

**Q.1) SIMBEX is a Maritime Bilateral Exercise between India and**

- a) Sri Lanka
- b) Maldives
- c) Singapore
- d) South Korea

**Q.1) Solution (c)**

Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) is an annual bilateral naval exercise conducted by the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN). The exercise has been held annually since 1994.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/singapore-offers-india-logistical-base/article21135091.ece>

**Q.2) Consider the following statements about Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010**

1. The Act is directly applied to all the states of India except for Jammu & Kashmir
2. National Council of Clinical Establishments is chaired by the Director General of Health Services

**Select the correct statements**

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

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

The Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 is an Act of the Parliament of India. It seeks to regulate all clinical establishments in India. The Act requires all clinical establishments to register themselves and provides a set of standard treatment guidelines for common diseases and conditions.

The state governments must adopt the law by passing a resolution in the legislative assemblies. As of March 2015, the following states have adopted it: Arunachal Pradesh,

Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim, Bihar, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. However, not all of these states have made any clear provisions to implement the Act.

The Act cannot be directly applied to all states of India. The states have the choice of passing a resolution to adopt the bill or passing a similar bill. The Act however directly applies to the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, and Sikkim, as they had passed resolutions allowing such laws in their states.

The council has been set up under the Directorate of Health Services with the Director-General of Health Services as chairperson.

**Read More -**

[http://dghs.gov.in/content/1361\\_3\\_NationalCouncilClinicalEstablishments.aspx](http://dghs.gov.in/content/1361_3_NationalCouncilClinicalEstablishments.aspx)

**Source:** <http://indianexpress.com/article/explained/three-laws-multiple-prescriptions-regulation-of-private-healthcare-karnatak-doctors-protest-4960969/>

**Q.3) Which of the following are vector borne diseases?**

1. Malaria
2. Kala-azar
3. Japanese Encephalitis
4. Chikungunya

**Select the correct code:**

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

**Q.3) Solution (d)**

Malaria is a complex mosquito-borne infectious disease caused by a eukaryotic protist of the genus Plasmodium. It varies widely in epidemiology and clinical manifestation in different parts of the world. In India, Malaria is caused by Plasmodium falciparum or Plasmodium vivax transmitted by nine major species of anopheline mosquitoes.

Kala-azar is caused by a protozoan parasite Leishmania donovani and spread by sandfly, which breeds in shady, damp and warm places in cracks and crevices in the soft soil, in masonry and rubble heaps, etc.

Japanese Encephalitis is a zoonotic disease which is transmitted by vector mosquito mainly belonging to Culex vishnui group. The transmission cycle is maintained in the nature by animal reservoirs of JE virus like pigs and water birds. Man is the dead end host, i.e. JE is not transmitted from one infected person to other.

Chikungunya is a debilitating non-fatal viral illness caused by Chikungunya virus. This disease is also transmitted by Aedes mosquito. Both Ae. aegypti and Ae. albopictus can transmit the disease.

Directorate of National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) is the central nodal agency for the prevention and control of vector borne diseases i.e. Malaria, Dengue, Lymphatic Filariasis, Kala-azar, Japanese Encephalitis and Chikungunya in India. It is one of the Technical Departments of Directorate General of Health Services, Government of India.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-unlikely-to-cut-malaria-by-half-in-2020-who/article21100399.ece>

**Q.4) Supreme Court judgement in National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India is concerned with**

- a) Transgender
- b) Triple Talaq
- c) Section 377
- d) Right to Privacy

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

National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India is a landmark decision by the Supreme Court of India, which declared transgender people to be a 'third gender', affirmed that the fundamental rights granted under the Constitution of India will be equally applicable to transgender people, and gave them the right to self-identification of their gender as male, female or third-gender. This judgement is a major step towards gender equality in India., the court also held that because transgender people were treated as socially and economically backward classes, they will be granted reservations in admissions to educational institutions and jobs.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/against-gender-rights/article21120545.ece>

**Q.5) Which of the following violates net neutrality?**

1. Vodafone forcing Android mobile phone manufacturers to block Skype and other competing VOIP phone services
2. Jio planning to block streaming video over its 4G network from all sources except YouTube

**Select the correct code:**

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

**Q.5) Solution (c)**

Net neutrality is the principle that Internet service providers must treat all data on the Internet the same, and not discriminate or charge differently by user, content, website, platform, application, type of attached equipment, or method of communication.

For instance, under these principles, internet service providers are unable to intentionally block, slow down or charge money for specific websites and online content.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/net-neutrality-all-you-wanted-to-know-but-were-afraid-to-ask/articleshow/61863693.cms>

**Q.6) BUNKER Convention is administered by**

- a) OPEC
- b) OECD
- c) IMO
- d) WTO

**Q.6) Solution (c)**

The International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage (BUNKER) is an International treaty listed and administered by the International Maritime Organization, signed in London on 23 March 2001 and in force generally on 21 November 2008. The purpose is to adopt uniform international rules and procedures for determining questions of liability and providing adequate compensation.

In the convention, Bunker Oil is fuel used to power the ship. The convention covers leakage of that oil, and requires signatories to the convention to have their ships appropriately insured against such leakages.

Source: <http://www.india.com/news/india/india-re-elected-as-member-of-international-maritime-council-for-two-years-2708463/>

**Q.7) Consider the following statements about Ballast Water Management Convention**

1. It aims to prevent the spread of harmful aquatic organisms from one region to another and halt damage to the marine environment from ballast water discharge
2. India has ratified the Ballast Water Management Convention

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.7) Solution (a)**

The International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (Ballast Water Management Convention) 2004, is an international maritime treaty which requires Signatory flag states to ensure that ships flagged by them comply with standards and procedures for the management and control of ships' ballast water and sediments. The Convention aims to prevent the spread of harmful aquatic organisms from one region to another and halt damage to the marine environment from ballast water discharge, by minimising the uptake and subsequent discharge of sediments and organisms. From 2024 all ships are required to have approved Ballast Water Management Treatment System, according to the D2 standard. Existing ships are required to install an approved system, which may cost up to 5 million USD per ship to install. To assist with implementation the IMO has released 14 Guidance documents in regards to the Convention including the G2 Guidelines for Ballast Water Sampling, G4 Guidelines for Ballast Water management and G6 Guidelines for Ballast Water Exchange.

India is yet to ratify Ballast Water Management Convention and International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage (BUNKER)

Source: <http://www.india.com/news/india/india-re-elected-as-member-of-international-maritime-council-for-two-years-2708463/>

**Q.8) Consider the following statements about Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)**

1. It is contagious
2. It was first identified in India
3. There is no vaccine for SARS to date

**Select the correct statements**

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

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

Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) is a viral respiratory disease of zoonotic origin caused by the SARS coronavirus (SARS-CoV). Between November 2002 and July 2003, an outbreak of SARS in southern China caused an eventual 8,098 cases, resulting in 774 deaths reported in 37 countries, with the majority of cases in China (9.6% fatality rate) according to the World Health Organization (WHO). No cases of SARS have been reported worldwide since 2004.

There is no vaccine for SARS to date. Isolation and quarantine remain the most effective means to prevent the spread of SARS.

Antibiotics are ineffective, as SARS is a viral disease. Treatment of SARS is largely supportive with antipyretics, supplemental oxygen and mechanical ventilation as needed.

Source: <https://scroll.in/pulse/859970/can-bats-the-carriers-of-many-deadly-diseases-help-humans-survive-the-next-pandemic>

**Q.9) Consider the following statements**

1. Article 345 of the Constitution deals with official language or languages of a state
2. Urdu was declared as the second official language of Telangana

**Select the correct statements**

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only

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

**Q.9) Solution (c)****Article 345 of the Constitution of India**

Official language or languages of a State Subject to the provisions of Article 346 and 347, the Legislature of a State may by law adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the State or Hindi as the language or languages to be used for all or any of the official purposes of that State: Provided that, until the Legislature of the State otherwise provides by law, the English language shall continue to be used for those official purposes within the State for which it was being used immediately before the commencement of this Constitution.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/urdu-is-second-official-language-now/article20493655.ece>

**Q.10) India Youth Development Index and Report 2017 is released by**

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) IIM Ahmedabad
- c) Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development
- d) None of the above

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

The Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, an Institute of National Importance has come out with Youth Development Index and Report 2017.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173434>

**Q.11) Which of the following are based on blockchain technology?**

1. Ethereum (ETH)
2. Ripple (XRP)
3. IOTA (MIOTA)

Select the correct code:

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

**Q.11) Solution (d)****Ripple (XRP)**

Launched in California by former bitcoin developers in 2012, Ripple is considered by some industry experts to be bitcoin's logical successor, according to the New York Times. It's already catching on among banks as a worldwide payment and remittance system. Unlike bitcoin, Ripple is not just a currency but a system through which any currency can be transferred or traded. The Times advised to think of it as a Western Union without the heavy fees.

**IOTA (MIOTA)**

IOTA, with the tagline "Next Generation Blockchain," is one of the newest contenders in the increasingly crowded cryptocurrency field. Unlike its rivals, IOTA is not reliant on an underlying blockchain network, but uses an alternative, distributive ledger system called Tangle. Partnered with Microsoft, Fujitsu and several other companies, IOTA considers itself the first marketplace powered by the Internet of Things.

**Ethereum (ETH)**

Like bitcoin, ether "tokens" are underwritten by a blockchain network, in this case called Ethereum. Pioneered by a former Bitcoin Monthly writer, Ethereum was launched in 2014 with an aim to pursue further decentralization. It differs from bitcoin primarily in application: Ethereum is an open, decentralized software platform where ether is used to pay for transaction fees and services.

**Q.12) Consider the following statements about Ka-226T choppers**

1. It will replace India's fleet of Cheetah and Chetak
2. According to the inter-governmental agreement (IGA) between Russia and India, all the choppers will be fully built in India

**Select the correct statements**

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only



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

**Q.12) Solution (a)**

Under the agreement, India will buy few choppers off the shelf and remaining will be fully built in India.

The helicopters will replace India's ageing fleet of Cheetah and Chetak.

HAL will have stake of 50.5 per cent in the joint venture, while Russian Helicopters will hold 49.5 per cent of the capital. However, the Russians will be responsible for helicopter production localisation, except the components that will be imported from an OEM.

Source: <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/world/russia-aims-to-deliver-200-ka226t-military-choppers-to-india-in-9-years/article9981845.ece>

**Q.13) Consider the following statements about New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants**

1. It pledged to uphold the rights of refugees, help them resettle and ensure they had access to education and jobs
2. It is legally binding in nature
3. India has signed the declaration

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.13) Solution (c)**

On September 19, 2016, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a set of commitments to enhance the protection of refugees and migrants. These commitments are known as the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. The New York Declaration reaffirms the importance of the international refugee regime and represents a commitment by Member States to strengthen and enhance mechanisms to protect people on the move.

It paves the way for the adoption of two new global compacts in 2018: a global compact on refugees and a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

**In adopting the New York Declaration, Member States:**

- expressed profound solidarity with those who are forced to flee;
- reaffirmed their obligations to fully respect the human rights of refugees and migrants;
- agreed that protecting refugees and the countries that shelter them are shared international responsibilities and must be borne more equitably and predictably;
- pledged robust support to those countries affected by large movements of refugees and migrants;
- agreed upon the core elements of a Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework; and
- agreed to work towards the adoption of a global compact on refugees and a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

Further information on the New York Declaration can be found in the documents under 'Additional resources' below.

**The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework**

The New York Declaration sets out the key elements of a Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (in Annex I) to be applied to large-scale movements of refugees and protracted refugee situations.

**The four key objectives of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework are to:**

- Ease pressures on host countries;
- Enhance refugee self-reliance;
- Expand third-country solutions; and
- Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.

UNHCR is working with governments and other stakeholders to apply the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in a number of countries – including Djibouti, Ethiopia, Honduras, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania – and through a regional approach to the Somalia situation.

US has pulled out of the United Nations' ambitious plans to create a more humane global strategy on migration, saying involvement in the process interferes with American sovereignty, and runs counter to US immigration policies.

India has signed the declaration and it is legally non-binding in nature.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/us-pulls-out-of-uns-pact-on-migration/article21255030.ece>

**Q.14) Consider the following statements about TIR Convention**

1. It was adopted under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
2. The TIR system only covers customs transit by road

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.14) Solution (a)**

The Convention on International Transport of Goods Under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention) is a multilateral treaty that was concluded at Geneva on 14 November 1975 to simplify and harmonise the administrative formalities of international road transport. (TIR stands for "Transports Internationaux Routiers" or "International Road Transports".) The 1975 convention replaced the TIR Convention of 1959, which itself replaced the 1949 TIR Agreement between a number of European countries. The conventions were adopted under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). As of July 2016, there are 70 parties to the Convention, including 69 states and the European Union.

The TIR Convention establishes an international customs transit system with maximum facility to move goods:

- in sealed vehicles or containers;
- from a customs office of departure in one country to a customs office of destination in another country;
- without requiring extensive and time-consuming border checks at intermediate borders;
- while, at the same time, providing customs authorities with the required security and guarantees.

The TIR system not only covers customs transit by road but a combination is possible with other modes of transport (e.g., rail, inland waterway, and even maritime transport), as long as at least one part of the total transport is made by road.

India's decision to implement the TIR system will have far reaching benefits for trade and will save significant time and money by streamlining procedures at borders, reducing administration and cutting border waiting times.

The TIR Convention will also facilitate India's current national and multilateral connectivity-related initiatives to improve cross border road transport, facilitating overland trade integration with both eastern and western neighbours. It will also help India in implementing the World Trade Organization's Trade Facilitation Agreement.

The Convention will help Indian traders to have access to fast, easy, reliable and hassle free international system for movement of goods by road or multi-modal means across the territories of other contracting parties

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/instc-to-be-operationalised-mid-jan-2018-game-changer-for-indias-eurasia-policy/articleshow/61926321.cms>

**Q.15) According to 'Threats Predictions Report' Ransomware attacks in the cyberspace are likely to increase and become more sophisticated in 2018 targeting high net worth individuals and corporates. The report is released by**

- a) Kaspersky
- b) Symantec
- c) McAfee
- d) Microsoft

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

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/report-predicts-explosion-in-ransomware-attacks-in-2018/article21254316.ece>

**Q.16) Which of the following states is planning to develop a solar-wind hybrid project with battery back-up facility funded by the World Bank?**

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

**Q.16) Solution (b)**

Source: <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/ap-to-set-up-solarwind-hybrid-project-with-battery-backup/article9981878.ece>

**Q.17) Recently, a material called 'flink', has been developed by scientists at ETH Zurich in Switzerland. What is it?**

- a) A bacteria-containing ink
- b) A compact camera with 16 lenses & over 52 megapixel resolution
- c) A superhydrophobic coating
- d) None of the above

**Q.17) Solution (a)**

A new printing material called 'flink', short for 'functional living ink', has been developed by scientists at ETH Zurich in Switzerland.

They have developed a bacteria-containing ink that makes it possible to print mini-biochemical factories with certain properties, depending on which species of bacteria the scientists add to the ink.

The former can break down the toxic chemical phenol, which is produced on a large scale in the chemical industry, while the latter secretes high-purity nanocellulose.

This bacterial cellulose relieves pain, retains moisture, and is stable, opening up potential applications in the treatment of burns.

The printing platform offers numerous potential combinations, according to researchers. In a single pass, scientists can use up to four different inks containing different species of bacteria at different concentrations in order to produce objects exhibiting several properties.

The ink is composed of a biocompatible hydrogel that provides structure. The culture medium for the bacteria is mixed into the ink so that the bacteria have all the prerequisites for life.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-life/living-materials-printed-using-bio-ink/article21262884.ece>

**Q.18) 'Operation Barga' was launched in**

- a) Kerala
- b) Karnataka
- c) Rajasthan
- d) West Bengal

**Q.18) Solution (d)**

Operation Barga was a land reform movement throughout rural West Bengal for recording the names of sharecroppers (bargadars) while avoiding the time-consuming method of recording through the settlement machinery.

**Q.19) Consider the following statements about 'Arogya 2017'**

1. It is jointly organized by Ministry of AYUSH and Ministry of Commerce and Industry
2. It is a comprehensive exhibition cum conference on Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddhha, Sowa Rigpa, Homoeopathy and wellness.

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.19) Solution (c)**

The First Ever International Conference on AYUSH and Wellness 'Arogya 2017' was inaugurated. 'Arogya 2017' has been jointly organized by Ministry of AYUSH and Ministry of Commerce and Industry of Government of India including Pharmexcil in partnership with FICCI to showcase the strength and scientific valuation of traditional system of medicine.

'Arogya 2017' is a comprehensive exhibition cum conference on Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddhha, Sowa Rigpa, Homoeopathy and wellness.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=174078>

**Q.20) Consider the following statements about National Policy for Drug Demand Reduction**

1. It is drafted by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
2. It proposes a system of Accreditation of de-addiction Centres in order to standardize the treatment/ facilities provided in coordination with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and other stakeholders.

**Select the correct statements**

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

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

The Ministry has prepared a draft of the National Policy for Drug Demand Reduction which, inter alia, involves States Governments/ Union Territories, Ministries and other stakeholders.

The key features of the National policy for Drug Demand Reduction are as follows:

- Education & Awareness Building at all levels.
- Treatment and Rehabilitation (whole person recovery).
- Networking of Service Providers.
- Capacity Building & Training of service providers in the field of drug with a view to build up skilled manpower.
- Data Collection and Management.
- Inter-Sectoral Collaboration and International Cooperation.
- The policy also proposes a system of Accreditation of de-addiction Centres in order to standardize the treatment/ facilities provided in coordination with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and other stakeholders.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/finalising-policy-against-drug-abuse-govt-tells-sc/article21261551.ece>

**Q.21) Global Education Monitoring report is released by**

- a) QS
- b) UNESCO

- c) WEF
- d) NAFSA

**Q.21) Solution (b)**

UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring report 2017-18

Almost a fifth of India's population—266 million adults—are still unable to read and some 12 million children are yet to get enrolled in schools

Source: <http://www.livemint.com/Politics/Xy9Yn0MsHBLiurzxfVR7aK/266-million-adults-cant-read-12-million-children-out-of-sc.html>

**Q.22) Recently scientists have developed a new Graphene-based battery material. Consider the following statements about the Graphene-based battery in comparison with lithium-ion batteries**

1. Increase of charging capacity
2. Decrease of charging time
3. Stable temperatures

**Select the correct code:**

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

**Q.22) Solution (d)**

Scientists have developed a new graphene-based battery material with charging speed five times faster than today's lithium-ion batteries.

Graphene, a material with high strength and conductivity, has widely become the primary source of interest. In theory, a battery based on the "graphene ball" material requires only 12 minutes to fully charge, researchers said. This "graphene ball" was utilised for both the anode protective layer and cathode materials. This ensured an increase of charging capacity, decrease of charging time as well as stable temperatures.



Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/technology/new-graphene-based-battery-charges-five-times-faster/article21266242.ece>

**Q.23) Amended Technology Upgradation Funds Scheme (ATUFS) is concerned with**

- a) Textile
- b) Semiconductors
- c) Infrastructure
- d) Electric Vehicles

**Q.23) Solution (a)**

The Ministry of Textiles is implementing 'Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS)' with effect from 13.01.2016, for a period of seven years.

Under ATUFS, there is a provision of one-time capital subsidy for eligible benchmarked machinery at the rate of 15% for garmenting and technical textiles segments with a cap of Rs. 30 crore and at the rate of 10% for weaving, processing, jute, silk and handloom segments with a cap of Rs. 20 crore.

An outlay of Rs. 17,822 crore has been approved for seven years to meet the committed liabilities of Rs. 12,671 crore and Rs. 5151 crore for new cases under ATUFS.

While ATUFS covers Capital Investment Subsidy (CIS), earlier schemes of TUFs had provisions both for interest reimbursement as well as Capital Subsidy.

Further ATUFS is targeted towards focused segments like garmenting and made-ups with additional 10% subsidy.

The segments which have achieved desired level of modernization, i.e. spinning etc., have been excluded under ATUFS.

**Q.24) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Predatory Pricing'**

1. It is the pricing where a product is sold at a very low price, to drive competitors out of market
2. It makes markets more vulnerable to a monopoly
3. It leads to price war and it is not good for the consumers in the long run

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

1. 1 and 2
2. 2 and 3
3. 1 and 3
4. All of the above

**Q.24) Solution (d)**

All the statements are correct.

**Predatory pricing is the act of setting prices low in an attempt to eliminate the competition.** Predatory pricing is illegal under anti-trust laws, as it makes markets **more vulnerable to a monopoly.**

A price war is when companies continuously lower prices to undercut the competition. A price war may be used to increase revenue in the short term or as a longer term strategy to gain market share.

A sign of predatory pricing can occur when the price of a product gradually becomes lower, which can happen during a price war.

In the short term, a price war can be beneficial for consumers because of the lower prices. **In the long term, however, it is not beneficial as the company that wins a price war, effectively putting its competitor out of business, will have a monopoly where it can set whatever price it wants.**

Source: [http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/airtel-open-to-acquisition-talks-with-aircel-sunil-mittal-117112700371\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/airtel-open-to-acquisition-talks-with-aircel-sunil-mittal-117112700371_1.html)

**Q.25) Consider the following statements about Khangchendzonga National Park**

1. It is a UNESCO World Heritage site
2. It is placed on the Montreux Record under the Ramsar Convention

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.25) Solution (a)**

Khangchendzonga National Park (previously named Kanchenjunga National Park) also Kanchenjunga Biosphere Reserve is a National Park and a Biosphere reserve located in Sikkim, India. It was inscribed to the UNESCO World Heritage Sites list on July 17, 2016, becoming the first "Mixed Heritage" site of India. It is not a Ramsar Site.

**Q.26) Consider the following statements about Wassenaar Arrangement (WA)**

1. It is the first global multilateral arrangement on export controls for conventional weapons and sensitive dual-use goods and technologies
2. The Arrangement is open on a global and non-discriminatory basis to prospective adherents
3. It is the successor to the Cold War-era Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.26) Solution (d)**

The Wassenaar Arrangement (WA), the first global multilateral arrangement on export controls for conventional weapons and sensitive dual-use goods and technologies, received final approval by 33 co-founding countries in July 1996 and began operations in September 1996.

The WA was designed to promote transparency, exchange of views and information and greater responsibility in transfers of conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies, thus preventing destabilising accumulations.

It complements and reinforces, without duplication, the existing regimes for non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, by focusing on the threats to international and regional peace and security which may arise from transfers of armaments and sensitive dual-use goods and technologies where the risks are judged greatest.

This arrangement is also intended to enhance co-operation to prevent the acquisition of armaments and sensitive dual-use items for military end-uses, if the situation in a region or the behaviour of a state is, or becomes, a cause for serious concern to the Participating States.

The Participating States seek through their national policies to ensure that transfers of arms and dual-use goods and technologies do not contribute to the development or enhancement of military capabilities that undermine international and regional security and stability and are not diverted to support such capabilities.

The Arrangement does not impede bona fide civil transactions and is not directed against any state or group of states. All measures undertaken with respect to the Arrangement are in accordance with member countries' national legislation and policies and implemented on the basis of national discretion.

It is the successor to the Cold War-era Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls, and was established on 12 July 1996, in Wassenaar, the Netherlands, which is near The Hague. A Secretariat for administering the agreement is located in Vienna, Austria.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/wassenaar-arrangement-decides-to-make-india-its-member/article21293077.ece>

**Q.27) Digital Infopedia is associated with which of the following groupings?**

- a) BRICS
- b) International Solar Alliance
- c) ASEAN
- d) BIMSTEC

**Q.27) Solution (b)**

It will serve as a platform to enable policy makers, Ministers and corporate leaders from ISA countries to interact, connect, communicate and collaborate with one another.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/solar-alliance-comes-into-existence/article21284547.ece>

**Q.28) The report, Trouble in the Making? The Future of Manufacturing-Led Development is released by**

- a) World Economic forum
- b) World Bank
- c) World Trade Organisation
- d) IMF

**Q.28) Solution (b)**

Source: <http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/competitiveness/publication/trouble-in-the-making-the-future-of-manufacturing-led-development>

**Q.29) Pratikar, a bilateral military exercise is between**

- a) India and Nepal
- b) Nepal and Bhutan
- c) Nepal and Sri Lanka
- d) None of the above

**Q.29) Solution (d)**

Nepal and China

**Q.30) Ashok Chawla Committee is concerned with**

- a) Army Pay Scales
- b) Long Term Food Policy
- c) Banking Supervision
- d) Allocation of Natural Resources

**Q.30) Solution (d)**

Union minister Uma Bharti said that the centre is discussing the issue of bringing water into concurrent list with states.

To place water in the concurrent list is a proposal which is over five-years old. In fact, the Ashok Chawla committee on Allocation of Natural Resources had recommended placing water in the concurrent list.

The goal was to examine the approach to allocating natural resources such as land, coal, minerals, petroleum and natural gas.

**The major purpose was to obtain recommendations to:**

- Enhance transparency, effectiveness and sustainability in the allocation, pricing and utilization of natural resources through open, transparent and competitive mechanisms
- Suggest changes in the legal, institutional and regulatory framework to implement the recommendations

**Q.31) Mandal Commission is concerned with**

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

**Q.31) Solution (a)**

The Mandal Commission, or the Second Backward Classes Commission, was established in India on 1 January 1979 under Prime Minister Morarji Desai with a mandate to "identify the socially or educationally backward classes" of India.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/24-years-on-obc-workforce-in-centre-still-short-of-mandal-mark/article21382491.ece>

**Q.32) Consider the following statements about Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs)**

1. They are huge explosions of charged particles extending beyond the sun's corona
2. They are responsible for geomagnetic storms and enhanced aurora
3. Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC) of ISRO's Aditya - L1 will study the origin of CMEs

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.32) Solution (d)**

Coronal mass ejections (CMEs) are huge explosions of magnetic field and plasma from the Sun's corona. When CMEs impact the Earth's magnetosphere, they are responsible for geomagnetic storms and enhanced aurora. CMEs originate from highly twisted magnetic field structures, or "flux ropes", on the Sun, often visualized by their associated "filaments" or "prominences", which are relatively cool plasmas trapped in the flux ropes in the corona. When these flux ropes erupt from active regions on the Sun (regions associated with sunspots and very strong magnetic fields), they are often accompanied by large solar flares; eruptions from quiet regions of the Sun, such as the "polar crown" filament eruptions, sometimes do not have accompanying flares.

CMEs travel outward from the Sun typically at speeds of about 300 kilometers per second, but can be as slow as 100 kilometers per second or faster than 3000 kilometers per second. The fastest CMEs erupt from large sunspot active regions, powered by the strongest magnetic field concentrations on the Sun. These fast CMEs can reach Earth in as little as 14--17 hours. Slower CMEs, typically the quiet region filament eruptions, take several days to traverse the distance from the sun to Earth. Because CMEs have an embedded magnetic field that is stronger than the background field of the solar wind, they will expand in size as they propagate outward from the Sun. By the time they reach the Earth, they can be so large they will fill half the volume of space between the Sun and the Earth. Because of their immense size, slower CMEs can take as long as 24 to 36 hours to pass over the Earth, once the leading edge has arrived.

CMEs that are traveling faster than the solar wind plasma's fast mode wave speed (the space equivalent of the Earth's sound speed) will generate a shock wave, just like an airplane traveling faster than the speed of sound generates a sonic boom. These shock waves accelerate charged particles ahead of them to create much of the solar radiation storm affiliated with large-scale solar eruptions. Often, the first sign of a CME hitting the Earth environment is the plasma density jump due to the shock wave's passage.

The size, speed, direction, and density of a CME are important parameters to determine when trying to predict if and when it will impact Earth. We can estimate these properties of a CME using observations from an instrument known as a coronagraph, which blocks the bright light of the solar disk, just as the moon does in a total solar eclipse, allowing the outer solar atmosphere (chromosphere and corona) to be observed. CMEs show up as bright clouds of plasma moving outward through interplanetary space.

In order to predict the strength of the resulting geomagnetic storm, estimates of the magnetic field strength and direction are important. At the present time, the magnetic field cannot be determined until it is measured as the CME passes over a monitoring satellite. If

the magnetic field direction of the CME is opposite to that of the Earth's dipolar magnetic field, the resulting geomagnetic disturbance or storm will be larger than if the fields are in the same direction. Some CMEs show predominately one direction of magnetic field in their passage past the Earth, but most exhibit changing field directions as the large magnetic cloud passes over our relatively tiny magnetosphere, so most CMEs that impact the Earth's magnetosphere will at some point have magnetic field conditions that favor the generation of geomagnetic storming with the associated auroral displays and geomagnetically induced currents in the ground.

**Aditya L1** - <https://www.isro.gov.in/aditya-l1-first-indian-mission-to-study-sun>

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/workings-of-solar-wind-flows-deciphered-by-prl-team/article21380124.ece>

**Q.33) Consider the following statements**

1. It is the region of space surrounding Earth where the magnetic field of interplanetary space is dominant than the magnetic field of Earth
2. The magnetosphere is formed by the interaction of the solar wind with Earth's magnetic field
3. The pressure of the solar wind on Earth's magnetic field compresses the field on the dayside of Earth and stretches the field into a long tail on the nightside

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.33) Solution (b)**

The magnetosphere is the region of space surrounding Earth where the dominant magnetic field is the magnetic field of Earth, rather than the magnetic field of interplanetary space. The magnetosphere is formed by the interaction of the solar wind with Earth's magnetic field. This figure illustrates the shape and size of Earth's magnetic field that is continually changing as it is buffeted by the solar wind.

It has been several thousand years since the Chinese discovered that certain magnetic minerals, called lodestones, would align in roughly the north-south direction. The reason for this effect wasn't understood, though, until 1600, when William Gilbert published De



Magnete and demonstrated that our Earth behaved like a giant magnet and loadstones were aligning with Earth's magnetic field.

After several more centuries of investigation, it is now known that Earth's magnetic field is quite complex, but still, to a great extent, can be viewed as a dipole, with north and south poles like a simple bar magnet. Earth's magnetic axis, the dipole, is inclined at about 11 degrees to Earth's spin axis. If space were a vacuum, Earth's magnetic field would extend to infinity, getting weaker with distance, but in 1951, while studying why comet tails always point away from the sun, Ludwig Biermann discovered that the sun emits what we now call the solar wind. This continuous flow of plasma, comprised of mostly electrons and protons, with an embedded magnetic field, interacts with Earth and other objects in the solar system.

The pressure of the solar wind on Earth's magnetic field compresses the field on the dayside of Earth and stretches the field into a long tail on the nightside. The shape of the resulting distorted field has been compared to the appearance of water flowing around a rock in a stream. On the dayside of Earth, rather than extending to infinity, the magnetic field is confined to within about 10 Earth radii from the center of Earth and on the nightside, the field is stretched out to hundreds of Earth radii, well beyond the orbit of the moon at 60 Earth radii.

The boundary between the solar wind and Earth's magnetic field is called the magnetopause. The boundary is constantly in motion as Earth is buffeted by the ever-changing solar wind. While the magnetopause shields us to some extent from the solar wind, it is far from impenetrable, and energy, mass, and momentum are transferred from the solar wind to regions inside Earth's magnetosphere. The interaction between the solar wind and Earth's magnetic field, and the influence of the underlying atmosphere and ionosphere, creates various regions of fields, plasmas, and currents inside the magnetosphere such as the plasmasphere, the ring current, and radiation belts. The consequence is that conditions inside the magnetosphere are highly dynamic and create what we call "space weather" that can affect technological systems and human activities. For example, the radiation belts can have impacts on the operations of satellites, and particles and currents from the magnetosphere can heat the upper atmosphere and result in satellite drag that can affect the orbits of low-altitude Earth orbiting satellites. Influences from the magnetosphere on the ionosphere can also affect communication and navigations systems.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/workings-of-solar-wind-flows-deciphered-by-prl-team/article21380124.ece>

**Q.34) Consider the following statements about 'excitonium'**

1. It's made up of particles that are formed of an escaped electron and the hole it left behind
2. It is a perfect insulator

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.34) Solution (a)**

Excitonium is a condensate—it exhibits macroscopic quantum phenomena, like a superconductor, or superfluid, or insulating electronic crystal. It's made up of excitons, particles that are formed in a very strange quantum mechanical pairing, namely that of an escaped electron and the hole it left behind.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/new-form-of-matter-excitonium-discovered/article21379110.ece>

**Q.35) Consider the following statements about Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ)**

1. It is a defined area of 10,400 sq km around the Taj Mahal to protect the monument from pollution
2. Use of coal/ coke in industries located in the TTZ is banned

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.35) Solution (c)**

Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ) is a defined area of 10,400 sq km around the Taj Mahal to protect the monument from pollution. The Supreme Court of India delivered a ruling on December 30, 1996 regarding industries covered under the TTZ, in response to a PIL seeking to protect the Taj Mahal from environmental pollution. It banned the use of coal/ coke in industries

located in the TTZ with a mandate for switching over from coal/ coke to natural gas, and relocating them outside the TTZ or shutting down. The TTZ comprises over 40 protected monuments including three World Heritage Sites, the Taj Mahal, Agra Fort and Fatehpur Sikri. TTZ is so named since it is located around the Taj Mahal and is shaped like a trapezoid.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/prepare-detailed-plan-for-taj-mahal-conservation-sc-tells-up/article21341923.ece>

**Q.36) Consider the following statements about 'Orchestia gammarellus'**

1. They are found only in the tropics
2. It is involved in breaking up of the plastic bags into microplastics

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.36) Solution (b)**

The amphipod *Orchestia gammarellus*, which inhabits coastal areas in northern and Western Europe, is involved in degrading plastic.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/how-marine-organisms-degrade-plastic-bags/article21386109.ece>

**Q.37) Hambantota Port is located in**

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

**Q.37) Solution (d)**

Sri Lanka has formally handed over its southern port of Hambantota to China on a 99-year lease.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/sri-lanka-formally-hands-over-hambantota-port-on-99-year-lease-to-china/article21380382.ece>

**Q.38) Consider the following statements**

1. Charminar was built by Sultan Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah
2. Golkonda fort was first built by Sultan Quli Qutb-ul-Mulk

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.38) Solution (a)**

The fifth ruler of the Qutub Shahi dynasty Sultan Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah built the Charminar in 1591. After shifting his capital from Golkonda to Hyderabad he built a big structure of Charminar.

Golkonda was originally known as Mankal. Golkonda Fort was first built by the Kakatiya dynasty as part of their western defenses along the lines of the Kondapalli Fort. The fort was rebuilt and strengthened by Rani Rudrama Devi and her successor Prataparudra. Later, the fort came under the control of the Musunuri Nayaks, who defeated the Tughlaqi army occupying Warangal. It was ceded by the Musunuri Kapaya Naidu to the Bahmani Sultanate as part of a treaty in 1364.

Under the Bahmani Sultanate, Golkonda slowly rose to prominence. Sultan Quli Qutb-ul-Mulk (r. 1487–1543), sent as a governor of Telangana, established it as the seat of his government around 1501. Bahmani rule gradually weakened during this period, and Sultan Quli formally became independent in 1538, establishing the Qutb Shahi dynasty based in Golkonda. Over a period of 62 years, the mud fort was expanded by the first three Qutb Shahi sultans into the present structure, a massive fortification of granite extending around 5 km in circumference. It remained the capital of the Qutb Shahi dynasty until 1590 when the capital was shifted to Hyderabad. The Qutb Shahis expanded the fort, whose 7 kilometres (4.3 mi) outer wall enclosed the city.

The fort finally fell into ruin in 1687, after an eight year long siege leading to its fall at the hands of the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb.

**Q.39) The 'Two Plus Four Agreement' is associated with**

- a) Israel and Palestine
- b) Germany
- c) North and South Korea
- d) Sudan

**Q.39) Solution (b)**

It was negotiated in 1990 between the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic (the eponymous "Two"), and the Four Powers which occupied Germany at the end of World War II in Europe: France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States. In the treaty the Four Powers renounced all rights they held in Germany, allowing a united Germany to become fully sovereign the following year.

**Signatories Two:** East Germany and West Germany

**Plus Four:** France, Soviet Union, United Kingdom, United States

**Q.40) Consider the following statements about Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS)**

1. It consists of only product-specific subsidies
2. Under Agreement on Agriculture (AoA), developing countries can give AMS up to 50 per cent of the value of agricultural production

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.40) Solution (d)**

WTO's Agreement on Agriculture (AoA) classifies domestic support or subsidies given by the government to farmers into different categories. An important type of subsidies or supports is Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS). The AMS represents trade distorting domestic support and is referred as the "amber box".

AMS has two components viz

- 'product-specific' or the excess of price paid to farmers over international price or ERP (external reference price) multiplied by quantum of produce;
- 'non-product specific' or money spent on schemes to supply inputs such as fertilisers, seed, irrigation, electricity at subsidised rates.

As per the WTO provision, AMS is a trade distorting subsidy. Since it distorts trade by directly influencing production and price in an economy, the AMS is categorized as a 'reducible', 'non permissible' or 'non-exempted' subsidy.

As per the WTO norms, the AMS can be given up to 10 % of a country's agricultural GDP in the case of developing countries. On the other hand, the limit is 5% for a developed economy. This limit is called de minimis level of support.

Read More - [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/agric\\_e/ag\\_intro03\\_domestic\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/agric_e/ag_intro03_domestic_e.htm)

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/wto-diverse-views-fuel-bleak-prospect-for-outcomes/article21386433.ece>

**Q.41) Supreme Court banned production and distribution of 'Endosulfan'. It caused which of the following?**

1. Abnormalities related to male reproductive system
2. Physical deformities
3. Neurobehavioral disorders

**Select the correct code:**

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

**Q.41) Solution (d)**

Endosulfan is an off-patent organochlorine insecticide and acaricide that is being phased out globally. Endosulfan became a highly controversial agrichemical due to its acute toxicity, potential for bioaccumulation, and role as an endocrine disruptor. Because of its threats to human health and the environment, a global ban on the manufacture and use of endosulfan was negotiated under the Stockholm Convention in April 2011.

Endosulfan pesticide was used widely on crops like cashew, cotton, tea, paddy, fruits and others until 2011, when the Supreme Court banned its production and distribution. The health effects of the chemical include neurotoxicity, late sexual maturity, physical deformities, poisoning, among others. People, especially newborns, have suffered deformities, health complications and loss of family members due to exposure to the agrochemical.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/sc-notice-to-kerala-on-contempt-plea-by-endosulfan-victims/article21426446.ece>

**Q.42) 'RuTAG' is often seen in news. Which of the following statements is correct?**

- a) It is a mechanism to achieve rural advancement through S&T interventions
- b) It enables automatic deduction of toll charges
- c) It is a low-cost small satellite launcher by ISRO
- d) It is a payment app using Unified Payments Interface (UPI)

**Q.42) Solution (a)**

**RuTAGs (Rural Technology Action Groups)**

It is helping towards

- Addressing defused rural economy through S&T Platform.
- Dissemination of refined technologies reaching to rural areas.
- Technology delivery for non-farm/ agriculture sectors.
- Benefiting Rural groups through network of NGOs.
- Adding value to the produce and Enhancing quality of rural life.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/modified-kiln-a-boon-for-bangle-makers-in-rajasthan/article21461550.ece>

**Q.43) Manipur is bordered by which of the following states?**

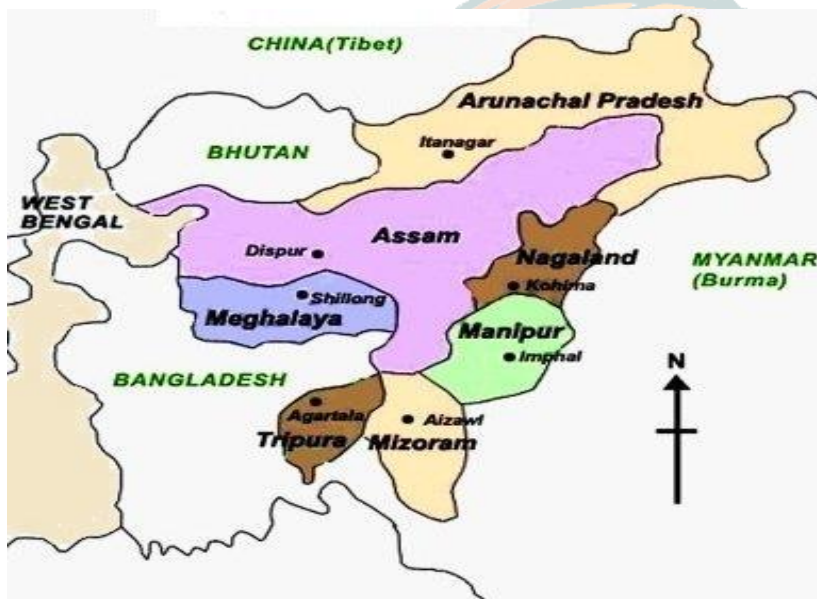
1. Assam
2. Mizoram
3. Tripura
4. Nagaland

Select the correct code:

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

**Q.43) Solution (b)**

Manipur is a state in Northeast India, with the city of Imphal as its capital. It is bounded by Nagaland to the north, Mizoram to the south, and Assam to the west; Myanmar lies to its east.



Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-otherstates/manipur-beefs-up-security-along-border/article21456816.ece>

**Q.44) World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) Report is published by**

- a) United Nations
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) World Trade Organisation
- d) World Bank

**Q.44) Solution (a)**



The report is a joint product of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the five United Nations regional commissions (Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)).

Source: <http://www.livemint.com/Politics/0dUjM3AN1K6HH6G3hGKJI/Indian-economy-to-grow-at-72-in-2018-says-UN-report.html>

**Q.45) Consider the following statements National Informatics Centre (NIC)**

1. It is under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
2. It was established during the 1991 economic reforms

**Select the correct code:**

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

**Q.45) Solution (a)**

The National Informatics Centre (NIC) (Rashtriya Suchna Vigyan Kendra) is the premier science & technology organisation of Government of India in informatics services and information and communication technology (ICT) applications. The NIC is a part of the Indian Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology's Department of Electronics & Information Technology.

It plays a pivotal role in steering e-governance applications in the governmental departments at national, state and district levels, enabling the improvement in, and a wider transparency of, government services. Almost all Indian-government websites are developed and managed by NIC.

National Informatics Centre (NIC) was established in 1976, and has since emerged as a "prime builder" of e-Government / e-Governance applications up to the grassroots level as well as a promoter of digital opportunities for sustainable development.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/ites/government-sets-up-nic-cert-centre-to-detect-prevent-cyber-attacks/articleshow/62024388.cms>

**Q.46) Consider the following statements**

1. Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) are mandatory in nature
2. Health is a State subject

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.46) Solution (b)**

IPHS guidelines are recommendatory in nature and not mandatory. Health being a State subject, the primary responsibility of bringing up facilities to IPHS norms is that of the States government. Under NHM, financial support is provided to States inter-alia to bring up facilities to IPHS norms.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/powering-rural-healthcare/article21419655.ece>

**Q.47) Other than Venezuela, which one among the following from South America is a member of OPEC?**

- a) Argentina
- b) Brazil
- c) Ecuador
- d) Bolivia

**Q.47) Solution (c)**

OPEC's members are Algeria, Angola, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia (the de facto leader), United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela.

Source: <http://www.dnaindia.com/analysis/column-india-needs-to-trim-its-overdependence-on-opec-crude-oil-2566587>

**Q.48) Mahamastakabhisheka, a great religious event, is associated with and done for whom of the following?**

- a) Bahubali
- b) Buddha
- c) Mahavir
- d) Nataraja

**Q.48) Solution (a)**

The Mahamastabhisheka (or Mahamasthak Abhishek) is an important Jain festival held once every twelve years in the town of Shravanabelagola in Karnataka. It is held in veneration of an immense 18 meter high statue of the Bhagwan (or Saint) Gomateshwara Bahubali.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/mahamastakabhisheka-railways-to-run-special-trains-between-yesvantpur-shravanabelagola-hassan/articleshow/62025484.cms>

**Q.49) Which one of the following rivers originates in India?**

- 1. Beas
- 2. Chenab
- 3. Ravi
- 4. Sutlej

**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.49) Solution (a)**

Beas river rises in the Himalayas in central Himachal Pradesh. Chenab forms in the upper Himalayas in the Lahaul and Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh. The Ravi River originates in the Himalayas in the Multhan tehsil of Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh. The source of

the Sutlej is west of Lake Rakshastal in Tibet, as springs in an ephemeral stream channel descending from this lake.

Source: <http://www.epw.in/journal/2017/46/book-reviews/geopolitical-problem-water-war.html>

**Q.50) WIMAX is related to which one of the following?**

- a) Biotechnology
- b) Space technology
- c) Missile technology
- d) Communication technology

**Q.50) Solution (d)**

WiMAX (Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access) is a family of wireless communication standards based on the IEEE 802.16 set of standards, which provide multiple physical layer (PHY) and Media Access Control (MAC) options. WiMAX was initially designed to provide 30 to 40 megabit-per-second data rates, with the 2011 update providing up to 1 Gbit/s for fixed stations.

**Q.51) Consider the following statements about India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS)**

1. Under the scheme the government provides subsidy of up to Rs 1 lakh for each BPO seat set in a tier-II or tier-III town
2. It is under the aegis of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.51) Solution (c)**

The India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS) , envisaged under Digital India Programme, seeks to incentivize establishment of 48,300 seats in respect of BPO/ITES operations across the country.

It is distributed among each State in proportion of State's population with an outlay of Rs. 493 Crore. This would help in capacity building in smaller cities in terms of infra & manpower and would become basis for next wave of IT/ITES led growth.

### Salient Features:

- Financial Support: Up to 50% of expenditure incurred on BPO/ITES operations towards capital expenditure (CAPEX) and/or operational expenditure (OPEX) on admissible items, subject to an upper ceiling of Rs. 1 Lakh/Seat.
- Special incentives toward employment of women & specially enabled persons.
- Incentive for generating employment beyond target & wider dispersal within state including rural areas.
- Encouragement for local entrepreneurs.
- Special consideration for Hilly states of HP, J&K and UK.

This scheme has potential to create employment opportunities of around 1.5 lakh direct jobs considering three shift operations. It may also create good number of indirect jobs.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/small-biz/startups/newsbuzz/government-scheme-for-rural-bpos-creates-more-employment/articleshow/62062755.cms>

### Q.52) SANKALP Project is associated with

- a) Skill Development
- b) Filing of GST returns
- c) Empowerment of Adolescent Girls
- d) Keeping the farmers abreast with crop prices around them

### Q.52) Solution (a)

Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) aimed at providing market relevant training to youths across the country.

It is a centrally sponsored scheme under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and supported by World Bank loan assistance.

Source: <http://www.financialexpress.com/economy/million-dollar-job-windfall-for-india-government-inks-250-million-loan-agreement-with-world-bank/972698/>

**Q.53) The world's newest island 'Hunga Tonga Hunga Ha'apai' was formed during a volcanic eruption. Where is it located?**

- a) Indian Ocean
- b) Pacific Ocean
- c) Atlantic Ocean
- d) Arctic Ocean

**Q.53) Solution (b)**

In late December 2014, a submarine volcano in the South Pacific Kingdom of Tonga erupted, sending a violent stream of steam, ash and rock into the air. When the ash finally settled in January 2015, a newborn island with a 400-foot (120-meter) summit nestled between two older islands – visible to satellites in space.

The Tongan island is the third "surtseyan" volcanic island in the last 150 years to emerge and persist for more than a few months. Surtsey is an island that began forming during a similar kind of explosive, marine eruption off the coast of Iceland in 1963.

The Tongan island may also help researchers understand volcanic features on Mars that look similar.

Everything we learn about what we see on Mars is based on the experience of interpreting Earth phenomena. We think there were eruptions on Mars at a time when there were areas of persistent surface water. We may be able to use this new Tongan island and its evolution as a way of testing whether any of those represented an oceanic environment or ephemeral lake environment.

Source: <https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2017/nasa-shows-new-tongan-island-made-of-tuff-stuff-likely-to-persist-years>

**Q.54) Akshara Sagaram, an ambitious literacy programme for coastal areas is associated with which state?**

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Kerala

d) Andhra Pradesh

**Q.54) Solution (c)**

The project is being implemented by Kerala State Literacy Mission Authority (KSLMA) with financial assistance from the Fisheries Department.

The primary objective of the project is to streamline the fourth, seventh and tenth standard equivalent programmes of KSLMA in coastal areas.

Illiterate people, newly literate, school dropouts, physically and mentally-challenged people, and all fisherfolks who have not cleared fourth standard have been identified as potential beneficiaries.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/coastal-literacy-project-to-be-rolled-out-in-3-more-districts/article21617665.ece>

**Q.55) Buenos Aires Declaration on Women and Trade is concerned with which of the following?**

- a) World Trade Organization WTO
- b) MERCOSUR
- c) Community of Latin American and Caribbean States
- d) Pacific Alliance

**Q.55) Solution (a)**

For the first time in the history of the World Trade Organization, WTO members and observers have endorsed a collective initiative to increase the participation of women in trade. In order to help women reach their full potential in the world economy, 118 WTO members and observers agreed to support the Buenos Aires Declaration on Women and Trade, which seeks to remove barriers to, and foster, women's economic empowerment.

**Declaration -**

[https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/minist\\_e/mc11\\_e/genderdeclarationmc11\\_e.pdf](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/mc11_e/genderdeclarationmc11_e.pdf)

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/119-nations-back-move-to-remove-barriers-limiting-womens-participation-in-trade/article21581261.ece>

**Q.56) Cabinet recently approved Agreement with UNESCO on establishment of International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography. It will be located in**

- a) Mumbai
- b) Mangaluru
- c) Kochi
- d) Hyderabad

**Q.56) Solution (d)**

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=174372>

**Q.57) Consider the following statements about Pavagada Solar Park**

1. Solar Energy Corp. of India (SECI) is the implementing agency.
2. It is located in Maharashtra

**Selected the correct statements**

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

**Q.57) Solution (d)**

Pavagada Solar Park is a solar park spread over a total area of 13,000 acres (53 km<sup>2</sup>) in Pavagada taluk, Tumkur district, Karnataka. 500 MW of power may be commissioned by December 2017, and a further 1,500 MW by September 2018. The total investment required to build 2,000 MW of capacity was estimated at ₹14,800 crore (US\$2.3 billion). By the end of 2018, the park is planned to have a total capacity of 2,700 MW. When completed, Pavagada Solar Park may be the largest photovoltaic power station in the world.

The park's development is anchored by the Karnataka Solar Power Development Corp. Ltd (KSPDCL), an entity formed in March 2015 as a joint venture between Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Ltd (KREDL) and Solar Energy Corp. of India (SECI).

**Q.58) Consider the following statements about 'Ilkal saree'**



1. It has been accorded Geographical Indication (GI) tag
2. It is completely woven out of cotton
3. It uses Kasuti form of embroidery

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.58) Solution (c)**

It is a traditional form of saree which is a common feminine wear in India. Ilkal saree takes its name from the town of Ilkal in the Bagalkot district of Karnataka state, India. Ilkal sarees are woven using cotton warp on the body and art silk warp for border and art silk warp for pallu portion of the saree. In some cases instead of art silk, pure silk is also used. Ilkal saree has been accorded Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

The distinctive feature of Ilkal sarees is the use of a form of embroidery called as Kasuti. The designs used in Kasuti reflect traditional patterns like palanquins, elephants and lotuses which are embroidered onto Ilkal sarees.

The peculiar characteristic of the saree is joining the body warp with the pallu warp which is locally called as TOPE TENI. This technique is only used exclusively at Ilkal. If anyone requires Ilkal saree one must prepare a warp for every saree. Warp threads for body is prepared separately. Similarly pallu warp is prepared separately either with art silk or pure silk depending upon the quality required. Thirdly border portion of warp is prepared as like the pallu warp either art silk or pure silk and the colour used for pallu and on border will be one and the same. In general, the length of the pallu will range 16" to 27". The pallu threads and body threads are joined in loop technique, a typical method which is locally called as TOPE TENI.

**Q.59) 'Exercise Ekuverin' is a bilateral military exercise between India and**

- a) Maldives
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Cambodia
- d) Vietnam

**Q.59) Solution (a)**

It is being conducted every year alternatively in India and Maldives. 8th annual exercise will be conducted in Belagavi, Karnataka

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/exercise-ekuverin-in-belagavi-from-today/article21665847.ece>

**Q.60) Consider the following statements about 'Bioluminescence'**

1. It is the production and emission of light by a living organism
2. The principal chemical reaction in bioluminescence involves the luciferin and the luciferase

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.60) Solution (c)**

Luciferase is a generic term for the class of oxidative enzymes that produce bioluminescence, and is usually distinguished from a photoprotein. The name was first used by Raphaël Dubois who invented the words luciferin and luciferase, for the substrate and enzyme, respectively.

Luciferases are widely used in biotechnology, for microscopy and as reporter genes, for many of the same applications as fluorescent proteins. However, unlike fluorescent proteins, luciferases do not require an external light source, but do require addition of luciferin, the consumable substrate.

**News:** Scientists have recently found a way to induce plants to give off dim light by embedding specialised nanoparticles into their leaves.

**Scientists embed 3 components in to a different type of nanoparticle carrier -**

- It includes luciferase, luciferin and co-enzyme A.
- Luciferase is an enzyme. It is used by the fireflies that give their glow.
- Luciferase acts on a molecule called luciferin, causing it to emit light.

- Co-enzyme A molecule helps the process along by removing a reaction by-product that can inhibit luciferase activity.

Particles releasing luciferin and coenzyme A were designed to accumulate in the extracellular space of the mesophyll, an inner layer of the leaf, while the smaller particles carrying luciferase enter the cells that make up the mesophyll.

This technology could also be used to provide low-intensity indoor lighting, or to transform trees into self-powered streetlights

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-in-school/now-plants-can-glow/article21764731.ece>

**Q.61) The Kangri is earthenware filled with glowing embers and encased in pretty handmade wicker baskets and is carried as a personal warmer. Kangri making is practiced in which of the following states?**

- a) Jammu and Kashmir
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Sikkim

**Q.61) Solution (a)**

Kangri-making is a cottage industry, providing employment to many men and women. The pot is supplied by the potter, while thousands of people produce the charcoal by burning twigs and leaves of different kinds of trees in autumn. Some people buy quality charcoal from bakers who use firewood ovens.

The best and costliest kangri, known as Chrar Kangri as it is made in Chrar town, 35 km from Srinagar, has thin twigs woven around in an easily recognisable design. The twigs are steeped in boiling water until soft and the bark peeled.

The kangri is a part of Kashmiri culture. For instance, parents give a specially designed pot to their daughter in the first winter after her wedding. Though the pot is still being used by many in both urban and rural areas, it is slowly losing out to electric and gas heaters. One ill-effect of the hot pot is rashes and burns.

Twigs are collected from deciduous shrubs, scraped and peeled and go through a process of soaking, drying, dyeing and are finally woven around the bowl-shaped earthenware.

The earthenware is decorated with colourful threads, mirror-work and sequins and is about six inches (150 mm) in diameter.

Kangris can be ignited by just 250 grams of charcoal; it is cheaper than oil, gas and wood-fired heaters and costs from Rs 70 (\$1.12) to Rs 1,500 (\$24).

The traditional fire-pot is an effective and economical heating arrangement in the modern era when electronic heating gadgets are available.

In the absence of electricity or load-shedding, it does not disappoint people and keeps them warm in harsh winters



Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/the-kangri-and-the-kashmiri/article21822794.ece>

**Q.62) Which of the following is correctly matched?**

<b>Invasive Species</b>	<b>Native</b>
1. Papaya Mealy Bug	Central America
2. Cotton Mealybug	Papua New Guinea

Select the correct code:

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

**Q.62) Solution (a)**

Paracoccus marginatus (Papaya Mealy Bug), which belongs to Mexico and Central America but is believed to have destroyed huge crops of papaya in Assam, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu.

Phenacoccus solenopsis (Cotton Mealybug) is a native of North America but has severely affected cotton crops in the Deccan.

Alien plant species such as Parthenium hysterophorus (cotton grass) and Lantana camara (Lantana) are known to harm agriculture and biodiversity; invasive animal species pose a threat to biodiversity and human well-being.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/biodiversity-under-alien-attack/article21823042.ece>

**Q.63) Consider the following statements about Methylglyoxal**

1. High levels of methylglyoxal targets proteins and DNA and modify them in such a way that they are non-functional
2. Methylglyoxal is highly toxic in all organisms including humans at higher concentrations
3. Due to increased blood glucose levels, methylglyoxal has higher concentrations in diabetics

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)**

It has been known that the accumulation of an aldehyde – methylglyoxal – above a certain level can be toxic in all organisms. “Under normal developmental conditions, methylglyoxal levels remain very low (30-75 microM) and this regulates processes such as cell proliferation and their survival, and control of toxins. Methylglyoxal is highly toxic in all organisms including humans at higher concentrations. “High levels of methylglyoxal targets proteins and DNA and modify them in such a way that they are non-functional.

Due to increased blood glucose levels, methylglyoxal has higher concentrations in diabetics and has been linked to arterial atherogenesis. Damage by methylglyoxal to low-density lipoprotein through glycation causes a fourfold increase of atherogenesis in diabetics.

Although methylglyoxal has been shown to increase carboxymethyllysine levels, methylglyoxal has been suggested to be a better marker for investigating the association between AGEs with adverse health outcomes.

Methylglyoxal is a component of some kinds of honey, including manuka honey; it appears to have activity against E. coli and S. aureus.

**News:**

- Plants during their lifetime face biotic stress induced by living entities (pathogens) and abiotic stress caused by non-living entities (drought, osmotic stress, chemical or salt stress).
- Scientists have recently discovered a single gene whose expression controls the plants' response to both biotic and abiotic stress.
- Hsp31 is a heat shock protein found in the plants. Over expression of this protein renders them tolerant to stresses.
- Hsp31 protein is found to detoxify the methylglyoxal when it reaches higher concentration.
- The protein is similar to PARK7 protein in humans which is linked to the early onset of Parkinson's disease.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/one-gene-to-tackle-all-stresses/article21822553.ece>

**Q.64) Consider the following statements about 'Kolleru Lake'**

1. It is the largest brackish water lake in India
2. It spans in two states Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

**Select the correct statements**

- a) 1 Only

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

**Q.64) Solution (d)**

Kolleru Lake is one of the largest freshwater lakes in India located in state of Andhra Pradesh 15 kilometers away from the city of Eluru. Kolleru is located between Krishna and Godavari deltas. The lake was declared as a wildlife sanctuary in November 1999 under India's Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, and designated a wetland of international importance in November 2002 under the international Ramsar Convention.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/lone-great-white-pelican-a-visual-treat-in-kolleru/article21828644.ece>

**Q.65) Consider the following statements about Great White Pelican**

1. It is listed under Appendix I of the Convention on Migratory Species
2. India is one of the breeding ground for the species
3. It is listed an 'vulnerable' under IUCN List

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.65) Solution (a)**

The species is listed under Appendix I of the Convention on Migratory Species; Appendix II of the Bern Convention; Annex I of the Birds Directive. In its European range it occurs within 43 Important Bird Areas. In the EU it is listed within 108 Special Protection Areas.

The breeding season commences in April or May in temperate zones, is essentially all year around in Africa and runs February through April in India. Large numbers of these pelicans breed together in colonies.

IUCN Status – Least Concern

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/lone-great-white-pelican-a-visual-treat-in-kolleru/article21828644.ece>

**Q.66) Global Innovation Index is released by**

1. Cornell University U.S
2. World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
3. INSEAD

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.66) Solution (d)**

The Global Innovation Index (GII) is an annual ranking of countries by their capacity for, and success in, innovation. It is published by Cornell University, INSEAD, and the World Intellectual Property Organization, in partnership with other organisations and institutions, and is based on both subjective and objective data derived from several sources, including the International Telecommunication Union, the World Bank and the World Economic Forum. The index was started in 2007 by INSEAD and World Business.

India currently ranks 60th out of 127 countries on the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2017.

Source: [http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/india-ranked-60th-most-innovative-country-on-the-global-innovation-index-2017-117121900203\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/india-ranked-60th-most-innovative-country-on-the-global-innovation-index-2017-117121900203_1.html)

**Q.67) Consider the following about IMPRINT India**

1. IMPRINT India' is a Pan-IIT and IISc joint initiative to develop a roadmap for research to solve major engineering and technology challenges
2. Ministry of Science and Technology is the nodal ministry but will have convergence with centres of excellence across the nation

**Select the correct answer**

- a) 1 Only



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

**Q.67) Solution (a)**

IMPacting Research INnovation and Technology (IMPRINT)

'IMPRINT India' is a Pan-IIT and IISc joint initiative to develop a roadmap for research to solve major engineering and technology challenges in ten technology domains relevant to India.

Concerned Ministry - Ministry of Human Resource Development

**Q.68) Consider the following statements about White Spotted Bush Frog**

1. It is endemic to the Western Ghats
2. The male frogs guards the eggs and tadpoles until they are mature enough

Select the correct statements

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

**Q.68) Solution (c)**

They are found only in the Western Ghats' Agastya Hills in Kerala and Tamil Nadu).

They breed inside hollow bamboo stems.

The males both attended to the eggs by sitting on them [possibly to keep them hydrated], and physically guarded them by standing between the eggs and the entry hole, scaring away intruders by producing loud alarm calls and even lunging at them.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/zealous-frog-fathers-guard-eggs-against-cannibals/article21827915.ece>

**Q.69) Consider the following statements about 'KeRanger'**

1. It is ransomware targeting computers running the Microsoft Windows operating system
2. It encrypts the user's file tables and then demands a BitCoin payment to decrypt them

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.69) Solution (d)**

KeRanger (also known as OSX.KeRanger.A) is a ransomware trojan horse targeting computers running macOS. Discovered on March 4, 2016, by Palo Alto Networks, it affected more than 7,000 Mac users.

KeRanger is remotely executed on the victim's computer from a flaw in Transmission, a popular BitTorrent client.

Source; <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-opinion/for-a-safe-cyberspace/article21908740.ece>

**Q.70) 'Sorek' is the largest de-salinization plant of the world producing drinking water from saline sea water. Which of the following statements are correct about it?**

1. It is developed by Israel
2. The desalination facility uses seawater reverse osmosis (SWRO)

**Select the correct code**

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

**Q.70) Solution (c)**

It is the world's largest modern seawater desalination plant, providing 20 percent of the water consumed by the country's households. Built for the Israeli government by Israel Desalination Enterprises, or IDE Technologies, at a cost of around \$500 million, it uses a conventional desalination technology called reverse osmosis (RO).

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/indian-parliamentary-delegation-visiting-israel-ahead-of-pm-modis-visit-4690570/>

**Q.71) Sakala scheme was unveiled to cut red tape and ensure timely delivery of government services by which of the following states?**

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Telangana
- d) Bihar

**Q.71) Solution (b)**

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/sakala-scheme-paltry-sum-claimed-as-compensation-so-far/article21952835.ece>

**Q.72) Consider the following statements about 'water hyacinth'**

1. It is native to Krishna Basin
2. It is an invasive species

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.72) Solution (b)**

Eichhornia crassipes, commonly known as (common) water hyacinth, is an aquatic plant native to the Amazon basin, and is often a highly problematic invasive species outside its native range. Water hyacinth is a free-floating perennial aquatic plant (or hydrophyte)

native to tropical and sub-tropical South America. In many areas it has become an important and pernicious invasive species. When not controlled, water hyacinth will cover lakes and ponds entirely; this dramatically affects water flow, blocks sunlight from reaching native aquatic plants which often die. The decay processes depletes dissolved oxygen in the water, often killing fish (or turtles).

It was introduced in Bengal in India because of its beautiful flowers and shapes of leaves, but turned out to be an invasive weed draining oxygen from the water bodies and resulted in death of many fishes. Fish is a supplement food in Bengal, and because of the fish scarcity in Bengal caused by Eichhornia, the water hyacinth is also called "Terror of Bengal".

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/in-hyderabad-a-lake-thats-calm-and-compost/article21942999.ece>

**Q.73) The main function of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is to**

- a) arrange international deposits from banks
- b) help to solve balance of payments problems of member countries
- c) act as a private sector lending arm of the World Bank
- d) finance investment to developing countries

**Q.73) Solution (b)**

According to the IMF itself, it works to foster global growth and economic stability by providing policy, advice and financing the members, by working with developing nations to help them achieve macroeconomic stability and reduce poverty. The rationale for this is that private international capital markets function imperfectly and many countries have limited access to financial markets. Such market imperfections, together with balance-of-payments financing, provide the justification for official financing, without which many countries could only correct large external payment imbalances through measures with adverse economic consequences.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/salutary-benefits-from-demonetisation-in-india-imf/articleshow/62077333.cms>

**Q.74) The caves and rock-cut temples at Ellora are**

- a) Buddhist
- b) Buddhist and Jain

- c) Hindu and Jain
- d) Hindu, Buddhist and Jain

**Q.74) Solution (d)**

Ellora in Maharashtra, India, is one of the largest rock-cut monastery-temple cave complexes in the world, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, featuring Buddhist, Hindu and Jain monuments, and artwork, dating from the 600-1000 CE period.

Source: <http://www.dnaindia.com/analysis/column-walking-through-the-diverse-caves-of-ellora-2547914>

**Q.75) Consider the following statements about Schaller's wood scorpions**

1. It is found in Western Ghats
2. It is the only species of wood scorpions to be found in India

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.75) Solution (d)**

Schaller's wood scorpion from Tripura's Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary

Also called dwarf scorpions, wood scorpions are unlike the large scorpions we commonly see. Wood scorpions are only about three cm long and live in small burrows on the ground, making them very difficult to spot.

They also have fairly large and powerful pincers with which they crush their prey.

Schaller's wood scorpions are found in low elevations in parts of Tripura, including Trishna and Bison National Park, and is likely to be found in Bangladesh too

India is home to more than 125 species of scorpions. Nine of India's 11 wood scorpions are endemic to the country.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/tiny-scorpion-packs-a-punch/article22084724.ece>

**Q.76) Consider the following statements about 'Indian bison'**

1. It is native to Western Ghats and North East India only
2. It is listed as 'vulnerable' under IUCN Res List

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.76) Solution (b)**

Gaur historically occurred throughout mainland south and Southeast Asia and Sri Lanka. Currently it occurs in scattered areas in the following range states: Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Lao PDR, Malaysia (Peninsular Malaysia only), Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, and Viet Nam. However, it is extinct in Sri Lanka and also, as a resident, apparently in Bangladesh. The species is now seriously fragmented within its range, and the mapped distribution is generalised, especially in India, Lao, Myanmar, China and Malaysia. The domesticated form of Gaur, considered by IUCN a separate species occurs in parts of India, China, and Myanmar as feral, semi-feral, and domestic animals. This animal is excluded from the red-listing considerations for Gaur.

**Native:** Bhutan; Cambodia; China; India; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia (Peninsular Malaysia); Myanmar; Nepal; Thailand; Viet Nam

**Possibly extinct:** Bangladesh

**Regionally extinct:** Sri Lanka

**Q.77) Gilt-edged market means**

- a) Bullion market
- b) Market of guns
- c) Market of pure metals
- d) Market of Government securities

**Q.77) Solution (d)**

Government securities are instruments issued by the government to borrow money from the market. They are also known as gilts or gilt edged securities.

Following features of government securities earned them the name of gilt edged securities.

- They have zero income default
- There is cent per cent liquidity

Source: <http://www.financialexpress.com/market/with-interest-rates-near-all-time-lows-the-retail-g-sec-market-could-be-a-hit/882361/>

**Q.78) Ashok Dalwai committee is concerned with**

- a) Allocation of natural resources
- b) National Anti-Profiteering Authority (NAA)
- c) Doubling Farmers' Income
- d) Financial Inclusion

**Q.78) Solution (c)**

The government announced to double farm incomes by 2022 in its Union Budget 2016-17. In line with this it appointed an 8-member inter-ministerial committee headed by Ashok Dalwai, to consider major reforms in agriculture sector. It was tasked to prepare a blueprint for transition of farm policies from being production oriented to based on incomes or value addition.

Source: <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/agrimarketing-should-be-in-the-concurrent-list-dalwai-panel/article9821759.ece>

**Q.79) Which one of the following is not a feature of the Government of India Act of 1935?**

- a) An All-India Federation
- b) Diarchy at the Centre as well as in the provinces
- c) A bicameral legislature
- d) Provincial autonomy

**Q.79) Solution (b)****The act**

- Detailed document was provided with 321 sections and 10 schedules.
- Gave Indian provinces much less independence.
- Provision for the establishment of an All India Federation at the center, consisting of Provinces of British India and the Princely states.
- For the first time direct elections were introduced. Women were also allowed to vote.
- Sindh was separated from Bombay, Orissa was separated from Bihar, and Burma was separated from India. The number of provinces were increased to eleven by giving NWFP the status of fully-fledged province and creating two new provinces, Orissa and Sindh.
- The System of Diarchy was dropped at the provincial level but introduced in the central government level
- Two Houses of Parliament at central government level were introduced with Council of State being the Upper House and Assembly being the Lower House.
- Special Responsibilities and Safeguards vested in British Executive power in London
- Introduced the Reserve bank of India to look after the cash flow and printing processes

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/explained/parliament-winter-session-delay-congress-november-december-assembly-elections-4951659/>

**Q.80) 'Manganiyars' are known for**

- a) Martial arts in North-East India
- b) Pietra dura tradition in Central India
- c) Musical tradition in North-West India
- d) Classical vocal music in South India

**Q.80) Solution (c)**

The Manganiyars are a 25,000 to 30,000-strong Muslim community of hereditary professional singers who have lived for centuries in western Rajasthan's Thar Desert region.

Source: <http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/undercurrent-of-conflict-between-folk-singers-and-patrons-in-rajasthan-villages/story-CDgINq5w2AoX2RHgVBwvOL.html>



**Q.81) \_\_\_\_\_ is the first state in India to operationalise a law that makes social audit of government programmes and schemes a part of government practice.**

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Meghalaya
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Gujarat

**Q.81) Solution (b)**

**The Meghalaya Community Participation and Public Services Social Audit Act, 2017**

- It will make it easier to correct course as the scheme is rolling along; the audit is not after all the money has been spent.
- It gives people a direct say in how money will be spent and fills an information gap for officers as they are directly in touch with the ground.
- Social audits have been civil society initiatives rather than government-mandated. They are now part of the system.
- A social audit facilitator will be appointed to conduct the audit directly with the people. He will present findings to the Gram Sabha, who will add inputs and the result will finally go to the auditors.
- The legislation provides a legal framework for allowing citizens' participation in the planning of development, selection of beneficiaries, concurrent monitoring of programmes, redress of grievances, and audit of works, services, and programmes on an annual basis.
- The real benefit of this process is "quick corrective action."

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/indias-first-social-audit-law-meghalaya-4984781/>

**Q.82) Consider the following statements**

1. SDG 14 emphasises on Conservation and sustainable use the oceans, seas and marine resources
2. High seas are international waters where no country has jurisdiction

**Select the correct statements**

- a) 1 Only

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

**Q.82) Solution (c)****Goal 14 targets**

- By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution
- By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans
- Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels
- By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics
- By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information
- By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation
- By 2030, increase the economic benefits to Small Island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism
- Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries
- Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets
- Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in UNCLOS, which provides the legal

framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of The Future We Want

### Conservation Treaty for the High Seas

- United Nations votes for the first time on a planned treaty to protect and regulate the high seas.
- The waters outside national maritime boundaries – which cover half of the planet's surface – are currently a free-for-all that has led to devastating overfishing and pollution.
- A debate on whether to move ahead with a High Seas Treaty has been tabled before the end of the year at the UN headquarters in New York.
- Over the next two years the details of a legally binding treaty will be negotiated under the Law of the Sea Convention.
- It would have the authority to create large marine protected areas in the high seas as ocean scientists have long called for.
- The high seas are parts of the ocean outside of the 200-mile exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of countries with coastlines. That also means the high seas are usually only fished by large vessels, often huge bottom trawlers that can damage the sea floor.

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/dec/22/un-poised-to-move-ahead-with-landmark-treaty-to-protect-high-seas>

### Q.83) Consider the following statements about International Whaling Commission (IWC)

1. India is a member of the IWC
2. It is one of the United Nations Agencies
3. It acts under the Law of the Sea Convention

### Select the INCORRECT statements

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

### Q.83) Solution (b)

The IWC is the decision making body of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling. The various governments that are members of the IWC make their decisions

through its various meetings and committees, using the IWC secretariat to help manage their discussions and decision making.

The main duty of the IWC is to keep under review and revise as necessary the measures laid down in the Schedule to the Convention which govern the conduct of whaling throughout the world.

India is a member

Conservation Score - 10

Position - Pro-Conservation

Source: <http://www.newindianexpress.com/pti-news/2017/dec/18/international-call-for-japan-to-halt-antarctic-whaling-1730230.html>

**Q.84) Consider the following statements about 'Huntington's Disease'**

1. It is a degenerative brain disorder, in which afflicted individuals lose their ability to walk, talk, think, and reason
2. It is generally inherited from a person's parents
3. It is more prevalent in females

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.84) Solution (a)**

Huntington's disease is a degenerative brain disorder, in which afflicted individuals lose their ability to walk, talk, think, and reason. They easily become depressed, and lose their short-term memory capacity. They may also experience a lack of concentration and focus. This disease begins between ages 30-45, and every individual with the gene for the disease will eventually develop the disease. Huntington's is an autosomal dominant genetic disorder which means that if one parent carries the defective Huntington's gene, his/her offspring have a 50/50 chance of inheriting the disease.

Huntington's disease (HD) affects males and females equally and crosses all ethnic and racial boundaries. It typically begins in mid-life, between the ages of 30 and 45, though onset may

occur as early as the age of 2. Children who develop the juvenile form of the disease rarely live to adulthood. There is a 50/50 chance of inheriting the fatal gene from the parents. Everyone who carries the gene will develop the disease. In Western countries, it's estimated that about five to seven people per 100,000 are affected by HD.

Source: <http://www.livemint.com/Science/ANKgZ6wJ7gJQMBTf7NOwiL/Breakthrough-drug-found-to-treat-Huntingtons-disease-repor.html>

**Q.85) AG600, the world's largest amphibious aircraft was developed by**

- a) Japan
- b) China
- c) Russia
- d) Israel

**Q.85) Solution (b)**

Source: [http://www.business-standard.com/article/international/in-pics-world-s-largest-amphibious-aircraft-ag600-makes-its-maiden-flight-117122500182\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/international/in-pics-world-s-largest-amphibious-aircraft-ag600-makes-its-maiden-flight-117122500182_1.html)

**Q.86) World Migration Report 2018 is released by**

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- c) Amnesty International
- d) International Organization for Migration

**Q.86) Solution (d)**

World Migration Report 2018 is the ninth in the series. Since 2000, IOM has been producing world migration reports to contribute to increased understanding of migration throughout the world.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is an intergovernmental organization that provides services and advice concerning migration to governments and migrants, including internally displaced persons, refugees, and migrant workers. As of September 2016, it became a related organization of the United Nations.

It was initially established in 1951 as the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM) to help resettle people displaced by World War II.

As of June 2016, the International Organization for Migration has 166 member states and eight observer states.

IOM was born in 1951 out of the chaos and displacement of Western Europe following the Second World War. It was first known as the Provisional Intergovernmental Committee for the Movement of Migrants from Europe (PICMME). Mandated to help European governments to identify resettlement countries for the estimated 11 million people uprooted by the war, it arranged transport for nearly a million migrants during the 1950s.

**Q.87) Consider the following statements**

1. International Organisation for Migration is the United Nations migration agency
2. China has the largest diaspora in the world according to World Migration Report 2018

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.87) Solution (a)**

The Indian diaspora is the largest in the world, with over 15 million migrants from India living abroad, according to the World Migration Report 2018 published by the International Organisation for Migration, the United Nations migration agency.

India also receives the highest amount in remittances (\$68.91 billion). The largest migration corridor is from India to UAE, where 3.5 million Indians were residing in 2015.

**Q.88) SHAKTI scheme is under the aegis of**

- a) Ministry of Coal
- b) Ministry of Power
- c) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- d) Ministry of Women and Child Development

**Q.88) Solution (a)**

Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala (Coal) Transparently in India (SHAKTI) - Policy for allocation of future coal linkages in a transparent manner for power sector.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/34-power-projects-in-distress-centre-not-to-bear-npas/article22278385.ece>

**Q.89) Consider the following statements about Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)**

1. It is a member of the World Bank Group
2. It provides guarantees to cross-border investors in emerging markets to cover political risks
3. It is governed by its Council of Governors which represents its member countries

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.89) Solution (d)**

The Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) is an international financial institution which offers political risk insurance and credit enhancement guarantees. These guarantees help investors protect foreign direct investments against political and non-commercial risks in developing countries. MIGA is a member of the World Bank Group and is headquartered in Washington, D.C., United States.

MIGA is governed by its Council of Governors which represents its member countries. The Council of Governors holds corporate authority, but primarily delegates such powers to MIGA's Board of Directors. The Board of Directors consists of 25 directors and votes on matters brought before MIGA. Each director's vote is weighted in accordance with the total share capital of the member nations that director represents.

**Q.90) 'Abinava Bharat' a secret society of revolutionaries was organised by**

- a) Khudiram Bose
- b) V. D. Savarkar
- c) Prafulla Chaki
- d) Bhagat Singh

**Q.90) Solution (b)**

Abhinav Bharat was named after the Abhinav Bharat Society, an organisation founded by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar in 1904.

**Q.91) Consider the following statements about Bharatiya Nirdeshak Dravya (BND 4201)**

1. It is India's first home-grown high purity gold reference standard
2. It is the reference material for gold of '9999' fineness

**Select the correct statements**

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

**Q.91) Solution (c)**

India's first home-grown high purity gold reference standard - the Bharatiya Nirdeshak Dravya (BND-4201) - was launched at the India Government Mint, Mumbai. BND-4201, which is the reference material for gold of '9999' fineness (gold that is 99.99 per cent pure), will be beneficial to the consumers and public at large to ensure purity of gold.

The high purity gold reference standard has been developed through a collaboration between IGM, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre -- National Centre for Compositional Characterisation of Materials (Hyderabad), and Council of Scientific & Industrial Research-National Physical Laboratory (New Delhi).

**Source:** <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/govt-mint-launches-first-homegrown-high-purity-gold-reference-standard/article10001234.ece>

**Q.92) Haematology deals with**



- a) Disorders of the heart as well as parts of the circulatory system
- b) Study of the cause, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases related to blood
- c) Liver, gallbladder and the biliary system
- d) Disorders of the endocrine system

**Q.92) Solution (b)**

Haematology is the branch of medicine concerned with the study of the cause, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases related to blood.

It involves treating diseases that affect the production of blood and its components, such as blood cells, haemoglobin, blood proteins, bone marrow, platelets, blood vessels, spleen, and the mechanism of coagulation. Such diseases might include haemophilia, blood clots, other bleeding disorders and blood cancers such as leukaemia, multiple myeloma, and lymphoma.

Source: <http://www.livemint.com/Science/FB23uu1f8aDb9kM36XdgUL/Mobile-phone-radiation-harmful-for-a-cockroachs-health-Stu.html>

**Q.93) The Archaeological Survey of India is an attached office of the Department / Ministry of**

- a) Culture
- b) Tourism
- c) Science and Technology
- d) Human Resource Development

**Q.93) Solution (a)**

The Archaeological Survey of India, founded in 1861, is a Government of India Ministry of Culture organisation responsible for archaeological research and the conservation and preservation of cultural monuments in the country.

ASI was founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham who also became its first Director-General. The first systematic research into India's history was conducted by the Asiatic Society, which was founded by the British Indologist William Jones.

**Q.94) In which one of the following union territories, do the people of the Onge tribe live?**

- a) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- b) Dadra and Nagar Haveli
- c) Daman and Diu
- d) Lakshadweep

**Q.94) Solution (a)**

The Onge (also Önge, Ongee, and Öñge) are one of the Andamanese indigenous peoples of the Andaman Islands. Traditionally hunter-gatherers, they are a designated Scheduled Tribe of India.

**Q.95) The resolution for removing the Vice President of India can be moved in the**

- a) Lok Sabha alone
- b) Either House of Parliament
- c) Joint Sitting of the Parliament
- d) Rajya Sabha alone

**Q.95) Solution (d)**

The term of office of the Vice President is five years. The term may end earlier by resignation which should be addressed to the President. The term may also terminate earlier by removal. The Vice President can be removed by a resolution by the members of the Rajya Sabha. To move such resolution, a 14 days' notice is to be given. Such a resolution, though passed by the Rajya Sabha only, but must be agreeable to the Lok Sabha. There is no need of impeachment of Vice President for removal.

**Q.96) Mahadayi River flows through which of the following states?**

1. Karnataka
2. Goa
3. Maharashtra

Select the correct code:

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

d) All of the above

**Q.96) Solution (a)**

The Mahadayi/Mandovi River, also known as Mahadayi or Mhadei river, is described as the lifeline of the Indian state of Goa. The river has a length of 77 kilometres (48 miles), 29 kilometres (18 miles) in Karnataka and 52 kilometres (32 miles) in Goa. It originates from a cluster of 30 springs at Bhimgad in the Western Ghats in the Belagavi district of Karnataka. The river has a 2,032 km<sup>2</sup> catchment area in Karnataka and a 1,580 km<sup>2</sup> catchment area in Goa. With its cerulean waters, Dudhsagar Falls and Varapoha Falls, it is also known as the Gomati in a few places. The Mandovi and the Zuari are the two primary rivers in the state of Goa.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/goa-chief-minister-manohar-parrikar-softened-stand-on-mahadayi-water-dispute/articleshow/62277657.cms>

**Q.97) Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) is under the aegis of**

- a) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- b) Ministry of Science and Technology
- c) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- d) None of the above

**Q.97) Solution (d)**

NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), Government of India's flagship program to promote innovation and entrepreneurship nationwide in schools, universities and industry, has selected additional 1500 Schools for establishment of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs).

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) was launched by the NITI Ayog as an innovation promotion platform involving academics, entrepreneurs, and researchers utilizing national and international experience to promote the culture of innovation, R and D in India particularly in technology oriented areas.

The AIM along with Self-Employment and Talent Utilization (SETU) are Government of India's the leading ventures to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.

Source: <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1514076>

**Q.98) Beans of *Cassia occidentalis*, locally known as 'bada chakunda' is associated with**

- a) Japanese Encephalitis (JE)
- b) Multiple sclerosis (MS)
- c) Parkinson's disease
- d) Epilepsy

**Q.98) Solution (a)**

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/the-diagnostic-lens-encephalitis/article22288594.ece>

Read More - <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/%E2%80%98Bada-chakunda%E2%80%99-may-have-caused-JE-say-medical-experts/article16448180.ece>

**Q.99) What is 'Nirmal Gram Puraskar'?**

- a) It is an incentive scheme for schools in the villages for computer education.
- b) It is an incentive scheme of scholarships for the single girl child in families in villages.
- c) It is an incentive scheme for Panchayati Raj Institutions.
- d) It is an incentive scheme of scholarships for female sportspersons from villages who represent their states in any game.

**Q.99) Solution (c)**

The "Nirmal Gram Puraskar" "Clean Village Award" was started in 2005 under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) to honor, felicitate and encourage those Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) which have achieved full sanitation coverage in their area of operation and become Open Defecation Free and clean villages, for making TSC into a mass movement.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/human-intervention-reverses-fluorosis/article19875324.ece>

**Q.100) Who among the following wrote "The Communist Manifesto" along with Karl Marx?**

- a) Friedrich Engels
- b) Max Weber
- c) Emile Durkheim
- d) Robert Owen

**Q.100) Solution (a)**

The Communist Manifesto (originally Manifesto of the Communist Party) is an 1848 political pamphlet by German philosophers Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. Commissioned by the Communist League and originally published in London (in German as Manifest der Kommunistischen Partei) just as the revolutions of 1848 began to erupt, the Manifesto was later recognised as one of the world's most influential political documents. It presents an analytical approach to the class struggle (historical and then-present) and the problems of capitalism and the capitalist mode of production, rather than a prediction of communism's potential future forms.

The Communist Manifesto summarises Marx and Engels' theories about the nature of society and politics, that in their own words, "The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles". It also briefly features their ideas for how the capitalist society of the time would eventually be replaced by socialism.

