

Q.1) Consider the following statements concerning Sufism in India

1. The Sufi Movement outwardly rejected the religion and emphasized love and devotion to God and compassion towards all fellow human beings
2. Nizamuddin Auliya is a sufi saint belonging to the Chisti order.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (c)

The core concept of Sufi Movement is Darikh-i-Duniya / Wahad-ul-wahjud, meaning "Universal Brotherhood". It outwardly rejected the religion and emphasized love and devotion to God and compassion towards all fellow human beings. Mystics, who are called Sufis, were persons of deep devotion who were disgusted by the display of wealth and degeneration of morals following the establishment of the Islamic empire. The Sufis were organized in 12 orders or Silsilahs. A Silsilah was generally led by a prominent mystic who lived in a Khanqah or hospice along with his disciples. The Sufi orders are broadly divided into two: Ba-shara – Those who followed the Islamic Law and Be-shara – Those who were not bound by the Islamic Law. The Sufi saints made themselves popular by adopting musical recitations called "Sama", to create a mood of nearness to God. Qawwali is the form of sufi devotional music popular in South Asia and ghazal is a form of Qawwali.

Nizamuddin Auliya is a sufi saint belonging to the Chisti order. Nizamuddin Auliya's predecessors were Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki, Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti. His notable disciple was Amir Khusrow. The Chisti order is a Sunni Sufi order within the Sufi tradition of Islam. The order believed in drawing close to God through renunciation of the world and service to humanity. This order is primarily followed in Afghanistan and Indian Subcontinent. The Chisti order is the first of the four main Sufi orders – Chisti, Qadiriyya, Suhrawardiyya and Naqshbandi order.

Q.2) Which of the following represents the Rating systems for Green building certification in India?

1. GRIHA
2. BEE
3. CASBEE

4. IGBC

Choose the correct option:

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

Whether Green buildings are really green is to be decided against the predefined rating systems. There are three primary Rating systems in India.

- GRIHA - Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment
- IGBC - Indian Green Building Council
- BEE - Bureau of Energy Efficiency

Comprehensive Assessment System for Built Environment Efficiency (CASBEE) is a method for evaluating and rating the environmental performance of buildings and the built environment. It is a system used by Japan.

Q.3) Which of the following is NOT included in Agasthyamalai Biosphere reserve?

- a) Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary
- b) Periyar Tiger Reserve
- c) Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary
- d) Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve

Q.3) Solution (b)

Located in the Western Ghats, in the south of India, the Agasthyamala biosphere reserve includes peaks reaching 1,868 metres above sea level. Consisting mostly of tropical forests, the site is home to 2,254 species of higher plants including about 400 that are endemic. It is also a unique genetic reservoir of cultivated plants especially cardamom, jamun, nutmeg, pepper and plantain. Three wildlife sanctuaries, Shendurney, Peppara, Neyyar and Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger reserve are included in the site.

Q.4) Dongria Kondh tribe is from which of the following states?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Telangana
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Odisha

Q.4) Solution (d)

The Dangaria Kandha or Dongria Kondh people are members of the Kondhs. They are located in the Niyamgiri hills in the state of Odisha.

Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to 'National Pension Scheme (NPS)'

1. Any Indian citizen, resident or non-resident and OCIs are eligible to join NPS till the age of 65 years.
2. Contributions made towards the NPS are eligible for an additional tax deduction up to ₹50,000, which is over and above the ₹1,50,000 limit of deduction available under sec 80CCD (1).

Select the correct statements

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

Q.5) Solution (c)

Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has allowed overseas citizens to invest in National Pension Scheme (NPS), a move that will enable such citizens take advantage of the social security scheme and associated income tax benefits.

With this, Overseas Citizens of India (OCI)—people of Indian origin holding citizenship of other countries—will be at par with non-resident Indians (NRIs) as far as eligibility for applying for NPS is concerned.

The NPS is a government run pension and investment scheme aimed at providing old age security through safe and regulated market-based return. The scheme is regulated by PFRDA. With the latest addition, any Indian citizen, resident or non-resident and OCIs are eligible to join NPS till the age of 65 years.

Contributions made towards the NPS are eligible for an additional tax deduction up to ₹50,000. This is over and above the ₹1,50,000 limit of deduction available under sec 80CCD (1) or tax deductions available to individuals who make contributions under NPS.

Q.6) The 2019 United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as COP25 will be held in

- a) Jakarta (Indonesia)
- b) Madrid (Spain)
- c) Buenos Aires (Argentina)
- d) Santiago (Chile)

Q.6) Solution (b)

The 2019 United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as COP25, is to be the 25th United Nations Climate Change conference. It is planned to be held in Madrid, Spain, from 2 to 13 December 2019 under the presidency of the Chilean government.

Q.7) 'Chavang Kut' festival is associated with which of the following states?

- a) Manipur
- b) Nagaland
- c) West Bengal
- d) Goa

Q.7) Solution (a)

Kut festival or Chavang Kut is one of the most celebrated festivals of Manipur. Celebrated by the tribes of Kuki-Chin-Mizo groups of Manipur, Chavang Kut is a festival which is observed with so much zeal and joyousness. However, during the festival, the people of all communities of Manipur come together to commemorate this amazing fiesta.

Q.8) 'Sukinda Valley' is known for reserves of

- a) Chromite
- b) Bauxite
- c) Diamond
- d) Tungsten

Q.8) Solution (a)

Sukinda Valley has 90% of India's chromite reserves.

Q.9) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Multi Unit Spectroscopic Explorer (MUSE)'

1. It is located in the Atacama Desert of northern Chile.
2. It is built under the European Southern Observatory (ESO) and it uses adaptive optics.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.9) Solution (c)

The multi-unit spectroscopic explorer (MUSE) is an integral field spectrograph installed at the Very Large Telescope (VLT) of the European Southern Observatory (ESO). It operates in the visible wavelength range, and combines a wide field of view with a fine spatial sampling and a large simultaneous spectral range. It is designed to take advantage of the improved spatial resolution provided by adaptive optics.

The Very Large Telescope (VLT) is a telescope facility operated by the European Southern Observatory on Cerro Paranal in the Atacama Desert of northern Chile.

Q.10) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Younger Dryas'

1. It marked the beginning of a decline in ice-age megafauna.
2. It is named after an indicator genus, the alpine-tundra wildflower.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.10) Solution (c)

The Younger Dryas (around 12,900 to 11,700 years BP) was a return to glacial conditions after the Late Glacial Interstadial, which temporarily reversed the gradual climatic warming after the Last Glacial Maximum started receding around 20,000 BP. It is named after an indicator genus, the alpine-tundra wildflower *Dryas octopetala*, as its leaves are occasionally abundant in the late glacial, often minerogenic-rich, like the lake sediments of Scandinavian lakes.

This climate event, called the Younger Dryas by scientists, marked the beginning of a decline in ice-age megafauna, such as mammoth and mastodon, eventually leading to extinction of more than 35 genera of animals across North America. Although disputed, some research suggests that Younger Dryas environmental changes led to a population decline among the Native Americans known for their distinctive Clovis spear points.

The Younger Dryas impact hypothesis or Clovis comet hypothesis posits that fragments of a large (more than 4 kilometers in diameter), disintegrating asteroid or comet struck North America, South America, Europe, and western Asia about 12,800 years ago. Multiple airbursts/impacts produced the Younger Dryas (YD) boundary layer (YDB), depositing peak concentrations of platinum, high-temperature spherules, meltglass, and nanodiamonds, forming an isochronous datum at more than 50 sites across about 50 million km² of Earth's surface. Some scientists have proposed that this event triggered extensive biomass burning, a brief impact winter, the Younger Dryas abrupt climate change, contributed to extinctions of late Pleistocene megafauna, and resulted in the end of the Clovis culture.

Q.11) 'National Waterway 2 (NW-2)' is on which of the following rivers?

- a) Godavari
- b) Brahmaputra
- c) Ganga
- d) Yamuna

Q.11) Solution (b)

National Waterway 2 (NW-2) is a section of the Brahmaputra River having a length of 891 km between the Bangladesh border near Dhubri and Sadiya in Assam.



Q.12) The term 'Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade (PIWTT)' is often seen in news in association with India and

- a) Bangladesh
- b) Myanmar
- c) Nepal
- d) Bhutan

Q.12) Solution (a)

An Inland water transit and trade protocol exists between India and Bangladesh under which inland vessels of one country can transit through the specified routes of the other country.

Read More - <https://www.mea.gov.in/Portal/LegalTreatiesDoc/BG15B2421.pdf>

Q.13) Consider the following statements with respect to 'ICEDASH'

1. It is launched by Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
2. It was launched for improved monitoring and pace of Customs clearance of imported goods and facilitating arriving international passenger by electronic filing of Customs baggage and currency declarations.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.13) Solution (b)

Ministry of Finance unveiled two new IT initiatives – ICEDASH and ATITHI – for improved monitoring and pace of Customs clearance of imported goods and facilitating arriving international passengers by electronic filing of Customs baggage and currency declarations.

ICEDASH is an Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) monitoring dashboard of the Indian Customs helping public see the daily Customs clearance times of import cargo at various ports and airports. With ICEDASH, Indian Customs has taken a lead globally to provide an effective tool that helps the businesses compare clearance times across ports and plan their logistics accordingly. This dashboard has been developed by CBIC in collaboration with NIC. ICEDASH can be accessed through the CBIC website.

With ATITHI, CBIC has introduced an easy to use mobile app for international travelers to file the Customs declaration in advance. Passengers can use this app to file declaration of dutiable items and currency with the Indian Customs even before boarding the flight to India. ATITHI is available on both, iOS and Android.

Q.14) 'New Colombo Plan Mobility Program' is launched by

- a) Australia
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) ASEAN Countries
- d) Japan

Q.14) Solution (a)

The New Colombo Plan Mobility Program provides funding to Australian universities and consortia to support Australian undergraduate students to participate in semester-based or short-term study, internships, mentorships, practicums and research in 40 host locations across the Indo-Pacific region.

The 2020 Mobility Program round also includes more than 1,600 Australian university students taking part in study and projects in India by mobilising students through 64 exciting Indian projects. This includes the development of Indian physical education programs as well as another on improving organic waste management and drinking water quality in

2020. Besides strengthening the ties between two nations, the move is expected to deepen the understanding of business environment and culture in India.

Q.15) The 'Global Microscope on Financial Inclusion report' is published by

- a) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- b) Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)
- c) World Bank (WB)
- d) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Q.15) Solution (b)

The 2019 edition of 'Global Microscope: The enabling environment for Financial Inclusion' report was released by Economist Intelligence Unit's (EIU).

India was ranked among top countries with most promising environment for financial inclusion in terms of: effective financial consumer, allowing non-banks to issue e-money and proportionate customer due diligence.

Only four countries namely India, Colombia, Jamaica and Uruguay scored perfectly across all four parameters.

Q.16) Consider the following statements with respect to 'India International Science Festival (IISF) 2019'

1. It is being jointly organised by the Union Ministries of Science and Technology, Earth Sciences as well as Health and Family Welfare in association with Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA).
2. The theme for IISF-2019 is RISEN India — Research, Innovation, and Science Empowering the Nation.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.16) Solution (c)

The 5th India International Science Festival (IISF) is being held in Kolkata to instill scientific temper among people, showcase India's contribution in field of Science and Technology as well as encourage translation of its benefits to people. It also aims to build a strategy for inclusive advancement of Science and Technology.

The four-day event is being jointly organised by the Union Ministries of Science and Technology, Earth Sciences as well as Health and Family Welfare in association with Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA).

The theme for this year's festival is RISEN India — Research, Innovation, and Science Empowering the Nation.

Q.17) 'Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) – 2019' is joint naval exercise between

- a) India and Bangladesh
- b) USA and Bangladesh
- c) Vietnam and India
- d) Taiwan and Cambodia

Q.17) Solution (b)

The CARAT is a yearly exercise conducted between the navies of Bangladesh and United States in the Bay of Bengal.

Q.18) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Land Ports Authority of India'

1. It is under the aegis of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. It was created through the Land Ports Authority of India Act.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.18) Solution (c)

The Land Ports Authority of India or LPAI is a statutory body (created through the Land Ports Authority of India Act, 2010) working under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of

India is responsible for creating, upgrading, maintaining and managing border infrastructure in India. It manages several Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) all across borders of India.

Q.19) 'Danakil Depression' was in news recently. Where is it located?

- a) Ethiopia
- b) Chile
- c) Uzbekistan
- d) Sweden

Q.19) Solution (a)

The Danakil Depression in northeastern Ethiopia is one of the world's hottest places, as well as one of its lowest, at 100 metres below sea level. At the northern end of the Great Rift Valley, and separated by live volcanoes from the Red Sea, the plain was formed by the evaporation of an inland water body. All the water entering Danakil evaporates, and no streams flow out from its extreme environment. It is covered with more than 10 lakh tonnes of salt.

Read More - <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/what-is-danakil-depression-ethiopia-6103249/>

Q.20) The Inner Line Permit (ILP) is not operational in

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

Q.20) Solution (d)

Currently, the Inner Line Permit is operational in Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland.

Q.21) The 'Freedom on the Net' (FoTN) report is released by

- a) Freedom House
- b) Transparency International

- c) World Economic Forum
- d) None of the above

Q.21) Solution (a)

The Freedom House, an international internet rights group, released its 'Freedom on the Net' (FoTN) report for the year 2019, titled 'The Crisis of Social Media', recording an overall decline in global internet freedom between June 2018 and May 2019.

Q.22) Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles require a greater amount of space for fuel storage than conventional gasoline-powered vehicles.
2. CNG is stored at low temperature and nearly ambient pressure.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.22) Solution (a)

Compressed natural gas is often confused with LNG (liquefied natural gas). Both are stored forms of natural gas. The main difference is that CNG is stored at ambient temperature and high pressure, while LNG is stored at low temperature and nearly ambient pressure. In their respective storage conditions, LNG is a liquid and CNG is a supercritical fluid. CNG has a lower cost of production and storage compared to LNG as it does not require an expensive cooling process and cryogenic tanks.

Compressed natural gas vehicles require a greater amount of space for fuel storage than conventional gasoline-powered vehicles. Since it is a compressed gas, rather than a liquid like gasoline, CNG takes up more space for each GGE (gasoline gallon equivalent).

Q.23) Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

1. Malnad Region – Tamil Nadu
2. Khandesh Region – Telangana
3. Tulunaad – Karnataka

Select the correct code:

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

Q.23) Solution (b)

Malnad Region – Karnataka

Khandesh Region – Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh

Tulunaad – Karnataka

Q.24) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD)'

1. It was first identified in 1957 in forests of Congo.
2. Monkeys are common hosts for Kyasanur forest disease virus (KFDV) after being bitten by an infected tick.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.24) Solution (b)

Kyasanur Forest disease (KFD) is caused by Kyasanur Forest disease virus (KFDV), a member of the virus family Flaviviridae. KFDV was identified in 1957 when it was isolated from a sick monkey from the Kyasanur Forest in Karnataka (formerly Mysore) State, India. Since then, between 400-500 humans cases per year have been reported.

Hard ticks (*Hemaphysalis spinigera*) are the reservoir of KFD virus and once infected, remain so for life. Rodents, shrews, and monkeys are common hosts for KFDV after being bitten by an infected tick. KFDV can cause epizootics with high fatality in primates.

Q.25) All printed material have a machine-readable one-dimensional data code which is used to identify them. All newspapers and magazines anywhere in the world have such

codes that begin with the digits 977. What codes are these that get their name from the pattern they project?

- a) Bar Code
- b) HS Code
- c) QR Code
- d) RFID Number

Q.25) Solution (a)

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/sunday-quiz-november-3-all-about-newspapers/article29862092.ece>

Read More - <http://www.computalabel.com/aboutisn.htm>

Q.26) The shape of the 'Heliosphere' is determined by

- 1. Interstellar medium (ISM)
- 2. Solar wind
- 3. Overall motion of the Sun

Select the correct code:

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

Q.26) Solution (d)

The heliosphere is the vast, bubble-like region of space which surrounds and is created by the Sun. In plasma physics terms, this is the cavity formed by the Sun in the surrounding interstellar medium. The "bubble" of the heliosphere is continuously "inflated" by plasma originating from the Sun, known as the solar wind. Outside the heliosphere, this solar plasma gives way to the interstellar plasma permeating our galaxy. Radiation levels inside and outside the heliosphere differ; in particular, the galactic cosmic rays are less abundant inside the heliosphere, so that the planets inside (including Earth) are partly shielded from their impact.

Despite its name, the heliosphere's shape is not a perfect sphere.[6] Its shape is determined by three factors: the interstellar medium (ISM), the solar wind, and the overall motion of the Sun and heliosphere as it passes through the ISM. Because the solar wind and the ISM

are both fluids, the heliosphere's shape and size are also fluid. Changes in the solar wind, however, more strongly alter the fluctuating position of the boundaries on short timescales (hours to a few years). The solar wind's pressure varies far more rapidly than the outside pressure of the ISM at any given location. In particular, the effect of the 11-year solar cycle, which sees a distinct maximum and minimum of solar wind activity, is thought to be significant.

On a broader scale, the motion of the heliosphere through the fluid medium of the ISM results in an overall comet-like shape. The solar wind plasma which is moving roughly "upstream" (in the same direction as the Sun's motion through the galaxy) is compressed into a nearly-spherical form, whereas the plasma moving "downstream" (opposite the Sun's motion) flows out for a much greater distance before giving way to the ISM, defining the long, trailing shape of the heliotail.

Q.27) Consider the following statements

1. The termination shock is the point in the heliosphere where the solar wind slows down to subsonic speed.
2. The heliosheath is the region of the heliosphere beyond the termination shock.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.27) Solution (c)

The termination shock is the point in the heliosphere where the solar wind slows down to subsonic speed (relative to the Sun) because of interactions with the local interstellar medium. This causes compression, heating, and a change in the magnetic field. In the Solar System, the termination shock is believed to be 75 to 90 astronomical units from the Sun. In 2004, Voyager 1 crossed the Sun's termination shock, followed by Voyager 2 in 2007

The heliosheath is the region of the heliosphere beyond the termination shock. Here the wind is slowed, compressed and made turbulent by its interaction with the interstellar medium. At its closest point, the inner edge of the heliosheath lies approximately 80 to 100 AU from the Sun.

Q.28) 'Wastelands Atlas – 2019' is released by

- a) Ministry of Rural Development
- b) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- c) Ministry of Agriculture
- d) Ministry of Jal Shakti

Q.28) Solution (a)

Realizing the importance of availability of reliable database on the wastelands of the country, the Ministry of Rural Development has released the Wastelands Atlas – 2019.

The new wastelands mapping exercise, carried out by NRSC using the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite data is brought out as the fifth edition of Wastelands Atlas – 2019.

The department of land resources in collaboration with National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Department of Space has published Wastelands Atlases of India - 2000, 2005, 2010 & 2011 editions. The new wastelands mapping exercise, carried out by NRSC using the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite data is the fifth edition of Wastelands Atlas – 2019.

Q.29) These are fibres about 5–10 micrometres in diameter and composed of multiple atoms of a certain basic element. It has high chemical resistance, high strength, low weight and does not expand under heat. These qualities make it an excellent candidate to use in aerospace, F1 racing and military designs. Depending on the process, these fibres can be either woven into fabric or baked into a polymer. What fibres are these?

- a) Carbon Fibres
- b) Nylon
- c) Kevlar
- d) Spandex

Q.29) Solution (a)

Carbon fibers or carbon fibres (alternatively CF, graphite fiber or graphite fibre) are fibers about 5–10 micrometres in diameter and composed mostly of carbon atoms. Carbon fibers have several advantages including high stiffness, high tensile strength, low weight, high chemical resistance, high temperature tolerance and low thermal expansion. These properties have made carbon fiber very popular in aerospace, civil engineering, military, and motorsports, along with other competition sports. However, they are relatively expensive when compared with similar fibers, such as glass fibers or plastic fibers.

Q.30) The term 'Shadow Banning' is associated with

- a) Cryptocurrency
- b) Social Media
- c) Interconnect usage charge
- d) Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

Q.30) Solution (b)

Shadow banning (also called stealth banning, ghost banning or comment ghosting) is the act of blocking or partially blocking a user or their content from an online community such that it will not be readily apparent to the user that they have been banned.

Q.31) Consider the following statements with respect to 'iDEX initiative'

1. It is aimed at creating an ecosystem which fosters innovation and encourages technology development in Defence by engaging R&D institutes, academia, industries, Startups and individual innovators.
2. It functions under the aegis of Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO).

Select the correct statements:

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

Q.31) Solution (c)

Ministry of Defence (MoD) has introduced "Innovations for Defence Excellence" (iDEX) initiative which was launched by Hon'ble PM in April 2018. iDEX is aimed at creating an ecosystem which fosters innovation and encourages technology development in Defence by engaging R&D institutes, academia, industries, Startups and even individual innovators. iDEX shall function under the aegis of Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO) (formed as a 'Not For Profit' Company Under Section 8 of Companies Act,2013), as its executive arm.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) is organising 'Def-Connect' here tomorrow to showcase the accomplishments of the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) initiative and construct a strong outreach towards the potential future entrepreneurs of the defence sector.

Q.32) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Recognition of Prior Learning'

1. It is one of the components of the 'Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana'
2. It aims to certify the workforce as per 'National Skills Qualifications Framework'

Select the correct statements

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

Q.32) Solution (c)

The Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) component of PMKVY is primarily focussed on assessing and certifying the skills of informal sector workers. Evaluation of trade learned skills and certification through assessment helps the trainees through increased mobility options to the formal sector employment. In certain cases, it has been observed that RPL certification has helped workers negotiate better wages and open possibilities for some vertical progression in their careers. In almost all cases, trainees have displayed enhanced self-confidence and pride through attainment of skill certificates.

Objective

- To enhance the industry acceptability of RPL certification and extend outreach of the scheme directly to reputed employers / industries
- Collaboration with Top employers will help to enhance credibility of certification and help to promote mobility of the workforce across the media sector
- Industry will be benefited from their workforce being certified under the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF)
- Achieve economy and scale through a simplified procedure of assessment through manager/supervisor/departmental head for the other employees of his/her department
- Co-branded certification to incentivize and recognize the industry.

Read More - <http://www.mescindia.org/rpl.php>

Q.33) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Guru Nanak Dev Ji'

1. His teachings can be found in the Sikh scripture Guru Granth Sahib, as a collection of verses recorded in Gurmukhi.
2. He was born in Kartarpur in the 15th century.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.33) Solution (a)

He was born in Nankana Sahib.

Nanak's teachings can be found in the Sikh scripture Guru Granth Sahib, as a collection of verses recorded in Gurmukhi.

There are two competing theories on Guru Nanak's teachings. One, according to Cole and Sambhi, is based on hagiographical Janamsakhis, and states that Nanak's teachings and Sikhism were a revelation from God, and not a social protest movement nor any attempt to reconcile Hinduism and Islam in the 15th century.

Q.34) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Article 142 of the Constitution of India'

1. It allows the Supreme Court to pass any order necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it.
2. It was invoked for the first time ever, in the Ayodhya Verdict.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.34) Solution (a)

Enforcement of decrees and orders of Supreme Court and unless as to discovery, etc

(1) The Supreme Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction may pass such decree or make such order as is necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it, and any decree so passed or orders so made shall be enforceable throughout the territory of India in such manner as may be prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament and, until provision in that behalf is so made, in such manner as the President may by order prescribe

(2) Subject to the provisions of any law made in this behalf by Parliament, the Supreme Court shall, as respects the whole of the territory of India, have all and every power to make any order for the purpose of securing the attendance of any person, the discovery or production of any documents, or the investigation or punishment of any contempt of itself.

Previously, Article 142 has been used to bring justice to various deprived sections of society or to protect the environment, analysts pointed out. For instance, it was used for the cleansing of the Taj Mahal, the marble of which was getting yellow due to sulphur fumes from surrounding industries.

Similarly, it was also applied in the Union Carbide case to bring relief to thousands of persons affected by the gas leak. Article 142 of the Constitution was also put to use in the release of thousands of undertrials who were in jails for periods exceeding their sentences.

Q.35) 'Tiger TRIUMP' is the first ever tri-services amphibious exercise between India and

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

Q.35) Solution (a)

Tiger TRIUMP

- India and US are to jointly conduct Tiger TRIUMP, the first ever tri-services amphibious exercise. It is to be conducted in Visakhapatnam and Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.
- It includes field training and events that simulate humanitarian assistance in disaster times.
- The event will also hold simulations in moving disaster relief forces from ship to shore.

Q.36) The place called 'Khuzestan' was in news recently. Where is it located?

- a) Iran
- b) Uzbekistan
- c) Israel
- d) Syria

Q.36) Solution (a)

Iran has discovered a new oilfield with 53 billion barrels of crude oil in Khuzestan province, home to Iran's Khuzestan's crucial oil industry.

Q.37) 'The Brown to Green Report 2019' is released by

- a) International Institute for Sustainable Development
- b) Climate Transparency
- c) World Economic Forum
- d) SDG Knowledge Hub

Q.37) Solution (b)

Climate Transparency is a global partnership with a shared mission to stimulate a 'race to the top' in G20 climate action and to shift investments towards zero carbon technologies through enhanced transparency.

The Brown to Green Report 2019 is the world's most comprehensive review of G20 climate action. It provides concise and comparable information on G20 country mitigation action, finance and adaptation.

Q.38) Consider the following statements with respect to 'X-57 Maxwell'

1. It is an experimental airplane powered by electricity.
2. It is being developed by NASA.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.38) Solution (c)

The NASA X-57 Maxwell is an experimental aircraft being developed by NASA, intended to demonstrate technology to reduce fuel use, emissions, and noise.

It is powered by specially designed lithium-ion batteries.

Q.39) 'Guru Nanak Dev' has traveled to which of the following countries?

1. Sri Lanka
2. Afghanistan
3. Saudi Arabia

Select the correct code:

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

Q.39) Solution (d)

During his travels, he covered a landscape comprising nine modern nations — Sri Lanka, Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tibet (China), Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, India — visiting numerous Islamic, Sufi, Buddhist and Hindu sites.

Read More - <https://indianexpress.com/article/express-sunday-eye/the-seekers-path-6107331/>

Q.40) The travelogue titled "Description Historique et Geographique De l'Inde" is written by

- a) Joseph Tieffenthaler
- b) William Finch
- c) Robert Montgomery Martin
- d) Marco Polo

Q.40) Solution (a)

Tieffenthaler was an 18th-century missionary who travelled in India for 27 years, and wrote his travelogue titled "Description Historique et Geographique De l'Inde".

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-who-are-the-travellers-quoted-in-ayodhya-judgment-6113085/>

Q.41) 'Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs)' are intended to be responsible for

1. Setup and promote public private partnership in the management of agricultural markets
2. Providing market-led extension services to farmers
3. Publicizing data on arrivals and rates of agricultural produce brought into the market area for sale

Select the correct code:

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

Q.41) Solution (d)

Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) is a statutory market committee constituted by a State Government in respect of trade in certain notified agricultural or horticultural or livestock products, under the Agricultural Produce Market Committee Act issued by that state government.

APMCs are intended to be responsible for:

- ensuring transparency in pricing system and transactions taking place in market area;
- providing market-led extension services to farmers;
- ensuring payment for agricultural produce sold by farmers on the same day;
- promoting agricultural processing including activities for value addition in agricultural produce;
- Publicizing data on arrivals and rates of agricultural produce brought into the market area for sale; and
- Setup and promote public private partnership in the management of agricultural markets

Q.42) Consider the following statements with respect to 'National Agricultural Market (NAM)'

1. It is managed by Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC).
2. It completely scraps the existing Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) across all states by 2020.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.42) Solution (a)

National Agriculture Market or eNAM is an online trading platform for agricultural commodities in India. The market facilitate farmers, traders and buyers with online trading in commodities.

The National Agriculture Market (NAM) was envisaged as a pan-India electronic trading portal which seeks to network the existing Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) and other market yards to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.

However, Union FM now says that States should scrap APMCs and move on to eNAM.

The Portal is managed by Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) with the technology provider, NFCL's iKisan division.

Q.43) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Arrokoth'

1. It is the farthest cosmic body ever visited by a spacecraft.
2. It is a trans-Neptunian object located in the Kuiper belt.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.43) Solution (c)

Ultima Thule, the farthest cosmic body ever visited by a spacecraft, has been renamed Arrokoth, or "sky" in the Native American Powhatan language, following a backlash over the previous name's Nazi connotations.

The icy rock, which orbits in the dark and frigid Kuiper Belt about a billion miles beyond Pluto, was surveyed by the NASA spaceship New Horizons in January, with images showing it consisted of two spheres stuck together in the shape of a snowman.

Q4.4) 'Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument' is located in

- a) United States
- b) Argentina
- c) Canada
- d) Japan

Q.44) Solution (a)

It is the world's largest marine conservation area and was inscribed in 2010 as a UNESCO mixed World Heritage site.

Location - Honolulu County, Hawaii / Midway Atoll, United States Minor Outlying Islands

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/pacific-bird-refuge-struggles-as-ocean-garbage-patch-grows/article29936187.ece>

Q.45) 'Arka Suprabath', is a variety of

- a) Mango
- b) Rice
- c) Banana
- d) Chilli

Q.45) Solution (a)

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/agriculture/welcome-arka-suprabath-the-new-mango-variety-from-bengaluru/article28821751.ece>

Q.46) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR)'

1. Telecom operators pay 2% of the AGR as licence fee.
2. It includes all revenue earned by an operator, including that from non-core telecom operations.

Select the correct statements

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

- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.46) Solution (b)

Supreme Court of India upheld the Department of Telecom (DoT)'s interpretation of "adjusted gross revenue" (AGR), which came as a huge blow to telecom service providers.

While telecom companies argued that it should comprise revenue from telecom services, the DoT's stand was that the AGR should include all revenue earned by an operator, including that from non-core telecom operations.

The AGR directly impacts the outgo from the pockets of telcos to the DoT as it is used to calculate the levies payable by operators. Currently, telecom operators pay 8% of the AGR as licence fee, while spectrum usage charges (SUC) vary between 3-5% of AGR.

Q.47) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Erythropoietin'

1. As a performance enhancing drug it is banned by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
2. It is a hormone primarily produced by Thyroid Gland.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.47) Solution (a)

Erythropoietin (EPO) is a hormone produced primarily by the kidneys. It plays a key role in the production of red blood cells (RBCs), which carry oxygen from the lungs to the rest of the body. This test measures the amount of erythropoietin in the blood.

Athletes have been found to use erythropoietin, synthetic oxygen carriers and blood transfusions for blood doping. Each of the three substances or methods is banned by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). While the use of erythropoietin in people who are anaemic due to chronic kidney disease helps in increasing the oxygen level in the blood, the use of the hormone by normal, healthy people can lead to serious health risks. In the case of healthy people who have a normal red blood cell count, the use of external erythropoietin is highly likely to make the blood thick (increase viscosity) leading to an increased risk of heart disease, stroke, and cerebral or pulmonary embolism (clot that blocks the flow of blood).

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/how-oxygen-levels-affect-cell-metabolism/article29668134.ece>

Q.48) Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. 51 Pegasi b was the first exoplanet to be discovered.
2. The cosmic microwave background (CMB) is the leftover radiation from the Big Bang, or the time when the universe began.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.48) Solution (c)

51 Pegasi b was the first exoplanet to be discovered by Mayor and Queloz in December, 1995.

The ancient afterglow of the Big Bang, the remnants of which still can be observed, is known as the cosmic microwave background (CMB).

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/unravelling-the-secrets-of-the-universe/article29668182.ece>

Q.49) Consider the following statements with respect to 'International Seed Treaty'

1. It aims at guaranteeing food security through the conservation, exchange and sustainable use of the world's plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA), as well as the fair and equitable benefit sharing arising from its use.
2. It is a comprehensive international agreement in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.49) Solution (c)

The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (IT PGRFA), popularly known as the International Seed Treaty, is a comprehensive international agreement in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity, which aims at guaranteeing food security through the conservation, exchange and sustainable use of the world's plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA), as well as the fair and equitable benefit sharing arising from its use. It also recognises farmers' rights, subject to national laws to: a) the protection of traditional knowledge relevant to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; b) the right to equitably participate in sharing benefits arising from the utilisation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; and c) the right to participate in making decisions, at the national level, on matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. The Treaty establishes the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing to facilitate plant germplasm exchanges and benefit sharing through Standard Material Transfer Agreement (SMTA).

The treaty was negotiated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) and since 2006 has its own Governing Body under the aegis of the FAO.

Q.50) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Christchurch Call'

1. It was co-hosted by New Zealand's Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
2. It aims to bring together countries and tech companies in an attempt to bring to an end the ability to use social media to organise and promote terrorism and violent extremism.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.50) Solution (b)

The Christchurch Call is a meeting co-hosted by New Zealand's Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern and French President, Emmanuel Macron, to be held in Paris on 15 May 2019. It's a global call which aims to "bring together countries and tech companies in an attempt to

bring to an end the ability to use social media to organise and promote terrorism and violent extremism.”

Q.51) Consider the following statements

1. Dumping is said to occur when the goods are exported by a country to another country at a price lower than its normal value.
2. The use of anti-dumping measure as an instrument of fair competition is permitted by the WTO.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.51) Solution (c)

Dumping is said to occur when the goods are exported by a country to another country at a price lower than its normal value. This is an unfair trade practice which can have a distortive effect on international trade. Anti-dumping is a measure to rectify the situation arising out of the dumping of goods and its trade distortive effect. Thus, the purpose of anti-dumping duty is to rectify the trade distortive effect of dumping and re-establish fair trade. The use of anti-dumping measure as an instrument of fair competition is permitted by the WTO. In fact, anti-dumping is an instrument for ensuring fair trade and is not a measure of protection per se for the domestic industry. It provides relief to the domestic industry against the injury caused by dumping.

Q.52) Which of the following countries does not have a coast on the Adriatic Sea?

- a) Bosnia and Herzegovina
- b) Croatia
- c) Italy
- d) Cyprus

Q.52) Solution (d)

The countries with coasts on the Adriatic are Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Italy, Montenegro and Slovenia.



Q.53) Jordan is bordered by

1. Syria
2. Saudi Arabia
3. Israel
4. Egypt

Select the correct code:

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

Q.53) Solution (a)

Jordan is bordered by Saudi Arabia to the south and the east, Iraq to the north-east, Syria to the north and Israel and the Palestinian West Bank to the west.



Q.54) 'Maritime Unmanned Anti-Submarine System (MUSAS)' was in news recently. It is associated with

- a) PESCO
- b) SCO
- c) BRICS
- d) ASEAN

Q.54) Solution (a)

The Maritime Unmanned Anti-Submarine System (MUSAS) aims to develop and deliver an advanced command, control and communications (C3) service architecture, for anti-submarine warfare, taking advantage of cutting-edge technology and artificial intelligence, in order to counter area denial methods of adversaries. Moreover, it will enhance the protection of underwater high-value infrastructures as well as sea-based energy systems, providing quick response with appropriate levels of force to intrusion or threat to sea lines of communication.

It is a joint project between Portugal, France, Spain and Sweden, which all have large coastlines.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/world/eu-european-union-signs-off-on-new-joint-defense-projects-military-weapon-development-projects-brussels-pesco-6118348/>

Q.55) The 'Global Landscape of Climate Finance 2019' report is published by

- a) Climate Policy Initiative (CPI)
- b) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- c) Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)
- d) UN Environment (UNEP)

Q.55) Solution (a)

Source: <https://climatepolicyinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/GLCF-2019.pdf>

Q.56) Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOC) recently launched a special winter-grade diesel for Ladakh. Consider the following statements

1. It remains unfrozen up to minus 33 degree Celsius.
2. It meets BIS specification of BS-VI grade diesel.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.56) Solution (c)

Indian Oil Corporation has developed winter-grade diesel for Ladakh to address the problem of loss of fluidity in fuel during extreme winter conditions.

The winter grade diesel produced by Panipat Refinery for the first time has a pour point of – 33oC and does not lose its fluidity function even in the extreme winter weather of the region unlike the normal grade of diesel which becomes exceedingly difficult to utilize.

This winter grade diesel also meets BIS specification of BS-VI grade diesel.

Q.57) 'India International Cherry Blossom Festival' is celebrated in which of the following States?

- a) Uttarakhand

- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Meghalaya
- d) Manipur

Q.57) Solution (c)

The India International Cherry Blossom Festival-2019 is organised by the Government of Meghalaya in association with Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (IBSD). They had planted 5000 cherry trees between Umiam Lake, the Wards' Lake, New Shillong and all the way to Mawphlang. The target is to plant 20000 more trees.

Q.58) 'SAANS' campaign is associated with

- a) Breast Feeding
- b) Pneumonia
- c) Rotavirus
- d) Menstrual Hygiene

Q.58) Solution (b)

SAANS, short for 'Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully' was launched by the Union Health Ministry to mobilise people to protect children from pneumonia, and train health personnel and other stakeholders to provide prioritised treatment to control the disease.

Q.59) Recently, two varieties of tea, Green Tea and White Tea received GI Tags. It belongs to which of the following States?

- a) West Bengal
- b) Assam
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Tripura

Q.59) Solution (a)

Darjeeling green and white teas, whose price varies from Rs 3,000 -Rs 10,000 per kg, have received Geographical Indication (GI) tag for the domestic market, which will put to rest any doubt about their authenticity and quality.

Q.60) 'Sisseri River Bridge' which was opened recently, is located in

- a) Ladakh
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Jammu & Kashmir
- d) Assam

Q.60) Solution (b)

Defence Minister inaugurated the Sisseri River Bridge located at lower Dibang Valley in Arunachal Pradesh. The 200m long bridge provides connectivity between Dibang Valley and Siang.

Q.61) 'Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS)' is associated with

- a) Diamonds
- b) Terbium
- c) Yttrium
- d) Uranium

Q.61) Solution (a)

The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) is the process established in 2003 to prevent "conflict diamonds" from entering the mainstream rough diamond market by United Nations General Assembly Resolution 55/56 following recommendations in the Fowler Report.

Q.62) 'Za'ir-Al-Bahr' is a naval exercise between India and

- a) Oman
- b) Qatar
- c) Saudi Arabia
- d) United Arab Emirates

Q.62) Solution (b)

A three-day naval exercise, Za'ir-Al-Bahr (Roar of the Sea) is being conducted between November 17 and November 21, 2019 between the Indian and Qatar Naval Forces.

Q.63) The objectives of 'NISHTHA' mega-training programme are:

1. To equip all the elementary stage teachers on learning outcomes, school-based assessment, learner –centered pedagogy, new initiatives in education and addressing diverse needs of children through multiple pedagogies.
2. To orient state functionaries and school principals on learning outcomes, national achievement survey, learner- centered pedagogy and new initiatives in school education so that they are able to monitor schools and extend support to schools for the implementation of new initiatives.

Select the correct code:

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

Q.63) Solution (c)

NISHTHA - National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement is an initiative to build capacities of teachers and school principals at the elementary stage.

The initiative is an Integrated Teacher Training Programme of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of HRD as part of its National Mission to improve learning outcomes at the Elementary level under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha during 2019-20.

The programme aims to build the capacities of around 42 lakh participants covering all teachers and Heads of Schools at the elementary level in all Government schools, faculty members of State Councils of Educational Research and Training (SCERTs), District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) as well as Block Resource Coordinators and Cluster Resource Coordinators in all States and UTs.

The objectives of Nishtha mega-training programme are:

- To equip all the elementary stage teachers on learning outcomes, school based assessment, learner –centred pedagogy, new initiatives in education and addressing diverse needs of children through multiple pedagogies, etc.
- To monitor and provide extensive support to the teachers using multiple modes up to the classroom level, in view of improving learning outcomes of the students.

- To orient state functionaries and school principals on learning outcomes, national achievement survey, learner- centred pedagogy and new initiatives in school education so that they are able to monitor schools and extend support to schools for the implementation of new initiatives.

Q.64) Consider the following statements with respect to the 'Sun'

1. The Core of the Sun is hotter than the Corona.
2. The Corona is hotter than the Photosphere.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.64) Solution (c)

Core > Corona > Photosphere.

The temperature at the core of the Sun is nearly 15 million degrees Celsius, while that at its surface layer, known as the photosphere, is merely 5,700 degrees C. The natural thing to expect is that still further outwards, in its atmosphere, known as the corona, the temperatures would be comparable to that at the surface (photosphere). However, the temperature of the corona is much higher. It starts increasing outside the photosphere, reaching a value of about one million degrees or more in the corona.

Read More - <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/long-standing-conundrum-on-the-suns-atmosphere-solved/article29993252.ece>

Q.65) 'Gravastar' was in news recently. What is it associated with?

- a) Black Holes
- b) Jupiter's Moon
- c) South Pole of the Moon
- d) Lithium Ion Batteries for Aviation

Q.65) Solution (a)

A gravastar is an object hypothesized in astrophysics as an alternative to the black hole theory by Pawel O. Mazur and Emil Mottola. It has usual black hole metric outside of the horizon, but de Sitter metric inside. On the horizon there is a thin shell of matter. The term "gravastar" is a portmanteau of the words "gravitational vacuum star".

Read More - <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/weeding-out-black-hole-mimickers-by-looking-at-gravitational-waves/article29993235.ece>

Q.66) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Solar eclipse'

1. A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes in a direct line between the Earth and the sun.
2. Solar Eclipse takes place twice a year in the month of May and November.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.66) Solution (a)

A solar eclipse happens when the Moon is directly in line between Earth and the Sun. The Moon's shadow sweeps across Earth's surface; at those places.

Total solar eclipses are rare events. Although they occur somewhere on Earth every 18 months on average, it is estimated that they recur at any given place only once every 360 to 410 years, on average.

Q.67) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)'

1. It is a State Sector Scheme with a Central component
2. It is funded by the World Bank

Select the correct statements

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

Q.67) Solution (c)

Both the statements are correct.

Read More - https://www.damsafety.in/ecm-includes/DRIP_II/broucher/DRIP-Brochure-Phase2&3_R.pdf

Q.68) 'Hynniewtrep National Liberation Council' which was in news is associated with

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

Q.68) Solution (a)

The central government has banned 'Hynniewtrep National Liberation Council' (HNLC), a Meghalaya-based insurgent group, for its increased activities of violence and other insurgent acts. Centre also notified that HNLC's activities are detrimental to the sovereignty and integrity of India.

Q.69) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Avian botulism'

1. It is a serious neuromuscular illness of birds and typically results in paralysis.
2. It is caused by a virus which was first found in Australia.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.69) Solution (a)

Avian botulism is a serious neuromuscular illness of birds caused by a toxin that is produced by the bacterium *Clostridium botulinum*. Avian botulism has been recognised as a major cause of mortality in wild-birds since the 1900s. The first outbreak in Australia occurred in

1938; one of the earliest major reported die-offs of a large number of waterfowls linked to this disease was encountered in Victoria in 1938.

Avian botulism typically results in paralysis – this results in the infected species exhibiting unusual behaviour. For example, water birds may not be able to hold their head up and as a result, often drown. Gulls can often walk, but not fly. Other birds may drag one or both wings, exhibiting poor posture while standing.

Q.70) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Farmers' Clubs (FCs)'

1. The major objective is to promote "Development through credit, technology transfer, awareness and capacity building" of the farmers.
2. It is promoted by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

Select the correct statements

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

Q.70) Solution (c)

Farmers' Clubs (FCs) promoted by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) are grass root level informal fora organized by the rural branches of banks, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), etc. The programme is being implemented for the mutual benefit of the banks and the farmers. The major objective is to promote "Development through credit, technology transfer, awareness and capacity building" of the farmers. The clubs are beneficial for banks as well as line departments of the State Government for convergence of the programmes / schemes sponsored / implemented by them.

Q.71) Consider the following statements with respect to "Project 3-S: Smart Safety Surveillance"

1. It is a project focused on optimizing pharmacovigilance (PV) systems in low-middle and middle-income countries (LMICs) across the globe.
2. The World Health Organization (WHO) along with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is behind this project.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.71) Solution (c)

Project 3-S: Smart Safety Surveillance

It is a project focused on optimizing pharmacovigilance (PV) systems in low-middle and middle-income countries (LMICs) across the globe by:

- Developing an advocacy and communications strategy for the next 3 years.
- Identifying, securing and promoting representation at prominent global health events and platforms where 3-S advocacy activities can be launched.
- Generating supportive marketing materials, including publications

WHO has been prodding countries to adopt the 3S programme, with the support of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, to strengthen pharmacovigilance systems in developing nations.

The central government will expand the reach of the Smart Safety Surveillance, or 3S, programme, to optimize post-marketing surveillance of priority drugs and vaccines, and ensure the vaccines distributed under the universal immunization programme are safe.

The 3S project was recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO), considering the limited safety data on vaccines introduced in India.

As part of the 3S project, India is evaluating the recently-introduced rotavirus vaccines. It is also trying to strengthen the collaboration among key stakeholders, such as ministry of health and Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), to ensure high levels of vigilance.

Source: <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/to-ensure-post-marketing-safety-of-vaccines-govt-to-expand-reach-of-3s-project-11574183458016.html>

Q.72) 'World Energy Outlook' is published by

- a) World Economic Forum
- b) International Energy Agency
- c) International Renewable Energy Agency
- d) International Energy Forum

Q.72) Solution (b)

Source: <https://www.iea.org/weo2019/>

Q.73) The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for adoption of Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) programme by the Indian Patent Office (IPO). India will work with which of the following patent offices on a pilot basis?

- a) Israel Patent Office
- b) Japan Patent Office
- c) German Patent and Trade Mark Office
- d) United States Patent and Trademark Office

Q.73) Solution (b)

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the proposal for adoption of Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) programme by the Indian Patent Office (IPO) under the Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks, India (CGPDTM) with patent offices of various other interest countries or regions.

The said programme will initially commence between Japan Patent Office (JPO) and Indian Patent Office on pilot basis for a period of three years only. Under this Pilot programme, Indian Patent Office may receive patent applications and certain specified technical fields only, namely, Electrical, Electronics, Computer Science, Information Technology, Physics, Civil, Mechanical, Textiles, Automobiles and Metallurgy while JPO may receive applications in all fields of technology.

PPH programme would lead to the following benefits for the Indian IP office:

- Reduction in time to dispose patent applications.
- Reduction in pendency of patent applications.
- Improvement in quality of search and examination of patent applications.
- An opportunity for Indian inventors including MSMEs and Startups of India to get accelerated examination of their patent applications in Japan.

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1592573>

Q.74) The Europe 29 region refers to countries in

1. Central Europe
2. Eastern Europe
3. Northern Europe

Select the correct code:

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

Q.74) Solution (d)

The Europe 29 (E29) region refers to the 29 countries in Central, Eastern and Northern Europe.

The Europe 29 region comprises Albania, Liechtenstein, Austria, Lithuania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Malta, Croatia, Moldova, Cyprus, Montenegro, Czech Republic, Norway, Denmark, Poland, Estonia, Romania, Finland, Serbia, Greece, Slovak Republic, Hungary, Slovenia, Iceland, Sweden, Latvia, Switzerland and Turkey.

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1592432>

Q.75) The Union Cabinet has given its approval for introduction of the Industrial Relations Code, 2019 in the Parliament. The code on Industrial Relations has been prepared after amalgamating, simplifying and rationalizing the provisions of which of the following Acts?

- 1. The Trade Unions Act, 1926
- 2. Minimum Wages Act 1948
- 3. The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947

Select the correct code:

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

Q.75) Solution (c)

The draft code on Industrial Relations has been prepared after amalgamating, simplifying and rationalizing the relevant provisions of following three Central Labour Acts:

- The Trade Unions Act, 1926
- The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946
- The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1592550>

Q.76) The CT-TTX, Counter Terrorism Table Top Exercise was in news recently. It is associated with

- a) SCO
- b) QUAD
- c) BRICS
- d) ASEAN

Q.76) Solution (b)

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/nia-to-host-first-counter-terrorism-cooperation-exercise-for-quad-countries/articleshow/72127071.cms?from=mdr>

Q.77) 'Global Terrorism Index' is published by

- a) Institute for Economics and Peace
- b) United Nations Security Council
- c) Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies
- d) International Criminal Police Organization

Q.77) Solution (a)

The Global Terrorism Index (GTI) is a report published annually by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), and was developed by IT entrepreneur and IEP's founder Steve Killelea.

Q.78) 'Himayat Mission' is associated with which of the following?

- a) Jammu & Kashmir
- b) Diu and Daman
- c) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- d) Lakshadweep Islands

Q.78) Solution (a)

A pathbreaking initiative of Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India, implemented by Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) with Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDI) Ahmedabad, as coordinating /monitoring agency, aims at providing entrepreneurial skills for sustainable livelihood to 10,000 youth of J&K and facilitate access to finance and support services to at least 50% of them over a period of 3.5 Years.

Q.79) Consider the following statements with respect to "Sowa Rigpa" medicine system

1. It was introduced in India by the Arabs and Persians sometime around the eleventh century.
2. The foundation of the medicine system was laid by Hippocrates.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.79) Solution (d)

"Sowa-Rigpa" commonly known as Amchi system of medicine is one of the oldest, Living and well documented medical tradition of the world. It has been popularly practice in Tibet, Magnolia, Bhutan, some parts of China, Nepal, Himalayan regions of India and few parts of former Soviet Union etc. There are various schools of thought about the origin of this medical tradition, some scholars believe that it is originated from India; some says China and others consider it to be originated from Tibet itself. The majority of theory and practice of Sowa-Rigpa is similar to "Ayurveda". The first Ayurvedic influence came to Tibet during 3rd century AD but it became popular only after 7th centuries with the approach of Buddhism to Tibet. There after this trend of exportation of Indian medical literature, along with Buddhism and other Indian art and sciences were continued till early 19th century.

Q.80) 'Vientiane Action Programme' is associated with

- a) APEC
- b) ASEAN
- c) BIMSTEC
- d) RCEP

Q.80) Solution (b)

Vientiane Action Programme calls for ASEAN to build a peaceful, secure and prosperous ASEAN.

Q.81) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Rule 12 of the Transaction of Business Rules, 1961'

1. The Prime Minister may, in case or classes of cases permit or condone a departure from these rules, to the extent he deems necessary.
2. It cannot be invoked to revoke the proclamation of President's Rule in any State.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.81) Solution (a)

The Centre on Saturday invoked Rule 12 of the Transaction of Business Rules, 1961, empowering it to revoke the proclamation of President's Rule in Maharashtra without prior approval of the Union Cabinet.

Rule 12 of the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961, allows the Prime Minister to depart from laid down norms at his discretion.

Titled "Departure from Rules", Rule 12 says, "The Prime Minister may, in case or classes of cases permit or condone a departure from these rules, to the extent he deems necessary."

The Cabinet can subsequently give post-facto approval for any decision taken under Rule 12.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/mumbai/ram-nath-kovind-revokes-presidents-rule-in-maharashtra/article30058635.ece>

Q.82) 'Operation MASOOM' is associated with

- a) Primary Education
- b) Female Foeticide
- c) Child Pornography
- d) Child Labour

Q.82) Solution (c)

An operation called MASOOM (Mitigation of Adolescent Sexually Offensive Online Material) has been launched to act against sexually offensive content involving children that is being circulated and shared online.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/six-arrested-for-watching-sharing-child-pornography/article30064529.ece>

Q.83) Which of the following is known as "suicide bags" or "suicide sacs" of the cells

- a) Mitochondria
- b) Lysosome
- c) Centriole
- d) Ribosome

Q.83) Solution (b)

A lysosome (/ˈlaɪsəˌsɒm/) is a membrane-bound organelle found in many animal cells. They are spherical vesicles that contain hydrolytic enzymes that can break down many kinds of biomolecules. A lysosome has a specific composition, of both its membrane proteins, and its luminal proteins. The lumen's pH (~4.5–5.0) is optimal for the enzymes involved in hydrolysis, analogous to the activity of the stomach. Besides degradation of polymers, the lysosome is involved in various cell processes, including secretion, plasma membrane repair, cell signaling, and energy metabolism.

THINK!

- Lysosomal storage disease

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/patients-with-rare-diseases-wait-for-support/article30063321.ece/amp/>

Q.84) 'Industrial Security Annex (ISA)' is often seen in news is associated with which of the following countries?

- a) USA
- b) Russia

- c) Japan
- d) France

Q.84) Solution (a)

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-us-to-sign-industrial-security-agreement-at-22-dialogue/article30063585.ece>

Q.85) Consider the following statements with respect to 'All-India Household Consumer Expenditure Survey'

1. It is conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)
2. It is usually conducted biennially.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.85) Solution (a)

The CES is traditionally a quinquennial (recurring every five years) survey conducted by the government's National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) that is designed to collect information on the consumption spending patterns of households across the country, both urban and rural. The data gathered in this exercise reveals the average expenditure on goods (food and non-food) and services and helps generate estimates of household Monthly Per Capita Consumer Expenditure (MPCE) as well as the distribution of households and persons over the MPCE classes.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/what-is-consumer-expenditure-survey-and-why-was-its-2017-2018-data-withheld/article30063708.ece>

Q.86) 'Jing Kieng Jri' is associated with which of the following states?

- a) Meghalaya
- b) Ladakh
- c) Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Nagaland

Q.86) Solution (a)

The jing kieng jri or living root bridges — aerial bridges built by weaving and manipulating the roots of the Indian rubber tree — have been serving as connectors for generations in Meghalaya.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/in-meghalaya-living-root-bridges-study-sees-global-potential-can-it-work-6132569/>

Q.87) 'Guru Ghasidas National Park' is located in which of the following states?

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

Q.87) Solution (b)

Chhattisgarh is set to have Guru Ghasidas National Park in Kotiya district as its fourth 'tiger reserve'.

Presently there are three tiger reserves in the state which are: Achanakmar Tiger Reserve, Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve and Indravati Tiger Reserve.

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/chhattisgarh-to-get-fourth-tiger-reserve-119112500111_1.html

Q.88) 'Lemru Elephant Reserve' is being set up in

- a) Assam
- b) Karnataka
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Kerala

Q.88) Solution (c)

The Lemru Elephant Reserve will come into existence soon by merging the forest areas of Korba, Katghora, Dharamjigarh and Surguja forest divisions of Korba, Raigad and Surguja districts. The total area records to be of about one thousand 995 square kilometers.

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/chhattisgarh-to-get-fourth-tiger-reserve-119112500111_1.html

Q.89) Which of the following statement is/are correct?

1. The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in India has declined below the replacement rate of 2.1
2. Teenage birth rate in India has increased in the last 10 years.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.89) Solution (d)

The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has declined to 2.2 (SRS 2017).

The Crude Birth Rate has declined from 23.8 to 20.2 from 2005 to 2017 (SRS).

The Teenage birth rate has halved from 16% (NFHS III) to 8% (NFHS IV).

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1593004>

Q.90) 'Online Management monitoring and Accounting System (OMMAS)' is associated with

- a) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)
- b) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)
- c) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
- d) Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)

Q.90) Solution (a)

In order to implement PMGSY, an Online Management , Monitoring and Accounting System or OMMAS GIS system was developed to identify targets and monitor progress. It is developed by e-governance department of C-DAC Pune and is one of the biggest databases in India. The system manages and monitors all the phases of road development right from its proposal mode to road completion. The OMMAS also has separate module to track the expenses made on each road. Based on the data entered by state and district officers,

OMMS generates detailed reports which are viewable in citizens section (<http://omms.nic.in>). OMMAS incorporates advanced features like E-payment, Password protected PDF files, Interactive Reports etc.

Q.91) 'Albania' is not bordered by

- a) Azerbaijan
- b) Kosovo
- c) Montenegro
- d) Greece

Q.91) Solution (a)

It is a country in Southeast Europe on the Adriatic and Ionian Sea within the Mediterranean Sea. It shares land borders with Montenegro to the northwest, Kosovo[a] to the northeast, North Macedonia to the east, Greece to the south and maritime borders with Greece, Montenegro and Italy to the west.



Q.92) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Pro Tem Speaker'

1. The main duty of the pro-tem speaker is to administer the oath of office to new members of the house.
2. The Pro Tem Speaker is sworn in by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.92) Solution (a)

Under normal circumstances, a pro tem Speaker is sworn in by the President and an hour later, the Lok Sabha is convened and the newly-elected members are sworn in.

His main duty is to administer oath to the new members. He also enables the House to elect the new Speaker.

Q.93) 'Sumatran Rhinos' are currently found in

- 1. Indonesia
- 2. Malaysia
- 3. India

Select the correct code:

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

Q.93) Solution (a)

There are only 80 Sumatran Rhinos left in the world. All the 80 are currently in Indonesia in the Indonesian part of Borneo and Sumatra Island.

They are extinct in India and Malaysia.

Q.94) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Pradhan Mantri Yuva Udyamita Vikas Abhiyaan'

- 1. It is under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

2. It aims to create an enabling ecosystem for entrepreneurship development through entrepreneurship education & training, advocacy, and easy access to entrepreneurship network.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.94) Solution (c)

Pradhan Mantri YUVA Yojana (Yuva Udyamita Vikas Abhiyan) is a centrally sponsored Scheme on entrepreneurship education and training being implemented by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India.

The Scheme aims at creating an enabling ecosystem for Entrepreneurship development through Entrepreneurship education and training; Advocacy and easy access to entrepreneurship support network and Promoting social enterprises for inclusive growth.

Q.95) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Johads'

1. It is community-owned rainwater storage wetland mainly used for harnessing water resources.
2. It is more prevalent in the Southern part of India.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.95) Solution (a)

A johad is a community-owned traditional harvested rainwater storage wetland principally used for effectively harnessing water resources in the states of Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab, and western Uttar Pradesh of North India, that collects and stores water throughout the year, to be used for the purpose of recharging the groundwater in the nearby water wells, washing, bathing and drinking by humans and cattle. Some johads also have bricked or stones masonry and cemented ghat (series of steps and/or ramp).

Q.96) The recently launched 'Kartavya Portal' is associated with

1. It hosts e-contents in important emerging areas like Artificial Intelligence, Cloud computing, Big data, Augmented Reality etc.
2. It is launched by IIT Mumbai and CDAC, Pune.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.96) Solution (d)

Union HRD Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched the kartavya.ugc.ac.in portal on the occasion of 'Constitution Day' today, as a part of year long Nagrik Kartavya Paalan Abhiyan being observed throughout the country. The portal will be used primarily for holding monthly essay competitions for students as well as other activities like quizzes, debates, poster making etc pertaining to Nagrik Kartavya Paalan Abhiyan.

Q.97) 'Global Competitiveness Index' is brought out by

- a) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- b) UN Development Programme (UNDP)
- c) World Bank (WB)
- d) International Labour Organization (ILO)

Q.97) Solution (a)

The Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) is a yearly report published by the World Economic Forum. Since 2004, the Global Competitiveness Report ranks countries based on the Global Competitiveness Index.

Q.98) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs'

1. It is a self-execution convention for the ratified member countries.
2. It affirms the importance of medical use of controlled substances.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.98) Solution (b)

The Single Convention repeatedly affirms the importance of medical use of controlled substances. The Preamble notes that "the medical use of narcotic drugs continues to be indispensable for the relief of pain and suffering and that adequate provision must be made to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs for such purposes".

Since the Single Convention is not self-executing, Parties must pass laws to carry out its provisions, and the UNODC works with countries' legislatures to ensure compliance.

Read More - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single_Convention_on_Narcotic_Drugs

There are three United Nations treaties that together form the international law framework of the global drug control regime: the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol; the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971, and the Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988.

Read about the Conventions mentioned above.

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/cabinet-approves-india-saudi-arabia-mous-in-smuggling-drug-trafficking-119112700608_1.html

Q.99) Consider the following statements with respect to 'SR Bommai vs Union of India' SC Judgement.

1. The only way to determine support enjoyed by a particular state government would be by means of a floor test.
2. The only time the President shall have unconditional powers to dissolve a state government is when there is a complete breakdown of constitutional machinery.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.99) Solution (c)

The court laid down a number of guidelines to curb the Centre's capacity to dismiss a state government, and upheld the federal structure enshrined in the Constitution.

The ruling laid down the law that the only way to determine support enjoyed by a particular state government would be by means of a floor test.

Also, the court ruled that the validity of a proclamation of President's Rule is subject to judicial review.

Third, the court said that the only time the President shall have unconditional powers to dissolve a state government is when there is a complete breakdown of constitutional machinery.

The judgment also underlined the secular nature of the Constitution in the wake of the Babri demolition, and said that a party cannot resort to religion for the sake of gaining power and, if found to be indulging in religious politics, could be acted against using Article 356.

Since the Constitution came into force, President's Rule under Article 356 has been imposed on states on over 100 occasions. These instances, however, declined considerably after the S R Bommai ruling.

Apart from an assertive judiciary, the emergence of coalition governments with representation from regional parties in the 1990s also checked the trend.

Q.100) The 'Velvet Revolution' is associated with which of the following countries?

- a) East Germany and West Germany
- b) Czech Republic and Slovakia
- c) Sudan and South Sudan
- d) Latvia and Lithuania

Q.100) Solution (b)

The Velvet Revolution or Gentle Revolution (Slovak: nežná revolúcia) was a non-violent transition of power in what was then Czechoslovakia, occurring from 17 November to 29 December 1989. Popular demonstrations against the one-party government of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia included students and older dissidents. The result was the end of 41 years of one-party rule in Czechoslovakia, and the subsequent dismantling of the command economy and conversion to a parliamentary republic.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/velvet-revolution-czechoslovakia-1989-soviet-union-6140145/>

Q.101) 'Emissions Gap Report' is released by

- a) UNEP
- b) WEF
- c) WMO
- d) IISD

Q.101) Solution (a)

Emissions Gap annual report from UNEP examines the progress of countries to close the gap via their commitments to emissions reduction, to ultimately stop climate change. The Emissions Gap Report measures and projects three key trendlines: The amount of greenhouse gas emissions every year up to 2030.

Q.102) 'Global Diplomacy Index' is released by

- a) Economist Intelligence Unit
- b) United Nations Institute of Training and Research
- c) Lowy Institute
- d) John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University

Q.102) Solution (c)

The 2019 Global Diplomacy Index was released by Sydney-based Lowy Institute. The index gives the latest statistics and marking about how the world's diplomatic networks are expanding and, in certain cases, shrinking. China – 1st, US – 2nd, India – 12th.

Q.103) The Production Gap Report is released by

- a) UN Environment
- b) World Trade Organisation
- c) World Economic Forum
- d) Climate Parliament

Q.103) Solution (a)

Read More - <http://productiongap.org/>

Q.104) Consider the following statements with respect to 'FASTags'

1. It employs Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology for payments directly from the prepaid or savings account linked to it.
2. It is issued by Regional transport offices (RTOs) only.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.104) Solution (a)

The device employs Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology for payments directly from the prepaid or savings account linked to it. It is affixed on the windscreen, so the vehicle can drive through plazas without stopping. RFID technology is similar to that used in transport access-control systems, like Metro smart card.

E-commerce portals like Amazon and PayTM sell these tags issued by various banks.

Read More - <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/fastags-what-why-how-december-1-6142026/>

Q.105) 'AJ Paulraj committee' is associated with

- a) Adoption of 5G
- b) Stubble Burning
- c) Artificial Intelligence
- d) GM Crops

Q.105) Solution (a)

The committee was set up to suggest a road map for adoption of 5G.

