

Q.1) 'Press Freedom Index' is published by

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) Reporters Without Borders
- c) International Telecommunication Union
- d) International Press Institute (IPI)

Q.1) Solution (b)

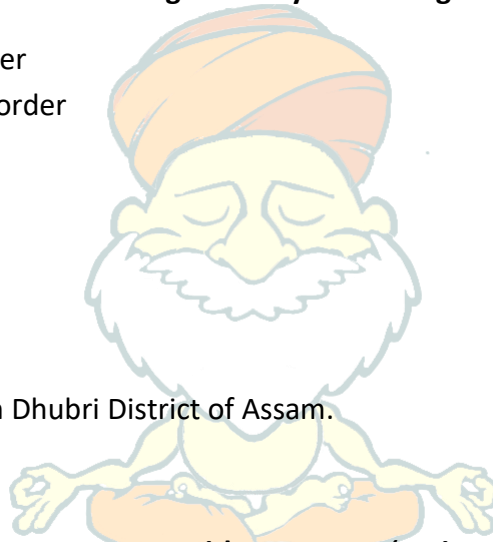
The Press Freedom Index is an annual ranking of countries compiled and published by Reporters Without Borders.

Q.2) 'BOLD-QIT' refers to Border Management System along the

- a) India Pakistan Border
- b) India Bangladesh Border
- c) India China Border
- d) All of the above

Q.2) Solution (b)

India-Bangladesh border in Dhubri District of Assam.



Q.3) Consider the following statements with respect to 'anti-satellite (ASAT) weapon' which was recently in news.

1. India was the first country in the world to use ASAT in a military conflict
2. It is a ground based system which can hack and jam a satellite in a Low Earth Orbit.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.3) Solution (d)

No country has used ASAT yet in a military conflict.

It is basically a ballistic missile.

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs)'

1. Banks whose assets exceed 1% of GDP are considered part of this group
2. D-SIB means that the bank is too big to fail

Select the correct statements

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

Q.4) Solution (b)

D-SIB means that the bank is too big to fail. Banks whose assets exceed 2% of GDP are considered part of this group. Some banks become systemically important due to their size, cross-jurisdictional activities, complexity and lack of substitute and interconnection

Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to 'REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust)'

1. It pools funds from a number of investors and invests them in rent-generating properties.
2. The entry point for an investor is 50,000/- rupees

Select the correct statements

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

Q.5) Solution (c)

India's first real estate investment trust (REIT) has become a reality. The first REIT initial public offering (IPO) by Embassy Office Parks, a Bangalore-based real estate developer backed by Blackstone Group LP, a global private equity firm, was open for investment between March 18 and 20, 2019.

REITs are securities linked to real estate that can be traded on stock exchanges once they get listed. The structure of REITs is similar to that of a mutual fund. Just like mutual funds, there are sponsors, trustees, fund managers and unit holders in REITs. However, unlike mutual funds, where the underlying asset is bonds, stocks and gold, REITs invest in physical real estate. The money collected is deployed in income-generating real estate. This income gets distributed among the unit holders. Besides regular income from rents and leases, gains from capital appreciation of real estate also form an income for the unit holders.

In the latest amendment on 1 March 2019, Sebi reduced the minimum investment limit in REIT to ₹50,000 from ₹2 lakh. However, since Embassy Office Parks REIT IPO was filed much before the amendment, the minimum amount is above ₹2 lakh.

Q.6) Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

1. Marayur jiggery – Maharashtra
2. Sirsi Supari – Kerala
3. Thirubhuvanam Silk – Tamil Nadu

Select the correct statements

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



Q.6) Solution (c)

Marayur jiggery – Kerala

Sirsi Supari – Karnataka

Thirubhuvanam Silk – Tamil Nadu

Q.7) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Lokpal Act, 2013'

1. Lokpal should consist of a chairperson and such number of members, not exceeding eight, of whom 50% should be from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
2. The Act states that not less than 50% of the members of the Lokpal should be from among persons belonging to the SCs, the STs, OBCs, minorities and women.
3. The Prime Minister does not come under the purview of this Act

Select the correct statements

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

Q.7) Solution (b)

Under the 2013 Act, the Lokpal should consist of a chairperson and such number of members, not exceeding eight, of whom 50% should be judicial members.

The Act states that not less than 50% of the members of the Lokpal should be from among persons belonging to the SCs, the STs, OBCs, minorities and women. The same rules apply members of the search committee. Salaries, allowances and service conditions of the Lokpal chairperson will be the same as those for the Chief Justice of India; those for other members will be the same as those for a judge of the Supreme Court.

If a complaint is filed against the Prime Minister, the Act says, "Lokpal shall inquire or cause an inquiry to be conducted into any matter involved in, or arising from, or connected with, any allegation of corruption made in a complaint". However, certain conditions will apply.

Q.8) The Official Secrets Act, 1923 was notified during the tenure of?

- a) Lord Minto
- b) Lord Reading
- c) Lord Northbrook
- d) Lord Ripon

Q.8) Solution (b)

OSA in short, it has its roots in the British colonial era. The original version was The Indian Official Secrets Act (Act XIV), 1889. This was brought in with the main objective of muzzling the voice of a large number of newspapers that had come up in several languages, and were

opposing the Raj's policies, building political consciousness and facing police crackdowns and prison terms. It was amended and made more stringent in the form of The Indian Official Secrets Act, 1904, during Lord Curzon's tenure as Viceroy of India. In 1923, a newer version was notified (Lord Reading (1921-1926). The Indian Official Secrets Act (Act No XIX of 1923) was extended to all matters of secrecy and confidentiality in governance in the country.

Q.9) 'One Nation, One Card' refers to

- a) Direct Benefit Transfer
- b) Citizenship
- c) Mobility
- d) Rural Digital Payments

Q.9) Solution (c)

National Common Mobility Card

It is the Indigenous Automatic Fare Collection System based on One Nation One Card Model i.e. National Common Mobility Card (NCMC).

Q.10) 'Forward Search Experiment' is associated with

- a) E-Mobility
- b) Dark Matter
- c) Biofuels
- d) Sustainable Urban Housing

Q.10) Solution (b)

FASER is an experiment designed to look for light and weakly interacting particles at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC).

Q.11) Which of the following is not an 'Asian rhino-range country'?

- a) Pakistan
- b) Bhutan

- c) Indonesia
- d) Nepal

Q.11) Solution (a)

Asian rhino-range countries - India, Bhutan, Indonesia, Malaysia and Nepal

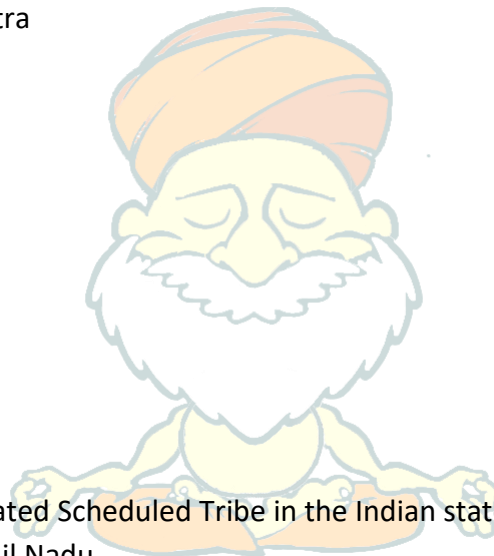
Q.12) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

Tribes State

1. Kattunayakan – Odisha
2. Soliga – Karnataka
3. Kolam – Maharashtra

Select the correct code:

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



Q.12) Solution (b)

Kattunayakar are a designated Scheduled Tribe in the Indian states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

Soliga, also spelled Sholaga and Shōlaga, is an ethnic group of India. Its members inhabit the Biligiriranga Hills and associated ranges in southern Karnataka, mostly in the Chamaraajanagar and Erode districts of Tamil Nadu.

Kolam are a designated Scheduled Tribe in the Indian states of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Q.13) Global Electric Vehicle Outlook is published by

- a) Tesla, Inc
- b) International Energy Agency
- c) World Economic Forum

d) World Electric Vehicle Association

Q.13) Solution (b)

Global Electric Vehicle Outlook is published by the International Energy Agency.

Q.14) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP)'

1. It aims at completion of the on-going projects already approved under FMP Flood Management Programme (FMP)
2. It caters to Hydro-meteorological observations and Flood Forecasting on common rivers with the neighbouring countries

Select the correct statements

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

Q.14) Solution (c)

Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP)

About

- The FMBAP Scheme will be implemented throughout the country for effective flood management, erosion control and anti-sea erosion.
- The proposal will benefit towns, villages, industrial establishments, communication links, agricultural fields, infrastructure etc. from floods and erosion in the country.
- The catchment area treatment works will help in reduction of sediment load into rivers.
- The funding pattern for FM Component for works in general category States will continue to be 50% (Centre) : 50% (State) and for projects of North Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the funding pattern will continue to be 70% (Centre) : 30% (State).

- RMBA component being specific to activities in border areas with neighbouring countries and in accordance with bilateral mechanisms, the projects / works will continue to be funded as 100% grant-in-aid / central assistance.

Features

- The Scheme "FMBAP" has been framed by merging the components of two continuing XII Plan schemes titled "Flood Management Programme (FMP)" and "River Management Activities and Works related to Border Areas (RMBA)".
- The aim of the Scheme is to assist the State Governments to provide reasonable degree of protection against floods in critical areas by adopting optimum combination of structural and non-structural measures and enhancing capabilities of State/Central Government officials in related fields.
- The works under the scheme will protect valuable land from erosion and flooding and help in maintaining peace along the border.
- The Scheme aims at completion of the on-going projects already approved under FMP.
- Further, the scheme also caters to Hydro-meteorological observations and Flood Forecasting on common rivers with the neighbouring countries.
- The Scheme also includes survey and investigations, preparation of DPR etc. of water resources projects on the common rivers with neighbouring countries like Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project, Sapta Kosi-Sun Kosi Projects in Nepal which would benefit both countries.

Q.15) White Label ATMs can source cash from

1. Cooperative banks
2. Regional rural banks
3. Reserve Bank of India

Select the correct code:

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

Q.15) Solution (d)

White Label ATM - Update

- In a step to boost activities of white label automated (WLA) teller machine operators, the RBI has allowed such entities to buy wholesale cash, above a threshold of 1 lakh pieces of any denomination, directly from the RBI and currency chests against full payment.
- WLAs are also allowed to source cash from scheduled banks, including cooperative banks and regional rural banks

Q.16) The term 'Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)' is related to

- a) WWF
- b) UNESCO
- c) World Bank
- d) UNCLOS

Q.16) Solution (d)

The first session of the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) on an international legally binding instrument (ILBI) under the **UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)** on the conservation and sustainable use of **marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ)** considered a document prepared by the IGC President, which aimed at leading to substantive discussions based on the elements of a package agreed in 2011 on:

- marine genetic resources (MGRs), including questions on benefit-sharing; environmental impact assessments (EIAs); area-based management tools (ABMTs), including marine protected areas (MPAs); and capacity building and marine technology transfer (CB&TT)

The second session of the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) on an international legally binding instrument under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) is scheduled in April 2019.

Source:

<https://sdg.iisd.org/events/second-session-of-the-intergovernmental-conference-on-bbnj/>

Q.17) The Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) promote the accelerated transfer of environmentally sound technologies for low carbon and climate resilient development at the request of developing countries. CCTN is hosted by:

- a) The United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) hosts the CTCN in collaboration with the World Bank (WB)
- b) The United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) hosts the CTCN in collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- c) The United Nations World Bank (WB) hosts the CTCN in collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- d) The World Bank (WB) hosts the CTCN in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Q.17) Solution (b)

The CTCN promotes the accelerated transfer of environmentally sound technologies for low carbon and climate resilient development at the request of developing countries. We provide technology solutions, capacity building and advice on policy, legal and regulatory frameworks tailored to the needs of individual countries.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) hosts the CTCN in collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the support of a consortium of partners that are engaged in some 1,500 activities related to climate technologies in over 150 countries.

India is part of the consortium.

Source:

<https://sdg.iisd.org/events/13th-meeting-of-the-ctcn-advisory-board/>

Q.18) The 'Land and Poverty Conference-2019' is news recently is related to:

- a) World Bank
- b) International Monetary Fund
- c) Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+)
- d) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Q.18) Solution (a)

The Land and Poverty conference presents the latest research and innovations in policies and good practice on land governance around the world. This conference has become one

of the largest international events on land governance, attracting over 1,500 participants from governments, academics, civil society, and the private sector.

20th Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty! This year's conference theme will be: Catalyzing Innovation.

Source:

<https://sdg.iisd.org/events/land-and-poverty-conference-2019-catalyzing-innovation/>

Q.19) 'Global Resources Outlook 2019: Natural Resources for the Future we Want' is related to:

- a) International Energy Agency (IEA)
- b) World Resource Institute (WRI)
- c) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- d) World Bank

Q.19) Solution (c)

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) has published the summary for policymakers (SPM) of a major global report on the status and trends of natural resource use and management, ***the 'Global Resources Outlook 2019: Natural Resources for the Future we Want.'***

The SPM and the underlying report will be presented at the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4).

Note- Global Environment Outlook, Global Chemicals Outlook and Global Mercury Assessment also published by UNEP.

Q.20) The UN General Assembly (UNGA) has proclaimed 'X' as UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. What is X?

- a) 2010-2020
- b) 2011-2020
- c) 2020-2030
- d) 2021-2030

Q.20) Solution (d)

The UN General Assembly (UNGA) proclaimed 2021-2030 UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. The Decade will be implemented “within existing structures and available resources,” with the aim of supporting and scaling up efforts to prevent, halt, and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide and raise awareness of the importance of successful ecosystem restoration.

Note- Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020

Source:

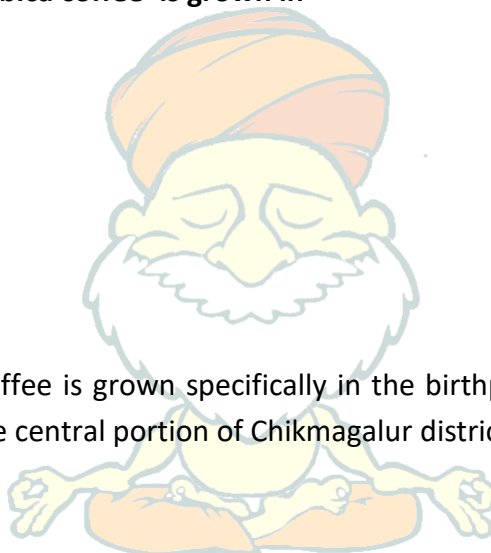
<https://sdg.iisd.org/news/unga-proclaims-un-decade-on-ecosystem-restoration/>

Q.21) ‘Bababudangiris Arabica coffee’ is grown in

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Assam
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Karnataka

Q.21) Solution (d)

Bababudangiris Arabica coffee is grown specifically in the birthplace of coffee in India and the region is situated in the central portion of Chikmagalur district.



Q.22) The ‘Glorious Kakatiya Temples and Gateways’ comprises of

1. Remnants of Swayambhu temple and Keerthi Thoranas, Warangal
2. Rudreswara Temple (Thousand pillars temple), Hanumakonda
3. Rudreswara (Ramappa) Temple, Palampet

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)

Read More - <https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5889/>

Q.23) 'UNSC Resolution 2462' is associated with

- a) Sudan and South Sudan
- b) Libya and Algeria
- c) Terror Financing
- d) Golan Heights

Q.23) Solution (c)

Resolution 2462

- UN Security Council has adopted a resolution that calls upon countries to prevent and counter the financing of terrorism, especially in its new forms.
- Initiated by France, Resolution 2462 is intended to update existing resolutions and adapt them to new forms of financing of terrorism and new challenges in this field.
- Adopted in 2001 in response to the September 11 terrorist attacks in the US, Resolution 1373 was the first comprehensive resolution imposing obligations on all states to respond to the global threat of terrorism.
- Resolution 2462 also affirms the Resolution 1373 and in particular its decisions that all countries shall prevent and suppress the financing of terrorist acts and refrain from providing any of support, active or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts.



Q.24) Consider the following statements with respect to the 'Election deposit'

1. Candidates who stand for Parliamentary elections and Assembly elections have to pay a deposit of ₹25,000
2. Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes candidates are not required to pay a deposit

Select the correct statements

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

Q.24) Solution (d)

In India, candidates who stand for parliamentary elections have to pay a deposit of ₹25,000.

If the candidate is a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, the amount is ₹12,500.

For Assembly elections, the amount is ₹10,000; for SC and ST candidates, it is ₹5,000.

Q.25) Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

1. Bamako - Mali
2. Molde – Iraq
3. Kobani – Syria

Select the correct code:

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

Q.25) Solution (c)

Bamako - Mali

Molde – Norway

Kobani – Syria



Q.26) Match the following

1. Karagam:: Folk Dance of Andhra Pradesh
2. Puvari Eduppu:: Festival of Kerala
3. Erwadi Santhakoodu:: Festival of Tamil Nadu

Which of the above is/are correctly matched?

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

Q.26) Solution (b)

Kargam

- Karagattam or Karagam is a **folk dance of Tamil Nadu** performed by villagers perform in praise of the rain goddess Mari Amman. The performers balance a water pot on their head very beautifully.
- Traditionally, this dance is performed in two types - Aatta Karagam is danced with decorated pots on the head and symbolises joy and happiness, while the Sakthi Karagam is performed only in temples and is mainly danced for entertainment. Earlier it was performed only with the accompaniment of the Naiyandi Melam, but now it also includes songs. Most expert artistes are from the regions of Thanjavur, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram, Madurai, Tirunelveli, and Pattukottai and Salem.

Puvari Eduppu

- Puravi eduppu at Vallalapatti Ayyanar Temple (Tamil Nadu), in which thousands of **mud horses are taken in procession over two days**. It's a resplendent sight to see so many terracotta horses of varying sizes and colours being carried in unison.
- Large old clay(terracotta) horses reaching a height of two meters and more, wonderfully molded and with intricate decorations with Vestis, Flower garlands. Devotees decorate their votive offerings themselves with flowers, pieces of cloths, balloons, pin-wheels, mirrors, etc.

Erwadi Santhanakoodu

- The Erwadi Santhanakoodu Festival is a month long festival held in Erwadi dargah, located in Ramanathapuram district (Tamil Nadu), to commemorate the anniversary of Sulthan Syed Ibrahim Shaheed Badhusa nayagam whose grave is in Erwadi.
- Santhanakoodu festival at Goripalayam Dargah is a classic example, where Hindus too take part.

Note:

- **Therukoothu** is an ancient art, where artists play songs with dance and music in storytelling the epics, performed in Tamil; it is a folk art originated from the early Tamil country.
- **Oyilattam::** is a folk dance with origins in the Madurai region of Tamil Nadu.
- It was traditionally a dance where a few men would stand in a row with two kerchiefs perform rhythmic steps to the musical accompaniment, with the number of dancers increasing; over the past ten years women have also started performing this dance.

- Typically, the musical accompaniment is the Thavil and the performers have coloured handkerchiefs tied to their fingers] and wear ankle bells. Oyilattam is one of the folk arts identified for mainstreaming by the Tamil university. Mainly Oyilattam is performed at village festivals. It is basically describing the great epics like ramayana, mahabaratha and also lord muruga's history.

Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/life-and-style/travel/blogger-turned-author-chithiraveethikaran-talks-about-his-fascination-for-festivals-and-his-first-book-thiruvizhakkalin-thalainagaram-madurai/article26408853.ece>

Q.27) Recently in news, the famous Gauḍa, Gaur, or Gour, also known as Lakhnauti and Jannatabad, is a ruined city located at:

- Andhra Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh
- Gujarat
- West Bengal

Q.27) Solution (d)

Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/once-upon-a-fort-gaurs-firoz-minar-is-still-an-imposing-sight/article26407049.ece>



Q.28) With reference to Ancient Indian Culture, what denotes 'Naazhi or Uri':

- A kind of measuring unit
- A kind of cess in Southern India
- A kind of gift
- A kind of art

Q.28) Solution (a)

Naazhi was the smallest of the measuring vessels associated with the rice-paddy system in Kerala. Teachers were paid in cash and kind measured in measuring units naazhi or uri. They got a daily allowance of two coins and an uzhi or naazhi of paddy or cloth.

Some more measuring units

- Bindu
- Phalam
- Kudubam
- Kazanj
- Thoola
- Shanam
- Pakkam

Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/tracing-the-roots-of-kanchipurams-thirumukoodal-azhvar-temple/article26406975.ece>

Q.29) The term 'BAPA+40' recently in news is related to:

- a) BRICS
- b) Shanghai Cooperation Organization
- c) United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
- d) REDD+

Q.29) Solution (c)

The UN General Assembly (UNGA) adopted by consensus, on 28 August 2017, the draft resolution calling for the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation to be held in Buenos Aires from 20-22 March 2019.

The Conference will mark the fortieth anniversary of the UN Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, which convened from 30 August to 12 September 1978, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

That meeting adopted the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (BAPA).

General debate on the role of South-South cooperation and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: challenges and opportunities

<https://sdg.iisd.org/news/intergovernmental-technical-preparations-underway-for-bapa40/>

Q.30) 'MSPglobal' is a joint initiative of:

- a) UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO) and the European Commission to develop new international guidelines on maritime spatial planning.
- b) World Bank and the European Commission to develop new international guidelines on maritime spatial planning.
- c) UNCLOS and the European Commission to develop new international guidelines on maritime spatial planning.
- d) World Economic Forum and the European Commission to develop new international guidelines on maritime spatial planning.

Q.30) Solution (a)

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (IOC-UNESCO) and the European Commission (EC) launched MSPglobal, a maritime spatial planning project. The three-year project aims to develop international guidelines on maritime spatial planning and support regulation of activities in coastal and marine waters as a contribution to achieving ocean governance goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

<https://sdg.iisd.org/news/ioc-unesco-ec-launch-mspglobal-contribute-to-sdg-14/>

Q.31) Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

- 1. Shanghumughom beach – Kerala
- 2. Chandrabhaga beach – Odisha
- 3. Chimbai beach – Andhra Pradesh

Select the correct code:

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

Q.31) Solution (a)

Shanghumughom beach – Kerala

Chandrabhaga beach – Odisha

Chimbai beach – Maharashtra

Q.32) The term 'AMRAAM' refers to

- a) Medium-range air to air missile
- b) Anti-tag guided missile
- c) Dark Matter
- d) Blackholes

Q.32) Solution (a)

Advanced medium-range air to air missile – In news because of Dogfight between India (MIG21) and Pakistan (F16)

Q.33) Election commission allows which of the following documents to prove voters' identity?

- 1. PAN card
- 2. MNREGA Job Card
- 3. Official identity cards issued to MPs

Select the correct code:

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



Q.33) Solution (c)

Read More - <https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/lost-your-voter-id-list-of-alternative-documents-you-can-use-to-vote-in-lok-sabha-elections-2019-1490105-2019-03-30>

Q.34) 'Non-detriment Findings' is associated with

- a) IUCN
- b) CITES
- c) UNEP
- d) WWF

Q.34) Solution (b)

Read More - <https://www.cites.org/eng/prog/ndf/index.php>

Q.35) 'Operation Sunrise' was in news associated with which of the following countries?

1. India
2. Myanmar
3. Bhutan
4. Nepal

Select the correct code:

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

Q.35) Solution (a)

Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project involving India and Myanmar– critical to the connectivity between North East and Myanmar was saved by a joint operation carried out by forces of both countries.

Q.36) Monaco Blue Initiative was recently in news related to Marine Protected Area. Where is Monaco located?

- a) Baltic Sea Coastline
- b) Strait of Gibraltar
- c) Black Sea
- d) Mediterranean Sea Coastline

Q.36) Solution (d)

Monaco is a tiny independent city-state on France's Mediterranean coastline.

Q.37) Consider the following statements regarding 'World Conservation Congress':

1. It is a body of International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
2. It is held once in four years.
3. The next World Conservation Congress is scheduled to be held in France in 2020

Which of the give statements is/are correct?

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

Q.37) Solution (d)

Held once every four years, the IUCN World Conservation Congress brings together several thousand leaders and decision-makers from government, civil society, indigenous peoples, business, and academia, with the goal of conserving the environment and harnessing the solutions nature offers to global challenges.

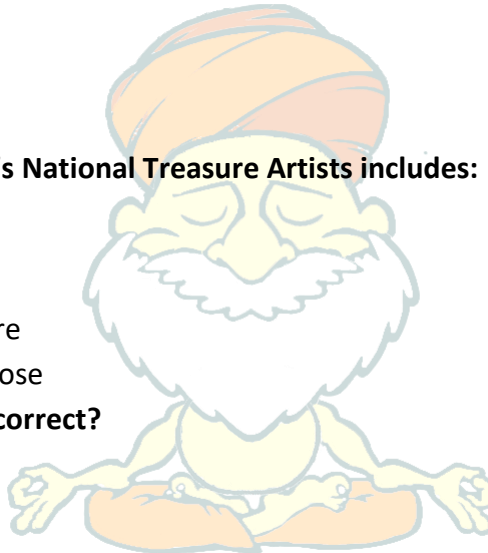
France will host the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020 from 11 to 19 June at Parc Chanot in Marseille.

Q.38) The Navratna: India's National Treasure Artists includes:

- 1. Jamini Roy
- 2. Raja Ravi Verma
- 3. Rabindranath Tagore
- 4. Subhash Chandra Bose

Which of the given is/are correct?

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



Q.38) Solution (d)

The Navratna: India's National Treasure Artists features

- Raja Ravi Varma,
- Amrita Sher-Gil,
- Rabindranath Tagore,
- Abanindranath Tagore
- Gaganendranath Tagore,
- Nandalal Bose,
- Sailoz Mukherjea,

- Jamini Roy,
- Nicholas Roerich.

Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/landscapes-and-portraits-of-princes/article26675428.ece>

Q.39) This region is now regarded as a site museum of palaeo-zoology because of its well-preserved fossils and corals. Like the Grand Canyon in Colorado, USA, it is considered as Cretaceous Park of South India by the geological community. Name the region?

- a) Ariyalur
- b) Kochi
- c) Mangalore
- d) Tirupati

Q.39) Solution (a)

This region is now regarded as a site museum of palaeo-zoology because of its well-preserved fossils and corals.

Like the Grand Canyon in Colorado, US, Ariyalur is considered as Cretaceous Park of South India by the geological community.

Some Facts about Ariyalur:

- The fossil site is spread out over 2 lakh acres within a 40-70 kilometre radius from Ariyalur town. It covers Samayapuram and Kallakudi in Tiruchi district, Sathanur in Perambalur district and the coastal region close to Marakkanam in Cuddalore district.
- The mouth of the Vellar was considered the entry point of the sea from the Bay of Bengal (a phenomenon called sea ingression). After being a marine haven for 40 million years, the sea evaporated (known as regression), leaving behind a vast graveyard of shellfish, corals, clams, gastropods and branchiopods. These formed huge bands of sedimentary rocks, most of it limestone, the main raw material for cement production.
- The region is a magnet for cement companies because of the purity of Ariyalur's limestone (90% compared to the 67% required for production). The factories burn a mixture of powdered limestone, gypsum, coal and other chemicals to produce cement and clinker (a stony residue). But unchecked mining has led to air pollution and large quantities of overburden soil being heaped up randomly.

Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/a-trip-through-the-fossil-rich-grounds-of-ariyalur/article26676409.ece>

Q.40) The kalpavriksha is a dominant artistic theme in mythology and cosmology as a wish-fulfilling divine tree of:

1. Hinduism
2. Jainism
3. Buddhism

Select the correct code:

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

Q.40) Solution (d)

The kalpavriksha is a dominant artistic theme in **Hindu, Jain and Buddhist** mythology and cosmology as a wish-fulfilling divine tree.

James Fergusson, in his 19th-century History of Indian and Eastern Architecture, writes, "Of the various forms which the Saracenic architecture assumed in India, that of Ahmedabad may probably be considered the most elegant, as it certainly is the most characteristic of all. No other form is so essentially Indian, and no one tells its tale with the same unmistakable distinctness."

Sidi Saiyyed Mosque in Ahmedabad- It's a symbol of the city, and the logo of IIM Ahmedabad. It was this tree of life or kalpavriksha carved in this Mosque.

Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/columns/the-kalpavriksha-on-minarets/article26544493.ece>

Q.41) 'Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) Report' is released by

- a) WEF
- b) OECD

- c) WHO
- d) UN-WOMEN

Q.41) Solution (b)

The OECD Development Centre's Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) is a cross-country measure of discrimination against women in social institutions (formal and informal laws, social norms, and practices) across 180 countries.

Q.42) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Cities Summit'

1. The inaugural summit was held during the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) in Nairobi
2. UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) co-hosted the Summit

Select the correct statements

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

Q.42) Solution (c)

The UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), with ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the Global Task Force and Cities Alliance, will co-host the first Cities Summit during the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) in Nairobi, Kenya. Convening under the theme, 'Innovation for Livable and Sustainable Cities: Multi-level and Integrated Urban Systems,' the Summit will provide a forum for high-level dialogue between mayors, ministers, the private sector and civil society.

Q.43) 'Malham salt cave' was recently discovered in

- a) Meghalaya
- b) Israel
- c) Kazakhstan
- d) Jordan

Q.43) Solution (b)

Malham cave at the southern tip of Israel's Dead Sea is the world's longest salt cave system.

The cavern, which extends over six miles (10km) underground, is believed to be even more extensive than Iran's Namakdan cave, which was previously thought to be the longest salt cave.

They tend to exist in highly arid regions, like the area around the Dead Sea, which is located at the lowest point on Earth and is too salty to support animal life.

Q.44) 'Extinction Rebellion' was in news recently associated with

- a) France and Rising Cost of Living
- b) United Kingdom and Climate Change
- c) Hong Kong and Democracy
- d) USA, Mexico and border issues

Q.44) Solution (b)

Extinction Rebellion (abbreviated as XR) is a socio-political movement which uses nonviolent resistance to protest against climate breakdown, biodiversity loss, and the risk of human extinction and ecological collapse.

Extinction Rebellion was established in the United Kingdom in May 2018

Q.45) Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

- 1. Naikpod Tribe – Lakshadweep
- 2. Yanadi Tribe - Andhra Pradesh
- 3. Kurichiya tribe – Kerala

Select the correct code:

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

Q.45) Solution (c)

Naikpod Tribe – Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

Yanadi Tribe - Andhra Pradesh

Kurichiya tribe - Kerala

Q.46) Consider the following regarding International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

1. It is an independent organization constituting various civil societies, private organizations and scientific communities around the world that promotes conservation of tropical forest resources and their sustainable management, use and trade.
2. It is headquartered at Japan

Select the correct answer:

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

Q.46) Solution (b)

The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) is an intergovernmental organization promoting the sustainable management and conservation of tropical forests and the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests.

- Develops internationally agreed policy guidelines and norms to encourage sustainable forest management (SFM) and sustainable tropical timber industries and trade.
- Assists tropical member countries to adapt such guidelines and norms to local circumstances and to implement them in the field through projects and other activities.
- Collects, analyzes and disseminates data on the production and trade of tropical timber.
- Promotes sustainable tropical timber supply chains.
- Helps develop capacity in tropical forestry.

Note:

- **The 2019 International Day of Forests (21 March)** is focusing on the theme, '**Forests and Education,**' and aims to highlight the importance of education in achieving sustainable forest management (SFM)

Source:

<https://sdg.iisd.org/news/on-international-day-fao-announces-two-forest-education-initiatives/>

Q.47) The famous festival of purity known as 'Dosmoche festival' is celebrated in which part of India?

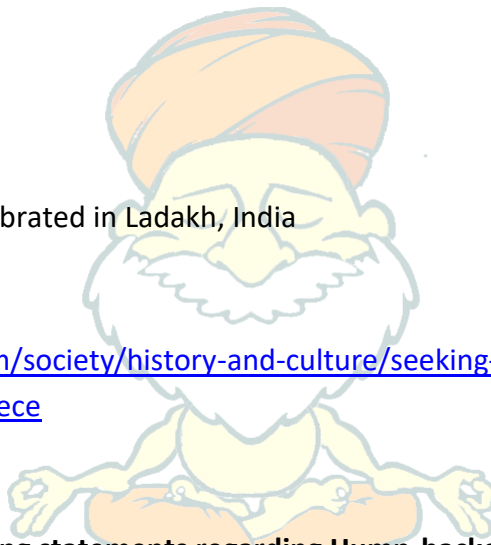
- Assam
- Arunachal Pradesh
- Ladakh
- Pondicherry

Q.47) Solution (c)

Dosmoche is a festival celebrated in Ladakh, India

Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/seeking-to-protect-the-tradition/article26531965.ece>



Q.48) Consider the following statements regarding Hump-backed Mahseer:

- It is a fresh water fish.
- It is more threatened than Tigers as per IUCN
- It is endemic to Western Ghats in India

Which of the given statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Q.48) Solution (d)

Humpback mahseer is a species of a large freshwater fish also called the tiger of the water and found only in the Cauvery river basin (including Kerala's Pambar, Kabini and Bhavani rivers).

The humpback mahseer is endemic to the Western Ghats in southern India.

Recently IUCN declared it as Critically Endangered.

Tiger is endangered as per IUCN.

So, all the statements are correct.

Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/the-hump-backed-mahseer-critically-endangered/article26653559.ece>

Q.49) The UNGA has announced the International Decade for Action: Water for sustainable development on World Water Day. Name the decade?

- a) 2020-2030
- b) 2026-2035
- c) 2010-2020
- d) 2018-2028

Q.49) Solution (d)

The UNGA launched the International Decade for Action: Water for sustainable development (**2018-2028**) on World Water Day, which is celebrated annually on 22 March.

Source:

<http://sdg.iisd.org/events/launch-of-international-decade-for-action-water-for-sustainable-development-2018-2028/>

Q.50) In a serious event, a deadliest pest epidemic that spread to almost 10 Indian states causing widespread crop damage happened recently. Which entity is responsible for this?

- a) Spodoptera Mauritia
- b) Fall Armyworm
- c) Caterpillars
- d) Lepidopteran

Q.50) Solution (b)

Fall Armyworm attack: Deadliest pest epidemic grips India. In nine months, the pest has spread to 10 Indian states causing widespread crop damage.

Source:

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/agriculture/fall-armyworm-attack-low-maize-yield-reduces-cattle-feed-63700>

Q.51) Consider the following statements

1. National Housing Bank is completely owned by Reserve Bank of India
2. NABARD is jointly owned by Reserve Bank of India and the Central Government

Select the correct statements

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

Q.51) Solution (d)

The Reserve Bank has exited the National Housing Bank (NHB) and the National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), by selling its entire stakes to government for Rs 1,450 crore and Rs 20 crore, respectively, making them fully government-owned now.



Q.52) Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN Yojana deals with

- a) Primary and Secondary Health care centres
- b) Fertilizer Subsidies and Crop Insurance
- c) Incentivising 2G Ethanol
- d) Adoption of Electric and hybrid vehicle

Q.52) Solution (c)

Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN (Jaiv Indhan- Vatavaran Anukool fasal awashesh Nivaran) Yojana

- For providing financial support to Integrated Bioethanol Projects using lignocellulosic biomass and other renewable feedstock.

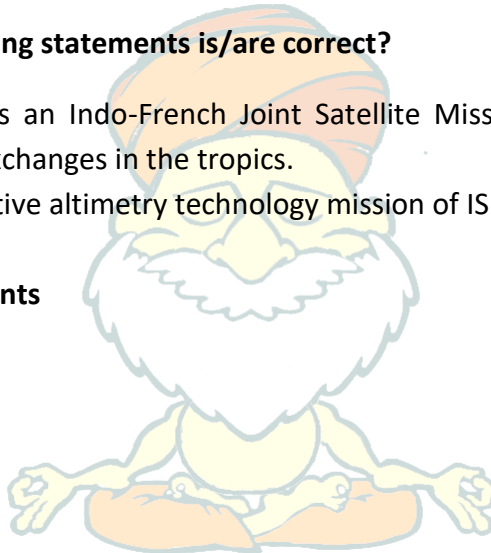
- The JI-VAN Yojana will be supported with total financial outlay of Rs.1969.50 crore for the period from 2018-19 to 2023-24.
- Under this Yojana, 12 Commercial Scale and 10 demonstration scale Second Generation (2G) ethanol Projects will be provided a Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support in two phases.
- The scheme focuses to incentivise 2G Ethanol sector and support this nascent industry by creating a suitable ecosystem for setting up commercial projects and increasing Research & Development in this area.
- The ethanol produced by the scheme beneficiaries will be mandatorily supplied to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to further enhance the blending percentage under EBP Programme.
- Centre for High Technology (CHT), a technical body under the aegis of MoP&NG, will be the implementation Agency for the scheme.

Q.53) Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Megha-Tropiques is an Indo-French Joint Satellite Mission for studying the water cycle and energy exchanges in the tropics.
2. SARAL is a cooperative altimetry technology mission of ISRO and CENS

Select the correct statements

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



Q.53) Solution (c)

ISRO-CNES joint maritime surveillance system

- ISRO and its French counterpart CNES sealed an agreement to set up a joint maritime surveillance system in India
- It intends to supply an operational system for detecting, identifying and tracking ships in the Indian Ocean.
- The two agencies have put up two climate and ocean weather monitoring satellites Megha-Tropiques (of 2011) and SARAL-AliKa (2013) that are considered a model.
- This fleet will be augmented with the launch of Oceansat-3-Argos mission in 2020 and a future joint infrared Earth-observation satellite under.

- Megha-Tropiques is an Indo-French Joint Satellite Mission for studying the water cycle and energy exchanges in the tropics.
- SARAL or Satellite with ARGOS and ALtiKa is a cooperative altimetry technology mission of ISRO and CENS

Q.54) Consider the following statements with respect to Coral Reefs:

1. The year 2018 has been declared as International Year of Coral Reef.
2. Coral Reefs of Northern Red Sea are the most resilient to Climate Change i.e. resistant to Temperature and Acidification.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.54) Solution (c)

There is broad scientific consensus that the effects of climate change have devastated the world's reefs, recently ravaging large swaths of the Great Barrier Reef in Australia, one of the natural wonders of the world.

The carbon dioxide that humans pump into the atmosphere spikes the temperature and acidity of seawater, which both poisons the marine invertebrates and hampers their growth at alarming rates, according to studies published last year in the journal Science. Experts estimate that half of the corals that existed in the early 20th century have died.

But the corals at the northernmost tip of the Red Sea are exhibiting remarkable resistance to the rising water temperatures and acidification, according to recent research conducted by the Interuniversity Institute for Marine Sciences based in Eilat.

Corals worldwide are dying and suffering at a rapid pace, but we have not witnessed a single bleaching event in the Gulf of Aqaba

Year 2018 has been designated as the Third International Year of the Reef 2018 (IYOR 2018) by the International Coral Reef Initiative.

Q.55) Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. India has the largest gold reserves in the world after the International Monetary Fund
2. India is the largest exporter of major arms in the world

Select the correct statements

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

Q.55) Solution (d)

India was the world's second largest importer of major arms in 2014–18 and accounted for 9.5% of the global total," according to the latest report published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). Saudi Arabia was first.

India, which is the world's largest consumer of gold, has the 11th largest gold reserve, with the current holding pegged at 607 tonnes, as per the latest report by the World Gold Council (WGC).

Q.56) Consider the following regarding World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

1. It is an intergovernmental organization based in Geneva
2. It is specialized agency of the United Nations
3. The theme of this year's World Meteorological Day is "The Sun, the Earth and the weather"

Select the correct statement/s

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

Q.56) Solution (d)

All the statements are correct.

Every year, on March 23, the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) commemorates its founding by observing World Meteorological Day. This year, the organisation is celebrating its 69th anniversary.

Every year, the WMO chooses a theme around which the day is celebrated. This year, the theme is “The Sun, the Earth and the weather”.

It is specialized agency of UN and intergovernmental body located in Geneva, Switzerland.

Q.57) Which of the following treaty/convention of United Nations celebrated its 25th Anniversary in 2019?

- a) United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- b) United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
- c) United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
- d) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Q.57) Solution (d)

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is an international environmental treaty adopted on 9 May 1992 and opened for signature at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992.

It then entered into force on 21 March 1994, after a sufficient number of countries had ratified it. Hence it celebrated its 25th Anniversary on 21st March 2019.

Q.58) Match the following

Countries in News

Capital

- | | |
|-----------------|----------|
| 1. Malawi:: | Lilongwe |
| 2. Mozambique:: | Maputo |
| 3. Ghana:: | Accra |

Select the correct code:

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

Q.58) Solution (d)

All are correctly matched.

African countries very much in news because of many reasons like Territorial disputes, Cyclone Idai etc.

Q.59) Certification Standard for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) is developed by:

- a) Food and Agriculture Organization
- b) Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests
- c) Global Forest Atlas
- d) Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification

Q.59) Solution (b)

India now has a globally recognised forest-certification scheme developed specifically for Indian forests.

Recently, a Geneva-based non-profit decided to endorse the **Certification Standard for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) developed by Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests (NCCF), an Indian non-profit.**

The council of Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), the international non-profit that provides independent third-party certification for sustainable forest management, took this decision.

Q.60) UN Special Rapporteurs are people working on behalf of the UN within the scope of “special procedure” mechanisms and have a specific country or thematic mandate from?

- a) World Bank
- b) World Health Organization
- c) United Nations Human Rights Council
- d) United Nations Security Council

Q.60) Solution (c)

UN Special Rapporteurs are people working on behalf of the UN within the scope of “special procedure” mechanisms and have a specific country or thematic mandate from the United Nations Human Rights Council.

In news because of SC decision regarding eviction of 1.1 million families whose claims under the Forest Rights Act had been rejected by the authorities.

Q.61) Which of the following statements is most appropriate with respect to 'White Stem Borer'

- a) It primarily attacks maize crops and is endemic to African Countries.
- b) It is a serious pest of arabica coffee causing a yield losses.
- c) It is a marine hydrozoan capable of killing a human with its sting
- d) It is native to tropical and subtropical regions of the Americas.

Q.61) Solution (b)

White Stem Borer

- Coffee white stem borer, *Xylotrechus quadripes*, is a serious pest of arabica coffee causing a yield loss up to 40 per cent in all coffee growing areas of India.
- It is a blackish brown coloured beetle measuring about 2 cm in size with three pairs of white stripes running obliquely across the wings. Alternate host plants of this beetle include rose sandal wood, teak etc.

Q.62) Consider the following statements with respect to India's External Debt

1. It is published quarterly, with a lag of one quarter.
2. Statistics for the first two quarters of the calendar year are compiled and published by the Reserve Bank of India.
3. Data for the last two quarters is compiled and published by the Ministry of Finance.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.62) Solution (c)

External debt of India

- It is the total debt the country owes to foreign creditors, complemented by internal debt owed to domestic lenders.
- The debtors can be the Union government, state governments, corporations or citizens of India.

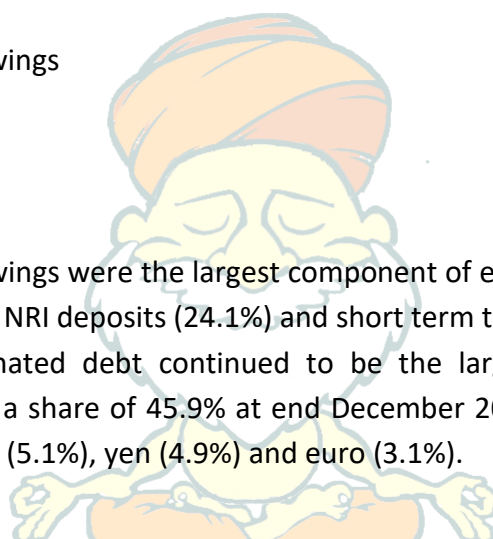
- The debt includes money owed to private commercial banks, foreign governments, or international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank.
- India's external debt data is published quarterly, with a lag of one quarter.
- Statistics for the first two quarters of the calendar year are compiled and published by the Reserve Bank of India.
- Data for the last two quarters is compiled and published by the Ministry of Finance.
- The Government of India also publishes an annual status report on the debt which contains detailed statistical analysis of the country's external debt position.

It comprises of

- Multilateral
- bilateral
- IMF loans
- Export credit
- Commercial borrowings
- NRI deposits
- Rupee debts

Highlights

- Commercial borrowings were the largest component of external debt with a share of 37.4%, followed by NRI deposits (24.1%) and short term trade credit
- US dollar denominated debt continued to be the largest component of India's external debt with a share of 45.9% at end December 2018, followed by the Indian rupee (24.8%), SDR (5.1%), yen (4.9%) and euro (3.1%).



Q.63) Which of the following countries has NOT acquired Strategic Trade Authorisation-1 (STA-1) status by the U.S.?

- a) Japan
- b) South Korea
- c) India
- d) China

Q.63) Solution (d)

India was given Strategic Trade Authorisation-1 (STA-1) status by the U.S. in August last year, the third Asian country after South Korea and Japan (and 37th country globally) to acquire it. This was to further facilitate the transfer of technology in the defence and space sectors.

Q.64) Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Aoleang Monyu festival is celebrated in Nagaland to mark the beginning of a new year for the Konyaks
2. Po-rag is a farming-related festival of the Mishing community

Select the correct statements

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

Q.64) Solution (c)

Aoleang Monyu festival

- Aoleang Monyu festival is the biggest and most significant festival of the Konyak Nagas of Nagaland.
- Celebrated during the first week of April every year, Aoleang is a vibrant spring festival and of great cultural significance for the Konyaks.
- It marks the ending of the sowing season and the beginning of a new year for the Konyaks and prayers are offered for a prosperous harvest season.

Po-rag

- It is one of the three farming-related festivals of the Mishing community.
- Po-rag is derived from Apong, the rice wine brewed by the Mishings, and Rag that encompasses merriment, music and dance.
- The Mising are an indigenous tribal community inhabiting 11 districts of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

Q.65) 'Yarmouk River' flows through

- a) Jordan
- b) Syria
- c) Israel

Select the correct code:

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

Q.65) Solution (d)

The Yarmuk River, sometimes spelled Yarmouk, is the largest tributary of the Jordan River. It runs in Jordan, Syria, and Israel and drains much of the Hauran plateau.

Q.66) The 'Climate and SDGs Synergy Conference' the first global multi-stakeholder conference on synergies between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change was organized by

- a) Organized by United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- b) Organized by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- c) Organized by United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and the World Bank (WB)
- d) Organized by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Q.66) Solution (a)

The Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (informally the Climate & SDGs Synergy Conference), organized by **UN DESA and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change**, and hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Energy, Utilities and Climate, Denmark, aims to align the climate and SDG processes, and stimulate action from stakeholders at the global, regional and country levels to maximize co-benefits.

Limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, including through scaling up climate action towards both adaptation and mitigation, is an imperative critical to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

The conference will examine how best to advance joined-up efforts for both the SDGs and climate action at the global, regional and country levels, thus also helping to scale up levels of ambition towards these objectives.

<http://sdg.iisd.org/events/expert-group-meeting-on-sdg-13/>

Q.67) Which of the following is correct regarding 'Pichhwai Paintings'?

- a) They are devotional paintings done on cloth or paper which portray Lord Krishna.

- b) They are devotional paintings done on cloth or paper which portray Lord Shiva.
- c) They are unique kind of paintings done on wall using natural colours depicting nature and its essence.
- d) They are erotic paintings done on cloth or paper.

Q.67) Solution (a)

Pichhwai, which literally means a 'textile hanging' (wai) at the 'back' (picch), originated as temple-art in Nathdwara, Rajasthan. They are devotional pictures found on cloth or paper which portray Lord Krishna.

<https://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/art/curator-pooja-singhals-atelier-pichvai-tradition-and-beyond-is-in-bikaner-house-in-delhi-for-its-fourth-show-of-contemporary-pichvai-paintings-and-interpretations/article26979500.ece>

Q.68) As per Ancient Indian History and Culture what is the meaning of the term 'Adavallavan'?

- a) One who knows to dance.
- b) One who knows to fight
- c) One who keeps promises
- d) One who is expert of Martial Art.

Q.68) Solution (a)

Between sixth to the early eleventh century, the sculptors caught with the imagination of dancing Shiva, had portrayed in all possible manner throughout the country. The nadanta pose of Chola Nataraja is the derivation and experimentation on the concept of Chalukya Nataraja. **Rajaraja Chola immortalised the form of Nataraja, as he fondly called the great Lord as 'Adavallavan', one who knows to dance.**

The concept of the dance of the twilight was so mystic and sensational living the imprint on the minds of the devout, that they erected hundreds and thousands pillared halls for the purpose of dancing.

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/icons-of-sublimity/article26874163.ece>

Q.69) Ancient Indian poets (kavi) are broadly classified into four kinds. Consider the following in this regard:

1. Aasu kavi – the impromptu poet, who could create meaningful verses on the spot.
2. Vistaara kavi – the poet who is adept at using his expansive vocabulary to convey the message in an impressive style.
3. Chitra kavi – the poet who conveys his message in a very elaborate way in the form of long poems.
4. Madhura kavi – the poet capable of conveying the content in the sweetest way possible.

Select the correct match:

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

Q.69) Solution (c)

Ancient poets (kavi) are broadly classified into four kinds:

- Aasu kavi – the impromptu poet, who could create meaningful verses on the spot;
- Vistaara kavi – the poet who conveys his message in a very elaborate way in the form of long poems;
- Chitra kavi – the poet who is adept at using his expansive vocabulary to convey the message in an impressive style.
- Madhura kavi – the poet capable of conveying the content in the sweetest way possible.

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/pioneer-disciple/article26874157.ece>

Q.70) Scientists have detected the most ancient type of molecule in our universe in space for the first time ever. What is it?

- a) Helium hydrate ion
- b) Helium hydride ion
- c) Hydrogen hydride ion
- d) Hydrogen hydrate ion

Q.70) Solution (b)

Helium hydride ion, the first molecule that formed almost 14 billion years ago, **was detected by NASA's flying observatory SOFIA towards a planetary nebula.**

Scientists have detected the most ancient type of molecule in our universe in space for the first time ever.

Helium hydride ion (HeH⁺) was the first molecule that formed when, almost 14 billion years ago, falling temperatures in the young universe allowed recombination of the light elements produced in the Big Bang.

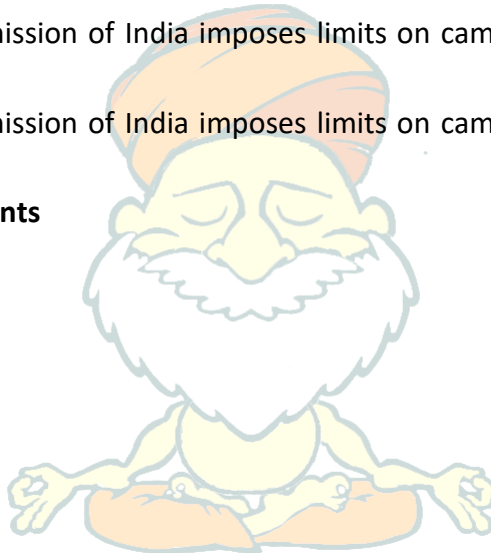
<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/universes-first-molecule-detected-in-space/article26886165.ece>

Q.71) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Campaign Expenditure'

1. The Election Commission of India imposes limits on campaign expenditure incurred by a candidate
2. The Election Commission of India imposes limits on campaign expenditure incurred by a political party

Select the correct statements

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



Q.71) Solution (a)

Campaign Expenditure

- The Election Commission of India imposes limits on campaign expenditure incurred by a candidate, but not by a political party.
- Expenditure by a Lok Sabha candidate is capped at between ₹50 lakh and ₹70 lakh. For Assembly elections, the ceiling is between ₹20 lakh and ₹28 lakh.
- Candidates must mandatorily file a true account of election expenses with the EC.
- An incorrect account, or expenditure beyond the ceiling, can attract disqualification for up to three years.

Q.72) The term "70-point grading index" was in news recently is associated with

- a) School Education

- b) Swachh Bharat Abhiyan
- c) Rural Electrification
- d) Implementation of FAME-II Scheme

Q.72) Solution (a)

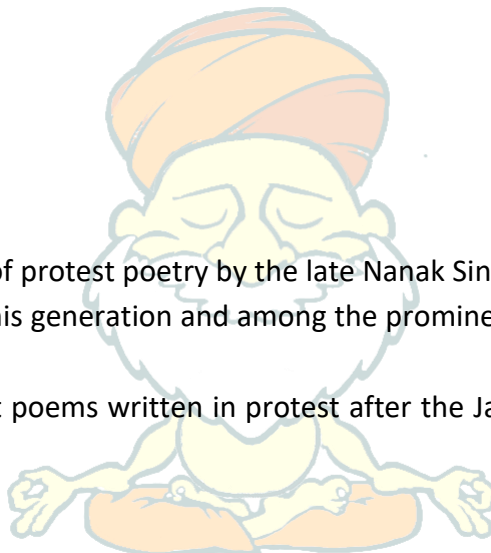
HRD ministry started '70-point grading index' to assess quality of school education.

Q.73) 'Khooni Vaisakhi' is written by

- a) Veer Savarkar
- b) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- c) Bhagat Singh
- d) Nanak Singh

Q.73) Solution (d)**Khooni Vaisakhi**

- It is a classic work of protest poetry by the late Nanak Singh, one of the most notable Punjabi writers of his generation and among the prominent reformist writers of 20th century.
- It is one of the first poems written in protest after the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of 1919

**Q.74) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Unified Payments Interface (UPI)'**

1. It caters to the "Peer to Peer" collect request which can be scheduled and paid as per requirement and convenience
2. UPI accounted for over 45% of all customer payments made to merchants in 2018-19

Select the correct statements

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

Q.74) Solution (a)

It is a system that powers multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application (of any participating bank), merging several banking features, seamless fund routing & merchant payments into one hood. It also caters to the “Peer to Peer” collect request which can be scheduled and paid as per requirement and convenience.

e-wallets accounted for 6.3% of all customer payments made to merchants in 2017-18 and UPI accounted for just 1.6%. In 2018-19, the share of e-wallet transactions fell to 1.87% and the share of UPI rose to 17%.

Q.75) Consider the following statements with respect to ‘Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act (AMASR)’

1. The Archaeological Survey of India functions under the provisions of this act.
2. Only the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) can carry out repairs in the 500 metre-span from a protected area

Select the correct statements

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

Q.75) Solution (a)

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act (AMASR)

- It provides for the preservation of ancient and historical monuments and archaeological sites and remains of national importance, for the regulation of archaeological excavations and for the protection of sculptures, carvings and other like objects. It was passed in 1958.
- The Archaeological Survey of India functions under the provisions of this act.
- The rules stipulate that area in the vicinity of the monument, within 100 metres is prohibited area.
- The area within 200 meters of the monument is regulated category. Any repair or modifications of buildings in this area requires prior permission
- Only the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) can carry out repairs in the 100 metre-span from a protected area, which is called the prohibited area
- National Monuments Authority (NMA) has been tasked with coming up with heritage by-laws for protected monuments in the country

Q.76) 'State of Global Air 2019' report is published by:

- a) Health Effects Institute (HEI)
- b) World Health Organization (WHO)
- c) Air Quality Index, India.
- d) United Nations Environment Protection Agency (UN EPA)

Q.76) Solution (a)

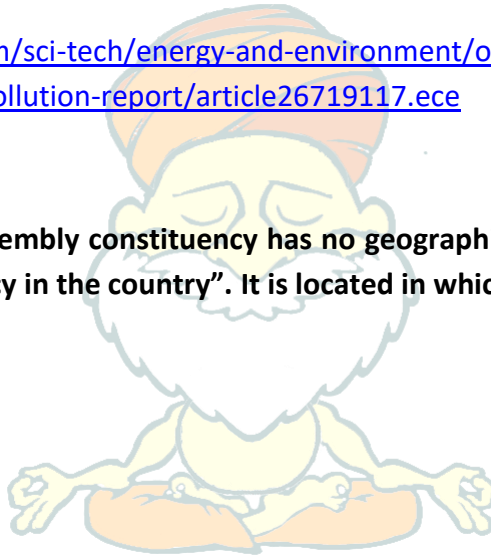
The current high level of air pollution has shortened the average lifespan of a South Asian child by two-and-a-half years while globally the reduction stands at 20 months, according to a global study released recently.

State of Global Air 2019, published by Health Effects Institute (HEI). It is an annual publication.

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/over-12m-early-deaths-in-india-in-2017-due-to-air-pollution-report/article26719117.ece>

Q.77) "The 32-Sangha Assembly constituency has no geographical boundary and it is only one of its kind constituency in the country". It is located in which state?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Assam
- c) Nagaland
- d) Sikkim



Q.77) Solution (d)

Sikkim

"The 32-Sangha Assembly constituency has no geographical boundary and it is only one-of-its-kind constituency in the country reserved for the monastic community (Sangha)".

Buddhist monks registered with 51 monasteries in the State are the only ones who can contest and cast their votes for the unique Assembly.

<https://www.thehindu.com/elections/sikkim-assembly/32-sangha-constituency-sikkims-intangible-seat-where-only-monks-contest-and-vote/article26725831.ece>

Q.78) Consider the following statements regarding 'Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific (RCAP) Congress 2019' which was recently in news:

1. It was organized by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)
2. It was held in New Delhi for the first time.
3. Resilient Cities is the annual global platform for urban resilience and climate change adaptation.

Which of the given statements are correct?

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

Q.78) Solution (d)

All the statements are correct.

The Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific (RCAP) 2019 Congress was organised by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability and hosted by South Delhi Municipal Corporation on 15-17 April in New Delhi, India.

It will offer cities and regions from Asia-Pacific a variety of innovative solutions that build resilience to climate change at the subnational level.

This event is being organised in India for the first time and 31 countries are taking part in this programme that was inaugurated by the vice president.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/need-to-change-development-paradigm-aim-for-climate-resilient-development-vice-president-119041600042_1.html

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=189752>

Q.79) The global initiative 'Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)' has been launched by:

- a) USA
- b) France
- c) India
- d) China

Q.79) Solution (c)

It is an initiative by India with the support of UN and World Bank.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-pledges-rs-480-crore-to-set-up-global-coalition-for-disaster-resilient-infrastructure/articleshow/68958278.cms>

Q.80) Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary recently in news is situated in:

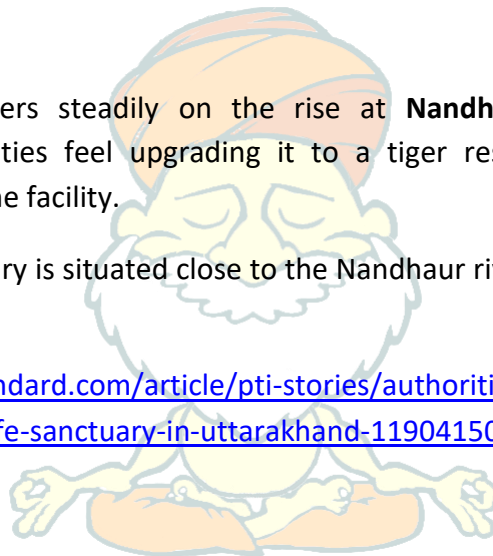
- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Uttarakhand
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Chhattisgarh

Q.80) Solution (b)

With the number of tigers steadily on the rise at **Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary in Uttarakhand**, the authorities feel upgrading it to a tiger reserve is necessary for the conservation of tigers at the facility.

Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary is situated close to the Nandhaur river in Kumaon region of the state.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/authorities-seek-tiger-reserve-status-for-nandhaur-wildlife-sanctuary-in-uttarakhand-119041500581_1.html



Q.81) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC)'

1. Holding the EPIC guarantees the right to vote.
2. EPICs are provided only to general electors and not service and overseas electors.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.81) Solution (b)

Voter ID

- A voter ID, or the Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC), is a document that is issued to an Indian citizen who is above the age of 18 and is eligible to vote.
- Voter IDs were first issued in 1993 when T.N. Seshan was the Chief Election Commissioner.
- The card primarily serves as an identity proof for the citizen for casting her ballot in a municipal, State or national election. Holding the card, however, does not guarantee the right to vote.
- The right to vote is available only for those citizens whose names can be found on the electoral roll.
- EPICs are provided only to general electors and not service and overseas electors.
- If a voter moves residence to another Assembly constituency, she will have to register afresh as a voter in the new constituency and will be provided with a new voter ID.
- Her EPIC number will remain the same though.

Q.82) 'Exercise Bold Kurukshetra' is a joint military exercise between India and

- a) Singapore
- b) Malaysia
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Nepal

Q.82) Solution (a)

Exercise Bold Kurukshetra - Joint military exercise between India and Singapore.

Q.83) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Sea of Galilee'

1. It is the lowest freshwater lake on Earth
2. It is completely fed by rainwater

Select the correct statements

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

Q.83) Solution (a)**Sea of Galilee**

- It is a freshwater lake in Israel. It is the lowest freshwater lake on Earth and the second-lowest lake in the world (after the Dead Sea, a saltwater lake)
- The lake is fed partly by underground springs, although its main source is the Jordan River, which flows through it from north to south.

Q.84) 'Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) Terrorist Travel Initiative' was launched by

- a) Morocco
- b) India
- c) France
- d) United Kingdom

Q.24) Solution (a)

United States and Morocco launched GCTF Terrorist Travel Initiative under auspices of Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF).

Q.85) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Solar Charkha Mission'

1. It is under the aegis of 'Ministry of Rural Development
2. It is implemented by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)
3. It ensures inclusive growth by generation of employment

Select the correct statements

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

Q.85) Solution (b)

The Solar Charkha Mission is a Ministry of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) initiative launched during June 2018. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) would implement the programme.

The objectives of the Scheme are as follows:

- To ensure inclusive growth by generation of employment, especially for women and youth, and sustainable development through solar charkha clusters in rural areas.
- To boost rural economy and help in arresting migration from rural to urban areas.
- To leverage low-cost, innovative technologies and processes for sustenance

Read More - <http://vikaspedia.in/social-welfare/entrepreneurship/mission-solar-charkha?content=small>

Q.86) 'Spike-LR' was in news recently. It is:

- Very Short Range Air Defence Systems
- Anti-Tank Missiles
- Fire & Forget Missile
- Machine Gun

Q.86) Solution (b)

The Army is in the process of procuring **Spike-LR Anti-Tank Missiles from Israel** and **Igla-S Very Short Range Air Defence Systems (VSHORAD) from Russia** through a set of new financial powers for emergency procurements sanctioned by the Defence Ministry.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/army-invokes-emergency-powers-for-missiles-deal/article26984091.ece>

Q.87) Domkhar Rock Art Sanctuary is located at:

- Jammu and Kashmir
- Madhya Pradesh
- Assam
- Gujarat

Q.87) Solution (a)

Domkhar rock art sanctuary is located at Domkhar village in Leh, Jammu and Kashmir, next to the banks of Indus River. The place is known for artwork that was made by travellers in the pre-historic times.

People in this region grow apricot and apple, which is the main source of income. This place is for those who love the historic artwork by our great ancestors. There are numerous rock-carved figures, thought to date back between 2000 and 4000 years.

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/the-petroglyphs-of-domkhar/article26745546.ece>

Q.88) Eight (8) Degree Channel separates:

- a) Islands of Minicoy and Maldives
- b) Islands of Java and Sumatra
- c) Java and Andaman Sea
- d) Islands of Mauritius and Maldives

Q.88) Solution (a)

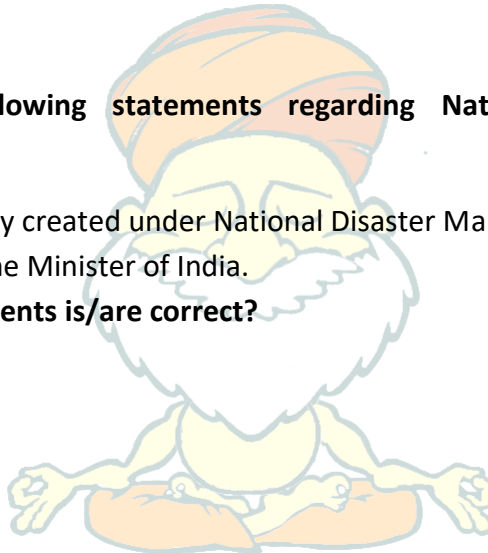
8 Degree Channel (8 degrees north latitude) separates islands of Minicoy and Maldives

Q.89) Consider the following statements regarding National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC)

1. It is a statutory body created under National Disaster Management Act.
2. It is chaired by Prime Minister of India.

Which of the given statements is/are correct?

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



Q.89) Solution (d)

A National Crisis Management Committee is a temporary committee set up by the Government of India in the wake of a natural calamity for effective coordination and implementation of relief measures and operations. It is headed by Cabinet Secretary. On the constitution of such a committee, the Agriculture Secretary shall provide all necessary information to and seek directions.

In the absence of such a Cabinet Committee, all matter relating to relief shall be reported to the Cabinet Secretary.

A National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) has been constituted in the Cabinet Secretariat. The composition of the Committee is as under:-

- Cabinet Secretary Chairman
- Secretary to Prime Minister Member

Q.90) Consider the following pairs

Passes : : Connects

1. Banihal : : Jammu and Srinagar
2. Zoji La : : Srinagar and Leh
3. Shipki La : : Himachal Pradesh and Tibet

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Q.90) Solution (d)

All are correctly matched.

Banihal is a mountain pass across the Pir Panjal Range at 2,832 m (9,291 ft) maximum elevation. This mountain range connects the Kashmir Valley in the Indian state Jammu and Kashmir to the outer Himalaya and plains to the south.

Zoji La is a high mountain pass in the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir, located on National Highway 1 between Srinagar and Leh in the western section of the Himalayan mountain range.

Shipki La- It is located in Kinnaur district in the state of Himachal Pradesh, India, and Ngari Prefecture in Tibet, China.

Q.91) Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?

1. Lisoong – Sikkim
2. Navreh – Jammu & Kashmir
3. Gudi Padwa – Madhya Pradesh

Select the correct code:

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

- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1 Only

Q.91) Solution (a)

Losoong – Sikkim

Navreh – Jammu & Kashmir

Gudi Padwa – Maharashtra

Q.92) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Global Cooling Coalition'

1. It is led by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
2. It links action across the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, the Paris Agreement and the SDGs.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.92) Solution (c)

The coalition includes ministers from Chile, Rwanda and Denmark, as well as representatives from the private sector, civil society, research, academia and intergovernmental institutions. The coalition is led by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC), the Kigali Cooling Efficiency Program and Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL).

The Cool Coalition will complement and build on ongoing programmes to advance clean and efficient cooling, such as the CCAC and the Kigali Cooling Efficiency Program.

The 'Cool Coalition' links action across the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, the Paris Agreement and the SDGs.

Other Cool Coalition partners include, among others: the Basel Agency for Sustainable Energy, C40 Cities, Energy Foundation China, the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA), Global Cool Cities Alliance (GCCA), the International Solar Alliance (ISA), the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), REN21, Rocky Mountain Institute and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).

Q.93) Consider the following statements with respect to 'SOFIA'

1. It is an airborne astronomical observatory
2. It is a joint project between NASA and the German Aerospace Centre

Select the correct statements

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

Q.93) Solution (c)

Considered to be one of the premier space science programs of NASA, SOFIA is a joint project between NASA and the German Aerospace Centre, DLR. It features a 100-inch diameter telescope weighing up to 20 tons and is mounted on a modified Boeing 747SP aircraft. SOFIA's first-generation cameras and spectrographs enable NASA to use it for a wide variety of missions.

Being the world's largest airborne astronomical observatory, the telescope has the ability to provide three times better image quality.

Q.94) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)'

1. India is a signatory to the ATT
2. It interferes with domestic arms commerce or the right to bear arms in its member states.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.94) Solution (d)

The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) is a multilateral treaty that regulates the international trade in conventional weapons.

It entered into force on 24 December 2014. 101 states have ratified the treaty, and a further 34 states have signed but not ratified it.

The ATT is an attempt to regulate the international trade of conventional weapons for the purpose of contributing to international and regional peace; reducing human suffering; and promoting co-operation, transparency, and responsible action by and among states.

The treaty was negotiated in New York City at a global conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

The ATT is an attempt to regulate the international trade of conventional weapons for the purpose of contributing to international and regional peace; reducing human suffering; and promoting co-operation, transparency, and responsible action by and among states.

The Arms Trade Treaty obligates member states to monitor arms exports and ensure that weapons don't cross existing arms embargoes or end up being used for human-rights abuses, including terrorism.

It does not interfere with domestic arms commerce or the right to bear arms in its member states; ban the export of any type of weapon; harm the legitimate right to self-defence; or undermine national arms regulation standards already in place.

India is not a signatory.

Q.95) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Belt and Road Initiative'

1. The Road refers to the Silk Road Economic Belt which comprises three overland routes
2. The Belt refers to the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road designed to provide an impetus to trade from China to Europe through the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean, and from China through the South China Sea towards the South Pacific.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.95) Solution (d)

The BRI aims to connect Asia, Europe and Africa. Recently, the BRI was given a huge boost with Italy endorsing it. The Belt refers to the Silk Road Economic Belt which comprises three overland routes: connecting China, Central Asia, Russia and Europe.

This will link China with the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean Sea through Central Asia and West Asia, and connecting China with Southeast Asia, South Asia and the Indian Ocean.

Meanwhile, the Road refers to the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road designed to provide an impetus to trade from China to Europe through the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean, and from China through the South China Sea towards the South Pacific.

Q.96) Which of the following is/are 'Arachnids'?

1. Mites
2. Ticks
3. Scorpions

Select the correct code:

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

Q.96) Solution (d)

The class Arachnida includes a diverse group of arthropods: **spiders, scorpions, ticks, mites, harvestmen, and their cousins.**



Q.97) Recently in news, Horsley Hills is located in the Indian State of?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Andhra Pradesh

Q.97) Solution (d)

Horsley Hills or Horsleykonda or Yenugulla Mallamma Konda **is a series of hills in Andhra Pradesh** in Madanapalle taluka of Chittoor district and is about 9 miles from Madanapalle town.

Q.98) Consider the following statements regarding 'Asian Tea Alliance':

1. It was recently launched in India
2. It is an alliance of five tea-growing and consuming countries including India

Which of the given statements is/are correct?

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

Q.98) Solution (b)

The Asian Tea Alliance (ATA), a union of five tea-growing and consuming countries, was launched in **Guizhou in China**

The members of the alliance are the **Indian Tea Association**, China Tea Marketing Association, Indonesian Tea Marketing Association, Sri Lanka Tea Board and Japan Tea Association.

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/asian-tea-alliance-launched-in-china/article26891101.ece>

Q.99) INS Imphal, recently in news is a:

- a) Stealth Guided Missile Destroyer
- b) Submarine
- c) Coastal minesweepers
- d) Aircraft Carrier



Q.99) Solution (a)

INS Imphal is the third ship of the Visakhapatnam-class stealth guided-missile destroyers of the Indian Navy as part of its Project 15B.

The name 'INS Imphal' was chosen to commemorate the Indian soldiers who fought the 1944 Battle of Imphal and Kohima during the Second World War.

NS Imphal is likely to be commissioned in 2023 and would join other warships named after Indian cities: INS Mysore, INS Delhi, INS Kolkata, INS Chennai, INS Kochi and INS Mumbai.

<https://theprint.in/defence/from-ins-vikrant-to-ins-imphal-how-names-of-indian-navy-ships-have-evolved-over-the-years/226733/>

Q.100) 'Beresheet Mission' recently in news belongs to which country?

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

Q.100) Solution (d)

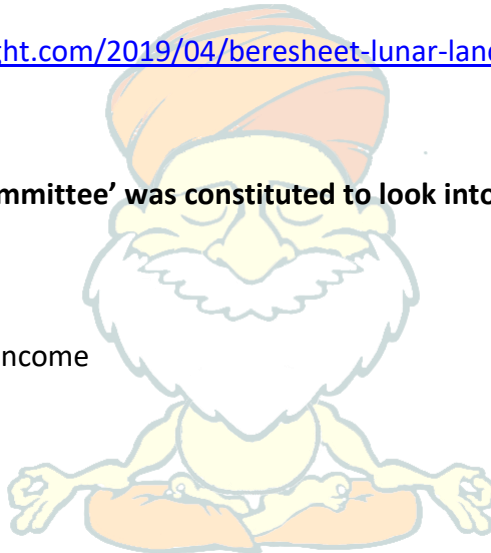
Israel's first mission to the Moon the Beresheet spacecraft has completed its long and winding journey out of Earth's orbit and entered the Moon's orbit on 4 April, pulling off an important manoeuvre ahead of its planned soft landing on the Moon.

The robot craft Beresheet, built by non-profit SpaceIL and state-owned Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), **later crashed on its final descent.**

<https://www.nasaspaceflight.com/2019/04/beresheet-lunar-landing/>

Q.101) 'Suresh Mathur Committee' was constituted to look into

- a) Micro insurance
- b) Digital Payments
- c) Doubling Farmers' Income
- d) E-Vehicles



Q.101) Solution (a)

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) set up Suresh Mathur Committee to review regulatory framework on micro insurance, and to recommend measures to increase demand for such products.

Q.102) Echidnas are generally found in

- a) Papua New Guinea
- b) Kazakhstan
- c) Mongolia
- d) Madagascar

Q.102) Solution (a)

Echidna

- Echidnas, also known as spiny anteaters, are unique egg-laying mammals found only in Australia and New Guinea.
- Their young hatch from eggs at a very early stage of development and depend completely on mother's milk.
- But the mammary glands of the echidnas are devoid of nipples, forcing the young ones to lick milk from the mother's body surface and potentially making them vulnerable to micro-organisms.
- The milk of the echidna has a protein that can puncture the cell membranes of multiple bacterial species, thus destroying the source of infection.
- The protein promises to serve as an alternative to antibiotics used on livestock.
- There is a rise of superbugs due to the indiscriminate use of antibiotics by the animal husbandry industry to raise livestock.
- The superbugs can cause mastitis, an infection of the mammary gland, in dairy animals.

Q.103) Which of the following is NOT located in Indonesia?

- a) Mount Agung
- b) Mount Bromo
- c) Mount Merapi
- d) Mount Mayon



Q.103) Solution (d)

Mayon is in Philippines.

Q.104) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV)'

1. The four liquid strap-ons and a solid rocket motor at the core form the first stage.
2. The second stage is equipped with a high thrust engine using liquid fuel.
3. The cryogenic upper stage forms the third and final stage of the vehicle.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.104) Solution (d)

GSLV is Indian Space Research Organisation's fourth generation launch vehicle with three stages. The four liquid strap-ons and a solid rocket motor at the core form the first stage. The second stage is equipped with a high thrust engine using liquid fuel. The cryogenic upper stage forms the third and final stage of the vehicle.

Read More - <https://www.isro.gov.in/launchers/gslv>

Q.105) NASA's planned 'DART' mission is associated with

- a) Far Side of the moon
- b) Mercury
- c) Jovian Planets
- d) None of the above

Q.105) Solution (d)

Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) is a planned space probe that will demonstrate the kinetic effects of crashing an impactor spacecraft into an asteroid moon for planetary defense purposes. The mission is intended to test whether a spacecraft impact could successfully deflect an asteroid on a collision course with Earth.

Q.106) Following Rivers which have either dried up or are on the brink of losing their existence are located in:

- 1. Saurav River
- 2. Falgu River
- 3. Dhadhar

Select the correct code:

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Bihar
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Chhattisgarh

Q.106) Solution (b)

Environmentalists are shocked over the **drying rivers of Bihar** failing to get the attention of political parties even during election time.

According to officials, there were once some 600 river streams in Bihar which nursed its human population. But now, most of them have either dried up or are on the brink of losing their existence.

There are over 100 rivers such as Lakhandeji, Noon, Balan, Kadane, Sakari, Tilaiya, Dhadhar, Chhoti Bagmati, Saura and Falgu which are virtually on the brink of death.

Q.107) The village is known for its traditional art of iron-smelting and iron tool production since pre-colonial times. It is?

- a) Wui village of Tuensang district of Nagaland
- b) Ziro Valley, Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Majuli Island, Assam
- d) Mawlynnong, Meghalaya

Q.107) Solution (a)

Scientists from Nagaland University and the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati have studied the history and evolution of smelting in **Wui village of Tuensang district of Nagaland**. The village is known for its traditional art of iron-smelting and iron tool production since pre-colonial times.

Q.108) Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary is located in:

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

Q.108) Solution (d)

Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary is the northernmost wildlife sanctuary of Kerala, southwest India. It is 55 km² in area and located on the western slope of the Western Ghats.

Q.109) Pthalgadi Movement recently in news is associated with:

- a) A way to demarcate territories and tell outsiders (government officials) that the law of the land does not apply here.

- b) A tribal movement in Jharkhand against Police Administration.
- c) A tribal movement against Government's decision of eviction of tribal from their land.
- d) A tribal movement and technique that led to drastic regeneration of ground water in Jharkhand.

Q.109) Solution (a)

Pathalgadi are basically a way to demarcate our territories and tell outsiders (government officials) that the law of the land does not apply here. It is a movement of the tribal people that will gradually engulf all the 32,620 villages of Jharkhand.

Gram sabhas declare themselves the highest authority within its borders, as marked by pathals:

Installed by the gram panchayat its purpose is to cite various articles of the Indian Constitution, namely 13(3), 19(5), 19(6) and others, and to prohibit outsiders from entering the village, doing any kind of business or job, and claiming that none of the laws of the Parliament or legislature can be implemented in the area, which comes under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution.

Q.110) International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts (Loss and Damage Mechanism) was established at:

- a) Warsaw Climate Change Conference- COP 19
- b) Doha Climate Change Conference-COP 18
- c) Durban Climate Change Conference- COP 17
- d) Cancun Climate Change Conference- COP 16

Q.110) Solution (a)

The L&D Mechanism was established at the 19th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 19) in Warsaw, Poland, which took place in November 2013.

Q.111) 'Mind the Gap: The State of Employment in India' Report is released by

- a) International Labour Organisation
- b) NITI Aayog
- c) Oxfam

- d) World Economic Forum

Q.111) Solution (c)

It is released by Oxfam.

Q.112) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Terror Monitoring Group for Jammu and Kashmir'

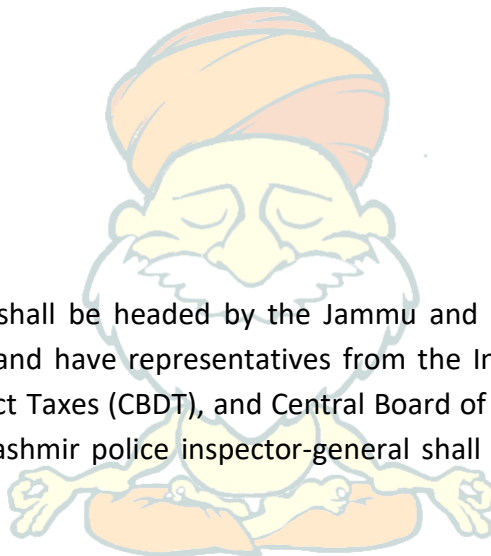
1. It is constituted under Jammu & Kashmir AFSPA, 1990
2. It is headed by the National Security Adviser

Select the correct statements

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

Q.112) Solution (d)

The seven-member TMG shall be headed by the Jammu and Kashmir additional director general of police (ADGP) and have representatives from the Intelligence Bureau (IB), CBI, NIA, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), and Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC). The Jammu and Kashmir police inspector-general shall be the seventh member of the TMG.



Q.113) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Ways and Means Advances (WMA)'

1. The interest rate on overdrafts is charged at the Repo Rate
2. RBI retains the flexibility to revise the limit at any time, in consultation with the Government of India

Select the correct statements

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

Q.113) Solution (b)

The Reserve Bank retains the flexibility to revise the limit at any time, in consultation with the Government of India, taking into consideration the prevailing circumstances.

The interest rate on WMA/overdraft will be:

- WMA: Repo Rate
- Overdraft: Two percent above the Repo Rate

Q.114) 'Armed Forces (Special Powers) Acts (AFSPA)' is revoked completely from

- a) Nagaland
- b) Meghalaya
- c) Assam
- d) Manipur

Q.114) Solution (b)

Applicable to - Nagaland, Manipur, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh and J&K

Q.115) Which of the following countries are at risk of being hit/already hit by humanitarian catastrophe?

1. Venezuela
2. Democratic Republic of Congo
3. Ethiopia
4. Somalia

Select the correct code:

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

Q.115) Solution (d)

Read More - <https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/inpictures/top-10-countries-risk-humanitarian-disaster-2019-181213184843061.html>

Q.116) Recently in news, 'Habrocestum Longispinum' is:

- a) A new species of frog found in Western Ghats
- b) Oil Consuming Bacteria found in Mariana Trench
- c) Species of Banana found in Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- d) A group of jumping spiders

Q.116) Solution (d)

A group of jumping spiders that mostly occurs in Eurasia and Africa has been spotted for the first time in **Ernakulam's Illithodu forests by arachnologists from Kochi's Sacred Heart College, Thevara**. The team also found that the spider belonging to the genus (a taxonomic classification above species) *Habrocestum* is a species new to science.

The spider also has a single long spine on the underside of both its first legs, and this gave it its scientific name *Habrocestum longispinum*.

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/kerala-forests-home-to-new-spider-species/article26750113.ece>

Q.117) The terms Angika, Vachika, Aharya, Satvika are related to:

- a) Painting
- b) Dance
- c) Puppetry
- d) Martial Arts



Q.117) Solution (b)

Abhinaya is a distinguishing characteristic of Bharatanatyam; it goes beyond conveying an abstract aesthetic experience, beyond narration, beyond showing a story unfolding, and expresses the inner experience of the dancer, or the character portrayed by the dancer. To be believable, the dancer must truly enter the spirit of what is being portrayed. How fully the dancer is expected to embody the subject will be evident from a brief description of the different aspects of abhinaya.

- Angika (body)
- Vachika (voice)
- Aharya (costume)
- Satvika (state)

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/who-am-i-the-big-question/article27011374.ece>

Q.118) Consider the following regarding United Nations

1. UN's 75th anniversary will be commemorated in 2020.
2. The theme decided for same is "The World We Want, the Future We Need".
3. It will be organized in New York.

Select the correct statement/s

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

Q.118) Solution (d)

UN's 75th anniversary will be commemorated in 2020 under the theme "The World We Want, the Future We Need"

Dates: 15-30 September 2020

Location: New York City, US

Important: The **UN 2019 Climate Summit** will convene on the theme, 'Climate Action Summit 2019: A Race We Can Win. A Race We Must Win.'

<https://sdg.iisd.org/events/75th-session-of-the-un-general-assembly-unga-75/>

Q.119) 'Action Plan for Healthy Oceans and Sustainable Blue Economies' is launched by:

- a) United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)
- b) Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- c) World Bank (WB)
- d) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Q.119) Solution (b)

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) launched an 'Action Plan for Healthy Oceans and Sustainable Blue Economies' for Asia and the Pacific alongside an ADB Oceans Financing Initiative.

The Plan and Initiative aim to support the protection and restoration of marine ecosystems while promoting inclusive livelihoods, in line with SDG 14 (life below water).

Q.120) Recently in news, what is 'Messier 87'?

- a) It is an exoplanet
- b) It is a galaxy
- c) It is the telescope with which Black Hole Image was taken recently.
- d) It is a Neutron Star

Q.120) Solution (b)

Messier 87 (M87) is an enormous elliptical galaxy located about 55 million light years from Earth, visible in the constellation Virgo. It was discovered by Charles Messier in 1781, but not identified as a galaxy until 20th Century. At double the mass of our own galaxy, the Milky Way, and containing as many as ten times more stars, it is amongst the largest galaxies in the local universe. Besides its raw size, M87 has some very unique characteristics. For example, it contains an unusually high number of globular clusters.

The **Event Horizon Telescope**, a planet-scale array of ground-based radio telescopes **has obtained the first image of a supermassive black hole and its shadow**. The image reveals the **central black hole of Messier 87, a massive galaxy in the Virgo cluster**.