

IASbaba 60 Day Plan 2020 – Polity

Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to the Parliament

1. Indian system is similar to the American pattern where the President is an integral part of the Parliament.
2. Out of nine union territories, only three have representation in Lok Sabha.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.1) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
Indian system is similar to the British pattern where the President is an integral part of the Parliament. The American president is not an integral part of the legislature.	Out of the nine union territories, only three (Delhi, Puducherry and Jammu & Kashmir) have representation in Rajya Sabha. All union territories have representation in Lok Sabha.

Q.2) Which among the following does not find mention in Constitution?

- a) Cabinet
- b) Office of profit
- c) Election commissioners
- d) All of the above are mentioned in the Constitution

Q.2) Solution (d)

All the above three are mentioned in the constitution.

Statement a	Statement b	Statement c
Correct	Correct	Correct
As per Article 352, the president shall impose emergency only on the written recommendations of Cabinet.	Article 324 mentions other Election Commissioners.	Articles 102(1)(a) and 191(1)(a) talks about office of profit.

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Q.3) Which of the following statements are correct about Delimitation Commission?

1. The chairman of the commission will always be the Chief Election Commissioner of India.
2. In case of dispute regarding commission's report, the appeal lies only with the Supreme Court with prior permission from the President of India.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.3) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
The Delimitation Commission consist of three members: a) Chairperson (a judge of the Supreme Court) to be appointed by the Central Government. b) The Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner nominated by the Chief Election Commissioner as ex officio member. c) The State Election Commissioner of concerned State, also as ex officio member.	The Delimitation Commission in India is a high power body whose orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court.

Q.4) Rajya Sabha can pass a resolution empowering Parliament to make laws on a matter in the State List. Consider the following statements about this power of Rajya Sabha

1. Such a resolution must be passed by an absolute majority.
2. The resolution remains in force indefinitely until the State requests for its withdrawal.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.4) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
<p>If the Rajya Sabha declares that it is necessary in the national interest that Parliament should make laws on a matter in the State List, then the Parliament becomes competent to make laws on that matter.</p> <p>Such a resolution must be supported by two-thirds of the members present and voting (a case of special majority).</p>	<p>The resolution remains in force for one year; it can be renewed any number of times but not exceeding one year at a time.</p> <p>The laws cease to have effect on the expiration of six months after the resolution has ceased to be in force.</p>

Q.5) Which of the following disqualifications for being elected as a member of Parliament have been laid down by the Constitution?

1. He holds any office of profit under the Union or state government
2. He is not a citizen of India
3. He has been convicted for any offence resulting in imprisonment for two or more years

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.5) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Correct	Incorrect
<p>Under the Constitution, a person shall be disqualified for being elected as a member of Parliament:</p> <p>1. if he holds any office of profit under the Union or state government (except that of a minister or any other office exempted by Parliament).</p> <p>2. if he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a court.</p>		<p>The Parliament has laid down the following additional disqualifications in the Representation of People Act (1951):</p> <p>1. He must not have been found guilty of certain election offences or corrupt practices in the elections.</p> <p>2. He must not have been convicted for any offence resulting in imprisonment for two or more years. But, the detention of a</p>

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<p>3. if he is an undischarged insolvent.</p> <p>4. if he is not a citizen of India or has voluntarily acquired the citizenship of a foreign state or is under any acknowledgement of allegiance to a foreign state; and</p> <p>5. if he is so disqualified under any law made by Parliament.</p>	<p>person under a preventive detention law is not a disqualification.</p> <p>3. He must not have failed to lodge an account of his election expenses within the time.</p> <p>4. He must not have any interest in government contracts, works or services.</p> <p>5. He must not be a director or managing agent nor hold an office of profit in a corporation in which the government has at least 25 per cent share.</p> <p>6. He must not have been dismissed from government service for corruption or disloyalty to the State.</p> <p>7. He must not have been convicted for promoting enmity between different groups or for the offence of bribery.</p> <p>8. He must not have been punished for preaching and practising social crimes such as untouchability, dowry and sati.</p>
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Q.6) The Rajya Sabha is the Upper House (Second Chamber or House of Elders) of the Parliament of India represents the states and union territories of the Indian Union. Which of the following statements regarding upper house of the Parliament is/are incorrect?

1. The Rajya Sabha was first constituted on 26 January 1950.
2. The Constitution has fixed the term of office of members of the Rajya Sabha to six years.
3. Allocation of seats in Rajya Sabha is similar to the Senate of the USA.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.6) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Incorrect
The Rajya Sabha was first	The Constitution has not fixed the term of office of	The seats are allotted to the states in the Rajya Sabha on the

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constituted in 1952.	members of the Rajya Sabha and left it to the Parliament. Accordingly, the Parliament in the Representation of the People Act (1951) provided that the term of office of a member of the Rajya Sabha shall be six years.	basis of population. Hence, the number of representatives varies from state to state. In USA, all states are given equal representation in the Senate irrespective of their population. USA has 50 states and the Senate has 100 members—2 from each state.
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Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding Lok Sabha

1. The origin of Lok Sabha can be traced back to the Charter Act of 1853.
2. The maximum strength of the Lok Sabha is fixed at 550.
3. Prime Minister always act as the Leader of house for Lok Sabha.

Choose the correct statement/s using codes below

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

Q.7) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Incorrect
The origin of Lok Sabha can be traced back to the Charter Act of 1853. The Charter Act of 1853, for the first time provided some sort of a legislature in the form of a 12 member Legislative Council.	The maximum strength of the Lok Sabha is fixed at 552. Out of this, 530 members are to be the representatives of the states, 20 members are to be the representatives of the union territories and 2 members are to be nominated by the president from the Anglo-Indian community	Prime Minister acts as the 'Leader of the House' only if he is a member of the Lok Sabha, otherwise a minister who is a member of the Lok Sabha and is nominated by the prime minister functions as the 'Leader of the House'.

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Q.8) Consider the following statements with reference to the speaker of Lok Sabha

1. He holds a casting vote in case of a tie.
2. He cannot vote in the house while a resolution for his removal is under consideration in the house.
3. He remains in his office even after the dissolution of Lok Sabha.

Choose the correct statement/s using codes below

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

Q.8) Solution (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
Normally, speaker does not vote in the first instance. But he can exercise a casting vote in the case of a tie.	When a resolution for the removal of the Speaker is under consideration of the House, he cannot preside at the sitting of the House, though he may be present. However, he can speak and take part in the proceedings of the House at such a time and vote in the first instance, though not in the case of an equality of votes.	Whenever the Lok Sabha is dissolved, the Speaker does not vacate his office and continues till the newly-elected Lok Sabha meets.

Q.9) Consider the following statements with reference to the Money bills

1. A money bill can be introduced only by a minister.
2. The Rajya Sabha cannot reject or amend the money bill.
3. The President cannot withhold his assent to the bill.

Choose the correct statement/s using codes below

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

Q.9) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
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Correct	Correct	Incorrect
Article 110 of the Constitution deals with the definition of money bills. Every such bill is considered to be a government bill and can be introduced only by a minister.	The Rajya Sabha has restricted powers with regard to a money bill. It cannot reject or amend a money bill.	When a money bill is presented to the president, he may either give his assent to the bill or withhold his assent to the bill but cannot return the bill for reconsideration of the Houses.

Q.10) Which of the following constitutional provisions with regard to the enactment of budget is *incorrect*?

- a) Parliament cannot increase a tax.
- b) Rajya Sabha cannot vote on demand for grants.
- c) Unlike a money bill, a finance bill dealing with taxation can be introduced in Rajya Sabha.
- d) No tax shall be levied except by authority of law.

Q.10) Solution (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3	Statement 4
Correct	Correct	Incorrect	Correct
<p>The Constitution of India contains the following provisions with regard to the enactment of budget:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The President shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for that year. 2. No demand for a grant shall be made except on the recommendation of the President. 3. No money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under appropriation made by law. 4. No money bill imposing tax shall be introduced in the Parliament except on the recommendation of the President, and such a bill shall not be introduced in the Rajya Sabha. 5. No tax shall be levied or collected except by authority of law. 6. Parliament can reduce or abolish a tax but cannot increase it. 7. The Constitution has also defined the relative roles or position of both the Houses of Parliament with regard to the enactment of the budget in the following way: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) A money bill or finance bill dealing with taxation cannot be introduced in the Rajya Sabha—it must be introduced only in the Lok Sabha. 			

(b) **The Rajya Sabha has no power to vote on the demand for grants**; it is the exclusive privilege of the Lok Sabha.

(c) The Rajya Sabha should return the Money bill (or Finance bill) to the Lok Sabha within fourteen days. The Lok Sabha can either accept or reject the recommendations made by Rajya Sabha in this regard.

8. The estimates of expenditure embodied in the budget shall show separately the expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India and the expenditure made from the Consolidated Fund of India.

9. The budget shall distinguish expenditure on revenue account from other expenditure.

10. The expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India shall not be submitted to the vote of Parliament. However, it can be discussed by the Parliament.

Q.11) Right to vote in a presidential election is a

- a) Natural right
- b) Constitutional right
- c) Fundamental right
- d) Legal right

Q.11) Solution (d)

Constitutional rights are those which are explicitly mentioned in the constitution.

Article 54 mentions about the presidential elections and the members of Electoral College but not right of vote to them. This is taken care under the Representation of the People Act. So it is a legal right.

Q.12) Which of the following statements is/are correct about Rajya Sabha elections?

1. Unlike use of secret ballots in Lok Sabha elections, open ballots are used in Rajya Sabha elections.
2. Similar to Lok Sabha elections, the use of NOTA (None of the above) option is allowed in Rajya Sabha elections too.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

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Q.12) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
Unlike the general elections to the Lok Sabha, which are conducted with secret ballots (or votes) and based on the first-past-the-post principle, open ballots are used in the Rajya Sabha elections. These elections follow a proportional representation system based on the single transferable vote.	The Election Commission withdrew the 'none of the above' (NOTA) option from ballot papers of the Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Council polls following a Supreme Court directive.

Q.13) Consider the following statements regarding the 'office of whip'

1. The office of 'whip' is mentioned in the Rules of the House.
2. The concept of the whip is an Indian innovation.
3. There are some cases such as Presidential elections where whips cannot direct a Member of Parliament (MP) or Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) to vote in a particular fashion.

Choose the correct statement/s using codes below

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

Q.13) Solution (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Correct
The office of 'whip' is mentioned neither in the Constitution of India nor in the Rules of the House nor in a Parliamentary Statute. It is based on the conventions of the parliamentary government.	India inherited the concept of the whip from the British parliamentary system.	There are some cases such as Presidential elections where whips cannot direct a Member of Parliament (MP) or Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) to vote in a particular fashion.

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Q.14) Which of the following statements regarding sessions of Parliament are incorrect?

1. The period spanning between the first sitting of the House and its prorogation is called 'recess'.
2. The power of adjournment lies with the presiding officer of the house whereas for adjournment sine die, it lies with the President.
3. Prorogation brings to an end all bills or any other business pending before the House.

Choose the correct statement/s using codes below

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

Q.14) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Incorrect	Incorrect
A 'session' of Parliament is the period spanning between the first sitting of a House and its prorogation (or dissolution in the case of the Lok Sabha). During a session, the House meets everyday to transact business. The period spanning between the prorogation of a House and its reassembly in a new session is called 'recess'.	The power of adjournment as well as adjournment sine die lies with the presiding officer of the House.	Prorogation does not affect the bills or any other business pending before the House. However, all pending notices (other than those for introducing bills) lapse on prorogation and fresh notices have to be given for the next session. In Britain, prorogation brings to an end all bills or any other business pending before the House.

Q.15) Which of the following bills do not lapse on dissolution of Lok Sabha?

1. A bill pending in the Lok Sabha
2. A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha
3. A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha
4. A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the president for reconsideration of Houses

Choose the correct statement/s using codes below

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

Q.15) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3	Statement 4
Incorrect	Correct	Incorrect	Correct
The position with respect to lapsing of bills on dissolution of Lok Sabha is as follows: 1. A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses (whether originating in the Lok Sabha or transmitted to it by the Rajya Sabha). 2. A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses. 3. A bill not passed by the two Houses due to disagreement and if the president has notified the holding of a joint sitting before the dissolution of Lok Sabha, does not lapse. 4. A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha does not lapse. 5. A bill passed by both Houses but pending assent of the president does not lapse. 6. A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the president for reconsideration of Houses does not lapse.			

Q.16) Consider the following statements regarding the Question Hour in the Parliament

- 1. A starred question requires an oral answer and supplementary questions cannot follow.
- 2. An unstarred question requires a written answer and supplementary questions cannot follow.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.16) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
A starred question (distinguished by an asterisk) requires an oral answer and hence supplementary questions can follow.	An unstarred question requires a written answer and hence, supplementary questions cannot follow.

Q.17) Which of the following statements regarding parliamentary proceeding is/are incorrect?

1. The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is slotted for Zero Hour.
2. Unlike the question hour, the zero hour is mentioned in the Rules of Procedure.

Choose the correct statement/s using codes below

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

Q.17) Solution (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is slotted for question hour.	Unlike the question hour, the zero hour is not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure. Thus it is an informal device available to the members of the Parliament to raise matters without any prior notice.

Q.18) Which of the following decides the question of disqualification of a member of the Parliament, arising on the ground of defection?

- a) President of India
- b) Election Commission
- c) Supreme Court
- d) Presiding Officer of the House

Q.18) Solution (d)

The question of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is decided by the Chairman in the case of Rajya Sabha and Speaker in the case of Lok Sabha (and not by the president of India).

Q.19) Consider the following statements

1. The registration of electors for Parliamentary Constituencies
2. Qualifications and disqualifications for membership of Parliament

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3. Registration of political parties
4. Disputes regarding elections

Which of the above mentioned provisions are present in the Representation of the People Act, 1951?

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

Q.19) Solution (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3	Statement 4
Incorrect	Correct	Correct	Correct
The Representation of the People Act, 1950 provided for the registration of electors for Parliamentary Constituencies and for the Assembly and Council Constituencies, and the qualifications and disqualifications for such registration.	The Representation of the People Act, 1951 contains the provisions relating to the following electoral matters: 1. Qualifications and disqualifications for membership of Parliament and State Legislatures 2. Notification of general elections 3. Administrative machinery for the conduct of elections 4. Registration of political parties 5. Conduct of elections 6. Free supply of certain material to candidates of recognised political parties 7. Disputes regarding elections 8. Corrupt practices and electoral offences		

Q.20) Which of the following conditions make a political party eligible to be recognized as a National Party?

1. If it secures six per cent of the valid votes polled in four or more states at a general election to the Lok Sabha and, in addition, it wins two seats in the Lok Sabha from any of the state.
2. If it wins two per cent of seats in the Lok Sabha at a general election and these candidates are elected from three states
3. If it is recognised as a state party in four states.

Choose the correct statement/s using codes below

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

Q.20) Solution (c)

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Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Correct
A party is recognised as a national party if any of the following conditions is fulfilled: 1. If it secures six per cent of valid votes polled in any four or more states at a general election to the Lok Sabha or to the legislative assembly; and, in addition, it wins four seats in the Lok Sabha from any state or states; or 2. If it wins two per cent of seats in the Lok Sabha at a general election; and these candidates are elected from three states; or 3. If it is recognised as a state party in four states.		

Q.21) Sometimes seen in news, the ‘Yogyakarta Principles’ is related with

- Responsible consumption and production
- Human Rights in relation to sexual orientation and gender identity
- Water sharing across international borders
- Set of rules followed by the Jain monks

Q.21) Solution (b)

- Yogyakarta Principles recognize freedom of sexual orientation and gender identity as part of Human Rights.**
- They were outlined in 2006 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia by a distinguished group of International Human Right experts.
- Supreme Court in Navtej Singh Johar vs Union of India Case decriminalised homosexuality by striking off parts of Section 377 of IPC which were held violative of Fundamental Rights of LGBTQ Community.
- Supreme Court stated Yogyakarta Principles in its judgement.

Q.22) Consider the following statements about NIRVIK scheme:

- It aims to enhance loan availability and ease the lending process for exporters and importers.
- Insurance cover guaranteed will now cover up to 90% of the principal and interest from earlier 60%.
- Insurance cover will include both pre and post-shipment credit.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only

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

Q.22) Solution (a)

- The Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) is a fully government-owned company that was established in 1957 to promote exports by providing credit insurance services.
- The Government of India had initially set up Export Risks Insurance Corporation in 1957.
- After the introduction of insurance covers to banks during the period 1962-64, the name was changed to Export Credit & Guarantee Corporation Ltd in 1964.
- Its objective was to promote exports from the country by providing credit risk insurance and related services for exports.

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Incorrect	Correct	Correct
Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) has introduced the Export Credit Insurance Scheme (ECIS) called NIRVIK to enhance loan availability and ease the lending process for Exporters.	It is an insurance cover guarantee that will cover up to 90% of the principal and interest. The ECGC earlier provides credit guarantee of up to 60% loss.	The insurance cover will include both pre and post-shipment credit. The insurance cover is expected to bring down the cost of credit due to capital relief, less provision requirement and liquidity due to quick settlement of claims.

Q.23) The term 'Sycamore' seen in news in the context of

- a) Techniques of removing space debris
- b) Quantum Supremacy
- c) Antimicrobial Resistance
- d) Controlled Human Infection Model

Q.23) Solution (b)

- **Google's quantum computer**, named **Sycamore**, claimed 'supremacy' because it reportedly did the task in 200 seconds that would have apparently taken a supercomputer 10,000 years to complete.

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- Quantum supremacy refers to a problem-solving process by the quantum computer that cannot be solved by a classical computer in its normal lifetime.

Q.24) With reference to Project Sentinel, consider the following statements:

1. It is an American plan to protect its nationals visiting to Island regions of Indian Ocean.
2. It was launched following the killing of an American national in the North Sentinel Island of Andaman and Nicobar islands.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Q.24) Solution (d)

- **‘Project Sentinel’** is an American plan to protect ships passing through the Strait of Hormuz.
- Though Europe needs to keep the Persian Gulf open to guarantee the flow of oil and ensure its economic security, France and Germany have refused to join Project Sentinel of USA.

Q.25) Pulikali is a folk art of which of the following state?

- a) Sikkim
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Kerala
- d) Tamil Nadu

Q.25) Solution (c)

- **Pulikali (Tiger Dance)** is one among the **folk art forms of Kerala**. The term Pulikkali literally means ‘play of the tigers’.
- The art is performed on the fourth day of Onam. Performers are painted like tigers.



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- The main theme of this folk art is tiger hunting with participants playing the role of tiger and hunter.

Q.26) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Peace Forest Initiative'.

1. It was launched at the 14th session of Conference of Parties (COP14) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).
2. It was brainchild of India.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.26) Solution (a)

South Korea launched the Peace Forest Initiative, at the ongoing 14th session of Conference of Parties (COP14) to the **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)** in India.

Source: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/world/korea-for-using-forestry-to-grow-peace-on-borders/article29384871.ece>

Q.27) 'Adapt Now: A Global Call for Leadership on Climate Resilience' Report is brought out by

- a) Global Commission on Adaptation
- b) UN Environment
- c) World Economic Forum
- d) None of the above

Q.27) Solution (a)

The report is jointly by the **Global Commission on Adaptation (GCA)** and the **World Resources Institute (WRI)**.

Q.28) 'Goldschmidtite', a new mineral was discovered from

- a) South Africa
- b) Australia
- c) Russia
- d) Canada

Q.28) Solution (a)

A new, curious mineral has been discovered inside a diamond unearthed from a mine in South Africa. The mineral has been named goldschmidtite, after Victor

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Moritz Goldschmidt, the Norwegian scientist acknowledged as the founder of modern geochemistry.

Goldschmidtite has an unusual chemical signature for a mineral from Earth's mantle. While the mantle is dominated by elements such as magnesium and iron, goldschmidtite has high concentrations of niobium, potassium and the rare earth elements lanthanum and cerium.

Q.29) Consider the following statements with respect to 'AIDA mission'.

1. It is a joint by project by NASA and ISRO.
2. It aims at studying the kinetic effects of crashing an impactor spacecraft into an asteroid.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.29) Solution (b)

It is a joint by project by **NASA and ESA**.

It is a joint research mission to study the viability of diverting an asteroid by crashing a spacecraft into its surface. The project aims to deflect the orbit of one of the two Didymos asteroids between Earth and Mars, with an observer craft gauging the effect of the impact more effectively than ground-based observers could manage.

NASA will provide the collider, the **Double Asteroid Impact Test (DART)**. It should launch in summer 2021 and will smack into the smaller of the two Didymos asteroids at about 14,764MPH. An Italian cubesat, LICIAcube, will study the moment of impact. After that, the ESA will launch a **Hera probe** in October 2024 to study the target asteroid, including the impact crater, mass and a radar probe (the first ever for an asteroid).

Q.30) The '1995 Basel Ban Amendment' was in news recently. It is associated with

- a) Banking Sector
- b) Ship Recycling
- c) Waste Dumping
- d) Whaling

Q.30) Solution (c)

The 1995 Basel Ban Amendment, a global waste dumping prohibition, has become an international law after Croatia ratified it. Croatia became the 97th country to ratify the ban, which was adopted by the parties to the **Basel Convention** in 1995, to protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects of hazardous wastes.

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The Ban Amendment prohibits all export of hazardous wastes, including electronic wastes and obsolete ships from 29 wealthiest countries of the **Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)** to non-OECD countries.

