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Q.1) 'Basavanna' is associated with which of the following?

- a) Vaisheshika
- b) Mimamsa
- c) Nyaya
- d) None of the above

Q.1) Solution (d)

Basavanna was a saint devoted to Shiva and was the chief founder of the reformist Virashaiva or Lingayat Community.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-karnataka/strive-for-alleviating-inequalities-in-mutts-lingayat-groups-advised/article24376560.ece

Q.2) Consider the following statements about National Testing Agency (NTA)

- 1. The idea of NTA was first recommended in the national education policy 1986
- 2. It replaced the CBSE examination conducting units

Select the correct statements

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

It is created as a Society registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860, and as an autonomous and self-sustained premier testing organization to conduct entrance examinations for higher educational institutions.

Starting December, NTA would be taking over the examinations which were till now conducted by CBSE and AICTE (All India Council of Technical Education). This includes UGC NET, JEE Main, National Eligibility cum Entrance Test – NEET, Common Management Admission Test – CMAT and Graduate Pharmacy Aptitude Test – GPAT.

Constitution

• NTA will be chaired by an eminent educationist appointed by MHRD.

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- The CEO will be the Director General to be appointed by the Government.
- There will be a Board of Governors comprising members from user institutions.
- The Director General will be assisted by 9 verticals headed by academicians/ experts.

The idea of NTA was recommended in the national education policy 1986 but it was never implemented by previous governments.

Source: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/from-2019-students-can-appear-for-jee-neet-tests-twice-in-a-year/articleshow/64901708.cms

Q.3) Consider the following statements about European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

- 1. It was established to help build a new, post-Cold War era in Central and Eastern Europe
- 2. Only the members of European Union can be members of the EBRD

Select the correct statements

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

Q.3) Solution (a)

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is an international financial institution founded in 1991. As a multilateral developmental investment bank, the EBRD uses investment as a tool to build market economies. Initially focused on the countries of the former Eastern Bloc it expanded to support development in more than 30 countries from central Europe to central Asia. Besides Europe, member countries of the EBRD are from five continents (North America, Africa, Asia and Australia, see below), with the biggest shareholder being the United States, so the name is somewhat of a misnomer. Headquartered in London, the EBRD is owned by 65 countries and two EU institutions. Despite its public sector shareholders, it invests mainly in private enterprises, together with commercial partners.

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) was established to help build a new, post-Cold War era in Central and Eastern Europe. It has since played a historic role and gained unique expertise in fostering change in the region - and beyond.

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The Agreement Establishing the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development was signed in Paris on 29 May 1990.

Source: https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/indias-ebrd-membership-opens-opportunities-for-its-businesses/article24255777.ece

Q.4) Section 497 of the Indian Penal Code is concerned with

- a) Adultery
- b) Criminal Breach of Contracts of Service
- c) Defamation
- d) Offences affecting the Human Body

Q.4) Solution (a)

Section 497 in the Indian Penal Code

Adultery—Whoever has sexual intercourse with a person who is and whom he knows or has reason to believe to be the wife of another man, without the consent or connivance of that man, such sexual intercourse not amounting to the offence of rape, is guilty of the offence of adultery, and shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to five years, or with fine, or with both. In such case the wife shall not be punishable as an abettor.

Source: https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/5-judge-constitution-bench-of-supreme-court-to-hear-plea-on-gay-sex-law-1879322

Q.5) Which of the following statements about 'Iberian Peninsula' is/are correct?

- a) Gibraltar is a British Overseas Territory located on the southern end of the Iberian Peninsula
- b) It is the largest European Peninsula
- c) Both (a) nor (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Q.5) Solution (a)

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The Iberian Peninsula is located in the southwest corner of Europe. The peninsula is principally divided between Portugal and Spain, comprising most of their territory. It also includes Andorra and a small part of France along the peninsula's north-eastern edge, as well as Gibraltar on its south coast, a small peninsula which forms an overseas territory of the United Kingdom. With an area of approximately 582,000 km2 (225,000 sq mi), it is the second largest European peninsula, after the Scandinavian.

The Gibraltar Arc is a geological region corresponding to an arcuate orogen surrounding the Alboran Sea, between the Iberian Peninsula and Africa. It consists of the Betic Cordillera (south Spain), and the Rif (North Morocco). The Gibraltar Arc is located at the western end of the Mediterranean Alpine belt and formed during the Neogene due to convergence of the

