Q.1) With reference to Medieval India, consider the following statements?

- 1. Dantidurga was the first chalukya ruler.
- 2. Firdausi and Al –Buruni were in the court of Mahmud Ghori.
- 3. Qutubuddin Aibak established the slave dynasty.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Q.1) Solution (b)

Statement analysis

Statement 1: One such instance was that of the Rashtrakutas in the Deccan. Initially they were subordinate to the Chalukyas of Karnataka. In the mid-eighth century, Dantidurga, a Rashtrakuta chief, overthrew his Chalukya overlord and performed a ritual called hiranya-garbha (literally, the golden womb). Dantidurga was the 1st Rashtrakuta ruler.

Statement 2: **Mahmud Ghazni** also patronized art and literature. **Firdausi** was the poetlaureate in the court of Mahmud. He was the author of Shah Namah. **Alberuni** stayed in Mahmud's court and wrote the famous Kitab-i-Hind, an account on India.

Statement 3: Qutbuddin Aibak was a slave of Muhammad Ghori, who made him the Governor of his Indian possessions. He set up his military headquarters at Indraprasta, near Delhi. After the death of Ghori in 1206, Aibak declared his independence. He severed all connections with the kingdom of Ghori and thus **founded the Slave dynasty as well as the Delhi Sultanate**.

Q.2) Which of the following rulers introduced 'Dagh system'?

- a) Illtutmish
- b) Qutubuddin Aibek
- c) Allauddin Khalji
- d) Muhammad Tughlaq

Q.2) Solution (c)

Explanation:

Allauddin Khalji introduced the system of dagh (branding of horses) and prepared huliya (descriptive list of soldiers). In order to ensure maximum efficiency, a strict review of army from time to time was carried out.

Q.3) In the early Sultanate period, Khalisa refers to?

- a) Basic unit of Political organization.
- b) Land under direct control of sultan
- c) A type of tax on irrigation
- d) Head of the cavalry unit

Q.3) Solution (b)

Basic Information:

After consolidating their position in India, the Delhi Sultans introduced reforms in the land revenue administration. The lands were classified into three categories:

- 1. iqta land lands assigned to officials as iqtas instead of payment for their services.
- 2. **khalisa land land under the direct control of the Sultan** and the revenues collected wer spent for the maintenance of royal court and royal household.
- 3. inam land land assigned or granted to religious leaders or religious institutions.

Q.4) Which of the following statements with reference to Medieval India is incorrect?

- a) Merchants and migrants first brought the teachings of the holy Quran to India in the seventh century.
- b) James Mill divided history of India into three periods: "Hindu", "Muslim" and "British".
- c) The ruins at Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by an engineer and antiquarian named Colonel Colin Mackenzie.
- d) Muizzuddin Muhammad popularly known as Muhammad Ghazni.

Q.4) Solution (d)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Merchants and migrants first brought the teachings of the holy Quran to India in the seventh century. Muslims regard the Quran as their holy book and accept the sovereignty

of the one God, Allah, whose love, mercy and bounty embrace all those who believe in Him, without regard to social background.

Statement 2: In the middle of the nineteenth century **British historian James Mill divided the history of India into three periods: "Hindu", "Muslim" and "British".** This division was based on the idea that the religion of rulers was the only important historical change, and that there were no other significant developments – in the economy, society or culture.

Statement 3: The ruins at Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by an engineer and antiquarian named Colonel Colin Mackenzie. An employee of the English East India Company, he prepared the first survey map of the site. Much of the initial information he received was based on the memories of priests of the Virupaksha temple and the shrine of Pampadevi.

Statement 4: The Ghoris started as vassals of Ghazni but became independent after the death of Mahmud. Taking advantage of the decline of the Ghaznavid Empire, **Muizzuddin Muhammad popularly known as Muhammad Ghori** brought Ghazni under their control. Having made his position strong and secure at Ghazni, Muhammad Ghori turned his attention to India. Unlike Mahmud of Ghazni, he wanted to conquer India and extend his empire in this direction.

In 1175, Muhammad Ghori captured Multan and occupied whole of Sind in his subsequent expeditions. In 1186 he attacked Punjab, captured it from Khusru Malik and annexed it to his dominions. The annexation of Punjab carried his dominion eastward to the Sutlej and led his invasion of the Chauhan kingdom.

Q.5) Consider the following pairs

Book

- 1. Rihla
- 2. Kitab ul-Hind
- 3. Tarikh-i-Firozshahi

Ziauddin Barani

Writer

Abdur Razzag

Alburuni

Which of the above given pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.5) Solution (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1: **Ibn Battuta's book of travels, called Rihla, written in Arabic**, provides extremely rich and interesting details about the social and cultural life in the subcontinent in the fourteenth century. This Moroccan traveller was born in Tangier into one of the most respectable and educated families known for their expertise in Islamic religious law or shari'a. True to the tradition of his family, Ibn Battuta received literary and scholastic education when he was quite young.

Statement 2: Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni was also interested in finding out more about the people he conquered, and entrusted a **scholar named al-Biruni to write an account of the subcontinent.** Al-Biruni's Kitab-ul-Hind, written in Arabic, is simple and lucid. It is a voluminous text, divided into 80 chapters on subjects such as religion and philosophy, festivals, astronomy, alchemy, manners and customs, social life, weights and measures, iconography, laws and metrology. Generally (though not always), Al-Biruni adopted a distinctive structure in each chapter, beginning with a question, following this up with a description based on Sanskritic traditions, and concluding with a comparison with other cultures.

Statement 3: **Ziauddin Barani (1285–1358 CE)** was a Muslim political thinker of the Delhi Sultanate located in present-day North India during Muhammad bin Tughlaq and Firuz Shah's reign. He was best known for composing the **Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi (also called Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi)**, a work on medieval India, which covers the period from the reign of Ghiyas ud din Balban to the first six years of reign of Firoz Shah Tughluq and the Fatwa-i-Jahandari which promoted a hierarchy among Muslim communities in the Indian subcontinent.

Q.6) "He was a European traveller and was a doctor by profession and served as a physician to Dara Sukoh and dedicated his writings to Louis XIV." Which traveller is being referred here?

- a) Jean Baptiste Tavernier
- b) Francis Bernier
- c) Duarte Barbosa
- d) Jesuit Roberto Nobili

Q.6) Solution (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1: French jeweller Jean-Baptiste Tavernier, who travelled to India at least six times. He was particularly fascinated with the trading

conditions in India, and compared India to Iran and the Ottoman empire. Tavernier, a private

www.iasbaba.com

individual and merchant traveling at his own expense, covered, by his own account, 60,000 leagues in making six voyages to Persia and India between the years 1630 and 1668.

Statement 2: François Bernier, a Frenchman, was a doctor, political philosopher and historian. Like many others, he came to the Mughal Empire in search of opportunities. He was in India for twelve years, from 1656 to 1668, and was closely associated with the Mughal court, as a physician to Prince Dara Shukoh, the eldest son of Emperor Shah Jahan, and later as an intellectual and scientist. Bernier travelled to several parts of the country, and wrote accounts of what he saw, frequently comparing what he saw in India with the situation in Europe. He dedicated his major writing to Louis XIV, the king of France, and many of his other works were written in the form of letters to influential officials and ministers. In virtually every instance Bernier described what he saw in India as a bleak situation in comparison to developments in Europe.

Statement 3: **Duarte Barbosa was a Portuguese writer** and officer from Portuguese India. He was a scrivener in a feitoria in Kannur, and an interpreter of the local language, Malayalam. Barbosa wrote the Book of Duarte Barbosa c. 1516, making it one of the earliest examples of Portuguese travel literature. After his arrival in Goa with the first Portuguese fleet in 1501, Barbosa made the journey to Vijayanagara soon after. His account mentions the king of Narsyngua, who is probably Vira Narashimha Tuluva. His writings give a detailed account of the layout, the inhabitants and the nature of trade conducted in Vijayanagara.

Statement 4: Jesuit Robert de Nobili (16th–17th century) was a Jesuit of noble birth who accommodated to the existing Indian social order. He learned Tamil and Sanskrit and lived the life of a sādhu (wandering ascetic). He also tried to disassociate himself from the Portuguese missionaries who were converting the fisherfolk of low rank. These practices gave him wide acceptance among the Indian upper classes, but they brought him into conflict with his own church.

Q.7) In the context Administrative structure during Sultanate period, consider the following pairs

- 1. Ariz-i- Mumalik
- Head of Military Department
- 2. Diwani Rasalat
- Department of religious affair
- 3. Diwani Insha : Department of commerce

:

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

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

Q.7) Solution (a)

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1: The military department was called Diwani Ariz. It was headed by **Ariz-i-mumalik**. He was responsible for recruiting the soldiers and administering the military department.

Statement 2: **Diwani Rasalat was the department of religious affairs.** It was headed by chief Sadr. Grants were made by this department for the construction and maintenance of mosques, tombs and madrasas.

Statement 3: **The department of correspondence was called Diwani Insha**. All the correspondence between the ruler and the officials was dealt with by this department.

Q.8) Consider the following pairs:

Battle

Fought between

- 1. Battle of Waihind :
- 2. Battle of Tarrain
- 3. Battle of Khanua
- Anandpala vs Mahmud Ghazni
- Muhammad Ghori Vs Prithiviraj III
- Humayun Vs Sher Shah Suri

Which of the above given pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Q.8) Solution (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1: The initial raids of Mahmud Ghazni were against the Hindu Shahi kingdom in which its king Jayapala was defeated in 1001. After this defeat, Jayapala immolated himself because he thought that his defeat was a disgrace. His **successor Anandapala fought against Mahmud but he was also defeated in the Battle of Waihind**, the Hind Shahi capital near Peshawar in 1008. In this battle, Anandapala was supported by the rulers of Kanauj and

www.iasbaba.com

Rajasthan.

Statement 2: Realising their grave situation, the Hindu princes of north India formed a confederacy under the command of Prithiviraj Chauhan (also known as Prithiviraj III). **Prithviraj rose to the occasion, and defeated Ghori in the battle of Tarain near Delhi in 1191 A.D.** Muhammad Ghori felt greatly humiliated by this defeat.

Statement 3: The **Battle of Khanua** was fought near the village of Khanwa, in Bharatpur District of Rajasthan, on March 16, 1527. It was fought between the invading forces of the **first Mughal Emperor Babur and the Rajput forces led by Rana Sanga** of Mewar, after the Battle of Panipat. Which led to decisive Mughal victory, Consolidation of Mughal power in Northern India, Dissolution of the Rajput confederation.

Humaun and Sher Shah Suri fought Battle of Chausa (1539) in which Humayun escaped from the battle to save his life.

Q.9) Consider the following statements with reference to Virshaiva tradition of Karnatka?

- 1. They worship Shiva in his manifestation as a linga.
- 2. They do not believe in rebirth.
- 3. They challenged the theory of caste and pollution.
- 4. They did not support widow remarriage.

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Q.9) Solution (b)

Basic information:

Veerashaivism was a socio-religious which emerged in the 12th century in north Karnataka. This movement of the Veerashaivas (meaning heroic Shaivas) challenged certain traditional Hindu beliefs and practices relating to caste, ritual pollution, and status of women. The movement projected for its followers a new social order which was based on ritual equality (in terms of worship and belief), sanctity of all work, and universal ritual purity i.e. purity of all followers irrespective of sex, age and occupation.

Statement Analysis:

Statement 1: Veerashaivas are also popularly knowp by another name, the Lingayats. Lingayats means bearers of the "Linga", the syhbol of Lord Shiva. **The Veerashaivas or Lingayats worship only Lord Shiva in the form of a Linga.** Veerashaivism holds that all Linga worshippers were equal and gained equal access to salvation.

Statement 2: Death, according to Veerashaivism was considered as a merger with Lord Shiva. It was an event to be rejoiced not to be mourned, an event which needed no purification for a Veerashaivite who wore the Linga on his body was mentally and physically pure. The dead are buried and not burnt among the Lingayat till this date. They also questioned the theory of rebirth.

Statement 3: The observance of spittle pollution (pollution arising from touch or contact with the spit especially observed by Brahmins) was again looked upon as unessential by Veerashaivism. All were equal in the eyes of Shiva hence one man could not pollute another man in any way. Thus caste contact, pollution, and orthodox beleif and practice was also totally rejected by Veerashaivism.

Statement 4: The Lingayats also encouraged certain practices disapproved in the Dharmashastras, such as post-puberty marriage and the remarriage of widows. Our understanding of the Virashaiva tradition is derived from vachanas (literally, sayings) composed in Kannada by women and men who joined the movement. Thus, statement 4 is incorrect because followers of Veerashaivism tradition support Widow remarriage.

Q.10) Consider the following statements with reference Jiziya:

- 1. In the beginning Jiziya was collected as a part of land tax.
- 2. Alauddin khalji collected Jaziya as a separate tax.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Q.10) Solution (a)

Explanation:

The Hindus were considered zimmis or protected people for which they were forced to pay a tax called jiziya in the Medieval India. In the beginning jiziya was collected as part of land tax. Firoz Shah Tughlaq separated it from the land revenue and collected jiziya as a separate tax. Sometimes Brahmins were exempted from paying jiziya.

Q.11) Consider the following statement with reference to reforms introduced by Alauddin Khalji

- 1. He introduced the system of dagh (branding of horses) and prepared huliya (descriptive list of soldiers).
- 2. Under Alauddin Khalji the state brought the assessment and collection of land revenue under its own control.
- 3. There were secret agents called 'munhiyans' who sent reports to the Sultan regarding the functioning of these markets.

Select the correct code

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

Q.11) Solution (d)

Basic Information:

Alauddin Khalji (1296-1316) was an emperor of the Khalji dynasty that ruled the Delhi Sultanate in the Indian subcontinent. Alauddin instituted a number of significant administrative changes, related to revenues, price controls, and society. He is noted for repulsing the Mongol invasions of India.

Statement analysis

Statement 1: Alauddin Khalji maintained a large permanent standing army and paid them in cash from the royal treasury. According the Ferishta, he recruited 4,75,000 cavalrymen. **He introduced the system of dagh (branding of horses) and prepared huliya (descriptive list of soldiers).** In order to ensure maximum efficiency, a strict review of army from time to time was carried out.

Statement 2: Under Alauddin Khalji the state brought the assessment and collection of land

revenue under its own control. The rights of the local chieftains to levy taxes were cancelled and they were also forced to pay taxes. The Sultan's administrators measured the land and kept careful accounts. Some of the old chieftains and landlords served the Sultanate as revenue collectors and assessors. There were three types of taxes:

- 1. On cultivation called kharaj and amounting to about 50 per cent of the peasant's produce,
- 2. on cattle and
- 3. on houses.

Statement 3: The introduction of paying salaries in cash to the soldiers led to price regulations popularly called as Market Reforms. Alauddin Khalji established four separate markets in Delhi, one for grain; another for cloth, sugar, dried fruits, butter and oil; a third for horses, slaves and cattle; and a fourth for miscellaneous commodities. Each market was under the control of a high officer called Shahna-i- Mandi. The supply of grain was ensured by holding stocks in government store-houses. Regulations were issued to fix the price of all commodities. A separate department called Diwani Riyasat was created under an officer called Naib-i-Riyasat. Every merchant was registered under the Market department. There were secret agents called munhiyans who sent reports to the Sultan regarding the functioning of these markets.

Q.12) Consider the following Pairs:

Rulers

Kingdom/Region

Hyderabad

Rohilakhand

Awadh

- 1. Saadat Khan :
- 2. Kilch Khan
- 3. Ali Muhammad Khan :
- 4. Haider Ali . Mysore

Select the incorrect pairs using the code below:

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

Q.12) Solution (a)

Explanation:

Incorrect statement is being asked here

Statement Analysis:

| Statement 1 | Statement 2 | Statement 3 | Statement 4 |
|--|---|---|--|
| Inorrect | Incorrect | Correct | Correct |
| The founder of the independent principality of Awadh was Saadat Khan, popularly known as Burhan-ul-Mulk. He was succeeded by Safdar Jang as the Nawab of Awadh | The founder of the Asaf-Jah house of Hyderabad was Kilich Khan, popularly known as Nizam-ul-Mulk. He was trusted nobleman and General of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb (1677–1707 AD), he served as the Mughal governor of Deccan but taking advantage of the weakness of mughal empire, he became independent. | The states of Rohilakhand and the kingdom of the Bangash Pathans were a fall out of the Afghan migration into India. Ali Muhammad Khan set the petty kingdom of Rohilakhand | Haider Ali was a sultan and defacto ruler of Mysore. He concluded an alliance with the French, and used the services of workmen in raising his artiliery and arsenal. His rule in mysore was characterized by frequent warfare with his neighbours and rebellion within his territories. |
| | | | 02 |

Q.13) Consider the following statements

1. Malik Muhammad Jayasi wrote the famous Hindi work Padmavat during Sher Shah Suri reign.

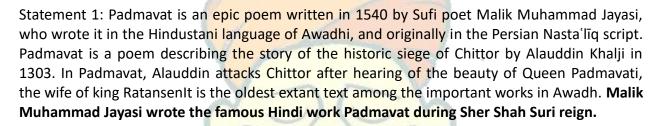
2. Paik was a form of forced labour practiced in Ahom kingdom.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None

Q.13) Solution (c)

Explanation:



Statement 2: The Paik system was a type of forced labour system on which the economy of the Ahom kingdom of medieval Assam depended. In this system, adult and able males, called paiks were obligated to render service to the state and form its militia in return for a piece of land for cultivation owned by the kingdom—believed to be a legacy the Ahoms brought with them from South-Eastern Asia in 1228. A census of the population was taken. Each village had to send a number of paiks by rotation.

Q.14) With reference to Mughal Period, Gomastha was used for?

- a) Indian agent of the British east India Company
- b) A type of tax on pasture lands
- c) Classification of urban lands
- d) Head of the village

Q.14) Solution (a)

Explanation:

Gomastha described an Indian agent of the British East India Company employed in the Company's colonies, to sign bonds, usually compellingly, by local weavers and artisans to deliver goods to the Company. The prices of the goods were fixed by the gomasthas. The goods were

exported by the Company to Europe.

Earlier supply merchants very often lived within the weaving village, and had a close relationship with the weavers, looking after their needs and helping them in times of crisis. The new gomasthas were outsiders with no long-term social link with the village. They acted arrogantly, marched into villages with sepoys and peons, and punished weavers for delays. The weavers thus lost the space to bargain and sell to different buyers; the price they received from the Company was miserably low and the loans they had accepted tied them to the Company.

Q.15) Consider the following and identify the incorrect statement:

- a) The founder of the Bahmani kingdom was Mahmud Gawan.
- b) The climax of fort-building reached its climax during the reign of Shah Jahan.
- c) Krishnadeva Ray was known as Andhrabhoja.
- d) Shankaradeva emerged as one of the leading proponents of Vaishnavism in Assam.

Q.15) Solution (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1: The founder of the Bahmani kingdom was Alauddin Bahman Shah also known as Hasan Gangu in 1347. Its capital was Gulbarga. There were a total of fourteen Sultans ruling over this kingdom. Among them, Alauddin Bahman Shah, Muhammad Shah I and Firoz Shah were important. Ahmad Wali Shah shifted the capital from Gulbarga to Bidar. The power of the Bahmani kingdom reached its peak under the rule of Muhammad Shah III.

The success of Muhammad Shah was due to the advice and services of his minister **Mahmud Gawan**, who was a Persian merchant. He came to India at the age of forty two and joined the services of Bahmani kingdom

Statement 2: The architecture of the Mughals includes the magnificent forts, palaces, public buildings, mosques and mausoleums. Large scale construction of buildings started with the advent of Akbar. He built many forts and the most famous one was the Agra Fort. It was built in red sandstone. His other forts are at Lahore and Allahabad. **The climax of fort-building reached its climax during the reign of Shah Jahan.** The famous Red Fort at Delhi with its Rang Mahal, Diwan-i-Am and Diwan-i-Khas was his creation.

Statement 3: Krishnadevaraya was an emperor of the Vijayanagara Empire who reigned from 1509–1529. He was the third ruler of the Tuluva Dynasty and is considered to be its greatest ruler. He possessed the largest empire in India after the decline of the Delhi Sultanate. Presiding over the empire at its zenith, he is regarded as an icon by many Indians. **Krishnadevaraya**

earned the titles Kannada Rajya Rama Ramana, Andhra Bhoja and Mooru Rayara Ganda. He became the dominant ruler of the peninsula of India by defeating the Sultans of Bijapur, Golconda, the Bahmani Sultanate and the Gajapatis of Odisha, and was one of the most powerful Hindu rulers in India. Indeed, when the Mughal Emperor Babur was taking stock of the potentates of north India,

Statement 4: In the late fifteenth century, **Shankaradeva emerged as one of the leading proponents of Vaishnavism in Assam**. His teachings, often known as the Bhagavati dharma because they were based on the Bhagavad Gita and the Bhagavata Purana, focused on absolute surrender to the supreme deity, in this case Vishnu. He emphasised the need for naam kirtan, recitation of the names of the lord in sat sanga or congregations of pious devotees. He also encouraged the establishment of satra or monasteries for the transmission of spiritual knowledge, and naam ghar or prayer halls. Many of these institutions and practices continue to flourish in the region. His major compositions include the Kirtana-ghosha.

Q.16) Consider the following statements with reference to Bhakti movement.

- 1. Andal is referred as Meera of South.
- 2. Ramanuja was chief proponent of the Vish-ishtadvaita subschool of Vedanta philosophy.
- 3. Madhavhacharya was the founder of Krishna-centered Pushti Marg sect of Vaishnavism in North India.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Q.16) Solution (a)

Basic informstion:

The Bhakti movement refers to the theistic devotional trend that emerged in eighth-century south India (now Tamil Nadu and Kerala), and spread northwards. It swept over east and north India from the 15th century onwards, reaching its zenith between the 15th and 17th century CE. The Bhakti movement regionally developed around different gods and goddesses, and some sub-sects were Vaishnavism (Vishnu), Shaivism (Shiva), Shaktism (Shakti goddesses), and Smartism.

Statement Analysis

www.iasbaba.com

Statement 1: The Alvars, were Vaishnava poet-saints who sang praises of Vishnu or his avatar Krishna as they travelled from one place to another. They were propagators of Vaishnavism and regarded Vishnu or Krishna as the Supreme Being. They opposed the philosophy of Jainism and Buddhism. There were 12 Alvars. The 12 Alvars composed a text "Nalariya Divya Prabandham" **Andal was the only female Alvar saint and is referred to as 'Meera of the South'**.

Statement 2: Ramanuja was a major exponent of Sri Vaishnavism tradition and the chief proponent of the Vish-ishtadvaita sub-school of Vedanta philosophy. Vishishtadvaita signifies non-dualism of a qualified whole but is characterised by multiplicity. In other words, it believes in "all diversity subsuming to an underlying unity" (qualified monoism). Srirangam Ranganatha temple in Tamil Nadu is associated with his tradition.

Statement 3: Vallabhacharya was the founder of Krishna-centered Pushti Marg sect of Vaishnavism in North India. He propounded the philosophy of Shuddha advaita (Pure Nondualism). As per him, moksha (salvation) could be attained through Sneha (deep rooted love for God). Nathdwara in Rajasthan is a significant pilgrim place of Pushti Margsampradaya and is famous for its Shrinathji temple.

Q.17) Consider the following statements with reference to Mughal period:

- 1. Zabt system was introduced by Raja Todarmal
- 2. Akbar imposed pilgrimage tax and abolished Jiziya tax.
- 3. Mansab rank was not hereditary.
- 4. Seth, bohra traders specialized in long distance trade while local traders were called banik.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Q.17) Solution (c)

Basic Information:

The Mughal Empire was one of the largest centralized states known in pre-modern world history. By the late 1600s the Mughal emperor held supreme political authority over a population numbering between 100 and 150 million and lands covering most of the Indian

www.iasbaba.com

subcontinent (3.2 million square kilometers).

Statement analysis:

Statement 1: **Zabt** was a land revenue system that was framed during the Mughal period. This system included taking a careful survey of crop yields and prices cultivated for a 10 year period. This system was prevalent where the Mughal administration could survey the land and keep careful accounts. **This system was introduce by Raja Todarmal** who was the finance minister of Akbar.

Statement 2: Akbar rose to fame in the pages of history due to his religious policy. In the beginning of his life, Akbar was a pious Muslim. Soon after marrying Jodh Bai of Amber, **he abolished the pilgrim tax and in 1562, he abolished jiziya.** He allowed his Hindu wives to worshiptheir own gods. Later, he became a skeptical Muslim. In 1575, he ordered for the construction of Ibadat Khana (House of worship) at his new capital Fatepur Sikri. Akbar invited learned scholars from all religions like Hinduism, Jainism, Christianity and Zoroastrianism.

Statement 3: Akbar introduced the Mansabdari system in his administration. Under this system every officer was assigned a rank (mansab). Iowest rank was 10 and the highest was 5000 for the nobles. Princes of royal blood received even higher ranks. The ranks were divided into two – zat and sawar. Zat means personal and it fixed the personal status of a person. Sawar rank indicated the number of cavalrymen of a person who was required to maintain. Every sawar had to maintain at least two horses. The mansab rank was not hereditary. All appointments and promotions as well as dismissals were directly made by the emperor.

Statement 4: The Indian trading classes during Mughal period were large in numbers and spread throughout the country. They were well organized and highly professional. **Seth, bohra traders specialized in long distance trade while local traders were called banik.** Another class of traders was known as banjaras, who specialized in carrying bulk goods.

Q.18) Consider the following statements with reference to Vijaynagara empire:

- 1. It was founded by Harihara and Bukka from Tuluva dynasty.
- 2. Tuluva dynasty was founded by Krishna Deva Ray.
- 3. Slavery was absent in the Vijaynagar kindom.

Which of the above statements are incorrect?

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

d) 1, 2 and 3

Q.18) Solution (d)

Basic Information:

The history of Vijayanagar Empire constitutes an important chapter in the history of India. Four dynasties – Sangama, Saluva, Tuluva and Aravidu – ruled Vijayanagar from A.D. 1336 to 1672.

The sources for the study of Vijayanagar are varied such as literary, archaeological and numismatics. Krishnadevaraya's Amukthamalyada, Gangadevi's Maduravijayam and Allasani Peddanna's Manucharitam are some of the indigenous literature of this period.

Statement Analysis

Statement 1: Vijayanagar was founded in 1336 by Harihara and Bukka of the Sangama dynasty. They were originally served under the Kakatiya rulers of Warangal. Then they went to Kampili where they were imprisoned and converted to Islam. Later, they returned to the Hindu fold at the initiative of the saint Vidyaranya. They also proclaimed their independence and founded a new city on the south bank of the Tungabhadra river. It was called Vijayanagar meaning city of victory.

Statement 2: **The Tuluva dynasty was founded by Vira Narasimha**. The greatest of the Vijayanagar rulers, **Krishna Deva Raya belonged to the Tuluva dynasty**. He possessed great military ability. His imposing personality was accompanied by high intellectual quality. His first task was to check the invading Bahmani forces. By that time the Bahmani kingdom was replaced by Deccan Sultanates. The Muslim armies were decisively defeated in the battle of Diwani by Krishna Deva Raya. Then he invaded Raichur Doab which had resulted in the confrontation with the Sultan of Bijapur, Ismail Adil Shah. But, Krishna Deva Raya defeated him and captured the city of Raichur in 1520.

Statement 3: Slavery existed in the 16th century Vijayanagar Empire. There are references to besabaga or the sale of human beings during the period. The Vijayanagar inscriptions and the accounts left by the foreign travellers to the kingdom make reference to both male and female slaves. Italian traveller Nicolo de Conti refers to the prevalence of slavery. Dancing, music, wrestling, gambling and cock-fighting were some of the amusements.

Q.19) With reference to medieval India, Malfuzat, Maktubat and Tazkiras refes to

- a) Sufi literary texts
- b) Types of painting from medieval India

www.iasbaba.com

- c) Architectural styles of Vijayanagar empire
- d) Tpes of land grant

Q.19) Solution (a)

Explanation:

Malfuzat: literally, "uttered"; conversations of sufi saints) – An early text on malfuzat is the Fawa'id-al-Fu'ad, a collection of conversations of Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya, compiled by Amir Hasan Sijzi Dehlavi, a noted Persian poet. Source 9 contains an excerpt from this text. Malfuzats were compiled by different sufi silsilas with the permission of the shaikhs; these had obvious didactic purposes. Several examples have been found from different parts of the subcontinent, including the Deccan. They were compiled over several centuries.

Maktubat: (literally, "written" collections of letters); letters written by sufi masters, addressed to their disciples and associates – While these tell us about the shaikh's experience of religious truth that he wanted to share with others, they also reflect the life conditions of the recipients and are responses to their aspirations and difficulties, both spiritual and mundane.

Tazkiras (literally, "to mention and memorialise"; biographical accounts of saints) – The fourteenth-centurySiyar-ul-Auliya of Mir Khwurd Kirmani was the first sufi tazkira written in India. It dealt principally with the Chishti saints. The most famous tazkira is the Akhbar-ul-Akhyar of Abdul Haqq Muhaddis Dehlavi (d. 1642). The authors of the tazkiras often sought to establish the precedence of their own orders and glorify their spiritual genealogies. Many details are often implausible, full of elements of the fantastic. Still they are of great value for historians and help them to understand more fully the nature of the tradition.

Q.20) With reference to Maratha empire, consider the following statements?

- 1. Shivaji was assisted by a council of ministers called Ashtadiggaja.
- 2. Chauth and sardeshmukh were taxes collected in the Maratha kingdom.
- 3. Bajirao I iniatiated a system of confederacy among Maratha chiefs.

Select the correct code:

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

Q.20) Solution (c)

Basic introduction:

The Maratha Empire or the Maratha Confederacy was a power that dominated a large portion of the Indian subcontinent in the 18th century. The empire formally existed from 1674 with the coronation of Shivaji as the Chhatrapati and ended in 1818 with the defeat of Peshwa Bajirao II at the hands of the British East India Company.

Statement analysis:

Statement 1: Shivaji was also a great administrator. He laid the foundations of a sound system of administration. The king was the pivot of the government. He was assisted by a council of ministers called Ashtapradhan. However, each minister was directly responsible to Shivaji.

Statement 2: Chauth and sardeshmukhi were the taxes collected not in the Maratha kingdom but in the neighbouring territories of the Mughal empire or Deccan sultanates. Chauth was one fourth of the land revenue paid to the Marathas in order to avoid the Maratha raids. Sardeshmukhi was an additional levy of ten percent on those lands which the Marathas claimed hereditary rights.

Statement 3: **Baji Rao I (1720-1740)** was the eldest son of Balaji Viswanath. He succeeded his father as Peshwa at the age young age of twenty. The Maratha power reached its zenith under him. **He initiated the system of confederacy among the Maratha chiefs**. Under this system, each Maratha chief was assigned a territory which could be administered autonomously. As a result, many Maratha families became prominent and established their authority in different parts of India. They were the Gaekwad at Baroda, the Bhonsle at Nagpur, the Holkars at Indore, the Scindias at Gwalior, and the Peshwas at Poona.

Q.21) 'Recently UNESCO included 'Plains of Jars' into its list of World Heritage Sites, it is located in

- a) Nigeria
- b) Chile
- c) Laos
- d) Brazil

Q.21) Solution (c)

Explanation –

Plain of Jars

- The Plain of Jars, located on a plateau in central Laos, is a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- It gets its name from more than 2,100 tubular-shaped megalithic stone jars used for funerary practices in the Iron Age.
- It consists of thousands of stone jars scattered around the upland valleys and the lower foothills of the central plain of the Xiangkhoang Plateau. The jars are arranged in clusters ranging in number from one to several hundred.
- The Plain of Jars is one of the most important prehistoric sites in Southeast Asia.
- In India such giant burial urns were used in parts of Tamil Nadu (Karur, Kodumanal etc at least 2000 years ago.

Q.22) The term 'MACS 1407' was in news, it pertains to -

- a) Pest resistant variety of Soybean.
- b) Carbon nanotube
- c) Missile technology
- d) Drug resistant proteins

Q.22) Solution (b)

Explanation

In news:

- Indian Scientists have developed a high-yielding and pest-resistant variety of soybean.
- Scientists from MACS- Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science & Technology, in collaboration with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have developed this variety.

Key takeaways:

- This newly developed variety is called MACS 1407.
- It is suitable for cultivation in Assam, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and North-Eastern states.
- Its seeds will be made available to farmers for sowing during the 2022 Kharif season.
- In 2019, India produced around 90 million tons of soybean.
- Soybean is widely cultivated as oil seeds and a cheap source of protein for animal feed and many packaged meals.

- India is striving to be among the world's major producers of soybeans.
- High-yielding, disease resistant varieties of the legume can help achieve this target.

Q.23) Consider the following statements facts about Human rights watch-

- 1. It is an international NGO headquartered in New York.
- 2. It pressures governments, policy makers, companies, and individual human rights abusers to denounce abuse and respect human rights.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Q.23) Solution (c)

Explanation –

In news: Human Rights Watch said that Israel is committing the crime of "apartheid" by seeking to maintain Jewish "domination" over Palestinians and its own Arab population.

Human Rights Watch (HRW)

- It is an international NGO,
- Headquarters: New York City.
- It conducts research and advocacy on human rights.
- The group pressures governments, policy makers, companies, and individual human rights abusers to denounce abuse and respect human rights
- It often works on behalf of refugees, children, migrants, and political prisoners.
- Human Rights Watch in 1997 shared in the Nobel Peace Prize as a founding member of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and it played a leading role in the 2008 treaty banning cluster munitions.
- It was co-founded by Robert L. Bernstein and Aryeh Neier as a private American NGO in 1978, under the name Helsinki Watch, to monitor the then-Soviet Union's compliance with the Helsinki Accords.

Q.24) Open market sale scheme, often seen in news is associated with

- a) Sale of government securities by RBI
- b) Sale of government stake in PSUs
- c) Sale of commercial papers by MNCs
- d) Sale of food-grains by Government / Government agencies

Q.24) Solution (d)

Explanation

Open Market sale scheme

- It refers to selling of foodgrains by Government / Government agencies at predetermined prices in the open market from time to time to enhance the supply of grains especially during the lean season and thereby to moderate the general open market prices especially in the deficit regions.
- In addition to maintaining buffer stocks and making a provision for meeting the requirement of the Targeted Public Distribution Scheme and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS), Food Corporation of India (FCI) on the instructions from the Government, sells wheat and rice in the open market from time to time.
- For transparency in operations, the Corporation has switched over to e- auction for sale under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic).
- The FCI conducts a weekly auction to conduct this scheme in the open market using the platform of commodity exchange NCDEX (National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Limited).
- The State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations are also allowed to participate in the e-auction, if they require wheat and rice outside TPDS & OWS.

Q.25) Consider the following statements about Large area certification Programme

- 1. LAC is a Quick certification process that is cost-effective for marketing organic products.
- 2. It is programme under scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna (PKVY).
- 3. Under LAC, each village in the area is considered as one cluster/group.

Choose the correct answer from given options below:

a) 1 and 2 only

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

Q.25) Solution (d)

Explanation –

In news:- Car Nicobar and Nancowry group of islands became first large contiguous territory to be conferred with organic certification under " **Large Area Certification' (LAC)** scheme of PGS-India (Participatory Guarantee System) certification programme.

Large Area Certification (LAC) programme

- Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare under its flagship scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna (PKVY) has launched a unique quick certification programme "Large Area Certification" (LAC) to harness these potential areas.
- LAC is a Quick certification process that is cost-effective and farmers do not have to wait for 2-3 years for marketing organic certified products.
- Under LAC, each village in the area is considered as one cluster/group.
- Documentations are simple and maintained village-wise.
- All farmers with their farmland and livestock need to adhere to the standard requirements and on being verified get certified en-mass without the need to go under conversion period.
- Certification is renewed on annual basis through annual verification by a process of peer appraisals

Q.26) Which of the following organisation or institution has recently released report titled 'Global Forest Goals report 2021'?

- a) UNCCD
- b) UN Environment
- c) FAO
- d) United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Q.26) Solution (d)

Explanation

www.iasbaba.com

The Global Forests Goals Report 2021 released by United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs' is the first evaluation of where the world stands in regard to implementing the United Nations (UN) Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030. Adopted four years ago, the Plan is a blueprint for forests and people, expressed through six Global Forest Goals and 26 targets. Outlining a vision for a future where all types of forests and trees are sustainably managed, the Plan is integral to the achievement of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Key findings;

- 18% of forests are designated as protected areas compared to just over 14% in 2000.
- 40% of the world's renewable energy comes from forests. > 40% of the extreme poor in rural areas live in forest and savannah areas.
- Forest landscapes, often remote and poorly connected to markets, make it difficult to build out businesses and earn livelihoods.
- Forests are not frequently considered in policy decisions related to food security, hunger and nutrition.

Q.27) Consider the following about Ways and Means Advances.

- 1. It is a credit policy of the RBI.
- 2. It is provided to States to help them tide over temporary mismatches in the cash flow of their receipts and payments.
- 3. The interest rate on WMA is the RBI's repo rate.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Q.27) Solution (d)

Explanation:

In news :- The RBI decided to continue with the existing interim Ways and Means Advances (WMA) scheme limit of ₹51,560 crore for all States/ UTs shall for six months i.e., up to September 30, given the prevalence of COVID-19.

Ways and means advances (WMA)

www.iasbaba.com

- It is a mechanism used by RBI under its credit policy to provide to States, banking with it, to help them tide over temporary mismatches in the cash flow of their receipts and payments.
- In that sense, they aren't a source of finance per se. Section 17(5) of the RBI Act, 1934 authorises the central bank to lend to the Centre and state governments subject to their being repayable "not later than three months from the date of the making of the advance".
- The interest rate on WMA is the RBI's repo rate, which is basically the rate at which it lends short-term money to banks. That rate is currently 4.4%. The governments are, however, allowed to draw amounts in excess of their WMA limits. The interest on such overdraft is 2 percentage points above the repo rate, which now works out to 6.4%. Further, no state can run an overdraft with the RBI for more than a certain period.

Q.28) Consider the following facts about SIPRI which was in news recently.

- 1. It is an independent international institute dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament.
- 2. It was established in 2006 at Stockholm (Sweden).

Which of the following statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both
- d) None of the above

Q.28) Solution (a)

Basic Information:

In news:-In its report on trends in global military expenditure in 2020, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) has found that the world's top military spenders — the US, China and India — saw their military spending go up compared to 2019, even during a pandemic year.

- According to it, Arms imports decreased by 33% between 2011–15 and 2016–20.
- India continues to remain the second largest arms importer after Saudi Arabia.

- Russia was the largest arms supplier in while France and Israel were the second and third largest arms suppliers in 2016–20. The U.S. was the fourth largest supplier in 2016– 20.
- India accounted for 9.5% of the total global arms imports during 2016-2020.

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

- It is an independent international institute dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament.
- It was established in 1966 at Stockholm (Sweden).
- It was established on the basis of a decision by the Swedish Parliament and receives a substantial part of its funding in the form of an annual grant from the Swedish Government.
- It provides data, analysis and recommendations, based on open sources, to policymakers, researchers, media and the interested public.

Q.29) Recently, Russia announced its withdrawal from International Space Station (ISS), consider the following statements about ISS.

- 1. ISS is a modular space station in low Earth orbit.
- 2. The ISS circles the Earth in roughly 93 minutes, completing 15.5 orbits per day.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Q.29) Solution (c)

Explanation –

In news: Russia has announced that it would be withdrawing from the International Space Station in 2025, and build and manage its own floating laboratory that will be launched into orbit by 2030.

International Space Station:

www.iasbaba.com

- Launched in 1998 and involving Russia, the United States, Canada, Japan, and the European Space Agency, the ISS is one of the most ambitious international collaborations in human history.
- ISS is a modular space station (habitable artificial satellite) in low Earth orbit.
- The space station flies at an average altitude of 248 miles (400 kilometers) above Earth. It circles the globe every 90 minutes at a speed of about 17,500 mph (28,000 km/h) completing 15.5 orbits per day.
- In one day, the station travels about the distance it would take to go from Earth to the moon and back.
- For over 20 years since its launch, humans have continuously lived and carried out scientific investigations on the \$150 billion ISS under microgravity conditions, being able to make breakthroughs in research not possible on Earth.

Q.30) Consider the following statements about National crèche scheme:

- 1. It is a central centrally Sponsored Scheme to provide day care facilities to children (age group of 6 months to 6 years) of working mothers.
- 2. There is a provision of User charges to bring in an element of community ownership.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Q.30) Solution (c)

Explanation –

National crèche scheme

The National Crèche Scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme being implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development through States/UTs to provide day care facilities to children (age group of 6 months to 6 years) of working mothers.

The salient features of the National Creche Scheme are as follows:

• Daycare Facilities including Sleeping Facilities.

- Early Stimulation for children below 3 years and pre-school Education for 3 to 6 years old children.
- Supplementary Nutrition (to be locally sourced)
- Growth Monitoring
- Health Check-up and Immunization

Further guidelines also provides for -

- The number of children in the crèche should not be more than 25 per crèche with 01 Worker and 01 helper respectively.
- User charges to bring in an element of community ownership and collected as under:
 - BPL families Rs 20/- per child per month.
 - Families with Income (Both Parents) of upto Rs. 12,000/- per month Rs. 100/per child per month
 - Families with Income (Both Parents) of above Rs. 12,000/- per month Rs. 200/per child per month.

The fund sharing pattern under National Creche Scheme amongst Centre, States/UTs & Non-Governmental Organisations/Voluntary Organisations is in the ratio of 60:30:10 for States, 80:10:10 for North Eastern States and Himalayan States and 90:0:10 for UTs.

Directions for the following 4 (four) questions:

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow each passage. Your answer to these questions should be based on passage only.

The power perspective sees democracy as an effort to balance social power. History is a chronicle of societies where social power has been concentrated in a few hands. Democracy proposes that social power be distributed as widely and evenly as possible and, where it must be concentrated, it is made constitutionally answerable to those over whom it is exercised. Not surprisingly, the power perspective on democracy is concerned with institutions, constitutions, and other formal arrangements that impose structure and balance on social power relationships. It sees power as an essentially competitive phenomenon: we all seek more power to pursue our own interests.

The participation perspective sees democracy as an activity through which citizens participate in their community. Participation is considered a basic human need, a natural outgrowth of our social nature. Public life in general and political activity in particular, allows us to partake in and shape a larger world beyond ourselves. Furthermore, democratic activity enables us to better

understand and develop (or "actualize") ourselves through active relationships with other people. Power is seen as a cooperative, rather than competitive phenomenon - something we get by working together. From this participatory perspective, democracy is something we do and live, not something we have or make. Improving our "living democracy" is a matter of developing and using democratic forums and learning democratic skills.

The intelligence perspective sees democracy as a factor that supports the exercise of collective intelligence. By collective Intelligence I mean a group's or society's capacity to respond, collectively, to its changing circumstances; to make creative use of opportunities; to articulate and pursue visions and purposes; and to evolve as a culture. Authoritarian groups can be no more intelligent than their leaders. Such groups tend to be less intelligent than democratic groups because excess power tends to distort the power holders' ability to think and feel clearly and appropriately. Furthermore, authoritarian systems tend to neglect or suppress the potential contributions of non-leaders.

While the power perspective on democracy focuses on institutions - and the participation perspective focuses on the democratic arts - the intelligence perspective focuses on collective dynamics and learning in groups, communities and whole societies. All three perspectives combined can provide us with an in-depth, 3-D, vibrantly alive sense of what democracy is all about.

Q.31) Democratic institutions provide scope to collective intelligence. An example of this would be

- a) Involvement of various think tanks in policy making
- b) Existence of authoritarian power centres
- c) Power struggle between various social groups
- d) Free and fair elections

Q.31) Solution (a)

Think tanks provide a scope for collective intelligence. Hence this is the intelligence perspective of democracy.

Democracy does not provide for existence of authoritarian power centres. Option (c) is power perspective whereas option (d) is participation perspective.

Q.32) Choose the correct statement among the following options.

a) In a democracy, power must be distributed as widely as possible, but wherever concentrated must be made answerable to those over whom it is exercised

- b) Constitution is both necessary and sufficient feature for any democracy
- c) Only intelligent people can make the intelligence perspective of democracy a meaningful proposition
- d) Power perspective is the most important perspective on democracy

Q.32) Solution (a)

It can be seen that only option (a) is correct and is directly taken from the first paragraph. Other options cannot be inferred from the passage.

Q.33) With reference to the passage, consider the following statements.

- 1. Historically, power has been distributed rather than concentrated
- 2. Collective Intelligence predominates over individual intelligence

Which of the above is/are valid assumption/assumptions?

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

Q.33) Solution (b)

Statement 1 is wrong because according to the passage, historically power has been concentrated in few hands. From the third paragraph in the passage, it is clear that Collective intelligence predominates over individual intelligence. Therefore statement 2 is correct.

Q.34) The existence of Legislature, Judiciary and Executive in Indian democracy supports which of the perspectives of democracy mentioned in the passage?

- a) Power perspective
- b) Participation perspective
- c) Intelligence perspective
- d) None of these

Q.34) Solution (a)

Executive, Legislature and Judiciary compete for power in Indian democracy and hence the

www.iasbaba.com

Separation of powers is also considered the basic feature of our constitution. Therefore the answer is power perspective.

Q.35) In March 2019, IAS BABA Library purchased a total of 15 new books published in the year 2015 with a total expenditure of Rs 4,500. Of these books, 13 books were purchased from AB distributors, while the remaining two were purchased from XY Publishers. It is observed that one-sixth of the average price of all the 15 books purchased is equal to one-fifth of the average price of the 13 books obtained from AB Distributors. Of the two books obtained from XY Publishers, if one-third of the price of one volume is equal to one-half of the price of the other, then the price of the two books are:

- a) Rs 900 and Rs 600
- b) Rs 600 and Rs 400
- c) Rs 750 and Rs 500
- d) None of the above

Q.35) Solution (c)

Let 'x' and 'y' be the average price of 13 books obtained from AB Distributors and the remaining 2 books purchased from XY Publishers respectively.

It is given that he spent a total of Rs 4,500. Therefore,

13x + 2y = 4,500 --> (1)

It is also observed that one-sixth of the average price of all the 15 books purchased is equal to one-fifth of the average price of the 13 books obtained from AB Distributors.

(4,500/15)/6 = x/5

x = 25 à (2)

Form equation (1) and (2) we can say that 2y = 1250.

Let 'a' and 'b' be the price of two books purchased from XY Publishers. It is given that one-third of the price of one volume is equal to one half of the price of the other.

Therefore, a/3 = b/2 --> (3)

Also, 2y = 1250 = a + b --> (4)

From, equation (3) and (4) we can say that a = 750 and b = 500. Hence, option c is correct.