that paved the way to a visit to Beijing by President Richard Nixon.

Q.51) Which of the following is/are false about Neural Networks?

- a) They are artificial copy of the human brain
- b) They have high computational rates than conventional computers
- c) They learn by examples
- d) None of the above

Q.51) Solution (d)

ANNs are processing devices (algorithms or actual hardware) that are loosely modeled after the neuronal structure of the mammalian cerebral cortex but on much smaller scales. A large ANN might have hundreds or thousands of processor units, whereas a mammalian brain has billions of neurons with a corresponding increase in magnitude of their overall interaction and emergent behavior. Although ANN researchers are generally not concerned with whether their networks accurately resemble biological systems, some have. For example, researchers have accurately simulated the function of the retina and modeled the eye rather well.

By looking for common patterns in millions of bicycle photos, for instance, a neural network can learn to recognise a bike.

This is how Facebook identifies faces in online photos, how Android phones recognise commands spoken into phones, and how Microsoft Skype translates one language into another. But these complex systems can also create art.

In the 1990s, neural networks were used for cross-breeding sounds from very different instruments. Say, a bassoon and a clavichord. Creating instruments capable of producing sounds no one has ever heard.

Much as a neural network can learn to identify a cat by analysing hundreds of cat photos, it can learn the musical characteristics of a bassoon by analysing hundreds of notes.

How Do Neural Networks Differ From Conventional Computing?

To better understand artificial neural computing it is important to know first how a conventional 'serial' computer and its software process information. A serial computer has a central processor that can address an array of memory locations where data and instructions are stored. Computations are made by the processor reading an instruction as well as any data the instruction requires from memory addresses, the instruction is then executed and the results are saved in a specified memory location as required. In a serial system (and a standard parallel one as well) the computational steps are deterministic, sequential and logical, and the state of a given variable can be tracked from one operation to another.

In comparison, ANNs are not sequential or necessarily deterministic. There are no complex central processors, rather there are many simple ones which generally do nothing more than take the weighted sum of their inputs from other processors. ANNs do not execute programmed instructions; they respond in parallel (either simulated or actual) to the pattern of inputs presented to it. There are also no separate memory addresses for storing data. Instead, information is contained in the overall activation 'state' of the network. 'Knowledge' is thus represented by the network itself, which is quite literally more than the sum of its individual components.

What Applications Should Neural Networks Be Used For?

Neural networks are universal approximators, and they work best if the system you are using them to model has a high tolerance to error. One would therefore not be advised to use a neural network to balance one's cheque book! However they work very well for:

- capturing associations or discovering regularities within a set of patterns;
- where the volume, number of variables or diversity of the data is very great;
- the relationships between variables are vaguely understood; or,
- the relationships are difficult to describe adequately with conventional approaches.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/how-artificial-intelligence-is-reshaping-art-and-music/article19499782.ece>

Q.52) Which of the following is/are Sub Mission of the National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET)

1. Sub Mission on Agricultural Extension (SMAE)
2. Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSP)
3. Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)
4. Sub Mission on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine (SMPP)

Select the correct code

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 2, 3 and 4
- c) 1, 2 and 4
- d) All of the above

Q.52) Solution (d)

The aim of the Mission is to restructure and strengthen agricultural extension to enable delivery of appropriate technology and improved agronomic practices to farmers.

Objective is envisaged to be achieved by a judicious mix of extensive physical outreach and interactive methods of information dissemination, use of ICT, popularisation of modern and appropriate technologies, capacity building and institution strengthening to promote mechanisation, availability of quality seeds, plant protection etc. and encourage aggregation of Farmers into Interest Groups (FIGs) to form Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs).

The Mission has four components:

- Sub Mission on Agriculture Extension, (SMAE)
- Sub Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSP),
- Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) and
- Sub Mission on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine (SMPP).

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=167092>

Q.53) Consider the following statements about Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

1. It is under the aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
2. It is concerned with food, education and healthcare of children between the age of 6-14 years
3. Immunization is also sponsored under the scheme

Select the *incorrect* statements

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

Q.53) Solution (a)

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) is an Indian government welfare programme which provides food, preschool education, and primary healthcare to children under 6 years of age and their mothers.

Ministry of Child and Women Development

It is a Centrally Sponsored Schemes. It is implemented by states

The following services are sponsored under ICDS to help achieve its objectives:

- Immunization
- Supplementary nutrition
- Health check-up
- Referral services
- Pre-school non formal education
- Nutrition and Health information

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-telangana/abandoned-children-get-state-help/article19500860.ece>

Q.54) "Sudoor Drishti" and TAMRA Portal is associated with which of the following ministries?

- a) Ministry of Earth Sciences
- b) Ministry of Mines
- c) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- d) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Q.54) Solution (b)

Sudoor Drishti

IBM has entered into a MOU for project named "Sudoor Drishti" on 21st January, 2016, with National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Department of Space, Government of India for monitoring of Mining activity through satellite under the Prime Minister's vision of 'Digital India'.

The project would facilitate to monitor periodic changes of the mining areas within the mining lease boundary.

TAMRA (Transparency, Auction Monitoring and Resource Augmentation) portal and Mobile Application

TAMRA will be an interactive platform for all the stakeholders to compress the timelines for statutory and other clearances as it would help minimize the gestation period for commencing production.

Further, TAMRA covers block-wise, state-wise and mineral-wise information of the blocks to be auctioned, monitors various statutory clearances, and also highlights the additional resources generated through e-Auction. In case of delay in obtaining any clearances, TAMRA will send triggers to the concerned authority so that the remedial steps can be taken immediately by those responsible. The Ministry of Mines will also receive triggers generated by TAMRA and will facilitate in expediting clearances. This portal also enables successful bidder to give suggestions/inputs.

Q.55) Swiss Challenge is concerned with

- a) Black Money
- b) European Union
- c) Social Impact Assessment
- d) A process of giving contracts

Q.55) Solution (d)

A Swiss challenge is a form of public procurement in some jurisdictions which requires a public authority (usually an agency of government) which has received an unsolicited bid for a public project (such as a port, road or railway) or services to be provided to government, to publish the bid and invite third parties to match or exceed it.

Some Swiss challenges also allow the entity which submitted the unsolicited bid itself then to match or better the best bid which comes out of the Swiss challenge process.

Q.56) Which of the following are types of Value Capture Finance (VCF)?

1. Land Value Tax

2. Betterment levy
3. Fees for changing land use

Select the correct code:

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

Q.56) Solution (d)

Value capture is a type of public financing that recovers some or all of the value that public infrastructure generates for private landowners.

The different instruments of VCF are ; Land Value Tax, Fee for changing land use (agricultural to non-agricultural), Betterment levy, Development charges, Transfer of Development Rights, Premium on relaxation of Floor Space Index and Floor Area Ratio, Vacant Land Tax, Tax Increment Financing, Zoning relaxation for land acquisition and Land Pooling System.

Read More (VCF) -

<http://moud.gov.in/upload/whatsnew/5901c83d17591VCFPolicyFrameworkFINAL.pdf>

Source - <http://indianexpress.com/article/business/infra-project-financing-capitalising-on-value-creation-4803220/>

Q.57) Consider the following statements about National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP) 2020

1. It was launched by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)
2. It aims to achieve national fuel security by promoting hybrid and electric vehicles
3. FAME India was launched under NEMMP 2020

Select the correct statements

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

Q.57) Solution (b)

National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP) 2020: It aims to achieve national fuel security by promoting hybrid and electric vehicles in the country. It has set ambitious target of 6-7 million sales of hybrid and electric vehicles year on year from 2020 onwards.

It is a composite scheme using different policy-levers such as:

- Demand side incentives to facilitate acquisition of hybrid/electric vehicles
- Promoting R&D in technology including battery technology, power electronics, motors, systems integration, battery management system, testing infrastructure, and ensuring industry participation in the same
- Promoting charging infrastructure
- Supply side incentives
- Encouraging retro-fitting of on-road vehicles with hybrid kit

Government aims to provide fiscal and monetary incentives to kick start this nascent technology. With the support from the Government, the cumulative sale is expected to reach 15-16 Million by 2020. It is expected to save 9500 Million Liters of crude oil equivalent to Rs. 62000 Cr. savings. Government has launched the scheme namely Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles (FAME India) under NEMMP 2020 in the Union Budget for 2015-16 with an initial outlay of Rs. 75 Cr. The scheme will provide a major push for early adoption and market creation of both hybrid and electric technologies vehicles in the country.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/getting-charged-up/article19519844.ece>

Q.58) Rohingyas are

- a) Muslim refugees from eastern Sri Lanka settled in Tamil Nadu
- b) An anti-communist political group in Syria
- c) A political group fighting for autonomy in Catalonia
- d) Muslim refugees migrating from Myanmar to India and Bangladesh

Q.58) Solution (d)

The Rohingyas are a minority ethnic Muslim group based in Buddhist-dominated country of Myanmar or Burma.

Rohingyas initially dwelled in an independent kingdom in Arakan during the 8th century which is today known as the Rakhine state of Myanmar.

Later in 1784, thousands of refugees fled to present day Bangladesh after the Burman King Bodawpaya conquered Arakan.

Later in 1982, a new immigration law classified all migrants during British rule as illegal, even Rohingya.

This new law does not recognize Rohingya as part of Myanmar's 135 official ethnic groups and restricts them from studying, traveling, working, access health facilities and marriage. The Rohingya are seen as illegal Bangladeshi immigrants.

The Rohingya, under this law, need to provide proof that they have lived in Myanmar for 60 years to get citizenship. But, they are often denied paper work.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/a-free-country-like-india-should-give-us-refuge-fatima-25-rohingya-refugee-in-delhi-4804380/>

Q.59) With the 14th Finance Commission allocating Rs 4144.14 crore, the Centre has now asked states to set up a total of 1,800 fast track courts for a period of five years. Fast Track Courts will be dealing with

- a) Civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/ rent disputes pending for more than 5 years
- b) Civil cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants afflicted with HIV/AIDS and other terminal ailments
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Q.59) Solution (c)

These courts will have the mandate to try all cases of heinous crimes such as murder, rape, dacoity, kidnapping, human trafficking and dowry deaths.

They will also settle civil cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants afflicted with HIV/AIDS and other terminal ailments

Civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/ rent disputes pending for more than 5 years will also come in the ambit of these courts

While the most populous state, Uttar Pradesh, has been granted Rs 488 crore, Maharashtra has been given Rs 469 crore for the courts. Gujarat, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and West Bengal have been earmarked Rs 400 crore, Rs 338 crore, Rs 306 crore, Rs 218 crore and Rs 216 crore respectively.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/mumbai/mumbai-thane-to-get-three-fast-track-courts/article19525930.ece>

Q.60) The Monroe Doctrine

- a) Established American pre-eminence in the Western Hemisphere
- b) Indicated the United States' desire to support revolts against the British government in Canada
- c) Called for the United States' to join democratic movements stirring in Europe
- d) None of the above

Q.60) Solution (a)

The Doctrine established American pre-eminence in the Western Hemisphere, declaring that European powers could no longer subjugate countries in the Americas. The Monroe Doctrine indicated the United States' desire to avoid entanglements in European wars.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/what-is-monroe-doctrine-in-history/article19511430.ece>

Q.61) Consider the following statements about Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS)

1. It is under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
2. It aims at creating a comprehensive and integrated system for enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of policing through adopting of principle of e-Governance
3. It is implemented by National Crime Records Bureau

Select the correct statements

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

Q.61) Solution (b)

Ministry of Home Affairs

Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS) is a plan scheme conceived in the light of experience of a non-plan scheme namely - Common Integrated Police Application (CIPA). CCTNS is a Mission Mode Project under the National e-Governance Plan of Govt of India. CCTNS aims at creating a comprehensive and integrated system for enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of policing through adopting of principle of e-Governance and creation of a nationwide networking infrastructure for evolution of IT-enabled-state-of-the-art tracking system around 'Investigation of crime and detection of criminals'.

The objectives of the Scheme can broadly be listed as follows:

- Make the Police functioning citizen friendly and more transparent by automating the functioning of Police Stations.
- Improve delivery of citizen-centric services through effective usage of ICT.
- Provide the Investigating Officers of the Civil Police with tools, technology and information to facilitate investigation of crime and detection of criminals.
- Improve Police functioning in various other areas such as Law and Order, Traffic Management etc.
- Facilitate Interaction and sharing of Information among Police Stations, Districts, State/UT headquarters and other Police Agencies.
- Assist senior Police Officers in better management of Police Force
- Keep track of the progress of Cases, including in Courts
- Reduce manual and redundant Records keeping

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170140>

Q.62) Consider the following statements

1. The Landing Craft Utility (LCU) is a type of boat used by amphibious forces to transport equipment and troops to the shore
2. IN LCU L52 has been indigenously designed and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers

Select the correct statements

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.62) Solution (c)

IN LCU L52 is the second Landing Craft Utility (LCU) Mk-IV class to be inducted into the Indian Navy. The ship has been indigenously designed and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Kolkata. The commissioning of L-52 is yet another manifestation of the potential of the country's indigenous design and ship building capability.

LCU MK-IV ship is an amphibious ship with the primary role to transport and deploy Main Battle Tanks, Armoured Vehicles, troops and equipment from ship to shore. These ships would be based in the Andaman and Nicobar Command and can be deployed for multirole activities like beaching operations, search and rescue, disaster relief operations, supply and replenishment and evacuation from distant islands.

The ships are designed for multipurpose amphibious operations that are jointly carried out by Indian Navy and Indian Army for ensuring maritime security of Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal, and Lakshadweep Islands in the Arabian Sea.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170128>

Q.63) Consider the following statements about Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATLs)

1. It is part of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)
2. Mentor India Campaign will engage leaders who can guide and mentor students at Atal Tinkering Labs
3. ATLs can be established in schools (Grade VI – XII) managed by Government, local body or private trusts/society.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.63) Solution (d)

Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATLs)

To foster creativity and scientific temper in students, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) will establish 500 Atal Tinkering Laboratories in schools. It will provide one time establishment aid of Rs. 10 lakh for establishing Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATL) in schools (grade VI – XII) across India. An amount of Rs. 10 lakh would also be provided for each ATL over a period of 5 years for operational expenses. A total amount of Rs. 20 lakh per ATL in each selected school will be spent. Young children will get a chance to work with tools and equipment to understand the concepts of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Competitions at regional and national scale will also be organised to showcase the innovations developed by the children.

ATL is a work space where young minds can give shape to their ideas through hands on do-it-yourself mode; and learn innovation skills. ATL would contain educational and learning 'do it yourself' kits and equipment on – science, electronics, robotics, open source microcontroller boards, sensors and 3D printers and computers.

ATLs can be established in schools (Grade VI – XII) managed by Government, local body or private trusts/society. A minimum 25% of the ATLs would be set up in schools managed by Government (Central or State).

Read More -

<http://niti.gov.in/writereaddata/files/Guidelines%20to%20setup%20Atal%20Tinkering%20Labs%20May%202016.pdf>

Source: http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/niti-aayog-to-launch-mentor-india-campaign-117082200762_1.html

Q.64) Consider the following statements

1. An Inner Line Permit is required to visit the Pangong Tso
2. Depsang Plains are located at the Line of Actual Control that separates the Indian- and Chinese-controlled regions.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.64) Solution (c)

The Depsang Plains are located at the Line of Actual Control that separates the Indian- and Chinese-controlled regions. The Chinese Army occupied most of the plains in 1962. India controls the western portion of the plains, whereas the eastern portion is part of the Aksai Chin region, which is controlled by China and claimed by India. In April 2013, the Chinese PLA troops set up a temporary camp in the Depsang Bulge, but later withdrew as a result of a diplomatic agreement with India.

An Inner Line Permit is required to visit the lake as it lies on the Sino-Indian Line of Actual Control.

The lake is in the process of being identified under the Ramsar Convention as a wetland of international importance. This will be the first trans-boundary wetland in South Asia under the convention.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/what-is/what-is-pangon-lake-india-china-doklam-standoff-pangong-tso-ladakh-4798757/>

Q.65) 'Swasth Bachche, Swasth Bharat' is concerned with which of the following ministries?

- a) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- d) None of the above

Q.65) Solution (a)

'Swasth Bachche, Swasth Bharat' Programme, an initiative of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan to prepare a physical Health and Fitness Profile Card for more than 12 lakhs of Kendriya Vidyalaya students was launched.

Swasth Bachche, Swasth Bharat programme will provide a comprehensive and inclusive report card for children covering all age groups and children of different abilities. Making students, teachers and parents aware about the importance of good health and fitness and encouraging 60 minutes of play each day is an objective of the programme. Swasth Bachche, Swasth Bharat programme also intends to imbibe values of Olympics and Paralympics amongst students. Bring back the childhood amongst children and make physical activity and recreational games an integral part of learning process, Motivating potentially outstanding performers in various games and sports of excellence, using technology for data capture and analytics, and giving access to schools, parents and teachers are also the objectives of the programmes.

Source: http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/hrd-minister-shri-prakash-javadekar-launches-swasth-bachche-swasth-bharat-117082100929_1.html

Q.66) Consider the following statements concerning Polymetallic Nodules (PMN)

1. They are called as manganese nodules
2. It contains nickel, cobalt and copper
3. India has contract for exploration of PMN in Central Indian Ocean Basin with the International Seabed Authority (ISA)

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Q.66) Solution (d)

Polymetallic nodules (also known as manganese nodules) are potato-shaped, largely porous nodules found in abundance carpeting the sea floor of world oceans in deep sea. Besides manganese and iron, they contain nickel, copper, cobalt, lead, molybdenum, cadmium, vanadium, titanium, of which nickel, cobalt and copper are considered to be of economic and strategic importance. India signed a 15 year contract for exploration of Polymetallic Nodules (PMN) in Central Indian Ocean Basin with the International Seabed Authority (ISA) (an Institution set up under the Convention on Law of the Sea to which India is a Party) on 25th March, 2002 with the approval of Cabinet. India is presently having an area of 75,000 sq.km., located about 2000 km away from her southern tip for exploration of PMN.

Source: http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/india-s-exclusive-rights-to-explore-polymetallic-nodules-from-central-indian-ocean-seabed-basin-extended-by-five-years-117082200207_1.html

Q.67) Which of the following countries are landlocked by a single country?

1. Lesotho
2. San Marino
3. Liechtenstein

Select the correct code:

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

Q.67) Solution (a)

Three countries are landlocked by a single country (enclaved countries)

- Lesotho, a state surrounded by South Africa.
- San Marino, a state surrounded by Italy.
- Vatican City, a state forming part of Rome, thus surrounded by Italy.

A country is "doubly landlocked" or "double-landlocked" when it is surrounded entirely by one or more landlocked countries (requiring the crossing of at least two national borders to reach a coastline).

There are currently two such countries:

- Liechtenstein in Central Europe, surrounded by Switzerland and Austria.
- Uzbekistan in Central Asia, surrounded by Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan.

Q.68) Consider the following statements about Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF)

1. The funds will be raised by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) through issuance of bonds
2. These funds will be for the implementation of Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) only

Select the correct statements

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

Q.68) Solution (b)

The funds will be raised by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) through the issuance of Bonds at 6 per cent per annum as per requirement.

These funds will be for the implementation of Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) works of 99 ongoing prioritised irrigation projects along with their command area development (CAD) works under the Prime Minister Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

Read More - <http://www.nabard.org/auth/writereaddata/File/LTIF-material%20for%20website.pdf>

Source: <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/policy/cabinet-approves-raising-9020-crore-for-long-term-irrigation-fund/article9820126.ece>

Q.69) Consider the following statements

1. Amazon tropical rainforests are known as Selvas
2. The majority of the Amazon rainforest is contained within Brazil

Select the correct statements

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

Q.69) Solution (c)

Amazon Rainforest also known in English as Amazonia or the Amazon Jungle, is a moist broadleaf forest in the Amazon biome that covers most of the Amazon basin of South America. This basin encompasses 7,000,000 square kilometres (2,700,000 sq mi), of which 5,500,000 square kilometres (2,100,000 sq mi) are covered by the rainforest.

This region includes territory belonging to nine nations. The majority of the forest is contained within Brazil, with 60% of the rainforest, followed by Peru with 13%, Colombia with 10%, and with minor amounts in Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana. States or departments in four nations contain "Amazonas" in their names.

The Amazon represents over half of the planet's remaining rainforests, and comprises the largest and most biodiverse tract of tropical rainforest in the world, with an estimated 390 billion individual trees divided into 16,000 species.

Q.70) Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Supreme Court held the practice of triple talaq unconstitutional.
2. In case of talaq-e-bidat, even if the man realizes that he has made a mistake, the divorce cannot be revoked

Select the correct statements

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

Q.70) Solution (c)

Triple talaq is a practice by which Muslim men divorce their wives by uttering 'talaq' thrice, over a period of three months.

It is different from instantaneous talaq — or talaq-e-bidat — in which Muslim men utter 'talaq' thrice instantly - sometimes via a written talaqnama, or even by phone or text message – while not adhering to the three-month iddat period, which is meant for reconciliation and arbitration.

The Muslim clergy which once used to consider talaq-e-bidat as bad in theology had begun to uphold the same as valid and good in law over the recent years.

In case of talaq-e-bidat, even if the man realizes that he has made a mistake, the divorce cannot be revoked. The only option before him to go back to living with his wife is through a nikah halala.

As part of nikah halala, the woman is required to get remarried, consummate the second marriage, get divorced, observe the iddat period and then come back to her original husband.

Q.71) Consider the following statements about 'Padayani'

1. It is performed in honour of Bhadrakali
2. It is performed in Karnataka

Select the correct statements

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

Q.71) Solution (a)

Padayani, also called Padeni, is a traditional folk dance and a ritual art from the central portion of the Indian state of Kerala. A ceremonial dance involving masks, it is an ancient ritual performed in Bhagavati temples. The dance is performed in honor of Bhadrakali. Meaning, a 'row of warriors', Padayani is an art form that blends music, dance, theatre, satire, facial masks, and paintings. It is part of worship of Bhadrakali and is staged in temples dedicated to the goddess from mid-December to mid-May. Padayani is unique to central Travancore, comprising the Pathanamthitta district of Kerala. Padayani is regarded as a remnant of the Dravidian forms of worship that existed before the advent of Brahmanism.

Padayani is like Theyyam in north kerala. The percussion instruments used in Patayani are patayani thappu, chenda, para and kumbham.

Q.72) Recently 'Reindeer Police' was in news concerned with which of the following countries?

- a) Sweden
- b) Norway
- c) Finland
- d) Greenland

Q.72) Solution (b)

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/reindeer-police-the-only-force-of-its-kind-in-the-world/article17857387.ece>

Q.73) Consider the following statements about National Intelligence Grid

1. It is a counter terrorism programme, which utilises technologies like Big Data and analytics to study and analyse the data from various intelligence and enforcement agencies

2. The information will be available in public domain to help track suspected terrorists and prevent terrorist attacks

Select the correct statements

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

Q.73) Solution (a)

NATGRID is an ambitious counter terrorism programme, which will utilise technologies like Big Data and analytics to study and analyse the huge amounts of data from various intelligence and enforcement agencies to help track suspected terrorists and prevent terrorist attacks.

This combined data will be made available to 11 central agencies, which are: Research and Analysis Wing, the Intelligence Bureau, Central Bureau of Investigation, Financial intelligence unit, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Enforcement Directorate, Narcotics Control Bureau, Central Board of Excise and Customs and the Directorate General of Central Excise Intelligence.

Q.74) Consider the following statements

1. A mutual legal assistance treaty (MLAT) is an agreement between two or more countries for the purpose of gathering and exchanging information in an effort to enforce public or criminal laws
2. Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal Ministry and the Central authority for seeking and providing mutual legal assistance in criminal law matters

Select the correct statements

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

Q.74) Solution (c)

A mutual legal assistance treaty is an agreement between two or more countries for the purpose of gathering and exchanging information in an effort to enforce public or criminal laws. This assistance may take the form of examining and identifying people, places and things, custodial transfers, and providing assistance with the immobilisation of the instruments of criminal activity. According to MEA website, India has signed Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) with 39 countries and is trying to sign this treaty with more developed countries.

As per the Allocation of Business Rules of the Government of India, the Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal Ministry and the Central authority for seeking and providing mutual legal assistance in criminal law matters. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) receives all such requests, examines them and takes appropriate action. (Internal Security-II (IS-II) Division handles this subject in the Ministry of Home Affairs.)The Ministry of External Affairs may be involved in this process when such requests are routed through diplomatic channels by these Ministries.

The difference between the two categories of countries is that the country having an MLAT with India has an obligation to consider serving the documents, whereas the non-MLAT countries do not have any obligation to consider such a request.

The Ministry of Home Affairs does not undertake service of non-bailable warrants of arrest. The service of non-bailable arrest warrants amounts to the extradition of the individual. Requests for extradition are based on legal principles and procedures contained in Extradition Treaties negotiated with the foreign country concerned. Such requests are to be forwarded in the prescribed format to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Q.75) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is under the

- a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- b) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- d) None of the above

Q.75) Solution (a)

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is an export promotion body under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

It was established by the Government of India under the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act passed by the Parliament in December, 1985.

The Authority replaced the Processed Food Export Promotion Council (PFEPCC).

Read More - http://apeda.gov.in/apedawebsite/about_apeda/about_apeda.htm

Q.76) Consider the following statements about Mookambika Temple

1. It sits on the banks of the Tungabhadra River
2. It is located in Hampi

Select the correct statements

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

Q.76) Solution (d)

The Kollur Mookambika Temple/ at Kollur, Udupi District in the state of Karnataka, India, is a Hindu temple dedicated to mother Durga devi or Saraswati known as Mookambika Devi. Mookambika is Shakthi devi, the supreme mother goddess in Hinduism. She is worshipped in three different forms such as Maha Kali (goddess of power) in the morning, Maha Lakshmi (goddess of wealth) in the noon and Maha Saraswati (goddess of knowledge) in the evening.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-karnataka/sri-lankan-pm-to-visit-kollur-tomorrow/article19556704.ece>

Q.77) Consider the following statements about 'Washington Consensus'

1. It is a set of economic prescriptions made by the NAFTA to developing countries
2. It advocates free trade and reducing government budget deficits

Select the correct statements

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

Q.77) Solution (b)

This is a set of neoliberal economic prescriptions made by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the U.S. Treasury to developing countries that faced economic crises. It recommended structural reforms that increased the role of market forces in exchange for immediate financial help. The term was coined by British economist John Williamson in 1989. While some said that the Washington Consensus was used to impose harsh conditions that were unhelpful for economic recovery, others have argued that although not perfect, it was favourable to long-term economic growth in developing economies.

Neoliberalism refers primarily to the 20th-century resurgence of 19th-century ideas associated with laissez-faire economic liberalism. These include economic liberalization policies such as privatization, fiscal austerity, deregulation, free trade, and reductions in government spending in order to increase the role of the private sector in the economy and society.

Essentially, the Washington consensus advocates, free trade, floating exchange rates, free markets and macroeconomic stability.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/what-is-washington-consensus-in-economics/article19555453.ece>

Q.78) Which of the following countries is/are not members of the G4?

1. Brazil
2. India
3. South Africa
4. China

Select the correct code

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

Q.78) Solution (b)

The G4 nations comprising Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan are four countries which support each other's bids for permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council. Unlike the G7, where the common denominator is the economy and long-term political

motives, the G4's primary aim is the permanent member seats on the Security Council. Each of these four countries have figured among the elected non-permanent members of the council since the UN's establishment. Their economic and political influence has grown significantly in the last decades, reaching a scope comparable to the permanent members (P5). However, the G4's bids are often opposed by the Uniting for Consensus movement, and particularly their economic competitors or political rivals.

Q.79) Consider the following statements about Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB)

1. It is a statutory body
2. It advises the Government on issues relating to wildlife crimes having national and international ramifications

Select the correct statements

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

Q.79) Solution (c)

The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau was created to complement the existing state machinery to deal with the wildlife crime having ramifications beyond state and national borders. It is not intended to perform the normal and routine functions falling within the domain of the States / Union Territories, as crime including the implementation of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, is mandate of the State Governments.

It was constituted on 6th June 2007. The Bureau was constituted by amendment to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. It has been envisaged as a multi - disciplinary statutory body that will have officials from forests, police, customs and other similar agencies. The constitution is specified in Section 38 (Y) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

The functions of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) are defined under Section 38 Z (1) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, which reads as follows:

"Subject to the Provisions of this Act, the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau shall take measures with respect to –

- Collect and collate intelligence related to organized Wildlife Crime activities and to disseminate the same to State and other enforcement agencies for immediate action

so as to apprehend the criminals and to establish a centralized Wildlife Crime data bank;

- Co-ordination of actions by various officers, State Governments and other authorities in connection with the enforcement of the provisions of this Act, either directly or through regional and border units set up by the Bureau;
- Implementation of obligations under the various international Conventions and protocols that are in force at present or which may be ratified or acceded to by India in future;
- Assistance to concerned authorities in foreign countries and concerned international organizations to facilitate co-ordination and universal action for wildlife crime control;
- Develop infrastructure and capacity building for scientific and professional investigation into wildlife crimes and assist State Governments to ensure success in prosecutions related to wildlife crimes;
- Advise the Government of India on issues relating to wildlife crimes having national and international ramifications, and suggest changes required in relevant policy and laws from time to time."

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/huge-haul-of-painting-brushes-made-of-mongoose-hair/article19542571.ece>

Q.80) Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) was in news recently concerned with

- a) India's first private mission to moon
- b) Evolved Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (eLISA)
- c) Project Loon
- d) None of the above

Q.80) Solution (d)

Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches are the passenger compartments of Indian Railways that have been developed by Linke-Hofmann-Busch of Germany.

Source; <http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-rlys-planned-additional-safer-lhb-coaches-in-july-2540317>

Q.81) Consider the following statements about Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act 2017

1. It authorises RBI to issue directions to banks to initiate insolvency resolution process to recover bad loans.
2. RBI can specify authorities or committees to advise banks on resolution of stressed assets and the members on the committees will be appointed or approved by the RBI.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.81) Solution (c)

The government has notified the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act under which it can authorise the RBI to issue directions to banks to initiate insolvency resolution process to recover bad loans.

These proceedings would be under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

Under the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2017, the RBI can issue directions to banks for resolution of stressed assets.

The RBI can specify authorities or committees to advise banks on resolution of stressed assets. The members on the committees will be appointed or approved by the RBI.

Read More - <http://www.thehindu.com/business/all-you-need-to-know-about-the-banking-regulation-amendment-bill-2017/article19475175.ece>

Source: <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/government-notifies-changes-in-banking-regulation-act/articleshow/60243621.cms>

Q.82) River Tungabhadra flows through

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Gujarat

Q.82) Solution (b)

The Tungabhadra River is a river in India that starts and flows through the state of Karnataka during most of its course, before flowing along the border between Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh and ultimately joining the Krishna River along the border of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

The Tungabhadra Dam is constructed across the Tungabhadra River, a tributary of the Krishna River. The dam is near the town of Hospet in Karnataka. It is a multipurpose dam serving irrigation, electricity generation, flood control, etc.



Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-karnataka/farmers-with-nurseries-in-the-doldrums/article19556967.ece>

Q.83) Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Rakhine State is a coastal state in Bangladesh

2. Myanmar is bordered by India, China, Bangladesh, Thailand and Cambodia

Select the correct code:

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

Q.83) Solution (d)

Myanmar is bordered by India and Bangladesh to its west, Thailand and Laos to its east, and China to its north and northeast.

Rakhine State is a state in Myanmar (Burma). Situated on the western coast, it is bordered by Chin State to the north, Magway Region, Bago Region and Ayeyarwady Region to the east, the Bay of Bengal to the west, and the Chittagong Division of Bangladesh to the northwest.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/thousands-flee-violence-in-myanmars-rakhine/article19571339.ece>

Q.84) Consider the following statements about Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

- 1. All the members of ASEAN have a coastline
- 2. ASEAN is an official United Nations Observer

Select the correct code

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

Q.84) Solution (b)

ASEAN is a regional intergovernmental organisation comprising ten Southeast Asian states which promotes Pan-Asianism, intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, political, military, educational and cultural integration amongst its members and Asian states. Since its formation on 8 August 1967 by Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand, the organisation's membership has expanded to include Brunei,

Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam. Its principal aims include accelerating economic growth, social progress, and sociocultural evolution among its members, alongside the protection of regional stability and the provision of a mechanism for member countries to resolve differences peacefully. ASEAN is an official United Nations Observer. Communication by members across nations takes place in English.

Laos is a landlocked country.

Source: <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/parliamentary-panel-suggests-69-ways-to-improve-trade-with-asean/articleshow/60250117.cms>

Q.85) Consider the following statements about Crime and Criminal Tracking Networks and Systems (CCTNS) Project

1. Digital Police Portal is launched under the CCTNS Project
2. It facilitates a pan-India search of crime and criminal records of individuals through a national database

Select the correct statements

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

Q.85) Solution (c)

Digital Police Portal will enable citizens to register FIRs online and the portal will initially offer seven Public Delivery Services in 34 States & UTs, like Person and Address Verification e.g. of employees, tenants, nurses etc, permission for hosting Public Events, Lost & Found Articles and Vehicle theft etc. Besides, the portal will enable restricted access to law enforcement agencies on topics such as Antecedent Verification and make assessment of FIRs.

Read More - <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=160547>

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170140>

Q.86) FDI is prohibited in which of the following?

1. Nidhi Company

2. Trading in Transferable Development Rights (TDRs)
3. Atomic Energy
4. Chit Funds

Select the correct code:

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 2, 3 and 4
- c) 1, 3 and 4
- d) All of the above

Q.86) Solution (d)

FDI is prohibited in:

- Lottery Business including Government/private lottery, online lotteries, etc.
- Gambling and Betting including casinos etc.
- Chit funds
- Nidhi company
- Trading in Transferable Development Rights (TDRs)
- Real Estate Business or Construction of Farm Houses. 'Real estate business' shall not include development of townships, construction of residential /commercial premises, roads or bridges and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) registered and regulated under the SEBI (REITs) Regulations 2014.
- Manufacturing of cigars, cheroots, cigarillos and cigarettes, of tobacco or of tobacco substitutes
- Activities/sectors not open to private sector investment e.g. (I) Atomic Energy and (II) Railway operations

Foreign technology collaboration in any form including licensing for franchise, trademark, brand name, management contract is also prohibited for Lottery Business and Gambling and Betting activities.

Source: http://dipp.nic.in/sites/default/files/CFPC_2017_FINAL_RELEASED_28.8.17.pdf

Q.87) Consider the following statements about RIMES (Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early Warning System for Asia and Africa)

1. It is an international and intergovernmental institution, owned and managed by its Member States, for the generation and application of early warning information

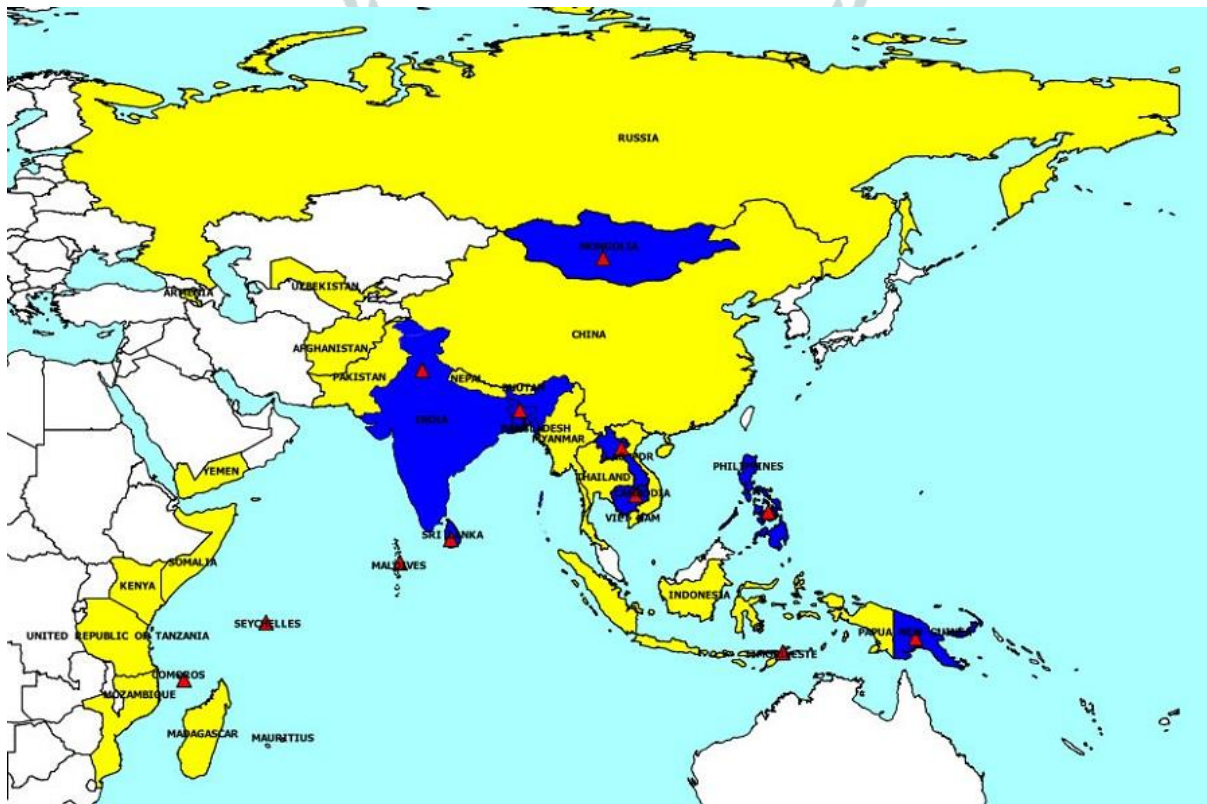
2. It provides regional tsunami watch within the framework of Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO)

Select the correct statements

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

Q.87) Solution (c)

The Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES) is an international and intergovernmental institution, owned and managed by its Member States, for the generation and application of early warning information. RIMES evolved from the efforts of countries in Africa and Asia, in the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, to establish a regional early warning system within a multi-hazard framework for the generation and communication of early warning information, and capacity building for preparedness and response to trans-boundary hazards. RIMES was established on 30 April 2009, and was registered with the United Nations on 1 July 2009. RIMES operates from its regional early warning center located at the campus of the Asian Institute of Technology in Pathumthani, Thailand.



Aim: RIMES provides regional early warning services and builds capacity of its Member States in the end-to-end early warning of tsunami and hydro-meteorological hazards.

Mission: Building capacity and providing actionable warning information towards forearmed, forewarned and resilient communities.

12 Member States: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Comoros, India, Lao PDR, Maldives, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste.

19 Collaborating Countries: Afghanistan, Armenia, Bhutan, China, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Somalia, Tanzania, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, and Yemen.

RIMES was registered with the United Nations under Article 102 on 1 July 2009, and has been supported since inception by UNESCAP and DANIDA.

Read More -

http://www.preventionweb.net/files/globalplatform/entry_presentation~11h45.pdf

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/ocean-forecasting-system-for-madagascar-and-mozambique/article19571161.ece>

Q.88) Which of the following is known as 'Royal Disease'?

- a) Haemophilia
- b) Gout
- c) Alzheimer's disease (AD)
- d) Gulf War syndrome

Q.88) Solution (a)

Haemophilia, also spelled hemophilia, is a mostly inherited genetic disorder that impairs the body's ability to make blood clots, a process needed to stop bleeding. This results in people bleeding longer after an injury, easy bruising, and an increased risk of bleeding inside joints or the brain. Those with a mild case of the disease may have symptoms only after an accident or during surgery. Bleeding into a joint can result in permanent damage while bleeding in the brain can result in long term headaches, seizures, or a decreased level of consciousness.

Haemophilia has featured prominently in European royalty and thus is sometimes known as 'the royal disease'.

Queen Victoria passed the mutation for haemophilia B to her son Leopold and, through two of her daughters, Alice and Beatrice, to various royals across the continent, including the royal families of Spain, Germany, and Russia.

In Russia, Tsarevich Alexei, the son and heir of Tsar Nicholas II, famously suffered from haemophilia, which he had gotten from his mother, Empress Alexandra, one of Queen Victoria's granddaughters. The haemophilia of Alexei would result in the rise to prominence of the Russian mystic Grigori Rasputin, at the imperial court.

Source: <http://www.newindianexpress.com/thesundaystandard/2017/aug/27/no-guidelines-yet-law-fails-indias-haemophiliacs-1648548.html>

Q.89) Underemployment is

- a) Same as disguised unemployment
- b) Those workers who are highly skilled but working in low paying jobs
- c) Unemployment that results from time spent between jobs when a worker is searching for, or transitioning from one job to another
- d) Unemployment caused by fundamental shifts in an economy and exacerbated by extraneous factors such as technology, competition and government policy

Q.89) Solution (b)

Underemployment is a measure of employment and labor utilization in the economy that looks at how well the labor force is being utilized in terms of skills, experience and availability to work. Labor that falls under the underemployment classification includes those workers who are highly skilled but working in low paying jobs, workers who are highly skilled but working in low skill jobs and part-time workers who would prefer to be full time. This is different from unemployment in that the individual is working but is not working at his full capability.

For example, an individual with an engineering degree working as a pizza delivery man as his main source of income is considered to be underemployed and underutilized by the economy as he, in theory, can provide a greater benefit to the overall economy if he works as an engineer. Also, an individual who is working part time at an office job instead of full time is considered underemployed because he is willing to provide more employment, which can increase the overall output.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/india-facing-problem-of-severe-under-employment-says-niti/article19570289.ece>

Q.90) Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. A minority educational institution is one that has been set up by either a linguistic or a religious minority group
2. The Constitution of India provides for minority educational institutions

Select the correct statements

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

Q.90) Solution (c)

A minority educational institution is one that has been set up by either a linguistic or a religious minority group, to keep alive and foster what it considers its unique and special features. This may be recalling its past, its history, its education, or its texts.

The Constitution in the chapter of Fundamental Rights, Part III, explicitly provides for the right. Article 30, titled "Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions", says:

"(1) All minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice

(1A) In making any law providing for the compulsory acquisition of any property of an educational institution established and administered by a minority, referred to in clause (1), the State shall ensure that the amount fixed by or determined under such law for the acquisition of such property is such as would not restrict or abrogate the right guaranteed under that clause

(2) The state shall not, in granting aid to educational institutions, discriminate against any educational institution on the ground that it is under the management of a minority, whether based on religion or language."

Article 29, "Protection of interests of minorities", says:

"(1) Any section of the citizens residing in the territory of India or any part thereof having a distinct language, script or culture of its own shall have the right to conserve the same."

Q.91) Consider the following

1. M Nagaraj Case
2. Mandal Commission
3. Indra Sawhney Case

They are concerned with

- a) Reservation
- b) Section 377
- c) National Judicial Appointments Commission
- d) Capital gains tax

Q.91) Solution (a)

Reservation in central government jobs (Indra Sawhney v UOI November) - 1992

- Attempt to correct historic injustices constitutionally.
- The constitutional bench of the Supreme Court held in this matter that caste could be a factor for identifying backward classes.
- It defined the “creamy layer” criteria and uphold the execution of the recommendations made by the Mandal Commission

M. Nagaraj v. Union of India (October 2006) held that the state must demonstrate backwardness, inadequacy of representation and maintenance of efficiency before providing reservation in promotions.

Source: <http://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/delhi-high-court-quashes-government-order-extending-reservation-in-promotion/831972/>

Q.92) With reference to Market Stabilisation Scheme (MSS), consider the following statements:

1. It is a tool used by the RBI to suck out excess liquidity from the market through issue of securities on behalf of the government.
2. The money raised under MSS is parked in the government account or utilised to fund its expenditure.

Which of the statements given above is/are true?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

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

Q.92) Solution (a)**Market Stabilisation Scheme**

- MSS is a tool used by the Reserve Bank of India to suck out excess liquidity from the market through issue of securities like Treasury Bills, Dated Securities etc. on behalf of the government.
- The MSS was first introduced in April 2004. Main thing about MSS is that it is used to withdraw excess liquidity or money from the system by selling government bonds. The money raised under MSS is kept in a separate account called MSS Account and not parked in the government account or utilized to fund its expenditures.
- The money obtained under MSS should be kept with the RBI. It should not be transferred to the government. This is because, if it is transferred, government will spend the money in the economy thereby adding to liquidity.
- After demonetisation, huge deposits were put into the banking system. At the same time, banks can't lend it to customers as it is just temporary money. The RBI has instructed banks to keep all the additional deposits as CRR. But here, the banks will suffer losses as they have to pay interest to the depositors.
- To compensate banks, the MSS policy is revived. Here, banks can put the excess money obtained from deposits in Market Stabilisation Bonds (MSBs). They can get an interest payment as well.

Source: <http://www.livemint.com/Opinion/OTJeJfkNZgeKWBKg58dlgN/Forex-reserves-The-problem-of-plenty.html>

Q.93) Which of the following states granted minority status to Jews?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Goa
- d) Kerala

Q.93) Solution (b)

The decision is based on the Maharashtra State Minorities Commission Act, 2004, which empowers the government to declare a community minority.

Jews/Judaism religion is classified under the category "Other Religion and Persuasion" in the Census of India.

Source: <https://thewire.in/162251/for-jewish-community-in-india-wait-for-minority-status-continues/>

Q.94) Which of the following prices is/are fixed by the central government?

- a) Minimum Support Price (MSP)
- b) Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP)
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Q.94) Solution (c)

MSP is fixed by the central government on the recommendations of the Commission on Agricultural Cost and Prices (CAPC).

FRP is for sugar, which is fixed by the central government. Its normally higher than MSP, but serves the same purpose of providing a guarantee to sugarcane farmers that their produce will be bought at a given price. FRP is the existing arrangement for the price to be paid to sugarcane farmers by the Sugar Mills and is announced each year by the Centre, under the Sugarcane Control Order and on the advice of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACPC), as the minimum price of sugarcane. However, many states in north India also announce a State Advised Price (SAP) under state legislation. Generally, the SAP is substantially higher than the FRP, and therefore wherever SAP is declared, it is the ruling price. Mill owners are obligated to pay SAP to farmers.

Source: <http://www.financialexpress.com/market/commodities/maharashtra-sugar-mills-hesitant-on-early-start-to-crushing-season/830229/>

Q.95) Consider the following statements about strike-slip faults

1. In this fault, the two plates move parallel but in opposite direction from one another
2. The chances of a tsunami, in this case, are less likely.

Select the correct statements

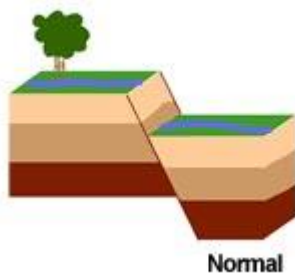
- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only

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

Q.95) Solution (c)

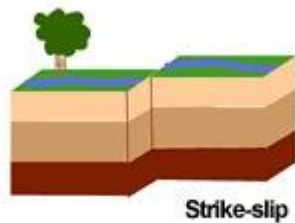
Earthquakes cause a fracture in the upper-most layer of the earth called the crust. This fracture divides the crust into blocks which move relative to one another. The movement of these blocks of crust is called a 'fault'. The fault can be of the following nature:

Normal fault - The blocks, in this case, shift vertically. The rock above the fault moves down



Thrust fault - In this case too, the blocks shift vertically, but the rock above the fault moves down

Strike-slip faults - This is the term used for fractures when the blocks move horizontally (to the left or the right)



Tsunamis are caused by the displacement of water. This displacement happens only due by vertical shift of the crust. Since the amount of water displaced by the horizontal movement of the crust is limited, chances of a tsunami, in this case, are less likely.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-andhrapradesh/geological-stresses-seen-in-indian-ocean/article19578253.ece>