Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding NITI Aayog

- 1. It has been created by an executive resolution of the Government of India.
- 2. One of its objectives is to develop mechanisms to formulate credible plans at the village level.

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 (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
NITI Aayog was created by an executive	Objective of NITI Aayog includes- To
resolution of the Government of India	develop mechanisms to formulate
(i.e., Union Cabinet). Hence, it is also	credible plans at the village level and
neither a constitutional body nor a	aggregate these progressively at higher
statutory body.	levels of government.

Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

- 1. The commission is a multi-member body consisting of a chairperson and five members.
- 2. The chairman of the commission should be a serving or a retired chief justice of India.
- 3. Among members, three persons (out of which atleast one should be a woman) having knowledge or practical experience with respect to human rights.

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.2) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
The commission is a	The chairperson should be	Members should be a serving
multi-member body	a retired chief justice of	or retired judge of the
consisting of a	India or a judge of the	Supreme Court, a serving or

chairperson and five	Supreme Court.	retired chief justice of a high
members.		court and three persons (out
members.		of which atleast one should
		be a woman) having
		knowledge or practical
		experience with respect to
		human rights.

Q.3) Chairpersons from which of the following commissions serve as ex-officio members to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)?

- 1. The National Commission for SCs
- 2. The National Commission for Minorities
- 3. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
- 4. The National Commission for Women

Choose the correct answe<mark>r using codes below</mark>

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

Q.3) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3	Statement 4
Correct	Correct	Correct	Correct

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has seven ex-officio members—the chairpersons of

- The National Commission for Minorities,
- The National Commission for SCs,
- The National Commission for STs,
- The National Commission for Women,
- The National Commission for BCs and
- The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
- The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

1. The chairperson and members hold office for a term of three years or until they attain the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.

2. The salaries, allowances and other conditions of service of the chairperson or a member are determined by the Parliament.

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 (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2	
Correct	Incorrect	
The chairperson and members hold	The salaries, allowances and other	
office for a term of three years or until	conditions of service of the chairperson	
they attain the age of 70 years,	or a member are determined by the	
whichever is earlier.	Central Government.	

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding the State Human Rights Commission (SHRC)

- 1. An SHRC can inquire into violation of human rights only in respect of subjects mentioned in the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.
- 2. The central government may confer upon the SHRCs the functions relating to human rights being discharged by any of the union territories.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.5) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
A State Human Rights Commission can	The central government may confer
inquire into violation of human rights	upon the State Human Rights
only in respect of subjects mentioned in	Commissions the functions relating to
the State List (List-II) and the Concurrent	human rights being discharged by the
List (List-III) of the Seventh	union territories, except the union
Schedule of the Constitution.	territory of Delhi. The functions relating
	to human rights in case of union territory
	of Delhi are to be dealt with by the
	National Human Rights

Commission.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the Central Information Commission (CIC)

- 1. Member of the Legislature of a State can be appointed as an Information Commissioner in CIC.
- 2. Supreme Court has no role to play when the President removes the Chief Information Commissioner or any Information Commissioner on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.6) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Incorrect
The Commission consists of a Chief	The President can remove the Chief
Information Commissioner and not more	Information Commissioner or any
than ten Information Commissioners (6	Information Commissioner on the
at present). They should be persons of	ground of proved misbehaviour or
eminence in public life with wide	incapacity. However, in these cases, the
knowledge and experience in law,	President has to refer the matter to the
science and technology, social service,	Supreme Court for an enquiry. If the
management, journalism, mass media or	Supreme Court, after the enquiry,
administration and governance. They	upholds the cause of removal and
should not be a Member of Parliament	advises so, then the President can
or Member of the Legislature of any	remove him.
State or Union Territory.	

Q.7) Which of the following bodies fall under the Ministry of Home Affairs?

- 1. Inter-State Council
- 2. Zonal Councils
- 3. National Human Rights Commission
- 4. National Investigation Agency

Choose the correct answer using codes below

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 1,2 and 4

- c) 2 and 3
- d) All of the above

Q.7) Solution (d)

Statement 1	ement 1 Statement 2 Statement 3 Statement 4		Statement 4	
Correct	Correct	Correct	Correct	
Bodies falling under	Bodies falling under the Ministry of Home Affairs are:			
Inter-State Co	Inter-State Council			
Zonal Councils				
National Investigation Agency				
National Human Rights Commission				
 National Disaster Management Authority 				

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding State Information

Commission

- 1. A State Information Commissioner shall hold office for such term as prescribed by the State Government or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
- 2. The Governor has powers to remove the State Chief Information Commissioner or any State Information Commissioner.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.8) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2	
Incorrect	Correct	
The State Chief Information	The Governor can remove the State Chief Information	
Commissioner and a State	Commissioner or any State Information Commissioner	
Information Commissioner	from the office under the following circumstances:	
shall hold office for such	(a) if he is adjudged an insolvent; or	
term as	(b) if he has been convicted of an offence which (in the	
prescribed by the Central	opinion of the Governor) involves a moral turpitude;	
Government or until they	or	
attain the age of 65 years,	(c) if he engages during his term of office in any paid	
whichever is earlier.	employment outside the duties of his office; or	
	(d) if he is (in the opinion of the Governor) unfit to	

continue in office due to infirmity of mind or body; or
(e) if he has acquired such financial or other interest as
is likely to affect prejudicially his official functions.
In addition to these, the Governor can also remove the
State Chief Information Commissioner or any State
Information Commissioner on the ground of proved
misbehaviour or incapacity. However, in these cases,
the Governor has to refer the matter to the Supreme
Court for an enquiry. If the Supreme
Court, after the enquiry, upholds the cause of removal
and advises so, then the Governor can remove him.

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)

- 1. CVC was established in 1964 as a statutory body for preventing corruption in the Central government.
- 2. Its establishment was recommended by the Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.9) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) is	Its establishment was recommended
the main agency for preventing corruption	by the Santhanam Committee on
in the Central government. It was	Prevention of Corruption (1962–64).
established in 1964 by an executive	
resolution of the Central government. Thus,	
originally the CVC was neither a	
constitutional body nor a statutory body.	
Later, in 2003, the Parliament enacted a	
law conferring statutory status on the CVC.	

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)

- 1. The Central Government is required to consult the CVC in making rules and regulations governing the vigilance and disciplinary matters relating to the members of Central Services and All India Services.
- 2. The CVC has been notified as a specific authority to receive information relating to suspicious transactions under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.10) Solution (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
The Central Government is required to	The Central Vigilance Commission has
consult the CVC in making rules and	been notified as a specific authority to
regulations governing the vigilance and	receive information relating to
disciplinary matters relating to the	suspicious transactions under the
members of Central Services and All India	Prevention of Money Laundering Act,
Services.	2002.

Q.11) Consider the following statements regarding the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

- 1. The CBI is a statutory body established under the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.
- 2. The CBI investigates crime of corruption, economic offences, terror related crimes and serious and organized crime.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.11) Solution (d)

Statement 1	Statement 2
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Incorrect	Incorrect
The establishment of the CBI was	There is a difference between the nature
recommended by the Santhanam	of cases investigated by the National
Committee on Prevention of Corruption	Investigation Agency (NIA) and the CBI.
(1962-1964). It was set up in 1963 by a	The NIA has been constituted after the
resolution of the Ministry of Home	Mumbai terror attack in 2008 mainly for
Affairs. Later, it was transferred to the	investigation of incidents of terrorist
Ministry of Personnel and now it enjoys	attacks, funding of terrorism and other
the status of an attached office. The CBI	terror related crime, whereas the CBI
is not a statutory body. It derives its	investigates crime of corruption,
powers from the Delhi Special Police	economic offences and serious and
Establishment Act, 1946.	organized crime other than terrorism.

Q.12) Consider the following statements regarding features of Lokpal in India as given under Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act (2013)

- 1. Institutions which are financed fully or partly by Government and institutions aided by Government are under the jurisdiction of Lokpal.
- 2. The Lokpal has the power of superintendence and direction over CBI for cases referred to it by the Lokpal.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.12) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
Institutions which are financed fully or	The Lokpal will have the power of
partly by Government are under the	superintendence and direction over any
jurisdiction of Lokpal, but institutions	investigating agency, including the CBI,
aided by Government are excluded.	for cases referred to them by the Lokpal.

Q.13) Consider the following statements regarding features of Lokpal in India as given under Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act (2013)

- 1. Lokpal cannot suo motu proceed against any public servant.
- 2. There is a limitation period of 7 years to file complaints with the Lokpal.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.13) Solution (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
Lokpal cannot suo motu proceed against	There is a limitation period of 7 years to
any public servant.	file complaints with the Lokpal.

Q.14) Consider the following statements regarding National Investigation Agency (NIA)

- 1. The NIA was established in the backdrop of the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks.
- 2. The jurisdiction of the NIA extends to terror attacks, cyber-terrorism, counterfeit currency notes and human trafficking.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.14) Solution (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
The NIA was established in the backdrop	The NIA is empowered to probe terror
of the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks,	attacks including bomb blasts, hijacking
popularly known as the 26/11 incident.	of aircrafts and ships, attacks on nuclear
The National Investigation Agency (NIA)	installations and use of weapons of mass
was constituted in 2009 under the	destruction.
provisions of the National Investigation	
Agency Act, 2008 (NIA Act). It is the	In 2019, the jurisdiction of the NIA was
central counter-terrorism law	extended. Consequently, the NIA is also
enforcement agency in the country.	empowered to probe the offences
	relating to human trafficking, counterfeit
	currency or bank notes, manufacture or
	sale of prohibited arms, cyber-terrorism
	and explosive substances.

Q.15) Consider the following statements regarding National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)

- 1. It works under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
- 2. The Home Minister is the ex-officio chairperson of the NDMA.
- 3. The functions of the NDMA include laying down policies on disaster management.

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.15) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
Correct	Incorrect	Correct
NDMA works under the	The Prime Minister is the	The functions of the NDMA
administrative control of	ex-officio chairperson of	include laying down policies
the Union Ministry of	the NDMA.	on disaster management.
Home Affairs.	2 13	

Q.16) Consider the following statements regarding District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA)

- 1. The Collector/District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner) of the district is the ex-officio chairperson of the DDMA.
- 2. The chief medical officer of the district is one of the ex-officio members of the DDMA.

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 (c)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Correct
A DDMA consists of a chairperson and	The chief executive officer of the DDMA,
other members, not exceeding seven.	the superintendent of police and the

The Collector (or District Magistrate or	chief medical officer of the district are
Deputy Commissioner) of the district is	the ex-officio members of the DDMA. Not
the ex-officio chairperson of the	more than two other district level officers
DDMA.	are appointed by the state government
	as the members of the DDMA.

Q.17) Consider the following statements regarding co-operative societies in India

- 1. Right to form co-operative societies is a fundamental right.
- 2. The audit report of the accounts of an apex co-operative society is laid before the state legislature.

Choose the correct answer 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
Correct	Correct
The 97thConstitutional Amendment Act of	The accounts of every co-operative
2011 gave a constitutional status and	society shall be audited within six
protection to co-operative societies. In this	months of the close of the financial
context, it made the following three changes	year.
in the constitution:	The audit report of the accounts of
1. It made the right to form co-operative	an apex co-operative society shall
societies a fundamental right	be laid before the state legislature.
(Article 19).	
2. It included a new Dir <mark>ective Principle of State</mark>	3-112
Policy on promotion of cooperative societies	
(Article 43-B).	
3. It added a new Part IX-B in the Constitution	
which is entitled "The Cooperative Societies"	
(Articles 243-ZH to 243-ZT).	

Q.18) Consider the following regarding property of the union and the states as given under the Constitution

1. The Union or a state can acquire, hold and dispose property under the exercise of its executive power.

2. States have rights over minerals present in the territorial waters whereas in case of minerals in continental shelf and the exclusive economic zone, Union alone has the rights.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.18) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
As per Article 298, The Union or a state	All lands, minerals and other things of
can acquire, hold and dispose property	value under the waters of the ocean
under the exercise of its executive	within the territorial waters of India, the
power.	continental shelf of India and the
	exclusive economic zone of India vests in
	the Union. Hence, a state near the ocean
	cannot claim jurisdiction over these
The	things.
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Q.19) Consider the following statements

- 1. The Constitution has specified of the castes or tribes which are to be called the SCs or the STs.
- 2. The Constitution has defined the persons who belong to the Anglo-Indian community.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.19) Solution (b)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Incorrect	Correct
The Constitution does not specify	Unlike in the case of SCs, STs and OBCs, the
the castes or tribes which are to be	Constitution has defined the persons who
called the SCs or the STs. It leaves	belong to the Anglo-Indian community.

to the President the power to	Accordingly, 'an Anglo-Indian means a person
specify as to what castes or tribes	whose father or any of whose other male
in each state and union territory	progenitors in the male line is or was of
are to be treated as the SCs and	European descent but who is domiciled within
STs.	the territory of India and is or was born within
	such territory of parents habitually resident
	therein and not established there for
	temporary purposes only'.

Q.20) Consider the following statements regarding the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT)

- 1. The CAT exercises original jurisdiction in relation to recruitment and all service matters of public servants covered by it.
- 2. The CAT is bound by the procedure laid down in the Civil Procedure Code of 1908.

Choose the correct answer using codes below

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

Q.20) Solution (a)

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect
The CAT exercises original jurisdiction in	The CAT is not bound by the
relation to recruitment and all service	procedure laid down in the Civil
matters of public servants covered by it. Its	Procedure Code of 1908. It is guided
jurisdiction ext <mark>ends</mark> to the all-India services,	by the principles of natural justice.
the Central civil service <mark>s, civil posts under</mark> the	These principles keep the CAT
Centre and civilian employees of defence	flexible in approach.
services. However, the members of the	
defence forces, officers and servants of the	
Supreme Court and the secretarial staff of	
the Parliament are not covered by it.	

Q.21) Which of the following is/are Correctly matched regarding Nari Shakti Puruskar awards?

- 1. Rani Rudramma Devi Award Best Panchayat /Village Community
- 2. Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Award Best Urban Local body for providing services and facilities to women.
- 3. Mata Jijabai Award Best State for improving Child Sex Ratio (CSR).
- 4. Rani Lakshmibai Award Best Institution for R&D in the field of women empowerment.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Q.21) Solution (a)

- From the year 2016, 20 Nari Shakti Puruskars shall be conferred every year. The awards will be conferred on 8th March on the occasion of International Women's Day (IWD) by the President of India.
- The award shall be applicable to institutions and individuals who have rendered distinguished services to the cause of women especially belonging to the vulnerable and marginalized sections of the society.
- The Ministry of Women & Child Development, celebrates International Women's Day every year on 8th March as it is the nodal Ministry for the issues related to women.
- The recipients of the Puruskars shall be declared every year on 20th February and awards will be conferred on 8th March on the occasion of International Women's Day (IWD).
- The Puruskars shall not be presented posthumously.

The category of Awards shall be as follows:

- Rani Rudramma Devi Award for Best Panchayat /Village Community which have done outstanding work for women welfare
- Mata Jijabai Award for Best Urban Local body for providing services and facilities to women.
- Kannagi Devi Award for Best State which has appreciably improved Child Sex Ratio (CSR).

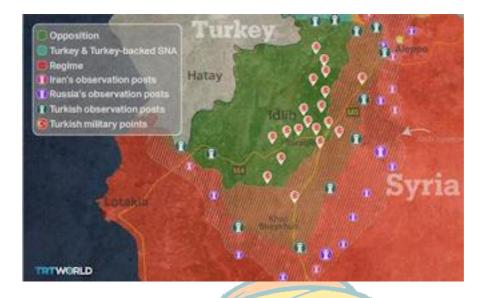
- Rani Gaidinliu Zeliang Award for Best Civil Society Organization (CSO) doing outstanding work for the welfare and well-being of women.
- Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Award for Best Private Sector Organization/Public Sector Undertaking in promoting the well-being and welfare of women.
- Rani Lakshmibai Award for Best Institution for Research & Development in the field of women empowerment.

Q.22) Operation Spring Shield was a cross-border military operation conducted by

- a) Russian Armed Forces against the Turkish Armed Forces
- b) Turkish Armed Forces against the Syrian Armed Forces
- c) Saudi Arabian Armed Forces against the Yemen Armed Forces
- d) Russian Armed Forces against the Syrian Armed Forces

Q.22) Solution (b)

- Operation Spring Shield was a cross-border military operation conducted by the Turkish Armed Forces against the Syrian Armed Forces in the Idlib District of northwest Syria.
- A cross-border military operation was launched by the Turkish Armed Forces (TSK) on 27 February 2020, in Idlib.
- The operation was launched in response to the Balyun attack.
- Turkey's National Defense Minister said that the purpose of the operation was within the framework of Astana, to ensure a ceasefire agreement in Sochi and to prevent migration from Idlib towards the Turkish border.
- On 5 March Turkey and Russia signed a ceasefire agreement in Moscow.



Q.23) With reference to Additional Tier-1 Bonds, Consider the following statements:

- 1. The holders of AT-1 bonds can get their investments back by selling them in the secondary debt market unless the issuer redeems them.
- 2. Interest on these bonds can be paid only at the discretion of the issuing body and that too out of annual profit.
- 3. If the RBI feels that a bank is tottering on the brink and needs a rescue, it can simply ask the bank to cancel its outstanding AT-1 bonds without consulting its investors.

Which of the statements given above is/are Not Correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) None of the Above

Q.23) Solution (d)

- In India, banks must maintain capital at a minimum ratio of 11.5 per cent of their risk-weighted loans. Of this, 9.5 per cent needs to be in Tier-1 capital and 2 per cent in Tier-2.
- Tier-1 capital refers to equity and other forms of permanent capital that stays with the bank, as deposits and loans flow in and out.

- AT-1 bonds are annual coupon bearing bonds which have no fixed maturity date. The interest rate on these bonds is higher than fixed deposit rates which make them attractive investment option.
- The holders of these bonds can get their investments back by selling them in the secondary debt market unless the issuer redeems them.
- The issuer of these bonds does not have legal obligations to redeem them. Interest on these bonds can be paid only at the discretion of the issuing body and that too out of annual profit.

Unusual features of AT-1 bonds

- These bonds are perpetual and carry no maturity date. Instead, they carry call options that allow banks to redeem them after five or 10 years. But banks are not obliged to use this call option and can opt to pay only interest on these bonds for eternity.
- Banks issuing AT-1 bonds can skip interest payouts for a particular year or even reduce the bonds' face value.
- If the RBI feels that a bank is tottering on the brink and needs a rescue, it can simply ask the bank to cancel its outstanding AT-1 bonds without consulting its investors.

AT-1 bonds carry a face value of ₹10 lakh per bond. There are two routes through which retail folk have acquired these bonds — initial private placement offers of AT-1 bonds by banks seeking to raise money; or secondary market buys of already-traded AT-1 bonds based on recommendations from brokers.

Q.24) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Stock swap is the exchange of one equity-based asset for another associated with the circumstances of a merger or acquisition.
- 2. A stock swap occurs when shareholders ownership of the target company's shares are exchanged for shares of the acquiring company.
- 3. Swap ratio is the ratio at which an acquiring company will offer its own shares in exchange for the target company's shares during a merger or acquisition.

Which of the statements given above is/are Correct?

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

d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.24) Solution (d)

- Stock swap is the exchange of one equity-based asset for another associated with the circumstances of a merger or acquisition.
- A stock swap occurs when shareholders ownership of the target company's shares are exchanged for shares of the acquiring company.
- Swap ratio is the ratio at which an acquiring company will offer its own shares in exchange for the target company's shares during a merger or acquisition.
- To calculate the swap ratio, companies analyze financial ratios such as book value, earnings per share, profits after tax, and dividends paid.
- A swap ratio tells the shareholders of a target company how many shares of the acquiring company's stock they will receive for every one share of target company stock they currently own. For example, if an acquiring company offers a swap ratio of 1.5:1, it will provide 1.5 shares of its own company for every 1 share of the target company. A shareholder of the target company will end up with 50% more shares than they had before, but their new shares will be for the acquiring company and have the price of the acquiring company. Shares of the target company may cease to exist.

Q.25) The trilateral joint naval exercise "Marine Security Belt" was conducted between which of the following nations?

- a) USA, India and Thailand
- b) Iran, Russia and China
- c) India, Malaysia and Thailand
- d) Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia

Q.25) Solution (b)

- The trilateral joint naval exercise of Iran with two major world powers Russia and China.
- Four-day joint maritime drill by Iran, Russia, and China, codenamed "Marine Security Belt", which includes tactical exercises such as rescuing frigates under attack.

- It began in the port city of Chabahar in southeastern Iran and is due to continue in northern parts of the Indian Ocean.
- The Sea of Oman is a particularly sensitive waterway as it connects to the Strait of Hormuz, through which about 30% of the world's crude oil passes and which in turn connects to the Persian Gulf.
- The message of this exercise is peace, friendship and lasting security through cooperation and unity

Q.26) Consider the following statements with respect to 'no-confidence motion'.

- 1. It is exclusively mentioned under the Article 75 of Indian Constitution.
- 2. J.B. Kripalani moved the first-ever no-confidence motion in 1971 against the Indira Gandhi government.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.26) Solution (d)

It is not mentioned in the Constitution. Such a motion is moved under Rule 198 of the Rules of Procedure.

J.B. Kripalani moved the first-ever no-confidence motion in August 1963 against the Nehru government after the India-China war.

Q.27) 'Sessa Orchid Sanctuary' is located in

- a) Karnataka
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) Sikkim

Q.27) Solution (b)

Sessa Orchid Sanctuary is located in Arunachal Pradesh.

Q.28) Which of the following rivers flow through Germany?

- 1. Danube
- 2. Oder
- 3. Elbe

Select the correct code:

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

Q.28) Solution (d)

Danube-Oder-Elbe Canal

• The Danube-Oder-Elbe Canal intends to connect the Danube, Oder and Elbe rivers and thus provide another navigable link from the Black Sea to the North and Baltic Seas.

Danube

- It is Europe's second longest river, after the Volga.
- It is located in Central and Eastern Europe.
- Originating in Germany, the Danube flows southeast for 2,850 km, passing through or bordering Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine before draining into the Black Sea.

Elbe

- It is one of the major rivers of Central Europe.
- It rises in the Krkonoše Mountains of the northern Czech Republic before traversing much of Bohemia (western half of the Czech Republic), then Germany and flowing into the North Sea at Cuxhaven, 110 km northwest of Hamburg.

Oder

- It is a river in Central Europe and Poland's third-longest river after the Vistula and Warta.
- It rises in the Czech Republic and flows 742 kilometres through western Poland, later forming 187 kilometres of the border between Poland and Germany as part of the Oder–Neisse line.

Q.29) 'International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)' which was in news recently is associated with?

- a) NATO
- b) SCO
- c) OIC
- d) IMCTC

Q.29) Solution (a)

The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was a NATO-led military mission in Afghanistan, established by the United Nations Security Council in December 2001 by Resolution 1386, as envisaged by the Bonn Agreement. Its main purpose was to train the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) and assist Afghanistan in rebuilding key government institutions, but was also engaged in the War in Afghanistan (2001–14) against the Taliban insurgency.

Q.30) The term 'Arr-Rinam' was in news recently and is associated with which of the following communities?

- a) Galo Community
- b) Dhangar Community
- c) Mishmi Community
- d) Sentinelese Community/Tribe

Q.30) Solution (a)

Arr-Rinam is the Galo equivalent of lockdown imposed by consensus for 48 hours whenever an epidemic strikes. The Adi community inhabiting East Siang and Lower Dibang Valley districts too performed a similar ritual called Motor.

