



# ALL INDIA FULL MOCK-GS PRELIMS 2020: PAPER 1-IASBABA

IASBABA  
GENERAL STUDIES OPEN MOCK-1

## Q.1) Solution (b)

Government is implementing POSHAN Abhiyaan (earlier known as National Nutrition Mission) to address the problem of malnutrition in the country.

To ensure a holistic approach, all districts of States/UTs have been covered in the Abhiyaan.

The goals of POSHAN Abhiyaan are to achieve improvement in nutritional status of Children from 0-6 years, Adolescent Girls, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers, in a time bound manner during the three years with fixed targets as under:

S.No	Objective	Target
1.	Prevent and reduce Stunting in children (0- 6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
2.	Prevent and reduce under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
3.	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among young Children (6-59 months)	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
4.	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among Women and Adolescent Girls in the age group of 15-49 years.	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
5.	Reduce Low Birth Weight (LBW).	By 6% @ 2% p.a.

## Q.2) Solution (c)

The Quality Council of India (QCI) is a pioneering experiment of the Government of India in setting up organizations in partnership with the Indian industry.

Quality Council of India as a non-profit autonomous society registered under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 to establish an accreditation structure in the country and to spread quality movement in India by undertaking a National Quality Campaign.

QCI is governed by a Council comprising of 38 members including the Chairman and Secretary General where the Chairman is nominated by Prime Minister of India.

## Q.3) Solution (d)

The Limits to Growth (LTG) is a 1972 report on the computer simulation of exponential economic and population growth with a finite supply of resources.

Funded by the **Volkswagen Foundation and commissioned by the Club of Rome**, the findings of the study were first presented at international gatherings in Moscow and Rio de Janeiro in the summer of 1971.

## Q.4) Solution (a)

Share of Services sector has steadily increased in the last five years.

Share of Primary sector was 17.7% in FY 15- 16. It increased to 17.9 in FY 16-17 and then went on to decrease to 17.1 in FY 17-18. Thus, it has not steadily declined. It has increased to 18.57 in FY 18-19.

Source: Economic Survey 2019-2020

## Q.5) Solution (d)

An endorheic basin (also endoreic basin or endorreic basin) is a limited drainage basin that normally retains water and allows no outflow to other external bodies of water, such as rivers or oceans, but converges instead into lakes or swamps, permanent or seasonal, that equilibrate through evaporation.

Such a basin may also be referred to as a closed or terminal basin or as an internal drainage system or interior drainage basin.

Much of western and Central Asia is a giant endorheic region made up of a number of contiguous closed basins. The region contains several basins and terminal lakes, including:

- The Caspian Sea, the largest lake on Earth. A large part of Eastern Europe, drained by the Volga River, is part of the Caspian's basin.
- Lake Urmia in Western Azerbaijan Province of Iran.
- Pangong Tso and Aksai Chin Lake on the China-India border.
- The Dead Sea, the lowest surface point on Earth and one of its saltiest bodies of water, lies between Israel and Jordan.
- Sambhar Lake, in Rajasthan, north-western India
- Lake Van in eastern Turkey.

## Q.6) Solution (c)

Nandini Wildlife Sanctuary- Jammu and Kashmir

Eaglenest WL- Arunachal Pradesh

Pobitora WL- Assam

Pushpagiri WL- Karnataka

## Q.7) Solution (b)

**Article 312, after its amendment in 1976**, provides that, if the Council of States has declared by resolution supported by not less than two thirds of the members present and voting that

it is necessary or expedient in the national interest so to do, Parliament may by law provide for the creation of one or more All India judicial service common to the Union and the States.

- AIJS is a proposed judicial service for appointing lower court judges.
- Original constitution didn't provide for creation of AIJS.
- After the Swaran Singh Committee's recommendations in 1976, Article 312 was modified by the 42nd constitution (amendment) act in 1977 to provide for an AIJS.

<https://www.ndtv.com/jobs/indian-judicial-service-government-is-in-a-consultative-process-says-law-ministry-2189906>

Q.8) Solution (c)

Industry	Weight (In percentage)
Petroleum & Refinery production	28.04
Electricity generation	19.85
Steel production (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	17.92
Coal production	10.33
Crude Oil production	8.98
Natural Gas production	6.88

- China remained world's largest crude steel producer in 2018 (928 mt) **followed by India** (106 mt), Japan (104 mt) and the USA (87 mt).
- Per capita finished steel consumption in 2017 is placed at 212 kg for world and 523 kg for China and for India it was 69 kg (not one of the highest) as published by World Steel Association.
- India is the largest producer of sponge iron in the world and the 3rd largest finished steel consumer in the world after China & USA.
- The Government has taken various steps to boost the sector including the introduction of National Steel Policy 2017 and allowing 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the steel sector under the automatic route.
- The growth in the Indian steel sector has been driven by domestic availability of raw materials such as iron ore and cost-effective labour. Consequently, the steel sector has been a major contributor to India's manufacturing output.
- The eight Core Industries in decreasing order of their weightage: Refinery Products> Electricity> Steel> Coal> Crude Oil> Natural Gas> Cement> Fertilizers.

#### Q.9) Solution (d)

WWF has launched several notable worldwide campaigns including **Earth Hour and Debt-for-Nature Swap**, and its current work is organized around these six areas: food, climate, freshwater, wildlife, forests, and oceans.

Debt-for-nature swaps are financial transactions in which a portion of a developing nation's foreign debt is forgiven in exchange for local investments in environmental conservation measures.

The Seychelles was the first country to issue a debt-for-nature swap to protect its marine environment; it was also the first to issue a blue bond, raising capital to finance sustainable marine and ocean-related projects.

#### Q.10) Solution (a)

Ministry of Electronics and IT along with NASSCOM, have approved the expansion of the Future Skills initiative -Future Skills PRIME.

- In February 2018, Future Skills Initiative was announced to reskill the IT industry workforce in emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, Blockchain, etc.
- Now, Future Skills initiative is extended as PRIME to industry professionals across different segments, higher education students and government officials, with the goal to train 4 lakh professionals in next three years.

#### Q.11) Solution (d)



Green Mufflers are **barriers grown near noisy places to reduce the impact of noise.**

Normally, 4 to 5 rows of green plants/trees are grown near the noisy places like highways or industrial areas so that they obstruct the noise.

Q.12) Solution (c)

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

All others are NGO's.

Q.13) Solution (d)

The Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 regulates the import, manufacture, distribution and sale of drugs in India.

The primary objective of the act is to ensure that the drugs and cosmetics sold in India are safe, effective and conform to state quality standards.

The related Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 contains provisions for classification of drugs under given schedules and there are guidelines for the storage, sale, display and prescription of each schedule.

Q.14) Solution (a)

LPA is the average rainfall received by the country as a whole during the south-west monsoon, for a 50-year period.

Five rainfall distribution categories by IMD

- **Normal or Near Normal:** When per cent departure of actual rainfall is +/-10% of LPA, that is, between 96-104% of LPA.
- **Below Normal:** When departure of actual rainfall is less than 10% of LPA, that is 90-96% of LPA.
- **Above Normal:** When actual rainfall is 104-110% of LPA.
- **Deficient:** When departure of actual rainfall is less than 90% of LPA.
- **Excess:** When departure of actual rainfall is more than 110% of LPA.

Q.15) Solution (d)

All are correctly Matched.

- City of Kunduz- Afghanistan

- Badme- Eritrea- In news because of Ethiopia-Eritrea Conflict
- Sucre is the capital of Bolivia (in news: President of Bolivia, Evo Morales, resigned amid turmoil following his disputed re-election in Oct 2019)

## Q.16) Solution (b)

The revolt in 1672 was triggered when a Mughal soldier killed a Satnami.

- The Satnamis killed the soldier in revenge and in turn Mughal soldiers were sent to teach them a lesson.
- Some 5,000 Satnamis stood up in arms and routed the Mughal troops in the town (Narnaul), drove away the Mughal administrators and set up their own administration under their leader Birbhan
- Next, they marched towards Shahjahanabad (old Delhi), armed with the latest European-designed muskets that their leader had taught them to make.
- The rebellion was crushed when Aurangzeb himself took personal command and sent 10,000 troops with artillery to crush the Satnamis.

## Q.17) Solution (a)

The 2020 Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement often described as **the 'Nobel Prize for the Environment'** has been awarded to conservation biologist Gretchen C. Daily, and environmental economist Pavan Sukhdev, **both pioneers in illuminating and quantifying the economic value of our natural environment.**

## Q.18) Solution (b)

**As per ISFR-2019**

Forests store an estimated 296 Gt of carbon in both above and below ground biomass which contains almost half of the total carbon stored in forests, the other half being the soil organic carbon.

Five Categories of Forest Carbon Pools:

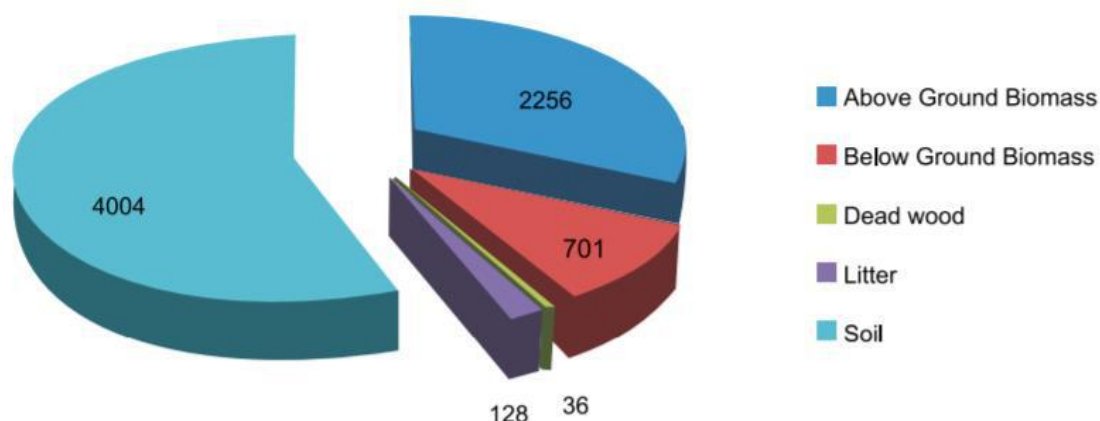
- **Above Ground biomass** includes all living biomass above the soil including stems, stumps, branches, bark, seeds, and foliage. This category includes live understory.
- **Below Ground biomass** includes all living biomass of coarse living roots thicker than 2 millimeters in diameter.
- **Dead Wood** includes all non-living woody biomass either standing, lying on the ground (but not including litter), or in the soil.
- **Forest Floor litter** includes the litter, fomic, and humic layers, and all non-living biomass with a diameter less than 7.5 centimeters, lying on the ground.

- **Soil Organic Carbon** includes all organic material in soil to a depth of 1 meter but excluding the coarse roots of the belowground pools.

Soil Organic Carbon has the maximum carbon stock.

Arunachal Pradesh has maximum carbon stock of 1,051.32 million tonnes followed by Madhya Pradesh (588.73 million tonnes), Chhattisgarh (480.25 million tonnes) and Maharashtra (440.51 million tonnes).

**FIGURE 9.4** Forest Carbon stock in different pools (in million tonnes)

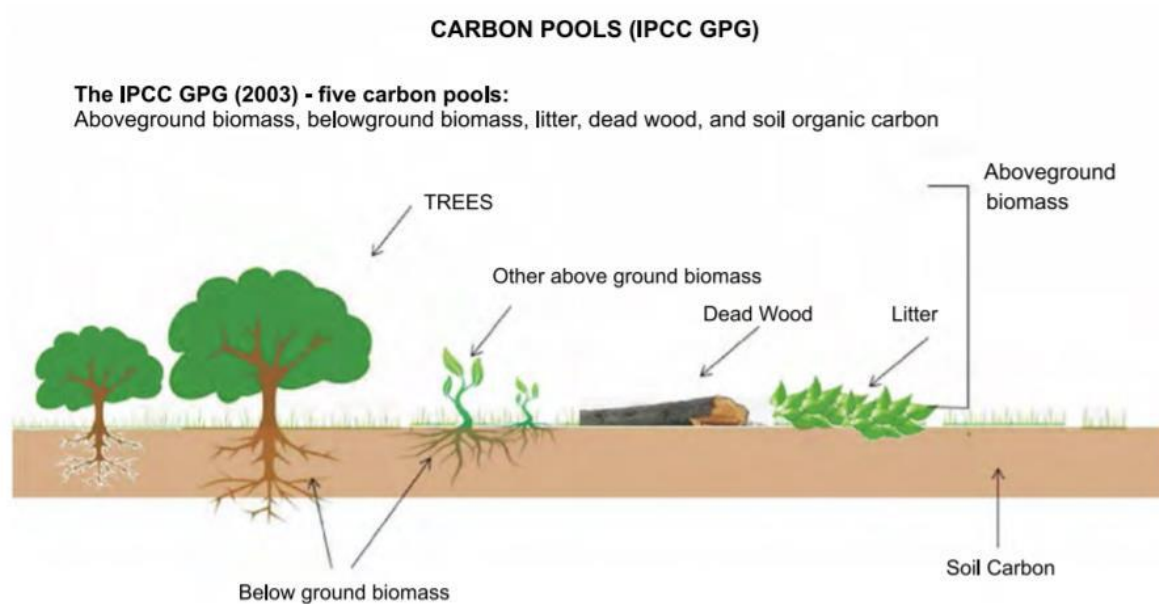


**TABLE 9.2** Different forest carbon pools

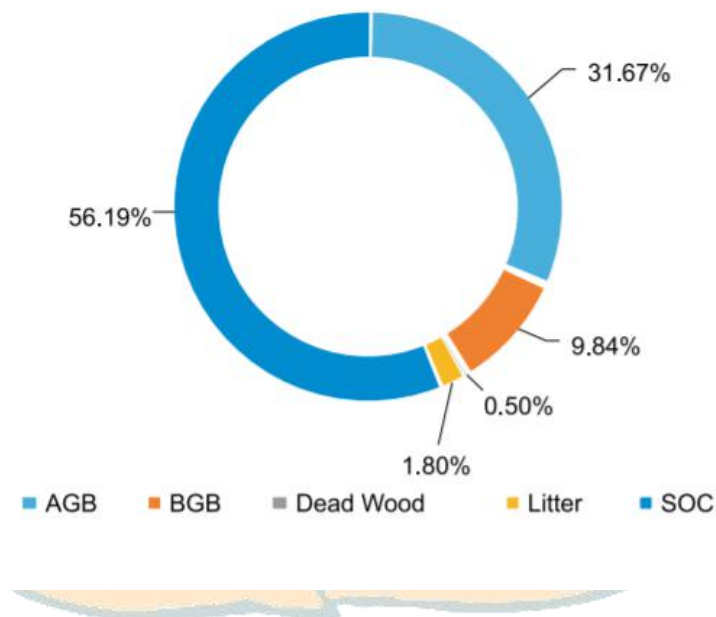
Pools		Description
Living Biomass	Above ground biomass (AGB)	All living biomass above the soil including stems, stumps, branches, bark, seeds and foliage.
	Below ground biomass	All living biomass of live roots. Fine roots of less than 2mm diameter (country specific) are often excluded because these often cannot be distinguished from soil organic matter or litter.
Dead Organic Matter	Dead wood	Includes all non-living woody biomass not contained in the litter, either standing or lying on the ground. Dead wood also includes dead roots and stumps larger than or equal to 10cm in diameter or any other diameter used by the country.
	Litter	Includes all non-living biomass with a diameter less than a minimum diameter chosen by the country (for FSI 5 cm), lying dead, in various states of decomposition above the mineral or organic soil.
Soil	Soil organic matter	Includes organic carbon in mineral and organic soils (including peat) to a specific depth chosen by the country (for FSI 30 cm) and applied consistently through the time series.



**FIGURE 9.1** Five Carbon Pools in Forests



**FIGURE 9.5** Forest Carbon stock in different pools (%)



Q.19) Solution (c)

**Mukurthi National Park:**

- Protected area located in the northwest corner of Tamil Nadu in the Western Ghats.
- Park was created to protect its keystone species, **the Nilgiri Tahr**.
- Park was previously known as Nilgiri Tahr National Park.

## Q.20) Solution (c)

- Centenary commemoration of the Anglo-Kuki War (1917-19) was recently protested by Tangkhul Nagas.
- Kukis had been one of the dominant tribes of hill areas surrounding Imphal (Manipur) during the rule of the Maharajas of Manipur.
- The Kuki uprising, which took place during World War I, began when Kuki chiefs refused to join the Imperial Army's Labour Corps, a unit meant to provide logistical support to British soldiers.
- The Kukis and the Tangkhuls, one of the 16 major Naga tribes, have long had an antagonistic relationship
- Large swathes of what the Kukis claim to be their homeland in the Manipur hills overlap with Greater Nagaland or Nagalim, the Naga homeland as envisioned by Naga nationalist groups
- Kukis have called for installation of memorial stones with the inscription to commemorate the Anglo-Kuki war, which is objected by Nagas
- The Nagas claimed that the Kukis have been trying to distort history as there has been no "Anglo-Kuki War" but a "Kuki Rebellion" in 1917.

## Q.21) Solution (b)

**The Climate Policy Initiative** is a climate think tank of 70 analysts and advisors that works to improve energy and land use policies around the world, with a particular focus on finance.

**CPI is an independent, non-profit organization**, mainly supported by Open Society Foundations. It is considered a leader expert group in tracking global climate finance.

Its mission is to help governments, businesses, and financial institutions drive economic growth while addressing climate change.

CPI has six offices around the world in Brazil, Kenya, India, Indonesia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

**REPORTS BY CPI**

- **Global Landscape of Climate Finance 2019**
- **'Tracking Adaptation Finance: Advancing Methods to Capture Finance Flows in the Landscape'**.

## Q.22) Solution (c)

**Consumer Protection Act, 2019:** The act replaces the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

**Key features of the act are:**

### Definition of a Consumer

- A consumer is defined as a person who buys any good or avails a service for a consideration.
- It does not include a person who obtains a good for resale or a good or service for commercial purpose.
- It covers transactions through all modes including offline, and online through electronic means, teleshopping, multi-level marketing or direct selling.

### Rights of Consumers

- Right to be protected against marketing of goods & services that are hazardous to life & property.
- Right to be informed of quality, quantity, potency, purity, standard & price of goods or services.
- Right to be assured of access to a variety of goods or services at competitive prices.
- Right to Seek redressal against unfair or restrictive trade practices.

Also, Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) will be set up to promote, protect and enforce the rights of consumers.

- The act seeks to enhance the protection of consumers' interests and timely settlement of their grievances
- CCPA will have an investigation wing, headed by a Director-General, which may conduct an inquiry or investigation into related violations.
- CCPA may impose a penalty of up to Rs 10 lakh and imprisonment for up to 2 years for misleading advertisement.
- The act also says Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions (CDRCs) will be set up to deal with grievance redressal at the levels of
  - District– Complaints of value upto Rs 1 crore
  - State – Rs 1 crore - Rs 10 crore
  - National - Exceeds Rs 10 crore

Another major introduction in the 2019 Act is the concept of **Product Liability** which covers within its ambit the product manufacturer, product service provider and product seller, for any claim for compensation.

- The term 'product liability' is defined by the 2019 Act as the responsibility of a product manufacturer or product seller, of any product or service, related to the product to compensate for any harm caused to a consumer by such defective product manufactured or sold or by deficiency in services relating to the product.
- Also, since the product seller has now been defined to include a person who is involved in placing the product for a commercial purpose and as such would include e-commerce platforms as well.
- Therefore, the ground commonly taken by E-commerce websites that they merely act as 'platforms' or 'aggregators' will now not be tenable before the court anymore.

- There are increased liability risks for manufacturers as compared to product service providers and product sellers, considering that under the 2019 Act, manufacturers will be liable in product liability action even where they successfully prove that they were not negligent or fraudulent in making the express warranty of a product.
- However, certain exceptions have been provided under the 2019 Act from liability claims, such as, that the product seller will not be liable where the product has been misused, altered or modified.

Q.23) Solution (d)

**A virus is a small parasite that cannot reproduce by itself.** Once it infects a susceptible cell, however, a virus can direct the cell machinery to produce more viruses. Most viruses have either RNA or DNA as their genetic material. The nucleic acid may be single- or double-stranded. The entire infectious virus particle, called a virion, consists of the nucleic acid and an outer shell of protein. The simplest viruses contain only enough RNA or DNA to encode four proteins. The most complex can encode 100 – 200 proteins.

**On one hand, they contain the key elements that make up all living organisms: the nucleic acids, DNA or RNA (any given virus can only have one or the other).**

On the other hand, **viruses lack the capacity to independently read and act upon the information contained within these nucleic acids.**

Q.24) Solution (c)

#### **Climate Finance Data Portal**

This portal is a gateway to information on activities funded in developing countries to implement the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

In particular, it aims to assist Parties in tracking the Financial Mechanism of the Convention and to inform the intergovernmental process under the UNFCCC and relevant stakeholders on the mobilization of resources to support developing countries in the implementation of adaptation and mitigation projects and other activities under the Convention.

#### **About the Climate Finance Data Portal Modules**

The Climate Finance Data Portal presents information on financial resources that have been made available to Non-Annex I Parties to the UNFCCC. The Portal consists of the following four modules:

- The "National Communications Module": This module presents information communicated by Annex II Parties on the provision of financial resources related to



the implementation of the Convention through their fourth, fifth and sixth national communications.

- The "Fast-start Finance Module": Fast-start finance refers to the collective commitment by developed countries to provide new and additional resources, including forestry and investments through international institutions, approaching USD 30 billion for the period 2010 - 2012. The module on Fast-start Finance presents information as submitted by developed country Parties on the resources provided to achieve their commitments, including ways in which developing country Parties access these resources.
- The "Funds Managed by the GEF Module" is a joint effort between the secretariat of the UNFCCC and the secretariat of the GEF. This module presents information on financial flows that have been channelled, mobilized and leveraged by the GEF in its role as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC. Information contained in this module is retrieved directly from the website of the GEF without further modification by the UNFCCC secretariat.
- The "Adaptation Fund Module": This module presents information on Adaptation Fund (AF) project data related to entities, projects and programmes as approved by the AF Board. Information contained in this module is retrieved directly from the website of the AF without further modification by the UNFCCC secretariat.

#### Q.25) Solution (d)

A distinctive characteristic common to these species is that most of the young are carried in a pouch. Well-known marsupials include kangaroos, wallabies, koalas, phalangeriformes, opossums, wombats, and Tasmanian devils. Some lesser-known marsupials are the dunnarts, potoroos, cuscuses and the extinct thylacine.

Close to 70% of the 334 extant species occur on the Australian continent (the mainland, Tasmania, New Guinea and nearby islands). The remaining 30% are found in the Americas — primarily in South America, thirteen in Central America, and one in North America, north of Mexico.

The word marsupial comes from marsupium, the technical term for the abdominal pouch. Though the word 'marsupial' comes from the Latin word 'marsupium', which means pouch, not all marsupials have pouches.

#### Types:

- Dasyurids — these are the meat-eating marsupials: quolls, the Tassy devil, Tassy tiger, numbats, dunnarts, antechinus.
- Peramelemorphs — these are the omnivorous marsupials: bilbies and bandicoots.
- Diprotodonts — these are the largely herbivorous marsupials: kangaroos, wallabies, possums, koalas, wombats, and, bizarrely, the extinct hypercarnivore the marsupial lion, a horrific carnivorous wombat.

Q.26) Solution (d)

The All India Forward Bloc (AIFB) is a left-wing nationalist political party in India. It emerged as a faction within the Indian National Congress in 1939, led by Subhas Chandra Bose.

Subhash Bose believed that the Congress was strong enough to launch an immediate struggle and that the masses were ready for such struggle.

He, therefore, argued in his Presidential address in Tripuri for a programme of immediately giving the British Government a six-months ultimatum to grant the national demand of independence and of launching a mass civil disobedience movement if it failed to do so. Gandhiji's perceptions were very different. The internal strife reached its climax at the Tripuri session of the Congress, held from 8 to 12 March 1939.

Bose could see no other way but to resign from the Presidentship. Nehru tried to mediate but to no avail. Bose could also not get the support of the Congress Socialists and the Communists at Tripuri or after. Subsequently in May, Subhash and his followers formed the Forward Bloc as a new party within the Congress. And when he gave a call for an all-India protest on 9th July against an AICC resolution, the Working Committee removed him from the Presidentship of the Bengal Provincial Congress Committee and debarring him from holding any Congress office for three years.

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
Forward block was established by Subhash Chandra Bose in 1939 - 1940.	The aim of forward block was to start a mass agitation for freedom of India. Elections were held in 1937, hence a party formed in 1939, can't aim to contest the election.

Q.27) Solution (a)

Note: Incorrect statements have been asked.

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
It is introduced by a Member of Parliament who is not a Minister.	A member can be from the ruling party or Opposition party.	Such Bills can be <b>introduced and discussed only on Fridays.</b>

**Additional Information:**

- Members of Parliament of both the ruling party as well as the opposition can introduce a Private Member Bill.
- The Private Member bill, in order to become an act, must be passed in both the houses.
- Once passed in both houses, Presidential assent is also mandatory for the bill to become an Act.
- Such Bills can be introduced and discussed only on Fridays.
- Number of private member bills has been capped to 3 per session of Parliament.

Q.28) Solution (d)

**Features of Indian Councils Act 1892:**

- The act increased the number of additional or non-official members in the legislative councils as follows:
  - Central Legislative Council: 10 – 16 members
  - Bengal: 20 members
  - Madras: 20 members
  - Bombay: 8 members
  - Oudh: 15 members
  - North Western Province: 15
- In 1892, out of 24 members, only 5 were Indians.
- The members were given the right to ask questions on the budget (which was barred in the Indian Councils Act 1861) or matters of public interest but had to give notice of 6 days for it.
- **They could not ask supplementary questions.**
- The principle of representation was initiated through this act. The district boards, universities, municipalities, chambers of commerce and zamindars were authorised to recommend members to the provincial councils. It was a form of indirect elections.
- The legislative councils were empowered to make new laws and repeal old laws with the permission of the Governor-General.

**Note:**

- Direct Elections were introduced by Government of India Act 1909.
- Post of Viceroy was created by Govt. of India Act 1858.

## Q.29) Solution (b)

Since 1955, the National Income in India is estimated by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO).

The estimates of national income of a country obtained by adopting the three methods of measuring national income should produce the same figure.

- In the first method, it is straightway the national output that is evaluated.
- In the second method, it is the income accruing from production and sale of goods and services which is accounted for.
- And in the third method, it is the expenditure on these goods and services which is estimated.

## Q.30) Solution (a)

Swarm robotics is a field of multi-robotics in which large number of robots are coordinated in a distributed and decentralised way. It is based on the use of local rules, and simple robots compared to the complexity of the task to achieve, and inspired by social insects.

Recently it was in news as Swarm Robotics is being used to control self driven cars.

The advantage of a swarm of small robots -- versus one large robot or a swarm with one lead robot -- is the lack of a centralised control, which can quickly become a central point of failure. If the system is centralised and a robot stops working, then the entire system fails.

In a decentralised system, there is no leader telling all the other robots what to do. Each robot makes its own decisions. If one robot fails in a swarm, the swarm can still accomplish the task.

## Q.31) Solution (c)

A **Green Investment Scheme (GIS)** refers to a plan for achieving environmental benefits from trading surplus allowances (AAUs) under the Kyoto Protocol. The Green Investment Scheme (GIS), a mechanism in the framework of International Emissions Trading (IET), is designed to achieve greater flexibility in reaching the targets of the Kyoto Protocol while preserving environmental integrity of IET.

The **Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)** is one of the **Flexible Mechanisms** defined in the Kyoto Protocol (IPCC, 2007) that provides for emissions reduction projects which generate Certified Emission Reduction units (CERs) which may be traded in emissions trading schemes.

## Q.32) Solution (d)



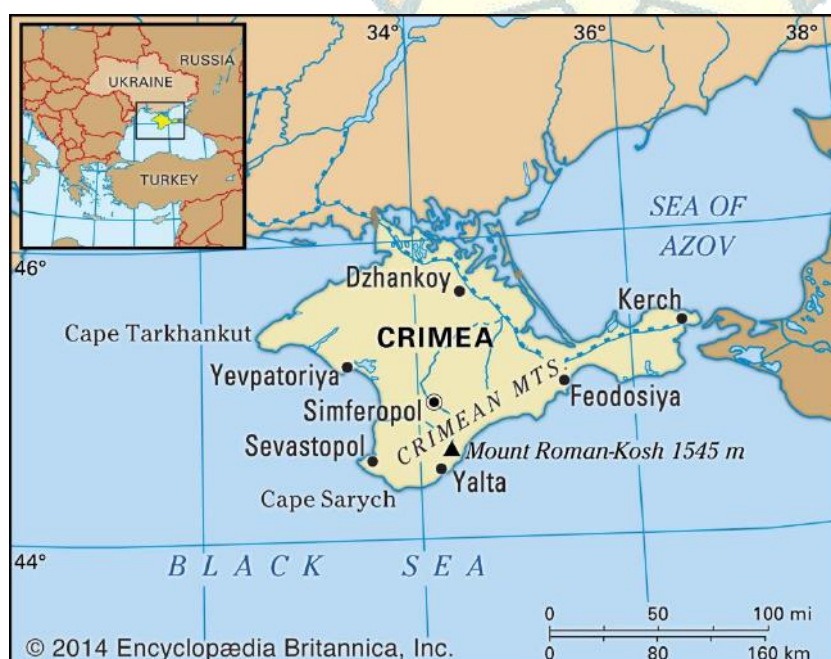
**Distributed ledger technology (DLT)** is a digital system for recording the transaction of assets in which the transactions and their details are recorded in multiple places at the same time. Unlike traditional databases, distributed ledgers have no central data store or administration functionality. Block chain is a type of Distributed Ledger Technology.

In a distributed ledger, each node processes and verifies every item, thereby generating a record of each item and creating a consensus on each item's veracity. A distributed ledger can be used to record static data, such as a registry, and dynamic data, i.e., transactions.

Q.33) Solution (c)

Crimea is located south of the Ukrainian region of Kherson, to which it is connected by the Isthmus of Perekop, and west of the Russian region of Kuban, from which it is separated by the Strait of Kerch though linked by the Crimean Bridge since 2018.

Crimea is a centre of pro-Russian sentiment, which can spill into separatism. The region - a peninsula on Ukraine's Black Sea coast - has 2.3 million people, a majority of whom identify themselves as ethnic Russians and speak Russian.



Q.34) Solution (b)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
A bull market refers to a	During a bear market, the	Investors show faith in

<p>market that is on the rise. It is typified by a sustained increase in price, for example in equity markets in the prices of companies' shares.</p> <p>By contrast, a bear market is one that is in decline. Share prices are continuously dropping, resulting in a downward trend that investors believe will continue, which, in turn, perpetuates the downward spiral.</p>	<p>economy will typically slow down and unemployment will rise as companies begin laying off workers.</p>	<p>market in case of Bull market rather than bear market.</p>
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Q.35) Solution (d)

**Kannauj** became the capital of the imperial Gurjara-Pratiharas, who in the 10th century were titled as Maharajadhiraja of Āryāvarta.

The Pala Empire was an imperial power during the Late Classical period on the Indian subcontinent, which originated in the region of Bengal.

**Capitals:** Pataliputra, Bikrampur, Gour, Munger

The Rashtrakuta Dynasty ruled parts of South India from the 8th to the 10th century CE. Amoghavarsha I made **Manyakheta** his capital and ruled a large empire. Manyakheta remained the Rashtrakutas regal capital until the end of the empire.

Q.36) Solution (c)

The Purvanchal Mountains cover the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Meghalaya.

The range is an eastern extension of the Himalayan Range System, in north eastern India. It bends sharply to the south beyond the Dihang River gorge, and spreads along the eastern boundary of India with Myanmar. The Purvanchal range includes the hill ranges of the Patkai, Barail Range, Naga Hills, Lushai Hills and Jampui Hills.

The Garo Hills, Khasi Hills and Jaintia Hills in Meghalaya are part of Shillong Plateau, and not part of the Purvanchal range, geologically speaking.

Mahadeo range is an extension of Satpura range.

Q.37) Solution (d)

**Unstarred Question:** An unstarred question receives a written reply from the Ministry. They are submitted 15 days in advance. A maximum of 160 unstarred questions are picked for a day.

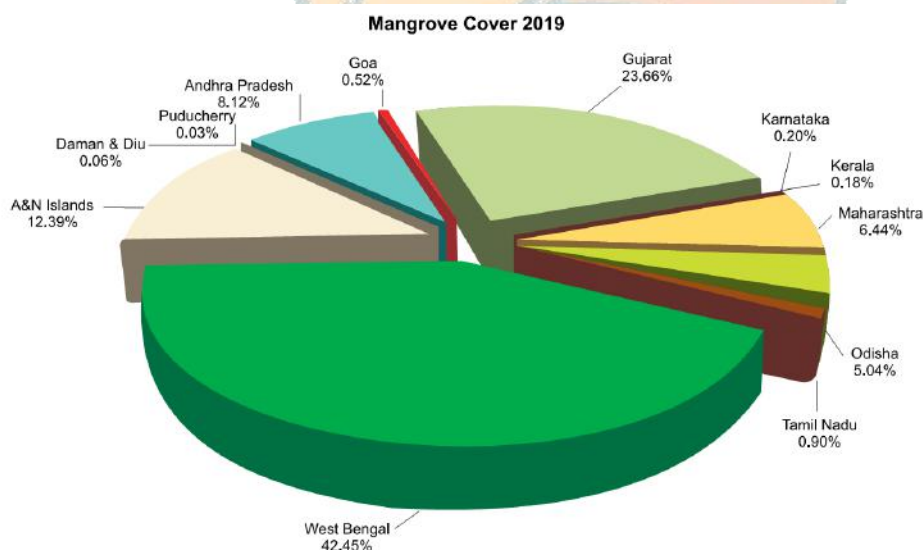
Unstarred questions do not allow for follow-up questions. This is why they are more conducive for getting answers on queries related to data/information.

Q.38) Solution (c)

Rajasthan doesn't have a coastline.

All the coastal states in India have mangrove forests.

**Top 10 Mangrove Forest in India**



Q.39) Solution (b)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
He is believed to be born in present day Bihar. Gautam Buddha was born in Nepal.	Mahavira practiced intense meditation and severe austerities for 12 years under Sal tree on the bank of river Rijupalika.	Mahavira attained Kaivalya after meditation and became Jina (The conquerer). In jainism, Nirvana refers to death.
		In Buddhism, nirvana refers

		to attainment of knowledge and Parinirvana refers to death.
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## Q.40) Solution (a)

Plastic pollution can arise at all stages of the life-cycle and may pose a threat to human health and the environment. In 2019, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted two important decisions to address plastic waste. These steps have strengthened the Basel Convention as the only global legally binding instrument to specifically address plastic waste. Technical assistance is provided to assist Parties in fulfilling their obligations, including in relation to plastic waste.

## Q.41) Solution (c)

**Balban**

- Balban is also known as Ulugh Khan, he almost succeeded in breaking the power of chahalgani who were trying to wield power by all bad ways. They were responsible for conspiring against the throne. Chahalgani was like an elite council of ministers of 40 mamluks who held important positions and advised the King.
- He set up a separate military department known as Dewan-I-arz appointed under the officer ariz-I-mamalik.
- He adopted a policy of blood and iron and also instituted various ceremonies like sijada and paibos ( prostration and kissing the Monarchs feet)

## Q.42) Solution (b)

The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) has been renamed as the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade with a mandate to deal with matters related to start-ups and facilitating ease of doing business.

## Q.43) Solution (c)

Biomethanation is a process by which organic materials are microbiologically converted into biogas in anaerobic conditions.

Anaerobic condition means without oxygen. In such respiration, methane is the by product.

The Government of India has taken the technology of Biomethanation as a solution for stubble burning. Six biomethanation plants are to be constructed in Punjab that will convert paddy straw into bio-gas.



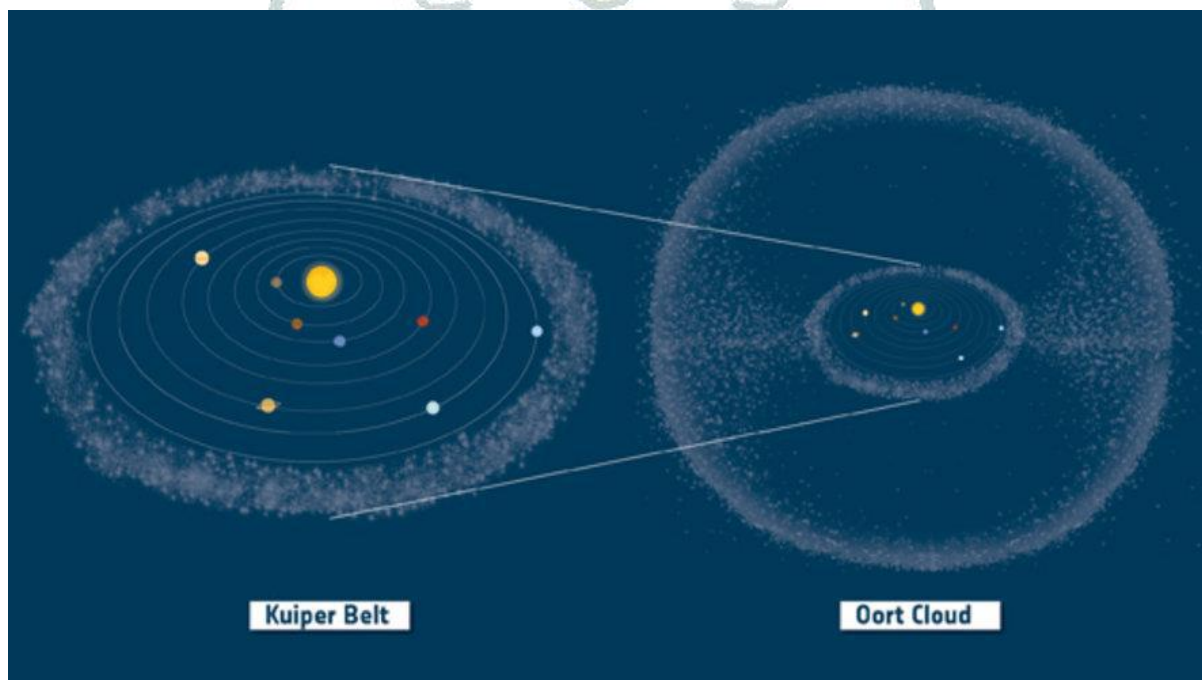
Q.44) Solution (b)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>
UPSC is responsible for conducting the exam and selection of suitable candidates for All India and Central services. UPSC is an independent Constitutional body and doesn't come under DoPT.	It acts as the formulator of policy and the watch-dog of the Government ensuring that certain accepted standards and norms, as laid down by it, are followed by all Ministries/Departments, in the recruitment, regulation of service conditions, posting/transfers, deputation of personnel as well as other related issues.	It is also responsible for formulation and coordination of training policies for the All India and Central Services and providing support for the capacity building of State Government officials.

<https://dopt.gov.in/about-us/functions/roles-responsibilities-0>

Q.45) Solution (a)



The Oort Cloud is an extended shell of icy objects that exist in the outermost reaches of the solar system. It is named after astronomer Jan Oort, who first theorised its existence. The Oort Cloud is roughly spherical, and is thought to be the origin of most of the long-period comets that have been observed.

Q.46) Solution (d)

Chittu Pandey, popularly referred to as the Sher-e Ballia (Lion of Ballia), was an Indian independence activist and revolutionary.

He led the Quit India Movement in Ballia. He headed the National Government declared and established on 19 August 1942 for a few days before it was suppressed by the British. The parallel government succeeded in getting the Collector to hand over power and release all the arrested Congress leaders.

Q.47) Solution (a)

Harsha (c. 590–647 CE), also known as Harshavardhana, was an Indian emperor who ruled North India from 606 to 647 CE.

At the height of Harsha's power, his Empire covered much of North and Northwestern India, extended East till Kamarupa, and South until Narmada River; and eventually made Kannauj (in present Uttar Pradesh state) his capital, and ruled till 647 CE. Harsha was defeated by the south Indian Emperor Pulakeshin II of the Chalukya dynasty in the Battle of Narmada, when Harsha tried to expand his Empire into the southern peninsula of India.

Q.48) Solution (d)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
The first session of Indian National Congress was held at Bombay.	The first English president of INC was George Yule. He presided Allahabad session of 1888.

Q.49) Solution (a)

The National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) is a fund created in 2010-11 using the carbon tax - clean energy cess - for funding research and innovative projects in clean energy technologies of public sector or private sector entities, upto the extent of 40% of the total project cost. Assistance is available as a loan or as a viability gap funding, as deemed fit by the Inter-Ministerial group, which decides on the merits of such projects.

The Fund is designed as a non lapsable fund under Public Accounts.

Q.50) Solution (b)

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has instituted a special 'Shakti Award.' It will be annually presented to chosen personnel who works for the empowerment of women.

The award was announced on International Women's Day on 8 March. The award will be conferred every year on 19 March, the CRPF Raising Day.

Q.51) Solution (b)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
The Wavell Plan, in essence, proposed the complete Indianisation of the Executive Council, but instead of asking all the parties to nominate members to the Executive Council from all the communities, seats were reserved for members on the basis of religion and caste, with the caste Hindus and Muslims being represented on it on the basis of parity.	The Viceroy's Executive Council was to have all Indian members except the Viceroy himself and the Commander-in-Chief.	It did not concern the ICS.

Q.52) Solution (b)

The Neora Valley National Park (NVNP) (Kalimpong district, West Bengal) is a compact patch of virgin forest, rich in biodiversity located in the Eastern Himalayas, a global 'biodiversity hotspot'.

It is contiguous with Sikkim and Bhutan at its northern and north-eastern boundaries respectively and links the Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary in Sikkim and the Toorsa Strict Reserve of Bhutan. It is also an integral part of the Kanchenjunga Landscape.

NVNP is an Important Bird Area which falls within the Restricted Range Species site - the Endemic Bird Area, Eastern Himalayas and the Restricted Assemblages Biomes, Sino Himalayan Temperate Forest and Sino Himalayan Subtropical Forest.

Q.53) Solution (b)

Extinction Rebellion is a global environmental movement with the stated aim of using nonviolent civil disobedience to compel government action to avoid tipping points in the climate system, biodiversity loss, and the risk of social and ecological collapse.

Q.54) Solution (a)

- Shore Temple – 700 –728 CE
- Brihadisvara Temple - 1003 and 1010 CE
- Gommateshwara statue - 983 CE
- Kandariya Mahadeva Temple - 1003-1035 CE

Q.55) Solution (d)

The term Indian feudalism is used to describe taluqdar, zamindar, jagirdar, ghatwals, mulraiats, sardar, mankari, deshmukh, chaudhary and samanta.

Ghatwali was a feudal tenure/jagir for quasi-military services, only found in the district of Santhal Parganas and some parts of Munger. The ruling chiefs of these jagir were known as Ghatwals. They were responsible for maintaining safety, security, and law enforcement in their estate using a force of archers and Berkandazes

Mankari (Mānkari or Maankari) is a hereditary title used by Maratha nobles from the Indian subcontinent who held land grants, and cash allowances.

Samanta was a title and position used by the army people of kings in the history of the Indian subcontinent. The institution of Samanta finds mention for the first time in epigraphs of northern India dating to the 6th century. The institution is considered to and is closely associated with the origin and growth of feudalism in India.

Q.56) Solution (b)

The Amazon Fund is managed by the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES).

The Amazon Fund aims to raise donations for non-reimbursable investments in efforts to prevent, monitor and combat deforestation, as well as to promote the preservation and sustainable use of forests in the Amazon Biome.

Q.57) Solution (c)

India is an observer member of the 'Indian Ocean Commission' and a permanent member of the 'Indian-Ocean Rim Association' and 'Shanghai Cooperation Organization'.

Q.58) Solution (a)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
Correct	Incorrect



The largest thorium reserves in the world are found in India.	India is the world's third largest producer and third largest consumer of electricity.
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Q.59) Solution (c)

The 11th Schedule of Indian Constitution was added in 1992 by the 73rd Constitution Amendment Act. This schedule contains 29 subjects. This schedule covers important topics such as Panchayat's powers, rural development, poverty alleviation, market, roads and drinking water etc.

Q.60) Solution (d)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) is part of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.	CBI is not an independent body as it is deriving its power from DSPE act, 1946. CBI is not a statutory Body as it is not established by any act of parliament.	The Constitution does not give power to Courts to direct the framing of a law.

Q.61) Solution (b)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2	Statement 3
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
The Ideals of Liberty, Equality, Fraternity came from the French Constitution. These words appear in the Preamble to the Constitution of India. Many other nations have also adopted the French slogan of "liberty, equality, and fraternity" as an ideal.	The laws governing our Supreme Court and the concept of "procedure established by Law" were adopted from the Constitution of Japan.	The Preamble of the Indian Constitution was inspired by the US Constitution's Preamble. Both the Preambles begin with "We the People".

Q.62) Solution (c)

**Statement Analysis:**

<b>Statement 1</b>	<b>Statement 2</b>
--------------------	--------------------

<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>
The Jaivik Bharat logo is an identity mark to distinguish organic products from non-organic ones.	Participatory Guarantee System for India (Decentralized Organic Farming Certification System) is a quality assurance initiative that is locally relevant, emphasize the participation of stakeholders, including producers and consumers and operate outside the frame of third party certification.

Q.63) Solution (c)

**Statement Analysis:**

<b>Statement 1</b>	<b>Statement 2</b>
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>
The Central Zoo Authority has been constituted under the section 38A of Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972	Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) a statutory body established by the Government of India under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to combat organised wildlife crime.  The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2006 provisions came in to force on 4 September 2006. It became operational in the year 2008.

Q.64) Solution (a)

The BIMSTEC member states—Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan—are among the countries dependent on the Bay of Bengal.

Q.65) Solution (b)

'Operation Twist' is RBI's simultaneous selling of short-term securities and buying of long-term securities through open market operations (OMO). Under this mechanism, the short-term securities are transitioned into long-term securities.

Q.66) Solution (b)

**Welfare Approach**

- This approach looks at human beings as beneficiaries or targets of all development activities.
- The approach argues for higher government expenditure on education, health, social secondary and amenities.

- People are not participants in development but only passive recipients.
- The government is responsible for increasing levels of human development by maximizing expenditure on welfare.

**Table 4.1: Approaches to Human Development**

<b>(a) Income Approach</b>	This is one of the oldest approaches to human development. Human development is seen as being linked to income. The idea is that the level of income reflects the level of freedom an individual enjoys. Higher the level of income, the higher is the level of human development.
<b>(b) Welfare Approach</b>	This approach looks at human beings as beneficiaries or targets of all development activities. The approach argues for higher government expenditure on education, health, social secondary and amenities. People are not participants in development but only passive recipients. The government is responsible for increasing levels of human development by maximising expenditure on welfare.
<b>(c) Basic Needs Approach</b>	This approach was initially proposed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Six basic needs i.e.: health, education, food, water supply, sanitation, and housing were identified. The question of human choices is ignored and the emphasis is on the provision of basic needs of defined sections.
<b>(d) Capability Approach</b>	This approach is associated with Prof. Amartya Sen. Building human capabilities in the areas of health, education and access to resources is the key to increasing human development.

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Q.67) Solution (b)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
The COI works on four pillars which have been adopted in 2005 by the Summit of	There are also five observers: China, India, Malta, the European Union and the

<p>Heads of States:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political and diplomatic cooperation,</li> <li>• Economic and commercial cooperation</li> <li>• Sustainable development in a globalisation context, cooperation in the field of agriculture, maritime fishing, and the conservation of resources and ecosystems</li> <li>• Strengthening of the regional cultural identity, cooperation in cultural, scientific, technical, educational and judicial fields.</li> </ul>	<p>Organisation internationale de la Francophonie.</p>
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Q.68) Solution (b)

**Statement Analysis:**

<b>Statement 1</b>	<b>Statement 2</b>
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
The 1929 Session of Indian National Congress is of significance because <b>attainment of Poorna Swaraj</b> was adopted as the goal of the Congress.	Jinnah regarded Gandhi's proposed satyagraha campaign as political anarchy, and believed that self-government should be secured through constitutional means. Annie Besant and BC Pal left the INC for the same reason.

Q.69) Solution (a)

Ima Keithel (Mother's Market), also known as Ima Market or Nupi Keithel (Women's Market) is a market run exclusively by women in Imphal, Manipur.

Q.70) Solution (b)

**Statement Analysis:**

<b>Statement 1</b>	<b>Statement 2</b>	<b>Statement 3</b>
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>
Local wind and weather patterns also can affect tides. Strong offshore winds can move water away from coastlines, exaggerating low tide exposures. Onshore winds may act to pile up	The shape of bays and estuaries also can magnify the intensity of tides. Funnel-shaped bays in particular can dramatically alter tidal magnitude. Narrow inlets and shallow water also tend	The relative distances (Gravitational pull) and positions of the sun, moon and Earth all affect the size and magnitude of the Earth's two tidal bulges.



water onto the shoreline, virtually eliminating low tide exposures. High – pressure systems can depress sea levels, leading to clear sunny days with exceptionally low tides. Conversely, low-pressure systems that contribute to cloudy, rainy conditions typically are associated with tides that are much higher than predicted.

to dissipate incoming tides. In estuaries with strong tidal rivers, powerful seasonal river flows in the spring can severely alter or mask the incoming tide.

#### Q.71) Solution (d)

Some applications of Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS): NavIC are

- Terrestrial, Aerial and Marine Navigation
- Disaster Management
- Vehicle tracking and fleet management
- Integration with mobile phones
- Precise Timing
- Mapping and Geodetic data capture
- Terrestrial navigation aid for hikers and travellers
- Visual and voice navigation for drivers

#### Q.72) Solution (c)

**Boreal Forest Biomes** - In this biome the climate is cold temperate where summers are cool whereas winters can be long and extremely cold. The vegetation tends to be evergreen forests with frost resistant needle leaved forests.

**Temperate Rainforest Biomes** - In this type of biome the maximum rainfall occurs during the summer season while occasional frost can also be observed. The vegetation comprises temperate evergreen forests that can be frost sensitive.

#### Q.73) Solution (b)

##### **Local Treatment of Urban Sewage streams for Healthy Reuse (LOTUS-HR) program**

- It is jointly supported by Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India and Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research.

- It aims to demonstrate a novel holistic (waste) water management approaches that will produce clean water which can be reused for various purposes.

Q.74) Solution (a)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
The proposal to launch the Green Finance Study Group (GFSG) under China's Presidency of the G20 in 2016 was adopted by the G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies.	The Study Group is co-chaired by China and the United Kingdom, with support from UN Environment as secretariat.

Q.75) Solution (a)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
Currently, six languages enjoy the 'Classical' status: Tamil (declared in 2004), Sanskrit (2005), Kannada (2008), Telugu (2008), Malayalam (2013), and Odia (2014).	Odia was the latest.

Q.76) Solution (a)

Bioversity International is a **global research-for-development organization** that delivers scientific evidence, management practices and policy options **to use and safeguard agricultural biodiversity** to attain global food and nutrition security, working with partners in low-income countries in different regions where agricultural biodiversity can contribute to improved nutrition, resilience, productivity and climate change adaptation.

Bioversity International is a member of the **CGIAR** (Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research), a global research partnership for a food-secure future.

**Do you know?**

- In 2019, Bioversity International joined with the **International Center for Tropical Agriculture** (as the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT) to "deliver research-based solutions that harness agricultural biodiversity and sustainably transform food systems to improve people's lives".

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
Bioversity International is a global research-for-development organization that investigates the <b>conservation and use of agricultural biodiversity</b> for improved livelihoods, nutrition, sustainability and productive and resilient ecosystems.	The international status of Bioversity International is conferred under an <b>Establishment Agreement</b> that had been signed by many countries (including India).

Q.77) Solution (c)

**Ethiopia**, in the Horn of Africa, is a rugged, **landlocked country** split by the Great Rift Valley.

Ethiopia is the largest and most populated country in the Horn of Africa. With the 1993 secession of Eritrea, its former province along the Red Sea, Ethiopia became landlocked.



Q.78) Solution (a)

**Basic information:**

*Dalbergia sissoo*, known commonly as North Indian rosewood, is a fast-growing, hardy **deciduous rosewood tree** native to the Indian Subcontinent.

*Dalbergia sissoo* is commonly known Rosewood or Shisham and is a medium to large deciduous tree, native to India, with a light crown which reproduces by seeds and suckers.

**Value Addition**

- Shisham is the best known economic timber species of the rosewood genus sold internationally, but it is also used as fuel wood and for shade and shelter. After teak, it is the most important cultivated timber tree of Bihar, which is the largest producer of shisham timber in India.
- Shisham is among the finest cabinet and veneer timbers. It is the wood from which 'mridanga', the Rajasthani percussion instrument, is often made. In addition to musical instruments, it is used for plywood, agricultural tools, flooring, and as a bentwood, and for turning.

**Do you know?**

- India had proposed to remove rosewood (*Dalbergia sissoo*) from Appendix II of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), a multilateral treaty to protect endangered plants and animals.
- The species is currently part of Appendix II of CITES that has species not necessarily threatened with extinction, but in which trade must be controlled to avoid utilisation incompatible with their survival. But, India doesn't want that for rosewood.

Q.79) Solution (c)

**Basic information:**

The Strategic Partnership between India and South Africa, called the RED FORT DECLARATION, was signed in 1997 by the then South African President Nelson Mandela and former PM H.D. Deve Gowda.

**Why Red Fort Declaration was in the news recently?**

- India and South Africa decided to update their 20-year old Strategic Partnership (Red Fort Declaration) when South African President Cyril Ramaphosa met PM Modi as Republic Day chief guest.

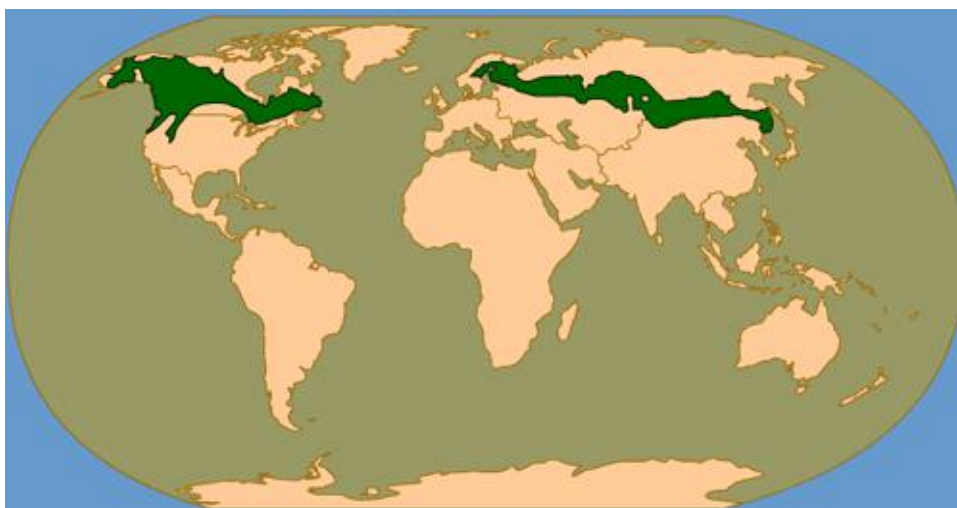
**Do you know?**

- **Lucknow Declaration** was also in news.
- India and several African countries pledged to deepen cooperation to combat the growing threat of terrorism and preserve maritime security by sharing information, intelligence and surveillance, in a joint declaration adopted at the first India- Africa Defence Ministers conclave.
- Lucknow Declaration urges need for stronger international partnership.
- The Declaration also calls for strengthening the UN Counter-Terrorism mechanisms and to ensure strict compliance with the UN Security Council sanctions regime on terrorism.



## Q.80) Solution (b)

Taigas are boreal forests, or northern coniferous forests. (Taiga is Russian for "marshy pine forest.") They stretch across the northern parts of North America, Europe, and Asia. They are usually located south of tundra and north of temperate deciduous forests and grasslands. Taigas also extend south in the alpine regions of the Rocky Mountains and the Sierras in the western United States. The taiga is the largest biome on Earth. It covers about 20 million hectares (50 million acres) of land, about 17% of Earth's land area.



The taiga is characterized by a cold, harsh climate, low rate of precipitation (snow and rain), and short growing season. Long, severe winters last up to 6 months, with average temperatures below freezing. Summers are short, lasting maybe 50 to 100 days without frost.

## Q.81) Solution (a)

As per the recent Economic Survey 2019-20,

- **India ranks third** in number of new firms created, as per the World Bank.
- About 1.24 lakh new firms created in 2018, an increase of about 80 % from about 70,000 in 2014.
- A 10% increase in registration of new firms in a district yields a 1.8 % increase in Gross Domestic District Product (GDDP).
- Entrepreneurship at district level has a significant impact on wealth creation at the grassroots.

Disinvestment in Public sector units in India, is process of public asset sales by President of India on behalf of Government of India, directly (offer for sale to public) or indirectly (bidding process) in capitalized market.

Since financial year 1991-92 to 2017-18 government led by political parties sold total public assets of ₹ 3,47,439 Crore.

Major divestment steps were taken in past by BJP-led NDA government (1999-2004), which made four strategic disinvestments.

Again, in starting from 2014 to 2018 BJP led NDA government divested total ₹ 1,94,646 crore, which includes minority and majority stake sale of most profitable Public sector undertaking companies.

**Disinvestment trends:**

Year	Total Receipts by Stake Sales	Inflation Adjusted Receipts	Total
2014-15	24,348	28,967	
2016-17	46,247	50,620	
2017-18	1,00,056	1,05,303	
2018-19	84,972.16	84,972	

Q.82) Solution (b)

**Basic information:**

**Article 169** deals with abolition or creation of Legislative Councils in States.

The Constitution provides for the abolition or creation of legislative councils in states. Accordingly, the Parliament can abolish a legislative council (where it already exists) or create it (where it does not exist), if the legislative assembly of the concerned state passes a resolution to that effect.

Such a specific resolution must be passed by the state assembly by a special majority, that is, a majority of the total membership of the assembly and a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the assembly present and voting. This Act of Parliament is not to be deemed as an amendment of the Constitution for the purposes of Article 368 and is passed like an ordinary piece of legislation (ie, by simple majority).

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
The Constitution provides for the abolition or creation of legislative councils in states.	Parliament can abolish a legislative council (where it already exists) or create it (where it does not exist), if the legislative assembly of the concerned state passes a resolution to that effect.

Q.83) Solution (c)

According to **Article 51 A (e) - Fundamental Duties**, it shall be the duty of every citizen of India: to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people

of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities and to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women.

Q.84) Solution (d)

Term	Description
<i>Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN)</i>	A state whereby the amount and quality of land resources, necessary to support ecosystem functions and services and enhance food security, remains stable or increases within specified temporal and spatial scales and ecosystems.
<i>Adaptation</i>	“The appearance or behaviour or structure or mode of life of an organism that allows it to survive in a particular environment”.
<i>Homeostasis</i>	Maintenance of stable equilibrium, especially through physiological (through bodily part functions). E.g. Cooling your body through sweating processes.
<i>Resilience</i>	Capacity of an ecosystem to respond to a perturbation or disturbance by resisting damage and recovering quickly.

Q.85) Solution (d)

#### Key Features of Panchayati Raj System:

1. The Gram Sabha is a body consisting of all the people registered in the electoral rolls who belong to a village comprised within the area of the Panchayat at the village level. Gram Sabha is the smallest and the only permanent unit in the Panchayati Raj system. **The powers and functions of Gram Sabha are fixed by state legislature according to the law on the subject.**
2. **Seats are reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)** and chairpersons of the Panchayats at all levels are reserved for SCs and STs in proportion to their population.
3. **One-third of the total number of seats are to be reserved for women.** One-third of the seats reserved for SCs and STs, are also reserved for women. This policy extends to the office of the chairperson at all levels as well (Article 243D). The reserved seats may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in the Panchayat.
4. There is a uniform policy with each term being five years. Fresh elections must be conducted before the expiry of the term. In the event of dissolution, elections compulsorily within six months (Article 243E).

5. Panchayats have the responsibility to prepare plans for economic development and social justice with respect to the subjects as per the law put in place, which also extends to the various levels of Panchayat including the subjects as illustrated in the Eleventh Schedule (Article 243G).

Q.86) Solution (a)

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
Gross value Addition (GVA) is the sum of a country's GDP and net of subsidies and taxes in the economy	GVA gives a picture of the state of economy from the producers' side or supply side, the GDP gives the picture from the consumers' side or demand perspective.
$GVA = GDP + \text{Subsidies on Products} - \text{Taxes on Products}$	

Q.87) Solution (c)

Indian rupee has plunged to record lows and at present, the rupee is the worst performing Asian currency.

A weak currency impacts an economy in multiple ways:

**1. Higher landing cost for commodities**

- Currency weakness leads to higher landed cost for commodities imported into the country. Crude oil and gold are instances of such commodities which are traded higher in the domestic market in comparison with their international counterparts.

**2. Impact on current account deficit**

- A weak currency is likely to widen India's current account deficit further (CAD). A falling rupee versus the dollar increases the cost of imports and increases export revenues in rupee terms.
- The current weakness in the rupee is mostly attributed to widening CAD, which is higher due to the crude oil import bill.

**3. Impact on flows**

- Foreign capital inflows help in bridging the gap between imports and exports. Since our imports are more than exports, there is potential for an increase in the trade deficit.

**4. Adds to inflationary pressure**



- Currency weakness is likely to result in inflationary pressure as well. Higher costs of commodities would exert pressure on overall economic activity and may force the central bank to tweak its monetary policy to tackle inflation.

### 5. Impact on GDP

- Higher inflation is likely to hit short term growth prospect of the economy as well. Increased input cost due to weak currency may impact the profit margin of companies.

### 6. Rise in interest costs for India Inc

- Corporates may also face an additional burden on interest costs when the central bank lifts rates. This may impact sentiment of foreign investors in the stock market.

### 7. Education abroad and foreign travel becomes expensive

However, a weak rupee versus the dollar usually benefits exporters and people who are remitting currency into the country.

#### Q.88) Solution (b)

- The **Basel Convention** is a multilateral international agreement governing all transboundary movements of hazardous waste for recovery or disposal.
- As of 2019, 186 states and the European Union are parties to the Convention. Haiti and the **United States have signed the Convention but not ratified it.**

#### Q.89) Solution (a)

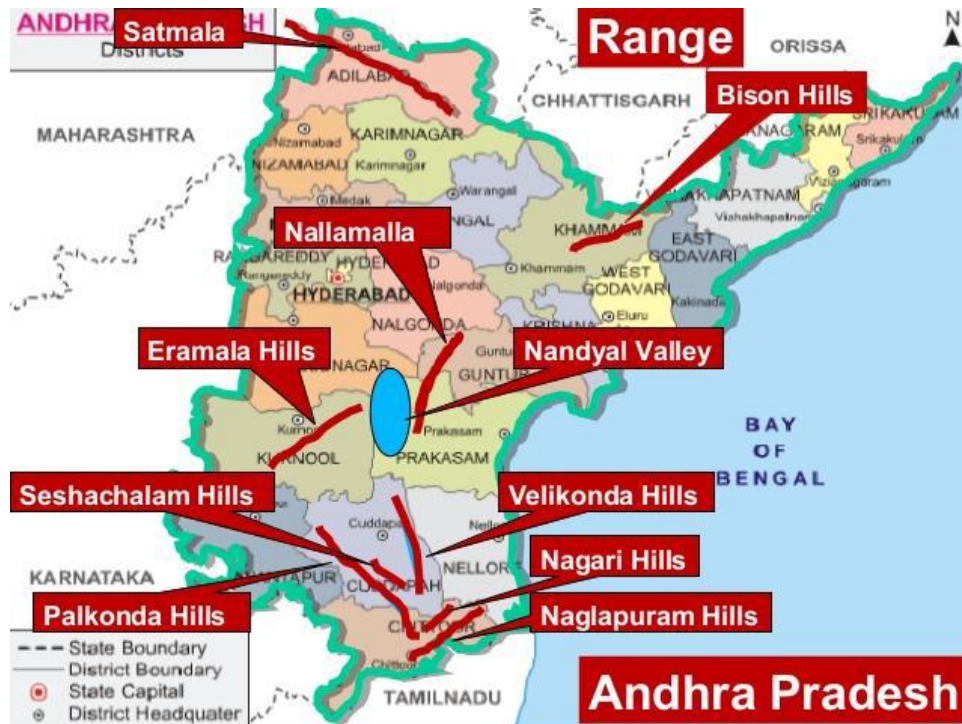
#### Statement Analysis:

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
Under Article 82, the <b>Parliament enacts a Delimitation Act</b> after every Census.	Once the Delimitation Act is in force, the <b>Union government sets up a Delimitation Commission</b> made up of a retired Supreme Court judge, the Chief Election Commissioner and the respective State Election Commissioners.  The Commission is supposed to determine the number and boundaries of constituencies in a way that the population of all seats, so far as practicable, is the same.  The Commission is also tasked with

identifying seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; these are where their population is relatively large.

Q.90) Solution (a)

The correct order is – Satmala > Nallamala > Eramala > Palkonda



Q.91) Solution (d)

Article 13 declares that all laws that are inconsistent with or in derogation of any of the fundamental rights shall be void.

Laws can be

- Ordinance;
- Executive order;
- Bye laws;
- Rule;
- Regulations;
- Notification;
- Custom or usage having the force of law

**Do you know?**

- Article 13 provides for the “doctrine of judicial review”.

- Supreme Court (according to Article 32) and the High Courts (according to Article 226) can declare a law unconstitutional and invalid on the ground of contravention of any of the Fundamental Rights.
- Please note: The word “Judicial Review” is **no where mentioned in the Constitution**.

Q.92) Solution (b)

### Highly Pathogenic Asian Avian Influenza A(H5N1) Virus

H5N1 is a type of influenza virus that causes a highly infectious, severe respiratory disease in birds called avian influenza (or "bird flu"). Human cases of H5N1 avian influenza occur occasionally, but it is difficult to transmit the infection from person to person.

Q.93) Solution (c)

### Basic information:

**National Security Act (NSA)** empowers the Centre or a State government to detain a person to prevent him from acting in any manner prejudicial to national security.

The government can also detain a person to prevent him from disrupting public order or for maintenance of supplies and services essential to the community. The maximum period for which one may be detained is **12 months**. But the term can be extended if the government finds fresh evidence.

### Explanation:

**In the normal course**, if a person is arrested, he or she is guaranteed certain basic rights. These include -

- The right to be informed of the reason for the arrest.
- Section 50 of the Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.PC) mandates that the person arrested has to be informed of the grounds of arrest, and the right to bail.
- Sections 56 and 76 of the Cr. PC also provides that a person has to be produced before a court within 24 hours of arrest.
- Additionally, Article 22(1) of the Constitution says an arrested person cannot be denied the right to consult, and to be defended by, a legal practitioner of his choice.

But none of these rights are available to a person detained under the NSA.

- A person could be kept in the dark about the reasons for his arrest for up to five days, and in exceptional circumstances not later than 10 days.
- Even when providing the grounds for arrest, the government can withhold information which it considers to be against public interest to disclose.

- The arrested person is also not entitled to the aid of any legal practitioner in any matter connected with the proceedings before an advisory board, which is constituted by the government for dealing with NSA cases.

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Correct</b>
<p>Person detained under the National Security Act (NSA) is not entitled to the aid of any legal practitioner in any matter connected with the proceedings before an advisory board, which is constituted by the government for dealing with NSA cases.</p> <p>A person detained under the National Security Act can be held for 10 days without being told the charges against them. The detained person can appeal before a high court advisory board but they are not allowed a lawyer during the trial. The detained person is not entitled to any legal aid.</p>	<p>The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), which collects and analyses crime data in the country, does not include cases under the NSA in its data as no FIRs are registered. Hence, no figures are available for the exact number of detentions under the NSA.</p>

Q.94) Solution (d)

The corporate tax cut is part of a series of steps taken by the government **to tackle the slowdown in economic growth.**

The most immediate reason behind the tax cut may be the displeasure that various corporate houses have shown against the government's policies. Many investors, for instance, were spooked by the additional taxes on them that were announced by the government during the budget.

The government hopes that the new, lower tax rates **will attract more investments into the country and help revive the domestic manufacturing sector** which has seen lackluster growth.

The corporate tax rate is also a major determinant of how investors allocate capital across various economies. So there is constant pressure on governments across the world to offer the lowest tax rates in order to attract investors. Therefore, cut in corporate taxes **can make India more competitive on the global stage** by making Indian corporate tax rates comparable to that of rates in East Asia.

However, reducing corporate tax **can cause a yearly revenue loss to the government** which is struggling to meet its fiscal deficit target.



At the same time, if it manages to sufficiently revive the economy, the present tax cut **can help boost tax collections** and compensate for the loss of revenue.

Q.95) Solution (a)

Plants are often injured by pathogens, herbivores or unfavourable weather conditions. Their sessile lifestyle makes them vulnerable to such situations more often.

#### Ability to repair

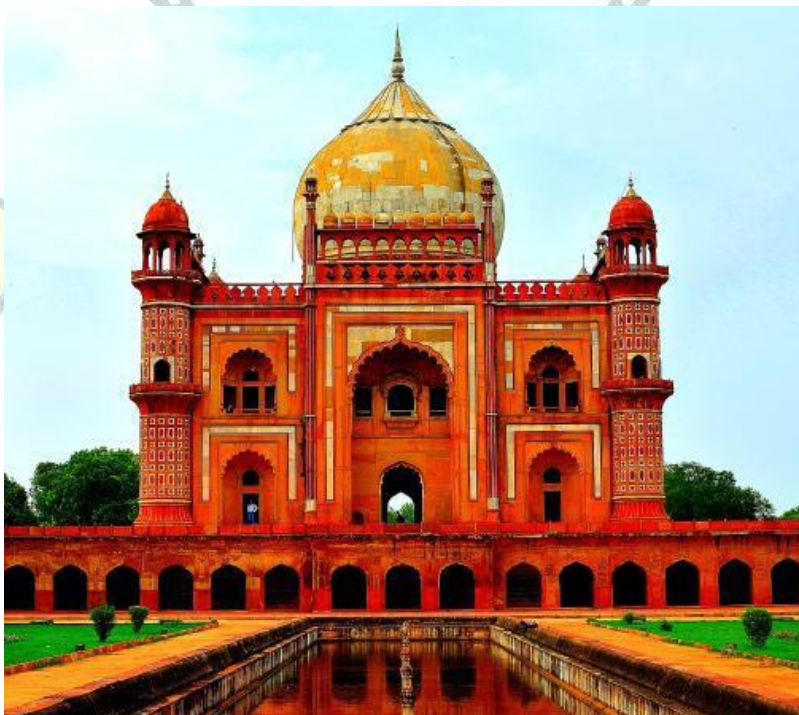
- **Plants contain a protein named Plethora** which helps in the regeneration process. It also binds and activates the expression of another gene called CUC2. Together, plethora and CUC2 help increase the **production of a plant growth hormone called auxin** at the wound site. The protein-hormone combination thus improves the plant's ability to repair wounds.

#### Regenerating veins

- Researchers have found that the injury healed not just at the surface but the veins regenerated too. Vein regeneration is crucial for the transport of food, hormone and water. Any disruption after an injury will hinder the plant's growth.
- Researchers also found out that the nature of repair changes as the size of the wound changes.

**Note:** Fibrin proteins are associated with human wounds and not of plants.

Q.96) Solution (b)



**Safdarjang's Tomb** is one of the last specimens of Mughal architecture.

The last vestige of Mughal architecture exists on the road to the Qutb. The tomb commemorates **Mansoor Ali Khan Safdarjang**, the second Nawab of Awadh.

Designed on the pattern of Humayun's tomb, it is a poor imitation and does not stand in comparison with the older building at all, on either aesthetic and architectural levels.

The three-storey tomb in fawn-coloured stone also bears a faint resemblance to Akbar's mausoleum at Sikandra, but lacks the magnificence of the latter. Even so, it is an interesting monument, situated amidst a garden of about 250 square metres, and enclosed by a wall at the corners of which stand octagonal towers.

The tomb has a carved cenotaph in the central chamber within which is another chamber containing two unmarked graves, both with earthen mounds above them. In it lie buried Mirza Muquim Abul Mansoor Khan Safdarjang, and his wife Banu Begum.

The monument was built by their **son Shujauddaulah** at a cost of ₹3 lakhs with a lot of marble and other material being pinched from the mausoleum of the Khan-e-Khana and other Mughal buildings, to embellish the tomb.

Safdarjang's Tomb is often described as **"the last flickering lamp of Mughal architecture"**.

Q.97) Solution (b)

Dew	Frost	Fog and Mist
Dew-When moisture is deposited in the form of water droplets on cooler surfaces of solid objects (rather than nuclei in air above the surface) such as stones, grass blades and plant leaves, it is known as dew. The ideal conditions for its formation are clear sky, calm air, high relative humidity, and cold and long nights	Frost forms on cold surfaces when condensation takes place below freezing point (0 °C), i.e. the dew point is at or below the freezing point. The excess moisture is deposited in the form of minute ice crystals instead of water droplets. The ideal conditions for the formation of white frost are the same as those for the formation of dew, except that the air temperature must be at or below the freezing point.	Fog and Mist- When the temperature of an air mass containing a large quantity of water vapour falls all of a sudden, condensation takes place within itself on fine dust particles. So, the fog is a cloud with its base at or very near to the ground. Because of the fog and mist, the visibility becomes poor to zero. In urban and industrial centres smoke provides plenty of nuclei which help the formation of fog and mist.  In mist each nuclei contains a thicker layer of moisture. Mists are frequent over

		<p>mountains as the rising warm air up the slopes meets a cold surface.</p> <p>Fogs are drier than mist and they are prevalent where warm currents of air come in contact with cold currents. Fogs are mini clouds in which condensation takes place around nuclei provided by the dust, smoke, and the salt particles.</p>
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Q.98) Solution (d)

#### Marayur jaggery

- The **Marayur jaggery** has finally got the geographical indication (GI) tag, making it safe for consumption while rejuvenating the traditional way of production and ensuring a safe market in future.
- It has been a long-term demand of farmers in Marayur and Kanthallur grama panchayats, where jaggery is produced without adding any chemicals. Though the Marayur jaggery has always been known for its high quality, fake jaggery with a salty taste was being marketed as Marayur jaggery.
- It was the persistent efforts made by the Intellectual Property Rights cell, Kerala Agriculture University, from August 2016 that resulted in the jaggery receiving the GI tag.

**Dindigul lock and Chettinadu saree (Kandangi) sari**— were granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag by the Geographical Indications Registry in 2019.

#### Tawlhlohpuan

- **Tawlhlohpuan**, a medium to heavy, compactly woven, good quality fabric from Mizoram is known for warp yarns, warping, weaving and intricate designs that are made by hand. Tawlhloh, in Mizo language, means ‘to stand firm or not to move backward’. Tawlhlohpuan, which holds high significance in the Mizo society, is produced throughout the state of Mizoram. Aizawl and Thenzawl town are the main centre of production.

#### Mizo Puanchei

- **Mizo Puanchei**, a colourful Mizo shawl/textile is considered as the most colourful among the Mizo textiles. It is an essential possession for every Mizo lady and an important marriage outfit in the state. It is also the most commonly used costume in



Mizo festive dances and official ceremonies. The weavers insert the designs and motifs by using supplementary yarns while weaving to create this beautiful and alluring textile.

Q.99) Solution (a)

**Nikshay Poshan Yojana (NPY)** is a direct benefit transfer (DBT) scheme for nutritional support to TB patients rolled out in April 2018 by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Under the Yojana, financial incentive of Rs.500/month is to be provided for each notified TB patient (registered on NIKSHAY portal) for duration during which the patient is on anti-TB treatment.

**‘TB Harega Desh Jeetega’ Campaign** was launched in Sep 2019 consisting of three pillars – clinical approach, public health component and active community participation – as a part of strategy to eliminate TB by 2025.

**Statement Analysis:**

Statement 1	Statement 2
<b>Correct</b>	<b>Incorrect</b>
Nikshay Poshan Yojana (NPY) is a direct benefit transfer (DBT) scheme for nutritional support to TB patients rolled out in April 2018 by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.	NPY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under National Health Mission. (Not Central Sector Scheme)

Q.100) Solution (b)

**India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP)**

- On World Ozone Day, India’s Cooling Action Plan got UN applaud
- India is one of the first countries in the world to develop a comprehensive Cooling Action plan in March, 2019
- Long term vision is to address the cooling requirement across sectors

**The India Cooling Action seeks to**

1. reduce **cooling demand** across sectors by 20% to 25% by 2037-38,
2. reduce **refrigerant demand** by 25% to 30% by 2037-38,
3. Reduce **cooling energy requirements** by 25% to 40% by 2037-38,
4. recognize “cooling and related areas” as a thrust area of research under national S&T Programme
5. training and certification of 100,000 servicing sector technicians by 2022-23, synergizing with Skill India Mission.



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